

# Middle Smithfield Township Bulletin ~ Spring 2015

To receive the emailed news digest, email [info@MSTownship.com](mailto:info@MSTownship.com)



## LOOK INSIDE for information about Your 2015 Tax Bill

This bill represents your annual Monroe County,  
Middle Smithfield Township, and Library Tax.

### Middle Smithfield Township Info:

[MiddleSmithfieldTownship.com](http://MiddleSmithfieldTownship.com)

147 Municipal Drive  
East Stroudsburg, PA 18302  
570-223-8920 • [info@mstownship.com](mailto:info@mstownship.com)

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#### Committees:

[GolfAdvisoryCommittee@mstownship.com](mailto:GolfAdvisoryCommittee@mstownship.com)  
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[HistoricalCommission@mstownship.com](mailto:HistoricalCommission@mstownship.com)  
[EconomicDevelopmentCommittee@mstownship.com](mailto:EconomicDevelopmentCommittee@mstownship.com)

### Get Ready, Get Set, Hunt Those Eggs!



Don't miss out!  
The free annual  
township Egg Hunt  
is right around the  
corner.

### Looking Forward to some great 2015 events!

3/28	Easter Egg Hunt
4/3	Golf Course Opens
4/11	Homeowners Association Meeting
4/25	1000 Feet of Street Cleanup
4/27	Leaf Collection begins
5/1	Dumpster Day Spring Cleanup & Freecycle
5/7-9	Freecycle (drop-off only)
5/15	Leaf Collection ends
7/22	Toys for Tots
TBD	Photography Exhibit
TBD	First Art Gallery
August	Memory Makers

Find new events and all event updates at  
[www.MiddleSmithfieldTownship.com/Calendar](http://www.MiddleSmithfieldTownship.com/Calendar)



# What Your Municipal Tax Dollar Provides

## Your municipal taxes go towards:

- 74 miles of municipal roads maintained
  - This includes several bridges, snow plowing/Clearlane/cinders, at least 8 miles of roads paved every year, drains cleaned, and spring and fall leaf pickup
- Recycling program, including the leaf composting facility.
- Twice annual Dumpster Day Cleanup and Freecycle.
- Community Reinvestment:
  - Building a sense of community, for example, litter and beautification efforts such as events like Adopt a Road and 1000 Feet of Street and streetscaping, Egg Hunt, Memory Makers, Trunk or Treat, Tree Lighting, Person of the Year, and more.
- 3 established parks and 2 new ones on the way.
  - Enhancing and maintaining the three established parks: Echo Lake, Judy Putek, and Resica Park.
  - Creating 2 new parks: Coolbaugh Community Gardens Park and the Bark Park at LeRoy's Lane
- Golf course and banquet hall.
- Community Planning, Zoning and Zoning Enforcement (such as cleanup of blighted residences).
- Communication and information: newsletters, website, Facebook, MST Message Boards, signage, etc.
- Community involvement: residents can participate in their own committees, including Historical, Economic Development, Parks and Recreation, Litter and Beautification, and Golf.

**Close to 60%** of the single family homes in Middle Smithfield Township pay **less than \$250 a year** in municipal taxes

and **88%** of the single family homes in Middle Smithfield Township pay **less than \$420 each year** in municipal taxes.





# Real Estate Taxes: Your Tax Bill Explained

Tax is on the value of real property, including land, buildings and other improvements, owned by a taxpayer. Amount of real property tax owed depends on value of the property and the local tax rate. For taxing purposes, property values are determined by an assessment process conducted by county government.

The more than 100,000 parcels in Monroe County are assessed at 25 percent of their perceived actual market value. A home assessed at \$25,000 has a market value of \$100,000. All pre-existing homes and buildings in the county were last reassessed in 1988 to arrive at common comparison values. Structures and improvements completed since then are assessed based on the 1988 reassessment.

School districts, townships, boroughs, libraries and county government use millage to arrive at a tax rate. Each mill represents \$1 in taxes for every \$1,000 of assessed value. So a school district with a tax rate of 95 mills, or \$95 per \$1,000 of assessment, will charge the owner of a \$100,000 home assessed at \$25,000, a school tax bill of \$2,375. (25,000 x 0.095 mills.)

To put it a different way, 1 mill is \$1 for every \$1,000 in assessed value;  
so 9.5 mills is \$9.50 x 25 (if assessed value is \$25,000) for tax bill of \$237.50.

In the sample tax bill below, the total is \$1229.04. This total is broken down into three sections:

<b>Monroe County Tax: 21.25 mills</b>	<b>Library Tax: 1.1 mills</b>	<b>Municipal Tax (that's us!): 9.5 mills</b>
This tax goes to Monroe County, which covers several Townships.	This tax goes to support the public library system in the local area.	This tax goes to Middle Smithfield Township.
<b>In this sample, the tax is \$745.45</b>	<b>In this sample, the tax is \$38.59</b>	<b>In this sample, the tax is \$333.26</b>

MIDDLE SMITHFIELD

COUNTY OF MONROE

PAYABLE TO DAWN M ARNST, TAX COLLECTOR

TAX 326 FRUTCHEY DRIVE

COLLECTOR PO BOX 1279

& MAIL TO MARSHALLS CREEK PA 18335-1279

2015 TAX NOTICE

RECEIVING HOURS

TELEPHONE

LAST PAYMENT DATE TO TAX COLLECTOR:

MAR 1, 2015

MARCH 1-JUNE 30 TUES 5-8PM WED 9-12

APRIL 26 9-12 OR BY APPOINTMENT

570-223-0675

DEC 31, 2015

DUPLICATE BILL

ACCOUNT # 000000 BILL NUMBER

PROPERTY NUMBER	TYPE	CLASS	C2	BUILDING	29,130	LAND	5,950	ASSESSMENT	35,080
09/9C/1/00	RE	9		TYPE TAX	MILLS	DISCOUNT		BASIC	PENALTY
				CTY	21.250	730.54		745.45	820.00
				LIB	1.100	37.82		38.59	42.45
				MUN	9.500	326.59		333.26	366.59
				AMOUNT IF PAID BY		APR 30, 2014	JUN 30, 2014	DEC 31, 2014	
				TOTAL TAX DUE		1,094.95	1,117.30	1,229.04	

TAXES BILLED HEREON ARE NOW DUE AND PAYABLE AND DEMAND FOR PAYMENT IS HEREBY MADE. DO NOT DETACH

TAXPAYER Molly Smithfield

NAME 147 Municipal Drive

AND East Stroudsburg, PA 18302

ADDRESS

IF PROPERTY SOLD OR TAXES PAID BY A MORTGAGE COMPANY FORWARD TO APPROPRIATE PARTY WITH LOAN NUMBER WRITTEN ON TOP OF BILL

RETURN ENTIRE BILL WITH A STAMPED SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE WHEN REQUESTING A RETURN RECEIPT.

RECEIPT NOT VALID UNTIL CHECK CLEARS BANK.

PAYABLE IN UNITED STATES CURRENCY ONLY.

DATE RECEIVED

AMOUNT RECEIVED

PAYMENT RECEIVED BY

PAYMENT MADE AFTER DEC 15 MUST BE PAID BY CERTIFIED CHECK OR MONEY ORDER.

LOT 71

PIN 00000000000000

2015 TAX NOTICE

MAR 1, 2015

## But what's a "mill"?

One mill represents \$1 for every \$1,000 that a property is assessed at.

This means that an assessment of \$35,080 = 35.08 x 9.5 mills is \$333.26 per year

Middle Smithfield receives \$333.26 in taxes annually for every property assessed at \$35,080  
(worth about \$140,320)



# Staying Green in 2015

## Recycling in Our Township



The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection enacted "Act 101 – Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling, and Waste Reduction Act" in July, 1988, mandating recycling in Pennsylvania's larger municipalities. The goals of the Act are to reduce Pennsylvania's municipal waste generation; recycle at least 25% of waste generated; procure and use recycled and recyclable materials in state governmental agencies; and educate the public as to the benefits of recycling and waste reduction.

The benefits of recycling and waste reduction include reduced pollution risks; conservation of natural resources, energy, and landfill space; and reduced disposal costs. Municipalities, such as Middle Smithfield Township, with populations of at least 10,000 had to implement curbside recycling programs by September 26, 1990. Mandated municipalities are required to separate leaf waste from other municipal wastes.

## Composting at the Oak Grove Multi-Municipal Compost Facility

### Leaf Collection Facility: the Oak Grove Multi-Municipal Compost Processing Board

The need for a Municipal composting site is essential to meet the Department of Environmental Protection mandate that townships collect leaf and yard waste and dispose of these items in a safe, clean location.

Middle Smithfield Township, together with our neighbors at Smithfield and Lehman Township, need a site to drop off material. According to the DEP, a suitable site must be at least 5 acres.

Rather than have each township incur the expense of purchasing, developing, and maintaining small sites throughout the area (which could prove to be too small in coming years and eventually require the purchase of additional sites), the 3 townships came together and looked for a central location that would be inexpensive to the taxpayers and large enough to handle collection for the foreseeable future.

During the months of April, May, October, and November, the site will be accessible to residents for drop off of leaf and brush. During municipal leaf collection months, township public works will be utilizing the site to drop off what has been collected.

Periodically, the collected materials will be processed to accelerate the composting and maintain a clean and safe site.

You can learn more about the Oak Grove Multi-Municipal Compost Processing project by visiting the official website at [www.ogmmcpb.com](http://www.ogmmcpb.com)



The Oak Grove site is open during April, May, October, and November.



Don't Miss the Township Cleanup! Visit:  
[www.MiddleSmithfieldTownship.com/Calendar](http://www.MiddleSmithfieldTownship.com/Calendar)