

COUNTY OF AMHERST



Public Information Officer

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For Immediate Release

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Board Takes Steps for a Cleaner County

During their April 5, 2022 meeting, the Amherst County Board of Supervisors considered first reads for two ordinances. One ordnance address the increase of complaints received about weeds and litter. The second ordinance addresses inoperable, abandoned, or unattended vehicles.

The county staff has asked the Board to consider imposing civil penalties for such violations. The imposition of civil penalties does not carry as high a legal standard of proof as a criminal charge does to enforce and will help staff address the community's concerns.

Public hearings for both ordinance changes will be held at the April 19, 2022, Board of Supervisors meeting at 7:00 pm. The Board invites the community to attend the meeting and share their thoughts during the public hearing.

These changes are pieces of a larger effort by the Amherst County Board of Supervisors and Amherst County Staff to ensure that Amherst County continues to be a vibrant, healthy and attractive community. Other steps include community clean-up days.

Public Works will be holding a clean-up day for Olde Town Madison Heights on April 9 as part of a good-faith effort from the Amherst County Administration to mitigate future legal efforts to clean up the area. "We want to give people a chance to clean up their properties on their own before we begin cracking down" says Dean Rodgers, Amherst County Administrator.

A 30-yard trash container will be available at 502 Main Street in the Solid Rock Church parking lot from 7:30-10:00 a.m. Residents may use the container to dispose of trash, tires, and appliances. This is an opportunity for residents to clean up their properties before the County moves forward with citations and is the second weekend wherein the county has provided dumpsters for free trash removal.

Additional information may be obtained from Joy Niehaus at <u>ilniehaus@countyofamherst.com</u> or (434)-946-9400.