Visitors Guide for Amesville, Ohio
Welcome to Historic Amesville

Amesville has been the home to many people. Slaves escaping the South walked through Amesville as part of the Underground Railroad. Its landmarks -- such as the Masonic Hall on Franklin Street -- are important to families living there, as well as visitors to the village. Other landmarks, such as the old Clover Farm Stores building, have been abandoned or torn down, but new landmarks and memories are taking their place.

Amesville is perhaps best known for the Coonskin Library. At an 1803 town meeting -- held to discuss roads -- settlers talked about their desire for books and their lack of money to pay for them. Most of the business was done by barter, so little money was in circulation. However, the surrounding forest had pelts that could be sold in the East to buy books. In the spring of 1804, Samuel B. Brown was given the pelts and, accompanied by Ephraim Cutler, went east to bring back books for the town. Fifty-one books -- mostly on religion, travel, biography and history -- were purchased for $73.50. These books were passed from home to home until Ephraim Cutler was elected librarian in 1804.

The original books can be found at the Ohio Historical Society, as well as Ohio University's Alden Library. A commemorative marker, placed by the Nabby Lee Ames D.A.R. Chapter of Athens in 1925, is located near the Community Bank on State Street. The Coonskin Library Museum opened in May of 1994 in the former cafeteria of the Amesville Grade School.
Things to see...

**Gifford State Forest:** The Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry welcomes you to the heart of Ohio's hill country. Gifford State Forest is the smallest of Ohio's state forests, at 320 acres, but offers some very pleasant hunting and hiking opportunities in the scenic northern edge of Athens County. This state forest was donated to the state in 1959 by William Gifford Selby under conditions that it be used for experimentation and research. It was named for his mother Virginia Gifford and her family. Enjoy hiking, picnics or plant identification. 4 miles North of Amesville on State Route 550.

**Quilt Barn Tours:** There's no better way to tour the hills of Athens County than the Quilt Barn Tour. Your mission: to see over twenty historic quilt barns. Your reward: spectacular views of the Appalachian hill country. While on the lookout for the next historic Quilt Barn, you'll discover winding creeks, fields of wildflowers, spectacular overlooks, and covered bridges. Pack a picnic and don't forget your camera. Choose between the 45-mile Appliqué Loop, the 45-mile Stitch Loop, or the 55-mile Quilter's Loop. Details at [http://www.athensohio.com/whattodo/historic-sites-attractions/quilt-barn-tour](http://www.athensohio.com/whattodo/historic-sites-attractions/quilt-barn-tour)

**Mudsock** was an early pioneer village in Ames Township, Athens County, Ohio, that preceded Amesville, the current seat of the township. [Amesville](http://www.athensohio.com/whattodo/historic-sites-attractions/quilt-barn-tour) was established in 1839. Mudsock is one of the oldest, later abandoned, villages settled by the Ohio Company in the Northwest Territory. It originated from the lower settlement of Ames Township, one of the two earliest Ames 'communities'. It was probably later referred to as "Ames Town" or "Amestown" in early accounts. The current location of the Mudsock Village is the Amesville Cemetery about 1 mile south of Amesville on State Route 550.

Things to do...

**Village Productions:** Village Productions (VP) is a private, non-profit community-based organization serving rural, mostly Appalachian, area around Amesville, Ohio. VP holds classes 7 days a week in yoga, dance, music, pilates, drumming and many other activities. Drop ins are welcomed. For more information go to [www.village-productions.org](http://www.village-productions.org) or contact: 448-7480

**Amesville Firemen’s Festival:** AFF happens the third weekend of every July. Carnival games for kids, live music, bingo, tractor pull, dancing performances as well as rides in the Crosley 1954 miniature Fire Engine. See [www.amesvilleohio.org](http://www.amesvilleohio.org) for more details.

**Dutch Creek Winery** specializes in mead, cider and fruit wines. We are a husband and wife team who manages both the farm side of the operation, beekeeping and growing an apple-peach-pear orchard, as well as the production side of our winery by creating some of the best artisanal, small-batch meads, ciders, and fruit wines that Athens, OH has to offer. [http://dutchcreekwinery.com/](http://dutchcreekwinery.com/)

**Wolf Tree Winery:** Producing Mead, Fruit Mead (Melomels), Methglin (spiced mead), Fruit Wines, Ciders, Pymiths and other unusual Wines Set in the hills of Southeastern Ohio. Visit our tasting room and try a taste, glass or a bottle of one of our many flavors You’re welcome to bring your own food, to eat inside or outside. [http://www.wolftreewinery.com/](http://www.wolftreewinery.com/)
Businesses

**Airclaws, Inc.** is always high quality and complete customer satisfaction. With over 50 years of experience with both residential and commercial projects, we are standing by ready to provide helpful advice, troubleshooting assistance, HVAC equipment service, installation, and preventative maintenance. 740-448-7277 or 740-448-7278 airclaws@airclaws.com

**Connecting Spirits, LLC:** Animal Training using Positive Methods including Clicker Training, [http://www.debbieandjoanna.com/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.debbieandjoanna.com/Pages/default.aspx)

**Halcyon Hypnosis:** Find the alternative solutions to issues you are facing with services from Halcyon Hypnosis based in Amesville, OH. We specialize in providing you with a unique approach to helping you reach your specific goals. [http://www.halcyonhypnosis.com/](http://www.halcyonhypnosis.com/)

**At Matrix J Technologies,** we understand how frustrating it is when a computer crashes and you’re stuck not knowing what to do about it. We want to help! Matrix J repairs any and every computer issue you can think of. [http://www.matrixj.com/](http://www.matrixj.com/)

**Coonskin Crossing,** Convenience Store 6 OH-550
(740) 448-2767

**The Community Bank:** 25 State St. (740) 448-2212 Lobby Hours: 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Mon.-Wed. 8:30 a.m.-noon Thurs & Sat. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Fri. Drive-Through Hours: 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Mon.-Wed. 8:30 a.m.-noon Thurs & Sat. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Local Food

**Green Edge Organic Gardens** is a family owned organic farm in rural Amesville, Ohio. All of us at Green Edge are dedicated to producing the highest quality certified organic produce. This agrarian enterprise creates many full-time year round jobs as well as several seasonal and part-time positions. Greenhouses and grow rooms ensure a year-round selection of seasonal vegetables, micro greens, and specialty mushrooms. 16232 Henry Rd Amesville Ohio 45711 740-448-4021 [http://greenedgegardens.com](http://greenedgegardens.com)

**Homecoming Farm,** John Wood is an Amesville, Ohio Native. He is the farm manager, fence mender, tractor operator, chainsaw wielder, vegetable picker, and weed puller. In short he grows the food start to finish. 14964 Linscott Run Rd. Amesville Ohio 45711 740-448-3402 [http://www.homecomingfarmohio.com/](http://www.homecomingfarmohio.com/)
Places to eat…

**Kasler’s Contry Kitchen**, 10 State Route 550 serving down home fare, homemade pies and sandwiches. Breakfast and lunch Tuesday through Sunday and dinner Friday nights. 448-7800

**Coonskin Crossing**, 8 State Route 550 serving pizza, nightly specials and fast food. Also stocks snacks, beer and wine and other convenience items.

**Mason’s Pancake Breakfast** happens every second Saturday starting at 7:30 am till 10:00. $4.00 gets you all you can eat pancakes, sausage, potatoes and other breakfast fare. Masonic Lodge 7 South Franklin Street.

**Burr Oak Restaurant**, Perched just above Burr Oak Lake, our restaurant and bar offer a spectacular view from every seat, during every season of the year. Keep an eye out for our bald eagles and other wildlife amidst the trees as you enjoy dining in this beautiful setting. http://stayburroak.com/dining/

**The Stockport Mill Restaurant** http://www.stockportmill.com/

Places to stay…

Try one of the many B&B's available from Lance Rentals.

**The Grainery Cottage:** This quaint, all electric country cottage was the summer kitchen/grainary for an old farmstead that used to stand on this land.

**The Bunkhouse** is over 1,700 square feet. This unique property features 4 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms, a laundry center, full kitchen, and large family room/dining area with a gas fireplace for entertaining together. Large flat screen TV with satellite, free wi-fi and long distance telephone. Other units available at http://www.lancerentals.com/

**Phone:** 740-448-1070 or 440-759-2230

**Airbnb:** for other options https://www.airbnb.com at zip code 45711
Other resources

Amesville Ohio, www.amesvilleohio.org
Athens Visitors Bureau, http://athensohio.com/
Burr Oak State Park,
Chesterhill Ohio, http://cro.osc.edu/chesterhill.shtml
Gifford State Forest, http://forestry.ohiodnr.gov/gifford
Southeast Ohio History Center, http://athenshistory.org/
Stockport Ohio, http://stockportohio.weebly.com/
Stroud’s Run State Park, http://parks.ohiodnr.gov/stroudsrun
Stuart’s Opera House, http://stuartsoperahouse.org/

Festivals

**Amesville Firemen’s Festival,** Music, food, tractor pulls and the Annual Parade top off this annual event that happens the third weekend of July each year.
https://www.facebook.com/AmesvilleFiremensFestival/

**Ohio Paw Paw Festival,** The Ohio Pawpaw Festival is a fun-filled and educational community event celebrating one of America’s largest native tree fruits, the Pawpaw (Asimina triloba). This three-day event highlights the rich history and future possibilities of the pawpaw through delectable foods, quality entertainment, unique arts, crafts and local businesses throughout southeastern Ohio and beyond.
http://www.ohiopawpawfest.com/

**Ohio Brew Week,** Join beer nerds, brewers and connoisseurs in trying over 200 beers from over 40 Ohio breweries. Enjoy old favorites and unique offerings as Ohio brews take over the taps in Athens.
https://ohiobrewweek.com/
Local Organizations

AMESVILLE GRANGE 798: is part of the National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, also simply styled the Grange, is a fraternal organization for American farmers that encourages farm families to band together for their common economic and political well-being. Founded in 1867 after the Civil War, it is the oldest surviving agricultural organization in America, though now much diminished from the over one million members it had in its peak in the 1890s through the 1950s. In addition to serving as a center for many farming communities, the Grange was an effective special interest group for farmers and their agendas, including fighting railroad monopolies and advocating rural mail deliveries. Indeed, the word "grange" itself comes from a Latin word for grain, and is related to a "granary" or generically, a farm. Contact: Frank Hare: 448-4941

Amesville Masonic Lodge: Masonry is the world's first and largest fraternal organization, and is based on the belief that each man has a responsibility to help make the world a better place. Through our culture of philanthropy, we make a profound difference for our brothers, our families, our communities, and our future. The first Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons was established in 1717 in London. In 1718, English Freemasonry spread to France and Spain, and after 1729, to India, Italy, Poland, and Sweden. Freemasonry spread to other parts of Europe and eventually made its way to the American colonies. In 1733, the first American lodge was established in Boston, under the authority of the Grand Lodge of England. The United States now has grand lodges in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Contact: Dick Brown 448-2260
Village Contacts

Village of Amesville P. O. Box 190 45711  
(740) 448-2411
Emergency Numbers
Fire: 911 Police: 911 SEOEMS:  
1-800-282-7777
Poison: 1-800-882-7625
Sheriff: 593-6633
Highway Patrol: 593-6611
Get Help/Give Help: 211
Food Pantry: 1-800-338-4484

PARK SHELTER and MEETING ROOM RESERVATIONS: If you would like to reserve the Park Shelter House or the Village Meeting Room for a specific day and time, please call the Village Office at 448-2411 and leave a message. We are now required by insurance to have a form filled out for reservations.

DEPARTMENTS/SERVICES: Fire Department Gary Green,  
Chief 448-3904

VILLAGE MAINTENANCE: 448-2411 Recycling Athens County  
Recycling 797-4208