

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Jan. 20, 2012

Contact: Mark Saunders
202-268-6524
mark.r.saunders@usps.gov
Release No. 12-009



Lancaster County, PA, Celebrated on U.S. Postal Stamp
Image Provides Glimpse of Past Century, Quieter Way of Life

To obtain a high-resolution image of the stamp for media use only, email mark.r.saunders@usps.gov.

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Postal Service showcases rural Pennsylvania's Dutch country in its [Scenic American Landscapes series](#) with an international price stamp. The \$1.05 Lancaster County, Pennsylvania stamp is being issued in self-adhesive sheets of 20 at a price of \$21 a sheet.

This stamp covers the First-Class Mail 1-ounce letter price for international mail to countries other than Mexico and Canada. The stamp is also good for mailing domestic First Class Mail letters up to 3-ounces that must pay the 20 cents extra for mailing a square greeting card or invitation (85 + 20 cents). The stamps go on sale today at Post Offices nationwide, online at usps.com and by phone at 800-782-6724.

"Known for its breathtaking rural scenery, agricultural bounty and small towns with evocative names like Bird-in-Hand and Paradise, Lancaster County is perhaps most famous as part of the Pennsylvania Dutch country," said U.S. Postal Service Stamp Services Manager, Stephen Kearney. "The Amish, with their horse-drawn buggies, one-room schoolhouses and traditional lifestyle, give the county an Old World charm. Their pristine family farms, surrounded by neatly cultivated fields, offer visitors a glimpse of another century and a quieter way of life."

The Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, international price stamp is part of the Scenic American Landscapes series. Art director Ethel Kessler of Bethesda, MD, designed the stamp, which features a photograph taken by former National Geographic photographer James Amos of Chestertown, MD.

Customers may view the Lancaster County PA stamps as well as many of this year's other stamps on Facebook at [facebook.com/USPSStamps](https://www.facebook.com/USPSStamps), through *Twitter* [@USPSstamps](https://twitter.com/USPSstamps) or on the website *Beyond the Perf* at beyondtheperf.com/2012-preview. *Beyond the Perf* is the Postal Service's online site for background on upcoming stamp subjects, first-day-of-issue events and other philatelic news.

How to Order the First-Day-of-Issue Postmark

Customers have 60 days to obtain the first-day-of-issue postmark by mail. They may purchase new stamps at a local Post Office, at The Postal Store website at usps.com/shop or by calling 800-STAMP-24. They should affix the stamps to envelopes of their choice, address the envelopes (to themselves or others) and place them in larger envelopes addressed to:

Lancaster County Pennsylvania Stamp
Postmaster
1400 Harrisburg Pike
Lancaster, PA 17604-9998

After applying the first-day-of-issue postmark, the Postal Service will return the envelopes by mail. There is no charge for the postmark. All orders must be postmarked by March 20, 2012.

How to Order First-Day Covers

The Postal Service also offers first-day covers for new stamp issues and Postal Service stationery items postmarked with the official first-day-of-issue cancellation. Each item has an individual catalog number and is offered in the quarterly *USA Philatelic* catalog. Customers may request a free catalog by calling 800-STAMP-24 or writing to:

Information Fulfillment
Dept. 6270
U.S. Postal Service
P.O. Box 219014
Kansas City, MO 64121-9014

Philatelic Product

There is one philatelic product available for this stamp issue: 575561, First-Day Cover, \$1.49.

The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

###

Please Note: For broadcast quality video and audio, photo stills and other media resources, visit the USPS Newsroom at <http://about.usps.com/news/welcome.htm>.

For reporters interested in speaking with a regional Postal Service public relations professional on this issue, please go to <http://about.usps.com/news/media-contacts/usps-local-media-contacts.pdf>.

A self-supporting government enterprise, the U.S. Postal Service is the only delivery service that reaches every address in the nation, 151 million residences, businesses and Post Office Boxes. The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses, and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations. With 32,000 retail locations and the most frequently visited website in the federal government, usps.com, the Postal Service has annual revenue of more than \$65 billion and delivers nearly 40 percent of the world's mail. If it were a private sector company, the U.S. Postal Service would rank 35th in the 2011 Fortune 500. *Black Enterprise* and *Hispanic Business* magazines ranked the Postal Service as a leader in workforce diversity. The Postal Service has been named the Most Trusted Government Agency for six years and the sixth Most Trusted Business in the nation by the Ponemon Institute.

Follow USPS on *Twitter* [@USPS_PR](https://twitter.com/USPS_PR) and at [Facebook.com/usps](https://www.facebook.com/usps).