

Rockaway Township Report



65 Mt. Hope Road
Rockaway, NJ 07866
973-627-7200

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Mayor's Corner



Congratulations to all the Rockaway Township students who have graduated. Whether you are off to Morris Hills or Morris Knolls High School or college in the fall, I wish you a safe and enjoyable summer with your family and friends. There are many exciting events and

projects going on within the Township this time of year, and I trust you find this issue of the Township newsletter helpful and informative.

I am pleased to announce that after extended negotiations with the ownership of the Rockaway Townsquare, a new agreement has been reached by the terms of which the Mall will make a very significant financial payment to the Township to supplement public safety services.

The new agreement will result in annual payments by the Mall and will be

automatically renewable for a total of five years. I acknowledge the cooperation and good faith of Mall ownership in recognizing the public safety needs of the Township and in their willingness to provide appropriate financial assistance to address those needs.

Rockaway Township is a great community and I am honored to be your Mayor. I hope you enjoy the newsletter and find it helpful. Don't forget to like us on Facebook and visit www.rockawaytownship.org for Township news and events.

Living History at the Ford-Faesch House

Members of the Rockaway Township Historical Society hosted the Dwyer School 4th Graders on June 10 at the Ford-Faesch House. Students learned about the house restoration project, Mr. Faesch and his contributions to iron mining at Mt. Hope, and the production of ammunition for the Continental Army Artillery.

The Faesch House was also open to residents on July 4th and 5th in celebration of Independence Day. Members of the Historical Society provided history programs and tours at this time. The Historical Society will also be participating again this October in Morris County's "Pathways to History" program. For more information, please visit our website at www.rockawaytownship.org.



Dwyer School 4th graders get a living history lesson at the Ford-Faesch House on Mt. Hope Road.

Office of the Fire Marshall

Selling your Home?

You must have a current *Smoke-Cert* to complete the sale of your home. Applications are available in the lobby of the Rockaway Township Municipal Building. They are also available through the Township website at www.rockawaytownship.org. Once on the site, go to Township of Rockaway Forms, Fire Department, Smoke Detector Appliance Application. Fill out and submit with payment either by mail or in person at the Fire Department office at the Municipal Building between 8:30pm and 4:30pm weekdays.

The application specifies what is needed - smoke detectors, CO detectors, and a fire extinguisher in or near the kitchen. Placement is shown on a diagram. Smoke detectors will be tested with harmless fake smoke. CO test buttons will be pressed, and the extinguisher will be checked to be sure it has not expired and meets code requirements.

Once we receive your request, the inspector for your area will be assigned and he/she will call the contact number on the application and schedule a mutually convenient time to conduct the



inspection. If there are deficiencies, you will be given time to correct them, and currently there is no additional charge for the reinspection. Upon full compliance, you will be provided the yellow copy of the certificate, which you must have at closing for the sale to be legal. Certificates are good for six months. For further information, please call the Fire Department office at 973-983-2865.

Smoke Detectors Save Lives

While the vast majority of Americans realize the importance of having a smoke detector in their residence, most don't realize that there are two types of this device:

Ionization smoke alarms are generally more responsive to flaming fires. Ionization-type smoke alarms have a small amount of radioactive material between two electrically charged plates, which ionizes the air and causes current to flow between the plates. When smoke enters the chamber, the alarm is activated.

Photoelectric smoke alarms are generally more responsive to fires that begin with a long period of

smoldering. Photoelectric alarms aim light into a sensing chamber at an angle away from the sensor. Smoke enters the chamber, reflecting light onto the light sensor and triggering the alarm.

For each type of smoke alarm, the advantage it provides may be critical to safety in some fire situations. Home fatal fires, day or night, include a large number of smoldering fires and a large number of flaming fires, and the type and time of a house fire cannot be predicted. Any smoke alarm technology must perform acceptably for both types of fires to provide early warning of fire at all times of the day or night, and whether you are asleep or awake.

For best protection, it is recommended both (ionization and photoelectric) technologies be used in homes. In addition to individual ionization and photoelectric alarms, combination alarms that include both technologies in a single device are available.

For a more detailed report on the different types of smoke detectors, please visit the Rockaway Township Fire Department website – www.rockawaytwpfiredept.org.

News from Community Services

Summertime Fun – New Registration System

Registering for Frog Falls, Summer Playground and Mount Hope Pond Beach? We have a new registration process that allows you to create an account using Community Pass: <https://register.communitypass.net/reg/>. By creating the account, you will be able to register for any of our current programs from year to year or season to season. We are also accepting registration for the Rutgers Coach's Safety Program through Community Pass.

Credit cards are now accepted online only, which includes a 3% convenience fee. Checks are accepted either by mail, in person or may be placed in our payment drop box. The drop box is located on the left side of the Municipal Building, near the entrance. If paying by cash, please have exact change.

If you are experiencing difficulty logging on the site, entering any data, or if you have any questions, please call the Department of Community Services at 973-983-2841.

It's Summer - How Safe is Your Pool or Spa?

The CPSC (U.S. Consumer Product Safety

Commission) recommends that residential pool and spa owners adopt water safety steps to prevent children from accessing the water when there is no adult supervision, and that children are appropriately protected when an adult is available to supervise.

By asking and answering these critical questions, you can gauge the effectiveness of your water safety measures, and determine what steps need to be taken to protect children from drowning and submersion injuries:

- Is there a fence around the perimeter of your pool or spa?
- Are there self-closing and self-latching gates?
- Are there door, gate or pool alarms in use?
- Does your pool have anti-entrapment drain covers that are compliant with the P&SS Act?
- Are all pool and spa covers in working order?
- Has the public pool or spa you use been inspected to ensure it is compliant with federal, state and local laws?
- Has someone in the family received training in CPR, first aid and emergency response?
- Has everyone learned to swim?

**Remember to
like Rockaway
Township on
Facebook! You
will find regular
announcements,
news, photos
and more !**

What's Happening

GAZEBO CONCERT SERIES

Rockaway Township, Rockaway Borough and the Gazebo Concert Committee are pleased to bring you the Annual Summer Concert Series, held every Sunday afternoon at 3:00pm at the Parks Lake Gazebo on Mt. Hope Road. *In the event of inclement weather, the concerts will be held at the United Methodist Church of the Rockaways.*

JULY

- 13th Rave On - Legends of Rock and Roll
- 20th Tequila Rose - County
- 27th Jersey Sound - Music for Dancing

AUGUST

- 3rd Reminisce - Music of the 50s and More
- 10th Soul Cruisin' - Motown
- 17th Symphonics - Mix of Popular Music
- 24th Cameos - Great Dance Music

UPCOMING TOWNSHIP PROGRAMS

JULY

- 15th Adult immunization clinic*
Hibernia Health Center, 419 Green Pond Road
5:00pm

AUGUST

- 13th Blood pressure screening
Rockaway Township Municipal Building
11:00am - 11:30am

SEPTEMBER

- 10th Blood pressure screening
Rockaway Township Municipal Building
11:00am - 11:30am
- 24th Immunization for Adults educational seminar
Rockaway Township Public Library
6:30pm - 7:30pm
- TBD Blood chemistry screening*
Rockaway Township Municipal Building
8:30am - 10:30am

* Pre-registration required for some Township events. Please call the appropriate department for information.

From Your Police Department

Police Department Earns Reaccreditation

On April 22, the Rockaway Township Police Department was awarded their reaccreditation certificate by Harry Delgado, program director of the New Jersey State Chiefs of Police Association Accreditation program. This was a culmination of three years of hard work by all members of the Police Department to achieve this high standard of accreditation.



Pictured (L – R) are Council President Steven Antonelli, Captain Marty McParland, Captain John Janosec, Lieutenant Wade Ryerson, Chief Walt Ardin and Harry Delgado.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving Awards

On June 11, 2011, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) recognized outstanding officers for their efforts in removing drunk drivers from our roadways. Officer Michael Hatzimihalis was honored by MADD for his outstanding enforcement efforts in 2013. Congratulations, Mike, for this very special honor!



Mayor's Special Recognition

Mayor Michael Dachisen wishes to congratulate the following Township employees: and departments:

- Cory Gardepe, who has successfully completed and passed her Tax Collection 1 and 2 certifications.
- Recycling Coordinator Al Knoth for receiving the "Walking Tall Award" from the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority (MUA).
- Employees of the Engineering Department, for their work in securing a Department of Transportation Grant for Lake Denmark.
- Clean communities grant for \$45,800.89 (Division of Health).
- Lake Denmark Road repaving Department of Transportation grant for \$225,000.00 (Engineering Department).
- \$142,080 Hazard Mitigation Grant from the state of New Jersey for emergency generators for Rockaway Township's Water Utility (Police and Water Utility).



Diabetes: The Silent Disease

Diabetes is a disease in which the body does not produce or properly use insulin. Insulin is a hormone that is needed to convert sugar, starches and other food into the energy needed for daily life. The cause of diabetes continues to be a mystery, although both genetics and environmental factors such as obesity and lack of exercise appear to play roles.

25.8 million people in the United States, or 8.3% of the population, have diabetes. Though these numbers are staggering, what is more alarming is that nearly 80 million people are pre-diabetic, and it is predicted that 1/3 of the country will be diabetic by 2050 if current trends continue. Diabetes

often goes undiagnosed because many of its symptoms seem harmless, but studies indicate that the early detection of diabetes symptoms and treatment can decrease the chance of significant complications.

There are two major forms of diabetes. Type 1 diabetes, also called insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus (IDDM), usually affects children and young adults, although disease onset can occur at any age. Type 2 diabetes, also known as non-insulin-dependent diabetes, may account for over 90% of all diagnosed cases of diabetes. Type 2 diabetes is associated with older age, obesity, family history and physical inactivity, though it is increasingly

being diagnosed in children and adolescents.

Because diabetes often goes unnoticed and undiagnosed, it is important to be aware of its most frequent signs. Symptoms include frequent urination, excessive thirst, extreme hunger, weight loss, fatigue, irritability and blurry vision. If diabetes goes untreated for a long time, complications such as heart disease, stroke, blindness, kidney disease, dental caries, amputations and other significant problems may occur. The Division of Health periodically holds diabetes screenings for the public. Check the Township website regularly or call 973-983-2848 for more information.

WANTED:
Residents to participate on the Rockaway Municipal Alliance Committee, which fights substance abuse. If interested, attend the July 14 or September 15 meeting! For information, call 973-983-2848

Public Works & Recycling

The Rockaway Township Department of Public Works would like to announce the following streets will be paved:

- Rolling Ridge Drive
- Countryside Drive
- Lief Ericson Road – All
- Whippoorwhil Lane - All
- Winding Brook Way - All
- Lake View and Oslo Drive - Telemark to Lake View
- New Row Road - All
- Holly Road - All
- Meriden Road - Deer Run to Woods End
- Crescent Ridge Road - All
- Sunnyhill Road - Swede Mine to Sylvan Way
- Sylvan Way - Sunnyhill to Rockaway Borough

Pollution

Pollution on streets, parking lots and lawns is washed into storm drains and then is delivered directly to our drinking water supplies, the ocean and the lakes our children play in. Pet waste, fertilizer, pesticides, motor vehicle fluids, paint, hazardous waste and yard debris – you name it – all of these sources of pollution enter storm drains. By sharing responsibility and making small changes in our daily lives, we can keep common pollutants out of storm water. It results in cleaner, safer water, and saves the high cost of decontamination.

Paint

Rockaway Township recycling does not accept paint, stain, sealer or solvents. For latex paint only, mix with sand or kitty litter and let it air dry with the lid removed until solid. Then dispose of it in regular household garbage. All other listed items must be brought to the Mt. Olive Transfer Station, located at 168 Gold Mine Road, Flanders. The

transfer station is open 7:30am – 3:00pm Monday to Friday, and 7:30am – 11am on Saturdays. To make an appointment for your disposal, call 973-347-8106.

Grass – Cut it and Leave it

Remember to simply leave your grass clippings on the lawn when you mow. Grass clippings leave a natural and healthy fertilizer for a growing lawn. Try mulching as well. A mulching blade chops up grass clippings into fine pieces, which slip easily into the soil. These tips will also save money. You won't have to spend money on fertilizer, since clippings left on the lawn recycle nutrients like nitrogen back into the soil. Clippings do not create thatch in the lawn. Thatch is formed from the accumulation of dead grass roots and stems - the more you fertilize and water your lawn, the faster it accumulates.

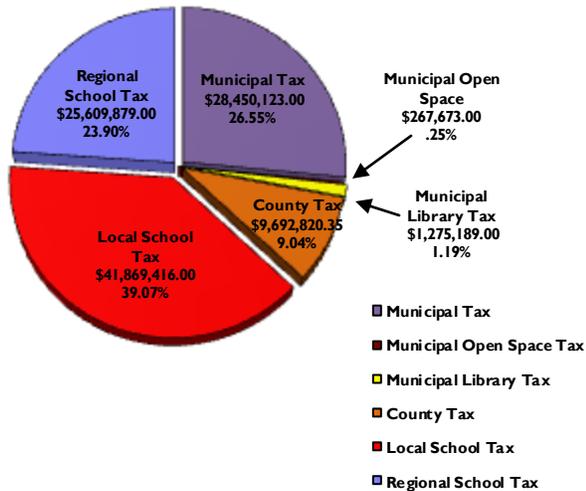
Place grass for disposal in a reusable trash container. It is collected weekly, Wednesday to Friday. There is no specific collection day for particular neighborhoods or streets. Do not mix grass clippings with brush or leaves, as it will not be collected. Some leaf matter is expected but it must be segregated from the bulk of your leaf collection.

Leaf and Brush

Rockaway Township's McVeigh Recycling Center accepts leaves, as well as brush up to four inches in diameter. No grass is accepted. No landscapers are permitted to use the recycling dropoff for brush, grass or leaves. Brush and leaves are collected curbside weekly, Wednesday to Friday. Brush must be no more than six inches in diameter, and bundled in manageable four foot lengths weighing no more than 150 lb. total (50 lb. bundles). Leaves must be in reusable trash containers or biodegradable paper bags only – no plastic bags.



Township of Rockaway 2014 Tax Levy



‘Caffeinated’ Recycling

Al Knoth, Rockaway Township’s recycling coordinator, was among the award recipients at "Highly Caffeinated Recycling," the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority’s (MUA) recent 26th recycling awards dinner.

Knoth won the Walking Tall Award for his work educating Rockaway Township residents about recycling. His initiatives have resulted in school programs and classroom curricula, talks with civic organizations and the distribution of a recycling brochure. Knoth also works with the MUA on jointly enforcing improper recycling practices and educating commercial businesses and multifamily dwellings.

His work has gotten results. Knoth reported that in Rockaway Township, there is marked improvement in the recycling rate due to the introduction of single-stream recycling, increased enforcement and education.

"The Township’s recycling rate in 2009 was 40.9 percent and in 2011 it increased to 48.2 percent," said Knoth. "This increased rate is nearly the 50 percent goal established by New Jersey." Rockaway Township maintains two recycling centers that are open to residents six days a week, and that information regarding recycling may be found at www.rockawaytownship.org.

Street Opening Permits

Street Excavations and Openings Require Application

Rockaway Township requires a permit for any street opening or excavation. The application form is now available online through the Rockaway Township website. The approval process can take approximately two to three weeks, as several departments must approve and sign the application. Please plan ahead and file for a permit in plenty of time before you begin any work in your area.

There is a \$25 nonrefundable permit fee and a requirement of a deposit or bond to be filed with the Township Clerk. The amount will be determined by the Township, and you will be notified of this requirement. Once you have completed the work, you must contact the Township’s Department of Public Works at 973-627-1700 for a final inspection. Deposit or bond will be returned upon a final inspection approval.

News from the Tax Collector

2014 Tax Rate & Property Tax Bill Mailing

Please be advised that the 2014 Property Tax Rate has been confirmed at \$3.003 per \$100 of assessed value. Bills are scheduled to be mailed in mid-July this year. Please visit the Township website for regular updates.

Homestead Program Credits to be Delayed

The Homestead Program, originally scheduled to be applied as credits to 3rd quarter 2014 property taxes, is being delayed by the State of New Jersey for budgetary reasons.

Qualified homeowners will not be getting the tax relief credits until May 2015. If you have any questions, please contact the State directly at 1-888-238-1233.

Engineering Updates

Construction Division

If you are thinking of renovating your bathroom or kitchen, building a deck, putting up a new fence or swimming pool, building an addition or any other home improvement, you will need to know which permits are required. Please check our website – www.rockawaytownship.org – or call the Building Department at 973-983-2809 to verify permit requirements for all of your future projects.

If you are planning to install an inflatable/temporary pool to keep cool this summer, please contact the Building Department regarding any permit requirements that may be applicable.

All Home Improvement Contractors must be registered with the NJ Division of Consumer Affairs. Please visit their website – www.njconsumeraffairs.gov – to verify a contractor’s registration.

Zoning Division

If you are planning any renovations to your home this summer, be advised that many of these projects require a zoning review prior to obtaining a building permit. If you have any questions on the zoning requirements, please contact the Zoning Department at 973-983-2814.

NJDOT Grant - Lake Denmark Road - Section Two

Rockaway Township received an additional NJDOT Municipal Aid Grant in the amount of \$225,000.00 for pavement repair and drainage improvements to Lake Denmark Road, Section Two. Work was already underway for the initial section of Lake Denmark Road in June.



M.c.M.A.T.C.H.

Morris County Municipal Action To Curb Hunger



SEPTEMBER IS HUNGER AWARENESS MONTH

**Let's do our share to help
Mayor Dachisen &
the Township Council
in replenishing our local food pantry...**



Online donations are being accepted:

<http://www.yougivegoods.com/drive.php?id=1833>

Donation boxes are located at:

- Rockaway Township Municipal Lobby
- Rockaway Township Police Department
- Rockaway Township Library
- Copeland Middle School
- Birchwood School
- Catherine A. *Dwyer* School
- Dennis B. O'Brien* School
- Katherine D. Malone* School
- Stonybrook School

Donation boxes will be available from September 1st through September 30th. Please be sure that all donations are not expired or close to expiration date. Thank you for all you do to make Rockaway Township such a great community.