

September - December 2007



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Township of Moorestown
111 West Second Street
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(856) 235-0912 – Telephone
(856) 235-7833 - Fax
www.moorestown.nj.us

Department of Public Works

HOLIDAY TRASH SCHEDULE - 2007-2008

Holiday		District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4
Labor Day	Sep 3	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Columbus Day	Oct 8	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Thanksgiving	Nov 22-23	No Change	No Change	No Change	Wednesday
Christmas Day	Dec 24-25	Wednesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
New Year's Day	Jan 1	No Change	No Change	No Change	No Change

ONCE-A-WEEK TRASH COLLECTION RESUMES SEPTEMBER 3, 2007

LEAF COLLECTION

*Tis the season for leaf collection, so please remember to follow these important rules.

- As per the Code of the Township of Moorestown, Chapters 92-17 and 92-22, leaves may not be placed in the street or travel way and pursuant to State Storm water Management Regulations, leaves may not be placed within 10' of storm drain inlets.
- Rainfall and melting snow must be able to flow down the street and into the storm inlet.
- Never let your children play in leaf piles in or near the street.
- Travel a safe distance from leaf collection vehicles and do not attempt to pass these vehicles while they are operating.
- In an effort to help our crews perform in a safe and efficient manner, please do not park on the street during your collection week, if at all possible.

Please remember,

- There may be times when the quantity of leaves in one area is so heavy that the leaf collection crews will need to spend additional time in that area. Please be patient. The crews will move into your area as close to the schedule as possible.
- There may also be times when the crews get behind schedule due to the weather conditions and equipment problems.
- Street sweeping is part of the leaf collection process. Since the street sweeper moves at a slower pace and the operator must wait until the area is clear of all leaves, street cleanup will often take longer than pickups.
- An early snowfall seriously hampers our leaf collection efforts as those same trucks and employees will be needed to plow the streets.
- Residents may dispose of leaves on Saturdays between noon and 4pm at the compost facility, located on Creek Road, between Borton Landing and Centerton Roads.
- The 2007 Fall Leaf Collection schedule for your area will be mailed and posted on the website in the near future. Visit our web site for more detailed information.

HYDRANT FLUSHING

Public Works will be flushing hydrants October 1-31, 2007 between the hours of 10pm and 5am. This procedure is necessary to flush accumulated mineral sediments from the water mains. Some water discoloration and/or lower pressure may occur during this time. It is advisable to check the water for discoloration prior to washing clothes.

the Moorestown

Fall-Winter 2007

Messenger

TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Kevin E. Aberant856.235.2881
Jonathan Eron856.234.8331
Daniel Roccato856.235.4322
Ann B. Segal856.235.4232
Seth N. Broder856.235.4077

TOWNSHIP MANAGER

John T. Terry

TOWNSHIP CLERK

Patricia L. Hunt, RMC

COUNCIL CORNER

Town Hall Update

As most of you are aware, on August 3, 2007, there was a fire in Town Hall. There were no injuries and the fire departments did an excellent job in containing the fire. However, due to smoke and water damage, the building has been deemed uninhabitable and is, therefore, closed. All offices, with the exception of the Police Department and Municipal Court, have been relocated to the first and second floors of the Library. Most services have been restored. The Police Department has not changed locations. Court Offices have been relocated to the Municipal Court in Maple Shade. The Municipal Court is located at 200 Stiles Avenue, Maple Shade (856-779-9610 EXT 170). It is important to note that the relocation of services to the Library is intended to be a short-term temporary location. Alternative office space is being evaluated. Updates are regularly posted on the Township's homepage at www.moorestown.nj.us and press releases are given to the NewsWeekly and Moorestown Sun. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact the main office at 856-235-0912.

TOWNSHIP OF MOORESTOWN REVALUATION UNDERWAY

The revaluation is now underway. Each taxing district in New Jersey is required by constitutional mandate to have assessments equal to 100% of market value. The purpose of the revaluation, as directed by the Burlington County Board of Taxation which oversees this process, is to achieve this requirement. Currently, property assessments have fallen to 47.57% of true market value as determined by the New Jersey Division of Taxation. The last revaluation occurred in 1982.

By mid August, approximately 3,750 homes have been inspected. For your security, every inspector is required to have photo identification and to be registered with the Township of Moorestown Police Department. If there is any cause for suspicion, please contact the Township at 856-235-0912. In the event that you are unavailable when the revaluation company comes to your home initially, a "call back" notice will be left for you to contact Appraisal Systems to arrange another date and time for your convenience.

Once the new assessments are calculated, a letter will be sent to inform you of the proposed value and estimated taxes. At that point, you will have the opportunity to make an appointment with a representative of Appraisal Systems and review and/or challenge the new assessment. A follow up letter will be sent to inform you whether or not the assessment was revised. A second, more formal, appeal process is available by filing with the Burlington County Board of Taxation.

We thank you for your patience and cooperation during this important phase of the revaluation process. We understand that the revaluation process is a cause of uncertainty and we will strive to keep you informed. Any questions which you may have should be directed to the Assessor's Office at 856-914-3011. Township Assessor Dennis DeKlerk is available Monday 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. or Wednesday and Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Direct contact with the revaluation firm, Appraisal Systems Inc., is also available at 856-273-5802.

Referendum on Open Space Tax Levy

In June, the Township Council adopted Ordinance 18-2007 which authorized the County Clerk to place a question on the November ballot. This referendum will give the Township Council the sentiment of the voters concerning extending the time period and adjusting the annual amount of the levy for the "Moorestown Open Space, Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund." The Fund would continue to be used exclusively for the acquisition of lands for recreation and conservation purposes; development and maintenance of such lands; acquisition of farmland for farmland preservation purposes; historic property preservation or acquisition; and/or payment of debt service on indebtedness issued or incurred by the municipality for any of the aforesaid purposes.

Currently a sum of \$0.06 per \$100 of assessed value of real property is raised by taxation. This levy is scheduled to expire on December 31, 2008 and the Township Council proposes to extend the time period for an additional 20 years. Moreover, Council proposes to adjust the rate and annually adopt a levy in an amount no less than 1 cent, but no more than 6 cents, per \$100 of assessed value of real property. A public hearing will be conducted each year before determining the amount of revenue to be raised. All monies levied shall not be used for any other purpose than those listed above.

TOWNSHIP OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED:

September 3
October 8
November 22 and 23
December 24 and 25
January 1, 2008

There will be no trash collection on these days.



CHANGE YOUR CLOCK/ CHANGE YOUR BATTERY

Please remember to change your smoke alarm batteries on Sunday, November 4, when you change your clocks back one hour.

Important Election News

ATTENTION VOTERS IN DISTRICTS 11 and 12 - Due to the fire, voting at Town Hall will not be available. A new location has not been approved as of the date of this newsletter. As we approach Election Day, an announcement regarding the new location will be posted on the Township's website and notices will be placed in the NewsWeekly and Moorestown Sun. Please be sure to check these locations for updates. In the interim, should you have any questions, you may contact the Township Clerk at 856-235-0912.

ATTENTION VOTERS IN DISTRICTS 14 AND 19 - Please be reminded that if you live in Election District 14 or 19, you will vote at the Moorestown Athletic Center in the Moorestown High School (lower-level lobby area). If you have any questions or concerns in this regard, please call the Township Clerk at 235-0912.

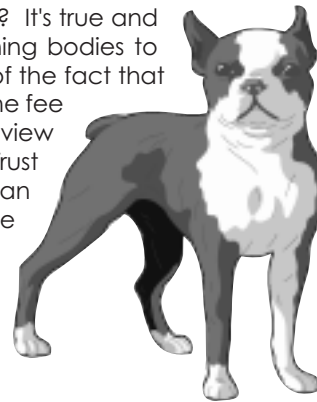
IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER: General Election - November 6 - Polls open 6am - 8pm - THE LAST DAY TO:

Register to Vote for General Election
October 16

Apply for Absentee Ballot by mail
October 30

Apply for Absentee Ballot in Person
November 5

DOG LICENSING COSTS - Did you know that dog licensing fees are regulated by the State of New Jersey? It's true and for the first time in almost 30 years, Senate Bill No. 695, approved January 24, 2007, authorized governing bodies to increase their municipality's annual dog license fee to a maximum of \$21. This action was taken in light of the fact that most municipalities were operating their animal control programs at a deficit, when the original intent of the fee was to offset costs associated with providing animal control services. In light of same, staff performed a review of the finances and found that the dog license fees collected annually do not sufficiently fund the Dog Trust Account, an account created to fund costs associated with: the annual purchase of tags, operation of an annual free rabies clinic, the position of Animal Control Officer and costs associated with a facility to house stray animals (county shelter). In light of the fact that the Trust operates at a significant deficit, Council found that an increase to the existing fee schedule is necessary in order to help offset costs. Therefore, in January, the annual fee to be paid for each dog license will be \$14 (when the license is purchased during the month of January). Renewals purchased on and after February 1 but before April 1, will be assessed a \$9 late fee. Renewal licenses purchased on and after April 1 will be assessed a \$14 late fee.



Street Trees and Sidewalks - Street trees are a major asset to the quality of life in Moorestown. They contribute to the attractiveness of Moorestown and enhance real estate values. When it is necessary to repair an uprooted sidewalk due to the growth of a tree, care should be taken to carefully replace the sidewalk, making pedestrian passage easier and allowing the tree to expand and grow with little stress. The challenge is to protect the tree and, at the same time, repair the sidewalk at a cost that homeowners can afford. When replacing the sidewalk, the homeowner may feel it is necessary to bring the sidewalk as close to the tree as possible, allowing for no expansion room for the tree. In doing so, the roots of the tree may be cut away and, thus, affect its development. It is important to reduce the stress on the tree's roots. One recommended solution is to curve the sidewalk away from the tree enabling expansion of the tree and not impeding the sidewalk. Your efforts in this regard will contribute to the continued beauty of our trees which are to be enjoyed by future generations of Moorestonians. For more information, please contact the Department of Public Works.

MOORESTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT - Fire Prevention Month October 7-13, 2007 - The Division of Fire Prevention has planned many Fire Safety events for Fire Prevention Month. Our fire trucks will visit the pre-schools and elementary schools, up to third grade, the first week in October and through Fire Prevention Week. Our firefighters will teach the children good fire safety habits as they display firefighting equipment. Students at all of the elementary schools will attend Fire Safety Assemblies that feature Puppeteer Ray Farrell with his puppets performing fire safety education shows. We ask that Scout groups and other Township youth groups please call the Fire Prevention Office at (856) 234-1222 to schedule visits to the fire stations.

Annual Fire Safety Open House - We will again present our Annual Fire Safety OPEN HOUSE held at Hose Co. Station 311 on West Main Street. The display will take place on Friday, October 12, 2007 from 7-9pm. The kids will get to participate in a 5-step Life Safety Program. After that, they will have the opportunity to use a real fire hose, play fire safety games, and observe aerial ladder trucks and antique fire equipment displays. For the adults, there will be live fire extinguisher demonstrations and an abundance of fire safety handouts to help you make your home fire safe. Come out and get free Fire Department Trading Cards, plastic fire hats and fire safety information. Bring your camera to take pictures with your volunteer firefighters and "Sparky the Fire Dog." Free snacks and refreshments will also be available.



RECREATION

www.moorestown.nj.us
(856) 235-0912

PROGRAMS

The fall recreation activities include a variety of sports and cultural interests including: Intramural Soccer Leagues for children in grades K-8; Field Hockey Clinic for grades 4-6 and Leagues for girls in grades K-8; an Adult/Child Bowling League for children ages 6-14 at the Playdrome; an informal Co-ed Bowling Program for adults at Laurel Lanes; Irish Step Dancing Classes for ages 6-adult; Special Needs Programs, including bowling, gym, open game room and movies; after school (3:30 to 5:00 PM) and teen evening (7:00 to 10:00 PM) programming (open gymnasium and game room) at the North Church Street Recreation Center for Elementary age children and High School students; Tennis and Golf, as well as swimming programs at the Community House; Lap Swimming for adults and senior citizens on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, and Family Swim on Friday evenings and Saturday afternoons.

IMPORTANT DATES

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| - Soccer League Team Assignments | Saturday, September 8 |
| - Lap Swim Start Date | Tuesday, September 11 |
| - Field Hockey Clinic First Meeting | Wednesday, September 12 |
| - Family Swim Start Date | September 14 and 15 |
| - Soccer League First Game | Saturday, September 15 |
| - Field Hockey Team Assignments/First Game | Sunday, September 16 |
| - Irish Step Dancing Start Date | Monday, September 17 |
| - Sign Language Start Date | Tuesday, September 18 |
| - Adult/Child Bowling League Registration Deadline | Friday, September 21 |
| - Recreation/Travel Basketball In-Person Registration | September 27 and 29 |
| - Church Street Recreation Center Opening | Friday, September 28 |
| - Adult/Child Bowling League First Meeting | Wednesday, October 3 |
| - Informal Co-Ed Bowling Start Date | Friday, October 5 |
| - Teen Trip - Fright Fest at Great Adventure | Saturday, October 6 |
| - Arts and Crafts Start Date | Saturday, October 6 |
| - Breakfast with Santa | Saturday, December 8 |



MEETINGS

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

7:30 PM N Church St Rec Center 3RD Fl
September 4 November 6
October 2 December 4

INDIVIDUALS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS COMMITTEE

7:30 PM - New Albany Road Recreation Center
September 5 November 14
September 19 December 12
October 17

SENIOR CITIZENS MEETINGS - 10:30 AM

September 18 - N Church St Recreation Center 3RD Fl
October 16 - New Albany Road Recreation Center
November 13 - N Church St Recreation Center 3RD Fl
December 11 - New Albany Road Recreation Center

TEEN INTEREST COMMITTEE - 1:50 PM

Starr Center, High School
September 18

OTHER HAPPENING EVENTS IN TOWN

FAMILY FUN DAY - Strawbridge Lake, 12pm until 5pm - Sunday, September 16, 2007

STEM STEPS OUT - Mark your calendar because STEM will be hosting its annual family-fun event on Sunday, October 7, 2007 from 12 noon until 4pm at the Strawbridge Lake Park and Waterworks Woods (Kings Highway and Haines Drive). This fun-filled day will offer various educational exhibits on the environment, information on energy conservation in the home, wildlife/animal demonstrations, nature walks, canoe rentals, a fishing contest and other fun activities for the children. (Rain date October 14th)

TAX DEPT

The Tax Office would like to remind you that Property Taxes are **DUE NOVEMBER 1, 2007**

MAIN STREET EVENTS

Autumn in Moorestown
Saturday, October 13
9 am until 4 pm

Halloween Parade
Sunday, October 28

Candlelight Night
Friday, November 2
7pm until 9pm

Holiday Parade
Saturday, December 1
Noon