



Green Grapevine

Volume 22 Issue 1

The Official Newsletter of Green Township

Spring 2016

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Neighbors:

Happy Spring! Longer days, warmer temperatures, blooming flowers and budding trees. 😊

On April 11th, the Township Committee adopted the 2016 Municipal Budget. This is the 8th consecutive year that the Committee has passed a ZERO percent increase to the Municipal Budget. Thank you to all the employees of Green, especially Linda Peralta, Clerk/Administrator, Linda Padula, CFO and my fellow Committee members for all working together to make this possible for the residents of Green.

The generator project is now complete! The Township obtained four generators with FEMA Grant monies. Generators were purchased for the Municipal, DPW, Fire, and Ambulance Squad buildings. All of which have been installed and are standing by should the need arise.

A couple of projects in 2016 include new pavement for Hamilton Road, oil and chip for various other roads throughout town and the replacement of the 20+ year old roof on the Municipal Building. With financial assistance from the Township, the Green Township Fire Department is installing a new communication antenna on the cell tower located at the DPW garage. This new antenna will improve communications to better serve our residents during times of emergency.

Please don't forget to support our first responder volunteer organizations: Allamuchy-Green First Aid Squad and Green Township Volunteer Fire Department. You count on them to help you during times of emergency...they count on you for financial support to help maintain their facilities and equipment.

On behalf of the Township Committee, we wish everyone a safe and happy summer.



Peg Phillips
Green Township Mayor

NEW FIRE SAFETY PROCESS/ENFORCEMENT



Please note that new Fire Safety Enforcement processes are in place effective immediately.

What does this mean to you?

As you know, if you own property— **residential or commercial**- - and plan to change occupancy through a sale of the property or rental of the property you must obtain a Smoke Detector/Carbon Monoxide Detector/Fire Extinguisher certification. The enforcing agent has been changed to the Construction Official, Dick O'Connor. Appointments for inspections can be made by calling 908-852-9333 extension 12. Please note that the fee for this inspection is \$35.00 providing the inspection is requested at least 10 days in advance of the occupancy change.

Many **commercial** properties in Green Township are classified as life hazard uses in the Fire Code. Enforcement of these has been assumed by the State Division of Fire Safety. Fees will be in accordance with the State Fee schedule and will be paid directly to the state.

The State Division of Fire Safety will also be enforcing the Fire Code with respect to the use of fire outdoors-including bonfires, leaf burning, fireworks, and outdoor cooking when it is associated with an event open to the public.

THE STATE DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY CAN BE REACHED AT 609-273-9907

GREEN TOWNSHIP MEETINGS 2016

Township Committee **Meetings start at 7:00 p.m.**

- April 25
- May 9 & 23
- June 13
- July 11
- August 8
- September 12 & 26
- October 12 & 26
- November 14
- December 12
- January 5 & 23, 2017

The Land Use Board 2nd Thursday at 7:00pm

Open Space Advisory Committee 1st Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. No meetings July, Aug or Sept.

Recreation Advisory Committee 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

Environmental Advisory Committee 4th Tuesday at 8:00 p.m.





DID YOU KNOW.....



The last day to register to vote for the June 7th Primary Election is May 17th and the last day to Register to vote for the

Nov. 8th General Election is Oct. 18th. If you are a new resident or a citizen that hasn't yet registered to vote, voter registration forms are available at the Municipal Clerk's Office, Division of Motor Vehicles and County Clerk's Office. Forms are also available on our website at www.greentwp.com.

ZONING PERMITS ARE REQUIRED

prior to the construction of new homes, additions, renovations, decks, sheds, swimming pools (above ground and in ground), accessory structures, fences, change of use, and any other structures or improvements which may be required in accordance with the municipal code.

Temporary signs for Advertising public functions or fundraising events for **government, nonprofit or charitable organization** shall be permitted in all zones provided the organization is registered with the Zoning Officer on an annual basis. Registration will include proof of nonprofit or charitable status. Questions and Inquiries can be directed to the Zoning Officer at 908-852-9333 ext. 17 on Fridays from 9am-12pm.

THE BEARS ARE AWAKE!

- Secure your garbage can lids.
- Wash your garbage container with disinfectant solution
- Bring your bird feeders in and clean up spilled seeds and shells.
- **DO NOT FEED THE BEARS!**

HOW TO IDENTIFY INVASIVE PLANTS ON YOUR PROPERTY

While there are numerous invasive plant species that are harmful to our native plants and animals in Green Township, there are a few that are very common for Sussex County and which you may encounter on your property.

Whether it's Tree of Heaven releasing a type of natural herbicide into the soil and damaging native plants, or Asiatic Bittersweet and Multiflora Rose invading the canopy of nearby trees and shading them out, the effect on our woodlands can be significant. If you've seen trees during winter that look like a tangle of dead vines, then you have seen the effect of invasive species. These overgrown trees become hazards during storms because they can easily fall during heavy snows and high winds damaging property and endangering people, which is one of the many reasons controlling the spread of invasive plants is so important.

The following three invasive trees, shrubs or vines can be found in many parts of Green Township and are some of the most damaging to our woodlands due to the ease with which they propagate and the effects they have on surrounding plants. We would like to encourage you to identify whether these plants are present on your property and either eliminate them, or for larger plants such as Tree of Heaven, consult with a professional on having them safely removed.

Tree of Haven (*Ailanthus altissima*) Tree-of-heaven is a deciduous tree that can reach 90 feet tall. The bark is gray and relatively smooth. Leaves are alternate and compound with 11-30 lance-shaped leaflets. Most leaflets have 1-3 coarse teeth at the base of the leaflet. Trees bloom in late spring, forming small green flowers at the ends of the new shoots. Flowers develop into clusters of samaras, papery winged fruits with a flattened seed in the center. The seeds are wind dispersed. While seedlings are highly shade intolerant, saplings appear to be more tolerant of varying light conditions. Tree-of-heaven can also reproduce asexually by sprouting from stumps or roots. Note that the Tree of Heaven can be easily confused with native sumac or black walnut. A reliable method to identify Tree of Heaven is when the leaves are crushed, they give off a distinctive ill scent of burnt peanut butter.

Japanese Barberry: (*berberis thunbergii*) Japanese barberry is a woody deciduous shrub with dense spiny branches. It usually grows 2-3 feet high or larger and is common near the borders of farms and fields where the soil is regularly disturbed. The simple rounded leaves form rosettes along the branches in an alternate pattern. It produces solitary or small clusters of yellow flowers along the stem in spring, and the fruit ripens to a bright red oblong berry in late summer. Fruits are bird dispersed and are also eaten by small mammals. Japanese barberry can be reliably identified due to the bright yellow cambium if a stem is cut open.

Asiatic Bittersweet: (*Celastrus orbiculatus*) Asian bittersweet is a deciduous, woody, perennial vine. It climbs by twining around a support. The leaves alternate, with a rounded glossy appearance, and finely toothed edges. Asian bittersweet flowers in spring, producing clusters of small greenish flowers in the leaf axils. Fruits mature in late summer to early fall. The green to yellow mature fruits split open to reveal bright red arils that surround the seeds.

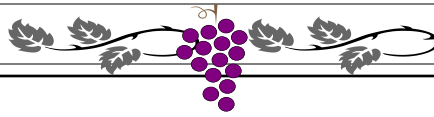
PARKS, FIELDS & FACILITIES

Green Township parks, fields, and facilities are available for your enjoyment.

Please be reminded that organized use of any of the municipal facilities requires a permit which can be obtained at town hall. Use of the facilities requires a hold harmless agreement and a certificate of insurance liability be provided. A new "Public Property, Parks and Recreation Area" Ordinance is in place which includes some new regulations for those who wish to reserve the facilities for organized use.



PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT NO DOGS ARE ALLOWED IN THE PARK. As the weather is getting nicer, the park will be busy with activities so we ask that you please adhere to the rules of the park.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

SPRING 2016

Clean Communities Day



TIRE, BATTERY, MOTOR OIL, USED CAR PARTS RECYCLING DAY

When: Saturday, April 23, 2016
Time: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Where: DPW 173 Kennedy Rd. (across from the Municipal Building.)
 Green Township residents can drop off batteries and used motor oil free of charge. Tires up to 16" cost \$2.00; over 16" cost \$5.00. **Absolutely NO TRACTOR TIRES.** Proof of residency required.
Rain date: April 30, 2016
 Additional information call (908) 852-9333

WOODCHIPPING PROGRAM

Starting Monday, **April 25, 2016** the road department will conduct a wood-chipping program. Brush should be stacked with the ends piled neatly facing the road at curbside **by 6:00am on April 25th.** Only one (1) pile of brush per household will be accepted. Pile may be 5 ft. in length and 3 ft. high. Please leave limbs in lengths, not cut into small pieces. No additional brush will be taken. No logs will be accepted over 2 inches in diameter. If the brush pile contains metal of any kind, it will be rejected; this includes nails. No construction materials are allowed. The roads will be canvassed only **ONCE**; there will be no return trips. Chips may be obtained at Wesley Field parking lot and Dominick Papa Park.

INTENDED ONLY FOR WINTER DEBRIS, NO LOT CLEARING.



Spring Yard Sale- Saturday, May 14th
 Rain Date: May 15th
 Registration forms are available on the town website at www.greentwp.com or at Town Hall

SUMMER 2016



Summer Kick Off 2016 BBQ: Come kick off the summer and join the Recreation Committee for a BBQ at EverGreen Park. **Friday, June 17th at 6:00pm.** Enjoy a summer BBQ catered by Chef's, music entertainment and watch the crowning of Miss Green 2016. Please check the website for tickets/price information



Miss Green- Friday, June 17th; 7pm EverGreen park. Winners will receive monetary prizes. Looking for girls who have passed their 17th birthday but have not reached their 22nd birthday by the application deadline of June 3rd.



Summer Recreation- July 11th-29th.

Registration forms are available on the town website at www.greentwp.com or at Town Hall.



YOUTH SPORTS

REMINDER: All Youth sport programs are managed by the Green Township Sporting Club (GTSC). Therefore, all Sport registration forms **MUST** be mailed to the PO Box listed on the form. Registrations mailed or delivered to Town Hall will be returned to you. This may cause delays which may result in late registration fees and/or the inability to participate as some teams fill up fast. Any questions should be directed to the appropriate director of the sport.

FALL 2016



Green Township Day: Saturday, Sept. 17th
 1:00pm -5:00pm.



Fall Yard Sale: Saturday, Oct. 15h
 Rain Date Sunday, Oct 16th



Halloween Parade: Sun. Oct. 30th

Easter Egg Hunt Recap



The Recreation Committee held their Annual Easter Egg Hunt on March 20, 2016. Over 2000 eggs were scattered in EverGreen Park, and many children enjoyed participating in the Egg Hunt and a visit with the Easter Bunny!

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE SEE THE TOWNSHIP WEBSITE AT:

www.greentwp.com Department/Recreation

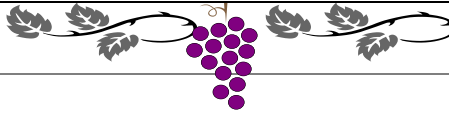
Recreation Activities Survey

The Recreation Advisory Committee would like to find out if you're interested in the activities listed below. Please fill out the survey and send it into Town Hall.

- Yes No Bus Trip to Sands Casino in Bethlehem PA
- Yes No Purchasing Discounted Tickets to Sussex Miners Baseball Game
- Yes No Movie in the Park

Suggestions: _____

Green Grapevine



Green Township
P.O. Box 65
150 Kennedy Road
Tranquility, NJ 07879

PRST STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Hackettstown, NJ
Permit No. 509

GREEN TOWNSHIP SENIORS

Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month at 1:00 p.m. downstairs in the Municipal Building.

GREEN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Meets on the third Monday of the months of April, May, October, and November at 7:00p.m.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Have you lost or found a dog? Call the Animal Control Officer, Alan DeCarolis, 908-377-0808.



TOWN HALL DIRECTORY

Linda Peralta..... Clerk/
Administrator
Patty DeClesis.....Deputy Clerk/
Registrar
Penny Holenstein.....Tax Assessor
Karen Ferrone.....Tax Collector
Linda Padula.....CFO
David Diehl.....Zoning Officer
Open.....Land Use Secretary
Kim Mantz.....Construction
Christine Licata.....Receptionist
Watson Perigo.....Road Supervisor



Municipal Offices Closed

Monday-May 30, 2016 - Memorial Day
Friday-July 3, 2016
Monday-July 4, 2016 - 4th of July
Friday, September 2, 2016
Monday-Sept. 5, 2016-Labor Day
Monday-October 10, 2016-
Columbus Day



All dogs 7 months of age and older must be licensed and all licenses are to be renewed every January.

IF LICENSES ARE NOT RENEWED ON TIME A LATE FEE OF \$5.00 PER MONTH WILL BE IMPOSED if paying after February 10.

If you do not renew the license a court complaint/summons will be issued.

FREE RABIES CLINIC for all dogs and cats, Saturday, November 5, 2016 9:00-11:00am at the DPW Building (173 Kennedy Rd)

RABIES MUST BE CURRENT THROUGH NOVEMBER 1, 2016 .

Licensing questions only call Heidi at 908-852-9333 ext 33. Applications can be found on our website: www.greentwp.com

