

MOUNT LAUREL

100 MOUNT LAUREL ROAD, MOUNT LAUREL, NJ 08054

APRIL 2022

2022 Municipal Budget No Tax Increase

Message From Your Mayor

Mayor Kareem Pritchett, Deputy Mayor Stephen Steglik, and Township Council are excited to introduce the municipal budget for 2022 with a zero municipal tax increase, which is scheduled for adoption April 4, 2022.

This is the third consecutive year that there has been a zero tax increase to Mount Laurel residents. Township Council and management have worked diligently to make sure there are no cuts to public services as residents continue to recover from the pandemic.

"Township Council and management are proud to introduce a budget with no municipal tax increase or cuts to services." Stated Mayor Pritchett. "Township Council is thrilled to be able to provide the same high level of service to our community that we've all come to expect living here, and we are excited to continue offering more events for all of our residents. From the return of National Night Out and the Food Truck Festival, to the upcoming 150th Anniversary Celebration, 2022 is shaping up to have one of the best event schedules in a long time."

Tax Collector Updates

- Please note the 2022 2nd quarter property taxes will be due on May 1, 2022. Any tax payments received after Tuesday May 10, 2022 will accrue interest back to May 1, 2022.
- Our 2022 Tax Sale will be held on Thursday June 23. As per N.J.S.A. 54-5 et seq any parcels of land on which taxes and/or other municipal charges are remaining unpaid for the tax year 2021 or prior are subject to the sale.
- For those residents who are currently enrolled in the "Senior Freeze" Property Tax Reimbursement program and have received your booklet in the mail, you can stop by our office in the Municipal building or our walk-up window located behind the building any day Monday thru Friday during our business hours to have your application completed. You can also use the outside drop box located at the main entrance of the Municipal Building or mail in your application for completion. For any additional information or to see if you meet the 2021 "Eligibility Requirements" please visit: njtaxation.org, select Property Tax Relief and then Senior Freeze Program or call the Senior Freeze Hotline: 1 (800) 882-6597

Tax Assessor Updates

TOTALLY DISABLED VETERANS (100% PERMANENT AND TOTAL)

If you are a 100% permanently and totally disabled veteran (or their surviving spouse), and have a 100% rating issued by the office of Veteran's Affairs, you may be eligible for property tax exemption. The basic requirements are honorable discharge, a 100% permanent and total disability rating certification from the VA and primary residence in the property applied for. Along with the application form, applicants must supply a copy of the DDForm214 or discharge papers, a deed to the property showing applicant as owner, proof of residency in the home, and a copy of a current NJ Driver's License. The application is available on line at the Mount Laurel Township web site or contact Dennis DeKlerk, Assessor at ddeklerk@mountlaurel.com or 856-234-0001 x1256 or x1257.

VETERAN TAX DEDUCTION

Veterans can apply for a yearly tax deduction of \$250.00. To qualify you must be a NJ resident, be on the deed as an owner of the property, have an honorable discharge and be able to provide a DDForm214 or discharge papers. Applications are available on the Mount Laurel Township web site or you can contact the Township Assessor's Office.

SENIOR CITIZEN OR DISABLED PERSON TAX DEDUCTION

Any resident property owner who qualifies can receive an annual deduction from their property taxes if you are a Senior Citizen (65 or over) or Disabled Person. For approved applicants a \$250.00 per year deduction is applied to the property tax bill. NJ State guidelines limit household income to qualify. Social Security or government pensions can be excluded, but any income outside of that is capped at \$10,000.00 per year. Applications are available on the township website www.mountlaurel.com or with the Township Assessor's Office.

TAX ASSESSMENTS AND IMPROVEMENTS

If you have a construction permit for a new home, or improvement to your existing home, the Tax Assessor's Office is required to inspect the work to determine whether or not an added assessment is in order. Each new home, or completed improvement that is taxable is added to the township tax system by an added assessment. Added assessments are issued in October and are retroactive to the date of completion. Tax bills for that period are issued in October as well. Prior to billing, the Assessor's Office will send an Added Assessment notice informing you of the additional property value, description of work, number of months and estimated supplemental tax. Added assessment inspections commence February and continue through September. The inspector will speak to you at the time of inspection or leave a contact number to verify the work.

Rancocas Woods Farmers Market Update

Rancocas Woods Business Association and the Township of Mount Laurel are excited to welcome a new Farmers Market to the area. The market will offer fresh seasonal produce and local goods. Sustainable Jersey, an environmental nonprofit, has awarded Mount Laurel \$10,000 for the community market.

The Farmers Market will take place every Sunday from June 5 - October 9 from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Dates are:



Township Council Meeting Dates for 2022

04/04/22	Regular Meeting
04/18/22	Regular Meeting
05/09/22	Regular Meeting
05/23/22	Regular Meeting
06/13/22	Regular Meeting
07/11/22	Regular Meeting
08/08/22	Regular Meeting
09/19/22	Regular Meeting
10/03/22	Regular Meeting
10/17/22	Regular Meeting
11/14/22	Regular Meeting
12/12/22	Regular Meeting

New Businesses

LUNCHBOX WAX

The Township welcomes Lunchbox Wax to its second location in South Jersey. The full service waxing salon offers a variety of services in a chic, modern boutique. The salon uses refined, effective waxing techniques to give clients smooth skin and a boldly confident look in no time.

The salon will open this spring and is located at 30 Centerton Road. To learn more or book an appointment call 856-360-2727

APPLE MONTESSORI SCHOOLS

Apple Montessori Schools offers infant, toddler, preschool, kindergarten, and summer camp programs, as well as before and after school daycare. Apple's Mt. Laurel School is for children ages 6 weeks to 6 years, and is conveniently located at 1401 South Church Street.

The campus consists of spacious classrooms for Montessoriinspired curriculum and enrichment activities. The grounds offer age-appropriate outdoor play areas, a swimming pool, an outdoor sports court, and ample parking to make drop off and pick up easy.

Coming soon to the location will be a certified outdoor classroom. The outdoor classroom will allow children to connect with nature in their everyday learning activities. Children experience activities like hands-on based coding & robotics program, music, drama, arts, sports, and more.

For more information on programs please call 973-846-2801 or visit applemontessorischools.com

FULL HOUSE PETS

The Township is excited to welcome Full House Pets! The full service pet store carries a variety of pet supplies. Products include raw cat and dog food, wild bird food, bones, treats, and more.

Full House Pets is located in the Larchmont Centre complex at 127 Ark Road.

AD-IN HOME INSPECTIONS

Ad-In Home Inspections is a full service licensed and certified home inspection company serving South Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware. Owner Paul Wojtowicz has over 20 years of experience as a Design Engineering professional. Services include property inspections, commercial inspections, construction oversight inspections, termite inspections, and environmental testing services including radon testing.

To learn more and to schedule an inspection please visit ad-inspect.com or call 856-220-5824.

150th Anniversary Celebration

The 150th Anniversary Celebration in 2022 will highlight Mount Laurel's past, present and future.

Please stay tuned for further announcements on the Township's Facebook page and website

Mount Laurel Township's 150th Anniversary Celebration!

Sunday, May 15, 2022 12:00 PM—4:00 PM Mount Laurel Municipal Complex 100 Mount Laurel Rd. Mount Laurel, NJ 08054



Free Kid Activities!

Face Painting, Bounce Houses, Balloon Animals and more!

LIVE MUSIC • FOOD TRUCKS • GIVEAWAYS

Check our website for updates www.mountlaurel.com



Township Shred Events

The Township will offer two shred events for the year. Residents get the opportunity to declutter and confidently shred documents in our highly secure mobile shredding unit.

The shred events will take place on Saturday April 23 and Saturday August 13.

Event takes place at 100 Mount Laurel Road, Police Garage. Event is from 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Clean Up Day

Mount Laurel Township will hold a Clean Up Day on Saturday April 23.

The event will take place at Laurel Acres Park Pavilion at 1045 S. Church Street from 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

Mount Laurel Township Community Clean Up Day



Join Mount Laurel Township as we beautify our community by cleaning up litter!

Date: Saturday, April 23rd 2022 Time: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Place: Laurel Acres Park (Pavilion) 1045 S. Church St.

Please register with Samantha Higareda: <u>events@mountlaurel.com</u> or 856-234-0001 x1220

Volunteers of all ages are welcome. Gloves & bags will be provided.



Save the Date!

Rancocas Woods Events and Shops is welcoming its 3rd Annual Kid's Craft & Flea Market! Taking place Saturday June 11 from 10 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

The Kids Craft & Flea Market encourages young entrepreneurs to show off their talents and share their craft. Come support local businesses and discover great treasures!

The event takes place at 118 Creek Road.

The Laurel House Renovations

The Laurel House, located at 564 Walton Avenue, will undergo a series of renovations. The building, which offers a unique look into Mount Laurel's past, will serve as a community center hosting various activities and events.

Renovations to the building will allow for meeting spaces for community groups and fun outdoor activities. Eight volleyball courts will be constructed, perfect for residents to enjoy warm weather and interact with fellow residents. Plans for a BBQ grill allow for families to enjoy a meal. Six conference rooms will be created to allow for extra meeting space availability for residents.

Township Summer Hours

The township has new hours for the summer of 2022. From Memorial Day through Labor Day the Township will be open:

- Mondays from 8:00 A.M. 5:30 P.M.
- Tuesday-Thursdays from 7:45 A.M. 4:15 P.M.





Mount Laurel Summer Camp at Springville Elementary School

Mount Laurel Township is excited to announce the return of summer camp at Springville Elementary School. Camp includes an art program, sports, indoor and outdoor activities, clubs, weekly themed events, field trips, and special programs.

There are still spots available! Summer camp will take place from June 27 - August 19, 2022. Summer camp is available for children entering kindergarten through 5th grade as of September 2022.

For more information and to sign up please view our registration form available at www.mountlaurel.com



Alice Paul Institute

Beginning in April, Alice Paul Institute will welcome the community back to Paulsdale for in-person programming. All programs will be in a hybrid format, so community members who cannot attend in person will still be able to join us virtually. Please register in advance at www.alicepaul.org/programs-adults. See below for the list of programs.

Program	DATE	TIME	Guests
Ordinary Equality author talk and book signing	Saturday, April 30, 2022	2:00 P.M.	Kate Kelly
Dressed for Freedom: The Fashionable Politics of American Feminism author talk and book signing	Saturday, May 14 2022	2:00 P.M.	Einav Rabinovitch-Fox
The Equal Rights Amendment 50 Years Later virtual panel conversation	Thursday, May 19, 2022	6:00 P.M.	Ting Ting Cheng
My Name is Pauli Murray film screening on the lawn at Paulsdale	Saturday, June 11, 2022	8:00 P.M.	
The Archivettes film screening on the lawn at Paulsdale	Saturday, July 9, 2022	8:00 P.M.	Megan Rossman (Director)

The Institute is also excited to announce the return of summer camps. Please see flyer for details.



What's Included in Municipal Taxes?

There are no cuts to public services. Public services include police and animal control services, Emergency Medical Services, trash pickup, snow plowing, municipal road improvements, events, and other services that improve resident's quality of life.

"Services will continue to be provided for all residents with a budget that is fiscally responsible, keeps the tax payer in mind, and ensures the quality of life for our residents." Deputy Mayor Steglik said. "As we continue to move forward with public gatherings and restrictions lifted, Township Council looks forward to interacting with our residents at the variety of events planned for this year."

The proposed Township budget includes free events to the public. There are a variety of events this year for residents

to participate in, such as the Township's Shred Events that will take place on April 23 and August 13, as well as the Community Clean Up Day on April 23 for residents to help beautify our community by cleaning up litter. As warmer weather approaches residents and families will also be able to enjoy the Township's summer concert series and movie nights.

Mount Laurel will be celebrating its 150th Anniversary on May 15, 2022. National Night Out is back this year, taking place on Tuesday, August 2. This community event provides family fun and promotes police community partnerships.

A list of planned Township events can be found on our website at www.mountlaurel.com/community/our_ community/news_and_events

Public Works

POTHOLE SEASON

Spring in the Northeast is also known as pothole season. The fluctuating temperatures and freeze and thaw pattern from melting snow and ice seep into cracks in the road creating potholes. Residents are encouraged to call in/email the locations of potholes they have encountered while traversing the township. However, not all roads in Mount Laurel are maintained by the Township. Some of the roads are maintained by the County or State. Below is a list of County and State Roads along with contact information for reporting issues for those roads.

COUNTY ROADS:

You can contact the County Highway Department at 609-726-7300 or highway@co.burlington.nj.us

- Ark Road (Twp owned from 38 to Hainesport Twp line)
- Centerton Road (Twp owned from Rancocas Creek to Moorestown line)
- Church Road
- Church Street
- Creek Road (Twp owned from Marne Highway to Masonville Road)
- Elbo Lane
- Fellowship Road
- Hainesport-Mt.Laurel Road
- Hartford Road
- Marne Highway
- Masonville Road
- Fostertown Road
- Mount Laurel Road
- Westfield Road (near Centerton Road)
- Springdale Road

STATE ROADS

Call: 1 800 Pothole or visit: *http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/contact/*

- Route 73
- Route 38
- U.S Route 295

Mount Laurel Police Department

The Mount Laurel Police Department is excited to present their upcoming events. Save the dates below and be sure to follow the Department on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter for updates.

Mount Laurel Police Department's Upcoming Events



April Is Autism Awareness Month Don't forget The Mount Laurel Police Department is now offering Autism Awareness Identification stickers. Residents can display a Mount Laurel Police Department Autism Awareness sticker on their car or home to alert responding officers and emergency personnel that an Autistic person may be present.

Learn more at Mountlaurelpd.org

Slices 4 Safety Kicking off Saturday, April 23, 2022 Kids get ticketed a free pizza slice for being safe and having fun. Coming to a neighborhood and park near you.





Cops & Bobbers Thursday, June 9, 2022 5:00 PM Until 7:00 PM Check Social Media For Updates



Please Email Communityrelations@mountlaurelpd.org with any questions



Mount Laurel Library

The Mount Laurel Library has some new and upcoming improvements to better serve our community.

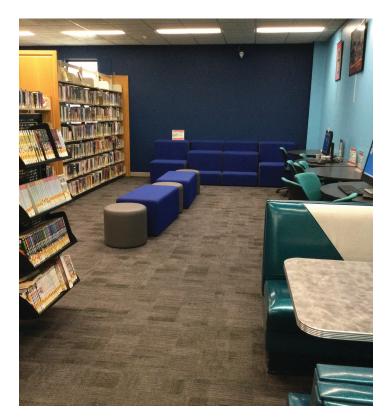
New at the Library: We now have two brand new selfcheckout stations at the Circulation Desk. These stations will allow for a quicker and simpler check out experience for those who prefer checking out their own materials.

The library continues to offer curbside pick-up as a convenient option for those looking to get their library materials without stepping in the building. We have recently added new Curbside Pick Up signs to the outside of our building, which are sturdier and more visible.

Over the summer of 2021 the library opened two additional study rooms, located in the Quiet Study area. These popular rooms are available to reserve with your library card. They are a great space to utilize for an individual working alone, or for quiet study groups of up to 6. For more details, read about our study room guidelines on the library's website at www.mountlaurellibrary.org/studyroom.

The Teen Space has recently gotten a new look. The previous furniture has been replaced with fresh new pieces. Check out the new riser style seating and our interactive magnetic poetry white board.

Upcoming: The library will be getting a new outdoor pavilion! Over the past few years the library has hosted a variety of outdoor events. Now we will be getting a permanent space to hold our outdoor programming! The pavilion will be located behind the library. The current estimated completion time will be Spring 2022.



BookSmiles

The Cub Scouts of Mount Laurel, Pack 15 received a proclamation for their partnership with BookSmiles for a book drive charity event.

BookSmiles, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit (EIN 82-3233733), promotes literacy and the joy of reading by giving books to children throughout Philadelphia and New Jersey. Since



2017, BookSmiles has provided students and educators with high quality new or gently used books. Children, families, and schools receive the books, aiding in promoting the joy of reading.

BookSmiles has collected thousands of books, and has the goal of expanding its reach to include books for teens, adults, and books in different languages.

For residents looking to drop off books, there's a convenient location right in Mount Laurel. Drop offs are at Lightbridge Academy located at 4518 Church Rd. Teen and adult books can be dropped off at 1879 Old Cuthbert Rd #33, Cherry Hill.



Additional Walk Up Windows at Municipal Building

Mount Laurel Township has introduced two additional walk up windows at the Municipal Township building. The walk up windows are a resource for residents to get questions answered by a township employee in an effort to improve overall service and reduce wait times.



Construction Department Updates

The Construction office launched a new SDL portal designed to help speed along the inspection process. The portal will allow residents to access information, check status updates and submit requests 24/7.

Features of the SDL portal include:

- Scheduling construction inspections
- Checking permit status
- Accessing town data
- View custom town maps
- Online payments

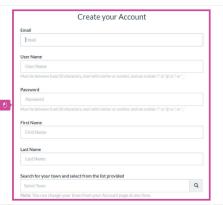
Currently the Township is accepting credit card payments at the building as well as online payments through the construction office SDL portal.

How do I create an account in the SDL portal? Follow these easy steps:

1. To create an SDL Portal account, go to www.sdlportal.com. Click Sign Up.



2. Enter an Email, User Name, Password, First Name, Last Name and Town.



3. When selecting your town, be sure to type in the first few letters into the search field.



4. Select Your Town from the drop-down menu.

an	
Frankford Township Sussex County, NJ	
County to the based county to	and Privacy policy

5. Once you have completed all fields, click Create Account



6. You may get an error that the format does not match the requirements. The requirements for your User Name and Password are listed below each field. Once you've made the necessary changes, click the Create Account button at the bottom.



7. Now that the account has been created, a confirmation message will appear informing you to check your email to verify your account.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY



Emergency Medical Services & Fire Department



Mount Laurel Fire Department

MLFD is looking for candidates 18 years or older. Persons who have a Firefighter 1 Certification through the State of New Jersey will be processed and immediately placed in our onboarding training program. MLFD is staffed by a workforce that consists of full-time, part-time, and volunteer personnel. MLFD is staffed 24/7, 365 days to meet the needs of our community.



Non-firefighter 1 Certified candidates will be expected to attend and successfully complete a basic firefighter 1 academy course. The course is located at the Burlington County Emergency Services Training Center, Westampton, NJ. The course is approximately 200 hours. Prior to enrollment in the course, members are required to successfully complete a physical agility test. At the successful completion of the academy course and state exam, members will obtain a Firefighter 1 Certification from the NJ Division of Fire Safety.

Members will then take their oath of office and will be assigned to a duty crew night. Duty crews are staffed by a supervisor and four firefighters. The supervisor works with new members who are on a probationary period their first year to complete a performance assessment review workbook. The PAR book is required to be completed within their probationary period.

Volunteer firefighters are required to commit to forty duty crews annually. Furthermore, there are additional training requirements to satisfy both departmental and safety regulation needs. MLFD utilizes online training software to make this process easier, however, there will also be inperson training requirements conducted during duty crews.

Members are assigned to a duty crew night that works best for them where that member typically serves repeatedly each week on that night. Most members report at 6 pm, spend the night, where their duty crew ends at 6 am the following morning. Duty crews typically are 6 or 12 hour blocks of time which consist of reporting to duty, checking equipment, having a meal together, training, and handling any calls for service.

It's important in order to sustain operations of both MLEMS and MLFD that we have a strong volunteer base. Over the years, we have seen a decline in volunteerism, which was further impacted by Covid. Recently, we have seen a significant reduction in the number of Covid cases and feel that now is a critical time to ramp up our recruitment efforts. Declining volunteer numbers is not unique to Mount Laurel, but has become a national trend. It is our goal to reestablish our volunteer base to where it once was by making the process as easy and rewarding to new members as possible. We feel that you will enjoy the experience, comradery, and the intrinsic value of serving our community and its residents.

For additional information visit us at: Mount Laurel Emergency Medical Service mlems.org or email us at opportunities@mlems.org

Mount Laurel Fire Department mlfd.org or email us at volunteer@mlfd.org

JOIN OUR WINNING TEAM!

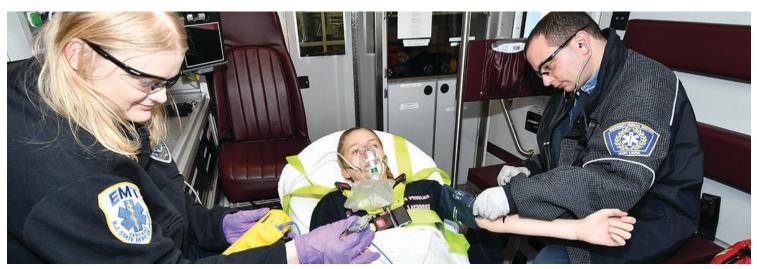
Both Mount Laurel Emergency Medical Services (MLEMS) and the Mount Laurel Fire Department (MLFD) are looking for residents to serve the community of Mount Laurel. No previous training or experience required. Both organizations are structured and positioned to provide a comprehensive roadmap towards success for potential candidates. Each of the service options are described below based on one's preference of serving in emergency medical services and/or the fire department.

New members will be provided training, uniforms, and personal protective equipment at no cost to them. Our

primary focus is the safety and well-being of our first responders. When you join, you will be treated with respect and will be transitioned into your new roles based on your level of comfort and competencies. Following is a general overview of our programs.

NOTE: Those interested in joining are required to go through an application and onboarding process. New members are vetted to ensure that they have clear backgrounds before becoming members. We want to ensure that we exercise due diligence prior to accepting members and allowing them into our residents' homes.

Mount Laurel Emergency Medical Services



MLEMS is looking for candidates 18 years or older. Persons who are EMTs will be processed and immediately placed in our onboarding training program. A mentor will be assigned who will serve as a point of contact to walk the new member through a Field Training Evaluation Program manual. MLEMS is staffed by a workforce that consists of full-time, part-time, per-diem, and volunteer personnel. MLEMS is staffed 24/7, 365 days to meet the needs of our community.

Non-EMTs will be expected to attend and successfully complete an Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) program which will serve as their fundamental basis of training. Note the EMR program is approximately fifty hours. It provides more training than basic first aid without the increased demands associated with the EMT-B certification program. This will allow EMRs to ride on an ambulance with a qualified crew of two EMTs to assist and gain an understanding of emergency medical services to see if it's something that they are interested in pursuing. EMRs will be required to commit to twenty-four hours of service a month for six months.

Following meeting the EMR ride-along time requirements, members will then be enrolled in an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT-B) program. The EMT-B program is approximately 250 hours and provides additional training above EMR, but below EMT-P or paramedic. Due to the cost of the EMT class being absorbed by the organization, members who commit to enrolling in the EMT-B program will be required to successfully complete the program and commit to two years of service at twenty-four hours a month with MLEMS. Once a member completes two years of service time, they will have met their commitment.

As a new member, you will be assigned training to satisfy municipal, organization, and safety regulations. MLEMS utilizes online training software to make this process easier. However, there will also be in-person training requirements. We try to accommodate our members' schedules by offering multiple sessions.

Scheduling one's service time is accomplished by members signing up for duty crews. Online scheduling software allows members to access a calendar for any given month to see vacancies for which they can register. It is our goal that new members be assigned based on their availability with a field training officer. Duty crews typically are six-hour blocks of time which consist of reporting to duty, checking equipment, training, and handling any calls for service.



Mayor Kareem Pritchett Deputy Mayor Stephen Steglik Councilman Nikitas Moustakas Councilwoman Fozia Janjua Councilwoman Karen Cohen





ALLENED 1953

Prospective Candidates,

It is our goal to have you at least give us a look and to consider the opportunity to become a part of a championship team. Your commitment will allow us to better serve our community and improve the quality of life for our residents.

Our ideal candidate is a person with a positive attitude, who has a strong desire to learn, and who enjoys being part of a winning team. I'm positive that you will value the camaraderie, feeling of accomplishment, and self-actualization by the number of lives that you will favorably impact by volunteering your time with us.

It's our promise to make it worth your while.

ECR WSS

Residential Customer

Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

At your service,

& Burt

Christopher Burnett | Chief Mount Laurel Fire Department Mount Laurel Emergency Medical Services

"Dedicated to Improving the Quality of Life in Mount Laurel"

Municipal Contacts

Mount Laurel Police Department	
100 Mount Laurel Road	
	Non-Emergency
Mount Laurel Fire Department	
69 Elbo Lane	
	(Headquarters)
Mount Laurel EMS	
201 Masonville Road	
Mount Laurel Library	
100 Walt Whitman Avenue	
Tax Assessor's Office	
100 Mount Laurel Road	856-234-0001 Ext 1256
Municipal Court Office	
100 Mount Laurel Road	
Public Works	
100 Mount Laurel Road	856-234-0001 Ext 1241

Mount Laurel Post Office 200 Walt Whitman Avenue	
Municipal Utilities Authority	
1201 South Church Street Housing - Rentals	856-234-0062
100 Mount Laurel Road	856-234-0001 Ext 1224
Tax Collector's Office	
100 Mount Laurel Road	
Community Development/Construct 100 Mount Laurel Road	
Clerk's Office	
100 Mount Laurel Road Marriage Application Appointments	
Dog/Cat licensing	

PRESORTED STANDARD U.S. POSTAGE PAID Cinnaminson Twp, NJ Permit No. 143