



MOUNT LAUREL

100 MOUNT LAUREL ROAD, MOUNT LAUREL, NJ 08054

OCTOBER 2023



ABOUT OUR COVER PHOTO

The month of September marks National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Aaron Kline and his family live in Mount Laurel Township, and Aaron's journey with cancer started shortly after he turned four. Since then, he has undergone intensive chemotherapies and three stem cell transplants. Aaron is excited to be returning to his elementary school this fall.

On September 12th Aaron and his family had dinner with Mount Laurel Fire Department firefighters and got a tour of the fire station. Aaron and his family then arrived in style on a fire truck to the municipal building, where he was greeted by Mount Laurel Police Department officers, Assemblywoman Carol Murphy, Mayor Stephen Steglik, Deputy Mayor Fozia Janjua, and Township Council members.

At the Township Council meeting the Township of Mount Laurel and Township Council proclaimed Aaron Kline as the 2023 Childhood Cancer Ambassador for the Township of Mount Laurel, and proclaimed the month of September 2023 as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in honor of our childhood cancer little warriors.

TREE LIGHTING EVENT

Mount Laurel's third annual tree lighting event will take place on Friday, December 1st.

The tree lighting will take place at 118 Creek Road from 5:00 – 8:00 PM. The Mount Laurel Fire Department will bring Santa on the fire truck at 6:00 PM.

Join the Township and the Rancocas Woods Business Association for a festive night with plenty of activities including face painting for kids, winter themed bounce houses, holiday gift shopping at the shops along Creek Road, and more.

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

MENORAH LIGHTING EVENT

Mount Laurel's second annual Menorah Lighting Ceremony will take place on Thursday, December 7th.

Join the Township and Township Council for a public menorah lighting to mark the first night of Hanukkah.

Rabbi Amy Memis-Foler from Congregation Adath Emanu-El will join us.

The lighting will take place at 5:00 PM at 118 Creek Road.

Mount Laurel Township & Rancocas Woods
Annual Tree Lighting
JOIN US ON
Friday, December 1st
5:00 PM - 8:00 PM
THE SHOPS AT RANCOCAS WOODS
118 Creek Road
MOUNT LAUREL, NJ 08054
Mount Laurel Fire Department
will bring Santa on the fire truck
at 6:00 PM
Free Activities at
Fleetwood Elementary School -
Face Painting, Bounce Houses,
Mechanical Rides & More
Beer Garden featuring:
'Bout the Hops
Armageddon Brewing
Wagonhouse Winery
Food Trucks:
Little Sicilian
Spirit of San Juan
Meet the Grinch at
On Angels Wings
Pictures with
Santa located
in front of the
Hot Dog Shack
Don't forget to visit the
Shops for your holiday gifts
SHOP, EAT, STROLL!
Rancocas Woods
Welcome to Mount Laurel, NJ
Scan QR Code for
Parking Information
ANTHUSIA VINTAGE OFFICE
EVENTS - SO MUCH MORE

Township Luncheons

VETERAN LUNCHEON

The Township will hold a veterans luncheon on Thursday, November 9th from 11:30 AM -1:00 PM.

The luncheon will be held in the Mount Laurel Community Center at 100 Mount Laurel Road.

To attend please RSVP by October 30th to agrisetti@mountlaurel.com or call 856-234-0001 ext.1289.

SENIOR LUNCHEON

The Township will hold a senior luncheon on Tuesday, December 5th from 11:30 AM -1:00 PM.

The luncheon will be held in the Mount Laurel Community Center at 100 Mount Laurel Road.

To attend please RSVP at the Clerk's Office in the Township Building or contact Samantha at (856)234-0001 ext. 1241.

Message from Deputy Mayor Fozia Janjua



I hope this newsletter finds you in good spirits and health. As your Deputy Mayor, I am thrilled to share some heartwarming news and upcoming events that underscore the essence of our diverse and united community.

It brings me great joy to announce the successful opening of several new minority and female-owned businesses in Mount Laurel. These enterprises add to our town's economic vitality and showcase our diverse community's ingenuity and entrepreneurial spirit. Please show your support by visiting and promoting these businesses. By doing so, we can strengthen their roots in our community and embrace the beauty of our collective heritage.

Recently we had the privilege of witnessing several events that brought us all together. The Juneteenth event reminded us of the significance of freedom and equality, inspiring conversations about our shared history and the need for continued progress. Our Summer Concert Series resonated with the joy of music, transcending cultural boundaries and uniting us under the universal language of melody. National Night Out was an evening of camaraderie, fostering trust and cooperation between our residents and law enforcement. Additionally, our third annual Food Truck Festival represented the diversity of our community's palate.

Furthermore, we have the annual Tree and Menorah Lighting events, a time to come together to celebrate the holiday season, embracing the various traditions that make Mount Laurel a unique and harmonious place to call home.

Let us cherish and celebrate our differences, for it is the tapestry of our diversity that weaves our community together. By supporting local minority businesses and actively participating in these diverse events, we can strengthen the bonds that unite us and ensure that Mount Laurel continues to thrive as an inclusive and compassionate place for all.

Update on PAWS Farm

On Wednesday, September 13th, Mount Laurel Township, Volunteers for PAWS Farm, and the Shreiber School of Veterinary Medicine of Rowan University announced that PAWS Farm will be run by the new state veterinary school starting in January 2024. As the current organization running the 10-acre property concludes its time there, Katherine Tweedy of Volunteers for PAWS Farm said, "The Board of Volunteers For Paws Farm, Inc. has diligently and tirelessly repaired and restored all the buildings and grounds of the Paws Farmstead and opened it to the public for the last two summers and is now prepared to turn over this historic and now beautiful Mount Laurel Township property to the new Shreiber School of Veterinary Medicine of the outstanding and exemplary Rowan University to preserve and to enhance our beloved Paws Farm."

Dr. Matthew Edson, Founding Dean of the veterinary school, stated, "Part of our school's mission is to collaborate with partners in the community to broaden the impact of education in veterinary medicine, and this fits perfectly with that. We see PAWS Farm as an important component of how we want to connect with people in our area to increase understanding of the importance of animals in our lives. This facility will advance our mission of introducing people of all ages and backgrounds to opportunities in veterinary medicine they may have never considered before." The school is expected to welcome its first class in 2025, pending accreditation approval from the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education.

State Assemblywoman, Carol Murphy, said, "As an advocate for animals, both on the farm and in our homes, the funding and programs for PAWS Nature Center and now the Shreiber School of Veterinary Medicine are essential in keeping our friends healthy and educating our future animal care providers. I will always do what I can to fight for our community and continue the success and growth of PAWS' original mission."

"The PAWS Farm Nature Center has long been a beloved, community recreational and educational space that offers hands-on learning experiences for families and their children. It is especially fitting that the Shreiber School of Veterinary Medicine of Rowan University will be running this site, as it is uniquely positioned to foster such programming which will continue to open the eyes of children of all backgrounds to the career possibilities in the veterinary industry. We knew that there would be great

value in South Jersey being home to a vet school and partnerships like this underscore the benefits it brings to our communities," said Senator Troy Singleton who advocated for state funding for the vet school, and represents Mount Laurel as part of the 7th Legislative District.

The school seeks to maintain the spirit of this historical property while creating new opportunities to educate people about animals and veterinary medicine. "As the first veterinary school in New Jersey, we are honored to commence stewardship of PAWS Farm and hope to inspire young people to consider veterinary medicine as a future career path," said Dr. Suzie Kovacs, Associate Dean for Student Success at the Shreiber School of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Kovacs will oversee the team running programming at PAWS Farm once it is in place.

There will be a transition period before new programming takes place on site. Dr. Kovacs commented, "We are being very thoughtful about how we proceed. We are currently in the process of hiring the on-site team, developing curriculum, and making plans for the community. We will let the public know about upcoming events and educational opportunities as things come to fruition in the new year. We want to make this a place where people who remember it from their childhood will enjoy bringing their own children and grandchildren here. There will be many new memories made at PAWS Farm." The school plans to keep the traditional experience alive and well through public access and plenty of programs for youth and families.

Mount Laurel Mayor, Stephen Steglik, commented, "This is great news for our township, which places community first. As a Green Acres location, PAWS Farm is an important part of our town's history, and with the active participation of Rowan University, will remain an important part of its future. When Paws closed right before Covid we made a commitment to the residents that we would continue to work to find a long term solution. We know there was skepticism based upon everything that was happening around the world. After much hard work, today, we are pleased to announce we have kept this promise." Fozia Janjua, Deputy Mayor for Mount Laurel Township, said, "The people of Mount Laurel are passionate about building their town into a strong community, and I am pleased to see Rowan University putting real effort into the same."

Tax Collector

4TH QUARTER PROPERTY TAXES DUE

- Please note that all 4th quarter property tax payments are due Wednesday, November 1, 2023. The statutory grace period is Friday, November 10, 2023. However, due to the 10th falling on a holiday and the Township building being closed, the extended grace period will be Monday, November 13, 2023. All payments received after Monday, November 13th will accrue interest back to November 1st.

SENIOR FREEZE BLUE BOOKLETS- PTR FORMS

- If you are currently enrolled in the New Jersey Senior Freeze (Property Tax Reimbursement) Program, the last day to file your application is October 31, 2023. We will be completing the booklets in the Mount Laurel Community Center on Thursday, October 19th from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. For more information or to see if you qualify please call the State of New Jersey directly at 1 (800) 882-6597 or visit their website at www.njtaxation.org, select Property Tax Relief and then Senior Freeze Program.

DIRECT DEBIT PROGRAM

- The Township offers an ACH Direct Debit program for property taxes. If you are interested in participating, please check our Township website, www.mountlaurel.com, for more information including the application.



Tax Assessor

TOTALLY DISABLED VETERANS (100% PERMANENT AND TOTAL)

If you are a 100% permanently and totally disabled veteran (or surviving spouse) and have a 100% rating issued by the Office of Veteran's Affairs (VA), 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 the property you seek exemption for must be your primary residence. Along with the application form, applicants must supply a copy of the DD Form 214 or discharge papers, a deed to the property showing the applicant as owner, proof of residency in the home, and a copy of a current NJ Driver's License. The application is available online at www.mountlaurel.com or you may contact Dennis DeKlerk, Tax 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 DD Form 214 or discharge papers. Applications are available online at www.mountlaurel.com or at the Township Tax 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 they are a Senior Citizen (65 or over) or Disabled Person. A \$250.00 per year deduction is applied to the property tax bill for approved applicants. 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 online at www.mountlaurel.com or at the Township Tax Assessor's Office.

ANNUAL NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT

During the first week of November property owners will receive the annual Notice of Assessment card. Please note that the notice is sent to inform property owners about the 2024 assessed value, and the amount of property taxes billed in 2023. If you have any questions, or do not receive the card by December 1, please contact the Assessor's Office at 856-234-6272.

Duties and Responsibilities of the Planning and Zoning Boards

PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board, comprised of 9 regular members and 2 alternate members, dedicate hours of their time monthly to ensure applicants coming to Mount Laurel are following local ordinances and the Municipal Land Use Law. The members include 6 regular resident appointees, 2 resident alternate appointees, the Township Manager, the Mayor, and a member of Township Council.

Applicants coming to the board come with experts, including lawyers, architects, engineers, and industry professionals ready to testify in favor of their application. The Planning Board, comprised of volunteer residents, have paid professionals to advise and assist in making important decisions in tandem with the Township's appointed employee member and elected officials.

Legal notice requirements must be sent out prior to an application being heard, and before an application is heard at an official meeting, officials review the applications to ensure those applications are complying with all relevant ordinances and laws.

The Planning Board ensures applications are consistent with the Township Master Plan, which is a blueprint for how a municipality can be developed – i.e. where parks should be, how much housing is appropriate, and where businesses and warehouses can be built.

Governed by the Municipal Land Use Law, the Planning Board cannot deny an application if it is consistent with the master plan. Regardless of a board member's personal feelings about a project, they are legally required to enforce the master plan, Township ordinances, and municipal land use law in an unbiased manner.

The Planning Board has jurisdiction over most site plan applications, however when an application also involves a use variance, the Zoning Board of Adjustments makes the ultimate decision.

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

The Zoning Board of Adjustment "ZBA" is made up of 7 regular members and 2 alternate members. All ZBA members are volunteer residents of Mount Laurel and are appointed by Township Council.

The greatest distinction between the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Adjustment is the Zoning Board's jurisdiction over "d" variances. While the Planning Board hears only "by-right" applications, the Zoning Board hears only applications that are not permitted "by-right".

In the simplest terms, the ZBA has jurisdiction over use, or "d" variances, and bulk or "c" variances, as well as appeals of the Zoning Officers decision and interpretations of Zoning Ordinances. The most common use variances are d(1) variances and (d)3 variances. A d(1) variance is a variance to permit a parcel of land to be used for a use prohibited in that zone. For example, a doctor's office on a parcel zoned residential would require a (d)1 use variance. A (d)3 variance is a variance to permit a deviation from a specific condition of a conditionally permitted use. Bulk or "c" variances are variances to allow a deviation from size and height standards of a particular zone. For example, a resident may apply for a bulk variance to allow a deck 10 feet from a property line where 25 feet is required.

The Zoning Board of Adjustment has a great deal of discretion when it comes to its decisions. The Board may approve or deny an application in its entirety or in part. They may also approve an application with conditions. These conditions can vary greatly from landscaping and stormwater management requirements, to aesthetics and business hours. If approved, the applicant is required to submit a series of resolution compliance plans to ensure that the development is carried out as approved by the board. Once the final resolution compliance plans are approved and signed by the board professionals, the applicant moves from the ZBA to the construction department for permitting.



Mount Laurel Library

The library is the place for fun activities to stay busy through the winter and into the New Year. For a complete list of events please visit: <https://mtlaurel.evanced.info/signup>

OCTOBER

FOREIGN FILM: THE HOST

Sunday, October 22nd 1:00 PM

A trick and a treat for Halloween from South Korean director Bon Joon-Ho (Parasite). Scares, comedy, and political intrigue mesh when a sea monster begins terrorizing Seoul. 2006. Rated R (violence). In Korean with English subtitles 121 min. Hosted by Irv Slifkin. No registration required.

VIRTUAL TALK: STILL NOT ORGANIZED? TRY THIS!

Tuesday, October 24th 6:30 PM

If your countertops are covered and your closets bursting - join organizing humorist Jamie Novak to learn the little things you can do to get organized! Registration required. You will receive a Zoom link the day before. (Note: The Zoom link will come from a library email account. If you do not receive it, contact the library.)

HALLOWEEN PARADE

Tuesday, October 31st 4:00 PM

Calling all goblins, ghouls, and hot dogs! Put on your costumes and come trick-or-treat with us at the Library! All ages, no registration required.



NOVEMBER

CONCERT: SEA DOGS

Sunday, November 5th 2:00 PM

The Sea Dogs will perform traditional sea chanties, which are work-songs used on boats and ships, foc'sle songs, sung for entertainment by sailors, and instrumental pieces, played for dancing. Audiences are encouraged to sing along, clap, and stomp! No registration required.

TALK: TEA, FOOD, AND FASHION – FROM AUSTEN TO VICTORIA

Thursday, November 16th 1:00 PM

Jane Austen's life in the Regency Era has many similarities to the Victorian Era but also many differences. Learn about tea, food, fashion and more in these two time periods. Hosted by Judith Krall-Russo. No registration required.

TOTS ART TIME

Fridays, November 3 & 17 10:30 AM

An art class for the little ones to enjoy with parents and caregivers. Best for ages 18 mos. – 3 years old. Please register.



DECEMBER

CONCERT: HARMONY SHOW CHOIR

Sunday, December 3rd 2:00 PM

The Show Choir, a group of high-energy, high-school-age singers, perform a fun, family-oriented holiday musical revue. No registration required.

FOREIGN FILM: MONSIEUR IBRAHIM

Sunday, December 17th 1:00 PM

Omar Sharif excels as a Muslim shopkeeper in a poor section of Paris who befriends a young Jewish boy from the neighborhood. 2004. R (sexual content). In French and Turkish with English subtitles. 94 min. Hosted by Irv Slifkin. No registration required.

Mount Laurel Police Department

MOUNT LAUREL POLICE

FALL & WINTER EVENTS

OCTOBER 19TH 5PM
PUMPKIN PAINTING WITH POLICE
 CHECK FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM FOR SIGN-UP INFORMATION

NOVEMBER
NO SHAVE NOVEMBER
 NO-SHAVE NOVEMBER IS A MONTH-LONG JOURNEY DURING WHICH PARTICIPANTS FORGO SHAVING IN ORDER TO EVOKE CONVERSATION AND RAISE CANCER AWARENESS.

DECEMBER 6TH 5PM
HOLIDAY COOKIE DECORATING WITH POLICE
 CHECK FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM FOR SIGN-UP INFORMATION

Please continue to check Facebook for all upcoming event sign-up information

MOUNT LAUREL POLICE K-9 UNIT

HELP US GROW!

ABOUT US

Mount Laurel Police Department canine unit is 100% funded by donations. Our canines help keep our community and the surrounding communities safe. The donations cover the cost to purchase additional canines, training, veterinary care, food, and safety equipment.

CANINES CAN:

- DETECT DRUGS
- DETER CRIMES
- FIND MISSING PEOPLE
- FIND EXPLOSIVES
- BUILD COMMUNITY RELATIONS
- AND SO MUCH MORE

Please feel free to call or email with questions!

856-234-1414 Ext: 1507 Mlpdk9@mountlaurelpolice.org @NJLodge191

Mountlaurelpolice.org *Note K-9 Donation*

Be sure to follow the Mount Laurel Police Department on Facebook and Instagram for the latest updates.



JOIN THE MOUNT LAUREL PD

HIRING POLICE OFFICERS

REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be 18 years of age or older and possess a High School diploma or equivalent
- Must possess a valid NJ driver's license
- Must be able to pass a comprehensive medical & background investigation
- Must be able to complete PTC PT pre-assessment
- Class II Officers are encouraged to apply
- Competitive salary and comprehensive benefits package

SCAN HERE TO APPLY:

EMAIL QUESTIONS:
 APPLY@MOUNTLAURELPD.ORG

Business Spotlight

The Township and Township Council would like to extend a warm welcome to the following businesses:

TOMMY'S TAVERN + TAP

Mayor Steglik and Councilman Pritchett celebrated the grand opening of Tommy's on June 27th.

Tommy's Tavern + Tap was started by the Bonfiglio family and continues to be a family run business.

The restaurant mixes a modern upscale vibe with sports bar features. The menu offers a wide variety of choices from coal fire pizzas, classic soups and salads, sandwiches, flatbreads, sushi and more.

To start, try the spinach and artichoke dip or jumbo salted pretzel. Entrée choices range from crispy chicken sandwiches and juicy burgers to flavorful salad combos like the sesame crusted ahi tuna salad. Coal fire pizzas are a customer favorite and feature the freshest tomatoes, cheese, and a variety of toppings. For the adventurous type, try Tommy's sushi creations and poke bowls, which feature sushi rice, seaweed salad and crunchy onions. The menu features something for everyone.

The restaurant is located at 40 Centerton Road.



Mayor Steglik and Councilman Pritchett with Andrea Bonfiglio - Spence, Chief Marketing Officer of Triple T Hospitality Group, and Christina Bonfiglio, Chief Brand Officer, and Tommy's employees at the ribbon cutting ceremony

UNION MILL ORAL SURGERY

Mayor Steglik and Deputy Mayor Janjua attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for Union Mill Oral Surgery & Dental Implant Center on July 13th.

Dr. Jaffery is a board-certified, dual degreed oral surgeon in Mount Laurel, NJ. Her team prioritizes your care, education of your oral health condition and discussion of your treatment options along the way. Her experienced skill set, combined with the technology, helps her team deliver optimal outcomes in a comfortable and compassionate environment. The practice specializes in wisdom tooth removal, tooth extraction, dental implants, and more.

The office is located at 115 Union Mill Road. To learn more please visit <https://unionmilloralsurgery.com/>



Mayor Steglik and Deputy Mayor Janjua with Dr. Jaffrey and staff

BATH & BODY WORKS

Bath & Body Works officially opened in the popular Centerton Square shopping complex.

Bath and Body Works is a retailer specializing in personal care and home fragrances, including the number one selling collections for fine fragrance mist, body lotion and body cream, three-wick candles, home fragrance diffusers, and liquid hand soap.

Located at 12 Centerton Road.



THE TENDER

The Tender is a non-profit dedicated to providing exceptional care and support to those affected by Alzheimer's Disease and other forms of dementia. Their day center offers personalized care, nutritious meals, and engaging activities to frail persons with dementia, while also providing respite to their caregivers. The Tender's CARES program empowers caregivers through support groups, educational resources, and referrals.

The Tender Adult Day Center provides older adults with mental and social stimulation, while also giving caregivers a much-needed break and access to a supportive community. They offer tailored activities such as arts and crafts, games, exercise, and celebrations, alongside nutritious meals and snacks.

The Tender is located at 4501 Church Road. To learn more call 856-234-5999 or visit www.TheTender.org



★ STAND UP TO ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE ★

COMEDY SHOW

HOSTED BY

Jeremy Smerling

HEADLINING

Chris Coccia

FEATURING

Ryan Maher

WITH BRANDYWINE LIVING & DERAILED COMEDY

Please join us for a night of laughs while we raise money for The Tender Adult Day Center.

11 SATURDAY NOVEMBER
DOORS OPEN AT 7
SHOW STARTS AT 8

 **ARK BREWERY**
106 Ark Rd, Lumberton, NJ 08048

2 ITEM MINIMUM

\$30 TICKETS

TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED AT
DERAILEDCOMEDY.COM
OR SCAN QR CODE



SPONSORED BY BRANDYWINE LIVING AT
VOORHEES | P: 856-424-0004
MOORESTOWN ESTATES | P: 856-778-0600
HADDONFIELD | P: 856-429-5500

STRETCHLAB

StretchLab offers one-on-one assisted stretching that's meant to improve flexibility, mobility, range of motion, neck, back and joint pain in order to help people of all ages change their lives. Stretching is found to improve relaxation and stress relief, improve sports performance, and can improve your posture.

Clients work with a flexologist to help relieve pain or tightness in a specific area, and can experience a wider range of motion after just one StretchLab experience session.

StretchLab is located at 127 Ark Road. For more information you can call 856-818-0888 or email mtlaurel@stretchlab.com. Stay tuned for grand opening details coming this October.

WARESPACE

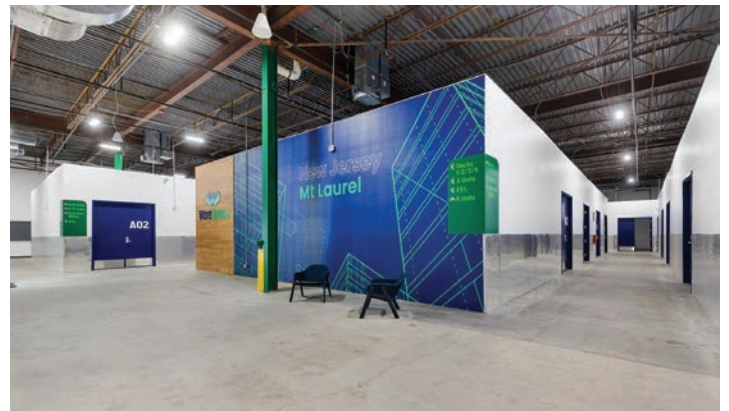
WareSpace celebrated their grand opening in Mount Laurel on September 6th.

WareSpace is a real estate platform that provides the perfect co-warehousing workspace for small to medium size companies in need of small warehouse space ranging from approximately 500-3,000 SF. WareSpace makes the process quick and easy for small companies (often growing out of their basement, garage or self-storage units) to get up and running in a seamless fashion.

With racking & power included, WareSpace suites have an upgraded and clean look over traditional warehouse space, offering a fresh and inviting experience for new companies that require space in this size range. The entire facility and the individual units are private and secure, while the amenities and infrastructure are shared – including the loading dock area, bathrooms, meeting rooms, and kitchen.

The WareSpace Mount Laurel location located at 7000 Atrium Way is open 24/7 for tenants and approved guests. One WareSpace manager is on site daily from 9:00 AM-5:00 PM. The site is fully conditioned. There are approximately 70 small warehouse units on site and upon stabilization, WareSpace expects 50-60 small businesses incubating within the WareSpace community.

For more information about WareSpace, or interested in booking a tour for your business, please visit the website at www.WareSpace.com. You can also reach out directly to a member of WareSpace's Experience Team at 301-804-2182 to schedule a tour and learn more!



Business Spotlight:

TAKE 5 CAFE

Take 5 Cafe is officially open!

Mayor Steglik, Councilman Pritchett, Councilman Moustakas, Chief Schiavone, and many officers from Mount Laurel Police Department joined owners Ira and Bernadette for the ribbon cutting of their new business. Owners Ira and Bernadette are Mount Laurel residents and have envisioned Take 5 as a place to take a moment and get away from the bustle of the day. The cafe offers coffee and tea selections, plus smoothies, energy concoctions, Italian sodas, frozen specialties (such as frozen hot chocolates and frozen lemonades) and more.

You'll also be able to get a delicious pastry to go along with your drink, including muffins, loaf cakes, crumb cakes, cookies, croissants, brownies, and many more baked goods. Additionally, there is a decadent chocolate spread, allowing customers to have a truffle or chocolate pretzel with your beverage. With seating both inside and out front, Take 5 offers a relaxing and tasty break.

Take 5 Cafe is located at 3131 Route 38, Mount Laurel, NJ and is open Wednesday - Sunday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.



Coming Soon:

MOCHIATSU MOCHI DONUTS

Mochiatsu Mochi Donuts will take over the former Sunflour Bakery located in Bank of America plaza complex located off Route 38.

Mochi donuts taste like a combination of regular cake donuts and Japanese mochi. The donuts are made of water, sugar, cornstarch and short-grain glutinous rice. The store will also offer Korean hotdogs and bubble tea.

Stay tuned for an opening date coming later this year.



NOTHING BUNDT CAKES

Nothing Bundt Cakes is coming soon to Dearborn Circle in Mount Laurel.

All Nothing Bundt Cakes products are baked fresh daily on-site, and come in a variety of delicious flavors. Customers can enjoy Classic Vanilla, Chocolate Chocolate Chip, Red Velvet, Lemon, Carrot, White Chocolate Raspberry, Strawberries and Cream, Confetti and Snickerdoodle. There also is a gluten-free option.





BURLINGTON COUNTY OUT OF THE DARKNESS WALK

The 8th annual Burlington County Out of the Darkness Walk for suicide prevention will be held on Saturday, October 21, 2023. This event will be held at Laurel Acres Park, located at 1045 S Church St. This powerful event brings our community together in hope and healing to end the stigma surrounding suicide and mental illness. Register to walk or donate at www.afsp.org/burlingtonco

Burlington County Out of the Darkness Walk

Saturday, October 21

Laurel Acres Park
Walk Day Activities begin at 9:00AM

Register at
afsp.org/Burlingtonco



Scan the QR code
to register today!



American
Foundation
for Suicide
Prevention



If you are in crisis, please call or text the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 988

MOUNT LAUREL LIVING NATIVITY

The Mount Laurel Living Nativity is a live production with 13 walk-through, outdoor scenes and 200 cast and crew each night. It is a completely free gift to the community that has run for over 25 years at Fellowship Community Church. You'll walk through scenes depicting the full story of Christmas and beyond, ending with homemade cookies and hot chocolate inside

For details including weather updates please visit the website www.LivingNativity.org

This year's dates are Dec. 2, 3, 9, 10, 16 & 17. Doors open at 5:00 PM and remain open until 8:00 PM each night.

Fellowship Community Church is located at 1520 Hainesport Rd., Mount Laurel, NJ 08054. There is no cost or donations.



Solutions to Stormwater Pollution

Easy Things You Can Do Every Day To Protect Our Water

A Guide to Healthy Habits for Cleaner Water

Pollution on streets, parking lots and lawns is washed by rain into storm drains, then directly to our drinking water supplies and the ocean and lakes our children play in. Fertilizer, oil, pesticides, detergents, pet waste, grass clippings: You name it and it ends up in our water.

Stormwater pollution is one of New Jersey's greatest threats to clean and plentiful water, and that's why we're all doing something about it.

By sharing the responsibility and making small, easy changes in our daily lives, we can keep common pollutants out of stormwater. It all adds up to cleaner water, and it saves the high cost of cleaning up once it's dirty.

As part of New Jersey's initiative to keep our water clean and plentiful and to meet federal requirements, many municipalities and other public agencies including colleges and military bases must adopt ordinances or other rules prohibiting various activities that contribute to stormwater pollution. Breaking these rules can result in fines or other penalties.



As a resident, business, or other member of the New Jersey community, it is important to know these easy things you can do every day to protect our water.

Limit your use of fertilizers and pesticides

- Do a soil test to see if you need a fertilizer.
- Do not apply fertilizers if heavy rain is predicted.
- Look into alternatives for pesticides.
- Maintain a small lawn and keep the rest of your property or yard in a natural state with trees and other native vegetation that requires little or no fertilizer.
- If you use fertilizers and pesticides, follow the instructions on the label on how to correctly apply it.



Make sure you properly store or discard any unused portions.

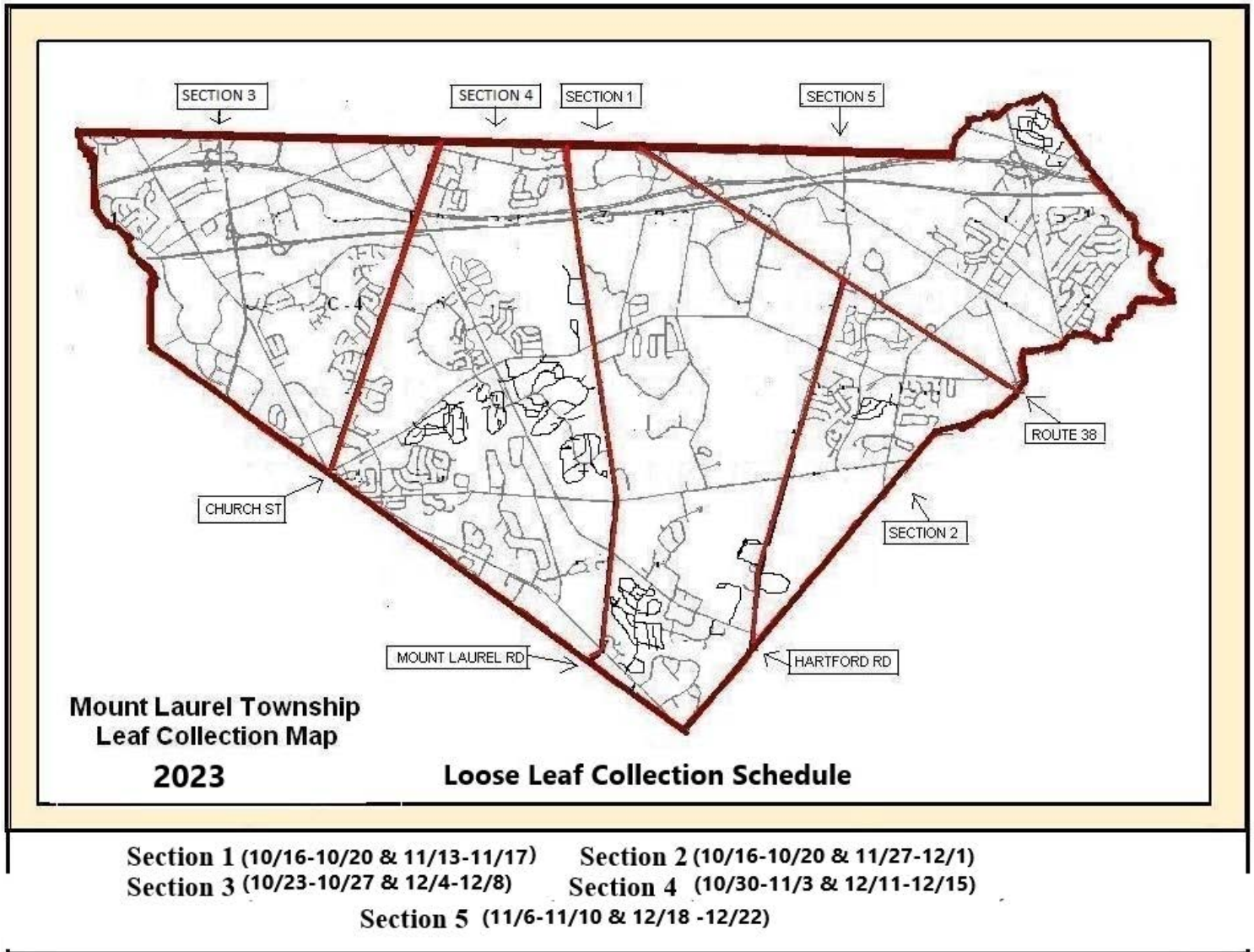
Properly use and dispose of hazardous products

- Hazardous products include some household or commercial cleaning products, lawn and garden care products, motor oil, antifreeze, and paints.
- Do not pour any hazardous products down a storm drain because storm drains are usually connected to local waterbodies and the water is not treated.

LEAF COLLECTION

Scheduled leaf collection is done between October and January. Below is a map of the section dates. If you visit www.mountlaurel.com and click on the Leaf Collection page, there is a street index as well listing the section you are in along with a bagged leaf schedule.

If you see a leaf truck in your section before your scheduled week, Public Works will often start in the next section when finished the current section early. We will be back in the scheduled section during the scheduled timeframe. We will also go back over sections from the beginning of the leaf season as well. Please keep the leaf pile clear of cars, portable basketball nets, and trash cans. Do not put branches, brush, or anything other than leaves in the leaf pile.



Standards of Cover

The Mount Laurel Fire Department (MLFD) stands committed through industry standards and innovation to continually assess and improve the services that we provide to Mount Laurel to enhance the Quality of Life.

As part of this process, we have drafted a standards of cover document modeled after the guidance of the Center for Public Safety Excellence. This document provides an overview of MLFD operations and community demographics. We encourage you to visit our website at mlfd.org and click on the public information tab to learn more about your fire department.



Member Spotlight

TOP VOLUNTEER RESPONDERS

Volunteer firefighters participate in an in-house duty crew program to supplement on-duty career personnel. Volunteers typically are assigned to a week night and staff that duty crew throughout the year. Over the years, this system has been successful and we have seen it benefit and enhance response capabilities and coverage throughout our community.

We wanted to recognize all our volunteer members for their service and dedication in serving our community. From 2020 through 2022 nearly 36,000 hours of service time have been provided. Furthermore, following are the top 10 most active volunteer members that we would like to acknowledge:

1. **Einstein, Sylvan** - 2,920 hours
2. **Stenton, John** - 2,680 hours
3. **Steinmetz, Kyle** - 2,354 hours
4. **McCabe, Brian** - 1,988 hours
5. **Paparone, Michael** - 1,928 hours
6. **Brooks, Gary** - 1,857 hours
7. **Hawes, David** - 1,764 hours
8. **Barlow, John** - 1,713 hours
9. **Recinos, Edwin** - 1,709 hours
10. **Schwartz, Matthew** - 1,587 hours



* Ratings are based on accumulated service hours for years 2020 - 2022

Community Outreach

Mount Laurel Fire Department community outreach provides training to our residents to make Mount Laurel a better prepared and more resilient community. If you are interested in the course below, we ask that you email admin@mlfd.org.



FIRE EXTINGUISHER TRAINING

A portable fire extinguisher can save lives and property by putting out a small fire or containing it until the fire department arrives. Portable extinguishers, however, have limitations. Because fire grows and spreads so rapidly, the #1 priority for residents is to get out safely. MLFD personnel will review and provide practical instruction on the proper use of a fire extinguisher.

HOUSE NUMBER VISIBLE AND WELL LIT

Fire, EMS, and Police Departments are in agreement...**visible house numbers save lives!** Your house numbers should be clearly visible from the street, and well lit at night. They should not be blocked by any trees or bushes. They should be either light numbers on a dark background, or dark numbers on a light background.



Join Our WINNING Team!

Both Mount Laurel Emergency Medical Services and the Mount Laurel Fire Department are looking for residents to serve the community of Mount Laurel as Emergency Medical Technicians or Firefighters. No previous training or experience is required. Both organizations are structured and positioned to provide a comprehensive roadmap towards success for potential candidates. Visit Mount Laurel EMS at mlems.org or Mount Laurel Fire Department at mlfd.org for additional information.

Community Outreach

Mount Laurel Emergency Medical Services community outreach provides training to our residents to make Mount Laurel a better prepared and more resilient community. If you are interested in either of the courses below, we ask that you email training@mlEMS.org.



AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION FAMILY & FRIENDS® CPR

The Family & Friends CPR Course teaches the lifesaving skills of adult Hands-Only CPR. Skills are taught in a dynamic group environment using the AHA's research-proven practice-while-watching technique, which provides students with the most hands-on CPR practice time possible.



STOP THE BLEED®

The person next to a bleeding victim may very well be the one who's most likely to save him or her from bleeding to death. By learning how to STOP THE BLEED®, you'll gain the ability to recognize life-threatening bleeding and act quickly and effectively to control bleeding once you learn three quick techniques. Take the STOP THE BLEED® training course and become empowered to make a life or death difference when a bleeding emergency happens.



Member Spotlight



50 YEARS OF SERVICE

Bruce Herbst joined Mount Laurel EMS in 1999 as a volunteer emergency medical technician (EMT) and would later become a part-time EMT. This year EMT Herbst hit a major milestone by completing 50 years of service in emergency medical services (EMS). The following provides a glimpse of his EMS history: served as past deputy rescue chief; received several awards from EMS agencies; responded to assist FDNY during 9/11; life member of the Delanco Fire Co. and Emergency Squad; life member of the Endeavor Emergency Squad; past member and officer of the Beverly and Delran Emergency Squads; served as the Burlington County EMS Coordinator during 9/11 to provide resources to New York City, along with ensuring preparedness of maintaining local resources to meet the needs of communities throughout Burlington County. He served through the Avian flu, Swine flu, Ebola, and the Covid-19 pandemic. Bruce also retired from a career in law enforcement, where he served 33 years.

He received the Meritorious Service Award from the Burlington County Advisory Board for being Chief EMS Coordinator in May 2015, received a lifesaving award from New Jersey Transit Police Department, along with several life saving awards from the Burlington County Bridge Police.



Tom Orr joined Mount Laurel EMS in 1989 as a volunteer emergency medical technician (EMT). For years, Tom has been a part of the MLEMS' volunteer duty crew program and consistently has become a top contributor by volunteering hundreds of hours annually. This year, EMT Orr hit a major milestone by completing 50 years of service in emergency medical services. The following provides his history: 1973-1980 Secaucus VFAS - Vice President; 1975-1978 Rutgers University FAS - Founder and Captain; 1976-1978 New Brunswick EMS; 1978-1981 Magnolia Ambulance Corps - Corresponding Secretary; 1981-present Endeavor Emergency Squad - Chief and Dive-Team Leader; 1983-1989 Palmyra Ambulance Association - Captain; 1989-Present Mount Laurel EMS; 1992 & 1995 Squad Member of the Year.

Tom has almost always been an active member of 2 EMS organizations. The calls he will remember include: his very first call in Secaucus, the town where he grew up; 7 childbirths, particularly a call on Marter Avenue that he delivered alone; and arriving at Battery Park on 9/11 and seeing FDNY members sitting on a bench covered in soot, silent and motionless, as if they were statues.

Mount Laurel Garden Club

After a summer of hard but satisfying work planting flowers and watering and weeding at various township parks and memorials, the Mount Laurel Garden Club will be moving on to other activities. The club is busy getting donations and making raffle baskets for the annual November Luncheon and Fashion Show. This event raises a large part of the funds used to provide a scholarship for a deserving Mount Laurel graduating senior. For the holidays, we decorate and deliver wreaths to 25 Township buildings. We are involved in the decorating of the historic Smithville Mansion and our own Farmers Hall. In recent years we have participated in the Festival of Trees at Morven in Princeton.

We are a working and learning club, with members expected to serve on several committees. There are opportunities for any age and mobility. Our meetings are held at the Mount Laurel Community Center the third Monday of the month. Brunch at 11:00 A.M., followed by business meeting and program or workshop. All are welcome. For further information, call Joanne 856-872-7420.

Mount Laurel Historical Society

The Mount Laurel Historical Society has been busy this summer revamping and rearranging the artifacts in Farmers Hall. There is a wealth of material available and displays are regularly rotated from stored items and documents. Meetings are held at 7:00 PM the second Tuesday of the month. All are welcome.

As in previous years, the Mount Laurel Garden Club will decorate for the holiday open houses. This year we will celebrate "Holidays with the Farm Animals." Adults and children alike will enjoy the liveliness of this theme, including a children's tree with cat garlands, life size ceramic chickens decked out in bows and animals everywhere; on the window wreaths and even hiding in the branches of the trees!

Open Houses are held the first three Sunday afternoons in December and Tuesday evening, December 12th from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Refreshments are served.

Mount Laurel Diversity and Inclusion Board



The Mount Laurel Diversity and Inclusion Board Presents

DISCUSSIONS & DESSERTS

Friendsgiving! • 11/29 • 6:30-8:30pm

This special edition of Discussions & Desserts is all about sharing your favorite holiday recipes and trying new things from different cultures.

Email diversityboard@mountlaurel.com to reserve your spot and let us know what dessert you will be bringing.

Mount Laurel Library 100 Walt Whitman Avenue Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

TOYS FOR TOTS

The Toys for Tots drive supports local families this holiday season. Please bring new and unwrapped toys to be dropped off starting October 1 through December 15. Drop off locations include the Mount Laurel Library, EMS buildings, Mount Laurel Fire Department, and the Mount Laurel Police Department lobby.



NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION INFORMATION

Early, in-person voting is coming to New Jersey for the November 7th General Election.

In-person, early voting will begin October 28, 2023 to November 5, 2023. Early voting polls will be open from the hours of 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM Monday - Saturday and from 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM on Sunday.

Burlington County Voters will be able to cast their ballot in person on a voting machine at Rowan College at Burlington County Student Success Center, 1500 College Circle.

View election results on the Burlington County website at <https://www.co.burlington.nj.us/598/Election-Results>

RANCOCAS WOODS SHOP SMALL SATURDAY

The holidays are right around the corner, and the Rancocas Woods shops on Creek Road is the perfect destination for all your holiday gifts!

Join the Rancocas Woods Events and Shops for their last Craft & Antique show of the season on Saturday, November 25th. Shop Small Business Saturday and shop over 100 local vendors selling homemade goods from skin care products, home décor, pet products, delicious food and snacks, and more.

This event takes place from 10:00 AM- 3:00 PM at 118 Creek Road.

Down the Rabbit Hole you'll go...

**RANCOCAS WOODS
CRAFT & ANTIQUE SHOW**

Small Business
Saturday

**NOVEMBER
25TH,
2023**

10AM - 3PM

RAIN OR SHINE

Shop our Shops
+ over 100
Outdoor
Vendors!

MUSIC By,
DJ Blake
10am - 11:30am

Camille
Peruto
12pm - 3pm

PEACE
LOVE
FOOD
MUSIC
ART

SCAN ME

@RANCOCASWOODSEVENTSANDSHOPS
www.rancocaswoodseventsandsnshops.com
118 CREEK RD., MT. LAUREL, NJ || EXIT 43 OFF RT 295

OCTOBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Food Truck Festival 12:00 – 5:00 PM Mount Laurel Municipal Complex	2 Council Meeting 7:00 PM— Court Room Mount Laurel Fire Department Special Meeting 7:00 PM 69 Elbo Lane	3 Diversity & Inclusion Board Meeting 7:00 PM —Zoom Recycling Day	4 Zoning Board Meeting 7:00 PM—Court Room	5	6	7
8 Farmers Market 10:00–2:00 PM 200 Creek Road Unit C	9 Municipal Offices Closed	10 Environmental Commission Meeting 7:00 PM —Zoom	11	12 Planning Board Meeting 7:00 PM—Zoom	13	14 Hazardous Waste Drop-off 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM Recycling Center
15	16 Mount Laurel Fire Department Meeting 7:00 PM 69 Elbo Lane	17 Recycling Day	18 Library Board Meeting 6:00 PM—Library	19 Mount Laurel MUA Meeting 7:00 PM 41 Elbo Lane	20	21 Hazardous Waste Drop-off 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM Recycling Center
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 Recycling Day				

NOVEMBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Zoning Board Meeting 7:00 PM—Court Room	2	3	4 Hazardous Waste Drop-off 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM Recycling Center
5 Mount Laurel Fire Department Special Meeting 7:00 PM 69 Elbo Lane	6 Mount Laurel Fire Department Special Meeting 7:00 PM 69 Elbo Lane	7 Diversity & Inclusion Board Meeting 7:00 PM —Zoom	8	9 Veteran Luncheon 11:30 AM—1:00 PM Mount Laurel Community Center Planning Board Meeting 7:00 PM—Zoom	10 Municipal Offices Closed	11
12	13 Council Meeting 7:00 PM—Court Room	14 Recycling Day Environmental Commission Meeting 7:00 PM —Zoom	15 Library Board Meeting 6:00 PM—Library	16 Mount Laurel MUA Meeting 7:00 PM 41 Elbo Lane	17	18 Hazardous Waste Drop-off 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM Recycling Center
19	20 Mount Laurel Fire Department Meeting 7:00 PM 69 Elbo Lane	21	22	23 Municipal Offices Closed No trash pick up, delayed a day	24 Municipal Offices Closed	25
26	27	28 Recycling Day	29	30		

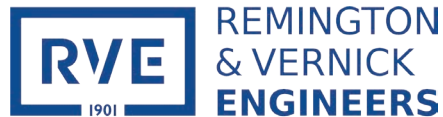
DECEMBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Tree Lighting Ceremony 5:00 – 8:00 PM 118 Creek Road	2 Hazardous Waste Drop-off 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM Recycling Center
3	4 Council Meeting 7:00 PM—Court Room	5 Senior Luncheon 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM Mount Laurel Community Center Diversity & Inclusion Board Meeting 7:00 PM —Zoom Mount Laurel Fire Department Special Meeting 7:00 PM 69 Elbo Lane	6 Zoning Board Meeting 7:00 PM—Court Room	7 Menorah Lighting Ceremony 5:00 PM 118 Creek Road	8	9
10	11	12 Recycling Day Environmental Commission Meeting 7:00 PM —Zoom	13	14 Planning Board Meeting 7:00 PM — Zoom	15	16 Hazardous Waste Drop- off 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM Recycling Center
17	18 Mount Laurel Fire Department Meeting 7:00 PM 69 Elbo Lane	19	20 Library Board Meeting 6:00 PM—Library	21 Mount Laurel MUA Meeting 7:00 PM 41 Elbo Lane	22 Municipal Offices Closed	23
24	25 Municipal Offices Closed. No trash pick up, delayed a day	26	27 Recycling Day	28	29 Municipal Offices Closed. No trash pick up, delayed a day	30
31						

MOUNT LAUREL TOWNSHIP 2023 EVENT SCHEDULE

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Veteran's Luncheon	Thursday, November 9th	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Mt. Laurel Community Center 100 Mount Laurel Rd.
Mount Laurel Tree Lighting	Friday, December 1st	5:00 PM- 8:00 PM	Rancocas Woods 118 Creek Road
Senior Luncheon	Tuesday, December 5th	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Mt. Laurel Community Center 100 Mount Laurel Rd.
Menorah Lighting Ceremony	Thursday, December 7th	5:00 PM	Rancocas Woods 118 Creek Road

**The Township would like to thank these sponsors
for their continued support of these Mount Laurel Events**





Municipal Contacts

Mount Laurel Police Department

100 Mount Laurel Road 856-234-8300
Non-Emergency

Mount Laurel Fire Department

69 Elbo Lane 856-234-6053
(Headquarters)

Mount Laurel EMS

201 Masonville Road 856-778-1274

Mount Laurel Library

100 Walt Whitman Avenue..... 856-234-7319

Tax Assessor's Office

100 Mount Laurel Road 856-234-0001 Ext 1256

Municipal Court Office

100 Mount Laurel Road 856-234-2003

Public Works

100 Mount Laurel Road 856-234-0001 Ext 1241

Mount Laurel Post Office

200 Walt Whitman Avenue 800-275-8777

Municipal Utilities Authority

1201 South Church Street 856-234-0062

Housing - Rentals

100 Mount Laurel Road 856-234-0001 Ext 1224

Tax Collector's Office

100 Mount Laurel Road 856-234-0001 Ext 1283

Community Development/Construction

100 Mount Laurel Road 856-234-9686

Clerk's Office

100 Mount Laurel Road 856-234-0001

Marriage Application Appointments Ext 1236

Dog/Cat licensing Ext 1235



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

ECR WSS
Residential Customer
Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

PRESORTED STANDARD
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PAID
Cinnaminson Twp, NJ
Permit No. 143

