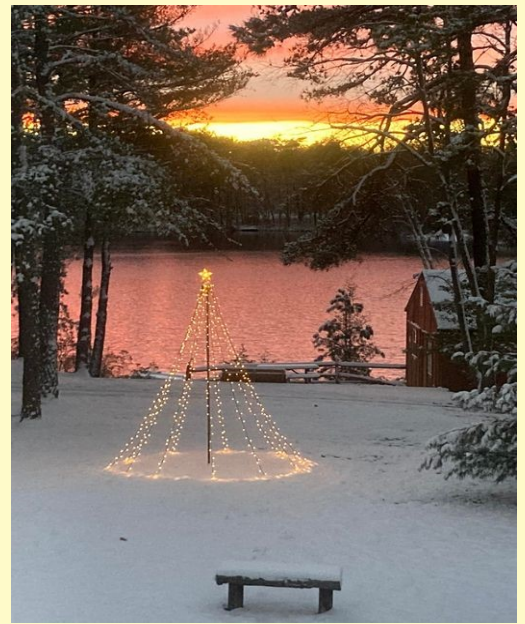




THE MEDFORD MESSENGER

JANUARY 2023

“WHAT’S UP IN MEDFORD”



*Above Photo—Sunset on Candlewood Lake at
Camp Kettle Run by Amy Weeks.*

ADDITIONAL SPECIAL EVENTS

[Township Events Page](#)
[Special Events Calendar](#)

SPORTS

[MYAA](#)

THE ARTS

[Medford Art Center](#)

HISTORY

[Medford Historical Society](#)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

[Water Bill Due Dates](#)
[Property Taxes Due Dates](#)

SERVICES

[Brush and Leaf Pickup](#)
[Brush and Leaf Zones](#)
[Recycling](#)

Trash Related Issues:
(Missed Collections and Can
Replacements and/or repairs)
Please contact Republic Services
directly at 856-533-5270 or email
Roberta Young at:
ryoung5@republicservices.com

OTHER IMPORTANT LINKS

[Town Calendar](#)
[Medford Police](#)
[Medford Fire/EMS](#)
[Senior Citizens](#)
[Parks and Recreation](#) -
[Facility Rentals](#)



HOLIDAY TOWNSHIP OPERATING HOURS

The Township Offices, including the Township DPW Yard (aka the Dump) will be closed at 12:00 noon on **Friday, December 30th**; on **Monday, January 2nd, 2023** for New Year's; and on Monday, **January 16, 2023** in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. Trash will be collected as scheduled on each of these days.

ANNUAL DOG LICENSES

Renewal notices were mailed on December 30, 2022 and the renewal period is from January 1 to January 31, 2023. Dog license fees are \$12 plus an additional \$3 for any dog that has not been spayed or neutered. A late fee of \$15 will be charged for licenses purchased after January 31, 2023. Proof of rabies vaccination is required and must be valid until at least November 1, 2023 in order to obtain a 2023 dog license.

License renewals may be done in person or by mail at/to the Clerk's Office on the 2nd Floor in Town Hall, 49 Union Street. If you have any questions or need assistance, please call the Clerk's Office at 609-654-2608 ext. 334 or 341.

A **Free Rabies Clinic** for both Dogs and Cats will be held on Saturday, January 14, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon at Cranberry Hall, 88 Charles Street. (behind the former Municipal Building on North Main Street) Licenses may also be obtained that day from 9am till 12:00 noon at the Clerk's Office located in Town Hall.



CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION

The Dept. of Neighborhood Services will be collecting Christmas trees the weeks of Monday, January 30th and February 6th, 2023. (*Inclement weather may affect this schedule)
Trees should be placed at the street on your regularly scheduled trash days with all lights, ornaments, and stands removed. Residents who wish to dispose of their tree sooner can bring it to our DPW yard, located at 2 Commonwealth Drive during regular operating hours.

Trees that are flocked or treated with artificial snow cannot be recycled and should be brought to the DPW yard. Trees placed at the curb in plastic bags cannot be collected as we transport trees to a recycling center.

Questions about Christmas Tree collection should be directed to Neighborhood Services at 609-654-6791.



The NJDEP and the Fire & EMS Department reminds residents that it is not permissible to dispose of Christmas trees through open burning or bonfires. NJDEP suggests more sustainable methods of disposal, such as chipping, mulching, donations to animal farms, and/or dune construction. [Click here](#) for more information.

SUMP PUMP DISCHARGE ON SIDEWALKS AND INTO ROADWAYS

As we begin the Winter season, residents are reminded that water discharges onto sidewalks and into roadways can create hazardous icing conditions. While sump pumps or other household equipment and appliances are not permitted to drain to the outside of the property, if any water is flowing onto your sidewalks and/or the street in front of your property, it is your responsibility to clear any resulting ice or other hazards, as per Ordinance 2018-7 (Sidewalks).

If and when the Township is required to treat an icy condition as a result of these discharges, the Township will pursue a tax lien on the responsible property to recover any and all costs associated with de-icing the sidewalk and/or roadway.

We appreciate your cooperation so as to ensure the safety of all who use our sidewalks and roadways.

LEAF COLLECTION UPDATE

As of December 29th, the Department of Neighborhood Services continues to collect leaves. Crews have completed the first round of leaf collection in Zone 5; and crews were making their second and final round of collections in Zone 4. We appreciate your patience as we work to get all leaves collected.

The final round of collections for the remaining Zones will follow the updated schedule below:

Zones 1 & 2: Week of 1/3/23

*Zone 3: Week of 1/9/23

Zone 5: Week of 1/23/23

**Due to the volume of leaves in Zone 3, collections will likely take longer to complete*

In the event crews complete areas sooner, collections may resume sooner than scheduled above. Additionally, in the event of inclement weather or equipment breakdowns, collections may be delayed.



All leaves should be placed at the street before the scheduled collection dates. Leaves should be placed no further than ten (10) feet from the edge of the road. Leaves should not be placed around trees, utility boxes, utility poles, signs, etc. **Residents are also reminded that any leaves placed at the street by landscapers, contractors, or anyone hired by a homeowner must be removed by the contractor.

Residents who have leaves at the street after their second collection are in violation of Township Codes and risk formal citations. Enforcement is necessary so that Medford can remain compliant with State stormwater management regulations, as leaves piled at the street can wash into and clog storm sewers. Piles of leaves can also hinder snow-plowing efforts.

Residents with leaves remaining after collections in their Zone can bring them to the DPW yard any Monday through Friday, between 7 am and 2 pm, and every third Saturday of the month.

WINTER WEATHER RESPONSE UPDATES

The Department of Neighborhood Services switches to winter weather operations when a storm approaches our region. Crews prepare the trucks and equipment for the weather based upon forecasters' predictions. Roads are brined when the precipitation is expected to start as snow. As many know, forecasts are tricky and can change quickly. This Department monitors the forecast in collaboration with the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and Police Department reports of road conditions; and will work around the clock to keep roads clear. We ask that residents utilize off street parking whenever an accumulating snowfall is forecast. Residents are also encouraged to postpone any unnecessary travel when winter weather is expected.

Residents who live in neighborhoods without curbing are encouraged to place reflective markers to indicate the edge of the roadway. The Township is not responsible for any damage in the right of way if the area is not clearly marked.

[Click here](#) to view the Township's Snow Removal & Ice Control web page.

STATE ANCHOR TAX REBATE PROGRAM —APPLY FOR UP TO \$1,500 IN TAX RELIEF

State of New Jersey's ANCHOR Deadline Extended

More than three million New Jersey residents are eligible for up to \$1,500 in property tax relief under the ANCHOR program. (Affordable New Jersey Communities for Homeowners and Renters)

Tenants and renters who were previously ineligible because their unit was covered by a PILOT agreement can now apply for the ANCHOR benefit.

To be eligible for this year's benefit, you must have occupied your primary residence on October 1st, 2019. You must also file (or be exempt from) NJ income taxes.

The deadline for filing has been extended to January 31st, 2023.

For more info & to apply, Click **[HERE](#)** or use this URL: <https://www.nj.gov/treasury/taxation/anchor/>

MAYOR & COUNCIL JOINT STATEMENT REGARDING DEVELOPMENT IN MEDFORD

EVERY residential housing development currently being built in the Township is the result of Medford's court mandated affordable housing obligation. I believe I can speak for everyone on Council that we would not have approved ANY of these developments if it wasn't for these mandates from the New Jersey Supreme Court.

Many people question that some of these houses cost hundreds of thousands of dollars so how can we call it affordable. The State's Council On Affordable Housing (COAH) has certain standards that have to be met. We are limited on how much affordable senior housing there is and how much of the projects can be 100% affordable. Most must be what is called inclusionary. This means anywhere from 10% to 30% can be affordable units and the rest HAS to be market rate housing. Part of the reason is that the market rate units help subsidize the builders' losses on the affordable units.

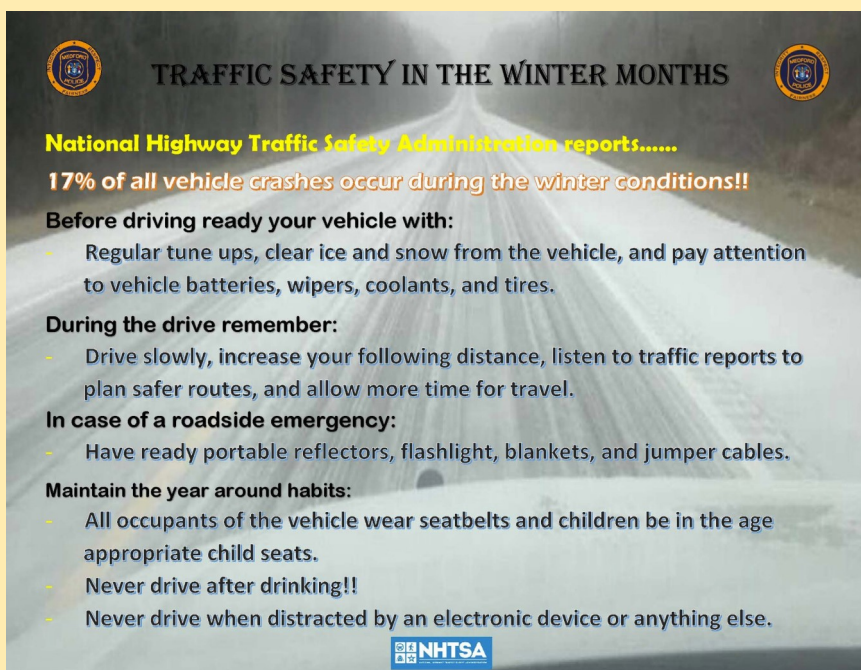
Our original requirement was 805 affordable units which would have allowed developers to build 5366 market rate units. Fortunately, by negotiating early and entering into a 2016 Settlement Agreement*, we were able to negotiate that number down to 298 affordable units and 744 market rate units for a total of 1,042 homes, apartments or townhouses. (over 75% less than originally required) While this number is more than any of us would like it was a good solution to a bad situation forced upon us by the State of NJ.

For more information, visit the Affordable Housing page on the Township website by clicking [HERE](#) or using this URL: <https://www.medfordtownship.com/affordablehousing>

*The November 2016 Affordable Housing Settlement Agreement synopsis can be found [HERE](#) or by using this URL:

<https://www.medfordtownship.com/filestorage/233/534/>

Affordable_Housing_settlement_summary_11-16-16_DMEAST_27547999(3).pdf



TRAFFIC SAFETY IN THE WINTER MONTHS

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports.....
17% of all vehicle crashes occur during the winter conditions!!

Before driving ready your vehicle with:

- Regular tune ups, clear ice and snow from the vehicle, and pay attention to vehicle batteries, wipers, coolants, and tires.

During the drive remember:


- Drive slowly, increase your following distance, listen to traffic reports to plan safer routes, and allow more time for travel.

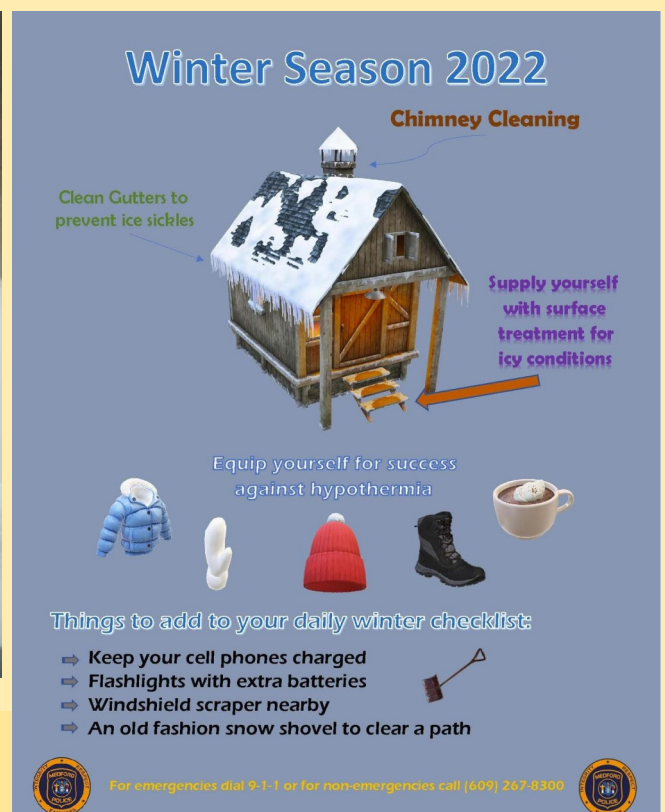
In case of a roadside emergency:

- Have ready portable reflectors, flashlight, blankets, and jumper cables.

Maintain the year around habits:

- All occupants of the vehicle wear seatbelts and children be in the age appropriate child seats.
- Never drive after drinking!!
- Never drive when distracted by an electronic device or anything else.





Winter Season 2022

Chimney Cleaning

Clean Gutters to prevent ice sickles

Equip yourself for success against hypothermia

Supply yourself with surface treatment for icy conditions

Things to add to your daily winter checklist:

- ➡ Keep your cell phones charged
- ➡ Flashlights with extra batteries
- ➡ Windshield scraper nearby
- ➡ An old fashion snow shovel to clear a path

For emergencies dial 9-1-1 or for non-emergencies call (609) 267-8300



Municipal Center Address: 49 Union Street, Medford, NJ

Phone: (609) 654-2608 // Fax: (609) 953-4087

Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

www.medfordtownship.com

www.facebook.com/medfordtownship/