



March 2020



# THE MEDFORD MESSENGER

## “What’s Up in Medford”

Above Photo—snowing on Birchwood Lake

### 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)  
Gold Medal Environmental of NJ -  
856-784-5050

### OTHER IMPORTANT LINKS

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

### Food Trucks on Main Street:

Thursday, March 19th is the first scheduled Food Truck Event to be held on Main Street for 2020. The event will run from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM. [Click here](#) to see a list of food trucks and menus.

### MEDFORD EARNS SUSTAINABLE JERSEY CERTIFICATION

Sustainable Jersey representatives announced that Medford Township has met the rigorous requirements to achieve Sustainable Jersey certification. Medford is one of 100 towns that attained certification in 2019. Sustainable Jersey’s participating communities represent over half the state’s municipalities and nearly 90 percent of its population.

To become Sustainable Jersey certified, the Township submitted documentation to show it had completed a balance of the required sustainability actions, meeting a minimum of 150 action points. In addition to reaching 150 points, each certified community had to create a green team and select at least two out of 12 priority action options. Medford’s priority actions included climate adaptation & flooding risk,, energy efficiency for municipal facilities, updated natural resource inventory, prescription drug safety and disposal, recycling and waste reduction education and compliance and sustainable land use.

“Congratulations to the municipal staff, green team volunteers and community members who have worked hard to achieve Sustainable Jersey certification”, said Randy Solomon, the executive director of Sustainable Jersey. “The Sustainable Jersey certified towns demonstrate leadership and are a testament to how much we can accomplish toward the long-term goal of a sustainable New Jersey.” Certified towns excelled in areas such as improving energy efficiency and health and wellness, reducing waste, sustaining local economies, protecting natural resources and advancing the arts. Collectively, the 453 participating Sustainable Jersey towns are a powerful force in New Jersey.

Sustainable Jersey provides tools, training and financial incentives to support communities as the pursue sustainability programs. Currently, 80 percent or 453 of New Jersey’s 565 municipalities are participating in the municipal certification program and 345 school districts and 896 schools are participating in the Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification program.

### MEDFORD TOWNSHIP POLICE—INAUGURAL “CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY”

It is with great pleasure Chief Richard J. Meder announces the Citizen Police Academy Class #1 scheduled for this spring. The Citizen Police Academy is an opportunity for residents to get a behind-the-scenes look at various functions within the Medford Township Police Department. It allows our citizens to become educated as to the roles and responsibilities of law enforcement. During classroom presentations, lectures and hands on activities, residents will gain valuable insight into daily operations, in an effort to further improve the quality of life for Medford Township residents and business owners.

Interested residents and business owners will be required to complete the application which can be downloaded from the Medford Township Police website. Applicants must be cleared through a background check. Applications must be hand delivered to the Medford Township Police Department no later than 4:00 pm on March 25th.

The class size will be limited to 20 participants to allow for quality interaction throughout the program.

Program dates will run on Wednesday evenings 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm from April 22nd thru early June.

Additional information and application can be found at our website: <http://www.medford-police.org/citizen-police-academy>.

## MEDFORD POLICE—CITIZEN SURVEY 2020:

The Medford Township Police Department strives to provide a quality of service to you, your family, and the community. We are interested in your opinion. The below link will take you to the Citizen Survey. Please take a few minutes to answer the questions, so we can better serve the community. The survey should take you no longer than 5 minutes to complete and will be active until March 30, 2020. Thank you in advance. <https://www.medford-police.org/citizen-survey-online-form>.

### Recycling Tip:

Why can't we recycle frozen food containers?

We can recycle 2 types of paper cartons:

- Shelf stable cartons such as broth and juice boxes
- Refrigerated cartons such as milk and orange juice cartons  
These are coated with single layer of polyethylene

The main reason we can't accept frozen food containers in the Burlington County program is they have more types of plastic coatings than the shelf stable and refrigerated cartons. Cartons are coated with a layer of Polyethylene. Frozen food containers can have various types of coatings and because of the variation they can cause problems when trying to separate the fiber (paper) layer from the coating layers. Paper mills can't separate out these embedded plastic layers from the paper fiber, resulting in problems when they try to pulp the fiber into new paper.

### Spring Brush Collection:

Zone 2: Week of March 30th

Zone 1: Week of April 13th

Zone 3: Week of April 27th

Zone 5: Week of May 11th

Zone 4: Week of May 25th

The Neighborhood Services Department will alert the public via Nixle alerts as they complete each Zone or if they experience delays. Each street will be collected once. Township Code states "All brush shall be stored on a resident's property and shall not be placed at the roadside earlier than 10 days preceding the Monday of the scheduled collection week." Brush placed at the street for collection outside of these collection dates will not be collected. As a reminder for those residents who utilize a private contractor, the contractor is responsible for the removal of the brush from the property.

## MEDFORD COMMUNITY GARDENS AT FREEDOM PARK

The Freedom Park Community Gardens, located in the Township's premier park on land which was formerly a farm, opened twenty years ago. Since then the garden has grown from 33 to a total of 54 sized plots each 25' x 25'; with a number of the plots divided in half or in quarters to accommodate all residents who want to participate. Several years ago six raised plots were added for seniors and those with physical limitations.

The ultimate goal of the Community Garden program is to promote just that – community. The many benefits participants gain from gardening are multi-faceted including fresh air, exercise, healthier eating, social interaction and mental stimulation. Another bonus is that the garden adds to the quality of life in Medford as it is located in the Medford's centrally located community park, and thousands of residents and visitors are exposed to the garden throughout the season. The garden is lovely due to the creativity of some of the gardeners who have added grapevine arbors and fences that incorporate towering sunflowers and bird houses.

Although it is hard to believe when looking out the window or listening to the forecast, it is already time to start thinking about spring and working in the garden. We hope that you enjoyed your experience with the Freedom Park Community Gardens last year. Once again, due to the overwhelming interest in the gardens, the Township's Recreation and Public Works Departments have again committed to offer this program in spite of budgetary constraints.



The fee for reserving a full plot is \$30, a half plot is \$15 and a quarter is \$8. The fee for the raised plots is \$5.

The gardens are tilled in the early spring. You will be permitted to drive your vehicle to the garden area where there will be adequate space to load and unload your vehicle. Each plot will be staked out and numbered. The provision of seeds, plantings, fertilizers, rodent control devices and perimeter fencing will again be your responsibility. Water access is provided, and gardeners typically share spigots and hoses.

If you wish to participate in the garden program this year, please contact the Manager's Office at 609-654-2608 x334; or by emailing [kgarrison@medfordtownship.com](mailto:kgarrison@medfordtownship.com). Please note garden plots are made available on a first-come; first served basis.

# CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) - PRECAUTIONS & PREPAREDNESS

**STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS—[Click HERE](#) for PDF**

**CDC PROTECTS AND PREPARES COMMUNITIES—[Click HERE](#) for PDF**

**General message to residents:**

There is a lot of information being shared in response to the *Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)*. We want to remind our residents that this is a good time to review preparedness for home, work, and school.

The Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a flu-like disease, first identified back in December. The CDC has issued a recommendation to stay informed as this virus has the potential to spread.

We want to ensure you that Medford Township is closely monitoring this health issue, along with our partners in Public Health.

The following suggestions will be helpful in reducing the spread of all viruses in our community:

- Wash hands often with soap and water vigorously for 20 seconds. Hand sanitizers with 60% alcohol may also be used to limit the spread of germs.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Please stay home if you are ill. This is as much for your benefit as those who will be in contact with you at school or at work.
- Avoid close contact with those who are ill or presenting signs of illness.
- Sneeze into your inside elbow or into a disposable tissue instead of your hands.
- Review and follow CDC travel advisories when planning travel. If you become ill after returning home to the United States, call your healthcare provider for a consultation/appointment.

For additional information about COVID-19, please visit the following websites:

**New Jersey Department of Health:**

<https://www.nj.gov/health/news/2020/approved/20200128a.shtml>

**Centers for Disease Control:**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/2019-ncov-factsheet.pdf>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/summary.html>

*Remember to be prepared not scared*





## MEDFORD CANOE TRAIL & CANOE RACK RENTALS

The Medford Canoe Trail provides a wonderful recreational experience. The trail on the Southwest Branch of Rancocas Creek starts in Medford Park and ends at Kirby's Mill. Along its 2½-mile length, it offers superb scenery with lush vegetation and tranquil waters. Area paddlers can enjoy a trip on the water that ranks with the best in New Jersey without leaving Medford.

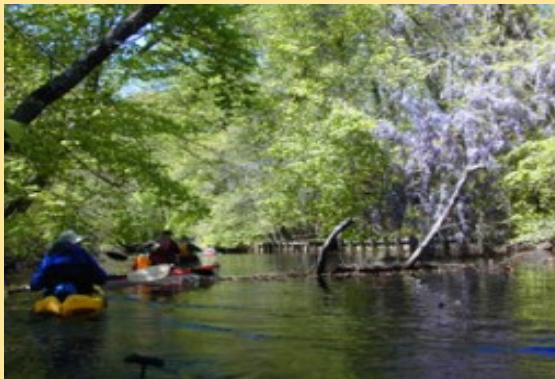
Once an important conduit for trade and commerce, the beautiful section of Rancocas Creek that graces Medford had over a number of years become unusable because of flooding and downed trees. Strenuous efforts by volunteers and strong support by the Township Council and administration brought the stream back to life. Now paddlers who own canoes and kayaks can enjoy the trail whenever weather conditions are suitable. Others can enjoy the water on rental canoe trips organized by the Pinelands Preservation Alliance's Pinelands Adventures. Information is available on the Township website at <http://www.medfordtownship.com/outdoors> or <https://medfordcanoetrail.wordpress.com/>

The most convenient access point is in Medford Park at the foot of Coates Street where a playground, picnic facilities and parking close to the launch site are available. The Township also rents space on canoe racks constructed by local Eagle Scouts. (For info, contact the Manager's office at 609-654-2608 x334 or email [kgarrison@medfordtownship.com](mailto:kgarrison@medfordtownship.com)).

The trail head, somewhat further upstream at Mayer's Landing in Medford Park, is accessible from Gill Road off Allen Avenue. The trail ends at a landing at Kirby's Mill on Church Road. From there, the Rancocas continues on its scenic way to its juncture with the Delaware River. Although the stream is navigable from Lumberton to the Delaware River, the stretch from Kirby's Mill to Lumberton is still blocked due to log obstructions.

In good weather, with average stream conditions, Kirby's Mill can be reached from the park area in about an hour. One-way down-stream trips are an easy way to enjoy an outing on the water. The return trip, against what is usually a moderate current, takes about an hour and a half. A round trip, starting at Kirby's Mill or at the park, makes a pleasant half-day outing. When planning an outing, paddlers must take into account their own abilities and weather forecasts. Thunderstorms and heavy rains can cause strong currents and dangerous stream conditions that make trips inadvisable. To minimize the inherent risks of any water activity, personal flotation devices must be worn at all times. Enjoy the water but be careful!

We invite you to enjoy the beautiful waters and scenery offered by the Medford Canoe Trail and the opportunity it offers for family recreation and exercise.



**Municipal Center Address: 17 North Main Street, Medford,**

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

**Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

[www.medfordtownship.com](http://www.medfordtownship.com)

[www.facebook.com/medfordtownship/](https://www.facebook.com/medfordtownship/)