



March 2021



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)
Republic Services -
856-533-5272
DDashiell@republicservices.com

OTHER IMPORTANT LINKS

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

3rd THURSDAY FOOD TRUCKS ON MAIN STREET ARE BACK!

Thursday, March 18th is the first scheduled Food Truck Event to be held on Main Street for 2021.

The event will run from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

[Click here](#) to see a list of food trucks and menus.

****Municipal Offices have reopened to the public****

FREE SHREDDING EVENT SCHEDULED:
March 20, April 17, and September 18, 2021
Saturdays -- 8:00 am to 12:00 noon

FOR MEDFORD TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ONLY!!!!
ABSOLUTELY NO BUSINESSES WILL BE PERMITTED

Protect yourself and your family from identity theft and financial fraud while taking steps to help the Township's Recycling Program.

The shredding truck will be available from **8:00 am until 12:00 noon** on the above dates at the Municipal Garage, located at 2 Commonwealth Drive. (Off of Gravelly Hollow Road behind Bob Meyer Park)

Residents may bring up to 5 boxes or bags of files (no exceptions) to be shredded on site. An experienced operator will be present in a highly secure, mobile shredding unit where your confidential materials will be shredded as you watch. Please bring paper only; plastic bags, metal, binders and binder clips cannot be shredded. (Paper clips and staples are acceptable)



100% of the paper is recycled and is applied to Medford's recycling totals, for which we obtain grants from the State of NJ under the Clean Communities Program and Recycling Tonnage Grant.

As these dates are the 3rd Saturday of the month, the Garage is open from 8:00 am till 1:00 pm to accept all other waste and recycling materials.

For more information, call Judy Scherf, Recycling Coordinator at 609-654-6791 x322

2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET WORKSHOPS

The Medford Township Council will be holding Budget Workshop Meetings on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 7:00 PM and on Saturday, March 13, 2021 at 8:30 AM to discuss the 2021 Budget. The meetings will be via Zoom Conference & in-person at the Public Safety Building, 91 Union Street, Medford, NJ 08055. Those attending in person must adhere to all current Governor's Executive Orders and Federal CDC requirements. Face masks will be required. Zoom Meeting ID: 848 849 0899, Password: 213971. No Action will be taken at the meetings.

2021 SPRING BRUSH COLLECTION PROGRAM

Below are the collection dates for the annual spring brush collection in the Township:

Zone 1: Week of March 29
Zone 3: Week of April 12
Zone 5: Week of April 26
Zone 4: Week of May 10
Zone 2: Week of May 24

The Neighborhood Services Department will alert the public via Nixle alerts and Facebook posts 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.

Brush shall include the pruning of trees, shrubs, bushes or vines, but exclude grass clippings, flowers, weeds, tree trunks, stumps and leaves. If the excluded items are mixed with the brush, the material will not be collected.

All brush must be piled neatly at the edge of the property and cannot be placed in any roadway or sidewalk. Brush should not exceed 4-6 feet in length, and should not be any larger than 6 inches in diameter. As a reminder for those residents who utilize a private contractor, the contractor is responsible for the removal of the brush from the property.

For more information, visit the Township website at : www.medfordtownship.com/brushandleaf.

MEDFORD CANOE TRAIL & CANOE RACK RENTALS

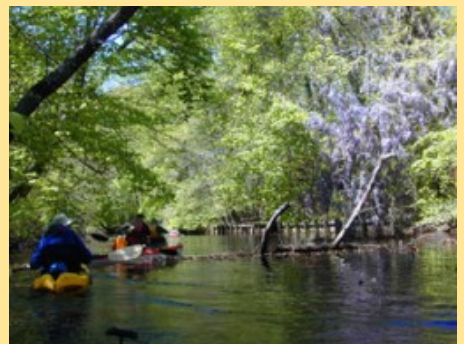
The Medford Canoe Trail provides a wonderful recreational experience. The trail on the Southwest Branch of Rancocas Creek starts in Medford Park and ends at Kirby's Mill. Along its 2½-mile length, it offers superb scenery with lush vegetation and tranquil waters. Area paddlers can enjoy a trip on the 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 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 information on renting a canoe rack space, please contact the Manager's Office at 609-654-2608 x334 or email 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.



RECYCLING TIP

Governor Murphy signed into law effective in May of 2022, single use disposable plastic and paper bags will no longer be provided by New Jersey grocery stores and food service businesses.

The NJDEP & the Township's Environmental Affairs Advisory Committee encourage everyone to get ahead of the curve and bring your own reusable bags when you shop.

You can learn more about this topic at the "Choose to Reuse NJ" website— <http://choosetoreusenj.com>



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 almost 25 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. To register, please contact the Manager's Office at kgarrison@medfordtownship.com.

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.

Please note garden plots are made available on a first-come; first served basis.



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

www.facebook.com/medfordtownship/