



APRIL 2023



## THE MEDFORD MESSENGER

### “WHAT’S UP IN MEDFORD”

Above Photo—Sunset on Lake Pine (Tom Kenny)

#### **\*ADDITIONAL EVENTS:**

(\*please check the Twp. website & official Facebook page for more details & updates)

Township Special Events Page  
Special Events 2023 Calendar

**YOUTH SPORTS:** MYAA

**THE ARTS:** Medford Art Center

**HISTORY:** Medford Historical Society

**PINELANDS BRANCH LIBRARY**

#### **DPW SERVICES:**

- Brush and Leaf Collection
- Brush and Leaf Zones
- Recycling
- Trash Related Issues-
- Missed Collections and Can Replacements and/or repairs

Please contact our vendor Republic Services directly at 215-744-2995; or email: LWilliams@republicservices.com or Gburnsjr@republicservices.com

#### **IMPORTANT DUE DATE INFORMATION:**

Water & Sewer Bill Due Dates  
Property Taxes Due Dates

#### **OTHER IMPORTANT LINKS:**

- Town Calendar
- Medford Police
- Medford Fire & EMS
- Senior Citizens
- Parks and Recreation & Facility Rentals



#### **APRIL 2023 Events**

**Annual Easter Egg Hunt**—Saturday, April 1st starting at 11:00 am at Freedom Park. Sponsored by the Medford-Vincetown Rotary Club and the Shawnee & Seneca High School’s Interact Clubs.  
(Raindate Saturday, April 8th-Check the Twp. website newsfeed or Facebook page for cancellation info)

**Medford First Friday & Art Walk** along Main Street. Friday, April 7th from 5:00-9:00 pm. Sponsored by the Main Street Merchants & the Medford Arts Center. [www.MedfordMainStreet.com](http://www.MedfordMainStreet.com)

**3rd Thursday Food Trucks on Main Street**—Thursday, April 20th from 5:00-9:00 pm along Main Street. The Township Council has made this township sponsored event an amazing and fun night for the entire region!



Check the Twp. website for the list of the twelve!! (12) participating trucks and their unique & varying menus. Trucks are located between 45 South Main Street and 57 North Main Street.

\*Businesses, eateries & breweries on Main Street are OPEN! Many have specials, events & sales so please stop and shop!

\*Tables to sit with the family!

\*Streets are open and crosswalks are everywhere!

\*Parking is plentiful & easy!

\*Port-a-potties placed around town for your needs!

#### **Annual Earth Day Observance and Town-Wide Yard Sale,**

Saturday, April 22nd at Freedom Park from 7:30 am to 1:30 pm. Sponsored by the Woman’s Club of Medford & the Environmental Affairs Advisory Committee. Click [here](#) for more information to register for the yard sale. In addition, the EAAC will be distributing free tree saplings as provided by a grant from the NJ Forestry Service Tree Recovery Program; and also accepting plastic bags and other plastics that will be recycled by the Trex company. Once 500 pounds is recycled, Medford will be granted a new park bench from Trex to be placed in a park.

**Annual Arbor Day Ceremony**—Friday, April 28th at St. Mary’s School beginning at 10:00 am. Celebrating Medford’s 43rd consecutive year as a Tree City USA. Held in collaboration with the Pinelands Garden Club, the Environmental Affairs Advisory Committee (EAAC), the Medford Public Schools and Medford Leas. Every 3rd grader will be gifted with a tree seedling for planting at home.



# 2023 SPRING BRUSH COLLECTION PROGRAM

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

Zone 5: Week of April 3rd (early special collection)

Zone 2: Weeks of April 10th & 17th

Zone 1: Weeks of April 24th & May 1st

Zone 3: Weeks of May 8th & 15th

Zone 5: Weeks of May 22nd & 29th

Zone 4: Weeks of June 5th & 12th

The Public Works 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 picked up.

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.



## Medford Twp. & Woman's Club of Medford 10th Annual Town-wide Yard Sale & Earth Day Event —Saturday, April 22nd at Freedom Park Free Trees to be distributed from the NJDEP Tree Recovery Program & Arbor Day Foundation

The Environmental Affairs Advisory Committee (EAAC) and the Woman's Club of Medford (WCOM) invite all local residents and community groups to participate in its 10th Annual Town Wide Yard Sale/Earth Day observance to be held Sat., April 22, 2023 from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Freedom Park, located at 86 Union Street.

The Yard Sale is coordinated by the WCOM. Those wishing to set up and sell are reminded that items offered for sale should be "pre-loved", created from repurposed materials, or be plants. All sales and proceeds go to the participating individual or community group.

Participants must provide their own table(s) and chairs for an approximate 10' x 10' location. Pre-registration is requested by April 17, 2023 to medfordwomansclub@gmail.com. There is a \$10 donation to the WCOM for each space.

Goodwill Industries of Southern New Jersey & Philadelphia will be on-site to collect donations during the event, and will also be available to leave any unsold items at the conclusion of the Yard Sale.

The EAAC will also be distributing FREE trees provided by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection under their Tree Recovery Program, plus other environmentally related information; and plastic bags and other products (see below) will be accepted and used toward the goal of 500 pounds to receive a free park bench from Trex.

## TREX Bench Challenge—Plastic Film Collection & Recycling Program

The Environmental Affairs Advisory Committee (EAAC), in cooperation with the Cranberry Hall Senior Center (and currently the Freedom Barks Dog Park Committee) encourage all local residents to participate in the Trex® Bench Challenge. Trex® is proud to sponsor local recycling programs in communities throughout the country. If we collect more than 500 pounds of plastic refuse in a six-month span (about 40,500 plastic bags!), Trex will donate a high-performance composite bench to us. **WE ARE APPROACHING 2,000 POUNDS (1 TON) OF COLLECTIONS!** And—all plastics that are recycled count towards our recycling for which we are granted funds from the State.

These materials are not normally accepted in curbside programs because they can get caught in the machines that sort other recyclables like paper, cans, and bottles. And bags are generally too dirty after their trip in the back of the recycling truck to be recycled, even if they are collected at a recycling facility.

**Collection boxes are located at the Cranberry Hall Senior Center at 88 Charles Street (behind the former Municipal Bldg); at the Lower Forge Brewery on South Main Street, and at events sponsored by the EAAC and Freedom Barks.**

### What can be recycled?

*All plastic must be clean, dry and free of food residue*

 Grocery bags	 Bread bags	 Bubble wrap	 Dry cleaning bags	 Newspaper sleeves	 Ice bags	 Plastic shipping envelopes
 Ziploc & other reclosable food storage bags	 Cereal bags	 Case overwrap	 Salt bags	 Pallet wrap & stretch film	 Wood pellet bags	 Produce bags



## **PICKLEBALL COURTS COMING SOON TO MEDFORD!**

Four new pickleball courts are under construction in Freedom Park and are slated to open in late April or early May. The contractor is awaiting seasonal temperatures above 50 degrees for 72 consecutive hours in order to paint the courts and lines.

The need for pickleball courts was expressed in several public hearings when the Township's Recreation & Open Space Master Plan was being developed and adopted in 2019. In response, the Township Council budgeted capital improvement project funds to construct the courts, which are located near the skatepark and community garden area of Freedom Park.

Once the courts have been officially opened, reservations can be made via the **“Team Reach®”** app. Sports Paradise, located at 99 Hartford Road, has graciously volunteered to help manage this app for the Township as we open the courts.

There will be designated times set aside for beginners, intermediates, and advanced players. Time will also be set aside for a seniors instructional program operated under the auspices of the Cranberry Hall Senior Center. As we get closer to opening, the schedule will be posted on the Township website

Open play will also be built into the schedule, and given the anticipated demand, we ask that the common pickleball courtesies be extended to waiting players.

The date of official opening will be announced on the Township website and official Facebook page. Stay tuned!



## **FREE SHREDDING EVENT—SATURDAY, APRIL 1st -- 8:00 am to 12:00 noon**

**FOR MEDFORD TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ONLY—ABSOLUTELY NO BUSINESSES WILL BE PERMITTED**

*(Also scheduled for June 17th and October 7th)*

The shredding truck will be available from 8:00 am until 12:00 noon at the DPW Yard (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) For more information, call Judy Scherf, Recycling Coordinator at 609-654-6791 x322

## **COMMUNITY GARDENS AT FREEDOM PARK**

This spring Medford Township will once again offer a limited number of garden plots in Freedom Park.

Each plot is approximately 25' x 25', but due to the large demand, plots can be divided into halves and quarters for those who prefer a smaller plot. Water is available, but gardeners are responsible for providing seeds, plants, hoses and fencing. Plots will be assigned according to the order in which the applications are received.

Fee: \$30 for whole plots, \$15 for 1/2 a plot, \$5 for a 1/4 of a plot. For information on garden plot space, please contact the Manager's Office at 609-654-2608 x330 or email [bportocalis@medfordtownship.com](mailto:bportocalis@medfordtownship.com)



**UTILITIES DIVISION REMINDER FOR RESIDENTS CONNECTED TO THE SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM**

Township officials in the Utilities Division are advising residents who have sanitary sewer service to watch what is being flushed down the drain. Advertised “flushable wipes” aren’t so flushable. Staff have responded to a number of sewer backups caused by personal care and cleaning wipes, and the Township is urging residents not to flush these wipes down their toilets.

The wipes can catch on small pieces of the sewer pipe and lead to big problems. If it’s not the small piece of the pipe it could be a root or something similar inside or some other foreign matter that starts a build-up. The first wipe catches and then the second wipe and pretty soon as they gather it becomes a large ball of wipes. The inevitable is that the entire pipe becomes plugged with a ball of wipes.

It can cost thousands of dollars per incident to get sewers unclogged, and it’s being paid for by your water and sewer bill revenue. This repetitive type of incident could potentially restrict the Utilities Division’s ability to invest in new sewer mains or rehabilitation of other parts of the system that should be replaced or refurbished due to age and wear.

Wipes aren't the only item that crews have had to pull out of sewer lines. Diapers, feminine hygiene products and even clothing items have been found to clog sewer lines.

As a reminder to all residents, only toilet paper and human waste should be flushed. Wipes, diapers, etc. should always be properly disposed of in a trash can.



**DOOR TO DOOR SOLICITATIONS**

Any door to door solicitors in Medford Township are required to register with the Police Department and submit to a background check. (Religious, political or surveys (utilities) may not require permits.) Those that are approved by the Police Department are required to carry a copy of the permit with them and display upon request of a resident. The Police Department conducts a background check on each person and each person soliciting must have their own permit.



If someone comes to your door soliciting, the resident can request to see the permit. If the solicitor does not produce a permit or if you are not sure or comfortable that the person is a permitted solicitor, you should call the Police. An officer will come out and verify the person’s status. The Police ask that you call as soon as possible so they can locate the solicitor(s) and address any issues. The Township has a Ordinance that regulates Soliciting & Peddling, and the Police will take the appropriate enforcement action based on the circumstances.

Residents with concerns should call the non-emergency number for Police dispatch, 609-267-8300 or in an emergency call 9-1-1.

**MORE UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS & ACTIVITIES**

**Spring Arts & Craft Fair:** Saturday, May 6, 2023 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Medford Village (Gazebo) Park and Medford Arts Center, 8 North Main Street. Rain or shine. The fair has been expanded to include nearly 50 local artists and craftsmen, artist demonstrations and more! For more information or to become a vendor, visit: [www.medfordarts.com/2023-spring-art--craft-fair](http://www.medfordarts.com/2023-spring-art--craft-fair). This event is sponsored by the Medford Arts Center. 609-654-6033. [www.MedfordArts.com](http://www.MedfordArts.com)

**Ask the Master Gardeners-** Tuesday, April 25th, 2-4pm. Do you have a lawn or garden question? Come to the Pinelands Library on April 25th from 2-4pm (49 Union Street) and ask the Rutgers Master Gardeners of Burlington County! If possible, bring a sample or take pictures of the issue. Please place all samples in a sealable plastic bag or container. Please note some questions may not be able to be answered at the time of your visit. They may require further research by the Rutgers Cooperative Extension of the Burlington County Office staff.

**Red Cross Blood Drive** - Thursday, April 27th, 1:30-6:30pm - The Pinelands Library is partnering with the American Red Cross to host a blood drive on Thursday, April 27th from 1:30-6:30pm. It only takes 15 minutes to save up to three lives. Appointments can be scheduled on the Red Cross website at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) . Sponsor code is “Medford Community”.

**Spring 2023 Pathways to Learning**— Medford Leas offers a wide variety of programs and discussions free to area senior citizens. For a copy of their Spring 2023 Guide, please visit: <https://medfordleas.org/pathways-to-learning-at-home/>



# RESPECT YOUR PARK DAY

April 29th from 9am-1pm



**RAIN DATE: May 13**  
**Volunteers are needed for our Spring park clean-up!**



**What we do:** pick up litter, trim trails, fill holes, make repairs, etc.  
**What to bring:** gloves, pruning shears, a shovel or rake  
**Where to meet:** The bulletin board in Blue Squirrel Field

**SPONSORED BY THE FREEDOM BARKS DOG PARK VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE** — a non-profit dedicated to assisting the Township with improvements and maintenance at the Duke's Dog Run off leash areas of Freedom Park.

Visit [www.freedombarks.com](http://www.freedombarks.com) or their official Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/FreedomBarksDogPark> for more information about Freedom Barks and their initiatives.

More info. on the Dog Park can be found on the Twp. website here: <https://www.medfordtownship.com/content/275/349.aspx>

**National Dog Park Day is May 6th.**  
Did you know that the Freedom Park Dog Park is one of the Top Ten amazing Dog Parks in the United States according to USA Today?!?! (<http://www.usatoday.com/story/travel/destinations/10greatplaces/2015/03/27/dog-parks/70481392/>)

The Freedom Barks Dog Park Committee has also launched an online visitor survey open thru May 6th: <https://form.jotform.com/230244505735047>

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### POLICE OFFICER

The Medford Township Police Department is currently accepting applications for the position of Police Officer. The Police Department currently employs 36 full-time officers. The Department is accredited by the New Jersey State Associations of Chiefs of Police. Applicants should be energetic, willing to learn and take great pride in the community that they serve. Interested persons should complete the Department Law Enforcement Diversity Applicant Entry below by April 12th, 2023. The Police Department is accepting applications from:

- Persons with no prior police training or experience.
- Persons possessing a valid Police Officer certification from the New Jersey Police Training Commission or currently enrolled in a N.J. P.T.C. certified police academy.
- Persons possessing Police SLEO II waiver eligible certifications will be considered.

Additional information on recruitment can be found by visiting [www.medford-police.org](http://www.medford-police.org). EOE

### HELPER—PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION OF BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Medford Township is seeking applicants for the full-time position of Helper in the Public Works Department. Applicants must possess a high school diploma or equivalent and be a minimum of 18 years old. Applicants should have mechanical ability and have some experience in building maintenance and the use of power equipment. Applicants with HVAC experience preferred, but not required. Duties include light building maintenance, various custodial duties, park and playgrounds maintenance, snow removal duties, etc. Applicants should be able to lift a minimum of 50 pounds, be in good physical health, and submit to a thorough background check and drug screening prior to employment. Position includes comprehensive benefit package including paid holidays, sick time, and vacation time. Applications/resumes due by April 21, 2023. EOE

### EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS (Part-time)

The Medford Township Department of Fire & EMS is currently accepting resumes for Part-Time Emergency Medical Technicians. Applicants must hold current NJ EMT-B, current CPR Certification, a valid NJ driver's license & be physically capable of performing all duties involving emergency medical services. Interested applicants will complete an oral interview, criminal background check, and a physical agility test. Send resume to Township of Medford, Personnel, Attn: Chief Robert Dovi, 1 Firehouse Lane, Medford, NJ 08055. EOE

For more info and an Application Form, visit: <https://www.medfordtownship.com/JobOpportunities>



**Town Hall Address:**  
**49 Union Street, Medford, NJ 08055-2432**  
**Phone: (609) 654-2608 // Fax: (609) 953-4087**  
**Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

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