



JULY 2023



“WHAT’S UP IN MEDFORD”

Above Photo—Rancocas Creek in Medford Park.

***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

JULY 2023 EVENTS

Annual Independence Day Celebration & Fireworks Display—

Monday, July 3rd in Freedom Park starting at 6:00 pm. Includes live music, 20 delicious food trucks & vendors, and a Kids Activity Zone. Sponsored by the Medford Celebrates Foundation & Medford Township. www.MedfordNJCelebrates.org (Raindate is Friday, July 7th)

Medford First Friday & Art Walk along Main Street. Friday, July 7th from 5:00-9:00 pm. Sponsored by the Main Street Merchants & the Medford Arts Center. www.MedfordMainStreet.com

3rd Thursday Food Trucks on Main Street — July 20th from 5:00-9:00 pm along Main Street. Click [here](#) or check the Twp. website for a list of participating trucks and their menus. Food trucks are located throughout the Village on Main Street from 45 South Main Street to 57 North Main Street. Trucks are not in the same place each event, so stroll the street to see what varieties of food can be found at the various trucks along 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 multiple crosswalks are available. *Parking is plentiful & easy! *Port-a-potties for your needs!

Tours of Kirby’s Mill - offered every Sunday afternoon from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm by the Medford Historical Society. www.MedfordHistory.org.

AUGUST 2023 EVENT

National Night Out: Tuesday, August 1, 2023 from 6:00—9:00 pm in Freedom Park, 86 Union Street. Event sponsored by the Medford Township Police Department. Visit www.MedfordPolice.org or their official Facebook page for more info.

Independence Day Holiday // Trash & Recycling Schedule

Township Offices will be closed on Tuesday, July 4, 2023 in observance of the Independence Day holiday. The Township Garage/DPW Yard on Commonwealth Drive will also be closed.

Trash collection will be delayed by one day for the holiday. Monday’s collection will be as scheduled. Tuesday’s collection will be Wednesday, Wednesday’s collection will be Thursday, Thursday’s collection will be Friday and Friday’s collection will be Saturday.

Pre-scheduled bulk trash pick-ups will be on Wednesday, July 5th. All recycling will also be collected by the County on July 5th.



MEDFORD WILL BEGIN A NEW BRUSH COLLECTION PROGRAM STARTING IN JULY

Township officials just announced that Brush will now be collected on a monthly basis, starting on July 1st. This trial program will run for six months through December, 2023.

The collection program will follow the monthly schedule below:

July, 2023:

- Week of 7/3 – Zones 1 and 2 will be collected
- Week of 7/10 – Zone 3 will be collected
- Week of 7/17 – Zone 4 will be collected
- Week of 7/24 – Zone 5 will be collected
- Week of 7/31 – crews will complete any areas that may have been delayed

August, 2023:

- Week of 8/7 – Zones 1 and 2 will be collected
- Week of 8/14 – Zone 3 will be collected
- Week of 8/21 – Zone 4 will be collected
- Week of 8/28 – Zone 5 will be collected

September, 2023:

- Week of 9/4 – Zones 1 and 2 will be collected
- Week of 9/11 – Zone 3 will be collected
- Week of 9/18 – Zone 4 will be collected
- Week of 9/25 – Zone 5 will be collected

October, 2023:

- Week of 10/2– Zones 1 and 2 will be collected
- Week of 10/9 – Zone 3 will be collected
- Week of 10/16 – Zone 4 will be collected
- Week of 10/23 – Zone 5 will be collected
- Week of 10/30 – crews will complete any areas that may have been delayed

November, 2023:

- Week of 11/6 – Zones 1 and 2 will be collected
- Week of 11/13 – Zone 3 will be collected
- Week of 11/20 – Zone 4 will be collected
- Week of 11/27 – Zone 5 will be collected

December, 2023:

- Week of 12/4 – Zones 1 and 2 will be collected
- Week of 12/11 – Zone 3 will be collected
- Week of 12/18 – Zone 4 will be collected
- Week of 12/25 – Zone 5 will be collected

January, 2024:

No collections will be made in January as the program will be evaluated for continued implementation

Requirements for brush collection will remain the same. All brush must be placed at the street no earlier than ten (10) days before a scheduled collection. In the fall months, brush and leaves must be separated. Brush must be at the street by 6 am on the Monday of the scheduled collection week. Each street will be collected once.

For more information, please refer to the Township website here: <https://www.medfordtownship.com/content/233/251/327.aspx>

For a map of the Zones that can be found on the Township website, use this link: [https://www.medfordtownship.com/.../Medford Leaf and...](https://www.medfordtownship.com/.../Medford_Leaf_and...)

Questions about this trial collection program should be directed to the Department of Public Works at 609-654-6791.

We appreciate any feedback on this program as it runs through the next six months.



IMPORTANT UPDATE ON 2023/2024 TAX BILLS

As of June 30th, the Township has not received the final 2023 Tax Rate from Burlington County in order to print and mail the 2023/2024 Tax Bills. If needed, an extended grace period will be provided and this information will be noted on the tax bills.

WATER & SEWER BILLS

As a reminder, 3rd (Third) quarter water and sewer bills are due on July 15th. For your convenience, there is a secure drop-box in the parking lot of Town Hall for check or money order payments (no cash).

CHANGE IN JULY & AUGUST COUNCIL MEETING DATES

The first Council meeting in July, scheduled for Wednesday, July 5th as been cancelled. In addition, the first Council meeting in August, originally scheduled for Wednesday, August 2nd, has also been cancelled.

PLANNING & ZONING OFFICE HOURS ADJUSTED IN JULY

Due to staffing limitations, the Planning and Zoning Office will be closed to the public on Fridays in July (July 7th, 14th, 21st, & 28th). We apologize for any inconveniences. Inquiries may be sent via email to abell@medfordtownship.com and will be answered as soon as possible.



Fireworks Safety tips shared by the Medford Police Department and the Medford Fire & EMS Department. Please use caution especially when the Fire threat levels are escalated.



On the 4th of July, Independence Day, Americans celebrate their patriotism with family reunions, picnics and beautiful displays of fireworks nationwide. Unfortunately, every year, this happy celebration turns into tragedy for many Americans due to the unsafe and illegal use of fireworks.

- 1,300 total structural fires;
- 300 vehicle fires; and
- 16,900 outside and other fires.

These fires cause an annual average of three deaths, 40 civilian injuries and an estimated \$43 million in direct property damage.

NEW JERSEY AND FIREWORKS

Under the New Jersey Explosives and Fireworks Act (N.J.S.A. 21:2-1 et seq., as amended by P.L.2017, C.92):

It is unlawful to sell, offer for sale, possess, or use fireworks anywhere in the State without a valid permit. However, recent changes to the law now permit persons 16 years of age or older to lawfully buy, possess and use certain sparkling devices and novelties. These permissible fireworks are limited to hand held or ground based sparklers, snakes, and glow worms; smoke devices; and trick noisemakers, including party poppers, snappers, and drop pops. The sale, possession and use of all other fireworks requires a valid permit.

– **The valid permit** must be issued by any municipality after receiving an application in writing and the posting of a bond, for the display of fireworks, by municipalities, religious, fraternal or civic organizations, fair associations, amusement parks, or other organizations or groups of individuals approved by the municipality;

- The chiefs of the police and fire departments must approve the permit;

— **An identification number** and the specific type of fireworks to be used must be stated on the permit. The permit shall name one person who shall be authorized to purchase, or otherwise order, and receive delivery of any fireworks.

—A person is **guilty of a crime of the fourth degree** if he or she sells, offers or exposes for sale, or possesses with intent to sell, any fireworks, other than sparkling devices and novelties to persons 16 years of age or older.

STATISTICAL INJURIES

The Consumer Product Safety Commission, the federal agency tasked with protecting the public from defective products, in a special study about fireworks found that in the year 2016:

- **68% of all fireworks injuries** were sustained during the 30-day period surrounding the Independence Day holiday;
- **1,100 injuries occurred nationwide due to fireworks**, most often with burns to the hands and head, including to the eyes, face, and ears;
- **31% of the injuries** reported occurred to kids under the age of 15; and
- There were **four reported deaths**.

The majority of fireworks injury reports involve emergency room treatment and release, but the more severe and fatal injuries were associated with the consumer's use of professional-grade and homemade fireworks. In the four reported deaths involving fireworks, the victims were killed when the illegal devices exploded causing severe bodily trauma.

FIRES

Fires are another result of the use of fireworks by inexperienced people. According to the National Fire Protection Association, on Independence Day in a typical year, far more U.S. fires are reported than on any other day, and fireworks account for two out of five of those fires, more than any other causes of fire.

The Association reports that on average each year, fireworks cause an estimated 18,500 reported fires:





THE MEDFORD CELEBRATES FOUNDATION IS SET FOR THE INDEPENDENCE DAY EVENT & FIREWORKS ON JULY 3RD!

The Medford Celebrates Foundation, Inc. is an all-volunteer, non-profit entity, approved for tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code, that raises money to fund **Medford's Independence Day Celebration and Fireworks Display in its entirety**. Their Board of Trustees volunteers also do the work required to produce and stage the show, which is a long-standing Medford tradition.

Starting in 2012, the event has been funded by private contributions, almost entirely from local businesses and the many residents of Medford and neighboring communities who have enjoyed the Medford fireworks show over the years. Be on the lookout for their Trustees at the Fireworks event, who will be collecting donations at the event. Donations via PayPal can be accepted via the Medford Celebrates website: www.medfordnjcelebrates.org.

This year's event will be held on Monday, July 3rd. (Raindate-Friday, July 7th) The celebration will feature 20 food trucks and merchandise vendors, a children's activity area, and live music featuring **Deez2Guyz**. The evening is capped off by an amazing, professional fireworks display at dusk.

Be sure to check out the videos and images on their website (www.medfordnjcelebrates.org) to get the flavor of the event, a listing of all the vendors, and all of the generous sponsors who make this event possible.

The Medford Celebrates Foundation can also use a bit of extra help throughout the year. Please consider volunteering, as they need your time and energy. Their plans are ambitious and, frankly, cannot be carried out by only the MCF Trustees. They need help in securing sponsorships, marketing & publicity, and in planning and executing the event. If you have the time and want to work with your friends and neighbors for a good cause, send an email to medfordnjcelebrates@gmail.com to let them know that you are interested!!

In these ways, you can help keep this Medford tradition alive and assure that Medford Celebrates will be able to stage the Independence Day fireworks in 2024 and beyond!!

*****PLEASE NOTE THAT UNLESS PREVIOUSLY APPROVED, ALL AREAS OF FREEDOM PARK WILL BE CLOSED ON JULY 3rd UNTIL THE START OF THE EVENT AT 6:00 PM TO ALLOW FOR SET-UP.**

THIS INCLUDES THE PAVILIONS, THE PLAYGROUND, & THE DEDICATED DOG PARK AREAS.

ABSOLUTELY NO VEHICLE PARKING WILL BE PERMITTED IN THE MAIN PARKING LOT ON JULY 3rd; AND ANY VEHICLES MAY BE TOWED.

TRAFFIC DETOURS AROUND THE PARK WILL BE IN PLACE STARTING AT 6:00 PM. LIMITED HANDICAPPED PARKING IN THE PARK & AT THE POLICE ADMIN. BLDG.

WHERE TO PARK:
<https://www.medfordtownship.com/content/275/346.aspx>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION!

Medford Independence Day Celebration & Fireworks

July 3rd, 2023

RAIN DATE 7/7
(6pm to 10pm-Fireworks at Dusk)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

- Family Fun • Live Music
- Food • Kid's Zone

FREEDOM PARK
86 UNION STREET • MEDFORD

Admission is FREE

Please consider making a voluntary contribution to our Fireworks Fund. Your support is appreciated!

★ PRESENTING ★

ShopRite of Medford

SPONSORS:

- ★ ARCHER LAW ★ MEDFORD FITNESS
- ★ PADDEN COOPER ★ YALE SCHOOL
- ★ ALENCO FENCE ★ COLUMBIA BANK
- ★ YMCA OF THE PINES ★ RADWELL INTERNATIONAL
- ★ TAUNTON FORGE LIQUORS
- ★ VILLAGE AT TAUNTON FORGE
- ★ MEDFORD BOWLING LANES ★ MEDFORD HARDWARE
- ★ HOMETOWN MAGAZINE ★ MEDFORD FORD
- ★ ACERBO'S AUTO TRIM & LETTERING

ENTERTAINMENT SPONSOR

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VENDER ROW SPONSOR

POLYMER SOLUTIONS INTERNATIONAL

TAILGATE SPONSOR

FIREWORKS PET SAFETY TIPS



Safe Space

Prepare a safe and cozy hiding place in a room or a crate.

Stay Indoors

Leave your pet with a sitter if you're leaving to join the festivities.

Sound Proofing

Close doors and windows to muffle loud sounds and remove visual stimulants.

Classical Music

Use soothing music to cancel out the loud bangs coming from firecrackers.

Calming Meds

Ask your vet for any medication to help ease pet anxiety.

Post-Celebration

Clear your home and the yard from any fireworks debris.



THE VILLAGE AT
TAUNTON FORGE
PRESENTS



8 BANDS
8 DATES

THE SOUNDS OF SUMMER



Thursdays at 7 p.m.

June 29 - August 31

FREE CONCERTS

6/29 | John Byrne Band
7/6 | Jeff LeVine Acoustic
7/13 | David Falcone
7/27 | Josh Holland

8/3 | Lost in Brunswick Band
8/10 | The Flim Flam Band
8/24 | The Classic Rock Band
8/31 | Oliver Dagum

JUNE 29 • JULY 6, 13, ~~20~~, 27 • AUG 3, 10, ~~17~~, 24, 31

Village at Taunton Forge
200 Tuckerton Rd., Medford, NJ

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:
VILLAGEATTAUNTONFORGE.COM
@ SHOPTAUNTONFORGE
VILLAGE AT TAUNTON FORGE





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

CROSSING GUARDS

Substitute positions available. Obtain application from the link below or at Medford Town Hall, 49 Union St., Medford and submit to the Personnel Office. EOE

All employment opportunities and a Job Application Form are posted to the Township Website here: <https://www.medfordtownship.com/JobOpportunities>.

OFF-ROADING IS NO FUN FOR WILDLIFE — submitted by the Medford Green Team

Off-road vehicles such as motorized dirt bikes, all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and quads have been growing in popularity in recent years. This is bad news for wildlife, as well as for Medford residents whose properties abut Township-owned open spaces where these vehicles are often driven illegally.

Unauthorized use of off-road vehicles is strictly prohibited on all Medford-owned properties (see Township Chapter 143 Recreational, Motorsport). Violations are punishable by a minimum fine of \$500 (up to \$1,000) or imprisonment in the county jail for up to 90 days, or both.

While Chapter 143 is in place mainly for public safety and to prevent unwanted noise, a lesser-known consequence is that off-road vehicles have a profoundly negative impact on nature. In a direct way, these machines cause a great deal of physical damage to vegetation and protected habitats. But perhaps a greater detriment is how these noise disturbances influence the behavior and breeding habits of wildlife.

Consider that a typical Harley Davidson motorcycle produces about 80 decibels of sound. By comparison, a standard ATV produces 85-95 decibels and can be significantly louder when custom exhaust modifications are applied. When we hear a noisy motorcycle passing by, the disturbance is generally short-lived. But ATVs and other off-road vehicles riding back and forth repeatedly in natural areas produce a sustained, loud roar that could arguably be considered harassment of wildlife.

In a study led by Nathan Kleist of Colorado State University, researchers found that wild birds exposed to persistent, unnatural noise showed symptoms similar to those exhibited by humans who suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. The researchers also found that these conditions create an “acoustic blanket” that prevents animals such as birds and mammals from detecting predators, thus disrupting the natural order.

Persistent, unnatural noise also results in behavioral changes in nesting birds, studies show. Researchers found that these distressed birds were being forced to choose between staying with their young to protect them from perceived danger and leaving their nests to find food. Smaller body sizes and reduced feather development were observed in the nestlings, decreasing their odds of survival.

Illegal and unregulated off-roading in nature negatively impacts wild animals and their habitats in many other ways. For those interested in learning more, an internet search of “the effects of off-road vehicles on wildlife” will produce numerous articles, reports and studies.

Many of us feel fortunate to call Medford Township our home. For some, the town’s woodlands, open spaces and rural character are its greatest appeal. Let’s pause for a moment to consider the native animals that share this special community with us. Our furred and feathered neighbors bring immeasurable joy and provide a respite from the daily grind in the most densely populated state in the nation. Perhaps we can repay them by giving them the environmental conditions they require in order to be healthy and happy.

If you see or hear off-road vehicles riding illegally in our open spaces, please note their location and call the Police at (609) 267-8300.



CRANBERRY HALL SENIOR CENTER PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Are you familiar with the game of **Mah Jongg**?? The game is played with a set of 144 tiles based on Chinese characters and symbols. In most variations, each player begins by receiving 13 tiles. In turn, players draw and discard tiles until they complete a legal hand using the 14th drawn tile to form four melds (or sets) and a pair (eye). A player can also win with a small class of special hands. While many variations of mahjong exist, most variations have some basic rules in common including how a piece is drawn and discarded, how a piece is robbed from another player, the use of suits (numbered tiles) and honors (winds and dragons), the basic kinds of melds allowed, how to deal the tiles and the order of play. A group of players may introduce their own house rules which can notably change the feel of play.

Mah Jongg is offered weekly on Mondays from 10:00-12:00 noon. Some experience is required

Cranberry Hall is located at 88 Charles Street, behind the Medford Village Car Care Center on North Main Street.

SENIOR CITIZEN PICKLEBALL INSTRUCTION NOW AVAILABLE

There is a new pickleball group at the Medford Senior Center ; and they have scheduled instructional and competitive activities on Tuesday & Thursday mornings from 8:00 am—11:00 am at the new pickleball courts in Freedom Park.

If you've been wondering what the game is and why it is America's fastest growing sport (and so popular among seniors!), here's your opportunity! Fellowship & fun are a large part of the popularity!

Please direct your requests through the Cranberry Hall Senior Center any day of the week or at the pickleball courts on Tuesday & Thursday mornings.



PINELANDS BRANCH LIBRARY JULY HAPPENINGS

Summer Reading June 19 – August 12

Get ready to have fun—it's time for Summer Reading! Join us at the Pinelands Library for programs and events featuring fun activities, arts and crafts, and more! We encourage you to participate in the theme "All Together Now" while reading books, writing book reviews, and completing activities as you earn digital badges on Beanstack, our reading tracker. Summer Reading runs through August 12th, so be sure to visit your local branch to sign up for a library card and get started today!

One-on-One Assistance

Looking for a learning opportunity that works with your schedule? One-on-One Assistance is available at the Pinelands Library. Work with a library staff member for up to an hour to tackle technology skills like computer basics, using the internet, writing a resume and more! Visit <https://bcls-nj.libcal.com/> appointments to set up an appointment today!



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

<https://www.facebook.com/medfordtownship/>

