MESSAGE FROM MAYOR TOM ANDES

Dear Denville Resident:

Over the past three years, much of the Township’s attention and efforts have been focused on rebuilding our community after Hurricane Irene, proactive flood mitigation activities and construction to better prepare ourselves for the next big storm. In addition, the Township has focused on economic recovery and enhancement of our downtown business district.

Specifically, the rebuilding of the Valley View Firehouse, destroyed by Hurricane Irene, was completed and is now occupied and fully operational. The Township has applied to FEMA for reimbursement, which could cover as much as 75% of the $1 million dollars it cost to build the new public safety facility.

The “Denville Park Meadow” was opened in November 2014 on Riverside Drive. The park is located where eleven repetitively flooded homes on Riverside Drive were located until purchased by the Township. No Township funds were used to pay for the acquisitions of the homes, instead the Township utilized grants in the amount of $3.1 million from the County, State and Federal government to purchase and demolish the homes. Additionally for flood mitigation purposes, two state-of-the-art flap valves have been installed on Den Brook drainage pipes which will greatly improve flood protection in the southern part of the Denville Park neighborhood.

Furthermore, the Township received a State grant aimed at dredging the Rockaway River and removing excess sedimentation in certain locations to increase the volume of water the river can hold. The Township also received permission from the State to remove two of the concrete coated Canal peers located in the Rockaway River, which currently exacerbates flooding on Diamond Spring Road and near Saint Clare’s Hospital due to the damming effect they cause when they are clogged with debris during storms.

The Township is continually striving to do whatever is possible, affordable and achievable to protect our community from future flooding as one thing we learned from Hurricane Irene is one inch of water could make all the difference on whether a home is lost.

Denville received a grant for $288,000 from the federal government for Phase #1 of our Downtown Improvement Project. Once the funds are released by the Department of Transportation, Phase #1 of the downtown streetscape improvements will begin. These improvements encompass Broadway, between Diamond Spring Road and First Avenue where new curbs and decorative lighting will be installed. We have applied for additional funding from the Federal government for Phase #2 for the remaining portion of Broadway & Phase #3 for Bloomfield Avenue.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

TOWN HALL HOURS:
Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

COURT WINDOW
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Thursday 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

SOCIAL SERVICES
Tuesday & Thursday 8:30 am - 2:00 pm
Wednesday 1:00pm - 7:00 pm

Please see Page 3 for important information about the Property Tax Revaluation.
As competitive grant opportunities become available, we will apply for grants for First Avenue, Main Street and Diamond Spring Road.

Renovations to the Veteran’s Field facility on Zeek Road will be completed early in 2015. The project, which was funded through our local dedicated Open Space and Recreation Trust Fund, includes enhancement of the dog park, lighting of an existing baseball and softball field and the construction of a new multipurpose rectangular turf field with lights.

We received a Community Block Grant for $68,000 for renovations, including the purchase and installation of a generator for our Senior Citizen Center. Thanks to our DPW, who performed much of the prep work and the Denville Rotary Club for generously donating the major appliances, the Township was able to replace the walls, floors, ceilings and the entire kitchen. The bathrooms were updated a few years ago and our senior citizens now have a virtually brand new building to enjoy.

The Paths and Trails Committee made a presentation to the Council to build a handicapped accessible walkway around the main portion of the Pond at Muriel Hepner Park. The Council allocated $71,000 from our dedicated Open Space and Recreation Trust Fund. The project is expected to be completed by mid-2015.

New parking regulations went into effect in our downtown and our municipal lots have been restriped to define the free long-term parking. A downtown Denville parking map is included in this newsletter, which demonstrates the changes.

The Township earned its NJ Green Sustainability bronze level certification in November 2014. As a Green Sustainable Community, the Township is now eligible for certain grants & in late-December we were notified that we were one of only seven municipalities State-wide successful in our Sustainable Jersey Grant application. The Township was awarded $10,000 to install a public electric car charging station in our downtown. The charging station will be installed in the Church Street parking lot and we hope to have this innovative project on-line in mid-2015.

In January 2014, despite a loss of $22 million in a tax appeal from our largest ratable, the Administration presented a sound budget, to which the Township Council made some adjustments prior to adoption. The budget ensured future long-term stability for the Township while still enabling us to maintain the current high level of municipal services you have come to expect. The budget also provided for many of the previously mentioned projects to be effectively implemented and completed. In 2015, the Township will begin a County-ordered property tax revaluation of all the properties in Denville. Additional information concerning the revaluation is contained in this newsletter.

On behalf of the Town Council and Township staff, I hope you had a joyful holiday season and wish you and your family good health and prosperity throughout the new year.

GARDNER FIELD PLAYGROUND

It has been 18 years since our community came together to raise funds and built the playground at Gardner Field. That playground is near to reaching its life expectancy and therefore it is now time to plan on building a new state-of-the-art playground for the next generation of children.

The Denville Recreation Committee is hosting a public meeting seeking your input on the design and development of a plan to build a new Gardner Field Playground.

PLAYGROUND MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2015
7:00 PM
DENVILLE TOWN HALL
2016 PROPERTY TAX REVALUATION

The Township of Denville has been ordered by the Morris County Board of Taxation to implement a revaluation of all real property. The last revaluation was effective in 2002. Inspections will be done in 2015 and the new assessments will be effective January 1, 2016.

At the time of the inspection, the property owner will be asked to sign the field card which details the particulars of your property, sketch, dimensions, overall condition, bedrooms, bathrooms, finished basement, etc. Please take a minute to review the card prior to signing as any discrepancies can be corrected immediately. The information on the field cards will be entered into the CAMA system (County Assessing System) to determine your 2016 value. Therefore, accuracy of the data on the cards is crucial for a true value to be established.

Prior to finalization of the new values, each property owner will receive a letter stating their 2016 assessment. At this time, each property owner will have the opportunity to make an appointment with a representative of the reval company and receive an explanation (including the comparable sales used) regarding the new assessed value for your property. This will also serve as another opportunity for property owners to review their property record card for accuracy.

Once the 2016 tax list has been accepted by the County (after the review period), by law none of the assessments can be changed, regardless of the reason. The only alternative at that point, if you do not agree with your assessment, would be to file a 2016 tax appeal.

It is likely that everyone’s assessed value will increase. The market has fluctuated dramatically since 2002. Regardless of the ups and downs, virtually every property has appreciated since 2002. However, an increase in assessed value does not mean your taxes will increase. As the total value of the township changes, the tax rate will go down as a result of the revaluation due to the overall increase in the total value of property in the Township.

As an example:
For simplicity sake, let’s say the current ratio of assessed value to real value in Denville is 50% (it’s actually 68%) and the assessment on your property is $50,000 with a tax rate of $3.06/$100 that would equal $1,530 in taxes. After a reval, the new assessment on your property would be $100,000 but the tax rate would drop to at least $1.53/$100 (assuming all homes doubled in value since 2002) and the taxes would be 100,000 x .01530 = $1,530.

As you can see, increasing the value during the reval does not automatically increase your taxes. In fact, some property owners will see the value of their property rise but their taxes actually go down as other properties may have disproportionately increased.

The new values will be effective January 2016; but will not be reflected until the 2016 tax rate has been finalized on or about July 2016. It is important when you receive your new assessment on your property that you not apply the 2014 or 2015 tax rate to estimate your new taxes. The calculation will be meaningless as the municipal tax rate will drop in 2016.

**Property Tax Deductions**

**Contact the Tax Assessor for applications**

**Veterans/Surviving Spouses of Veterans** - An individual’s service must have been during time of war or qualified peacekeeping missions (Peacekeeping Missions require service in the specified zones to qualify). The Property Tax Deduction is $250.00/yr.

**Senior Citizen Deduction** – To qualify an individual must be 65 years of age and combined spousal income cannot exceed $10,000/yr (Social Security or Government Pension excluded from income limits). The Property Tax Deduction is $250/yr.

(Not: If Government pension is excluded from the income limits listed above, then all of the Social Security income shall apply towards the $10,000 limit.)

**Disabled Property Tax Deduction** – Property Owner must be 100% totally & permanently disabled as declared by medical/social security documentation. Income requirements same as Senior Citizen deduction. There are no minimum age requirements. The Property Tax Deduction is $250/yr.
2015 Curbside Pickup of Leaves and Brush

Monthly Brush and Leaves Pickup is in effect April through September by voting ward in accordance with the schedule below. From October 19 through December 24 brush pickup is suspended and only leaves are picked up.

Brush and Leaves Schedule April through September in the week beginning on the:
- 1st Monday of the month  Ward 1  2nd Monday of the month  Ward 2
- 3rd Monday of the month  Ward 3  4th Monday of the month  Ward 4

Brush must be tied in manageable bundles no more than 6 feet in length and placed curbside. Branches may be no greater than 6 inches in diameter. Leaves must be in biodegradable paper bags (Denville Ordinance # 21-06) or rigid containers (garbage cans or cardboard boxes). Biodegradable paper leaf bags will be picked up with the leaves. There is no curbside pickup of grass. Grass may be brought to our recycling center.

Leaves Only Schedule November 2 through December 24
- Ward 1 - Weeks of November 2, December 7
- Ward 2 - Weeks of November 9, December 14
- Ward 3 - Weeks of November 16, December 21
- Ward 4 - Weeks of November 23, December 28

Both pickup programs require placement at the curb no later than 7 AM on Monday of the scheduled week. Each street is picked up only once sometime between Monday and Friday of the scheduled week. The day of the week is governed by volume encountered each day.

Christmas Trees

Christmas trees will be picked up starting in early January and continue until mid-February. The schedule may be modified as a result of inclement weather. Christmas trees may also be dropped off at the recycling center. Please do not place the Christmas tree in a bag.

Wood Chips and Compost Available to Residents

The Ultimate Recyclable - Leaves, brush and grass are transported to the Morris County Municipal Utility Authority processing facility. Your fall leaves, brush and grass are converted into woodchips, mulch and compost. Beginning in April each year, the woodchips, mulch and compost are available for pickup at the DPW yard. These products are free to local residents although all products may not be available at all times.

Snow Removal

It is the mission of the Department of Public Works to clear Denville’s roads of snow and ice as quickly as possible. We have a dedicated workforce and maintain the appropriate equipment. Depending on the severity and composition of a storm, there may be delays in clearing some roads. Our initial objective is to open all roads beginning with our primary arteries and proceeding to our secondary and tertiary roads. Once all roads are open, the Township begins the process of widening the cleared roads to their full width and clearing intersections. It is during this process that we are likely to plow snow back across the driveway you just cleared. Please understand that we have no alternative. We need your cooperation to ensure the roads are rapidly returned to a safe condition. Please observe the following regulations:

Denville Township Municipal Code §3-4.3 “All persons are PROHIBITED from shoveling, throwing, casting, placing, plowing, or depositing snow and ice, which accumulates on private property, upon sidewalks or streets of the Township.

“Sidewalks must be cleared by the property owner within 12 hours from the end of snow fall.”

Denville Township Municipal Code §7-3.8 prohibits parking on streets that are snow covered until the “roads have been plowed sufficiently and to the extent parking will not interfere with normal traffic flow.”
Effective December 1, 2014, Gaeta Recycling, Inc. replaced Waste Management as the Township of Denville’s Residential Garbage Collector. Garbage collection shall continue to be performed twice weekly and there shall be no adjustments to the daily schedule.

As required by State law, the Township prepared specifications, advertised & publicly accepted bids. The low bidder for a 5-year renewal contract was Gaeta Recycling, with headquarters in Paterson, New Jersey, with a rate of $69.85 per ton. As part of the bid process, the Township also examined adding weekly single-stream recycling collection. However, the rate proposed for weekly recycling collection of $122.50 per ton, nearly 57% higher than the solid waste collection rate proved inefficient. Therefore, recycling will remain unchanged with the Morris County MUA performing every other week collection services.

Gaeta Recycling has been in continuous operation for more than 80 years. Based upon the recommendations the Township of Denville received from other clients and our experience during their first month in Denville, we are confident Gaeta will provide exceptional service to the Township and its residents for the next five (5) years.

Residents are advised to have their garbage placed curbside at 6:00 A.M. or earlier on their scheduled collection day. In the event you experience a missed pick-up as Gaeta continues to fine-tune their routes in Denville, please contact Kathy Ward, Utility Manager at (973) 625-8300 ext. 274 so that she may contract Gaeta Recycling and notify them of the missed street.

Garbage Collection
Trash collection is scheduled twice weekly as follows:
- North of US Highway 46: Tuesday and Friday
- South of US Highway 46: Monday and Thursday

Collection begins at 6:00AM and residents should place cans at curbside the morning of pickup. Placing cans out the night before is permitted only after 5:00PM. However, please be mindful that Denville is home to raccoons and bears as well as domesticated dogs that are likely to pilfer through garbage if it is left outside overnight. Cleanup of garbage spilled by animals is the responsibility of the homeowner. Cans must be removed from the street by evening of the same day. Each household is permitted two 30 gallon cans (with lids) and one bulky item per pickup. Construction material must fit inside the cans.

There will be no trash pick up and the recycling center will be closed on New Year’s Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. If your collection is scheduled for these days, it will be done the next day (i.e - Monday on Tuesday, Thursday on Friday).

There are occasions when inclement weather or equipment breakdown may prohibit completion of a route. Any questions regarding pickup schedules should be directed to 973-625-8300.

Metal Items
Denville provides curbside pickup of large metal items (Air conditioners, dehumidifiers, freezers, microwaves, refrigerators, etc.) by appointment only, every Wednesday. Please phone 973-625-8334 no later than 11:00 am Tuesday to schedule a pick-up.

DPW & RECYCLING CENTER
HOURS:
Monday - Friday 7:00 am - 2:30 pm
Saturday 8:00 am - 2:00 pm
Sunday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
ANIMAL LICENSING

All dogs and cats residing/being harbored in Denville Township must be licensed by 7 months of age or at the time they possess permanent teeth. If your dog is licensed from another New Jersey municipality, you do not need to obtain a license from Denville Township until the current license expires. Dogs licensed in other States are required to be licensed in Denville within 90 days of moving into the Township.

**All unlicensed dogs and cats must be licensed within 10 days of moving into the Township.**

**To obtain a dog or cat license:**

You must fully and legibly complete and sign the dog or cat license application. The application is available online at the Denville Health Department page of the Township website (www.denvillenj.org) or you can pick one up in the Health Department office Monday through Friday, 8:00 am - 4:00pm.

You must include the required fee made payable to the “Denville Division of Health”. The fees for dog and cat licenses are as follows:

- Neutered Dog or Cat $15 per animal
- Unneutered Dog or Cat $18 per animal


**Rabies Exposure from Bats**

In recent years, bats have been the primary source of human rabies infections in the United States. Rabies, if left untreated, is fatal. By following a few simple steps, you can protect yourself, your family and your pets from infection.

If you observe a bat in your home or if you or your pet had any physical contact with a bat, immediately leave the area where the exposure occurred and attempt to confine the bat by closing all windows and doors. Immediately notify the Animal Control Officer/Police Department as soon as possible so they may safely capture the bat and determine if testing for rabies is necessary. Do not release the bat to the outdoors or damage its head in any way as this may inhibit animal controls’ ability to test the bat for rabies. Also, please report the exposure to the local Health Department on the next business day.
CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT

For information on many construction projects please visit our website denvillenj.org and go to the construction/zoning department. There are brochures and information that you can download to help with your permit application. All forms are also available on our website under the form/document center.

Generators – All generators (whether permanent or temporary) require the proper permits. For your safety it is important the generator be properly and safely installed according to the applicable code. For more detailed information on generators, please visit the Construction Department page on the Township website.

Old Permits or No Permits – It is important that all permits be closed out in a timely manner. This has become more important in the last several years as more and more prospective home buyers are looking for documentation that permits have been issued and properly inspected before the sale of the house can proceed. Open permits or the lack of permits has resulted in problems for the seller (including penalties) and can delay the “closing” until the permit issues are rectified. Therefore, obtaining permits and ensuring the permits are closed out after the final inspection can save property owners a lot of time, money and future aggravation.

Pools – Winter is a great time to start the process of getting a pool permit for next summer. If you wait until you’re ready to swim, you may be disappointed since Spring and Summer are the busiest time of the year for the Construction Department. Depending upon the nature of your pool permit application, we may not be able to issue your permit in time for you to enjoy the full swim season. So please plan ahead. Please be aware that inflatable temporary pools (capable of holding 24" or more of water or are 250 sq. ft. or larger) also fall under the same restrictions as an above ground or in-ground pool.

Decks – Decks are required to receive zoning approval first (with permissible location based upon your property boundary survey) and then the plans are required to be reviewed by the Construction Department. As the summer gets closer, the Construction Department gets busier and you may not be able to have your deck in time for your summer party, so please plan ahead.

Smoke Detector Inspections for Home Sales – All house sales must obtain a certificate of approval for smoke detectors, carbon monoxide and fire extinguishers before a property may transfer ownership. As the Fire Inspection Bureau is a part-time division, inspection costs are lower if you or your realtor schedule the inspection at least 10 business days in advance. To schedule an inspection or for more information call Joe Giordano at 973-625-8300 ext. 257.

WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU.

If you are contemplating a project and have questions or concerns, please feel free to visit the Construction Office, business days, between 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM, during such time the Construction Official and Zoning Officer are available to assist you. The staff can also help with any questions you may have regarding the permit process. We will be happy to try and make your project proceed as smoothly as possible.
2015 Recycling Schedule
Denville Township
Every Other Wednesday

January
7 Wednesday-Recycling
21 Wednesday-Recycling

February
4 Wednesday-Recycling
18 Wednesday-Recycling

March
16 Wednesday-Recycling
30 Wednesday-Recycling

April
1 Wednesday-Recycling
15 Wednesday-Recycling

May
13 Wednesday-Recycling
27 Wednesday-Recycling

June
10 Wednesday-Recycling

July
8 Wednesday-Recycling
22 Wednesday-Recycling

August
5 Wednesday-Recycling
19 Wednesday-Recycling

September
2 Wednesday-Recycling
16 Wednesday-Recycling

October
14 Wednesday-Recycling
28 Wednesday-Recycling

November
11 Wednesday-Recycling
25 Wednesday-Recycling

December
9 Wednesday-Recycling
23 Wednesday-Recycling
1) WHEN: Saturday, May 30, 2015
WHERE: Morris County Public Safety Training Academy
500 West Hanover Ave, Parsippany NJ 07054

2) WHEN: Saturday, September 12, 2015
WHERE: Morris County Public Safety Training Academy
500 West Hanover Ave, Parsippany NJ 07054

3) WHEN: Sunday, October 18, 2015
WHERE: Jefferson Township D.P.W.
1033 Weldon Rd, Lake Hopatcong, NJ 07849

TIME: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Rain or Shine

1. **ACCEPTABLE MATERIALS**
   - **E-Waste**: Computers, Monitors, Televisions, Printers, Scanners, Phones, Fax Machines, Stereos, Peripherals (e.g., mice, drives, keyboards, etc.)
   - **Pesticides, Herbicides and Fertilizers**
   - **Oil-based Paints, Stains, Lacquers and Varnishes**
   - **Paint Thinners, Removers and Solvents**
   - **Automotive Fluids**
     - Antifreeze
     - Motor Oil
     - Transmission, Steering and Brake Fluids
   - **Gasoline, Kerosene, Diesel Fuel**
   - **Batteries**
     - Automotive, Motorcycle and Boat
   - **Button Cell, Lithium and Rechargeable**
   - **Pool Chemicals**
   - **Darkroom Chemicals**
   - **Aerosol Cans** (not empty)
   - **Propane and Helium Cylinders** (BBQ-sized or smaller)
   - **Small Quantities of Asbestos** (up to 100 lbs., wetted, double bagged and sealed with duct tape; no siding)
   - **Driveway Sealant and Roofing Tar**
   - **Fluorescent, HID Lamps and PCB-Ballasts**
   - **Mercury-containing Devices** (e.g., thermometers, thermostats, mercury switches, manometers)
   - **Household Cleaning Products**
   - **Muriatic Acid**

2. **UNACCEPTABLE MATERIALS**
   - **Drums of Any Material**: Large quantities of waste must be transferred to 5-gallon pails prior to delivery.
   - **Latex Products**: These are non-hazardous, water-based paints that should be dried out and disposed of in the garbage. To dry out, remove lid and add an absorbent material, such as cat litter or clay speedy dry, to speed the drying process. Once the material is hard and not in liquid form, throw the can into the garbage with the lid off.
   - **Grout, Spackle, and Joint Compound**: Dispose in garbage.
   - **Empty Containers**: Once a material has been used up, put the empty container into the garbage.
   - **Highly Reactive or Unstable Materials**: Items such as benzoyl peroxide, gunpowder, chlorine (wet or gaseous), dioxane, any of the “ethers,” ethyl nitrate, any of the “nitro” compounds, phosphorous, picric acid, potassium perchlorate, pyridine, potassium and/or sodium metals, uranium/uranyl compounds, old chemistry sets, etc., call (973) 829-8006 for approval prior to transporting any of these materials.
   - **Unknown Materials**: If unlabeled or unidentifiable, please call (973) 829-8006 for authorization to bring the material to the MCMUA HHW Disposal Program.
   - **Business Waste**: These events are specifically for Morris County residential HHW. Business waste may be accepted at the MCMUA Permanent HHW Facility. Please call (973) 829-8006 for more information.
   - **Smoke Detectors**: Return to manufacturer listed on back.
   - **Medical Waste**: Call the MCMUA at (973) 829-8006 for more information.
   - **Tires**: Check with your town or call the MCMUA at (973) 829-8585.
   - **Alkaline & Carbon Zinc Batteries**: These are non-hazardous and should be disposed of in the garbage.

QUESTIONS?
Call (973) 829-8006
www.MCMUA.com
A Guide to Healthy Habits for Cleaner Water

Pollution on streets, parking lots and lawns is washed by rain into storm drains, then directly to our drinking water supplies and the ocean and lakes our children play in. Fertilizer, oil, pesticides, detergents, pet waste, grass clippings: You name it and it ends up in our water.

Stormwater pollution is one of New Jersey’s greatest threats to clean and plentiful water, and that’s why we’re all doing something about it.

By sharing the responsibility and making small, easy changes in our daily lives, we can keep common pollutants out of stormwater. It all adds up to cleaner water, and it saves the high cost of cleaning up once it’s dirty.

As part of New Jersey’s initiative to keep our water clean and plentiful and to meet federal requirements, many municipalities and other public agencies including colleges and military bases must adopt ordinances or other rules prohibiting various activities that contribute to stormwater pollution. Breaking these rules can result in fines or other penalties.

Solutions to Stormwater Pollution

Easy Things You Can Do Every Day To Protect Our Water

As a resident, business, or other member of the New Jersey community, it is important to know these easy things you can do every day to protect our water.

Limit your use of fertilizers and pesticides

- Do a soil test to see if you need a fertilizer.
- Do not apply fertilizers if heavy rain is predicted.
- Look into alternatives for pesticides.
- Maintain a small lawn and keep the rest of your property or yard in a natural state with trees and other native vegetation that requires little or no fertilizer.
- If you use fertilizers and pesticides, follow the instructions on the label on how to correctly apply it.

Make sure you properly store or discard any unused portions.

Properly use and dispose of hazardous products

- Hazardous products include some household or commercial cleaning products, lawn and garden care products, motor oil, antifreeze, and paints.
- Do not pour any hazardous products down a storm drain because storm drains are usually connected to local waterbodies and the water is not treated.
If you have hazardous products in your home or workplace, make sure you store or dispose of them properly. Read the label for guidance.

- Use natural or less toxic alternatives when possible.
- Recycle used motor oil.
- Contact your municipality, county or facility management office for the locations of hazardous-waste disposal facilities.

Clean up after your pet

- Many municipalities and public agencies must enact and enforce local pet-waste rules.
- An example is requiring pet owners or their keepers to pick up and properly dispose of pet waste dropped on public or other people’s property.
- Make sure you know your town’s or agency’s requirements and comply with them. It’s the law.
- Use newspaper, bags or pooper-scoopers to pick up wastes.
- Dispose of the wrapped pet waste in the trash or unwrapped in a toilet.
- Never discard pet waste in a storm drain.

Don’t litter

- Place litter in trash receptacles.
- Participate in community cleanups.

Don’t feed wildlife

- Do not feed wildlife, such as ducks and geese, in public areas.
- Many municipalities and other public agencies must enact and enforce a rule that prohibits wildlife feeding in these areas.

Dispose of yard waste properly

- Keep leaves and grass out of storm drains.
- If your municipality or agency has yard waste collection rules, follow them.
- Use leaves and grass clippings as a resource for compost.
- Use a mulching mower that recycles grass clippings into the lawn.

Keep pollution out of storm drains

- Municipalities and many other public agencies are required to mark certain storm drain inlets with messages reminding people that storm drains are connected to local waterbodies.
- Do not let sewage or other wastes flow into a stormwater system.

Contact information

For more information on stormwater related topics, visit www.njstormwater.org or www.nonpointsource.org

Additional information is also available at U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Web sites www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater or www.epa.gov/nps

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Division of Water Quality Bureau of Nonpoint Pollution Control Municipal Stormwater Pollution Control Program (609) 633-7021

April 2004
Community Outreach Flood Protection Information

Local Flood Hazards
Are You Protected?

Flooding is the number one natural disaster in the United States, causing the most property damage and killing the most people. That’s why the Township of Denville works all year long to protect you, your family, and your neighborhood from the devastating effects of flooding. With the Rockaway River, Den Brook and Meadow Brook along with many private lakes and detention basins, the Township works to constantly improve flood protection for our residents and businesses. While major milestones have been achieved, the risk of flooding will never be completely eliminated. Just because your property has not flooded in the past, does not mean it will not flood in the future. Mother Nature is difficult to predict. The best protection is being prepared. This newsletter will offer some helpful tips on how to protect yourself, your property and your belongings from floods.

What is Your Flood Risk?
Check It Out!

Visit our website at: http://www.denvillenj.org You can also contact the Township Engineer’s Office directly to find out if your property is in a regulated floodplain or inquire with a licensed surveyor to obtain an elevation certificate.

How to Protect Yourself?
Flood Safety Checklist

- For evacuation, designated shelters, sandbag locations and other important emergency information visit our website at: www.denvillenj.org and denvillepolice.org. Subscribe to Nixle.com for text message emergency alerts and notices by texting 07834 to 777-888.
- Never walk or drive through flooded areas; more people die in their vehicles during a flood than anywhere else.
- Stay away from power and electrical lines; electrocution is the second most-frequent cause of death during flooding.
- Look where you are walking. Watch out for animals, especially snakes.
- Prepare an emergency kit that includes a flashlight, battery-operated radio, extra batteries, candles, matches, first-aid kit, medication, blankets, water and food. Visit www.ready.gov or www.redcross.org.
- Keep important documents and priceless possessions on an upper level or highest point in your home.
- Prepare an Evacuation Plan and make a list of items to take with you and also have a plan for your pets.
- Know how to shut off your gas and electricity if instructed to do so. Contact your local utility company for detailed instructions.
- Pick a safe place on high ground where your family can meet and have a telephone call-in number in case you are separated.

Buy Flood Insurance
Protect Yourself

- Did you know that if you live in a floodplain, there is at least a 1 in 4 chance of flooding over the life of a 30 year mortgage?
- 25% of all flood claims arise outside of floodplains in low to moderate risk flood zones.
- Most standard homeowner and business owner insurance policies do not cover flood damage.
Flood insurance is available in the Township of Denville to building owners and renters through the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

Don’t wait to buy coverage. Typically, there is a 30 day waiting period for voluntarily purchased flood policies to be effective.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coverage</th>
<th>Residential</th>
<th>Commercial</th>
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<tr>
<td>Contents</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
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The Township of Denville has earned a Class 9 in the NFIP’s Community Rating System. This means that owners of properties in the floodplain can get a 5% reduction on their flood insurance premiums. Ask your insurance agent about the Community Rating System (“CRS”).

For more information on purchasing flood insurance see your local insurance agent or visit: www.floodsmart.gov (1-888-435-6637).

**Property Protection**

*Measures You Can Take*

There are many ways you can protect your home, garage or other property from the types of flood damage experienced in your community. Different techniques are appropriate for different types of buildings.

- If your building is on a crawlspace, look into barriers, wet flood-proofing and elevation.
- If your building is on a slab foundation, check out barriers, dry flood-proofing and elevation.
- If you have a basement, split level, or other floor below ground level, learn about barriers, wet flood-proofing and basement protection.
- Elevate or relocate electrical panel boxes, furnaces, water heaters, and appliances to areas less likely to flood.
- You can find more about these property protection measures at the following website: www.denvillenj.org/engineering.
- Protect your valuables by moving them to a second story or higher ground.
- Important documents and irreplaceable objects should be placed where they will not get damaged.


**What are the Natural and Beneficial Uses of Floodplains?**

Floodplains and wetlands provide recreational value along with habitats for fish, wildlife and plants. They also provide ground water recharge and water quality maintenance by acting as natural filters for storm water runoff. Floodplains and wetlands form a complex, dynamic, physical and biological system that support a variety of natural resources and societal functions.

Floodplains should be viewed in their natural context. They are more than just hazardous locations for human development. Plants growing in wetlands filter storm water runoff and make the water cleaner for those living downstream. Local open space, such as Muriel Hepner Park, with its preserved woodlands and wetlands also serve the function of filtering storm water runoff. Furthermore, these wetland areas are used by a variety of wildlife and provide habitats for various species.

Federal, State and local regulations serve to protect and preserve such natural areas and wetlands. While some development is permissible, any wetlands filled as part of development are required to be compensated for by creation of additional or improved wetland habitats nearby.

The storm drain system carries untreated storm water runoff directly to our streams. Pouring wastes into storm drains directly impacts our environment. Oil, anti-freeze, paint, fertilizer and pesticides pollute the
water, destroy plants, and endanger wildlife. For example, one quart of oil can contaminate 250,000 gallons of water. The oil from one motor oil change can create an eight acre oil slick. Therefore, you should do your part to help keep our streams and storm drains free of pollutants. Storm drain inlets that lead to local rivers and streams are embossed with a reminder.

**Floodplain Permits Required**

Any development (not just building construction) in the floodplain requires a permit. This permit needs to include details of grading, cut and fill, installation of riprap and other bank stabilization details. Always check with the Engineering and/or Construction Department to see if a permit is required before you build on, fill, alter or re-grade your property.

To minimize damage to structures during flood events, the Township requires all new construction in the floodplain to be protected from flood damage. Development projects in the floodway must be reviewed to ensure that they do not divert water or serve to exacerbate local flooding.

For more information and prior to undertaking any activity in the floodplain, contact the Engineering Department. If you see any development in the floodplain and a permit sign is not posted in plain view, contact the Engineering Department or http://www.denvillenj.org

**What Happens if my Home or Building is Damaged or Substantially Improved?**

Substantially damaged or improved buildings must meet the same floodplain management construction requirements as new buildings. The Township defines substantial improvement as any reconstruction, rehabilitation, or addition to an existing structure, the cost of which exceeds 50% of the structure’s market value prior to the improvement. Substantial damage is defined as damage of any origin sustained by a building whereby the cost of restoring the building to its before-damaged condition would equal or exceed 50% of the market value of the building before the damage occurred.

A building that is substantially damaged or substantially improved must meet the same construction standards as a new building in the floodplain and protected from flooding. In the case of an addition, only the addition must meet floodplain management construction requirements. In the case of an improvement to the original building, the entire building must meet these requirements.

For example, if a house in the floodplain is flooded, has a fire or is otherwise damaged so that the cost of repairs is more than 50% of the value of the building before the damage, then the house must be elevated above the base flood level in accordance with State and local regulations.

**Importance of Storm Drain Maintenance**

*The Water Could End Up on Your Property*

Although Denville Township’s Department of Public Works regularly cleans and maintains storm drain inlets and basin throughout the municipality, property owners are encouraged to do their part as well. Dumping debris into storm drains creates problems for everyone. Such dumping not only results in an expense to taxpayers, but also can restrict water flow and create a flood hazard on your property.

- Keep trash, branches and grass clippings away from creeks, levees, channels, basins, streams, ditches, gutters and storm drain inlets. A blockage can back up water onto your property.
- Never fill, excavate, landscape, plant, irrigate, modify or place any improvement on any levee or flood control easement without permits from the appropriate local, state, and federal agencies.
BE PREPARED FOR AN EMERGENCY!
STAY INFORMED BY SIGNING UP FOR DENVILLE’S OFFICIAL EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM

You will receive emergency notices & road closure alerts on your cell phone
To sign up: Text 07834 to 888777

Township of Denville Drug Take-Back Program

APPROVED ITEMS:
- Prescription & Over-the-Counter Medications
- Vitamins
- Medication Samples
- Veterinary Medications
- Narcotics
- Empty Containers

NON-APPROVED ITEMS:
- Needles (any type)
- IV Bags
- Personal Care Products
- Hydrogen Peroxide
- Inhalers
- Thermometers
- Other Mercury Items

SAFE & SECURE
24 HOUR DROP OFF
Denville Police
Headquarters Lobby
1 St. Mary’s Place
Denville, NJ 07834

House Numbering
All houses must have the street number on the house, which is visible from the street. If the house is located off the street, the number must be placed on the mailbox or another suitable location so that it can be seen by the Denville Fire Dept. or Police Dept. All numbers must be at least three (3") inches in height.

National Flood Insurance Program
Flood Hazard Mapping

Through its Flood Hazard Mapping Program, FEMA identifies flood hazards, assesses flood risks, and partners with states and communities to provide accurate flood hazard and risk data to guide them to mitigation actions. Flood Hazard Mapping is an important part of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), as it is the basis of the NFIP regulations and flood insurance requirements. FEMA maintains and updates data through Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) and risk assessments.

For more information, you may call a Map Specialist in the FEMA Map Information Exchange; toll free at 1-877-FEMA-MAP (1-877-336-2627) or access their website at www.FEMA.gov