



MOUNT LAUREL

100 MOUNT LAUREL ROAD, MOUNT LAUREL, NJ 08054

JULY 2021



Unveiling Designated Parking Spaces for Purple Heart Recipients and Veterans

On Monday May 17th Mount Laurel Township unveiled new dedicated parking spaces to Purple Heart recipients and veterans. These dedicated spots are a small token of gratitude for those in the line of service.

The ribbon cutting ceremony was attended by Mayor Steglik, Councilwoman Cohen, Burlington County Commissioner Deputy Director Dan O'Connell, Chief of Police Stephen Riedener, Library Director Becky Boydston, and Liz Verna and Gary Vecchio from the Burlington County Military Affairs Committee.

"Veterans in our community and throughout South Jersey have dedicated and sacrificed so much of their lives in service to our country. These designated parking spaces are a small, yet meaningful token of our appreciation to the men & women of the armed services for their years of selflessness, commitment, and patriotism. As a proud son and brother of military Veterans, this was a particularly

meaningful project for me. I've watched their dedication firsthand. In a way, this was an opportunity to thank them and the many like them for their years of service" Mayor Steglik stated.

The parking spots will be at 5 locations in Mount Laurel, for a total of 12 veteran allocated parking spaces. These locations are the Mount Laurel Municipal Building, Mount Laurel Library, Laurel Acres Park, Memorial Park, and the Mount Laurel Police Station/Court building.

Councilwoman Cohen also feels an attachment to the project. "These special parking spaces serve as a small token of our gratitude and recognition to those who serve our country. My father served during the Vietnam War and veterans everywhere will appreciate the spots saving them a few extra steps."

Director Elizabeth Verna and Treasurer Gary Vecchio of the Burlington County Military Affairs Committee Board of Trustees were present at the ribbon cutting ceremony. "On behalf of the trustees for the Burlington County Military Affairs Committee, I want to thank Mount Laurel township and its leadership for their support of our local military. Providing parking spaces for our veterans not only gives them an accommodation they deserve, but also serves as a reminder of the sacrifices that all military have and do make for all of us" stated Director Elizabeth Verna.



What Township Council Is Up To

Councilwoman Fozia Janjua learned that strong communities were built through mentorship and service. Janjua and friends founded Community South Jersey and Philadelphia (Community SJP) whose mission is to unite communities through service by harnessing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors. The nonprofit coordinates service projects like school supply drives, distributing blankets to hospitals and shelters, and makeovers for women in domestic violence shelters.

Every Friday Janjua passes out meals to kids at the Ethel Lawrence housing development. This past April Councilwoman Janjua, The Diverse Professionals, and Community SJP volunteers gathered 100 grocery bags filled with items like cereal, pasta, sauces, and jams to pass to families in need.



Councilwoman Karen Cohen works closely with the Mount Laurel Green Team on numerous environmental initiatives. She attended the Sustainable Jersey Awards Ceremony where the Mt Laurel Green Team achieved the Bronze level with 165 points. The Green Team and Councilwoman Cohen took part in The Plant Swap held in Rancocas Woods this past April and the Adopt A Highway cleanup on Route 38. Additionally, the Mount Laurel Community Gardens have been spruced up for summer with pollinator plants and rehabbing the rain garden.



Tax Collector Updates

As of August 1st, 2021, the Township Tax Collector will be accepting credit card payments at the building.

The township offers an ACH Direct Debit program for property tax payments. If you are interested in participating, please visit our website at www.mountlaurel.com, go to Departments, then Tax Collector's Office and you will see the ACH Debit Form application.

We will be completing the "Senior Freeze" Property Tax Reimbursement booklets in the Community Center located directly behind the Municipal Building on **Wednesday, October 20th from 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.** Social distancing and masks are required.

Tax Assessor's Office

If you have a construction permit for a new home, or improvement to your existing home, the Tax Assessor's Office is required to inspect the work to determine whether or not an added assessment is in order. Each new home, or completed improvement that is taxable is added to the township tax system by an added assessment. Added assessments are issued in October and are retroactive to the date of completion. Tax bills for that period are issued in October as well.

Prior to billing, the Assessor's Office will send an Added Assessment notice informing you of the additional property value, description of work, number of months and estimated supplemental tax. Added assessment inspections commenced the first week in May and will continue through September. The inspector will speak to you at the time of inspection or leave a contact number to verify the work.

If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact the Mount Laurel Township Assessor's Office at 856-234-0001 Ext. 1256

Veterans, Senior Citizens, Disabled Persons Property Tax Deductions

Any resident property owner who qualifies can receive an annual deduction from their property taxes if you are a Senior Citizen, Disabled Person or Veteran. For approved applicants a \$250.00 per year deduction is applied to the property tax bill. Applications are available from the Township Assessor's Office at 856-234-0001 x1256 or x1257 or the township website www.mountlaurel.com.

For details please contact Dennis DeKlerk, Assessor at ddeklerk@mountlaurel.com or 856-234-6272.

Attention Residents:

Effective August 1st, 2021 all residential homes being sold will require a CO inspection.

The Construction office has provided the checklist for obtaining a Certificate of Continued Occupancy.

PERMITS

- All permits must be closed. Please check with the Construction Dept or call 856-234-9686
- Any work performed without necessary Construction or Zoning permits will require the property owner to apply for and close out the permit(s) before the C.C.O. is issued
(Examples: Hot water heaters, furnaces, AC, decks, sheds, fences, finished basements, etc.)

UTILITIES

- All utilities must be on.

EXTERIOR

- House number must be 4 inches high, visible from the street and contrasting color from the house.
- Property must be in good condition and free of debris.
- Walk ways, patios, deck must be in good conditions without tripping hazardous

DOORS

- All entry doors that have deadbolt locks must have a thumb latch on the inside. NO DOUBLE KEY DEAD BOLTS OR SLIDE BOLT LOCKS ARE PERMITTED.
- All interior doors must be operational with hardware.
- Privacy type doorknobs are allowed for bedrooms & bathrooms only (lock must be inside only).
- Glass sliding doors must be in working order.

RAILINGS

- Handrails must be firmly fastened.
- 4 risers and more require a hand railing.

KITCHEN

- All appliances must be in working order.

BATHROOM

- Sinks, tubs, showers and toilets must be in working order.

FLOORS

- Smooth and free of tripping hazards.

PLUMBING

- Fixtures must be properly installed and in working order.

ELECTRICAL

- GFCI outlets are required within 6ft of ALL SINKS (kitchen sink, bathroom sinks, bars & slop sinks).
- Outlets, switches and junction boxes must be properly covered.

GARAGE

- Solid core wood or steel doors with a minimum 20-minute fire rating are required for entrances from the garage.
- Electric garage door openers must have their own outlet. No extension cords.
- Attic stairs in a garage must be fire rated and have a permit.

WASHER/DRYER

- Washer must discharge into drainage system.
- Dryer vents must be flexible metal type, no plastic. The vent must be as straight/short as possible. No looping of the vent allowed.

SUMP PUMP

- Must have its own single outlet (no extension cords).
- Pump must discharge to the exterior of the home and not into sewer lines.

POOL

- Pool gates must be self-closing and self-latching.
- Pool must be running or closed.

GENERAL

- Any violation found by the inspector that he/she deems a safety issue must be addressed even if it is not on this list.

New Businesses in Mount Laurel

YARD SCIENCES

A new startup focused on teaching the next generation of STEM students.

The new facility, located at 801 S Church Street in Mount Laurel, offers state of the art lab equipment to teach high school students programs on molecular biology, human anatomy and physiology, surgical subspecialties, and genetic engineering. Equipment for each student ranges from PCR machines to surgical grade human anatomical models.

Yard Sciences has created an eight-week program that provides a pathway for students wanting to enter the medical field to explore what disciplines to focus on in college. Upon completion students receive a certification showing they've completed all levels of the course. Prior to beginning any course students must take a lab safety training class that includes a surgical workshop, a surgical equipment handling walkthrough, and an ethics overview.

Doctors Yajamana Ramu and AJ Rastogi created the facility and programs to give students the opportunity to model real life examples in the science field. Ramu and Rastogi want the course to be accessible to all students, and created a nonprofit called Yard Education Foundation to help students finance the course, as well as obtain financial scholarships.

For more information on enrollment, courses, and financial scholarships please visit yardsciences.com



CYCLE SMART NJ

One of Mount Laurel's newest businesses, Cycle Smart NJ is New Jersey's newest quality pre-owned motorcycle shop. The small staff is made of passionate racers and motorcyclists that will help answer all your questions.

Sales manager Mark has had a passion for motorcycles since the age of 8 when he got his first bike, a Honda XR75, that he

Laurel Acres Connection and Updates



Laurel Acres Park is the perfect place to enjoy warm weather activities with the family. Town Council always looks for ways to upgrade our parks for Mount Laurel's community. New pedestrian trails have been created for all residents to enjoy.

The trails give pedestrians their own path connecting both entrances of Laurel Acres Park. This allows pedestrians to utilize the entire park from Union Mill to Church Street without having to share the drive aisles and parking lots with cars. From starting at the Union Mill Road entrance and taking the path around the lake back to the Union Mill entrance is roughly 1.60 miles.

still has. He started racing that same year and still races to this day. Whether you are buying your first bike or your 10th, Cycle Smart wants to help.

The showroom is located at 1205 NJ-73 Mount Laurel, NJ. You can contact Cycle Smart at 609-242-7220.

Hours of operation are Tuesday 10am-7pm, Wednesday through Friday 10am-6pm, and Saturday 9am-4pm.

For more information, please visit <https://cyclesmartnj.com/>



Updates From the Construction Office

The Construction office is proud to announce the launch of a new SDL portal. This new portal will allow residents to access information, check status updates and submit requests 24/7.

New features include:

- Scheduling construction inspections
- Checking permit status
- Accessing town data
- View custom town maps
- Online payments coming soon

Currently the Township is accepting credit card payments at the building as well as online payments through the construction office SDL portal. The link for payment can be found at the Townships website under Departments: Community Development: SDL Portal, https://mountlaurel.com/departments/sdl_portal_link.php.



MOUNT LAUREL
save time.
go online.

CONNECT WITH MOUNT LAUREL

Mount Laurel is on SDL Portal, an online hub where residents & professionals can access information, check status updates and submit requests 24/7.

- ✓ Schedule Construction Inspections
- ✓ View Custom Town Maps
- ✓ Check Permit Status
- ✓ Access Town Data
- ✓ And More

SDL | PORTAL

Visit: sdl.town/MtLaurel to get started

Road Updates and Repairs

An estimated 150,000 residents and commuters use Mount Laurel's roads daily. This causes wear and tear that needs updating and remains a high priority for the Township.

Our Public Works Department and engineer have several road improvements plans coming in the future. A 11-foot-wide travel lane and a 6-foot-wide shoulder in each direction will be installed for Union Mill Road between Briggs Road and Hartford Road.

The plan also includes the replacement of the County Bridge C4.29 and the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Briggs Road and Union Mill Road.

Updates from Mount Laurel Township Emergency Medical Services

During the past several months, Emergency Medical Services has been working on the implementation of two new programs to serve the Township residents. These programs will help us provide valuable care and ongoing assistance to those who can benefit.

Refusal of Care Follow-Up – In March, we assigned one of our employees to perform follow-up phone calls to patients that had requested 911 services but refused treatment and /or transport. These calls are simple well-being checks that help us primarily focus on two areas, assessing our crews and making sure they are providing the best possible service to our residents and make sure that patients were able to obtain follow-up care. Feedback from those we have contacted has been positive and most appreciate that we are looking after them even after our initial contact has ended.

Community Outreach – The Community Outreach program is designed to identify certain specific needs of patients within our community and to provide services to those whom we can assist. Our crews, through special reporting, may identify someone who may need additional services to aid in their care or home life. We can then make contact with them and help identify resources that may be available, which they were not aware existed. For an example, we have worked with patients by providing fall prevention and home safety checklists, assisting with Meals-on-Wheels applications, making sure medical follow-up appointments are made, providing front door key boxes to those we visit often, and assisting our residents in getting back to a point where they can, with a little assistance, care for themselves.

New Apparatus – Since December 2020, we were able to replace a 2008 and a 2010 ambulance with new modular ambulances. These ambulances have new patient stretchers that provide for a safer lifting and moving of patients as well as new technology. The ambulances are updated and will provide for safe response to and transport of our township residents and those who visit our town, and will assist with our ever growing call volume.

Mount Laurel Library Updates

The Mount Laurel Library has kicked off their summer reading program with a fun new theme: Tales & Tails! Sign up to win prizes, play games, and more.

For more information and sign ups please visit <https://www.mountlaurellibrary.org/>

Throughout July the Library will be hosting a Summer Steam online activity for children ages 7-10. The Shark Tank activities include making water bottle sharks from common household items. A Zoom link will be provided prior to the start of the program.

For teen animal lovers the Library is offering volunteer opportunities to create dog and cat toys to be donated to local animal hospitals, shelters, and foster groups.

On July 24th teens can create dog snuffle mats designed to encourage thoughtful play as dogs hunt for their treat reward. On August 21st teens have the opportunity to create cat toys. For both events teens can receive credit for volunteer hours.

For adults the Library offers mindfulness activities with virtual chair yoga and mindful meditation.



Please see our list of reminders for proper item disposal

HAZARDOUS WASTE

Collection is done on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month between 8-12PM at the recycling center on Midlantic. Holidays may affect these dates.

TIRE DISPOSAL

Schedule a tire pick-up for the 3rd Friday of the month by calling 856-234-0001 ext 1241 or by emailing info@mountlaurel.com. 10 tires max per household a year.

WHITE GOODS/TVS (WASHER, DRYER, REFRIGERATOR, ETC.)

Schedule a pick-up for every Wednesday by calling 856-234-0001 ext 1241 or by emailing info@mountlaurel.com

BAGGED/LOOSE LEAVES

Scheduled pick up is between Oct-Dec. All other times leaves can be left at the curb. Clear biodegradable bags can be picked up at the Municipal Building at no charge (1st ten are free)

BRANCHES AND LIMBS

Place by the curb for pick-up. There is no scheduled pick-up dates.

FURNITURE (MATTRESSES, SOFAS, CHAIRS)

Place with regular trash. Mattresses must be wrapped in plastic. 2 items per household

YARD DEBRIS (WEEDS, DEAD PLANTS, TREE TRIMMINGS)

Place with regular trash

NEW/REPLACEMENT RECYCLE CAN

Email info@mountlaurel.com or Call 856-234-0001 ext 1241

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Lobby of Mount Laurel Police Department
100 Mount Laurel Rd, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

SAVE THE DATE

Mount Laurel Township's Food Truck

FESTIVAL

Saturday, September 25, 2021

12:00 PM—4:00 PM

Laurel Acres Park
1045 South Church St.
Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

BEER • WINE • FOOD TRUCKS • LIVE MUSIC

Check our website for a list of
food trucks, wineries and
breweries.

www.mountlaurel.com



Protect Yourself and Your Family From Identity Theft
and Take a Step Toward **GOING GREEN**

Mount Laurel Township Shred Day Event



Reduce clutter—clean out and purge
your personal records!

WHEN: Saturday October 2, 2021
9:00 am to 12:00 pm

WHERE: Mount Laurel Township - Police Garage
100 Mount Laurel Road

CONTACT: Public Works Office 856-234-0001 ext 1241

- Bring your bags and/or boxes of paper to be shredded. An experienced operator will move the bins to a highly secure, mobile shredding unit, where your confidential material will be destroyed before your eyes.
- 100% of the shredded paper is recycled!
- Only paper is accepted. Please, no plastic bags or metal (**NO 3-ring binders or binder clips**). Paper clips and staples are OK.
- Limit of 4 bags or boxes per residence
- **FOR TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ONLY**
- **NO COMMERCIAL RECYCLING ACCEPTED**

Rancocas Woods Events

2021 OUTDOOR EVENTS SCHEDULE


118 CREEK RD. MT. LAUREL, NJ || EXIT 43 OFF RT. 295

- Craft & Antique Show ~ March 27
- Plant Swap + Shop ~ April 10
- Craft & Antique Show ~ April 24
- Kid's Craft & Flea Market ~ May 8
- Craft & Antique Show ~ May 22
- Summer Block Party ~ June 12
- Craft & Antique Show ~ June 26
- "Best in Show" Pet Party ~ July 10
- Craft & Antique Show ~ July 24
- Plant Swap + Shop ~ August 14
- Craft & Antique Show ~ August 28
- Food Truck Festival ~ September 11
- Craft & Antique Show ~ September 25
- Fall Harvest ~ October 9
- Boo's & Brews ~ October 16
- Craft & Antique Show ~ October 23
- Trunk-or-Treat ~ October 30
- Kid's Holiday Market ~ November 13
- Craft & Antique Show ~ November 27
- Holiday Village ~ December 3-12
- Annual Candlelight Tour ~ December 3 & 4
- Craft & Antique Show ~ December 11

Rain Dates
are the
following day

EAT. DRINK.
SHOP. PLAY.



Follow Us!  

@RANCOCASWOODSEVENTSANDSHOPS
WWW.RANCOCASWOODSEVENTSANDSHOPS.COM

Mount Laurel Police Department

Free Ice Cream with an Officer!



Friday, July 16, 2021 & July 30, 2021
6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

(Last call for ice cream is 7:45 PM)
Laurel Acres Park—1045 S. Church St.



Followed by a free Movie in the Park!



JULY 16th
RAYA AND THE LAST
DRAGON



Movie will start at Dusk



JULY 30th
SPIDERMAN: INTO
THE SPIDER-VERSE



Mayor Stephen Steglik
 Deputy Mayor Kareem Pritchett
 Councilman Nikitas Moustakas
 Councilwoman Fozia Janjua
 Councilwoman Karen Cohen

PRESORTED STANDARD
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 Cinnaminson Twp, NJ
 Permit No. 143

ECR WSS
 Residential Customer
 Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

Chief John M. Colucci Retires

After 25 years of dedicated service to the community of Mount Laurel, Chief John Colucci has retired. He was hired as a firefighter in 1996 and rose through the ranks, becoming Chief of Department in 2011. Throughout his career, Chief Colucci served with honor and distinction. His daily presence will be missed around the department but his leadership will have a lasting impact. Deputy Chief Christopher Burnett has been promoted to Chief of Department and we look forward to a bright organizational future.



Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detector Safety

Working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors will give you early warning so you can recognize the problem sooner. Here are a few tips to help keep you safe:

- Install smoke detectors on every level of the home and in every sleeping room.
- Install smoke detectors on the ceiling away from corners or walls. Corners of rooms are dead spaces without much air movement.
- Test all detectors at least once per month.
- Place carbon monoxide detectors outside all sleeping areas, ideally within 10 feet of the door.
- Remember to change your batteries when you change your clocks (Newer detectors will have a 10-year sealed battery within the unit and do not require regular replacement).

Municipal Contacts

Mount Laurel Police Department

100 Mount Laurel Road 856-234-8300
Non-Emergency

Mount Laurel Fire Department

69 Elbo Lane 856-234-6053
(Headquarters)

Mount Laurel EMS

201 Masonville Road 856-778-1274

Mount Laurel Library

100 Walt Whitman Avenue..... 856-234-7319

Tax Assessor's Office

100 Mount Laurel Road 856-234-0001 Ext 1256

Municipal Court Office

100 Mount Laurel Road 856-234-2003

Public Works

100 Mount Laurel Road 856-234-0001 Ext 1241

Mount Laurel Post Office

200 Walt Whitman Avenue 800-275-8777

Municipal Utilities Authority

1201 South Church Street 856-234-0062

Housing - Rentals

100 Mount Laurel Road 856-234-0001 Ext 1224

Tax Collector's Office

100 Mount Laurel Road 856-234-0001 Ext 1283

Community Development/Construction

100 Mount Laurel Road 856-234-9686

Clerks Office

100 Mount Laurel Road 856-234-0001

Marriage Application Appointments Ext 1236

Dog/Cat licensing Ext 1235