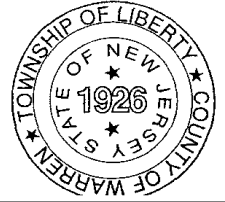


LIBERTY TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER 2018



LETTER FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Residents,

We are pleased to once again bring you this newsletter to share information about Township business and activities. We may be a small community, but there is plenty going on.

The Pavilion at Mountain Lake will be available for residents use this summer, as well as additional improvements to the recreation area. The beach is open daily throughout the season and without charge.

Those traveling on Pequest Road will be happy to know the repair and resurfacing is first on the list of spring projects. A contract for the work was awarded last year, but delayed after the State's Transportation Trust Fund was temporarily suspended.

Another road project taking place is the stabilization of Lakeside Drive West, which was undermined earlier this year. This unexpected expense will account for very slight increase in the Township tax rate; from \$0.314 to \$0.319 per \$100 of assessed value. This is the first increase since 2009.

The Township has purchased more than 100 acres on Marble Hill Road, which had been slated for a 31-home subdivision. This purchase, which was made using dedicated Open Space funds, will not only preserve the land and provide additional recreational opportunities, but avoid nearly \$800,000 annually in school expenses for the potential children the development could have brought in.

When you receive your 2017 tax bill this summer, you will notice one significant change - you will now be able to pay your property taxes electronically. Making your tax payment online will be fast, easy and safe with the option to pay by checking account ACH payment or by credit card. We will be working to install the system over the next few months and will have it available for third quarter tax payments in August. Keep your eye on our website for updates on availability.

As always, many thanks to all of the volunteers, staff and officials who make Liberty Township a great place to live. This is my 20th year serving on the Township Committee and although there are challenges, I am proud of Liberty Township and all it has to offer.

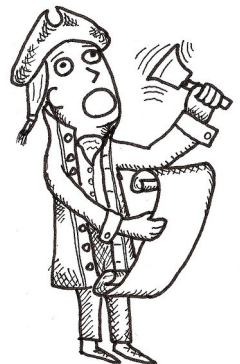
**The Liberty Township
1960 population census
was 441. In 2010, the
census was 2942.**

Mayor John Fusco

Spring 2018

Special points of interest:

- Mayor's Letter
- Clean Up Day Schedules 2018
- Reports from Municipal Departments
- Stormwater Management





Liberty Twp. Environmental Commission (LTEC)

The LTEC meets monthly on the third Thursday at 7:00 pm at the Liberty Municipal building. Volunteers and ideas are always welcome!

Cabin Fever Workshop: Our Water, Our Community - Saturday, March 24th from 10:00 am – 11:30 am at the Municipal Building, 349 Mountain Lake Road.

Join the Environmental Commission and our local Watershed Ambassador for a special presentation and craft about our watershed, nonpoint source pollution and how we can preserve healthy waters in our community! This event is FREE and open to folks of all ages. There will be a hands on craft as well.

Smart Lighting Solutions for Liberty Twp. – Check out the website for more information on how we can keep our dark skies, reduce glare and maintain a good balance with nature, wildlife and our neighbors. In Liberty Township, we can see the Milky Way – and let's keep it that way!

Celebrate Earth Day on April 22nd and help us plant natives near the Pavilion at Mountain Lake. More details will be available soon.

Free Trees – This May, the LTEC will give away free tree seedlings, native to our area to the community. Date TBA.

Liberty Township Recreation Commission (LTRC)

The LTRC meets every fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm at the municipal building.

The group handles youth sports, adult recreation, and community events. Volunteers and new ideas are always welcome!

Baseball/Softball – Registration through Colonial little League and Independence is available on our website

Basketball – Registration opens October – December

Soccer – Registration is June through July

Summer Recreation – Registration will open in April, six week half-day summer camp program for grades K-6th. Fees are \$90 for resident and \$125 for non-resident. Registration will be open to Liberty Twp. kids first and spots are limited.

Mountain Lake Beach: Open mid-June – Labor Day. Beach is FREE. Certified lifeguards on staff and beach toys available for kids to use. Beach is located at 137 Lakeside Drive West.

Mountain Lake provides various recreational opportunities from boating to fishing to swimming. A boat launch is available on Lakeside Drive West and a \$5 fee is imposed to everyone who uses the launch. Envelopes and fee box is located right at the launch site.

Kayak racks are available at the beach also. The racks are located to the right of the beach. Those who use the racks are required to bring their own lock, remove boats before winter and use at their own risk. The racks were built by a local Eagle Scout for the community to enjoy!



Want to have an event at the Lake? The Pavilion at Mt. Lake is available for rent this year. Applications are available with the Municipal Clerk.



Within Liberty Township are several hamlets; Townsbury, Free Union, Lake Just-It, Mountain Lake and Great Meadows

Residential Clean Up Rules



Spring Residential Clean-up is scheduled **May 21–26, 2018**

Fall Residential Clean-Up is scheduled **October 8–13, 2018**

**Clean Up
Days 2018
are scheduled**

**May
21-26**

&

**October
8-13**

A voucher system will be used. Each voucher permits (1) one car, pick-up or small trailer size load to dump at the Warren County Landfill.

Vouchers are available, with proof of residency, at the Municipal Building.

One voucher shall be issued per residence.

An occupying tenant has priority for voucher receipt.

Each voucher must contain the raised seal of the municipality to be accepted by the landfill.

Vouchers shall not be issued for businesses.

Voucher confirmation must be signed by the individual.

Landfill hours are Monday through Friday from 7:00 am to 2:30 pm and Saturday from 7:00 am to 11:00 am. The Landfill is closed on Sunday

**Liberty
Township
contains 12
square miles**



Local Scrap Metal Companies

The businesses listed below will purchase your scrap metal.
Call for additional information and pricing per weight.

George’s Salvage Co., Inc.

10 South Park Drive
Newton, NJ 07840
973.383.4471

Kucharski’s Salvage

60 Ryan Road
Hackettstown, NJ 07840
908.852.3175

Multiple Metal Processing Inc.

492 County Route 519
Belvidere, NJ 07823
908.475.2566

Ray Craft & Sons Industrial Metals & Recycling

2476 Riverside
Bethlehem, PA 18015
908.859.1990

2018 Department of Public Works Programs

The Department of Public Works looks forward to a busy year with the focus on two large projects. First and foremost, the Lakeside Drive West. Secondly is the installation of a new municipal generator. The Department of Public Works looks forward to serving the residents of Liberty Township.



2018 Municipal Clerk Information

Liberty Township began 2018 with a few changes. After 18 years of dedication, Ron Petersen has retired as Liberty Township Committeeperson. Thank you Mr. Petersen for supporting Liberty Township! We welcome Mike Beyer as our new committee-person.

2018 also brings the retirement of Eleanor Clarkson as Deputy Municipal Clerk/Deputy Registrar. Eleanor's pleasant voice answering your telephone calls will surely be missed. Enjoy your retirement with family and hobbies.

The Municipal Clerk's Office is open Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 am and 3:30 pm.

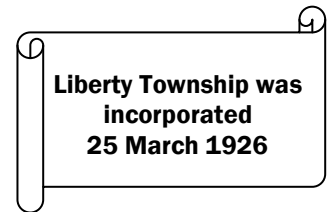
The public is invited to attend Township Committee meetings on the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm within the Municipal Building, 349 Mountain Lake Road. Workshops are held on the fourth Thursday as needed.

2018 Tax Collector Information

We welcome our new Tax Collector Cindy Eckert.

Office hours are Wednesday, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm in which Cindy is available to take phone calls and emails and Saturday, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm for public walk-in hours.

Cindy is very pleased to be here and is looking forward to meeting and serving the residents of Liberty Township.



Liberty Township's Community Day 2018

**June 9, 2018
(Rain Date is June 10)**

Sponsored by Liberty Township, Mt. Lake Fire Company & Ladies Auxiliary, and Mt. Lake Community Association

There will be amusements, magic shows, food and drinks, games, music, a youth fishing derby, a Poker Run, and of course a fantastic fireworks show at night! This event is **FREE** (except food and drinks) and open to all residents, friends and family.

Festivities will begin in the morning and continue on through the evening at the Mt. Lake Firehouse, 99 Tamarack Road.

The Liberty Rec Commission is sponsoring an art contest about Community Day, open to grades K-5!

Details posted on the Liberty Township website! For questions or if you are interested in volunteering, email us at libertyrec17@gmail.com or call 908.637.4579 ext.26.

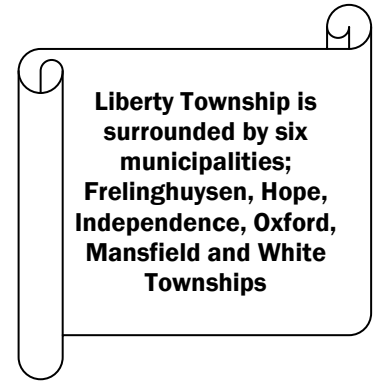


2018 Land Use Information

Township has been conscientious in making sure that all the appropriate planning documents are up-to-date and that they promote a balanced range of land uses and a stable tax base. Land Use Board meetings are open to the public and are held at 7:30 on the third Wednesday of the month at the Municipal Building.

The Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance are available online on the Township website (www.libertytownship.org).

The Zoning Officer/Planner has office hours on Tuesday between 3 and 6 pm.



2018 Tax Assessor Information

Appeal filing deadline is April 1st

Anyone contemplating an appeal should contact the Tax Assessor to discuss it first.

You must get the appeal forms and instructions from the Warren County Board of Taxation.

Farmland Assessment applications must be submitted by August 1st

New Farmland Assessment and Woodland forms will be issued by the Division of Taxation this year. Please don't copy the prior year's form! I encourage all applicants to review their forms with their consulting forester, if they have one or to come and review them with me prior to August 1st. I will mail them to all prior applicants as soon as they are available. I anticipate a delay this year due to the new forms.

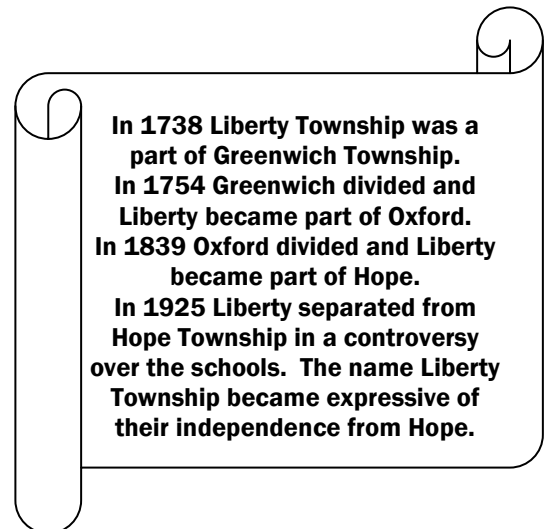
If you have questions regarding your assessment please contact Penny Holenstein, Tax Assessor.

Office hours are Monday, 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm and first Thursday of month, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm .

2018 Animal Official Information

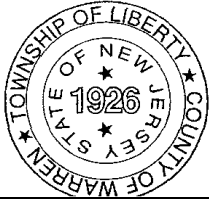
Dog licenses are due during the month of January. A neutered/spayed dog license is \$8.00. A non-neutered dog license is \$11.00. Delinquent fees are imposed effective 1 February at \$5.00 a month per dog. Rabies certification must be valid through 1 November of the licensing year.

	Fee for neutered/spayed dog	Fee for non-neutered/non-spayed dog
January	\$8.00	\$11.00
February	\$13.00	\$16.00
March	\$18.00	\$21.00
April	\$23.00	\$26.00
May	\$28.00	\$31.00
June	\$33.00	\$36.00
July	\$38.00	\$41.00
August	\$43.00	\$46.00
September	\$48.00	\$51.00
October	\$53.00	\$56.00



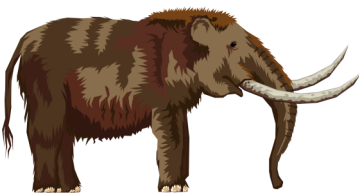
Liberty Township
349 Mountain Lake Road
Great Meadows, NJ 07838

Phone: 908.637.4579
Fax: 908.637.6916
Web site: www.libertytownship.org



FOLLOW THE MOST UP TO DATE
NEWS ON THE LIBERTY
TOWNSHIP WEBSITE
WWW.LIBERTYTOWNSHIP.ORG

**17 October 1971, a
mastodon skeleton
was unearthed just
off Lake-Just-It Road,
only seven feet from
the surface.**



Stormwater Management in Liberty Township

Stormwater is from rainfall or snowmelt. It washes pollutants into our storm drains and directly into our rivers, streams and lakes.

Non-point source pollution is contamination of our waterways that results from everyday activities such as fertilizing the lawn, walking pets, changing motor oil, and littering.

With each rainfall, pollutants generated by these activities are washed into storm drains that flow into our waterways. Each one of us contributes to this pollution through our daily lives, threatening our precious natural resources. The good news is that we can make a difference by simple changes in our lifestyles.

What can residents do?

Reduce runoff from your property:

- Reduce the amount of lawn & pavement
- Plant groundcovers and trees
- Create gardens, no mow zones and meadows
- Use vegetative borders between hard surfaces
- Only water lawns when absolutely necessary

Reduce pollution in runoff:

- Clean up after your pets
- Limit use of fertilizer
- Do not feed the geese
- Compost leaves and grass clippings
- Keep objects/fluids from draining into catch basins



Liberty Township has three non-point pollution control ordinances to help protect our water.

- Prohibiting the Feeding of Waterfowl
- Limiting the Application of Phosphorus Fertilizer near Water
- Regulating the Disposal of Pet waste