



# NEWSLETTER 2020

# LIBERTY TOWNSHIP

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

We are pleased to provide you with this annual update on Township events and information. Many thanks to the Township's Recreation and Environmental Commissions and all of our staff and volunteers for continuing to provide a variety of interesting programs for our residents.

In addition to these special events, we are undertaking several projects throughout the year. The entire length of Marble Hill Road was recently paved using state grant funds. A section of Free Union Road from Quenby Mountain Road to Radar Road is scheduled to be paved and improvements will be made to a portion of Danville Mountain Road.

A significant project taking place this year is the decommissioning of a dam along Mountain Lake Brook. The dam and a small pond are located on the former "Hidden Lakes Estates" parcel purchased for open space. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Dam Safety has determined that the dam is not structurally sound. The pond will be slowly drained and the dam removed. This will avoid a possible breach and damage to downstream properties.

Realizing the potential impact of development in neighboring towns, we are closely following a proposed commercial project in White Township. I have asked the Land Use Board to review Liberty's current zoning and permitted uses to ensure that they adequately balance preserving the rural character of the Township and allowing smart growth where appropriate.

It is important to be aware of the zoning and allowable uses of property in the area. Our municipal code and zoning map are available on the Township's website for residents to review, as well as the schedule of Land Use Board meetings and notices of any applications.

Should you have any questions about these or other Township issues, please feel free to reach out to any member of the Township Committee or municipal staff.

*Mayor John Inscho*



### TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Standing: Mayor John Inscho, Deputy Mayor Dan Grover. Sitting: Committeeman Peter Karcher, Committeeman Mike Beyer, and Committeeman Dave Rogers.

### LIBERTY TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

#### MAYOR

JOHN INSCHO

#### DEPUTY MAYOR

DAN GROVER

#### TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

MIKE BEYER

PETER KARCHER

DAVE ROGERS

#### MUNICIPAL CLERK/

#### ADMINISTRATOR

DIANE M. PFLUGFELDER

#### DEPUTY CLERK

JENNIFER BRESLIN

#### TAX COLLECTOR

CYNTHIA ECKERT

#### TAX ASSESSOR

PENNY HOLENSTEIN

#### ZONING OFFICER

AUTUMN SYLVESTER

ERIC SNYDER

#### CFO

KEVIN LIFER

#### DPW SUPERVISOR

CHUCK HARVEY

#### DPW CREW

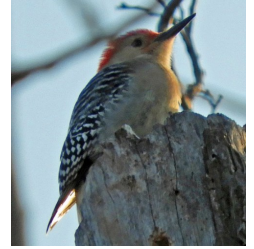
KEN LUNDEN

ALEX PEREZ

### ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (LTEC)

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

**Cabin Fever Workshop** A special Intro to Birding Workshop will be held on Friday, March 27 at 7:00 pm. Join us for this free event to learn about the basics of bird identification. Our guest presenter, John Parke of the NJ Audubon Society, will provide a fascinating discussion regarding bird identification from afar and close.



**May 2 Wildflower Meadow Planting & Free Trees** Come to the Pavilion at Mt. Lake on Saturday, May 2 between 9:00 - 11:00 am to pick up your free trees and help us put some final touches in planting at the Wildflower Meadow at the lake. The Wildflower meadow was established through a grant from ANJEC and built with support from the community! Please visit the garden this year to learn more about the benefits of native plants in our community!

**Be Watershed Friendly** Mountain Lake has been suffering from a Harmful Algae Bloom (HAB), caused by nutrient pollution. Each and every one of us can help make a difference in protecting our water quality. Members from the Environmental Commission, Liberty Township Committee and Mt. Lake Community Association have been meeting to discuss ideas for education, protection and prevention. Please learn more about HAB's and what can be done to prevent them at <https://www.state.nj.us/dep/hab/>.

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### RECREATION COMMISSION (LTRC)

The LTRC meets monthly at 6:00 pm on the fourth Monday of the month at the Municipal Building. The Commission oversees community programs, recreation sports and activities.



Sports Offered

Summer Recreation Camp  
Soccer  
Basketball

Registration periods

April – May  
June – July  
October – November



**Yoga & Qi-Gong:** Join certified instructors every Wednesday starting in May at 6:00 pm for beginning yoga and Qi-Gong (2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month). Classes are \$5 per person and held at the John R. Fisher Pavilion at Mountain Lake.

**Summer Recreation** is a 6-week day camp starting June 29 through August 7, Monday through Friday from 9:00 am-12:00 pm. Registration will begin in April. Children ages 6-12 are welcomed. Day campers enjoy a variety of activities throughout the week, including swimming at the Mountain Lake beach every Friday.

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### MUNICIPAL INFORMATION

Congratulations to our Municipal Clerk, Diane M. Pflugfelder for being President of the Municipal Clerks Association of New Jersey, Region II Director of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks, and President of the Warren County Clerks Association, all in the year 2020!

Check out the new and improved municipal sign, posting current public information.

The Township will have a centennial celebration in 2026. In preparation of this event, please send in your photos or stories that we can include in our celebration. If you would like to volunteer in planning for this event, please email the Municipal Clerk at [clerk@libertytownship.org](mailto:clerk@libertytownship.org)

## SPRING / FALL CLEAN-UP

A town-wide residential cleanup week is held every May and October. A voucher must be obtained by the resident from the Municipal Office in order to take refuse to the dump. All information can be found with the voucher.

Spring Clean Up - May 18 - 23, pick up voucher starting May 1. Saturday May 16 voucher pick-up 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Fall Clean Up - October 12 -17, pick up vouchers starting September 21. Evening pick-up posted at a later date.

## DOG LICENSING

All dogs (6 months or older) are to be licensed during the month of January each year. Fees are \$8 for neutered/spayed and \$11 for non-neutered/non-spayed. A \$5 late fee per month, per animal will be charged after January 31.

Rabies certificate cannot expire before November 1st of the licensing year. A free rabies clinic is held in November at the DPW Garage.

**Lost or found** a dog, please contact **Animal Control Official**, Alan DeCarolis 908-377-0808



## TAX INFORMATION - COMING SOON! ONLINE TAX PAYMENTS!



PAY YOUR  
PROPERTY TAXES  
ONLINE

Property taxes are due to the Tax Collector on the first of August, November, February and May. There is a 10-day grace period. New tax bills will be mailed out in August. Check our website for updates on availability for online payments.

The deadline for filing a tax Appeal is April 1. Please contact the Tax Assessor prior to applying. Appeal forms are available through the Warren County Board of Taxation, Belvidere

Farmland Assessment applications are due to the Tax Assessor by August 1. Applications will be mailed to all prior applicants.

## ELECTIONS

**June 2** - Primary Election (6:00 am - 8:00 pm)

**November 3** - General & School Board Elections (6:00 am - 8:00 pm)

Polling places in Liberty Township are:

**District 1** - Mountain Lake Fire House, 99 Tamarack Rd., Belvidere

**District 2** - Liberty Township Municipal Office, 349 Mountain Lake Rd., Great Meadows



## COMMUNITY DAY

Save the date! June 13 (Rain date June 14) at the Mountain Lake Fire House. Family friendly activities, games, music, food, ending with fireworks at dusk. Stay tuned for a schedule of events to come this Spring. Anyone interested in volunteering please send an email to [libertyrec17@gmail.com](mailto:libertyrec17@gmail.com)



COMMUNITY DAY



## A FLUSH IN LIBERTY DOES NOT DISPOSE OF WASTE THAT WASTE IS STORED IN YOUR YARD

### *So be a responsible septic owner*

- ◆ Have your system inspected every year by a qualified professional
- ◆ Have your septic tank pumped, generally every three years
- ◆ Avoid pouring harsh products down the drain (oils, grease, chemicals, paint)
- ◆ Discard non-degradable products in the trash (floss, disposable wipes, cat litter)
- ◆ Keep cars and heavy vehicles parked away from the drain field and tank
- ◆ Ask your qualified septic professional concerning septic tank cleaners and additives
- ◆ Repair leaks and use water efficient fixtures to avoid overloading the system
- ◆ Maintain plants and vegetation near the system to ensure roots do not block drains
- ◆ Use soaps and detergents that are low suds, biodegradable, and phosphate-free
- ◆ Prevent system freezing during cold weather by inspecting and insulating vulnerable system parts (e.g., the inspection pipe and soil treatment area)



**Learn more at...[libertytownship.org/municipal/environment](http://libertytownship.org/municipal/environment)**

**<https://www.nj.gov/dep/dwq/pdf/septicmn.pdf>**

**<http://www.co.warren.nj.us/Healthdept/environmental.html>**

**Protect Our Water    Protect Your Health**

## STORMWATER MANAGEMENT IN LIBERTY TOWNSHIP

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

We ask residents to reduce runoff from your property and reduce pollution in runoff. Some examples are limit the watering of lawns, clean up after pets, and limit use of fertilizers.

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

- Prohibit the feeding of waterfowl (No. 02-07)
- Limit the application of phosphorus fertilizer near water (No. 02-06)
- Regulate the disposal of pet waste (No. 02-08)

Liberty Township is proud of our natural beauty and healthy environment. Every person who lives here has a hand in keeping it clean. How we use our land and what we put in our drains eventually runs off or seeps into our water. The above ordinances help to protect our surface and drinking waters.



## RECYCLING EVENTS

Pollution Control Financing Authority in Oxford is accepting electronics for recycling on Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm. See more details at [www.pcfawc.com](http://www.pcfawc.com)



April 26 - Household Hazardous Waste Collection at PCFA

June 6 & September 19 - Free Paper shredding for residents at Warren County Administrative Building, 165 County Route 519 South, Belvidere. Limit 4 bags, no business documents.

November - Paper shredding event during Free Rabies Clinic - Date TBD

In January, Christmas trees can be dropped off at the DPW Garage for recycling.