



BLOOMFIELD, NEW JERSEY MLK Day "Season of Service 2021"

January 18, 2021, will mark the 26th anniversary of the national "MLK Day of Service," which is the only federal holiday created to, in part, encourage all Americans to volunteer to improve their communities. The day celebrates Dr. King's life, legacy and belief that "Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve." The Township of Bloomfield is celebrating everyone's greatness by inviting them to participate in three programs (highlighted below) that reflect our passion for the health, happiness and well-being of our residents. Stay tuned for more details, and feel free to email bloomfieldmlkday@gmail.com with any questions!



"Senior Smiles" Phone Bank
Sun, Jan. 17, 2021 - Sun, Feb. 14, 2021
(Email bloomfieldmlkday@gmail.com for more info regarding volunteering)



Food Drives
Sun., Jan. 3, 2021
Blfd Twp. "Drop 'n Drive" | 10am-2pm
Drive-thru Food Donation
Town Hall, Rear Parking Lot
Sun., Jan. 10 | 10a.m-1pm
Jack's Foodtown, Bloomfield



MLK Day of Service Event
Fri., Jan. 15 & Sat., Jan. 16, 2021
Personal Care Kits assembly/packing
Christ Episcopal Church, 74 Park Ave.,
Glen Ridge
[info & sign up here](#)

Bloomfield Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service

The Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service Committee and the Township of Bloomfield will honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. for the 7th consecutive year. Several committees have been working diligently on developing unique ways of participating in the Day of Service while still complying with all social distancing guidelines.

"For the past seven years we have honored the remarkable life of civil rights and American icon Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Bloomfield," said **Councilwoman Dr. Wartyna Davis.**

"Dr. King's legacy is one of helping others and giving back to the community and because of that we will be giving back to our community. I encourage all residents to take part in these events that the service committee has created and donate food or your time to help those in need."

The committee has created 3 ways for our residents to get involved and give back to Bloomfield and the surrounding community:

- **Food Drive** – Collect nonperishable food items in Town Hall Parking Lot (1/3) and Jack's Super Foodtown (1/10)
- **Senior Smiles Phone Bank** – Telephone a senior citizen once or twice a week (1/17 – 2/14)
- **MLK Day of Service Event** – Creation of Personal Care Kits (1/15-1/16)

For more information please click this link (insert either link) or email bloomfieldmlkday@gmail.com to become a volunteer.

**Bloomfield Councilmembers
Jenny Mundell, Nicholas
Joanow and Sarah Cruz to be
Sworn in During January 4
Council Meeting**

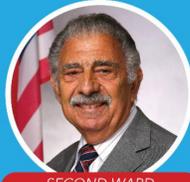
YOU'RE INVITED

TO THE SWEARING IN OF COUNCILMEMBERS

**JENNY MUNDELL,
NICHOLAS JOANOW & SARAH CRUZ!**



FIRST WARD
JENNY MUNDELL



SECOND WARD
NICHOLAS JOANOW



THIRD WARD
SARAH CRUZ

The swearing in will take place via Zoom

Monday, January 4th at 6:30 PM

JOIN US AT THE LINK BELOW:

bit.ly/bloomfieldswearingin

Following their re-election to the Council, Bloomfield Councilmembers Jenny Mundell, Nicholas Joanow and Sarah Cruz will be sworn in during the January 4 Council meeting at 6:30pm. Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill will make remarks during the meeting that is open to the public to watch via Zoom. To take part in the meeting go to bit.ly/bloomfieldswearingin.

Department of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs



Winter Program Registration

Winter program registration started in December but there is still time to pre-register before virtual classes actually start!

Our staff has been working hard on creating new and exciting virtual programs for you and your family during the winter months.

Programs include adult fitness classes including Yoga, Zumba, and more. Children's programs including Zumba Kids, Dance, Yoga Kids, & Healthy Happy Kids Cooking!

See the full winter program guide <https://my.visme.co/view/z4pwwgoy-winter-program-guide-20-21>

Consulte la guía completa del programa de invierno <https://my.visme.co/view/8renvpyq-spanish-winter-program-guide-20-21>

There are both minimum and maximum participation limits so please visit our website today at www.bloomfieldrecreation.org to learn more about the program offerings and a link to sign up.

Winter Sports

6th, 7th & 8th Grade Girls and Boys Basketball

The Bloomfield Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs Department is happy to announce that we will administer an in-town basketball program for 6th, 7th and 8th grade boys and girls starting in January! Registration is now open, but don't

wait too long because spots are extremely limited. Please note there will NOT be a Suburban Traveling Basketball Team this year.

In-Town Basketball evaluations will be held on Saturday, January 16 at the Bloomfield Middle School (60 Huck Rd) with a tentative season start date of Tuesday, January 26.

Please be advised that due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, many new guidelines will be in place such as: Face coverings being worn at all times unless engaged in gameplay, no spectators, and a comprehensive screening process prior to entering the building. More details can be found [here](#). Also, for a list of guidelines for this season, click [here](#).

FOR THIS YEAR ONLY– There is a possibility (if registration numbers are lower than expected) that we will be allowing a limited number of 5th graders to register for the program. This decision will be made by and at the sole discretion of the BPRCA. If 5th graders are allowed to register, there will then be two separate leagues, a JV league comprised of 5th & 6th Graders and a Varsity league comprised of 7th & 8th Graders. If there are enough participants without including 5th graders, we will conduct our traditional 6th, 7th, and 8th grade league.

Bloomfield Senior Citizen Programs

The Senior Zumba Gold virtually on the Zoom App runs all year long. New sessions began on December 9, 2020. You can register online at www.bloomfieldrecreation.org, or by phone (973)743-9074.

Senior Line Dance Class – Mondays 10:00am – 11:00am Virtually on the Zoom App
Get ready to stomp, twirl and scuff with instructor Katie Hickey! This class will teach 1-2 beginner line dances a week using both country and non - country music.

Qigong |Tuesdays 10:00am – 11:00am virtually on the Zoom App

Wednesday & Fridays | Zumba Gold 10:00am – 11:00am Virtually on the Zoom App

ROBLOX Game Designer- Build Your Own Obstacle Course

Our first class has already filled up. We are looking to add an additional class and if you are interested in the Roblox Game Designer class please sign up for our waiting list on Community Pass or reach out to Dana Morton
[@dmorton@bloomfieldtwpnj.com](mailto:dmorton@bloomfieldtwpnj.com).

ROBLOX GAME DESIGNER

BUILD YOUR OWN OBSTACLE COURSE

GRADES 4-8
\$175/STUDENT

LIMITED SPACE, 6 STUDENTS MAX

THURSDAYS
5:30PM - 7:00PM

JANUARY 14, 21, 28

FEBRUARY 4, 11, 18



If one of your child's favorite games is Roblox this class is a great opportunity for them to learn the fundamentals of game design and coding with Roblox Studio. Our live coach will guide students in creating, designing and building their own obstacle course or "Obby" and use the programming language called Lua to write scripts to take the game to a higher level. By the end of the session, the young designers will be able to challenge family and friends with an "Obby" of their own creation!

To take part in the program, you must have a Windows or Mac (not Chromebooks) with webcam. Internet connection with access to Zoom.

HOW TO REGISTER

BLOOMFIELD

(973) 743-9074

Parks • Recreation • Cultural Affairs

www.bloomfieldrecreation.org

High School Intramural Boys Basketball

The BPRCA is optimistic that there will be an Intramural High School Basketball program for boys grades 9-12 who did not make the high school team. This program will be administered at a limited capacity so that it is in compliance with the Governor's Executive Orders as well as the winter sport guidelines set forth by the NJSIAA. No payment will be taken at the time of registration. A balance will be placed on the family account a week prior to evaluations and that payment must be made in order to participate in the evaluations. Details such as registration and evaluation dates to follow soon!

Recreation Wrestling

Wrestling has been moved from the winter months and has been pushed back to March 1. More information about this program and how to register will be available in February.

BROAD STEPS OUTDOOR ART GALLERY

Bloomfield light poles will be turned into an outdoor gallery from April 3 to June 2. Local artists are encouraged to enter their artwork and show off their talent and creativity. All mediums are accepted. Artwork will be professionally photographed and printed to vinyl signs. The exhibition is FREE to enter and open to Essex County residents ages 10 and up (signs and printing are included). Deadline is January 22. To enter artwork for consideration, contact

culturalaffairs@bloomfieldwpnj.com.



BROAD STEPS
OPEN-AIR ART GALLERY
Glenwood Ave to Broad Street

APRIL 3RD - JUNE 2ND

Bloomfield light poles will be turned into an outdoor gallery from April 3rd to June 2nd. Local artists are encouraged to enter their artwork and show off their talent and creativity. All mediums are accepted. Artwork will be professionally photographed and printed to vinyl signs. The exhibition is **FREE** to enter and open to Essex County residents ages 10 and up. (Signs and printing are included)

Deadline is Friday, January 22nd.
Dimensions are 30" x 36"
Awards for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place.

For more information or to enter artwork for consideration, contact:
BLOOMFIELD
Parks • Recreation • Cultural Affairs
culturalaffairs@bloomfieldwpnj.com
(973) 743-9074

This Exhibit is Supported By
Bloomfield Center Alliance 2021 Essex County Local Arts Grant

Artist Name
Artwork Title (Date)

Recycling Calendar



For New Year's Day January 1 and January 2:

- Garbage **WILL NOT BE** collected on Friday, January 1 Your next collection day will be Tuesday, January 5.
- Recycling (Mixed Paper and Cardboard) **WILL NOT BE** collected on Friday, January 1. **THEY WILL BE COLLECTED ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 2.**
- The Recycling Depot located at 230 Grove Street will be open on Saturday, January 2 as always. For your convenience we will have extended hours from 9:00am-2:30pm.

Week of January 4-commingled (aluminum, glass, plastic recycling codes 1,2,5)

Week of January 11-mixed paper/cardboard

Week of January 18-commingled (aluminum, glass, plastic recycling codes 1,2,5)

Week of January 25-mixed paper/cardboard

Saturday Recycling Hours

The Public Works Yard at 230 Grove St. is open for recycling every Saturday from 9:00am-1:00pm (closed July 4). No garbage or bulk drop off. Bring only mixed paper/cardboard, commingled items-glass, aluminum and plastic (recycling codes 1,2 and 5 ONLY), electronics and used water filters. **MASKS REQUIRED.**

Bulk Pickup of Large Items

(No metals, appliances) occurs on the second garbage pickup day of each week. Three items maximum. You do not need to call the office to have items picked up.

Metals and Appliances

(Not electronics) are picked up every Tuesday. Call DPW at 973-680-4127 no later than 3:00pm the Monday before scheduled Tuesday pickup.

NO TRASH, DIRT AND ROCKS IN VEGETATIVE waste bags. Large branches must be bundled and tied in 4ft. lengths. (Waste bags and bundles may not weigh more than 50lbs).

Recycle Coach App

Recycle Coach: The Township of Bloomfield has partnered with Recycle Coach to help residents reduce waste and become better recyclers. The Recycle Coach App is available for FREE, download on Android and iPhone.

2021 Recycling Calendar

For a full 2021 recycling calendar click [here](#).

Bloomfield Public Schools

Just like many other programs, our Wingman program has been impacted by Covid-19. However, in true Bengal fashion, we find ways to make adjustments and keep persevering. The Wingman Program has been up and running at numerous schools with most schools picking up right where they left off in June! Although with a different look, schools have been successful with virtual groups with either choosing activities that can be run virtually or modifying other activities to fit the virtual model, which all have worked very well.

Some groups or topics that have been covered this year are as follows: Name Game, How Long is a Minute, Graffiti Wall, Charades Race, Invisible Clay, and Franklin School even made a Wingman Commercial! Watsessing has the whole school involved in Wingman Wednesdays, in which every grade level participates. Last Wednesday's lesson focused on the importance of kindness and school spirit."

Many of the students that are Wingmen this year, were introduced to the program last year as 5th graders. They are being trained with the goal of not only going into classrooms, but to train 5th grade Wingman in the upcoming months. The students have shown much excitement towards the program and have been responsible for implementing it. At the high school level, the seniors were trained last year as juniors and have shown exceptional leadership this year even in a virtual setting. Their Wingman groups get everyone engaged and allows each individual the opportunity to express themselves. The high school groups take place monthly, as well as one time a month where the seniors train the juniors, and help the juniors run the lessons with the freshman group.

Wingman is up and running smoothly with the goal of continuing to deliver social emotional lessons, either virtually or in person, to our students!

January Council Meetings

Due to multiple Executive Orders declared by Governor Murphy and in an effort to prevent further spread of COVID-19, the January 4, 2021 Organizational Meeting (6:30pm), January 11, 2021 Conference Meeting (7:00pm), and January 25, 2021 Regular Meeting (7:00pm) will be closed to the general public.

The Township Council Meetings will be streaming live on Channel 35, (Comcast), Channel 30 (Verizon), YouTube or Facebook Live. A link for the livestream will be posted on the township website, www.bloomfieldtwpnj.com . The public always has an opportunity to make public comment to the Mayor and Council during public meetings. However, with this new format, if you have a comment or a question, please submit it in writing to the Township Clerk at twpclerk@bloomfieldtwpnj.com.

If there are any public comments on the Ordinances on Second Reading, please submit those as well. The Township Clerk will read on the record your question or comment during the public comment portion of the meeting. You should submit your name, address and state your question or comment. Submissions will be accepted until 6:15pm on Monday, January 4, 2021, and 6:45pm on Monday, January 11, 2021 and January 25, 2021.

If you choose not to email, and would rather speak during the meeting - please dial in using this number 425-436-6348 Access: 277839#. When you are called upon please state your name, address and then your comment. You will have five minutes total to speak. The agenda as well as supporting resolutions and ordinances can be found on the township website.

Any questions should be directed to the Municipal Clerk's Office at 973-680-4015 during regular business hours 8:30am-4:30pm.



Sign Bloomfield's Green Challenge Pledge TODAY!

Commit to Bloomfield's Green Challenge Pledge and help the township reach 2,500 signatures. Your commitment will not only keep Bloomfield environmentally friendly and sustainable, but will help get the township one step closer to renewing its Sustainable New Jersey certification. Bloomfield residents who are 18 and over can participate:

<https://tinyurl.com/BloomfieldGreenChallenge>

Biodegradable Bag Guidelines

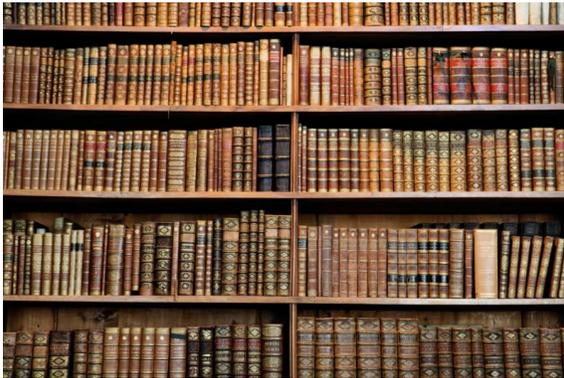
• Your biodegradable bags (leaf/grass clippings) are picked up on your recycling day. Collection will continue weekly until November.

- All leaves must be placed at the curb in biodegradable paper bags.
- Leaves placed in plastic bags of any type will not be collected.
- Leaves must be free of miscellaneous debris, e.g. dirt, rocks, stones, etc. Leaf bags containing these items will not be collected.
- Leaf bags shall be limited to a weight of fifty (50) pounds or less. Leaf bags weighing more than fifty pounds will not be collected.
- Limbs, branches, loose wood, and brush shall be cut and tied in lengths not exceeding three feet and not to exceed 25 pounds.
- LEAVES MAY NOT BE BLOWN INTO THE STREET BY EITHER RESIDENTS OR LANDSCAPERS. ALL LEAVES MUST BE PLACED IN BIODEGRADABLE BAGS.

As stated in the Township ordinance (491-7 C), NO grass clippings, brush, branches or other vegetative matter shall be placed loose or in piles on the sidewalk, gutters or streets of the Township of Bloomfield.

If you have a DPW related issue, question or service request, please call 973-680-4127.

Check out the new [DPW Facebook page](#) for updates and changes to the schedule.



Bloomfield Public Library

January 13, 6pm: Free concert on Zoom, rescheduled from last month: Jazz and the Civil Rights Movement

Email lcohn@bplnj.org for the new link.

January 13, 6:45pm: Journaling meetup

January 19, 7:00pm: Meetup for Virtual BPL Nonfiction Book Club. Zoom link will be posted on the BPL website

January 23 11:00am: Virtual cookbook club via zoom. Participants are asked to make a Mediterranean inspired dish from their favorite website or cookbook. Link available at bplnj.org.

VIRTUAL PROGRAMS on FACEBOOK:

Spanish Storytime Mondays at 11
Toddler Storytime Tuesdays at 11
PreK Storytime Wednesdays at 11
Baby Storytime Thursdays at 11
Craft Time Fridays at 11

SPECIAL VIRTUAL PROGRAM: Storytime Boogie January 6 at 11:00am

IN-PERSON PROGRAM:

After-school books & snacks for grades K-12, every Tuesday from 3-5 inside the main entrance. Students can come grab a snack and request/pickup library materials on-the-spot.

Health and Human Services

For information on the COVID-19 vaccine, Alzheimer's Disease and more, click [here](#) for the Bloomfield Department of Health and Human Services newsletter!

Bloomfield Human Services is here to help!

Call us for assistance with :

- Food stamp applications
- Food pantry info
- Food shopping for seniors/disabled residents (limited based on availability of volunteers)
- Health Insurance applications (Medicaid/ACA)
- Assistance with unemployment applications
 - Utility assistance programs
- Rental assistance (if funding is available)
 - Mental health services
 - Wellness calls
 - Senior Services

Call Human Services 973-680-4017

(If you get our voicemail please leave a message and a social worker will call you back!)



¡Bloomfield Human Services está aquí para ayudar!

Llámenos para asistencia con:

- Solicitudes de cupones de alimentos
- Información de despensa de alimentos
- Compra de alimentos para personas de la tercera edad / residentes discapacitados (limitado según la disponibilidad de voluntarios)
- Solicitudes de seguro de salud (Medicaid / ACA)
- Asistencia con solicitudes de desempleo
- Programas de asistencia de servicios públicos
- Asistencia de alquiler (si hay fondos disponibles)
 - Servicios de salud mental
 - Llamadas de bienestar
- Servicios para personas de la tercera edad

Llame a Servicios Humanos al 973-680-4017

(Si recibe nuestro correo de voz, deje un mensaje y un trabajador social le devolverá la llamada).



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