

Department of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs



Spring Program Registration

Registration for spring programs has been open for several weeks but there is still time to register. However, don't wait, as some of the programs are near maximum capacity!

Our traditional spring programs will be offered virtually, in person and/or hybrid. We will continue to follow our

strict COVID-19 policies and procedures regarding social distancing and disinfecting to ensure everyone's safety.

Spring programs include tennis, track and field, and rookie league softball to name a few. We've also brought back popular classes, like: Yoga, Zumba, Chef it Up, Youth Dance, Children's Art, and much more!

We're offering beginners and intermediate classes for both American Sign Language and Spanish. Whether you're just starting out, or want to improve your skills we have classes available to suit your needs.

New for 2021: Zumba For The Whole Family, Qigong, Line Dancing and Minecraft Game Designer!

Minecraft Game Designer

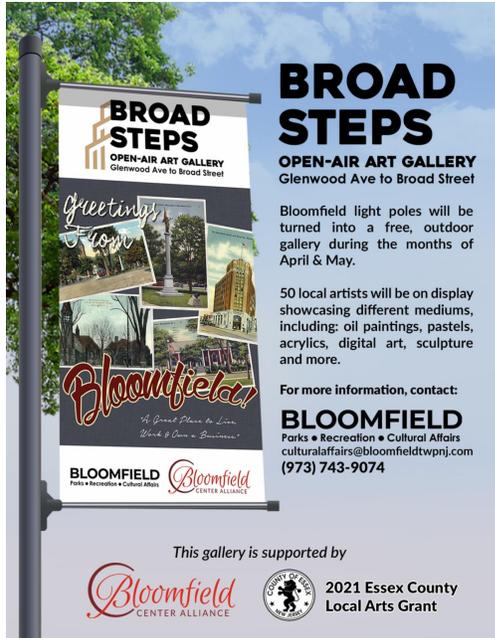
Students will learn the fundamentals of Minecraft gameplay (creative and survival mode) and design. The young builders will learn many skills such as how to build shelter, find resources such as iron and diamonds, create tools, learn to farm, hunt monsters, and obtain armor.

The class will be held via Zoom on Thursdays, 5:30pm - 7:00pm, April 15 – May 20 for grades 4th - 8th graders. The cost is \$175 per student.

Program Guide

For more information or to register for any of our events and programs, contact:

Bloomfield Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs
84 Broad St., Bloomfield, NJ
(973)743-9074
recreation@bloomfieldtwpnj.com



Broad Steps – Open-Air Art Gallery

Mark your calendar and put your walking shoes on because the Bloomfield Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs Department is offering an Open-Air Art Gallery during the months of April and May.

Over 50 Bloomfield and local artists submitted their pieces consisting of various mediums ranging from oil painting, pastels, acrylics, digital art, sculptures and more! Anthony Torres Photography captured high resolution photos of each piece and they will be displayed on light poles along Broad Street and within Bloomfield Center. It's a great, family friendly socially

distanced opportunity to admire great works of art, exercise and visit local business in Bloomfield Center.

2021 Summer of Fun Sponsorship Opportunities

If you own a business and need a viable sponsorship opportunity, why not support the Bloomfield Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs 2021 Summer of Fun. It is a great way to support your town while getting exposure for your business! The “Summer of Fun” is a collection of popular, well attended events including Music Concerts in the Park, Drive-In Movie Series, Holiday Celebrations, the Hank Barlow Golf Outing, Classic Car Cruise Nights and more! Multiple sponsorship levels are available. For details, email the Director at mscurman@bloomfieldtwpnj.com.

Thank you to all of the local businesses that have donated thus far!

Platinum Headline Sponsor

Arlington Developers
Investors Bank

Gold Sponsor

Brookdale ShopRite
Town Pub

Silver Sponsor

Bloomfield Steak & Seafood House
Clara Maass Medical Center / RWJBarnabus Health
CME Associates
Glendale Cemetery Association

Bronze

Bloomfield College
Bloomfield FMBA Local #19
Bloomfield PBA Local #32
Jack's Super Foodtown
Millennium Strategies
O'Boyle Funeral Home
Provident Bank
Sports and Golf Solutions
Universal Technical Institute

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84 Broad Street, Bloomfield, NJ 07003
(973)743-9074 • www.bloomfieldrecreation.org

Open Courts For Middle School Student Athletes



Boys Volleyball Open Court - \$25

7th and 8th grade boys will have an opportunity to learn and hone their Volleyball skills in an Open Gym format! Instruction will be given by our Suburban Volleyball head coach.

Mondays After School - 4:00pm - 5:30pm
Bloomfield Middle School - 60 Huck Rd

April - 12, 19, 26 **May** - 3, 10, 17

Tennis Open Court - \$25

Boys & Girls will have an opportunity to learn and hone their Tennis skills! Instructions and guidance will be given by a former Bloomfield High School Tennis Coach. The program will include 30 minutes of instruction followed by 60 minutes of pick up matches.

Tuesday Afternoons - 4:00pm - 5:30pm
Clarks Pond South Tennis Courts - Dewey St.

April - 13, 20, 27 **May** - 4, 11, 18



Back By Popular Demand!

Back by popular demand, the Bloomfield Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs Department will administer two open gym programs for Middle Schoolers!

Starting on April 12, Volleyball Open Court for boys will be held on Monday afternoons (after school) at the Middle School.

Starting on April 13, Tennis Open Court for boys and girls on Tuesday afternoons at Clarks Pond South tennis courts. For more information please contact Tom DeSiervo at tdesiervo@bloomfieldtwpnj.com or 973-743-9074

Sports Equipment Exchange

Have some lightly used sports equipment that you or your children have grown out of? Do you have children interested in sports for the first time but want to see if they like the sports before you buy equipment? Then the Bloomfield Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs Department's Equipment Exchange Program is for you!

The Bloomfield Civic Center, 84 Broad Street currently has a wide variety of cleats, shin guards, baseball/softball gloves, bats, helmets (with or without protective masks) baseball/softball uniform pants and some football pads/equipment. To donate, all items must be in reasonably good condition and proper working order.

To acquire this free equipment you must be a Bloomfield resident and call 973-743-9074 to set up a time to come to the Civic Center. Face coverings are required during the duration of your visit.

Bloomfield Senior Citizen Programs

Mondays - Line Dancing 10:00am – 11:00am

Tuesdays - Qigong 10:00am -11:00am

Wednesday & Fridays | Zumba Gold 10:00am – 11:00am

Seniorcise - Channel 35, for Verizon Fios tune into Channel 30 - Monday – Friday 10:30am and 3:30pm. A new class each day.



Learn About the Essex-Hudson Greenway in Bloomfield on April 14

In partnership with the Open Space Institute and the September 11 National Memorial Trail, the New Jersey Bike & Walk Coalition (NJBWC) is spearheading a community outreach effort for the proposed Essex-

Hudson Greenway project. Bloomfield Township will host NJBWC for a virtual public presentation on the Greenway for the community on Wednesday, April 14 at 7:00pm.

The proposed Essex-Hudson Greenway is a nearly nine-mile long, multi-use trail corridor following the abandoned Norfolk Southern rail line between Montclair and Jersey City, and through Bloomfield. When complete, this greenway is expected to create more than 135 acres of new green space and improve options for biking, walking, and other active transportation and recreation in North Jersey. You can view more details about the greenway and sign up for updates on this website:

<https://www.essexhudsongreenway.org/>

The Township is pleased to welcome Essex County Commissioner, Brendan Gill, as a guest speaker. Commissioner Gill has been a long-time champion of the Greenway project and will be joined by Essex County Commissioner Carlos Pomares, Mayor Michael J. Venezia and Councilman Nick Joanow to kick-off the presentation. NJBWC will update the community on the status of the rail line acquisition, share initial details about the project, and share ways you can support the project in Bloomfield. Those interested can attend via this link: <http://bit.ly/EHG-BLMFD>.



Bloomfield Community Gardens

Days are gradually getting warmer and the Bloomfield Community Gardens are gearing up for the 2021 growing season. With gardens at both Milbank and Pulaski Parks, we look forward to having you join us for enhanced educational and cultural programming this spring and

summer. Covid-19 safety protocols (mandatory masks, social distancing, hand sanitization) will be in effect.

Opening weekend will be Saturday April 10 and Sunday April 11 at both gardens. Please email bloomfieldnjgardens@gmail.com if you are interested in renting a plot (\$50 per year) and visit our Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/BloomfieldCG>) for more information.

Recycling Calendar



April Recycling Calendar

Week of April 5-mixed paper and cardboard

Week of April 12-commingled (aluminum, glass, plastic recycling codes 1, 2,5)

Week of April 19-mixed paper and cardboard

Week of April 26-commingled (aluminum, glass, plastic recycling codes 1, 2, 5)

Spring Paper Shredding Event-Saturday, May 8 from 9am-Noon at Pulaski Park Parking Lot, 24 Mt. Vernon Avenue. This event is for Bloomfield residents only and you must provide proof of residency. This service is not available to commercial or industrial facilities. MASKS REQUIRED.

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](#).

April Council Meetings

Due to multiple Executive Orders declared by Governor Murphy and in an effort to prevent further spread of COVID-19, the Monday, April 12, 2021 Conference Meeting and the Monday, April 26, 2021 Regular Meeting will both be hybrid meetings beginning at 7pm and open to the public. The public always has an opportunity to make public comment to the Mayor and Council during public meetings.

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.bloomfieldwpnj.com.

The public will be able to be in person in the Council Chambers, 2nd floor, Municipal Building, 1 Municipal Plaza, Bloomfield, NJ 07003, but seating will be limited due to COVID-19. When you are called upon at the meeting, please state your name, address and then your comment. You will have five minutes total to speak.

Or if you choose to call-in 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.

Or if you have a comment or a question, but are not attending the meeting, you may submit it in writing to the Township Clerk at twpclerk@bloomfieldwpnj.com. The Municipal 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 6:45pm on the day of the meeting.

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.

Save the Date! Town-wide Cleanup 4/24

Save the date for the next town-wide cleanup that will take place on April 24! The Bloomfield Beautification Committee and the Clean Communities Program are holding a town-wide cleanup on Saturday, April 24. The cleanup is sponsored by the Mayor, Town Council and the DPW and will take place between 8am-12pm.

Bloomfield Public Library

**4/7 @6:30pm, JoeP – Free on Zoom -
Pop Tunes of the 40s & 60s, Oldies,**



DooWop, Classic Rock, Jewish and Yiddish tunes.

4/13 @ 6:30pm - Non Fiction Book Club on Zoom. Reading After the Last Border by Jessica Goudeau

4/16 @ 2pm - Opioid Safety in Seniors: how to manage and reduce the risk - Zoom Seminar with Bloomfield Health Dept &

Bloomfield Center Alliance

4/19 @6:30pm - Monday Night Book Club - via zoom. Copies of "Close Your Eyes, Hold Hands" by Chris Bohjalian can be ordered through bccls.org. Link on our website.

Children's 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:

Story time Boogie 4/7 at 11am

IN-PERSON PROGRAMS:

After-school Books & Snacks for grades K-12, every Tuesday from 3-5 in the courtyard or inside the main entrance, depending on weather. Students can come grab a snack and request/pickup library materials on-the-spot.

Stay tuned for details regarding outdoor story time events as we welcome the warmer weather!

Natural Mosquito Control

Mosquitoes in your backyard can make it hard to enjoy summertime outside. But instead of lawn chemicals, sprays and foggers, the Bloomfield Environmental Commission suggests looking into natural forms of mosquito control. And now is the



time to start.

First, eliminate all sources of standing water, where mosquitoes lay their eggs. This can be something as small as a bottle cap! (Water in bird feeders should be changed daily.) Next, consider planting trees and flowers that attract mosquito predators. This includes many songbirds, bats and even other insects, such as dragonflies. These backyard visitors

can eat hundreds of mosquitoes every day.

To attract dragonflies, many sources suggest that you consider some of the same native plants that also attract pollinators, including cone flowers, swamp milkweed, black-eyed Susan and Joe-Pye weed. If you're fortunate enough to live near a park or other open area, you may also get visits from swallows and even bats. They love mosquitoes and won't bother people. If you feel you must spray something, spray yourself with an insect repellent rather than insecticides in your yard.

So as you plan your garden this spring, think natural mosquito control and keep the chemicals locked away.



Bloomfield College

Bloomfield College Student Wins First Place for IBS Best Video Sports Report

The Intercollegiate Broadcasting System, Inc. recently announced that Bloomfield College student Siani Smith '22 has been awarded first place in the IBS 2021 Media Awards for Best Video Sports Report for her WBCR radio submission entitled "Bloomfield Athletes Adjust To

COVID-19 Schedule." The award was a part of the IBS 81st Annual Conference virtual events held on March 6, 2021.

The Bloomfield College WBCR radio station was a finalist in three IBS categories, Best Interview (Tyra Brooks '22), Best Community News Coverage (Siani Smith '22) and Best Video Sports Report (Siani Smith).

WBCR Station Coordinator Doug Doyle said, "Congratulations to Siani for this amazing accomplishment in this competitive national conference event, as well as to Tyra Brooks for joining Siani as finalists this year. Kudos also go out to Professor Dillard and Professor Nutter for their unbelievable help and support with these projects."

WBCR is Bloomfield College's internet non-commercial and educational radio station. It is student operated and funded by the College's Communication Program as a laboratory to train communication students and others interested in radio operation and management. The mission of the station is to provide the College and larger community with a format that is varied and informative and includes, but is not limited to, music, news and educational programs.

[View the winning Bloomfield College student IBS award submission.](#)

[View the 2021 IBS awards announcement.](#)

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