

Department of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs



Winter Sports

The Bloomfield Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs Department is reviewing the newly released protocols and guidelines set forth by Governor Murphy and the state of New Jersey for indoor sporting events. We hope to be able to offer 6th – 8th grade girls and boys basketball along with 1st – 8th grade wrestling in some capacity this upcoming winter season. The safety of residents, participants and staff is the BPRCA's top priority and we hope to have more information by early to mid-November. Please bear with us as we ensure that we can conduct a safe and FUN program for all student athletes.

Veteran's Day Event

On Wednesday, November 11 the township plans to honor veterans along with the Bloomfield Joint Memorial Day Committee but details are not currently finalized. A brief ceremony will be held at the Veteran's Monument on the corner of Liberty St and Franklin St at 4:00PM. Due to COVID-19 there will not be a parade and face coverings must be worn by all in attendance. Stay tuned for more details.

Transportation Services

The Bloomfield Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs Department provides free transportation services to residents 60 years and older and/or with disabilities Monday through Friday from 8:30am to 3:30pm.

The **Senior Citizen Bus Service** is a fixed route service that stops at predetermined locations and brings residents to several Bloomfield shopping center's and various other parts of town. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the bus is operating on a modified schedule that can be found [here](#).

The **Dial A Ride Program** is a "curb to curb" service that picks up residents from their home and takes them to and from the doctors (well visits) on a first come first served basis. Eligible residents can schedule rides by calling the BPRCA's Transportation number 973-566-7194 during regular business hours. Appointments must be made at least 72 hours in advance and are on a first come first serve basis.

During the pandemic, passengers must have their temperature taken and a face

covering must be worn while in the vehicle. Any resident that isn't feeling well or is experiencing any symptoms related to COVID-19 should not utilize transportation services and should speak to a health care provider.



Joseph Tiseo Ramp Park Reopening

Construction at the Joseph Tiseo Ramp Park is progressing nicely. A brand new design was created with input from local skaters and bikers to enhance the park's overall usability by bikers and skateboarders of various levels of ability. New blacktop was laid down and brand new ramps will be installed by American Ramp Company. The BPRCA plans to have the park completed by 11/14 and open soon after. Social distancing and safety protocols will be in place and safety equipment will be required.

Bloomfield Senior Citizen Programs

The BPRCA is striving to keep senior citizen residents active and engaged by offering Zumba Gold on both Wednesday and Friday mornings from 10:00am to 11:00am. Due to COVID-19, these classes are now being held virtually via ZOOM and instructor Katterine Godoy will be sure to motivate you and get you moving about in the comfort of your own home! You can register online at www.bloomfieldrecreation.org or by phone at (973)743-9074.

Seniorcise | Channel 35, for Verizon Fios tune into Channel 30 - Monday – Friday 10:30am and 3:30pm. A new class each day (No registration necessary).

Action Alert! Support the Essex-Hudson Greenway

The proposed Essex-Hudson Greenway Project is a nearly nine-mile long, multi-use trail following the Old Boonton Line between Montclair and Jersey City, with a large section running through Bloomfield. The Greenway is expected to provide numerous transportation and recreation opportunities to residents in North Jersey.

This past summer, the Open Space Institute, working with the New Jersey Bike & Walk Coalition and the 911 National Memorial Trail, reached a preliminary purchase and sale agreement with Norfolk Southern Railway Company to acquire the property. More recently, both Essex and Hudson Counties took another important step by passing general resolutions in unanimous support of the Greenway. We are in a critical stage to complete the acquisition for this iconic

regional project.

OSI's purchase and sale agreement is time limited. Your help is needed to let the county officials know that the community supports them to take the next steps to acquire the Greenway. Your voice is the key to helping move the Greenway to the next phase before the opportunity is lost forever. Please join us in sending a letter to your county officials urging them to continue their support in the coming months to ensure that this long-sought and much-needed public greenspace becomes a reality. Send a letter to your county commissioners here. For more information go to: www.essexhudsongreenway.org.

Mayor Venezia Encourages Residents to Sign Up for Communication Tools on Township Website

Mayor Venezia is reminding residents that are not currently subscribed to township communication tools to subscribe now. The tools keep residents up to date throughout the year with non-emergency related information.

“The Town Council and myself have always believed in having a strong and consistent level of communication with residents,” said Mayor Venezia. “Our website communications tools keep residents informed without having to constantly check our website. Signing up for notifications is very easy and will ensure that you do not miss important dates/events.”

Signing up for notifications can be done by going to the township website at <https://www.bloomfieldtwpnj.com/> or clicking this link [here](#). You will be asked to enter an email address and a phone number depending on how you would prefer to be notified. After that you can pick what specific things you would like to receive notifications for based on your interests.



Yard Care Tip: Leave the Leaves

It's fall and the roar of leaf-blowers is just about everywhere. But according to the Bloomfield Environmental Commission, leading environmental authorities say it's best to leave your leaves where they fall, rake them into garden areas or mulch them with your mower (without the bag attached).

These suggestions come from the National Wildlife Federation and even lawn product companies such as Scott's, which explain that fallen leaves help fertilize your soil and provide habitat and food for earthworms, overwintering caterpillars and other beneficial insects, along with food for birds in the spring (some of those

same tasty bugs).

Bonus: keeping your leaves in your yard reduces the amount of your tax dollars that have to be spent by the township on collecting and composting those leaves. Plus, it's less work for you! For more information, visit the [National Wildlife Federation's blog site](#) at or [Scott's "Don't Rake Those Leaves" page](#). (Please note: The Bloomfield Environmental Commission does not endorse or recommend the use of any commercial product. These links are provided for information only.)

Recycling Calendar



Week of November 2 - mixed paper/cardboard

Week of November 9 - commingled (aluminum, glass, plastic recycling codes-1,2,5)

Week of November 16 - mixed paper/cardboard

Week of November 23* - commingled (aluminum, glass, plastic recycling codes-1,2,5)

Week of November 30 - mixed paper/cardboard

*Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday on Thursday, Nov. 26, there is no garbage pickup on this day. Garbage will be picked up on your next regularly scheduled day which is Monday, and your Recycling will be picked up on Friday. There are no other changes to the schedule.

Paper Shredding Event - Saturday, November 7 from 9:00am-12:00pm at NEW LOCATION Pulaski Park Parking Lot, 24 Mt. Vernon Avenue Ave. This event is for residents only and you must provide proof of residency. This service is not available to commercial or industrial facilities. MASKS REQUIRED.

Essex County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

Date: October 3, 8:30am-4:00pm

99 West Bradford Ave, Cedar Grove

Call 973-792-9060 or visit ecuanj.com for more information

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.

Council Meeting Schedule

Both Conference and Regular Council meetings will take place in Council Chambers, which was recently updated with modern style seating. Seating may be limited due to COVID-19. The meeting dates and times are:

Monday, November 9 - Conference Meeting, 7:00pm, Council Chambers, 2nd floor, Municipal Building

Monday, November 23 - Regular Meeting, 7:00pm, Council Chambers, 2nd floor, Municipal Building

Seating may be limited due to COVID-19.

ALL MEETINGS (Conference and Regular) are held in the Council Chambers on the 2nd Floor of the Municipal Building, unless noted otherwise.
All questions should be directed to the Municipal Clerk's Office at (973) 680-4015.



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>

Register for Bloomfield's Town-wide Cleanup on October 24

The Mayor and Council along with Bloomfield's Beautification Committee invite you to join them for a town-wide cleanup on Saturday, October 24 from 9:00am -

12:00pm. Residents are invited to choose a location in their neighborhood and spend the morning "cleaning" and "beautifying" the community. The DPW will drop off all materials at the location you designate, including gloves, masks, garbage pickers, bags, and more and will pick up materials, filled bags, and debris after noon. Please adhere to masks and social distancing recommendations. Registration is required by October 16:

<http://bit.ly/BloomfieldCleanup>

Accepting Applications for Bloomfield Farmer's Market Committee

The Township of Bloomfield is starting a committee to explore and plan a Farmer's Market for Bloomfield. Residents who are interested in volunteering as committee members should send a resume and statement of interest to Councilwoman Jenny Mundell at jmundell@bloomfieldtwpnj.com. Applications will be reviewed by a committee and new members will be selected and recommended to the Mayor and Council for official appointment by January. Please submit applications by November 15.

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

11/10, 7:00pm - Bullet Journaling Meetup on Zoom

11/21, 11:00am - Virtual Thanksgiving themed cookbook club meeting. Participants should keep an eye on the [library website](#) for details.

11/24, 6:30pm - Homegrown String Band. Thanksgiving with the Family that plays together. Free on Zoom. Email reference@bplnj.org for the link to the concert.

Zoom discussion featuring elected officials at the state, county, and town level about what their roles are and how they work together. Date TBA after election.

Children's programs on Facebook:

Mondays: Spanish Storytime

Tuesdays: Toddler Storytime

Wednesdays: PreK Storytime

Thursdays: Baby & Me Storytime

Fridays: Arts & Crafts Time

After-School Books & Snacks in the Courtyard, Tuesday's from 3-5pm and virtual Storytime Boogie **Wednesday 11/4 at 11:00am** on Facebook.

Need something printed? Or reference questions answered? Give the Library a call, email or chat with them via the chat window on their website. As always, follow them on Facebook or subscribe to their email distribution list for the latest news, updates and programming information.

Health and Human Services

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!

Liámenos 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).



DOUBLE
SNAP, WIC, & SENIOR CHECKS
at all locations

Bloomfield Library
90 Broad St.
4:30pm - 6pm
July 7, 21
Aug. 4, 18
Sept. 1, 15, 29
Oct. 27
Nov. 10

VEGGIE MOBILE
GROWING HEALTHY CITIES

citygreenonline.org
@citygreenNJ
info@city-green.org

Partners for Health Foundation

Public Health

State Policy Health Communication Network



Resources for Families Coping with Mental and Substance Use Disorders:

<https://www.samhsa.gov/families>

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