

Bloomfield

JUL - DEC 2025

Buzz

Building a Better Bloomfield Together: Green, Clean, and Strong



Escanea el código QR para acceder a este boletín en español



Council Meetings

All meetings (conference and regular) are open to the public and held in the Council Chambers on the 2nd floor of the Municipal Building, unless noted otherwise. You can watch the meetings live on Channel 35 (Comcast), Channel 30 (Verizon), or on the Township's Facebook page. A live stream will also be available on wbmatv.com. All questions should be directed to the Municipal Clerk's Office at **(973) 680-4015**.

July 14 - 6:30PM

Combined Conference/Regular Meeting

August 11 - 6:30PM

Combined Conference/Regular Meeting

September 15 - 7PM

Conference Meeting

September 29 - 7PM

Regular Meeting

October 27 - 6:30PM

Combined Conference/Regular Meeting

November 10 - 7PM

Conference Meeting

November 17 - 7PM

Regular Meeting (Virtual)

December 8 - 6:30PM

Combined Conference/Regular Meeting

Important Election Information

Monday, July 28

Last day to file School Board Election petitions for the November General Election

Tuesday, October 14

Last day to register to vote or transfer registration for the November General Election

Tuesday, October 28

Last day to request a vote by mail ballot for the November General Election

Saturday, October 25 - Sunday, November 2

Early voting period for the November General Election

November 4

General Election Day. Polls open from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

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Mayor Jenny Mundell Outlines Vision for a “Greener, Cleaner, and Stronger” Bloomfield in First State of the Township Address

In a wide-ranging and forward-looking State of the Township Address, Mayor Jenny Mundell laid out her administration’s vision for “Building a Better Bloomfield Together: Greener, Cleaner, and Stronger,” highlighting accomplishments from her first six months in office and outlining plans for continued progress across infrastructure, sustainability, and community engagement.

Speaking to residents, elected officials, and community leaders at the event, which was held in the Council Chambers and live streamed for accessibility, Mayor Mundell emphasized transparency, accountability, and community-driven progress as central tenets of her administration. She framed her remarks as both a celebration of achievements and a candid discussion of the challenges ahead.

“This is about more than updates — it’s about building trust,” Mundell said, noting that this was the first State of the Township held in recent memory. “Our accomplishments reflect the goals and aspirations of our residents.”

Since taking office in November 2024, Mundell has prioritized sustainability, infrastructure, and civic engagement. Among notable achievements highlighted was the demolition of the long-abandoned Grove Street DPW site — a project that had been stalled for nearly two decades.

Additionally, the Township recently secured full ownership of the Royal Garage, expanding public parking options and enhancing overall access to Bloomfield Center.

The Township’s newly adopted Master Plan, developed with robust public input, will serve as a guide for future development. The plan emphasizes walkability, affordable housing, cultural spaces, smarter land use, and environmental resilience, including flood mitigation and green infrastructure.

One representation of this transformation will be the planned pocket park at the former Roxy Florist site on Glenwood Avenue. The park will include shaded seating, walking paths, and space for public events, contributing to a more vibrant and walkable downtown.

Efforts to modernize infrastructure are well underway. More than 1,300 lead or galvanized water service lines have already been replaced through a state-financed Lead Service Line Replacement Program, with thousands more scheduled for removal in the coming years. These improvements are part of a larger initiative to ensure clean drinking water and enhance public health protections.

Mundell praised Township departments like Public Works and Engineering for embracing cost-saving measures. The Engineering Department has taken on additional planning responsibilities in-house, reducing reliance on consultants. Meanwhile, Public Works has assumed maintenance duties for nearly 100 Township-owned sites, from parks to bridges, saving tens of thousands in taxpayer dollars.

As part of Bloomfield's 2025 Roadway Improvement Program, the Township plans to resurface 18 streets — totaling 2.7 linear miles — with several projects also featuring upgraded curbing, ADA-compliant ramps, traffic signal improvements, and stormwater drainage enhancements. Supporting this effort is Vialytics, an AI-powered tool that provides real-time data on road conditions and infrastructure needs, allowing the Township to proactively flag and address issues while optimizing project planning and resource allocation.

The mayor also spotlighted Bloomfield's environmental achievements, from retaining its Sustainable Jersey Bronze certification to planting new trees and expanding the Township's electric vehicle fleet. The long-awaited renovation of the Pitt Street parking lot was cited as another example of environmentally responsible infrastructure, featuring solar lighting, stormwater upgrades, and bicycle-friendly amenities.

In public safety, Mundell lauded the Fire and Police Departments for their community-centered approaches and emergency response readiness. A recent house fire underscored the impact of youth programming like the Fire Department's Girls on Fire Camp, which helped a young resident act quickly to save her family.

Looking ahead, the mayor announced enhancements to the Bloomfield Clean & Strong initiative through the SDL portal, which will streamline how residents report and track local issues. She also unveiled plans for a strategic communications overhaul, including a website redesign, increased social media engagement, and expanded language access.

"We're not just managing challenges — we're shaping Bloomfield's future together," Mundell said. "This is what real community-building looks like."



To watch the 2025 State of the Township Address in full or read the Mayor's remarks in full, scan the QR code.



Help Available for Bloomfield Residents Facing Energy Bill Increases

As of June 1, 2025, energy bills in New Jersey have increased by nearly 20%. Bloomfield residents have several options to help manage these rising costs.

Utility Assistance Programs

Residents can apply for Utility Assistance Programs through the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU). These programs offer financial support to eligible households struggling to pay their energy bills. Visit www.nj.gov/bpu for more information on available assistance programs.

PSE&G Energy Efficiency Programs

Beginning this summer, PSE&G contractors from The JPI Group, a subcontractor of Honeywell, will be canvassing Bloomfield neighborhoods to inform residents about available energy efficiency programs. For more information, contact **1-855-522-8211**.

PSE&G Comfort Partners Program

PSE&G's Comfort Partners Program offers free energy-saving upgrades and education for income-eligible customers. Learn more or apply at www.nj.pseg.com/comfortpartners.

Community Solar

Community solar programs let homeowners and renters save on electricity bills without installing panels. By subscribing to a local solar project — like those developed by Solar Landscape — you support clean energy and receive monthly bill credits that lower what you owe. The subscription fee is offset by guaranteed savings, making it an easy way to reduce costs and support renewable energy.



Scan for additional resources



Escanea para ver recursos adicionales

Take action today by exploring these resources. For more information, contact the Bloomfield Environmental Commission.

Bloomfield Department of Health

Free Blood Pressure Screenings

Farmers Market, Bloomfield Library Courtyard

3:30PM - 6:30PM

July 8

July 29

August 12

August 26

September 9

September 23

October 14

October 28

Learn to Ride a Bike

Saturday, July 19 - 8AM, 9:15AM, and 10:30AM

Fairview Elementary School Playground

Free class for children ages 5-12. Must be accompanied by a parent or guardian and present a signed waiver. Student cyclists must wear a helmet and sneakers. Please remember to inflate bike tires before class. Visit bit.ly/BloomfieldBikeClasses to register. For more information, email LLee@ezride.org.

Healthy Living in Bloomfield Newsletter

Take charge of your well-being with the Health Department's monthly newsletter, packed with tips on healthy living and local wellness resources.

Scan to read

Escanea para leer





Bloomfield Public Library

Hours of Operation

Monday – Tuesday: 9AM – 8PM

Wednesday: 7AM – 8PM

Thursday: 9AM – 6PM

Friday – Saturday: 9AM – 5PM

Sunday: Closed

In case of inclement weather, please call ahead.

Holiday Closures

Independence Day – Friday, July 4

Labor Day – Monday, Sept. 1

Columbus Day – Monday, Oct. 13

Veterans Day – Tuesday, Nov. 11

Thanksgiving – Wednesday, Nov. 26 at 3PM to Friday, Nov. 28

Christmas – Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 1PM to Thursday, Dec. 25

New Year's Eve – Wednesday, Dec. 31 at 3PM

Library Programming

Events are subject to change, and more programs are added all the time. For the most current information about films, meetings, other library programs, holiday or emergency closings, and other news, please visit the library, call us at 973-566-6200, check out our website at www.bplnj.org, like us on Facebook & Instagram, or sign up on our homepage for our email blasts.

Summer Reading Programs

From babies to adults, there is something for everyone at the Bloomfield Public Library. Join us this summer to win prizes, read books, and have lots of fun.

Fall Reading Programs

From September through December, join us for exciting programs each week, available for all ages. Book clubs, poetry and crafting clubs, children and teen programs, FREE monthly concerts, and more.



Scan for upcoming
Bloomfield Public
Library events

Contact the Library

In person or mail: 90 Broad Street, Bloomfield, NJ 07003.
Directions on our website.



973-566-6200



reference@bloomfield.bccls.org



@BloomfieldPublicLibraryNJ



@bplnj

Find us online at www.bplnj.org and sign up on our homepage for our email news.

Bloomfield Fire Department

Get a free car seat inspection! Did you know that nearly 2 out of 3 car seats are used incorrectly? Join us every first Saturday of the month from 9AM to Noon at the Bloomfield Fire Headquarters, located at 375 Franklin Street in Bloomfield, for a free car seat inspection or installation by a nationally-certified technician. We make it easy for you by ensuring your car seat is properly installed, recommending the best car seat for your needs, providing assistance with accessing a car seat for families facing financial hardship, and answering questions about transitioning between proper equipment.

Follow the Bloomfield Fire Department on social media!



Bloomfield Fire Department



@Bloomfieldnjfd



Bloomfield Fire Department



@Bloomfieldnjfire



@Bloomfieldnjfire

Bloomfield Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs

(973) 743-9074 • bloomfieldrecreation.org



2025 Summer of Fun

Summer is the perfect time to get outside, connect with neighbors, and enjoy everything our Township has to offer. From concerts and festivals to family-friendly activities, there's something for everyone to enjoy. We hope to see you at one of this season's exciting community events!

Independence Day

Friday, July 4th - 5:30PM
Foley Field - JFK Drive

Enjoy amusements, face painting, food vendors, and music by DJ Joe Milano of Midnight DJ Productions. Opening ceremony at 7:30PM. Fireworks spectacular at 9:30PM.

Civic Band Concerts

Monday, July 7th, 14th, 21st - 7:00PM

On the first two Mondays, the concerts will take place on the Historic Town Green, across from the Civic Center. On Monday, July 21st, the Bloomfield Civic Band will perform on the Great Lawn of the Oakeside Bloomfield Cultural Center, 240 Belleville Ave, as part of our Monday Night Music Performances.

Summer Concert Series

Tuesdays - 7PM
Brookside Park - 90 Bay Ave

July 8th - Yacht Lobsters (Yacht Rock)

July 15th - Coast to Coast (R&B/Motown)

July 22nd - Little Mermen (Disney Theme Music)

July 29th - Laser Light Show (Beatles Music) - Delayed start at 9PM

National Night Out & Summer Concert Series

Tuesday, August 5th
Vassar Field - 60 Byrd Ave

Gates open at 5:30PM. The Police vs. Fire kickball game will start at 6PM. Classic hits performed by Arena Relive the Rock at 7:30PM.

Christmas in July

Friday, July 18th - 6PM
Pulaski Park - 24 Mt. Vernon Ave

Enjoy an outdoor holiday movie screening and live music by Kris and the Kringles.

Hank Barlow Memorial Golf Outing

Wednesday, August 6th - 8AM
Farmstead Golf & Country Club
Register: www.bloomfieldrecreation.org

Cool Summer Nights Cruise Night & Car Show

Wednesdays - 6PM - 9PM
Universal Technical Institute - 1515 Broad Street
(Shelbourne Properties Campus)

August 6th - 1st Responders Night

August 13th - Bloomfield Cruisers Shirt Night, UTI Campus Tours, and Dyno Runs

August 20th - Live Band - Pink Slip Daddy

August 27th - Drive-in Movie

Overnight Family Campout & Movie

Friday, September 19th - 6PM
Pulaski Park
Registration Starts September 1st - 10AM

Bloomfield Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs

(973) 743-9074 • bloomfieldrecreation.org

Thank You to Our Sponsors!

The Bloomfield Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs Department would like to thank our wonderful sponsors. With their support and generosity, we are able to provide these events free of charge for our community (nominal charge for the 4th of July). We encourage all of our residents to support the businesses that support us. When you visit their establishments, thank them for making our community great.

Platinum Headline Sponsor

The Grove Crossing
thegroveatone92.com

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ShopRite of Brookdale
shoprite.com

Halpin-Bitecola Funeral Home
brookdalefh.com

Town Pub
townpub.com

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CME Associates
cmeusa1.com

ECRB Towing & Recovery
ecrbtowing.com

Essex Animal Hospital
essexanimalhospital.com

Glendale Cemetery Association
glendalecemetery.org

**Hackensack Meridian Mountainside
Medical Center**
mountainsidehosp.com

Kitchen Tune Up
kitchentuneupbloomfield.com

Papasikos Orthodontics
papasikosortho.com

True Dental Care
pediatricdentistbloomfield.com

Bronze Sponsors

Bloomfield FMBA Local #19
facebook.com/BloomfieldNJFMBA

Bloomfield PBA Local #32
facebook.com/bloomfield.pba

Bloomfield Steak & Seafood House
eatbeefgethooked.com

BMW of Bloomfield
bmwofbloomfield.com

Enviroscapes Inc.
enviroscapesinc.com

Gencarelli's Bakery
gencarellisbakery.com

Hot Bagels Abroad
bagelsabroad.com

IUOE Local 68
local68.org

IVYREHAB Physical Therapy
ivyrehab.com/physical-therapy-location/bloomfield-nj

Obal's Inn
instagram.com/obals_inn

Nevada Diner
nevadadiner.com

The Sign Post NJ
signpostnj.com

Universal Technical Institute
rev.uti.edu

Bloomfield Hispanic Heritage Committee

Hispanic Heritage Month

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with the Township of Bloomfield from September 15th to October 15th. Throughout the month, the Township will honor the culture, contributions, and histories of Hispanic and Latin American communities in Bloomfield.

Fiesta Latina

Saturday, September 20 - 12PM
Historic Town Green

Fiesta Latina returns to Bloomfield! Join us to celebrate Hispanic heritage with music, food trucks, vendors, and more.

Día de los Muertos/A Celebration of Life

Sunday, November 2

Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) is a traditional Mexican holiday celebrated on November 1 and 2. It honors deceased loved ones by celebrating their lives with joy rather than mourning. Families create colorful ofrendas (altars) with photos, favorite foods, candles, and marigolds to welcome the spirits back for a visit. It's a time for storytelling, music, and togetherness, blending indigenous and Catholic traditions. Though often mistaken for Halloween, it's a unique and deeply spiritual celebration of life, memory, and connection.



We want to hear from you!

We invite you to share your ideas by completing a brief survey. Your input will help us choose topics, speakers, and activities that matter most to you.

surveymonkey.com/r/WYLN6W



¡Nosotros queremos saber de ti!

Te invitamos a compartir tus ideas completando una breve encuesta. Tu opinión nos ayudará a elegir los temas, oradores y actividades que más te importan.

surveymonkey.com/r/TY9PD9X

The Historical Society of Bloomfield

Oakes Mill, Oakes Pond & the Oakes Family

October 28 - 7:30PM

Bloomfield Civic Center, 84 Broad St

What was it like to work in a wool mill in the early 1900s, or for that matter, to own the wool mill? Join the Historical Society of Bloomfield (HSOB) to learn about Oakes Mill's history in Bloomfield from David Oakes building a single-room mill to make yarn when he was 21 to a 30-acre campus of industrial buildings known nationally for its Oakes Blue wool that was used to make Civil War uniforms. You'll see photos and maps from the HSOB's archives of the early days of the mill, the pond, the Oakes family and two generations of their Oakeside mansions on Belleville Avenue.

And be sure to check the HSOB website for updates on the semi-annual HSOB Attic Treasures Sale, coming in October! For more information, visit www.HSOB.org.



Bloomfield Public Works & Park Maintenance

(973) 680-4127

Garbage & Recycling Calendar

= Holidays when pickups will be suspended. Garbage will be picked up on your next regularly scheduled day. Recycling is delayed until next business day.

= Holidays when garbage and recycling will be picked up, but bio bags will not be picked up.

Unshaded: COMMINGLED
(aluminum, glass, plastic)

Shaded: CARDBOARD & MIXED PAPER

July							August							September							October							November							December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S

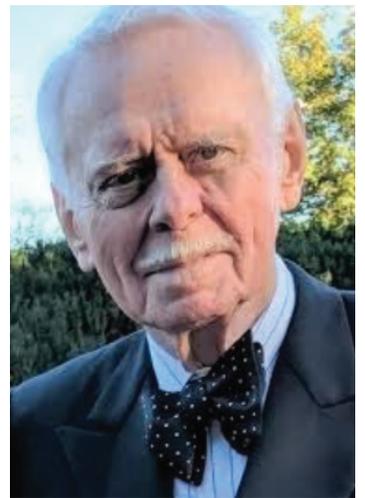


In Bloomfield History: The Bell Tolls for Thee

Felix J. Rospond, P.E., died on July 5, 2023, at the age of 87. If the name doesn't ring a bell, long-time Bloomfield residents may remember the predicament in the 1970s of what to do with the steeple bell from the German Presbyterian Church on Park Avenue at State Street, which had been dedicated in 1896.

When the church was torn down in 1972, the fate of the impressive bell was unknown. The Presbyterian Church on the Green, with whom the German Presbyterian Church had merged in 1966, already had a bell it was happy with. Pastor Dr. Merle Irwin of the merged congregation asked then-Councilman Joseph Barry if he could come up with a location for the bell. Barry struck on the idea of locating the bell on the South Green in front of Bloomfield College's Seibert Hall.

Mayor John Kinder and the rest of the Town Council wanted to know what the bell's structure would look like before approving it. Barry conferred with his friend Felix Rospond, owner of F.J. Rospond Associates, a Bloomfield engineering firm. Rospond spoke to Levon Khachadourian, AIA, a Bloomfield architect, who agreed to donate the design of the monument. Rospond donated the engineering. Barry returned to the Mayor and Council with an architectural rendering of the monument and they approved both the project and its location. Work was completed in October 1979 and the bell was dedicated on November 4, 1979.



Scan the QR code to read the full account of "The Bell Monument on the Green" in the May 2009 edition of *The Bloomfield Historian* (formerly *The New Town Crier*), the official newsletter of the Historical Society of Bloomfield.



Municipal Directory

Main Number (973) 680-4000

Animal Control For Emergencies
(973) 680-4141

Animal Shelter General Inquiries
(973) 748-0194

Assessor (973) 680-4021

Board of Education (973) 680-8500

Building & Zoning (973) 680-4053

Clerk's Office (973) 680-4015

Housing (Section 8) (973) 680-4187

Court/Violations (973) 680-4078

Dial-A-Ride (973) 566-7194

Engineering (973) 680-4009

Finance (973) 680-4038

Fire Department (973) 680-4153

Health Department (973) 680-4024

Human Services (973) 680-4017

Information Systems

(973) 680-4670

Law Department (973) 680-4066

Library (973) 566-6200

Mayor & Council (973) 680-4077

Nursing (973) 680-4024

Office of Emergency Management

(973) 680-4177

Parking (973) 680-8960

Personnel (973) 680-4042

Planning & Zoning Boards

(973) 680-4012

Police Department (973) 680-4141

Public Works (973) 680-4127

Recreation (973) 743-9074

Recycling (973) 259-3162

Tax Department (973) 680-4049

Township Administrator

(973) 680-4006

Water Department (973) 680-4051

WBMA TV (973) 680-4122

Your Elected Officials

Mayor Jenny Mundell

1st Ward Councilwoman

Rosalee Gonzalez

2nd Ward Councilman

Nicholas Joanow

3rd Ward Councilwoman

Sarah Cruz

At-Large Councilmembers:

Monica Charris Tabares

Dr. Wartyna "Nina" Davis

Widney Polynice

TOWNSHIP OF BLOOMFIELD
1 MUNICIPAL PLAZA
BLOOMFIELD, NJ 07003



A MESSAGE FROM

Mayor Mundell



Hello Residents!

Hello Bloomfield,

As we reach the halfway point of 2025, I want to take a moment to reflect on how far we've come—not just as a Township, but as a community working together to make Bloomfield stronger, cleaner, and greener. Everything we've accomplished so far this year has been shaped by your ideas, your energy, and your involvement. The true spirit of Bloomfield is you.

From neighborhood cleanups to cultural celebrations, community forums to infrastructure improvements, this year's progress has been powered by the people who live here. The Township is proud to support these efforts, but it's your participation and leadership that truly drive them forward.

In January, residents came together for our 10th Annual MLK Day of Service, to honor Dr. King's legacy with action. February brought a powerful community-led celebration of Black History Month, followed by Women's History Month in March, when you helped us lift up the stories and achievements of women who make a difference in Bloomfield every day. In April, we celebrated Earth Day and neighbors came together for the Spring Town-Wide Cleanup, a hands-on show of commitment to our environment and our neighborhoods.

In May, we gathered to honor those who gave their lives in service on Memorial Day, and in June we proudly hosted Bloomfield's 5th Annual Juneteenth Celebration alongside a full lineup of Pride Month events – each led by community members and guided by our shared values of inclusion, dignity, and belonging.

That same collaborative spirit guided our efforts to improve access and engagement across the Township. Our Ward-based Community Resource Meetings in February and March created space for open conversation, allowing residents to connect directly with Township staff and elected officials, sharing ideas, raising concerns, and learning about local programs. We carried that same transparency into April with the launch of the Mayor's Information Sessions, designed to demystify local government and open up new lines of communication.

In May, I was honored to deliver my first State of the Township Address – our first in recent memory. I outlined our vision for "Building a Better Bloomfield Together: Greener, Cleaner, and Stronger," and shared some of the big steps we've taken already in just six months. These milestones – like the demolition of the long-abandoned Grove Street DPW site, the acquisition of the Royal Garage for expanded public parking, and progress on our nationally recognized lead service line replacement program – have all been shaped by community input, advocacy, and persistence. Even our 2025 Roadway

Improvement Program is being guided by new technology and your feedback, using AI-powered tools to prioritize street repairs based on real conditions and resident-reported concerns.

We also relaunched the Clean & Strong Bloomfield initiative through the SDL portal, giving residents an easier, more transparent way to report and track issues. Our new Master Plan, developed with extensive public participation, will serve as a long-term roadmap for a more walkable, affordable, and environmentally resilient Bloomfield. Projects like the planned pocket park at the former Roxy Florist site are a direct response to what we've heard from you: more green space, more places to gather, more beauty in our shared environment.

As we look to the second half of the year, that same community-driven momentum continues. Our annual July 4th celebration will bring residents together for a day of fun, culminating in an incredible fireworks display to kick off the "Summer of Fun," featuring movie nights, live music, and family-friendly activities all season long, organized by our Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs Department. The Mayor's Wellness Campaign will continue to promote physical and mental well-being for residents of all ages, with more events and resources on the way.

In the fall, we'll celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with our annual Fiesta Latina, another beloved event shaped by the people it celebrates. September will also bring our next Town-Wide Cleanup, another chance to roll up our sleeves and come together to care for our shared spaces. The long-anticipated Children's Library renovation is slated to begin in the fall, and we're on track to complete construction at the Pitt Street Parking Lot this summer, adding sustainable features like solar lighting and stormwater upgrades to better serve both residents and the environment. Before the year ends, we'll gather again for our annual Turkey Giveaway to support local families heading into the holiday season, a tradition made possible by the generosity and care of this incredible community.

So thank you, not just for showing up, but for leading the way. Whether you're organizing an event, attending a meeting, or just staying informed and engaged, your voice and your presence matter. Every step forward we take as a township starts with you. Thank you for being the heart of Bloomfield.

With appreciation and pride,
Your Mayor,