

LOWER TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

FALL 2025



FROM THE COUNCIL...

Dear Residents,

In recent months, our community has experienced a significant increase in the use of e-bikes and scooters. These new forms of transportation provide convenience, reduce traffic congestion, and offer a more environmentally friendly way to travel. However, with their growing popularity, we have also seen a rise in safety concerns that must be addressed together.

Too often, we hear reports of riders traveling at high speeds on sidewalks, crossing intersections without stopping, or riding without helmets. These behaviors put not only the riders at risk but also pedestrians, drivers, and other cyclists. As your Mayor, I am committed to ensuring the safety of everyone on our streets and sidewalks. But true progress requires the active participation of our residents.

I am asking for your help in fostering a culture of responsibility and safety when it comes to e-bikes and scooters. Parents, please take time to talk with your children about safe riding habits, the importance of helmets, and the rules of the road. Drivers, remain alert and share the road cautiously with these smaller, less visible vehicles. Riders, please obey traffic laws, yield to pedestrians, and always make safety your top priority.

The Township will continue to work with our police department, schools, and local organizations to promote education and enforce existing laws. We will also explore designated areas for safe riding and evaluate opportunities to improve signage and infrastructure. But none of these efforts will be effective without your partnership.

Let us all remember that safety is a shared responsibility. By working together—residents, families, and local government—we can ensure that e-bikes and scooters remain a benefit to our community rather than a danger.

Thank you for your cooperation and for helping us keep our town a safe, welcoming place for everyone.

Sincerely,

Frank Sippel, Mayor

NEW JERSEY'S E-BIKE & E-SCOOTER LAW

VEHICLE TYPES	PROPULSION METHOD	POWER SOURCE	MAX ASSISTED SPEED (MPH)	LICENSE & REGISTRATION	HELMET	PARK ON SIDEWALK	TAKE ON TRANSIT
LOW-SPEED ELECTRIC SCOOTER	Kickstart and throttle	Electric	19mph	No	Under 17 years old	If not blocking access	Yes
LOW-SPEED ELECTRIC BICYCLE	Pedal and optional throttle	Electric (<750W)	20mph	No	Under 17 years old	If not blocking access	Yes
MOTORIZED BICYCLE	Pedal and optional throttle	Gas or Electric (<50cc/<1.5BHP)	28mph	Required	Required	No	No

Low-speed e-bikes and e-scooters are regulated like bicycles.
Drivers of low-speed e-bikes and e-scooters:

- Must ride in the same direction as traffic and obey all traffic lights, signs and signals.
- Are advised to wear helmets to minimize potential head injury. Helmets are required in NJ for youth under age 17.
- Must park devices without blocking pedestrian and/or wheelchair access.
- Should not ride on sidewalks. Off-road trails generally do not allow motorized bicycles, but may allow e-bikes and e-scooters.
- Regulations vary by municipality and county.
- Check all local ordinances and policies.
- Ride slowly in areas with pedestrians.

Lower Township Police Department | 405 Breakwater Rd, Erma, NJ 08204 | www.LowerTownshipPolice.com

Pedestrian and roadway safety is a shared responsibility among drivers, walkers, and riders of bicycles, e-bikes, and e-scooters. Motor vehicle drivers are required by law to stop for pedestrians in marked crosswalks and yield at unmarked crosswalks or uncontrolled intersections. They must not pass any vehicle that is stopped for a pedestrian and must remain alert at all times, exercising due care for anyone crossing the roadway. Even when the traffic light is green, drivers must yield to pedestrians who are already in the crosswalk.

Pedestrians, in turn, are required to follow safety laws designed to protect them and others. They must yield to vehicles when crossing outside of designated crosswalks or at intersections without a walk signal. Whenever possible, pedestrians should use sidewalks; if none are available, they must walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic. It is illegal for pedestrians to cross highways unless a proper crossing is provided. Those who fail to follow pedestrian laws may face fines and community service.

Riders of bicycles, e-bikes, and e-scooters are considered vehicle operators and must follow the same traffic laws as drivers. They are required to travel in the same direction as motor vehicles and yield to pedestrians when sharing the road. When on roads where pedestrians must walk on the shoulder, riders must pass them on the left and give ample space. Additionally, bikes must be equipped with front and rear lights for visibility and a bell or audible device that can be heard from at least 100 feet away. By following these laws, all members of the community contribute to a safer and more respectful roadway environment.



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MANAGER'S REPORT - HURRICANE SEASON

Hurricanes can bring heavy rains, high winds and storm surges that cause tides to swell and push water on shore. Big waves can erode natural barriers, leaving coasts more vulnerable to future storms and flooding.

Is your property in a Special Flood Hazard Area?

Check out our website at www.townshipoflower.org. You'll find a wealth of floodplain information. Or call our Township CRS Coordinator, Elizabeth Ross, CTA with all of your floodplain questions at 609-886-2005 ext. 142.

BUILD RESPONSIBLY

All new construction and renovation projects are required to have local permits and, depending on the

type and location of a project, various state permits may also be required. Consult with our Construction Office for more information. Contact Construction Official Don Arndt at 609-886-1455 ext.140

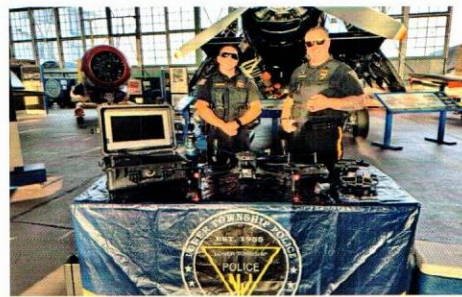
FLOOD SAFETY

The safety of your family is of the utmost importance! To be well-informed about approaching storms, be sure to use credible websites and alert systems like the ones listed below:

National Weather Service - www.erh.noaa.gov/er/phi
American Red Cross - www.redcross.org
NJ Alert - www.njalert.gov
Nixle - www.nixle.com
NJ 2-1-1 - www.nj211.org

LOWER TOWNSHIP SEPTEMBER 11 TRIBUTE CEREMONY

Held at the Naval Air Station Wildwood Aviation Museum on Tuesday, September 11, 2025. We will never forget.



SPOTLIGHT: LOWER TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

At the September 15 council meeting, Mayor Frank Sippel and the Lower Township Council honored Jeff Samaniego and Assemblyman Erik Simonsen for their years of dedicated service. Samaniego was recognized for his impactful career in education, including his role as Superintendent.

Simonsen received the Key to the Township for over 30 years of service in education and government. Both were praised for their leadership and lasting contributions to the community.



REMINDERS

Lower Township Council Meetings will be held on the first and third Mondays of each month, beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the meeting room of Lower Township Hall, located at 2600 Bayshore Road, unless otherwise noted. For a complete list of meeting dates and times, visit the township website at: TownshipofLower.org.

All dogs over the age of six months shall be required to be licensed, and a license for same shall be obtained and attached to the harness or collar of each dog prior to January 31 of each and every year.

Looking for township forms, helpful links, tax payment portal, want to make a suggestion, contact a certain department or report a pothole? Visit the township website at: townshipoflower.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 11 AT 11:00 A.M.
LOWER TOWNSHIP HALLOWEEN PARADE
HISTORIC COLD SPRING VILLAGE

OCTOBER 13
COLOMBUS DAY
LOWER TOWNSHIP OFFICES CLOSED

OCTOBER 14
LOWER TOWNSHIP BLOOD DRIVE
TOWNSHIP HALL

OCTOBER 18 FROM 9:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.
BEACH SWEEP
VILLAGE ROAD AND BAY DRIVE

OCTOBER 19 AT 6:00 P.M.
LOWER TOWNSHIP TRUNK OR TREAT

OCTOBER 25 FROM 6:30 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.
LOWER TOWNSHIP HAUNTED TRAILS
BEHIND THE REC CENTER

NOVEMBER 4
ELECTION DAY
LOWER TOWNSHIP OFFICES CLOSED

NOVEMBER 8 AT 11:00 A.M.
LOWER TOWNSHIP'S VETERANS DAY PARADE
BAYSHORE ROAD

NOVEMBER 11
VETERAN'S DAY
LOWER TOWNSHIP OFFICES CLOSED

ONGOING EVENTS

MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAY 9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
OPEN PLAY PICKLE BALL

EVERY THURSDAY AT 6:00 P.M.
ADULT YOGA
MILLMAN CENTER

EVERY MONDAY FROM 7:30 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.
ADULT NIGHT
RECREATION CENTER

ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE OR CANCELLATION

Township of Lower
2600 Bayshore Road, Villas, NJ 08251
609-886-2005
<https://townshipoflower.org/>

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

LOWER TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING - (609) 886-2005
LOWER TOWNSHIP RECREATION DEPARTMENT - (609) 886-7880
POLICE NON-EMERGENCY NUMBER - (609) 886-1619
TO MAKE A POLICE REPORT: CAPE MAY COUNTY DISPATCH - (609) 886-2711
FOR ANIMAL CONTROL: SHORE ANIMAL CONTROL - 1 (800) 351-1822
MUA OFFICE - (609) 886-7146
MUA EMERGENCY - (609) 780-0101

**Sign up
NOW to
receive
LT Alerts**



**Emergency Alerts, Traffic & Weather
Advisories, Local News and Events via:**

Phone Call, Text, Email or Mobile App



Set your messaging preferences when you register.
Download the Smart911 app after registering.

Sign Up at Police, Township or MUA websites
If you need assistance with registering, contact the Township Clerk's Office at 609-886-2005, extension 100, between 8:30 am & 4:30 pm.

LT Alerts is Replacing Nixle
Nixle messages will end on 6-30-22

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