

LOWER TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2023



FROM THE COUNCIL...

As spring slowly slips into summer, we are seeing lots of activity of cleanup projects, painting, and removing debris in preparation for our seasonal residents and visitors alike. There will be plenty to do, as always, with the historical sites, observation areas, our beach and public areas all being freshened up by public works and ready to receive those who enjoy the outdoors.

The township infrastructure has been worked on throughout the past few months, some long overdue and required maintenance on others to ensure a better quality of life. In the Diamond Beach area, the flooding mitigation efforts with the cooperation of the mosquito commission is opening drainage channels in the marsh. This has seemed to help flooding on the bay side streets.

Cape May County is putting finishing touches on the reconstruction of Pacific Avenue from Wildwood Crest to the Coast Guard Training Center, with new infrastructure, curbs, sidewalks, and paving being near completion. Lower Township has contracted with DeBlasio Associates to implement upgrades to the Diamond Beach Recreational Park. The project will begin after final review from the county Open Space Board, with hopes of securing grant funding. In addition to reconstructing the pavilions within the David Douglass Sr. Memorial Park along the Cape May Canal at the end of Beach Avenue, talks are occurring with the DRBA to help facilitate paving and sidewalks into the area, enhancing the entrances and beautification of the park.

The sewer project throughout the Erma section of the Township is progressing. The crews have installed the laterals to the many private properties and are now working on the main lines along Route 9. Once completed, the laterals will be tied into trunk mains which still need to be brought into the residential neighborhoods.

-Councilman Roland Roy

LOWER TOWNSHIP COUNCIL AIMS FOR STATE RECOGNITION OF VETERANS INITIATIVES

Lower Township Council has prided itself on support of local Veterans and Veterans' organizations and is aiming for state recognition of those efforts through New Jersey's "We Value Our Veterans" award.

The New Jersey's Governor "We Value Our Veterans" Award gives counties, municipalities, businesses, or academic institutions the opportunity to value and honor the sacrifices, patriotism, and bravery displayed by men and women who have worn the military uniform.



To receive this award, the county/municipality must reach a total of 145 points based off Veteran initiatives and complete the Community Award Application. Those requirements include:

- Provide parking spots for Purple Heart Recipients and Disabled Veterans
- Provide discounts to Veterans at local establishments or offer free discount booklets to Veterans
- Hold quarterly Veterans Round-tables
- Honor Veterans at least quarterly at Council meetings/special events

- Have local students bring Veteran Family members to speak at school
- Hold annual Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies
- Provide discounts for community-based recreation (or similar municipal establishment)
- Hold Veteran Service Organization Meet and Greets
- List Veterans resources on the town website (15)
- Honor and remember POW/MIA Day and Gold Star Families Day
- List Veteran owned businesses on the town website
- Offer scholarships to high school students of military families
- Volunteerism by municipal staff at Veteran related events (Memorial Day parades, Veteran Service Organization Meet and Greets, etc.)
- Any initiatives or programs providing mental health resources for Veterans

Lower Township was already actively doing many of the state requirements, including recently instituting a program for dedicated parking spots for Purple Heart recipients and disabled veterans and has renamed a street to honor veterans.

If any Lower Township business is interested in the dedicated parking spot markers, please contact the Lower Township Clerk at 609-886-2005.

COVID-19 INFORMATION HUB

Visit covid19.nj.gov for more information.

General COVID-19 Questions: 2-1-1 (24/7)

Medical COVID-19 Questions: 1-800-962-1253 (24/7)

Vaccine Appointment Support: 1-855-568-0545 (8a-8p)

Text NJCOVID to 898-211 to receive alerts.

Cape May County is offering 1.5 million dollars of COVID-19 relief grants to help renters, homeowners and businesses. Visit ACIANJ.org or call 609-343-2390

Cape May County Department of Health
capemaycountynj.gov - 609-465-1187



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MANAGER'S REPORT

LOWER TOWNSHIP COUNCIL RECEIVES FUNDS FROM CAPE MAY COUNTY AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT

Lower Township Council received funds from the Cape May County American Rescue Plan Infrastructure Grant during the Monday May 15, 2023 council meeting.

Commissioner Director Leonard Desiderio presented Lower Township Mayor Frank Sippel and Council with \$400,000 as part of the Cape May County American Rescue Plan Infrastructure Grant. These funds will

help pay for a variety of infrastructure projects including roads, drainage, stormwater infrastructure and outfall extensions.

The Cape May County American Rescue Plan Act Infrastructure Grant program supports improvements to infrastructure investments up to \$400,000 per municipality.

SPOTLIGHT

ELKS DONATE TO LOWER TOWNSHIP CHILDREN'S ASSISTANCE FUND AND POLICE YOUTH SUMMER CAMP

The Greater Cape May Elks Lodge #2839, located in Villas, recently donated \$1,500 to the Children's Assistance Fund and the Lower Township Police Youth Summer Camp.



Mayor Frank Sippel was presented with the funds for the Children's Assistance Fund, which is managed by the Lower Township Optimist Club. Those funds benefit the youth recreation programs, including helping a child that wanted to participate in the various programs but couldn't afford the necessary equipment or supplementing recreation registration fees for a family in need.

"The Elks have been instrumental in supporting youth programs in Lower Township for many years," noted Mayor Sippel. "And we are grateful for their support."

Corporal Jennifer Elwell was in attendance to receive \$1,500 for the Lower Township Police Youth Summer Camp. The camp is designed to foster a positive and healthy interaction between the Lower

Township Police Officers and the children in the community. Activities include: K-9 demonstration, SWAT demonstration, police simulator, water park/boardwalk, Phillies game, field trips and much more.

The camp is open to youth of Lower Township who will be entering into 6th and 7th grades this September 2023. The summer camp is set to run from Monday, July 17 through Friday, July 21, 2023, 8 a.m. until 4p.m.

REMINDERS

Dogs on the Bay Beaches

Dogs, other than service animals, are restricted from township beaches during the hours of 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. beginning Memorial Day and continuing until the Monday of the Labor Day holiday weekend.

Leashed animals are permitted any time of day during the off-season. This ordinance not only protects residents who would like to have beach hours without dog distractions, but it protects pets on the beach during the heat of the day.

It is unlawful to allow dogs to run loose or leave your animal's waste on the beach. Shore Animal Control officers will be patrolling the beaches of Lower Township and will be issuing summons to pet owners in violation of this ordinance, dogs off leash and for owners that do not clean up after their pets. Shore Animal Control can be reached at 1-800-351-1822.

Recycling Reminder

Please do not use plastic bags to dispose of your recyclables at the curb. Bags, including the clear plastic bags, are considered trash and the recyclables will not be able to be picked up.

Recycling yard hours, starting June 1st, open 6:30 am - 2:15 pm, Thursday through Monday. Closed Tuesday and Wednesday.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 26

FAMILY FUN NIGHT AND MOVIE IN THE PARK
FROM 5:30 P.M. TO 9 P.M.
CLEM MULLIGAN PARK

MAY 27

POOL PASSES GO ON SALE
LOWER TOWNSHIP RECREATION CENTER

JUNE 11

ESCAPE THE CAPE TRIATHLON
NORTH CAPE MAY - ALONG DELAWARE BAYFRONT

JUNE 18 - JULY 2

YOUTH FOOTBALL REGISTRATION
LOWER TOWNSHIP RECREATION CENTER

JULY 3

LOWER TOWNSHIP INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATION
NORTH CAPE MAY - ALONG DELAWARE BAYFRONT

AUGUST 1

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT
LCMR HIGH SCHOOL FROM 5:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

AUGUST 1

CHILDREN'S FUND BENEFIT CONCERT
FEATURING THE AMISH OUTLAWS
FREEMAN DOUGLASS PARK AT 7:30 P.M.

AUGUST 5

COOMBS/DOUGLASS MEMORIAL BAY RUN
TOWN BANK FIRE HALL AT 8:30 A.M.

ONGOING EVENTS

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

LOWER TOWNSHIP WAS AWARDED A 2023 RE-GRANT TO FUND SEVERAL EVENTS FEATURING MUSIC AND THE ARTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. FUNDING HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE IN PART BY THE NEW JERSEY STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS / DEPARTMENT OF STATE, THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS, AND THE CAPE MAY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS THROUGH THE CAPE MAY COUNTY DIVISION OF CULTURE & HERITAGE. SOME EVENTS ARE SPONSORED BY THE LOWER CAPE ALLIANCE AND THE GCADA.

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

Winter Edition / Spring Edition / Summer Edition
High Summer Edition / Fall Edition / Holiday Edition
Look for it at the entrance or counters of local businesses.

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

SUMMER 2023

**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