

MIDDLETOWN RECREATION

Mayor Tony Perry | Deputy Mayor Rick W Hibell

Township Committee Members: Ryan M Clarke, Kimberly Kratz, Kevin M Settembrino

732-615-2260 || www.middletownnj.org/recreation || recreation@middletownnj.org

Vol. 4: Fall (October - November - December) 2024



Anthony P. Mercantante
Township Administrator

Janet E. Dellett
Recreation Director

Maggie O'Brien
Arts Center Executive Director

Sarah Finnerty
Special Events & Marketing

Max Hogan
Tonya Keller Community
Center Supervisor

Maria Gato
Senior Center Supervisor

Danielle Adams
Poric Park Program Supervisor

Office Information
Hours: 8:30am - 4:30pm

Administrative Offices
Poric Park Nature Center
345 Oak Hill Road
732-615-2260

Senior Center
Croydon Hall
900 Leonardville Road
732-615-2265

Tonya Keller Community Center
50 Bray Avenue
732-615-3250

SPECIAL EVENTS

HALLOWEEN HULLABALOO

Friday, October 25th | 5:30pm-8pm | Poricy Park
Free for residents, RSVP encouraged

This spooktacular evening presented by Middletown Recreation, the Middletown Arts Center and the MTEA includes a costume contest at 6pm Doodle Dude and Miss Fish, blow-up corn maze, hayrides, goodies to the first 300 children, firepits to roast marshmallows, local business trick-or-treating, food trucks and more!



HALLOWEEN POOCH PARTY & PARADE

Saturday, October 26th | 9:30am-11am | Tindall Dog Park
Free for residents, RSVP encouraged

Join us at the Dog Park for costume contest, photo opps, treats and dog-related vendors. Costume contest starts at 10am, prize categories include best small dog, large dog, human/dog couple, group and more! Dog businesses can reach out to recreation@middletownnj.org for free tabling.



HALLOWEEN PAINT & PIZZA NIGHT

Thursday, October 17th | 6:00pm-8:00pm
Croydon Hall East Wing | \$30/person (R), includes pizza dinner

Paint with a live instructor as we make a Boooooogie Night ghost just in time for Halloween. Event is open to all ages and artistic skill levels. Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Register at middletownnj.org/signup.



TURKEY SOCCER SHOOTOUT

Saturday, November 16th | 10am-11am | Croydon Turf
Open to all, \$5/participant + nonperishable good

Show off your soccer skills as we crown the best penalty kicker in town. Awards given to the top 3 scorers in each age group. Top winners receive a frozen turkey. Food drive benefits residents in need.



NEW REGISTRATION PORTAL

Recreation is using RecDesk starting with the Fall 2024 season and beyond for program and event registration. Create a new account, add all household members, and register today at middletownnj.org/signup or scan QR code

Residents living in shared zip codes will need to reach out to recreation@middletownnj.org to adjust residency status after account is created and all household individuals are added.



MORE SPECIAL EVENTS

Pre-Registration is required for all paid programs. Register online at www.middletownnj.org/signup.
Non-resident registrations are subject to out-of-town fees.

LETTERS FROM SANTA

Nov 1st - Dec 5th | Official Mailboxes Across Town | \$1/per letter to cover postage

Write a letter to the North Pole and Santa will write and send a personalized letter back to your child! \$1 per letter, please include with letter. Additional donations accepted to benefit the Middletown Arts Center and its programming. Print a letter template and find mailbox locations at middletownnj.org/events.



ANNUAL HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING

Sunday, December 1st | 5pm-7pm | Middletown Arts Center

Santa is coming to town to light the MAC's Christmas Tree! Enjoy a family friendly night out of caroling, crafts, photos with Santa, inflatable Gingerbread house and more! Roast marshmallows around our firepits and enjoy classic Christmas cartoons. Food truck onsite for purchase. RSVP at middletownnj.org/signup.

15th ANNUAL DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT & TOY DRIVE

Dec 2nd - 6th Practice Week | Dec 5th - 9th Tournament Week

Croydon Hall Gym | Fee: \$48/team + one collection item per player

Coed divisions run Kindergarten - Adult 18+

NEW SCHEDULE & Registration: middletownnj.org/dodgeball



Come on out for a jolly good time! This year's annual tournament has a NEW SCHEDULE due to Middletown schools not having early dismissals in early December. Also NEW this year; each division is assigned a different collection item (i.e. toys, gift card, clothing) to be donated to residents in need of assistance this holiday season. Mandatory captain's practice on Monday, November 25th at 5:30pm. Medals to the second-place winners of each division, trophies to the top team winners!



PJ AND STORY TIME WITH SANTA

Tuesday, December 17th | 5pm-6pm | Poricy Park Nature Center

Free for residents, event is for children ages 12 and under

Cozy up by the fire in your pajamas for story time with Santa. Enjoy photos with the "Big Guy" after and a hot chocolate bar. Space is limited, doors close after venue capacity is reached, residents have priority. No strollers in the Nature Center.

SANTA EVENT

December TBD

Time & Location TBD

Stay tuned to social media!

You never know where Santa will pop-up next, after all he is always watching! We're planning an extra special Santa Event this year. Stay tuned to social media for an announcement and details.



MENORAH LIGHTING

December TBD

Middletown Arts Center

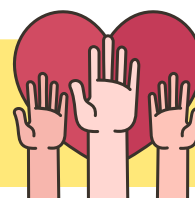
Free for all ages

Join us for the Menorah Lighting and Chanukah celebration at the MAC! Enjoy arts and crafts, traditional games, and lots more goodies. Follow us on social media for the official date announcement.



VOLUNTEER WITH US!

Need volunteer hours or just looking to give back to the community? Look no further. Must be 12 years+. Check-out our ever-changing volunteer opportunities online at middletownnj.org/volunteer.



PORICY PARK PROGRAMS

Pre-Registration is required for all paid programs. Register online at www.middletonnj.org/signup. Non-resident registrations are subject to out-of-town fees. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

TURKEY TROT HIKE

Wednesday, Nov 27th | 2:30pm

Ages 5+, but younger hikers are welcome

Fee: \$5 per participant (R)

Come stretch your legs before your Thanksgiving feast! We'll hike the trails of Poricy Park and enjoy beautiful scenery while looking for wildlife. The hour long hike is roughly 2 miles long.



WINTER SOLSTICE HIKE

Saturday, Dec 21st | 5:00pm

Ages 5+, but younger hikers are welcome

Fee: \$5 per participant (R)

Join us for a hike on the longest night of the year! Bundle up and enjoy beautiful Poricy Park in the early evening. A headlamp or flashlight is recommended. Warm up after with hot cocoa by the fire.

FIND FOSSILS ANYTIME!

Available Monday-Friday (9am-4pm) at the Nature Center.

Find Fossils in Middletown!

Ready to head out to the Poricy Fossil Beds but not sure where to start? Drop by our Nature Center to see the types of fossils you will find and rent an equipment set (\$5 per set) including screen, trowel and field guide. The fossil beds are open dawn to dusk year round - Reservation permit required for groups larger than 10.

After-School Science Club Fall Session: Winter Adaptations

Mondays 4:00pm-5:00pm | Grades K-2

November 18 - February 3
(NO CLASS 12/1, 12/9, 12/30, 1/20)

\$120 (R) for 8 week program

Hands-on activities, hikes through ecosystems, and interactions with live animals! Students will learn how animals have adapted to survive in the wild.



SCOUTS & PARTIES!

SCOUT PROGRAMS

Poricy Park offers guided programs for Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts starting at \$90.00 for a 90-minute program or a 30-45 minute guided hike for \$5.00 per child. Whether you're a Brownie or a Bear (or any other level), Recreation has a badge-specific program for you! Visit middletonnj.org/scouts for bookings and more information.

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Celebrate with a unique outdoor adventure! Choose between themed science and nature parties (for ages 4-10) including Fossil Hunting, Pond Netting, or Wild Kratt Adventures. Party includes 90 minutes of instructor-led activities, 30 minutes of "party room" time, and basic paper goods for \$315.00 for the first 15 children. For more information please visit: middletonnj.org/birthday.

FIELD TRIPS

Now Booking for the 2024-25 School Year!



The Recreation Department at Poricy Park offers a range of science and colonial history programs. All trips emphasize hands-on activities and "doing" the things they have learned. And, of course, substantial time outdoors where nature provides a dynamic classroom. Choose between 4-hour, 3-hour, and 2-hour programs. Lunch and gift shop options available. For pricing, class sizing and additional information visit middletonnj.org/fieldtrips. We are sensitive to your class' unique needs. Please reach out for additional program information on any program, 732-615-2260.



Rebecca Murray's Children
Year-Round
PreK-2nd Grade

Life on the Murray Farm
Year-Round
3rd-8th Grade



Fossil Hunts
Fall & Spring
All Grades



Pond Study
Fall & Spring
3rd-5th Grade

WEEKLY PROGRAMS & MIDDLETOWN PRESCHOOL

Pre-Registration is required for all paid programs. Register online at www.middletownnj.org/signup.
Non-resident registrations are subject to out-of-town fees.

Youth

YOUTH SKATEBOARDING LESSONS

Tuesdays | Skatepark at Kunkel Park | Oct 1 - 29
Ages 5-14, \$145 per child (R)

4:00pm - 5:00pm: Beginners "Learn Skateboarding"

Pushing, riding, turning, going up and down small ramps, and more!

5:00pm - 6:00pm: Intermediate "Expanding Your Skills"

Bigger ramps, ollies, learning to drop-in & ramp kick-turns.

Instruction provided by Coach Dave. Learn more at davidfarrellskateboarding.com. A properly fitted helmet is required, pads are recommended.



The following are co-ed sports with teams picked weekly.

TEEN VOLLEYBALL

Ages 13-17

Tuesdays | 6:30pm - 7:30pm | Croydon Gym

Thru Sept 24, weekly drop-in \$5 (R)

Oct 1 - Dec 17 (Off 11/5, 12/3, 12/10)

\$36 for full session or weekly drop-in \$5 (R)



YOUTH DODGEBALL

Wednesdays | 4:30pm - 6:00pm | Croydon Gym

Thru Oct 30, weekly drop-in \$5 (R)

K-5th Grade

TEEN BASKETBALL

Ages 13-17

Wednesdays | 6:00pm - 7:00pm | Croydon Gym

Thru Sept 25, weekly drop-in \$5 (R)

Oct 2 - Dec 18 (Off 11/6, 12/4, 12/11)

\$32, 3-week session or weekly drop-in \$5 (R)



Adult 18+

YOGA

Tuesdays | 6:30pm - 7:30pm | Croydon Gym
Thru Oct 15, weekly drop-in \$12 (R)

Oct 22 - Nov 26 (Off 11/5)

\$54, 5-week session or weekly drop-in \$12 (R)



Great exercise and socialization! Enjoy these co-ed sports with teams picked weekly.

VOLLEYBALL

Tuesdays | 7:30pm - 9:30pm | Croydon Gym

Thru Sept 24, weekly drop-in \$5 (R)

Oct 1 - Dec 17 (Off 11/5, 12/3, 12/10)

\$36 for full session or weekly drop-in \$5 (R)



BASKETBALL

Wednesdays | 7:00pm - 9:00pm | Croydon Gym

Thru Sept 25, weekly drop-in \$5 (R)

Oct 2 - Dec 18 (Off 11/6, 12/4, 12/11)

\$32, 3-week session or weekly drop-in \$5 (R)



OPEN RECREATION

Mon - Thurs | 3pm-5pm | Grade K-5

Mon & Wed | 3pm-5pm | Grade 6-12

Tonya Keller Community Center

After-School program with drop-in play, homework help & snack provided.

Find the calendar of fun at: middletownnj.org/tkcc

FREE for residents!
Mimics BOE calendar.



 Middletown
Preschool
2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR
REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!
MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG/PRESCHOOL

PREK3 (3 YR) & PREK4 (4 YR)

FULL DAYS & HALF DAYS

9AM-3PM

9AM-12PM

Join in on the fun with our love for learning
in our small teacher to student ratios.

Call us at 732-615-3250
50 Bray Avenue, Middletown NJ 07748
recreation@middletownnj.org



 You're invited!
to explore local preschools at the

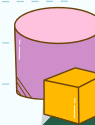


Preschool Fair

Wednesday, January 8th
5pm-7pm

Middletown Library

Learn more: middletownnj.org/events



MIDDLETOWN SENIORS

Membership to the Middletown Senior Center is free for residents age 60+. Non-residents are welcome to join for an annual fee. The Center is a gathering place where you can engage in new friendships and try different experiences; our goal is to provide a place where activity and participation will improve your quality of life.

Our programs range from a variety of trips, arts and crafts, painting classes, bowling, billiards, knitting group, guest speakers, book club, games, movies, to a variety of fitness classes. We also host monthly parties, seasonal events and so much more!



Daily Lunch

Congregate lunches available daily for a small donation to Interfaith Neighbors.



Fall Events

Tuesday, October 15th - Hackensack Meridian Health Fair - 10:00am-12pm East Wing

Join us for free health screenings from medical professionals at Hackensack Meridian.

Tuesday, October 22nd - The "Jersey Four" Concert Bus Trip - 10:00am Bus Departure

Enjoy a tribute to the Jersey Boys, enjoy a comedian opening act. \$115/member, \$125/nonmember.

Thursday, October 31st - Senior Spooktacular - 11:30am-1:30pm Croydon Gym

Costume party, lunch and entertainment! \$10/person. Sign-up required.

Thursday, November 14th - Resorts Atlantic City Bus Trip - 9:00am Bus Departure

Press your luck in AC! Includes \$20 slot play. \$40/member, \$50/nonmember.

Wednesday, December 11th - Holiday Party - 11:00am-3:00pm The Gramercy

Celebrate the Holidays at the Gramercy with DJ and buffet lunch, \$36/person. Sign-up required.

Monday, December 30th - New Years Brunch - 11:00am-1:00pm East Wing

Ring in the new year early with entertainment and brunch buffet, \$10/person. Sign-up required.

Transportation Available Monday-Friday

Includes transportation to/from center and select locations based on monthly calendar, for residents only. For more information and to register please call the Center.



To learn more or to register, please call (732) 615-2265 or visit our website:

www.middletownnj.org/seniors

Senior Center is located at 900 Leonardville Road Leonardo, NJ 07737

MIDDLETOWN PARKS & FACILITIES

Applebrook Park • Belford Park • Bicentennial Park • Bodman Park • Butler Park • Campo Trails • Chanceville Park
Church Street Park • Clearwater Fields • Countryside Park • Croydon Hall • Crystal Pond Park • Dorsett Park • Dutch Neck
Park • Evergreen Park • Fairview Acres • Fairway Park • Gordon Court Park • Greeley Park • Hillside Park • Ideal Beach
Kunkel Park • Leonardo Beach • Lincroft Village Green • Lincroft Acres • McMahon Park • Middletown Arts Center /
Memorial Gardens • M.T. Thompson Park • Normandy Park • Nutswamp Turf • Nutswamp Park • Poricy Park • Poricy Park
Fossil Beds Poricy Park—Cotton Tract • Roosevelt Park • Shultz Park • Shorecrest Mini Park • Stevenson Tract • Sunrise Park I
Sunrise Park II • Tindall Park • Tonya Keller Community Center • West Front Street Park • Waloo Park • Wilmort Park
Enjoy all that our facilities have to offer! Find field, park & picnic permits online at middletownnj.org/recreation.

FOLLOW US



@middletownrec



@middletownrecnj



www.middletownnj.org/recreation

LOOKING AHEAD...

Wednesday, January 8th - Preschool Fair

Wednesday, Jan 29th - Maple Tree Tapping

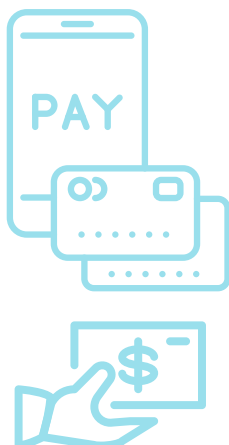
Friday, Jan 31st & Saturday, Feb 1st - Daddy-Daughter Dances

Thursday, Feb 6th - Mother-Son Cornhole Tournament

Saturday, Feb 8th & 22nd - Maple Sugaring for Scouts

Monday, Mar 3rd - Summer Camp Registration Opens

Friday, Mar 7th - Middletown Night at the NJ Devils



Registration Information

Credit Card Payment

www.middletownnj.org/signup

Cash / Check Payment

Recreation Administrative Office
Poricy Park Nature Center
9:00am-4:00pm, Mon - Fri

Refund Policy

No refund for any program within 7 days of the program's start date. For Summer Camps, no refunds after May 15. Please choose carefully. A refund request form must be filled out for processing. Form must be received prior to refund deadline. Please allow up to eight weeks for your credit or refund to be processed. Incomplete Refund Requests will delay processing. All refunds are subject to approval. Processing fees apply. Effective 2/4/15.

