

MIDDLETOWN RECREATION

Township Committee Members:

Ryan M Clarke, Rick W Hibell, Kimberly Kratz, Tony Perry, Kevin M Settembrino

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

Vol. 1: Winter (January - February - March) 2026



Anthony P. Mercantante
Township Administrator

Janet E. Dellett
Parks and Recreation Director

Maggie O'Brien
Arts Center Executive Director

Sarah Finnerty
Parks and Recreation Asst. Director

Eric McCoy
Parks Superintendent

Jerome Johnson, Jr.
Parks Supervisor

Scott Sengebush
Parks Supervisor

James Davis
Fields & Facilities Coordinator

Max Hogan
Preschool & Camp Supervisor

Maria Delaney
Senior Center Supervisor

Danielle Adams
Porycy Park Program Supervisor

Office Information
Hours: 8:00am - 4:00pm

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

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

Middletown Preschool
Croydon Hall
900 Leonardville Rd
732-615-3250

SPECIAL EVENTS

MIDDLETOWN DAY AT THE NJ DEVILS

Sunday, January 4th | 7pm Puck Drop vs. Carolina
Prudential Center, Newark

\$75/ticket includes on-ice experience & swag-bag for kids

Cheer on Jersey's team! Tickets include a post-game shoot from the blue line experience! Reduced concession options available. Tickets: middletownnj.org/devils.



PRESCHOOL FAIR

Wednesday, January 14th | 5pm-7pm
Middletown Library

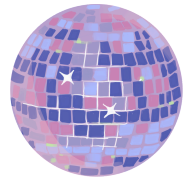
Free to attend, free to table (email recreation@middletownnj.org)

Finding the perfect preschool and preschool related classes for your child can be tough; we're bringing local businesses together in one place for your convenience. Representatives will be present to speak about class options and to answer any questions you may have. See the list of vendors at middletownnj.org/events.



DADDY-DAUGHTER DANCE

Friday, January 30th | 6pm-9pm, \$70/Adult, \$60/Child Grades K-5th (R)
Saturday, January 31st | 5pm-8pm, \$70/Adult, \$60/Child Grades K-5th (R)
Sunday, February 1st | 11am-2pm, \$60/Adult, \$50/Child Grades K-5th (R)
Jacques Catering Hall



Make memories with dad at this annual dance. Enjoy buffet dinner, DJ, photo booth and surprises throughout the evening. This year's theme is *In My Swiftie Era* - dress in your sparkle! Register while tickets last: mtownrec.recdesk.com.

WINTER BLUEYS

Friday, February 13th
10:30am-12pm
Porycy Park Nature Center



Beat the winter blues with Bluey! Meet Bluey, take a photo, enjoy a craft, a game of Keepy Uppy and Musical Statues. Free, no registration. Ages 12 and under please. Middletown BOE closed this day.

SPRING EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Saturday, March 28th
10am-1pm
Middletown Arts Center



Bring the family for pictures with the Bunny, petting zoo, crafts, Doodle Dude + Miss Fish, and more! Free parking at the Train Station. Food and beverage available for purchase. No Egg Hunt here.

RECDESK REGISTRATION PORTAL

Recreation is using RecDesk for program and event registration. Do you have an account? If not, create a new account, add all household members, and register today at mtownrec.recdesk.com 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.



PORICY PARK PROGRAMS

Pre-Registration is required for all paid programs. Register online at mtownrec.recdesk.com.
Non-resident registrations are subject to out-of-town fees.

MAPLE TREE TAPPING

Wednesday, Jan 21st | 4:00pm | Poricy Park
Fee: \$5 (R), all are welcome!

In the dead of winter, trees begin to prepare for spring. Join Recreation to drill holes, hammer in tappers and hang buckets - the first steps of making maple syrup! The walk down and back is approximately 0.5 miles total. All children must be accompanied by an adult.



SCOUT PROGRAMS

Bring your group for nature & fun!

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 middletownnj.org/scouts for more information.



MAPLE SUGARING FOR SCOUTS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH (8:30AM-1:30PM)
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST (8:30AM-1:30PM)
BOTH DAYS SELL OUT QUICK - REGISTER TODAY!



With cold nights and warm days, the later months of winter is the perfect time for maple sap in New Jersey. Join us to learn why you can collect sap only during this time, how to identify maples and other trees in the winter, and how boiling increases solution concentrations to create syrup! The one-hour session includes a hike, science experiments, syrup sampling and checking on tapped trees. Scout groups can book now at mtownrec.recdesk.com. Limited space available.

AFTER-SCHOOL SCIENCE CLUB

Mondays, January 5th - March 8th (Off 1/19, 2/18)
4:00-5:00pm | Poricy Park
Grades K-2 | \$120 (R)

This award-winning program explores nature and STEM activities.
This winter's theme is the Power of Magnets!



BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Looking for a unique adventure for your child's birthday? We have themed science and nature parties appropriate for ages 4-10. Popular topics include Fossil Hunting, Pond Netting, and Animal Adventures. Each 2-hour party includes 90-minutes of instructor-led activities and 30 minutes of "party room" time. Price is \$315 for 15 children. More information: middletownnj.org/birthday.



FIELD TRIP OPTIONS

Now Booking for Winter & Spring!



The Recreation Department at Poricy Park offers a range of science and colonial history programs for preschool and elementary aged students. All programs 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 middletownnj.org/fieldtrips. We are sensitive to your class' unique needs, please reach out for more information.



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

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



Geo-Explorer
Winter
4th Grade+

Winter Habitats
Winter
K-2nd





KID'S SUMMER CAMP 2026

Join us for a summer filled with fun,
learning, and exploration!

Camp Runs
**June 29th-
August 14th**
Register by week.

Extra Week
Added!



Camp Options:

Traditional Camps

- Croydon Hall Camp (K-6th)
- Poricy Park Science Camp (PreK-6th)
- Monmouth Museum Camp (PreK-2nd)
- Mater Dei Park Sports Camp (K-6th)
- Trail Blazers Travel Camp (6th-9th)

Specialty Camps

- Skateboarding Camp (5-14 YO)
- USA Multi-Sports Camp (5-11 YO)
- Snapology Camp (6-10 YO)
- Marine Science Camp (5-14 YO)
- Just STEAMin Camp (6-10 YO)
- Mad Science Camp (6-12 YO)

NEW



We're Hiring!

for 7 weeks of summer camp fun!

Coordinators - \$17/hr+
(17+ years old)
Counselors (15+ YO) - \$13/hr+
(15+ years old)
EMTs - \$18/hr+
(18+ years old + experience)



Apply online today!

Full information at middletownnj.org/camp



SUMMER CAMP 2026



Registration Information:

Register on RecDesk starting
Monday, March 2nd at 10am for
residents, March 9th for NR.
mtownrec.recdesk.com



PREPARE FOR REGISTRATION

HELP US, HELP YOU!

Complete these steps
BEFORE registration
opens on
Mon, 3/2 10am (R)

NEED UPDATING?

Call 732-615-2260
or email
camp@middletownnj.org

1) Create a RecDesk account.

mtownrec.recdesk.com

2) Ensure residency is accurate.

3) Ensure child's grade is accurate.

Grades are autogenerated from DOB. Grade must be
based on 2025-26 school year.

4) Enroll in Camp Membership.

This step has to be done **before** registration. Click on
"Memberships" on RecDesk's homepage. Enroll each
child and complete forms saving you time at registration.



WEEKLY PROGRAMS & MIDDLETOWN PRESCHOOL

Pre-Registration is required for all paid programs. Register online at mtownrec.recdesk.com.
Non-resident registrations are subject to out-of-town fees.

Youth

TEEN VOLLEYBALL

Tuesdays | 6:30pm - 7:30pm | Croydon Gym
January 6th - June 23rd
\$100 for full 25-week session (R)
Weekly drop-in \$5 (R)
Ages 13-17



SKATEBOARDING LESSONS

Kunkel Park | \$150 per program (R)
Ages 5 - 14 | BYOEQUIPMENT + Helmet
Tuesdays, January 13th - February 10th
Beginners: 4pm - 5pm - Learn fundamentals
Intermediates: 10am - 11am - Expand skills



Shred with Coach Dave at our new Kunkel Park Skate Park!
Learn skateboarding fundamentals and expand skills.
Yep, we shred in the winter - bundle up for fun!

Adult 18+

YOGA

Tuesdays | 6:30pm - 7:30pm | Croydon Gym
Winter dates coming soon
\$65 per 6-week session (R)
Weekly drop-in \$12 (R)



Work through 60 minutes of Yoga that awakens and restores the body. This total body workout targets and tones every muscle group while elevating the heart rate to create cardiovascular endurance.

Great exercise and socialization! Enjoy these co-ed sports with teams picked weekly.
No experience required.

VOLLEYBALL

Tuesdays | 7:30pm - 9:30pm | Croydon Gym
January 6th - June 23rd
\$100 for full 25-week session (R)
Weekly drop-in \$5 (R)



BASKETBALL

Wednesdays | 7:00pm - 9:00pm | Croydon Gym
January 7th - June 24th
\$100 for full 25-week session (R)
Weekly drop-in \$5 (R)



Stay tuned for more Youth & Adult offerings coming soon!

OPEN RECREATION

FREE for residents!
After-school play & homework help.

Open Recreation is on a brief pause. We hope to reopen in Spring of 2026 at Croydon Hall! Stay tuned to our social media for up-to-date information.

Middletown Preschool

**2025-26 ROLLING
REGISTRATION IS 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. Our certified Early Elementary Education teachers have over 20 years of classroom management.

Call us at 732-615-3250
NEW LOCATION! Croydon Hall
900 Leonardville Rd, Leonardo NJ 07737
recreation@middletownnj.org

You're invited!
to explore local preschools at the

Preschool Fair

Wednesday, January 14th
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!



NOTICE: TEMPORARY CLOSURE

The Senior Center is closed and currently under renovation (great changes coming soon!). Programs and events are being moved to alternative locations. Not sure where to go? Call 732-615-2265.



Winter Events

Thursday, February 12th - Red & Gold Gala - 11:30am - 1:30pm Croydon Gym

Celebrate Chinese New Year with a festive gathering to honor friendship, happiness, and the promise of a bright new year. Chinese themed lunch and entertainment provided, \$20/person.

Thursday, March 12th - Irish Soda Bread Making - 10:30am - 11:30am East Wing

Join us for a hands-on session making traditional Irish soda bread!

Thursday, March 26th - Meatball Madness - 11:00am East Wing

They're saucy, they're spicy, and they're ready to roll! Taste your way through a bracket of meaty matchups and help us crown the king (or queen) of the meatballs! \$10/member.

Trip Announcements Coming Soon!



Follow us on Facebook for event/program information and photos.

facebook.com/middletownrec

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

PARK PROJECTS & IMPROVEMENTS

Parks and Recreation improvements are going on year-round from sport fields, to playgrounds, to building renovations and more. Follow along with construction updates at: middletownnj.org/parkprojects.

Recently Completed - Projects completed within the last quarter.

Facility	Project	Funding Source/Update
West Front Street Community Center	Acquisition/Minor Updates	Open Space Fund and Monmouth County Park System
McMahon Park	Basketball, Tennis & Pickleball Court Updates Bids Denied, Rebidding	MCOS Grants 21/22



The Township recently acquired West Front Street Community Center (formerly Lincroft Presbyterian Church) on Everett Rd/West Front Street. This will be a great space for event rentals as the hall has a large kitchen attached. A possible preschool may be opened as well, take our survey at middletownnj.org/recreation.

McMahon Park basketball, tennis and pickleball court bids have all been denied due to contractors not meeting certain bid criteria. Rebidding process is in the works.



Coming Soon... - Projects we anticipate being completed within the next quarter.

Facility	Project	Funding Source
Poricy Park	Murray Barn Roof Renovation	Capital Funds
Normandy Park	Roller Hockey Rink	Capital Funds
Poricy Park	StoryWalk	ROID Grant



Normandy Park Roller Rink is almost done! A few project components have to wait until Spring to complete. Stay tuned for some Devil-ish programs!

StoryWalk signs are installed and ready for the next project phase.



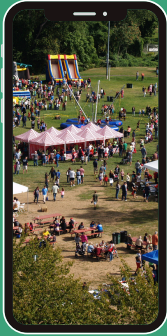
What's Next? - Projects we are looking ahead to and are in the bid/design process.

Facility	Project	Funding Source
Dorsett Park	New Playground	Capital Funds
Tindall Park	Basketball Court Lights	Open Space Fund
All Parks	Tennis Court Resurfacing & Dedicated Pickleball Courts	Open Space Fund

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 • Mater Dei Park
Middletown Arts Center / Memorial Gardens • M.T. Thompson Park • Normandy Park • Nutswamp Turf • Nutswamp Park
Poric 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
West Front Street Community Center • Waloo Park • Wilmort Park

Enjoy all that our facilities have to offer! Find field, park & picnic permits online at middletownnj.org/recreation.



FOLLOW US



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@middletownrecnj



www.middletownnj.org/recreation

LOOKING AHEAD...



Wednesday, April 1st - Painting with Princesses

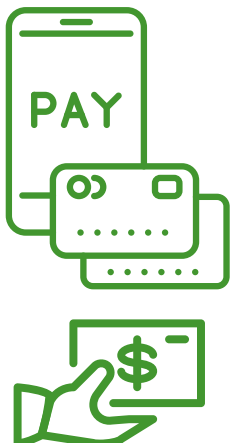
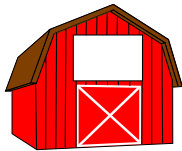
Thursday, April 2nd - Mystery Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 26th - Guided Fossil Hunt

Weekend of May 2nd - Open Colonial Farmhouse

Weekend of May 16th - Town-Wide Garage Sale

Tuesday, May 19th - Pitch, Hit & Run Competition



Registration Information

Credit Card Payment

mtownrec.recdesk.com

Cash / Check Payment

Recreation Administrative Office
Poricy Park Nature Center
8:00am-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.

