



Middletown Minutes

Official Township E-Newsletter

Middletown Municipal Buildings to Begin Reopening to Public on Monday, June 1

Limited Hours; Employees and Visitors Required to Wear Masks



Middletown Township announced its Phase-In Plan to begin reopening municipal facilities to the public. Town Hall (1 Kings Highway), Croydon Hall (900 Leonardville Road, Leonardo), the Recreation Office at Poricy Park Nature Center (345 Oak Hill Road) and the Department of Public Works Office (52 Kanes Lane) will all reopen on Monday, June 1, 2020 with limited hours noted in the graphic below. Tax Collection will reopen to the public with limited hours on Tuesday, June 2.

All employees and visitors will be required to wear masks when interacting in Township buildings. Hand sanitizer will be available at all public counters. There will be Plexiglas shields and floor markings showing 6 ft. separations placed where appropriate. "As our Township facilities begin to reopen, we will do everything we can to ensure the health and safety of our employees and residents," said Township Administrator Tony Mercantante.

Phase-in public access to Township facilities will include:

- One entrance: Public can queue outside building and it will be monitored by MTPD.
- Police will have one officer stationed at each municipal building to ensure guidelines are followed.
- Each department will determine the number of walk-ins that can be serviced safely at one time, given proper social distancing.

"Now that we have flattened the curve of COVID-19, Township buildings will begin to reopen to the public in a responsible way," said Mayor Tony Perry. "It is imperative that we provide the community with a comprehensive timeline of our reopening plan so we can begin to move forward."

[CLICK HERE TO READ THE PRESS RELEASE.](#)

Middletown Municipal Buildings are Open to Public with Limited Hours

Employees and Visitors Required to Wear Masks & Adhere to Social Distancing Guidelines

Municipal Facilities Phase-In Public Hours:

Visit www.middletownnj.org for updates.

Building Department, Croydon Hall (900 Leonardville Road):	8:30 - 11:30 AM
Tax Collector, Croydon Hall (900 Leonardville Road): <i>(Open to the public 6/2)</i>	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Tax Assessor, Croydon Hall (900 Leonardville Road):	1:00 - 4:00 PM
Municipal Court Window,* Town Hall (1 Kings Highway): <i>*for all Court matters, call 732-615-2036</i>	12:00 - 3:30PM
Clerk's Office, Town Hall (1 Kings Highway):	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Police Administration,* Town Hall (1 Kings Highway): <i>*Police Desk is open 24/7, call 732-615-2100</i>	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Mayor's Office, Town Hall (1 Kings Highway):	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Recreation Office, Poricy Park (345 Oak Hill Road):	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Public Works Office (52 Kanes Lane):	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM



Health, Fire Prevention, Purchasing, Human Resources, Planning and Information Technology will begin public hours on Monday, June 15 and specific hours will be announced. The Senior Center, Middletown Arts Center and Township preschool programs shall remain closed until further notice. For Middletown Township Public Library (55 New Monmouth Road) updates, visit www.MTPL.org.

The Tax Collection Office, located at Croydon Hall (900 Leonardville Road, Leonardo), will be open to the public from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM starting Tuesday, June 2. Employees and visitors are required to wear masks and follow social distancing guidelines.

Please call 732-615-2086 if you have any questions.

Watch the 2020 Virtual Memorial Day Parade!



Middletown Township and American Legion Post 338 co-hosted its first Virtual Memorial Day Parade. While it's not quite what we are used to, we are proud to continue the Township's annual tradition of honoring the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.

[CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE VIRTUAL MEMORIAL DAY PARADE.](#)

Middletown Township Holds Memorial Day Ceremony



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Middletown Township made the difficult decision to cancel the Memorial Day Parade this year. "However, this in no way diminishes the importance of the day or Middletown's constant support and appreciation of our veterans and those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our nation's freedoms," said Mayor Tony Perry. To honor the day, the Township Committee held a small but poignant ceremony, along with members of the MTPD, VFW and American Legion, at the Township's War Memorial at Town Hall on Monday, May 25. Mayor Tony Perry and Deputy Mayor Tony Fiore addressed the importance of the day in honoring those who fought and died for our nation so that we may live freely. The service closed with the playing of Taps. We look forward to paying tribute to this momentous day together again next year.

Middletown Township Committee to Host Virtual Workshop Meeting on Monday, June 1

Public Can Participate Remotely Through WebEx Event Center



The Middletown Township Committee Workshop Meeting on Monday, June 1, 2020 at 7:00 PM will be made available live through WebEx Event Center.

Members of the public are requested to participate remotely by [clicking this event link](#). Attendees will have the opportunity to log in 10 minutes before the meeting begins so that they have time to set up.

To call in to the meeting, dial 1-408-418-9388. Enter the

event access code 717 677 166 followed by #.

Click [HERE](#) for additional information and to view the meeting agenda.

FOCUS ON THE GOOD

Highlighting the positive stories in our community during the COVID-19 public health crisis.

8-year-old Sophia Collett Sews for a Cause



Sophia Collett, a 2nd grade student at Nut Swamp Elementary School, has been juggling virtual learning with a side-job of sewing face masks for multiple causes in our community!

The 8-year-old learned to sew by taking classes and with her mom Jennifer's guidance. The idea of sewing masks to donate to first responders became a reality when

Sophia's swim coach texted her parents about face mask sewing kits that were being provided by JOANN Fabrics that coincided with a philanthropy project that her teacher had assigned. Her mom posted about her project on social media to see if anyone needed masks and received a huge response. Once the family realized the need, Sophia decided to ask for \$5 per mask and the money earned would be donated to first responders. She was able to raise funds to send dinner to the Labor & Delivery Department at Monmouth Medical Center, two days of meals to Red Bank Veterinary Hospital, and lunch to the Middletown Township Police Department. Sophia then decided that she wanted to donate money to the Middletown Township all-volunteer Fire Department in memory of her mom's uncle who was a firefighter who died in the line of duty. "Honestly, this was the hardest we saw her work," said parents Jennifer and Christopher Collett. "She wanted to donate as much as she could in honor of 'bear,' said her proud mom.

Sophia raised \$1000 for the MTFD and continues to deliver masks to organizations that need them. In her spare time, she also made "hero" headbands that were donated to local hospitals. We extend our sincere appreciation for this amazing young woman's efforts!



Lincroft Fire Company and the Ladies Auxiliary held a very successful Baby Items & Adult Toiletries Drive-Thru Drop Off on Saturday, May 23. Thank you to all who donated!

Despite the heavy rain on Saturday, May 23, Port Monmouth Fire Company collected three loads of canned and non-perishable food items, as well as countless monetary donations, to support Middletown Helps Its Own. A big thank you to the community for supporting their Food Drive!



Thank you to everyone who has donated to Middletown Helps Its Own over the last few weeks. Because of your generosity, Middletown Social Services and MHIO have been able to feed over 330 community members per week, including 56 families and 120 senior citizens.



[Click on the picture to donate to Middletown Helps Its Own.](#)

For more stories on how our community has come together, visit our [Focus on the Good](#) web page.



[Click on the image for a sneak peek of what you can expect!](#)

The Middletown (Virtual) Arts Center Presents: VIRTUAL TALENT SHOW!



**SHOW YOUR STUFF AND SUPPORT THE
MIDDLETOWN ARTS CENTER!**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: June 20, 2020 at 11:59 PM
BROADCAST DATE: June 26, 2020 at 7:00 PM**

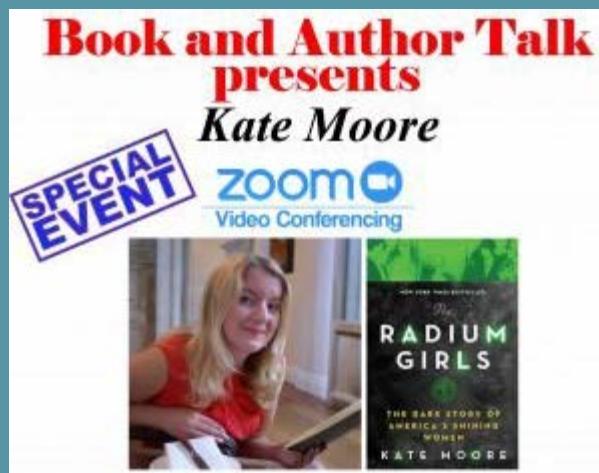
Enter the Middletown Arts Center Virtual Talent Show, a competition that is open to any and all! This year, proceeds and donations from the talent show will directly support the BACK THE MAC Fundraiser so they can continue to serve our community.

Sing, dance, juggle, play an instrument — whatever your talent is, the MAC wants to see it! They are accepting two to three-minute videos showcasing your skills. On Friday, June 26 at 7:00 PM, the MAC will premiere the full talent show to a live audience on the Middletown Arts Center YouTube Channel!

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE!](#)

LOVE THE MAC? DONATE TODAY TO HELP KEEP THEIR PROGRAMS RUNNING!

Middletown Township Public Library Presents: Book and Author Talk with Kate Moore



Kate Moore, author of *Radium Girls*, will be doing a book talk on Thursday, June 4 at 2:00 PM via Zoom. To register for this event, please

e-mail refmtpl@gmail.com.

[CLICK HERE TO SEE MORE ONLINE OFFERINGS FROM THE MTPL!](#)

Takeout Thursday's Restaurant of the Week: Grill 36

This Takeout Thursday's featured restaurant was Grill 36 Mediterranean Restaurant (571 Highway 36, Middletown).

Try Grill 36 for your next Mediterranean fix! They have paninis,



[Click on the picture to check out their menu!](#)

platters, desserts and more! Check out their menu online by clicking [HERE](#).

Middletown's
RESTAURANT  RESOURCE

Join the Middletown Economic Development Committee in Supporting our Local Restaurants!

Visit www.middletownnj.org/restaurants to search for your favorite establishment and place an order.

Visit www.middletownnj.org/restaurantmap to use the map tool to see who is open for business.

Check Out the Middletown Economic Development Committee's *Restaurant Resource* to See Who Is Open for Business!

2020 LEAF DISPOSAL

Residential leaf disposal at the Middletown Recycling Center (52 Kanes Lane) will conclude on Friday, May 29, 2020.

Residents may resume leaf disposal on November 1, 2020.

*Landscaper leaf disposal will resume on November 1, 2020.
Landscaper brush disposal is suspended until further notice.*

Major Changes to July 7, 2020 Primary Election



[Click the picture to](#)

Monmouth County Clerk Christine Giordano Hanlon is advising all voters that Governor Murphy announced major changes to the July 7, 2020 Primary Election process. This comes after the initial change in the Primary Election date from June 2nd to July 7th, announced last month.

According to Executive Order No. 144, all active registered Republicans and Democrats will automatically

[learn more...](#)

receive mail-in ballots for voting in the 2020 Primary Election. All registered unaffiliated voters will receive a mail-in ballot application so that they can apply to receive mail-in ballots for voting.

Unaffiliated voters who wish to vote in the primary election can vote at home via the vote by mail process. [**Click here**](#) to watch Clerk Hanlon's informational video about voting at home in Monmouth County.

Middletown Township Police Department reminds residents to be wary of scams. As always, please be cautious when clicking on links sent through text or email.



COVID-19 RESOURCES

Find a COVID-19 Testing Site Near You

Visit [**COVID19.nj.gov/testing**](https://COVID19.nj.gov/testing), click on the “Get Tested For COVID-19” blue button and you will come to an interactive screen that asks for your location. Once you enter your address, a list of testing sites, both private and public, will appear.

NJ Residents with a Positive or Negative COVID-19 Test: Instructions and Next Steps

NJ Residents with a Positive COVID-19 Test: Instructions & Next Steps

Question	Instructions
I tested positive for COVID-19. What should I do now?	If you tested positive, you must stay at home and self-isolate. This means stay in a different bedroom from others in your home, and if possible, use a separate bathroom. You must self-isolate for at least 3 full days (or 72 hours) have passed since you had a fever without the use of fever-reducing medications AND other symptoms are greatly improved AND at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first started. If you live with other people and they were not tested, they should keep their distance from you. This includes not eating meals together and not sitting around the house together. Practice social distancing as much as is possible (stay at least 6 feet from each other).
What should the people who live in my home know/do?	If they are symomatic (sick; have COVID-19 symptoms), they should also self-isolate for 3 full days (or 72 hours) until they are fever-free without the use of fever-reducing medications AND other symptoms are greatly improved AND at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first started. If the symptoms are mild, they should recover at home. If the symptoms worsen and a medical evaluation is needed, call health care provider. If they are asymomatic (not sick; have no COVID-19 symptoms), they should self-quarantine for 14 days AFTER any sick person in the household's self-isolation period ends. If the asymptomatic person develops symptoms, they should follow the self-isolation instructions above. Symptoms may take 2-14 days to appear. It is important to monitor their health long enough to ensure they do not develop symptoms.
What is the difference between mild and moderate symptoms?	Mild symptoms are when you feel unwell but can stay home and manage at home. Most people with mild symptoms can recover from home. See above for how long you should stay home/self-isolate. Moderate symptoms are those where you may need a medical evaluation from your health care provider. If your symptoms worsen over time and do not get better, especially if you have trouble breathing, call your health care provider to determine next steps.
Should I tell other people that they may have been exposed to the COVID-19 virus?	Those who have been closest to you for a prolonged period of time are going to be at highest risk. Household members and others with whom you spent a prolonged period of time (more than 10 minutes) within 6 feet of you, or shared a meal, would be at increased risk and should be advised to self-quarantine at home for 14 days AFTER your, or any sick household members self-isolation period ends. If the asymptomatic person develops symptoms, they should follow the self-isolation instructions above. People who you did not spend a prolonged period of time (less than 10 minutes) within 6 feet are at lower risk. This would include people that you may have been in an indoor space for a prolonged period of time. They should monitor their health; no restrictions about where they go. They should wash hands often and practice social distancing. If possible, you should notify individuals above regarding your illness. Work or school supervisors may be informed to help with this process. People who you may have casually come into contact with (e.g., passed by in the hall, briefly spent time within a room, shared a short elevator ride), are not considered to be at risk and do not need to be contacted.

[Click the image to enlarge.](#)

III NJ Residents who Tested Negative for COVID-19: Instructions & Next Steps

Question	Instructions
I tested negative for COVID-19. What should I do now?	If you tested negative for COVID-19, the recommendation is to stay home and practice social distancing until 72 hours after your fever has ended without the use of fever reducing medications and other symptoms improve. After this time, you may resume regular activities. It is recommended that everyone wears a face covering when in public spaces. This protects you from anyone who may not be sick (but might be asymptomatic) and able to spread the virus to others.
What if I tested negative but still feel sick?	If you test negative for COVID-19 but still have symptoms, it is likely you may have another respiratory virus. You should continue to self-isolate yourself from others, practice good hand hygiene and clean and disinfect surfaces in the home. If your symptoms worsen or don't get better after several days, you should call your health care provider. You should not return to work/school or go to public places until 72 hours after your fever has ended without the use of fever-reducing medications and other symptoms have improved. Wear a face covering if you are out in public.
What other actions should I take to protect my health?	As long as the virus that causes COVID-19 is spreading in your community, continue to practice social distancing, wash hands often and avoid touching your face, and clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces daily in household common areas (e.g. tables, hard-backed chairs, doorknobs, light switches, remotes, handles, desks, toilets, sinks, phones). Wear a face covering when in public places. This protects you from anyone who may not be sick (but may be asymptomatic) and able to spread the virus to others.

[Click on the image to enlarge.](#)



In light of the pandemic, we remind you of NJ Mental Health Cares. The state's behavioral health information and referral service offers assistance to people dealing with anxiety and stress related to the COVID-19 outbreak. Residents can call 1-866-202-HELP (4357) for free confidential support. The NJ Mental Health Cares hotline will be answered from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week by live trained specialists.

Are you a senior or know a senior in need?

Call Middletown Social Services for help at 732-615-2085.



COVID-19 SUBSTANCE ABUSE HELP

WE ARE ALL FACING OUR OWN CHALLENGES DURING THIS UNCERTAIN TIME.

OUR SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNSELORS AT CROSSROADS ARE HERE FOR YOU AND OFFERING VIRTUAL SERVICES.

IF YOU, A FRIEND OR FAMILY MEMBER ARE STRUGGLING
CALL 732-615-2277 OR EMAIL
CROSSROADS@MIDDLETOWNNJ.ORG.

Text NJCOVID to 898-211 to receive information and stay informed. To receive live text assistance, text your zip code to 898-211.



NJ 211 has been activated to assist with handling COVID-19 calls from NJ residents. Residents can also text NJCOVID to 898-211 to receive information and stay informed. To receive live text assistance, residents can text their zip code to 898-211.

Register Now for Township Emergency Alerts

Please ensure that you **OPT IN** to the Township's emergency communications platform to receive real-time emergency alerts regarding public health and safety, traffic detours and severe weather by texting MiddletownNJ to 888-777.

Visit www.middletownnj.org/nixle to register via email.



everbridge
NIXLE



We strongly encourage each and every resident to register for Township emergency alerts. In the event that something needs to be communicated quickly, including any emergency information about COVID-19, we need to be able to reach you. Please register for alerts by texting MiddletownNJ to 888-777.

Please share to ensure that everyone is aware!

NEED MULCH THIS SPRING? DPW HAS YOU COVERED!

**Need Wood Mulch?
It's Available!**

DELIVERY:

- \$6/cubic yard (available in 4CY increments)
- Mail check & Mulch Delivery Request Form to DPW (52 Kanes Lane, 07748)
- Delivery on Wednesdays only

MIDDLETON RECYCLING CENTER:

- FREE if you load your own vehicle
- Residents only - No business vehicles permitted

732-615-2109
www.middletownnj.org/mulch

[CLICK ON THE PICTURE TO LEARN MORE.](#)

MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP
STYROFOAM* RECYCLING PROGRAM

ACCEPTED:

- CLEAN PACKAGING MATERIALS FROM:
- TELEVISIONS
- APPLIANCES
- COMPUTERS
- FURNITURE
- FOAM COOLERS

NOT ACCEPTED:

- PACKING PEANUTS
- FOOD PACKAGING
- COLOR STYROFOAM
- PACKAGING WITH TAPE OR LABELS

Visit www.middletownnj.org/styrofoam to find out how to recycle food service styrofoam & packing peanuts.

MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
52 KANES LANE, MIDDLETON, NJ 07748 ☎ 732-615-2109 ☎ WWW.MIDDLETONNJ.ORG/RECYCLING

*Styrofoam is a trademark brand of Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) owned and manufactured by the Dow Chemical Company.

BRUSH ZONE	START DATE*	STATUS
A	March 18 th	COMPLETED
B	March 18 th	COMPLETED
C	March 23 rd	COMPLETED
D	March 23 rd	COMPLETED
J	March 30 th	COMPLETED
K	April 6 th	COMPLETED
L	April 13 th	COMPLETED
E	April 20 th	COMPLETED
G	April 27 th	Ongoing
F	May 4 th	Not Started
H	May 11 th	Not Started
I	May 18 th	Not Started

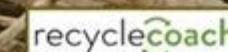
* Start dates are approximate and weather dependent

2020 Brush Collection Update

5/28/20

Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, all Township employees are working an alternating-week schedule, effectively reducing staff by 50%. Crews continue to work diligently to collect brush while still providing other public works essential services during this unprecedented time. We ask for the community's patience as we collect brush in the remaining zones as quickly as possible. Please continue to monitor this web page for updates.

MAX. VOLUME OF BRUSH PILE ACCEPTED = 4 CY (2'W X 3'H X 18'L)
 MAX. LENGTH OF TREE LIMBS ACCEPTED = 3 FT
www.middletownnj.com/collection



Click [HERE](#) to access hi-res photos from this e-newsletter.



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Verizon FiOS Channel 26/Comcast Cable Channel 20

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