



# Plainsboro Reporter

A Quarterly Township Newsletter

Fall 2018

## Planning Continues For Centennial Celebration

**I**f you haven't already heard...in 2019 Plainsboro Township turns 100!

Earlier this year the Plainsboro Centennial Planning Committee was formed to plan several year-round celebratory activities and events for residents and visitors. This committee, comprised of Township officials and staff, representatives from the school district, the local business and civic community and long-standing residents, has been instrumental in providing the framework necessary to orchestrate such a celebration. A slogan, *Plainsboro Township...100 Years of Pride and Progress*, was adopted and a search began for an official logo (see article below).

Township officials were quick to point out that while it is important to enjoy the many different events and activities on tap for the coming year, it is of equal importance not to lose sight of the transformation Plainsboro has undergone from a small, rural farming community in 1919 to the vibrant and

diverse community it is today. Mayor Cantu stated "I am very excited to celebrate Plainsboro's Centennial next year. The main celebratory event will be on May 5, 2019, Founders Day, and will mark the 100th anniversary of the incorporation

*If you are interested in donating to the 2019 Centennial campaign, please e-mail us at [centennial2019@plainsboronj.com](mailto:centennial2019@plainsboronj.com)*

of the Township. We are planning for an expanded parade, family events and the grand opening of the historic John Van Buren Wicoff House. The house will re-open to the public as a museum after years of renovations."

A special Centennial website is currently under construction and is expected to launch by the end of the year. Visit [www.plainsboronj.com](http://www.plainsboronj.com) for the latest details.

## Centennial Logo Selected

**A**t a wine tasting Centennial kick-off event sponsored by the Crowne Plaza Hotel and Conference Center in Plainsboro, Township officials, residents and businesses all joined together for the unveiling of the new Centennial logo.

As part of the logo contest, middle and high school students in the West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional School District were invited to submit a logo design to be used on the Centennial website, t-shirts and any other promotional items.

The winner, Plainsboro resident Shriya Syamala, is a rising senior from West Windsor-Plainsboro High School South. For her efforts, Shriya received a \$150.00 gift certificate to Barnes and Noble. Congratulations Shriya!



*Shriya Syamala (right of display) accompanied by her family, is congratulated by Deputy Mayor Neil Lewis, Mayor Peter Cantu (left of display) and Township Committeeman Nuran Nabi (foreground to the right of Shriya).*

## Did You Know?

*Did you know that the Plainsboro Recreation Department offers a variety of activities during winter and spring break for children and families?* Each break we offer an afternoon movie day, a fun and exciting family performance, a camp day for children, and a family bus trip.

Camp days run from 10am – 1pm and give children in grades K-5 a taste of what our Lenape Summer Day Camp is like. Children attend three different classes (Art, Science, & Fitness) and enjoy time with friends and the Lenape Camp teachers.

Family performances consist of a variety of different shows, including but not limited to, magic shows, story tellers, game shows and Mad Science assemblies.

Family bus trips are a fun way for families to enjoy time together while leaving the driving to us. Our winter bus trip changes each year and can be to any of the following destinations: New York City, Disney on Ice, Medieval Times, the aquarium, a musical and much, much, more! Our spring bus trip to Hershey Park, Pennsylvania has become a favorite among our residents.

Registration for any of our school break activities is required. Some activities are very popular and fill quickly. Remember to check [www.plainsboronj.com](http://www.plainsboronj.com) for details.

*Did you know that the Township hosts a free rabies clinic each year for dogs and cats prior to licensing season?* In order to assist our resident pet owners in complying with licensing regulations, each year the Township hosts a free rabies clinic at the Plainsboro Public Works garage located at 20 Woodland Drive.

This year, the rabies clinic is scheduled for **Saturday, November 3rd**. Dogs are scheduled for 9:00am to 10:00am and cats are scheduled for 10:00am to 11:00am. Owners must have large dogs securely leashed. Very small dogs and cats should be in a pet carrier. Proof of residency is required.

*Did you know that Middlesex County runs flu and pneumococcal clinics for county residents each year?* It is recommended that everyone six months of age and older get a flu vaccine. Vaccination is especially important for people at higher risk of severe influenza such as seniors, healthcare personnel and individuals with close contact with children younger than 6 months. The county also makes Pneumococcal immunizations available to people 65 years of age and older who have not previously received a vaccination, and also for people age 18-64 with a chronic health condition. These clinics are held at different locations throughout Middlesex County. Visit [www.middlesexcountynj.gov](http://www.middlesexcountynj.gov) for cost information and to view a current schedule of clinics.

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## New Jersey Audubon Programs at the Plainsboro Preserve

**A**fter a long, hot Summer, Autumn is the perfect time to explore the Plainsboro Preserve with cool breezes coming off the lake, shaded trails, and changing Fall colors.

Families enjoy a number of Saturday afternoon programs designed for 6-year-olds through adults (see our on-line calendar for dates and details), and can also explore our Discovery Trail (for Pre-school through 2nd graders), our Borrow-A-Bag activity totes, or learn to treasure hunt on our Geocache sites, with a Geocache box hidden on every trail.

Preschool 3 – 5-year-olds learn about animals that live at the Preserve through our Kids and Critters program, Friday mornings at 11:00. Our dates for the Fall are September 7 and 21, October 12 and 26, and November 9. Each week is different; check our website for details and registration.

Join us for a Special Event Day this fall. Our NJ Audubon Summer Campers come back for a Family Reunion on

September 22. Girl Scouts are invited to a special Badge Day on October 6. All are welcome for our Open House on October 20, with activity stations set up on our trails (or in the Education Center if it is raining.)

Fall is a great time to book our Out in Nature birthday parties, or to bring your Scouts for one of a number of badge workshops.

For details about the Preserve, and all of the NJ Audubon programs offered here, go to <https://njudubon.org/places-to-visit/plainsboro-preserve/> and check out the Upcoming Events calendar.

New Jersey Audubon operates the Preserve for Plainsboro Township. The Preserve is located at 80 Scotts Corner Road, phone number 609-427-3052.

## Capital Projects Update

Several major capital improvement projects continue to move forward.

**Wicoff House Rehabilitation Project:** This project is divided into three phases: exterior work, indoor work and curation.

Prior to its inclusion on the National Historic Register, the Wicoff House went through several renovations and numerous maintenance repairs by the previous owners and the Township. One such renovation was the installation of the existing aluminum siding over the building's original wood siding. The primary focus of our exterior work is to remove the existing aluminum siding and restore the original wood siding. Sections of siding that deteriorated beyond repair will be replaced. Additional exterior work includes restoring the wood windows systems, landscape improvements and trenching a new electric service to the garage.

The interior work includes restoration of the existing windows, storm windows, and interior finishes as well as new electrical, plumbing and HVAC systems. The existing sprinkler system requires modification; along with an existing bathroom in order to make it ADA compliant.

The final phase of work is the curation of the artifacts. This includes restoring, reconditioning and preparing the artifacts for

display within the newly created museum space. "It is our goal to display Plainsboro's history in a fun and educating manner that will make people want to visit again and again," stated Township Committeeman David Bander.

**Research Way Phase I:** This project included the milling and paving of the two westbound lanes; installation of ADA ramps and storm drain repairs. This project is now complete.

**Park Improvements:** 2018 park improvements include the installation of amenities to the Community Park Dog Park, new dugouts at Community Park ballfield #1, replacement of sections of fencing around the Preserve and playground improvements in several parks.

**Road Maintenance XI:** This year's road maintenance program is underway. It includes improvements to Hamilton Lane South and Prospect Avenue; basin improvements on Scotts Corner Road and striping and basin improvements on Wyndhurst Drive.

**Intersection Improvements:** The brick pavers at the intersection of Plainsboro Road, Hunters Glen Drive and Deer Creek Drive will be removed and replaced with stamped asphalt, then painted red. The stamping process creates a brick pattern in the asphalt's top layer. In 2019, the same process is scheduled for the Plainsboro Road, Morris Davison Park and Thoreau Drive intersection.

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## Roy and Ted Wagner Honored

As a Township resident, providing 50 years of dedicated service to your hometown fire company is an incredible accomplishment. When you celebrate that same honor with your identical twin brother, then that's nothing short of amazing.

Ted and Roy Wagner have been members of the Plainsboro Fire Company since June of 1968. At the June 13th Township Committee meeting, each Wagner brother was formally acknowledged for his 50 years of public service by state and local officials.



*Pausing for a photo after the June 13th Township Committee meeting are (from left to right) Deputy Mayor Neil Lewis, Ted Wagner, Roy Wagner, Senator Linda Greenstein, Mayor Peter Cantu and Township Committeemen David Bander, Nuran Nabi and Ed Yates.*

## Plainsboro's Got Talent!

Plainsboro residents can share their talent in the annual Plainsboro's Got Talent show at the Plainsboro Recreation & Cultural Center. For the past five years, Plainsboro Recreation has been offering this performance opportunity to residents in autumn. Those interested in participating in the show must first sign-up their act and audition. Auditions take place at the end of September and the final show is held in November.

Each resident is welcome to audition up to two different acts for the performance. Acts can be solo performances, duets, trios, or groups. We welcome all ages from the young to the young at heart! All acts must be appropriate for families and must be no longer than three minutes each.

Typical types of acts include various styles of dance, singing performances, instrumental performances, acting skits, magic

shows, and multi-media performances. Residents are encouraged to be creative with their acts and most of all to have fun.

Registration for the 2018 Plainsboro's Got Talent auditions began in August with the registration for fall classes. More details can be found in the Recreation brochure or on the Township Website. Questions regarding the auditions or show can be directed to Plainsboro Recreation at 609-799-0909 x1719.

"It is always fun to see the wide variety of talent displayed by our many different residents", stated Township Committeeman Nuran Nabi. "All residents are encouraged to come out and support their neighbors in the final show in November."

Join us to see what a talented town we have!

## Leaf Season Reminders

As the fall season approaches, we provide this helpful reminder regarding the township's leaf collection program. See page 7 or visit [www.plainsboronj.com](http://www.plainsboronj.com) for the leaf collection schedule.

Beginning in the middle of October and lasting through mid-December residents may rake their leaves to the curb/edge of pavement adjacent to their residence, no more than seven days prior to their zone's scheduled collection. Residents are encouraged to keep their leaves at the curb, but not in the street. Leaves raked in the street can inhibit drainage during rain storms and may also create traffic hazards.

Leaves cannot be placed closer than ten feet to any storm drain inlet. Leaves cannot be mixed with any other debris. Leaf piles

mixed with debris will **not** be collected by the township.

Residents who do not wish to wait for their scheduled collection may bring their leaves to the Plainsboro Conservation Center, located off Grovers Mill Road. The center is open Mondays and Thursdays, 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm and Saturdays, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Residents utilizing a contractor for the disposal of their leaves must notify the Department of Public Works at least one business day prior to delivery.

"The conservation center is a great resource for residents who need to dispose of their leaves outside of the township's normal collection schedule," stated Township Committeeman David Bander.

## International Day of Yoga Celebrated

In 2015, the United Nations General Assembly unanimously declared June 21st as the International Day of Yoga. The International Day of Yoga aims to raise awareness worldwide of the benefits of yoga.

Here in Plainsboro, the Recreation and Community Services Department held their 2nd Annual Yoga Day. Several residents participated in a free class that was held on the municipal building plaza. Join us next year as we continue the tradition. Namaste!



## Housing Division Now Using Tablets on Inspections

Plainsboro Code Enforcement Department's Housing Division continues its computer software transition and has begun using tablets for housing rental and resale inspections.

The Housing Division began the implementation of a new computer software system in October of 2017 and has continued transitioning throughout the summer.

"We are very excited about the prospects of using this technology to improve the services we provide to the residents of the Township", stated Department Director Brian K. Miller.

The use of tablets will also allow housing inspectors to access the Building Division software in the field. This will give them the ability to view the construction permit history for a property while conducting a resale or rental inspection.

"This new software had to be modified and customized to suit the specific needs of the Township's inspection program", stated Township Committeeman and Department of Code Enforcement Liaison Ed Yates. "It is expected to provide better access to information by all users and reduce the amount of clerical work to be done by administrative staff."

It is anticipated that most inspection reports and many of the certificates will be sent to the applicant electronically, which

will streamline and improve the housing approval process for the homeowner.



*Housing Inspector Nicole Flagg uses a tablet on a recent housing inspection.*

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## Fire Prevention Week is October 7th – 13th

Fire Prevention Week originated in 1922 to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 where as many as 300 people lost their lives, 100,000 were left homeless, 17,400 structures were destroyed, and over 2,000 acres were burned. President Calvin Coolidge was the first President in the nation to sign a proclamation recognizing the occasion.

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), this year's theme is "**Look. Listen. Learn. Be Aware. Fire can happen anywhere.**" This year we are reminded to:

**Look** for places where a fire could start. Take a good look around your home. Identify potential fire hazards and take care of them.

**Listen** for the sound of the smoke alarm. You may have only minutes to escape safely once the smoke alarm sounds. Family members should gather at a predetermined outside meeting place located a safe distance from the home.

**Learn** two ways out of every room, and make sure all doors and windows leading outside open easily and are free of clutter.

For additional information about how to protect your home from fire visit <https://www.plainsboronj.com/441/Safeguarding-Your-Home> and for more information on fire safety public education and fire prevention week visit [www.nfpa.org/Public-Education](http://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education)

## Document Shredding Date Scheduled

Safely dispose of documents that contain personal information at the municipal complex (641 Plainsboro Road) on Saturday, October 27th from 9am-12pm, or until the shredding truck is filled. Bring your old files, receipts, bills, financial statements, etc. for disposal.

The event is open to residents of Middlesex County only - private businesses are not allowed to participate. The removal of paperclips, staples and paperboard binder covers is not required.

## Safeguard Your Child on the Internet

The Plainsboro Township Police Department offers the following suggestions to help you keep your child safe when online:

- Put the computer in an area of the home where you can watch what your child is doing on the computer.
- Look at your child's profile on social-networking sites. This information is accessible worldwide.
- Look at your child's online "friends". Ask your children if they really know these people.
- Remind your children that once they post a photo or information online it can't be taken back; copies may exist. You may someday find yourself having to explain an old post or embarrassing photo at a job interview or during a college application process.
- Remember, even if your child is not active on the internet, their friends may have put their profile online for them.

- Don't put personal information on the computer that a criminal could piece together to figure out where your child can be found.

Use filtering software on your home computers. These software suites can monitor your child's internet usage, social media accounts, block chats, and filter content that may be deemed unsafe. The website <http://www.opendns.com> is popular for monitoring internet use. Programs available from this and other similar sites monitor your computer and help protect your family from inappropriate internet usage.

You don't need to be a computer expert to keep your children safe on the computer. Stick to the basics: Don't allow them to talk to strangers! Get involved in your children's social lives, and show them that you care.

## Scams Targeting the Elderly

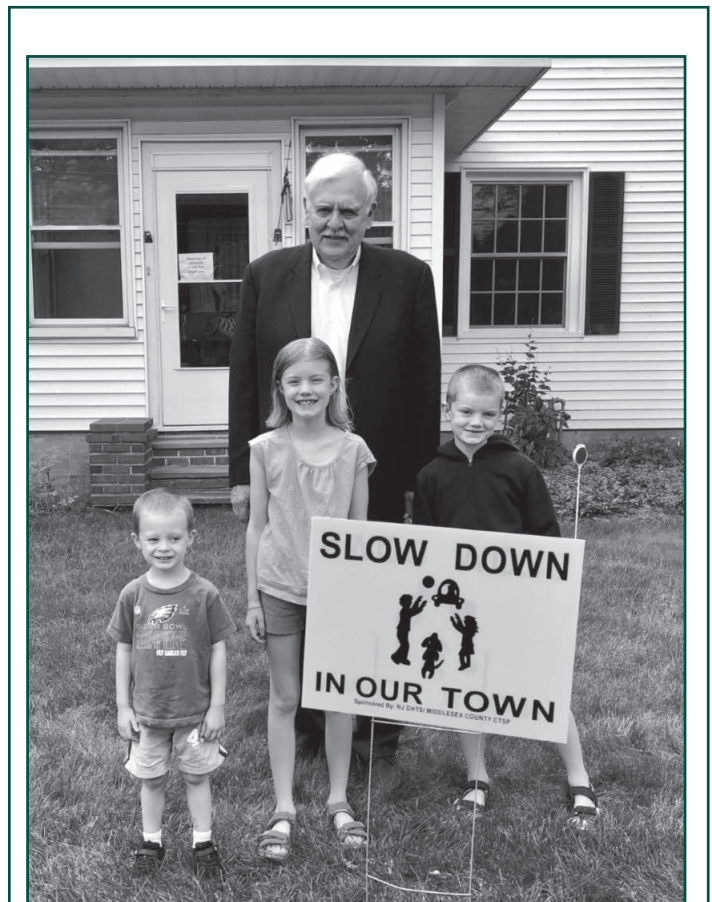
Every year, thousands of elderly citizens are targeted by different types of scams. Some of the most common include advance fee schemes, telemarketing scams and distraction thefts.

The advanced fee scheme is commonly orchestrated via telephone and informs the senior citizen that they have won a fictitious prize or trip but that taxes and fees must be paid upfront. These scams will usually be accompanied by directions as to how the senior citizen can provide immediate payment such as wiring money or submitting checks made out to cash.

The "Grandparent Scam" is becoming increasingly popular with the rise of social media and amount of information that can be quickly obtained such as names and addresses. In this scam, the senior citizen is made to believe that they are receiving a phone call from a grandson or granddaughter who has been arrested in a foreign country or is in need of serious medical attention while in a foreign country. The caller informs the victim that a large amount of money must be wired through companies such as Western Union to immediately rectify the situation.

Distraction thefts often take place in person and involve more than one scammer. The scammers will pose as friendly neighbors or good samaritans to lure you into a false sense of security. In March 2014, an elderly South Brunswick couple had their residence burglarized and lost approximately \$50,000 in cash and jewelry after a man posing as a utility worker knocked on their door and lured the unsuspecting couple outside while a second accomplice committed the theft.

"When dealing with a potential scammer, remember, if something seems too good to be true it probably is", stated Deputy Mayor Neil Lewis. "We must be aware of these types of scams and report any suspicious activity to the police."



### Slow Down In Our Town

The Plainsboro Police Department recently kicked off the Slow Down In Our Town traffic safety campaign. This speed reduction campaign includes the saturation of identified target areas with promotional signs, awareness training for residents and local enforcement.

Pictured with Mayor Peter Cantu is Nathan Lee, Abigail Lee and David Lee.

# At your service . . .

## Township Clerk's Office 799-0909, extension 2547

### Elections

Election	Date	Location	Polling Hours	Close of Registration (21 days prior)	Last Day to Apply for Mail-In Ballot	Last day to apply for a mail-in ballot in person to County Clerk (by 3:00pm)
GENERAL	11/06/18	By District	6:00am – 8:00pm	10/16/18	10/30/18	11/05/18

### Pet Licenses

New Jersey State law mandates that all dogs six months of age or older be licensed. Applications are available for all new pets in the Township Clerk's Office at 641 Plainsboro Road. Proof of rabies vaccination must be submitted with the application.

**According to state regulation, when licensing, the rabies vaccination immunity must extend through at least ten (10) months of the 12-month licensing period.** Therefore, licenses cannot be issued if the rabies vaccination expires before November 1st of each year. If for any medical reason the animal cannot be vaccinated in the required time, form VPH-28 must be completed by the veterinarian and submitted with the form. Submit a copy of the spay/neuter certificate, if applicable. The license fees are \$13.20 for spayed/neutered animals and \$16.20 for non-neutered animals. Late fees of \$5.00 per month are assessed as of February 1st.

To assist pet owners, a **Free Rabies Clinic** has been scheduled for **November 3, 2018** at the Plainsboro Public Works garage. Dogs are scheduled for 9:00am to 10:00am and cats are scheduled for 10:00am to 11:00am. Owners must have large dogs securely leashed. Very small dogs and cats should be in a pet carrier.

## Public Works Department 799-0099

### Conservation Center Hours

Through December 8th, the center will be open Monday and Thursday from 5:30pm – 7:30pm and Saturday 10:00am – 5:00pm. From December 9, 2018 – March 31, 2019 the center will only be open on Saturday from 10:00am to 2:00pm.

### Brush/Leaf Collection

For the purpose of collecting curbside brush and leaves, the Township is divided into two sections.

Section 1 – Beechtree Lane, Brentwood/Shallow Brook Estates, Cypress Court, George Davison Road, Grace Court, Mapleton Road, Perrine Road, Princeton Collection, Princeton Crossing, Princeton Manor, Serina Drive and Woodland Drive

Section 2 – Brookside Court, Cooks Corner, Cranbury Neck Road, Dey Road, Eiker Road, Gentry, Grovers Mill Estates, Grovers Mill Road, Heritage Way, Mayfarth Terrace, Millstone Court, Nostrand Road, Okeson Street, Petty Road, Plainsboro Road, Pollack Court, Ponds End, Scotts Corner Road, Stults Drive, Sullivan Street, Village Area and Walker Gordon Estates.

### Brush Collection Schedule/Guidelines

In Section 1, brush will be collected in April, June, August and October. In Section 2, brush will be collected in March, May, July and September. Brush must be curbside by 7:00am on the first Monday of the month designated for your section ONLY. Brush left curbside during non-scheduled months is subject to fines and removal costs. When using this service, please follow these guidelines:

### Vital Records

The local registrar is responsible for maintaining vital records of births, marriages/civil unions, domestic partnerships and deaths that occurred in Plainsboro Township.

The municipality that holds the original record is the only registrar, besides the State Registrar, that can issue a certified copy.

A Certified Copy of a vital record is issued to those individuals who have a direct link to the individual(s) named on the vital record, as identified in the Governor's Executive Order 18, and provided that the requestor is able to identify the vital record and can provide proof of his identity and relationship.

For more information regarding requirements and fees, call the office or visit the township website.

- Stack brush lengthwise at curbside between sidewalk and curb. Do not place brush in the street or within 10' of any catch basin.
- Brush cannot exceed 6 feet in length or 5 inches in diameter.
- No roots, stumps, soil, tree logs, grass or any other debris.

### Leaf Collection Schedule/Guidelines

In Section 1, leaves will be collected from October 15th through October 26th and again from November 13th through November 30th (weather permitting). In Section 2, leaves will be collected from October 29th through November 9th and again from December 3rd through December 14th (weather permitting). Leaves must be curbside for collection no earlier than seven (7) days prior to the scheduled pickup date. When using this service, please follow these guidelines:

- Leaves should be raked to the curb, no closer than ten (10) feet from storm drain inlet and must be free of debris.
- Leaves that are mixed with grass, branches, soil, etc. will not be picked up.

Residents not wishing to wait for their scheduled collection date can bring their brush/leaves to the conservation center during normal operating hours.

**Curbside Recycling Schedule** - September 8th, 17th; October 1st, 15th, 29th; November 12th, 26th

**Final 2018 Bulk Waste Day** – November 3rd from 8:00am-5:00pm at the conservation center.



# PLAINSBORO

Township of Plainsboro  
641 Plainsboro Road  
Plainsboro, NJ 08536-2094

Presorted Standard  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
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### TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

- Peter A. Cantu, Mayor
- Neil J. Lewis, Deputy Mayor
- David Bander
- Nuran Nabi
- Edmund C. Yates

### TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR

Anthony Cancro

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Teresa Carson

**ECRWSS  
POSTAL CUSTOMER  
PLAINSBORO, NJ 08536**

## Township Directory and Information

### Plainsboro Township Municipal Offices

*Location:* 641 Plainsboro Road  
*Phone:* General 609-799-0909  
 Court 609-799-0863  
*Hours of Operation:*  
 Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:30pm  
*Website:* www.plainsboronj.com

Like us on Facebook at  
Facebook.com/PlainsboroTwpNJ

Register at: <http://www.plainsboronj.com> to receive notifications from township officials and to request services online.

### Plainsboro Public Library

*Location:* 9 Van Doren Street  
*Phone:* 609-275-2897  
*Hours of Operation:*  
 Monday – Thursday 10:00am-8:30pm  
 Friday – Sunday 10:00am-5:00pm  
*Website:* www.lmxac.org/plainsboro

### Plainsboro Police Department

*Location:* 641 Plainsboro Road  
*Phone:* Non-Emergency 609-799-2333  
**Emergencies 9 1 1**  
*Website:* www.plainsboropolice.com

### Plainsboro Recreation and Cultural Center

*Location:* 641 Plainsboro Road  
*Phone:* General 609-799-0909, press 6  
 Email [recdept@plainsboronj.com](mailto:recdept@plainsboronj.com)

### Plainsboro Public Works Department

*Location:* Scotts Corner Road at  
 20 Woodland Drive  
*Phone:* 609-799-0099  
 Recycling Center, Bulk Waste  
 See Page 7 for details or visit website

### Other Useful Numbers

- School District Information 609-716-5000
- Report Street Light Out to PSE&G 1-800-436-7734
- Report Potholes to Public Works 799-0099
- New Jersey American Water 1-800-272-1325
- Poison Hotline 1-800-222-1222

### Township Meetings

All meetings are held at 7:30pm in the Municipal Building, 641 Plainsboro Road, unless otherwise noted.

#### **Development Review Committee**

3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm  
Recreation Center

#### **Environmental Advisory Committee**

4th Monday, 7:00pm or as needed  
Recreation Center  
Call 609-799-0909, x1502 for more information

#### **Fire Commissioners**

2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm  
at firehouse

#### **Shade Tree Advisory Committee**

2nd Monday

#### **Township Committee**

Regular Mtg. 2nd Wednesday  
Agenda Mtg. 4th Wednesday

#### **Planning Board**

1st & 3rd Monday

#### **Zoning Board**

1st Wednesday