Plainsboro Township Achieves Sustainable Jersey Certification...Again!

Plainsboro achieved Sustainable Jersey certification at the bronze level in program year 2021. Plainsboro was first recognized in 2014, and this third 3-year certification is good until 2024 – that's ten years of demonstrated sustainability! Certified towns are an outstanding group of municipalities that are making important contributions toward the long-term goal of a sustainable New Jersey and world.

Sustainable Jersey provides tools, training and financial incentives to support communities as they pursue sustainability programs. “As New Jersey faces issues such as the climate crisis, a growing equity divide and environmental pollution, municipalities want to be a part of the solution to these challenges,” stated Deputy Mayor Neil Lewis. Sustainable Jersey participants (municipalities and schools) have successfully implemented and documented over 20,826 sustainability actions. Sustainable Jersey has provided over $6.7 million in grants to municipalities, school districts and schools for community-based projects that create healthy and sustainable communities in New Jersey. Sustainable Jersey is administered by The Sustainability Institute at The College of New Jersey.

For more information and to participate in Sustainable Jersey free workshops and events held across the state, visit www.SustainableJersey.com

SUEZ Breaks Ground on New Treatment Plant

Pictured at the groundbreaking ceremony held in December for construction of the new SUEZ Princeton Meadows water treatment plant are (from left to right): Paula McEvoy, VP Capital Planning, SUEZ NJ; Kristin Munoz, NY/NJ Drinking Water Sector Leader, HDR; Susan Rosenwinkel, Bureau Chief, NJDEP; Theresa Sudnik, Superintendent, SUEZ Princeton Meadows; Jim Mastrokalos, Director of Operations, SUEZ South Jersey; Committeeman Ed Yates; Deputy Mayor Neil Lewis; Mayor Peter Cantu; Alan Weland, VP and General Manager, SUEZ NJ and Mohammed Selingir, Principal Engineer, SUEZ NJ
Master Plan Update

The Planning Board has begun the process to update the Land Use Element of the Master Plan. Look for the link on the township’s website for updates and how to participate.

Township Installs Safety Improvements at Several Intersections

In response to residents’ suggestions, the township made safety improvements to several intersections in town. In addition to the installation of a video detection system at the Mapleton Road and Seminary Drive intersection, existing pedestrian crosswalk signals were upgraded to new LED countdown pedestrian signals at several intersections. These improvements promote safety and increase the visibility of the signals for both pedestrians and motorists, especially at dawn and dusk. “The countdown feature allows pedestrians, especially at busier intersections; to be certain they have enough time to cross the road safely”, stated Township Committeeman David Bander.

New LED countdown pedestrian signals were installed at the following intersections:
- Grovers Mill Road and Maple Avenue
- Plainsboro Road and Hunters Glen Drive/Deer Creek Drive
- Plainsboro Road and Walker Gordon Drive/Pasture Lane
- Plainsboro Road and Edgemere Avenue/Dey Road

We want to thank our residents for this suggestion. Pass along your suggestions, advice and what is important to you via email at suggestions@plainsboronj.com

Public-Private Partnership Pathway

A recently completed multi-use pathway along the east and south side of Stellarator Road on the Princeton Forrestal Campus came about as the result of a partnership between Plainsboro and Princeton University. The approximately 2,400-foot-long (about 1/2 of a mile) pathway is eight feet wide to accommodate bicycle and pedestrian traffic in each direction. The entire pathway is lined on each side with 120 newly installed trees, which are infilled with other existing mature trees.

Thanks to the close working relationship, both the Township and the University recognized the need to improve and promote walkability and bicycle use in this section of Plainsboro. As a result, the Township gains projects that are included in the Circulation Element of the Township Master Plan. Mayor Cantu explained, “It’s a win-win situation for us and the University to promote regional sustainability while having pathway projects constructed at no cost to the taxpayer.”

Founders Day 2022

At this time, Township staff is actively preparing for our annual Founders Day celebration to be held on Saturday, April 30th (rain date is Sunday, May 1st). Please visit our website at www.plainsboronj.com for updates or possible schedule changes as we continue to navigate these uncertain times.
With more time spent at home, residents have increasingly chosen to add a pet to their family. As a result, many new dog owners have found themselves a bit overwhelmed with their new pet. The solution? An all-new canine training class offered by Plainsboro Recreation.

Led by certified professional dog trainers, the program has been a hit with classes filling rapidly since its inception in early 2021. Both puppy/beginner classes and intermediate classes are available.

These classes run all year. For more information please visit our website or call the Department of Recreation and Community Services office at 609-799-0909 x1719.

**Canine Training Classes Available**

**Plainsboro Expands Self Defense Program Offerings**

In 2018, Plainsboro Recreation began offering a women’s self-defense class to the community. The popularity of this program has soared, leading to expanded programming. New for this year is self-defense for men, women, seniors and kids!

The fun and exciting adult classes are 12-hour courses given over a four-week period and the kid’s classes will be offered as a weeklong series. Techniques are simple, practical and effective and the classes are designed for everyone regardless of fitness or experience level.

Ninety percent of self-defense is awareness and these classes discuss the four “risks” of personal safety: risk awareness, risk reduction, risk recognition, and risk avoidance.

“These classes empower people though self-defense by providing education, self-reliance, decision making responsibility and self-realization of physical power”, stated Township Committeeman Nuran Nabi.

Visit the township website for more information or call the Department of Recreation and Community Services at 609-799-0909 x1719.

**Make Life Easier Through Online or Electronic Tax Payments**

To make an online tax payment, visit www.plainsboronj.com and click on the Online Payments icon (pictured left). Choose “Taxes” and follow the prompts. You can access your tax bill using your name, your address or your block and lot. Payments by credit card or e-check are accepted. A vendor service charge of $1.95 per transaction is included when paying by e-check. Payment by credit card includes a service charge, payable to the credit card company, of 2.95% of balance paid. You may also register with the Tax Collector’s office to have your preauthorized bank account debited each quarter for the amount due on your property. Email reminders are sent prior to payments being debited from the preauthorized bank account.

For questions or if you need additional information, please call the Tax Collector’s office at (609)799-0909 extension 1408 or 1409.

**BCB Donates Bench**

Thanks to a generous donation by BCB Bank, a new park bench was purchased by the Township. The bench was installed in Market Square near the library. A bronze plaque on the bench reads “Donated by BCB Bank”. BCB Bank is located at 10 Schalks Crossing Road, Plainsboro.
Youth Arts Month

Plainsboro Recreation is once again happy to be partnering with the school district to display artwork created by the youth of our community in celebration of Youth Arts Month. Artwork from students in kindergarten through 12th grade will be on display at the Plainsboro Recreation and Cultural Center. A reception to acknowledge the young artists is scheduled for April 5th, April 6th and April 7th, starting at 6:00 pm*.

Youth Arts Month is a national celebration emphasizing the value of arts education in the development of self-esteem and the essential skills of self-expression. Throughout the United States, exhibits, awards, and special events showcase the artistic abilities of young people. Ordinarily held each year in March, due to COVID-19, the event has been pushed back to April.

Visit the Plainsboro Recreation and Cultural Center in April to see all of the wonderful artwork created by the youth in our township!

*Reception dates/times subject to change or cancellation

Wicoff House Museum Update

“Last year the Wicoff House Museum Youth Advisory Council (YAC) started a podcast to discuss various issues,” stated committeeman Ed Yates. The topic of the first episode was the Equal Rights Amendment of 1972, designed to guarantee protection against gender discrimination for women under the law.

YAC members who worked on that episode include: Gautami Kunde, Kiko Yoshihira and Ethan Wang. You can listen to the podcast and find out more about the YAC by visiting the museum website at: www.wicoffhouseplainsboro.com

Also, to celebrate Women’s History Month in March, the museum will debut a new temporary exhibit showcasing the lives of women in Plainsboro from the 19th century to the present. The museum is seeking objects, photographs, records and stories to add to its collection of multicultural families who have lived and worked in Plainsboro. If you can contribute to this collection, please contact the museum at: museum@plainsboronj.com

Sewa Diwali Initiative Drives Generous Food Pantry Donation

The Plainsboro food pantry recently received a generous holiday donation from residents of the Walker Gordon Farm community and members of Hindi USA - WWP Hindi School through the initiative of Sewa Diwali. For information or to donate to the pantry, please contact Erum Ladak at: eladak@plainsboronj.com

Pictured from left to right are Lenny Celluro-Plainsboro’s Director of Recreation and Community Services, Gulshan Mirg, Monika Mirg, Mayor Peter Cantu, Sree Kanala, Shashi Mittal and Erum Ladak-Plainsboro Food Pantry Coordinator.
Gas Grill Safety Tips

Spring will be here soon. Following are some tips to be mindful of before you use your gas grill:

• The grill should be placed at least five feet from the home and deck railings. Also, be certain it is out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
• Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the cooking grates and empty the trays below the grill.
• Check the major connection points between the propane tank hose and the regulator and cylinder where the hose connects to the burners. Tighten them if they are loose.

Gas Grill Safety Tips

• Check the gas tank hose for potential leaks by:
  - Applying a light soap and water solution to the hose using a brush or spray bottle.
  - Turn the propane tank on. If there is a gas leak, the propane will release bubbles around the hose. The bubbles will be large enough to see.
  - If there are no bubbles, your grill is safe to use.
  - If there are bubbles, turn off the tank and check connections, then have your grill serviced by a professional before using it again.
  - If the leak does not stop, immediately dial 9-1-1 to reach the fire department.

Plainsboro Preserve Happenings

Forest therapy walks were added to our program schedule this winter. A guided forest therapy walk is a structured experience that offers you an opportunity to slow down, awaken the senses of the body (sight, hearing, touch, smell and taste) and explore your relationship with nature over the course of several hours. The program continues into spring, with walks scheduled for April 23rd and May 14th from 9am to noon. We would love to have you join us. Register at https://www.plainsboronj.com/603/Parks-and-Recreation

Watch for Spotted Lanternfly Egg Masses

The Spotted Lanternfly is an invasive pest that feeds on the sap of various plants, including numerous species of trees. Not only does their voracious appetite bring unwarranted stress to plants, but as they feed they secrete a sweet sticky substance that attracts other insects and mold. According to the New Jersey Department of Agriculture the Spotted Lanternfly has the potential to greatly impact agricultural crops and hardwood trees.

New Jersey residents can help stop the spread of the Spotted Lanternfly by two simple actions:

1. Find and destroy egg masses - Spotted Lanternflies lay their eggs in the fall. An adult female lays a minimum of two egg masses containing 35 – 50 eggs each. Egg masses measure approximately 1” to 1.5” long and resemble splotches of mud or clay.

   The egg masses are commonly found on trees and other flat surfaces such as benches, trailers and outdoor equipment. You can destroy egg masses by scraping them off a surface and placing them in a sealed baggie with some rubbing alcohol or hand sanitizer. If left untouched, the egg masses begin to hatch in May.

2. Avoid transporting the pests - In August of 2021, Middlesex County joined the list of counties in New Jersey under quarantine for the Spotted Lanternfly. While it’s no longer necessary to report sightings, residents are asked to be vigilant not to transport the insects to non-quarantined counties. This is best accomplished by rolling up car windows and parking at least 15 feet away from trees when possible.
The Dangers of Distracted Driving

According to the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration, every year thousands of lives are lost in motor vehicle accidents due to distracted driving. Distracted driving is considered any activity that diverts the attention of the driver from focusing on their surroundings and driving their vehicle safely.

Numerous studies have shown that the major causes of distracted driving are the use of handheld devices, such as texting or reading texts, eating, operating in-car entertainment, or simply focusing on passengers rather than safely driving the vehicle.

Unfortunately, those who live, work and visit Plainsboro have also been impacted by the actions of distracted drivers. The Plainsboro Police Traffic Bureau determined that over the past five years, 98% of all accidents that occur on township roadways are attributed to distracted driving. Some of these accidents have caused serious injury and even death.

To help avoid these unfortunate and potentially tragic incidents, the Plainsboro Police routinely conduct education and enforcement activities on roadways throughout the community. The police department also works with schools and local community groups to educate new and experienced drivers about the dangers of distracted driving and the safe operation of motor vehicles, pedestrian laws and bicycle safety. Plainsboro Township also conducts routine inspections of roadways to ensure that they are safe for motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists in accordance with all local, state and federal traffic safety guidelines.

Moving forward we ask that everyone avoid any activity that could distract you from safely driving your vehicle. We also ask the Plainsboro community to help us educate new drivers about the best practices related to distraction-free driving.

So let’s work together to reduce incidents of motor vehicle accidents and those related to distracted driving to keep us all safe.

For more information please visit: www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/distracted-driving

Residential Security Survey Program Prevents Crime

Crime prevention is one of the most important tactics to combat crime. There is no way to quantify the results of successful crime prevention, because the crime is prevented right from the beginning. The Plainsboro Township Police Department offers a crime prevention survey program open to all Plainsboro residents. A Residential Security Survey is a valuable tool used to identify and remedy areas vulnerable to criminal activity, creating a sense of safety and reducing the opportunity for criminals to strike. Residents can take advantage of this program and have one of our experienced police officers tour your home. A police officer will ask detailed questions and survey your property in order to get a complete understanding of your security needs. During this process, the officer will evaluate lighting, shrubbery, locks, camera systems, and security procedures among other things. Although the officers will make recommendations for modifications, he/she will not endorse or recommend specific companies. Suggestion to improve the security of your home will be given, but the resident is not obligated to perform any of the recommendations.

The survey is offered free to Plainsboro residents, by appointment only. It generally takes less than an hour. Registration can be done online at https://www.plainsboronj.com/583/Residential-Security-Survey-Program. Once you have completed and submitted the registration form, a representative of the Plainsboro Police Department will contact you to schedule your appointment. If there are any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Detective Patrick Miller (609) 799-2333 ext. 1639 or Detective Sgt. Joseph Dell Beni (609) 799-2333 ext. 1688.

In this file photo, Detective Tim McMahon (left) conducts a residential security survey with residents.
At Your Service... Township Clerk’s Office: 799.0909 x 2547

2022 Election Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Election</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Polling Hours</th>
<th>Close of Registration (21 days prior)</th>
<th>Last Day to Apply for Mail-In Ballot</th>
<th>Last day to apply for a mail-in-ballot in person to County Clerk (by 3:00pm)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRIMARY</td>
<td>06/07/22</td>
<td>By Dweller</td>
<td>6am - 4pm</td>
<td>05/17/22</td>
<td>05/31/22</td>
<td>06/06/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GENERAL</td>
<td>11/08/22</td>
<td>By Dweller</td>
<td>6am - 4pm</td>
<td>10/18/22</td>
<td>11/01/22</td>
<td>11/07/22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Early General Election Voting Period – October 29, 2022 – November 6, 2022**

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.

*Due to COVID-19 we encourage residents to mail in the renewal form, payment and rabies vaccine proof to limit the in person drop off. Form is mailed to current licensees but can also be found on the township website at https://www.plainsboronj.com/297/Animal-Licensing

If you missed the Township Rabies Clinic in November please contact the Middlesex County Public Health Department at (732) 745-3100 for the listing of the county scheduled clinics held in the surrounding municipalities.

Vital Records: Vital records such as birth, marriage/civil union and death certificates are issued through the Township Clerk’s Office. For information regarding requirements, contact the office or visit the township website at https://www.plainsboronj.com/292/Birth-Death-Marrige-Vital-Records

Section 2 – March, May, July, September - Adams Court, Alfalfa Circle, Allen Court, Amberly Road, Barley Court, Barlow Court, Barn Swallow Court, Barnyard Court, Birch Drive, Blossom Hill Drive, Bradford Lane, Briardale Court, Brookside Court, Camas Drive, Clinton Court, Clyde Court, Colonial Court, Cooks Lane, Cranberry Neck Road, Daisy Court, Derry Court Drive, Dogwood Drive, Drayton Lane, Dryer Court, Edgemere Avenue, Elker Road, Elsie Drive, Farmhouse Drive, Franklin Drive, Gardenia Court, Grovers Mill Road, Hancock Court, Harvest Drive, Hawthorn Drive, Heath Court, Heritage Way, Heron Court, Hilltown Court, Hummingbird Court, Jeffers Road, King Haven Court, Knight Drive E., Knight Drive W., Latetap Drive, Linden Lane, Linden Lane S., Lovell Drive, Madison Drive, Maple Avenue, Marshall Court, Mayfair Terrace, Meadow Drive, Mifflin Court, Millstone Court, Monroe Court, Narrowbrook Court, Norstrand Road, Okeon Street, Orchard Lane, Orchid Drive, Paddock Drive, Parkway Avenue, Pasture Lane, Petty Road, Plainsboro Road, Pollack Court, Pondview Road, Prospect Avenue, Railroad Avenue, Ruedemann Drive, Rutledge Court, Scots Corner Road, Sherman Court, Silo Lane, Stanton Court, Stone Meadow Court, Stults Drive, Sullivan Street, Sycamore Court, Troumbull Road, Walker Gordon Drive, Webster Court, Wethersfield Road, Wheatsheaf Court, Windmill Court.

Curbside Recycling: Scheduled pickup dates for this quarter are: March 14, 28 • April 11, 25 • May 9, 23

2022 Bulk Waste Days: Bulky items such as furniture, appliances, electronics, bicycles, etc., will be accepted at the Conservation Center from 8:00am to 5:00pm on April 2, June 11, August 13 and November 5.
Township Directory and Information

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

Plainsboro Recreation and Community Services
Location: 641 Plainsboro Road
Phone: General 609-799-0909, press 6
       Email 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

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

Plainsboro Public Library
Location: 9 Van Doren Street
Phone: 609-275-2897
CALL FOR HOURS
Website: www.plainsborolibrary.org

Useful Numbers
School District Information
609-716-5000

Report street light out to
PSE&G 1-800-436-7734

Report potholes to
Public Works 609-799-0099

New Jersey American Water
1-800-272-1325

Township Meetings
All meetings are held in the municipal building at 641 Plainsboro Road unless otherwise noted:

Development Review Committee
3rd Tuesday, 6:00pm (virtual)

Environmental Advisory Committee
4th Monday, 6:00pm (virtual)
Call 609-799-0863, x1502 for more information

Fire Commissioners
2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm at firehouse

Township Committee
Regular Mtg. 2nd Wednesday, 7:00pm
Agenda Mtg. 4th Wednesday, 7:00pm

Planning Board
3rd Monday, 6:00pm (virtual)

Zoning Board
1st Wednesday, at 6:00pm (virtual)