



Township of Maple Shade

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www.mapleshade.com

Mayor Nelson Wiest • Deputy Mayor Sandy Nunes
Councilman Charles Kauffman • Councilman Steve Schmidt • Councilwoman Claire Volpe

Township of Maple Shade News DECEMBER 2021

Township of Maple Shade News is generally published monthly to provide residents with pertinent information and reminders related to Maple Shade and the surrounding area. The Township views this as another important means of keeping residents informed about our community.

1. MUNICIPAL OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

The Municipal Offices will be closed the following holidays in December:

- Friday, December 24th - Christmas Eve
- Monday, December 27th - Christmas Day (observance)
- Friday, December 31st - New Year's Day (observance)



2. HOLIDAY FESTIVAL & TREE LIGHTING

The Annual Holiday Festival & Tree Lighting was held on the evening of Friday, December 3rd. The event was a huge success. Santa Claus arrived to light the tree and visit with the children. There were so many fun things to do like face painting, balloon art, visit with reindeer and the Abominable Snowman. Both the Maple Shade High School Choir and Amped to Dance performed for the crowd also. Thank you to all who made this special holiday event possible.



Click [HERE](#) to view photos from the event

3. LETTERS TO SANTA

Official News

Santa has partnered with the Township of Maple Shade for

LETTERS TO SANTA

It is running from November 24th - December 13th

Letters will be delivered to Santa. He will send a personal letter back to the child.



Click [HERE](#) for more information

4. HOLIDAY HOME DECORATING CONTEST

The 2nd Annual

HOLIDAY HOME DECORATING CONTEST

Entry Deadline is Friday, December 10th

Residents will vote for BEST OVERALL HOUSE from December 15th - 20th

(Decorations must be visible from the street to be eligible.)



Click [HERE](#) to more information

5. VISITS WITH SANTA

Boy Scout Troop #28 is hosting their 7th Annual

VISITS WITH SANTA

December 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th & 21st

6:00PM - 9:00PM

Train Station



Click [HERE](#) for more information

6. SANTA ON THE FIRE TRUCK IS COMING SOON!

Santa will be boarding a Maple Shade Fire Truck to be escorted around the Township of Maple Shade. Santa will be visiting the NORTH side of town on Monday, December 13th, the SOUTH side on Tuesday, December 14th, and the APARTMENT COMPLEXES on Wednesday, December 15th. Santa will depart the Fire House at approximately 6:30PM. Please listen for the sirens and come out to say “hello”!



7. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

2nd Collection of Fall Leaves begins December 6th

Collection will be done by Zones / Trash Collection Day
(See below for the link to the flyer with more information)

Important Reminders:

- Brush, branches, and leaves are picked up by the Department of Public Works and NOT the trash collector
- Brush & Branches 3” or less in diameter MUST be bundled, tied, not exceed 30-lbs, and be no longer than 3-feet in length
- Please do NOT mix trash with brush, branches, or leaves

Click [HERE](#) to access the Fall Leaf Collection flyer



8. VOLUNTEERS WANTED – SUSTAINABLE MAPLE SHADE

The Sustainable Maple Shade is looking for NEW MEMBERS to help with community projects!



Click [HERE](#) to learn more about Sustainable Maple Shade.

9. MAPLE SHADE UTILITIES

Winter is quickly approaching, and cold temperatures can easily damage an exposed water meter. If your water meter is installed in an unheated location, such as an unheated porch or a crawl space, it needs to be protected from the cold. If your water meter is damaged because it becomes frozen, you may be responsible for the replacement fee, currently \$480.00.



Maple Shade Utilities will supply and install an insulating jacket on your water meter *free of charge*, so property owners do not have to worry about the liability of the replacement fee. The installation of an insulating jacket takes less than 10 minutes. All you need to do is call the utility at (856) 488-7450 and schedule an appointment for the installation of an insulating meter jacket.

The staff of Maple Shade Utilities would like to wish you and your family a happy holiday!

10. STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Rainfall and stormwater runoff flows over pavements, lawns, sidewalks, etc and collects debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants. Stormwater flows into a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) or directly to a lake, stream, river, wetland, or coastal water. Anything that enters a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) is discharged untreated into the water bodies we use for swimming, fishing, and providing drinking water. Polluted runoff is the nation's greatest threat to clean water. Runoff from construction sites, spills at fueling areas, and chemicals used to keep outdoor areas clean, are often conveyed into the municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4). By practicing good housekeeping, property owners, tenants, business owners and employees can help keep pollutants like pesticides, pet waste, grass clippings, and automotive fluids off the ground and out of stormwater. Environmental responsibility helps protect our lakes, streams, rivers, wetlands, and coastal waters. Please help keep Maple Shade's waterways clean by refraining from placing any litter, garbage, leaves, motor oil, anti-freeze, cleaning fluid, pesticide, or any other waste into or near storm sewer inlets.

Litter & Recycling Tips

- Reduce, reuse, and recycle materials whenever possible to create less waste, which could end up on our streets and contribute to stormwater pollution.
- Pick up trash and litter on your property and put it in the trash. Always use a public trash can for trash in public areas. Recycle any reusable materials, especially cans, bottles, and paper. NEVER throw litter and debris directly into storm drains. Such debris can wash into waterways and onto beaches, and clogged drains can cause street flooding and traffic congestion.
- Always put your cigarette butts in ashtrays or solid garbage cans, not on the streets. Remember, our parks, playgrounds and beaches are not ashtrays. When an ashtray or garbage can are not available, store extinguished butts in your cigarette pack until you find a proper receptacle.
- Empty automobile ashtrays into the trash, not out your car window or directly on the ground. Proper disposal will help keep our waterways clean and minimize the risk of fires.



- Make sure to properly dispose of leftover household chemicals, paints, and automotive fluids. These leftover chemicals should never be thrown away. Take them to a household hazardous waste collection center where they can be recycled. To find a center near you, visit www.state.nj.us/dep/dshw/rrtp/hhwcp.htm

For more information, please visit <https://www.cleanwaternj.org>

11. POLICE DEPARTMENT

Surging Catalytic Converter Thefts Plague Area Town's



Over the course of 2020 into 2021, catalytic converter thefts have reached an all-time high in our area. It doesn't matter what kind of car you drive, it could be a pickup truck, work van, small compact car, SUV...anyone can become a victim of this crime. To make matters worse, not all insurance companies/policies cover the theft of a catalytic converter. If you have not looked into this with your agent or company, please do so as soon as possible. Additionally, this is not just a Maple Shade problem, but a New Jersey and Pennsylvania problem to say the least.

Catalytic Converters are valuable because they contain several precious metals that are extracted from them. These metals include platinum, rhodium, and palladium just to name a few. Although sold for several hundred dollars to a variety of entities purchasing them, it can cost the victim in several detrimental ways. First, a new OEM catalytic converter can run anywhere from \$1,200 to several thousand dollars depending on the type of exhaust. Second and because of the current supply and demand issues affecting the automotive industry, it could take 4 to 6 weeks to even get a replacement converter. During this time, the vehicle cannot be driven. Lastly and when examining the totality of circumstances, this could cause unfortunate side-effects for the victim which include not having transportation to their job, not having the ability to get their kids to school or to activities afterwards, as well as negatively affecting the everyday tasks we complete in daily life such as food shopping and doctor's appointments.

In analyzing video from some of these thefts, it is not always a metal scrapper, or someone with an addiction issue who is responsible, there have been cases of people just simply taking advantage of the current circumstances to capitalize on this opportunity in our current economy. Catalytic converters are also being sold to unscrupulous scrap yards and/or mechanics, intermediaries and even over the web.

With that said, the Maple Shade Police Department is asking for your help. Most of these thefts are completed in under 5 to 10 minutes. All you may hear is the sound of metal being cut for a very brief time. Many times, this may be happening in the early morning hours and the sound wakes you up. If you do hear this sound, it is important to pick up the phone immediately and call the Maple Shade Police Department at #856-234-8300. You can remain anonymous if you would like.

Lastly, if you know of anyone who is involved with these types of thefts or any crimes and you would like to assist this agency, please email us at tips@mapleshadepd.com. The more information you can supply the better it will be for our investigation. Working together, we can help reduce this type of crime and protect our community!

12. MAPLE SHADE ROTARY CLUB

The Maple Shade Rotary Club is looking for NEW MEMBERS!

The Rotary Club is a group of community leaders and business people from Maple Shade. The Maple Shade chapter has been sponsoring many community activities like pancake breakfasts and the sidewalk sale for over 50 years. They also provide scholarships to Maple Shade students and support our local first responders.

All are invited to join their weekly lunch meetings on Tuesdays at Fontanas Café at 12:15PM. Come find out what the Rotary Club is all about!



13. DECEMBER MEETINGS & EVENTS

- Wednesday, December 8, 2021 - Zoning Board Meeting @ 7:00PM
- Thursday, December 9, 2021 - Town Council Meeting @ 6:30PM
**only one council meeting this month*
- Tuesday, December 22, 2021 - Planning Board Meeting @ 7:00PM

(The agendas can be found on the township's website at www.mapleshade.com.)

