

Township of Maple Shade

200 Stiles Avenue
Maple Shade, NJ 08052
(856) 779-9610
www.mapleshade.com



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

Township of Maple Shade News AUGUST 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. **MAPLE SHADE FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE #4**

On Wednesday August 4th, Township Council and Members of the Independent Fire Company No. 1 met with the Rodgers Group to go over the Fire Department Report. During the meeting, all in attendance had the opportunity to ask questions regarding the report. Council, after hearing the report, then met separately to discuss the findings as presented and ultimately decided to introduce an ordinance that would restructure the current operations of the Maple Shade Fire Department. The township has no intention of not honoring the long-standing history of the Independent or the men and women that have served the community. Throughout this entire process the Township has stood on that promise in conversations with the Chief, President, and membership. Their service is owed our gratitude. While the township has introduced an ordinance to meet the current fire protection needs of a growing community, it is our hope that the firefighters of the Independent will choose to be a part of the new Township volunteer fire department and continue their tradition of service to the community.

2. **LOCAL BUSINESSES LOOKING TO GET INVOLVED WITH TOWNSHIP EVENTS**

The Maple Shade Recreation Department is seeking local businesses and food vendors for upcoming events and classes. If you are a business owner, and would like to attend and service community events or offer classes, please send your business card to Lauren Domzalski, Recreation Director, Township of Maple Shade, 200 Stiles Avenue, Maple Shade, NJ 08053 OR email your contact information to Recreation@mapleshade.com.

3. **3rd QUARTER TAX BILLS DELAYED**

The 3rd Quarter Tax Bills normally due August 1st are **delayed and will be mailed on August 20, 2021.** The **grace period** to pay without interest will be **extended to September 13, 2021.**

As previously reported, Township Council adopted a ZERO tax increase which fulfills the necessary obligations and ensures all services remain intact at the same level as residents have become accustomed. Council is extremely pleased to have been able to introduce a 0% tax increase to its residents and understands how difficult the past year has been on everyone. Our department heads and staff continue to play a tremendous role in ensuring fiscal responsibility and with their efforts we will move forward continuing to improve upon and provide additional services and programs.



4. RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Registration for the following classes can be found at www.mapleshade.com/recreation.

a. **TKO Fitness & MMA Class:**

TKO Fitness & MMA is offering FREE classes. Bring the whole family for a high energy, fun workout where you will practice boxing and kickboxing techniques, fundamental movements, and cardio. Class runs from 5:30PM – 6:30PM on Thursday evenings from September 9th to September 30th. Interested participants, ages 5 and up (**WITH** an adult), **MUST pre-register** with the Township of Maple Shade. **REGISTRATION IS LIMITED.**

Click [HERE](#) for more information.



b. **Lil Sous Chefs Cooking Class:**

Bring your Lil Chefs, ages 7 – 12 years old, to cook up some fun preparing delectable creations with Chef Nina. Class runs from 5:30PM – 7:30PM on Thursday evenings from October 14th to October 28th. Participants **MUST pre-register** with the Township of Maple Shade. **Register EARLY** as space is limited.

Click [HERE](#) for more information



c. **Back to Basics Challenge Class:**

This 4-week ADULT class will begin your journey into health, wellness, and immunity building. Class runs from 6:30PM – 7:30PM on Tuesday evenings from September 21st to October 12th. Adult Participants **MUST pre-register** with the Township of Maple Shade. Register **EARLY** as space is limited.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.



5. WEDNESDAYS ON MAIN

Join us on the 3rd Wednesday of each month on Main Street for some family fun with theme events and live music.

Click on the flyer for more information about each Wednesday on Main:
August 18th, September 15th & October 20th.

Click [HERE](#) for a printable version of the flyer below



6. MAPLE SHADE WATER & SEWER

HAVE YOU SEEN A RECENT SUDDEN INCREASE IN YOUR WATER BILL?

When residents experience a sudden increase in their water bill, the cause is usually a leaking toilet. A toilet leaking 10-gallons per hour which goes undetected will waste 21,600 gallons of water in a billing quarter. Test kits to detect leaks are easy to use. Simply drop a single dye tablet in the toilet water tank and let it sit for ten minutes. If the dye is observed in the bowl after ten minutes, your toilet is leaking. Replacing the flapper usually resolves the issue. Maple Shade Utilities supplies leak test kits to residents free of charge. Test kits can be obtained at the utility at 432 W. Park Avenue or at the Tax Office at 200 Stiles Avenue during normal business hours. Residents can call the utility at (856) 488-7450 for additional information.



7. MAPLE SHADE POLICE DEPARTMENT

NJ Law on Fireworks

Several years ago, New Jersey approved a change in the law that allowed for de-regulated novelty devices such as sparklers, smoke devices, party poppers, snakes and snappers or drop pops. It also permitted non-aerial sparkling devices such as ground sparkling devices, sparkling wheel devices and ground-based sparklers containing under 500 grams of a pyrotechnic mixture. Although legal in New Jersey, due caution should still be exercised because these items burn at a very high temperature and could easily injure someone especially a child.

What remains illegal in New Jersey are bottle rockets, firecrackers, M-80's or any increasing volume of explosive materials without a permit, reloadable shell devices/roman candles, aerial displays and single tube devices that shoot flaming objects. Below is a graphic that encapsulates what is and what is not illegal. New Jersey Statute Chapter 21 covers the possession and use of illegal fireworks which is a petty disorderly offense punishable by up to 30 days in jail and up to a \$500 fine.

This past 4th of July saw some of the highest call volume for our police department regarding illegal firework's complaints. Whether it was the repetitive lighting of explosive based fireworks, debris falling in resident's yards from aerial displays, people concerned over their pets or children being scared by the loud noises, concerns over fire dangers... it all generated calls to our agency which in turn required us to respond out into the community and address these complaints.

As an agency and in an effort to eliminate any confusion on the topic of fireworks, especially with our neighboring state of Pennsylvania, taking a much more lenient position on this topic, we have put this article together so our residents can be educated and made aware before any action needs to be taken by our officers. Please take note moving forward and if you have any questions on fireworks, you can refer to the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs at njconsumeraffairs.gov and simply type "Fireworks" into the search bar. Lastly, please enjoy legal fireworks in a safe and responsible manner keeping this information in mind as you do so, thank you!

Click [HERE](#) for a printable version of the information below



8. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Information to know about **Grass Clippings**....

- When blown into streets, they may clog storm drains and cause water to back up into our roadways.
- These clippings get into our gutters and flow down the stormwater system into our lakes, streams, and rivers.
- Grass clippings that end up in our waterways contribute excess nutrients and pollutants to the water
- These nutrients aid algal growth which can lead to large amounts of algae in the water body.
- The algae consume most of the oxygen in the water; therefore, depriving other aquatic organisms of oxygen which results in death and migration of other aquatic organisms.
- While a few grass clippings mowed into the street look rather innocent, collectively, they have a major impact on our water quality.
- Township Code *Chapter 175-5 Yard Waste*, prohibits sweeping, raking, blowing, or placing yard waste that is not containerized at the curb or along the street and closer than 10-feet from any storm drain inlet.



9. AUGUST MEETINGS & EVENTS

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| Wednesday, August 11, 2021 | - | Zoning Board Meeting @ 7:00PM |
| Wednesday, August 25, 2021 | - | Planning Board Meeting @ 7:00PM |
| Thursday, August 26, 2021 - | | Town Council Meeting @ 6:30PM * |

***There is only ONE Town Council Meeting in July & August.**

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

