



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 **May 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. 0% TAX INCREASE IS INTRODUCED BY MAPLE SHADE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

On April 8th, the Township Manager alongside the Chief Financial Officer presented Town Council with the 2021 Municipal Budget. The municipal budget was introduced with a ZERO municipal tax increase.

The 0% tax increase fulfills the necessary obligations and ensures all services remain intact at the same levels as the 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.

The public hearing for the budget will be held on Thursday, May 13, 2021 at the Council meeting.

REDUCED SCHOOL TAXES INTRODUCED BY MAPLE SHADE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Maple Shade School District has been underfunded for many years from the State of New Jersey beginning in 2008 and lasting until 2018. While Maple Shade Schools were growing in population, we never received our equal share of funding. In the last 2 years, we have seen minimal increases of State Aid to reflect our current enrollment.

This year, we received over 3 million dollars which is getting us closer to bridging our financial gap. With this increase, we are able to reduce school taxes for the first time in many years. Our hope is that the funding will continue, and we will be able to continue to educate our children with our fair share of funding from the state.

Click [HERE](#) to access a letter from the Maple Shade School District

2. HOUSEHOLD CLEAN-UP EVENT

Thank you to our residents who took part in the Household Clean-Up Event. It was a HUGE success. Special thanks to Dave Carothers, Director of Public Works, and all of the hard-working Public Works employees.



3. 2021 PRIMARY ELECTION INFORMATION

You can now register to vote online at: <https://voter.svrs.nj.gov/register>

The website is also helpful to check if you are registered, find the closest ballot drop box, and look for additional general voting information.

The deadline to register for the Primary Election on June 8, 2021 is May 18, 2021.



4. PUBLIC WORKS - NEW NOTICE TO RESIDENT DOOR HANGER

The Department of Public Works has begun a “Notice to Resident” Door Hanger Program in hopes to better communicate curbside collection concerns with our residents. This notice is designed as a tool to help residents. It is NOT a VIOLATION and should not alarm any residents who receive it. This is just one of many ways the Department of Public Works hopes to “help us, help you” keep Maple Shade a clean and safe community for all.

(Front)



(Back)



5. COMMUNITY YARD SALE - HUGE SUCCESS

Thank you to the residents who participated in the 2021 Community Yard Sale. It was wonderful to see so many people supporting our Maple Shade Community.



6. MAPLE SHADE POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICER HIGHLIGHT

ADMINISTRATIVE TRAFFIC OFFICER, MATTHEW SHAW



Officer, Matthew Shaw, is a born and raised “Shader” who truly cares about his community. Throughout his childhood Matthew was involved in just about every sport offered by the township of Maple Shade. He formed lifelong friendships and memories and eventually becoming the Captain of the Boys High School Varsity Soccer Team. Matthew graduated from Maple Shade High School in 2004 among the top of his class. He has always had a heart for service which eventually played a key role in his chosen profession as a Maple Shade Police Officer.

Matthew joined the Maple Shade Police Department in March 2008, graduating from the Burlington County Police Academy Class #95. As a new officer, Matthew was eager to learn and wanted to put his best foot forward in all that he did, and it showed in Matt’s performance. Very early-on in his career, he was chosen by his peers, as the “Police Officer of the Year”. This is prestigious award that recognizes an officer’s contributions to policing in the township as well as contributions to the community at large.

Matthew was assigned to the Traffic Safety Division in 2012 where he focused on improving traffic safety throughout the township, a mission he took to heart. While assigned to the traffic division, Matt went through extensive training including Basic & Advanced Traffic Investigations, Vehicular Dynamics, Crash Reconstruction, Pedestrian Crash Investigations, Scene Photography, Interviewing Techniques, Forensic Evidence Collection, and the Rutgers Traffic Engineering School for Police just to name a few.

He eventually became the department's Administrative Traffic Officer in 2017 where he became the role as the Traffic Safety Unit Supervisor. During his time as the unit supervisor, Matt focused on many traffic related improvements that increased the overall safety of our roads and crosswalks. Matthew also identified the need for pedestrian safety enhancements along Main Street. In 2019, he worked closely with Chief Fletcher, Township Manager, Susan Danson, and the Burlington County Highway Division to upgrade Main Street and Forklanding Road by improving pedestrian safety devices with a plan to expand those measures in the near future. Matthew is heavily involved in the planning, coordinating, and overall safety of all road work being conducted within the township including our State Highways.

Matt utilizes various traffic safety equipment around the township, such as our mobile sign boards, and traffic study devices or counters with an emphasis on the areas surrounding our schools and heavily traveled roadways. In addition, he enjoys working with School Resource Officer, Misty Weiss, to teach driver's education at the high school and age-appropriate safety lessons to students at Yocom School.

As a "Shader", the parks and recreation facilities have a special place in Matt's heart; therefore, the safety of these complexes is a high priority to him. This passion prompted Matt to work with Chief Fletcher in presenting to the Township Council and Township Manager a plan to address park safety. This plan included proper signage at each facility's locations to make certain that medical emergencies can be responded to with speed and accuracy.

Professionally, Matt is a current member of the New Jersey Police Traffic Officers Association where he is able to network with a large group of individuals from around the state. He has also become a resource to local agencies in the field of traffic safety & investigation and assists other agencies when called upon. Working closely with our partners at the New Jersey Department of Transportation to continue improving pedestrian travel to reduce the number of injuries and fatalities along the Route 73 corridor area, is one of Matthew's main goals.

When Matthew is not working, he spends most of his free time with his wife Dawn and their two children. Dawn and Matt are expecting a third child in June 2021. Some of Matt's favorite family memories are created on his boat where he is surrounded by water and sunshine. When Matt isn't with his family, he enjoys saltwater fishing, working on large house projects, and staying physically fit. Matt would like to thank his family for their continued support of his career and looks forward to what the future holds.

7. MAPLE SHADE LIBRARY

The Maple Shade Library is excited to be open again!

- Currently, the library is open for browsing and checking out materials, use our computers for up to 2 hours, and faxing/copying/scanning.
- Hours of Operation:
 - Monday to Thursday: 10AM to 8PM
 - Friday & Saturday: 10AM to 5PM.
- Patrons may return materials in the book drop outside or at the circulation desk inside. No donations, please!
- At this time, there are not any in-person programs or study areas.
- Summer Reading activities and programs will be held virtually this year.
- Make sure to check out the circulating displays on topics ranging from children's literature to ancient Greek philosophers!
- For more details check-out more details at <https://www.bcls.lib.nj.us>.



8. BAGGED GRASS CLIPPINGS

When leaving **BAGGED GRASS CLIPPINGS** curbside for trash collection pick-up, please remember to keep the bags **NO MORE THAN 30-lbs.**



9. RECREATION

The Township of Maple Shade welcomed our new Director of Recreation, Lauren Domzalski, on May 3, 2021. Former Recreation Director, Sonny Frett, retired from the municipality on December 31st, 2020 after years of service to the community. We thank Sonny for all he has done for the Township.

Lauren joins Maple Shade after having been with the Virtua Center for Health Fitness in Moorestown for 8 years. Lauren's educational background in Education and Health Fitness Management coupled with her experience with Virtua will be an excellent addition to the staff and we are excited for everything that lies ahead. In the next several months, residents will be introduced to new programs and events being designed by the Recreation Department and will provide things for every resident of every age! Be on the look-out as we roll-out information as to how to participate.

10. SHREDDING EVENT SPONSORED BY MAPLE SHADE CLEAN COMMUNITIES

Maple Shade Clean Communities is hosting a COMMUNITY SHREDDING DAY. Residents can bring confidential documents to the Township Building to be shredded. See the flyer below for more information.



11. ANNUAL DOG LICENSING

All dogs that are over 6 months of age are required by the State of New Jersey to be licensed and vaccinated for rabies.

Here is a COUNTDOWN to the **TOP 10 REASONS YOU SHOULD LICENSE YOUR DOG!**

10 Your pet will love the BLING!

9 It is what all the other dogs are wearing this year...so fashionable!

Now on a serious note...

8 Proves your dog is properly vaccinated.

7 Rabies is a terrible disease and can be fatal to dogs and painful to humans.

6 The fee is less to vaccinate and license than vet and medical bills.

5 Your dog has a better chance of being returned home if lost.

4 A portion of the license fee stays local and helps support animal control efforts in our community.

3 License fees help fund state and local programs for rabies clinics and spay/neuter surgeries.

2 It is Quick – Go [online](#) and print the application.

And the **#1 Reason** You Should License Your Dog is... **It's the Law!**

Please call 856-779-9610 ext. 156 or visit www.mapleshade.com/tax-collector for more information.



12. MAY MEETINGS & EVENTS

- Wednesday, May 12, 2021 Zoning Board Meeting @ 7:00PM
- Thursday, May 13, 2021 Town Council Meeting @ 7:00PM
- Wednesday, May 28, 2021 Planning Board Meeting @ 7:00PM
- Thursday, May 27, 2021 Town Council Meeting @ 7:00PM

*All Meetings will be held via virtually only via Zoom platform. The Zoom link, Meeting ID #, and Passcode will be accessible on each individual meeting agenda. The agendas can be found on the township's website at www.mapleshade.com.

