



TO: The Residents of Eastampton Township
FROM: Township Council
SUBJ: Council Bulletin
DATE: May 2012

The following is an update on various items from the Township that may be of interest to our residents, business owners and visitors. We look forward to your feedback and participation.

1. **Mulching Grass Helps Town's Budget:** *In this spring season, we would like to remind residents that the Township will pay approximately \$200 in landfill fees per year for each home that places lawn clippings out for disposal. Please consider mulching or composting lawn clippings if you can to help our budget and the environment. Also, please see next item for more information about backyard composting.*
2. **Spring Backyard Workshop:** *The Eastampton Environmental Commission is co-sponsoring this workshop with the Mt. Holly Environmental Advisory Committee. The workshop will include instructions on composting as well as building rain barrels for your back yard garden. The workshop is free but if you wish to build your own rain barrel to take home, you must pre-register (\$45 fee per barrel) to cover the cost of materials by Wednesday June 13, 2012. The workshop is Saturday June 16th from 10 am to 1:30 pm at the Buttonwood Park Recreation Building. Please see flyer at www.eastampton.com under the Events section.*
3. **Dunkin Donuts Coming Soon:** *In April, the owner of the former Beneficial Bank on Woodlane Road received final approval to open a Dunkin Donuts restaurant from the Eastampton Township Land Use Planning Board and the Burlington County Planning Board. Opening is expected this summer.*
4. **Gregory's Center Property Has New Owner:** *After a long foreclosure process, the Township was pleased to learn that the Gregory's Center property is finally under new ownership. We look forward to working with the new owner to transform the property into a positive asset for the Township.*
5. **Join the Senior Club:** *The Senior Club has been enjoying a variety of programs over the past year including luncheons, book clubs, and recreational opportunities. Please contact Carolyn Farrow at 609-267-5723 for more information. Also, please visit our web site, www.eastampton.com, for monthly updates on senior activities under the Recreation and Leisure section.*
6. **Property Maintenance Update:** *One of our less enjoyable tasks is to remind property owners of certain maintenance obligations. Over 30 notices were sent out in the past month reminding property owners that Township Code establishes a 6 inch limit on grass height. Property owners are given 10 days to rectify the violation, after which time the Township can undertake the clean-up and place a lien against the property. It is our sincerest desire to prevent the need for these enforcement actions. If you are experiencing some*

temporary difficulties that prevent you from mowing your lawn, please make sure the Township Manager's Office is aware of your circumstances so we can work toward a mutually beneficial solution.

7. **Feral and Outdoor Cats:** Residents are reminded that Sections 145-5 and 347-3 of the Eastampton Municipal Code makes it illegal to feed feral cats or to allow outdoor cats and pets to wander onto private or public properties. The Township enters into a contract for animal control services with a private vendor and will undertake trapping services when it is a matter of considerable public health and safety. However, beginning in June, residents will be able to borrow traps from the Township and deliver feral cats directly to the Burlington County Animal Shelter on Woodland Road in Westampton.
8. **Smithville Park/Smithville Road Crosswalks:** Residents are reminded to stop for pedestrians at the crosswalks on Smithville Road where Smithville Road runs through Smithville Park. Our police department has been asked to increase enforcement following multiple complaints.
9. **Summer Park Program Ready for Another Season:** Eastampton's much beloved Summer Park Program is getting ready for another season. Our DPW crew has been working hard to prepare the park by removing over 20 old tree stumps, grooming fields, and improving the playground facilities. Sign up and related information is available on the Township's web site at www.eastampton.com under the Recreation and Leisure section. Please contact Kim White at 609-267-5723 if you require additional information.
10. **Memorial Day Celebrations:** Please consider joining us for our annual Memorial Day observance on Saturday, May 26, 2012 at 10 am at Veterans' Park in front of the Manor House.
11. **Township Appoints New Chief of Police:** The Township Manager has appointed Chris Muraglia as Eastampton's new Chief of Police. Chief Muraglia is a US Marine Corp. veteran and a 19-year member of our Police Department formerly leading our Detective Bureau. Congratulations and best wishes Chief!
12. **Public Safety Alert Service Keeps Residents Informed:** Each week, hundreds of residents receive e-mail alerts from our police regarding significant arrests and other important public safety items. To register, visit our web site at www.eastampton.com, and click on the police link under the department directory.
13. **Primary Election Day June 5:** Polls open from 6am to 8pm; please see sample ballot for polling locations. .
14. **Employee of the Year:** Congratulations to Carolyn Farrow on being named the 2011 Township Employee of the Year. Anyone who calls or visits the Manor House knows what an extraordinary person we have as our first line of service. She wears many hats and all of them with grace.
15. **Buttonwood Park Woods Trail Grant:** In 2010, the Township received a grant to construct a ½ mile trail within the wooded open space adjoining Buttonwood Park. Construction will take place this summer pending final NJDEP approval. Once complete, residents will be invited to enjoy this great outdoor space.
16. **Powell Road Path Grant** - The Township was recently awarded a \$130,000 grant to construct the first phase of an asphalt path along Powell Road from Smithville Road toward Mt. Holly (actual distance to be determined). Design work will start this fall.