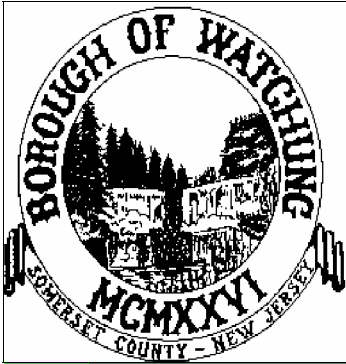


# Mayor's Message

FALL 2009



OUGH OF WATCHUNG

PUBLISHED BY THE BOR

## The Borough of Watchung Community Newsletter

As we end the season with the "dog days of summer," Watchung is in the middle of the busiest road construction time I can remember in our town. Our residents have been very patient with this construction, with the most stressful part being the new bridge in front of the Valley Furniture Shop and the Valero gas station on the circle. This project will last into November and we will continue to work with our schools to implement the best traffic plan possible for the school buses. I want to thank Valley Furniture owner Spencer Kipe, and Anthony Torr, owner of the Valero station, for their gracious cooperation and participation with Somerset County on this bridge replacement project.

Bayberry School will also be affected, as storm sewer repair and road repaving on Bayberry Lane will take place during the month of September. You'll be pleased to know the town obtained a \$150,000 grant from the NJ Transportation Trust Fund for this project. Repaving of Valley Road from Bayberry Lane to Bonnie Burn Road by Somerset County is also scheduled for completion this Fall. Hillcrest Road will be repaved at night and an island will be added at the bottom to prohibit left turns onto Valley Road. Also scheduled for new pavement are Stanie Glen (entire length), Anderson Road (Stanie Brae to cul de sac), and Devonshire Lane.

I am working with DOT Commissioner Dilts in pressing for a Diamond Hill/Route 78 interchange solution. With Freeholder Peter Palmer's help, and assisted by Maser Engineering, we are developing a plan that will reduce the cost benefit analysis by 40%, thereby removing a major restriction placed on the \$5 million plan previously prepared and discarded. I am extremely pleased to report that Somerset County Freeholders, led by Freeholder Palmer, have joined Watchung in adopting resolutions of support for the new plan; copies of both resolutions will be sent to our representatives in the Legislature and to DOT Commissioner Dilts. The solution Berkeley Heights offered in a recent resolution is comprised of widening Exit 41 to allow two lanes of traffic to exit, with the addition of an east bound lane to Route 78, and widening of Bonnie Burn Road to four lanes with a new overpass at Route 22. NJDOT has rejected a new overpass on Route 22. Our plan is more cost-effective and requires Berkeley Heights to share in the traffic solution, as they have in the past. It is interesting to note none of their proposed changes involve property in Berkeley Heights. A recent police traffic study shows over 14,300 vehicles use Hillcrest Road every day.

On the shared services front, we have jointly purchased a Jet Vac trailer with Warren Township for use in cleaning storm sewer catch basins, now a state regulated requirement. This is one of several services we share with Warren. The Borough has entered an agreement with Carecycle, Inc. for the placement of clothing bins at Watchung Square Mall. The company has been in business for 45 years, collecting clothing, reselling what is good at thrift shops or to other countries, or recycling them completely. The Borough will share in the profits, which will be distributed equally to our emergency services of Police, Fire and Rescue.

The Mayor's Regatta was moved to Saturday, September 12th this year from the normal second Sunday after Labor day and this was the 6th year for this event. The winners have been the Watchung Rescue Squad, WHYBA, Boy Scout Troop 32, Watchung Fire Department and the Girl Scouts. This is the second year of a Triathlon held on and around Watchung Lake and this event is becoming a favored one in our area. We are looking forward to another Rec Department Basketball shoot out next March.

The aerators in Watchung Lake were privately donated and we now are looking for similar donations for aerators to be installed this Fall in Best Lake. Please contact the Administrator for details.

I would like to thank CFO Bill Hance for his efforts in improving our web site. Just a reminder to all to sign up for reverse e-mail in order to be kept up to date on special information from the Borough.

The Governor has signed a **Vote by Mail** bill and I have asked the Clerk to post the changes on our website and add them to this newsletter. Look for the details inside to make your voting process easier.

See you at the Harvest Festival on October 24th.

*Mayor Al Ellis*

\* Green Brook \* Long Hill \* Warren \* Watchung \*



Join us for our 1<sup>st</sup> regional community event.

Learn fun new ways to conserve energy, save money, and protect our environment.

Watchung Hills Regional  
High School  
Sunday, October 18, 2009  
11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**GrEEn Day**  
2009

Food  
Performers  
Kids Games  
Arts & Crafts  
Guest Speakers  
Educational Showcases

Caring and Connecting Our Communities, One Footprint at a Time

**Exhibitors please contact:**

Green Brook: Sue Jain.908-754-7749  
Long Hill: Alexandra Hennessey.908-604-0248  
Warren: Laura Mandell.908-561-1286  
Watchung: Jean Forlano.908-769-5449

**Crafters, exhibitors and food vendors wanted for GrEEn Day 2009, an environmental awareness day, planned for October 18, 2009 at Watchung Hills Regional High School, Warren, NJ. For more information/application call:**

**Jean at 908-769-5449      or      Lynn at 908-755-6276**

# Keep Your Trees and Shrubs

## Healthy and Vibrant

Regular maintenance for your trees and shrubs is important to prevent property damage, personal injury and hazards to the neighborhood. Evaluation of the seriousness of these defects, though, requires a professional arborist. Reducing tree hazards not only increases the safety of your property and that of your neighbors, but will also improve your trees' health and may increase their longevity. Be sure to hire only certified tree care professionals. Proper, regular, tree maintenance will save you the high cost of dealing with problems later.

Most trees need routine care in the form of water, fertilizer, mulch and pruning as dictated by the season and their structure. Also, trees need direction as they grow. This may be in the form of pruning, thinning or removing deadwood. Proper pruning is important because it removes weak, dead, storm damaged, diseased or interfering branches. Often, a tree with structural weaknesses can be pruned to correct or at least minimize the risk of breakage, uprooting or other failures. In other cases, usually in combination with pruning, cabling and bracing techniques can be an effective means of extending the life of a tree that might otherwise require removal.

Pests and diseases pose serious threats to the health of your trees as well. A healthy tree or shrub is more likely to fight off insects and diseases, so preventive pest management through overall tree care is essential.

Even with preventive maintenance, your trees may still require additional care. A tree care specialist or arborist will evaluate the specific problem and the tree's condition and recommend the most effective and environmentally sensitive management approach. State of the art biological and low toxicity materials, such as horticultural soaps and oils, are among low impact tools used to manage pests.

If construction, raising the soil level or installing lawns recently has changed the area around your trees, those trees might be damaged. Also, if a tree's roots have been broken off, injured or damaged by lowering the soil level, installing pavement, repairing sidewalks or digging trenches, your tree needs professional attention. Warning signs of damaged or dying trees include dead or detached branches, cavities or rotten wood along the trunk or in branches, mushrooms present at the base of the tree, cracks or splits in the trunk or where branches are attached and the development of a pronounced lean. Remember that a tree removal permit is required when removing any trees from your property. Call the Watchung Engineers Office for a permit or for more information.

Provided by the Watchung Environment Commission

## Healthy Lawns And Landscapes Using Non-Toxic Lawn Care



*Now is the time to make the move to non-toxic lawn care ... For yourself, your children, your pets and the environment.*



*Distributed by the Watling Environmental Commission*

**Pesticides are grub controls, weed killers, fungus treatments, insect sprays, crab grass preventers, insecticides and herbicides.**

**Pesticides are poisons.** Pesticide exposure in humans has been associated with brain defects, numerous cancers, Parkinson's disease and other neurological disorders, male and female infertility and immune system problems.

**Pesticides contaminate drinking water.** Use of pesticides in urban and suburban communities contributes significantly to contamination of our water supplies, wells, rivers, streams and lakes.

**Children are more vulnerable to toxic effects of pesticides.** The use of household and lawn pesticides puts children at risk for birth defects, cancers and behavioral problems.

**Children are more at risk because of their size and behaviors.** A recent study of preschoolers, 99% of them had one or more pesticides in their bodies.

**An EPA registration number does not mean that a product is safe.** The long-term health effects of most pesticide ingredients, their breakdown products and their interactions are not well known.

**Lawn pesticides get carried indoors by shoes, paws and air currents.** Once inside, pesticides linger in carpets, dust, toys and air. Away from sunlight and water, pesticides can persist for many months.

**Imagine your children playing on grass that is pesticide free wherever they go.**

**Imagine watering costs cut in half.** Healthy soils with thriving microorganisms lead to deep-rooted grass. Deep roots require less watering, less fertilizing and save you money.

**Imagine no mowing!** Turn part of your lawn into a landscape with a diversity of hardy native plants, flowers, ground covers, trees and shrubs. Native deer-resistant bushes include Holly, Magnolia, Spice bush, Sumac and witch hazel.

### **Simple Steps of Organic Lawn Care**

**The easiest, most cost effective way to a beautiful, healthy lawn** is to work with nature, not against it. A healthy lawn needs nutrients and microbe-rich soil to develop deep-rooted, dense turf that competes successfully with weeds. Dense turf is beautiful and low maintenance. It naturally resists drought, insects and diseases.

**Pesticides are not necessary for a beautiful lawn.** In fact, they can do more harm than good. They kill microbial life necessary for healthy soil and can kill the pest's natural enemies. This invites disease and insect infestation, which leads to more pesticide use and traps you in an unhealthy, costly chemical cycle.



**Think! - Make America a safer place to live starting in your own back yard.**

## Yearly Lawn Maintenance Schedule

### March and April

Sharpen mower blades.  
Raise mower blade to 2.5 or 3 inches  
Test soil: Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Somerset County (908) 526-6293  
Add soil amendments based on soil test.  
Re-seed bare patches or apply corn gluten to prevent weed germination.  
If feasible, leave clippings on lawn to fertilize.

### May and June

Check for weeds; pull out by hand.  
Re-seed bare spots.  
Monitor for insect pests.  
If you have grub damage, spot treat with milky spore (once every ten years) and/or with beneficial nematode worms (once yearly for 2 or 3 years).

### August

You may allow lawn to go dormant during drought. It will green up after rain.

### September and October

Best time to seed (generously).  
Fertilize if needed (sparingly) or top dress with ¼ inch compost.  
Aerate if soil is compacted  
Lime if an autumn soil test finds pH lower than 6.8.


### November

Final mowing at 2 inches for easier leaf raking.

## Managing Your Lawn Service

- ◆ Specify mowing high with sharp blades.
- ◆ Request corn gluten and organic fertilizer instead of “Weed and Feed” products.
- ◆ Refuse routine application of pesticides, but if pesticides are used, make sure they are handled properly and applied sparingly by a licensed professional.
- ◆ Beware if a lawn service tells you a chemical application is safe. Federal EPA regulations prohibit manufacturers from making pesticide safety claims, even if used as directed. All pesticides must be treated with caution.
- ◆ Never allow unidentified products to be used on your lawn. Request safety information and read it before application. Look up toxicity at [www.pesticide.org](http://www.pesticide.org).
- ◆ Be aware that chemicals listed as inert ingredients can be highly toxic.
- ◆ Many pesticides persist in lawns and soil long after the posted 24-72 hours.
- ◆ Ask for an organic program. An organic lawn can take up to 3 years to fully establish.
- ◆ Organic lawn care has been defined by the Northeast Organic Farming Association in their Standards for Organic Land Care. Order a copy from [www.organiclandcare.net/publications](http://www.organiclandcare.net/publications).
- ◆ Share this flyer with your lawn care professional. A letter is also available on the Watchung Borough website outlining the benefits of non-toxic lawn care.

## 10 Steps to Non-Toxic Lawn Care

1. **Mow High** - Set your mower's cutting height to 2.5 or 3 inches to discourage invasion by weeds and insects. This encourages growth of deeper, healthier roots that help lock in moisture.
2. **Leave grass clippings on lawn** - Grass clippings become your lawn's fertilizer, reducing the need to add additional fertilizer by 30%.
3. **Water “deeply”** - Your lawn needs about 1” of water, applied once a week. Watering more frequently encourages shallow, weak roots. To minimize evaporation, water before 8 am or in the evening. 
4. **Use ecological methods of pest control** - Spray a mixture of dish soap and water during warm weather. This is an effective way to discourage insects from eating your greenery.
5. **Alternatives** - Reduce the area of grass that needs maintenance by planting perennial flower beds, expanding your herb or vegetable garden, or naturalizing your lawn with local wildflowers and plants.
6. **Rake** - Rake to gently remove thatch - the layer of dead grass compacted over winter-can increase water absorption.
7. **Fertilize** - Fertilize twice a year.
8. **Aerate** - Aerate your lawn by removing small plugs of earth to decrease soil compaction, increase water retention capacities and improve air circulation to the roots.
9. **Top-dress with compost** - Use your own vegetable/fruit compost or if you don't have your own vegetable compost heap, buy composted cow or sheep manure or mushroom compost.
10. **Overseed** - When combined with aeration and top-dressing, overseeding will fill in bare patches to prevent weed invasion.

Go to [www.watchungnj.com](http://www.watchungnj.com) for a listing of non-toxic products available locally.



## **IMPORTANT FIRE EMERGENCY INFORMATION**

The Fire Emergency contact number for all residential and commercial fire alarm systems has changed to **(908) 725-0513**.

Please contact your central station alarm company and have the Fire Emergency contact number updated to **(908) 725-0513**.

## **Your Emergency Number remains 9-1-1.**

If you have any questions, please contact the Bureau of Fire Prevention at (908) 756-0080, ext. 235 and the Watchung Police Department (908) 756-3663



***Watchung Recreation Annual Harvest Festival*** will be held on October 24th Rain Date October 25th. The costume parade starting from Valley View School will begin at 3:00 and lead to the festival at Mobus Field. Inflatable jumpers, DJ, games, prizes, ponies, light refreshments and more will add to the fun. Enter the scarecrow decorating contest and vote for your favorite. Bring your camera to this exciting family day! 3:00- 5:00 pm. No Fee.

## **HALLOWEEN SAFETY**

Halloween can be a fun and exciting time for children and adults. We would like to provide you with a few tips to help ensure it is a safe and healthy time.

- ♦ ***Costumes:*** Only purchase and use costumes labeled as "flame resistant." Costumes should be visible. Add reflective tape to aid in visibility. Avoid baggy costumes that can cause tripping and possible fire hazard. Masks should fit securely and allow for good vision. Costume accessories such as swords should be soft and flexible.
- ♦ ***Trick or Treating:*** Children should carry a flashlight to help see and be seen. Young children should be accompanied by an adult. Children should walk, not run. Use sidewalks, don't walk in the street. Only visit homes where the lights are on. Children should never enter a home.
- ♦ ***Treats:*** an adult should inspect all treats prior to being given to children. Adults should look for signs of tampering or treats that are not well wrapped. Do not eat fruit or home prepared items unless they come from a well known source, such as a family member. ***If in doubt, throw it out.***

***Women's Volleyball*** is a pick-up style league for Watchung Women 18 years and older. The program starts mid October and meets on Monday nights at Valley View School 7:00-9:00 pm. No Fee.

***Open Gym Basketball*** is a pick-up style league for Watchung adults 18 years and older. This program starts in September and meets on Friday nights at Bayberry School - 7:00-9:00 pm. No Fee.

***Recreation and Travel Basketball leagues*** for 2nd-8th grade will begin registration in October. The season runs December through March. Volunteer Coordinator.

***Jr. Field Hockey*** is an instructional league for girls 6th-8th grade. This program (8 weeks) starts September 13th and meets on Sundays at 2:00 pm or 3:00 pm at Riverside Park in Long Hill Township. \$35.00 league fee includes uniform.

***Tennis Lessons*** available starting mid September through November.

## *Volunteers needed*

### RECREATION CONTACT INFORMATION

The Watchung Recreation Commission strives to be a community resource of information for recreation organizations within and around the Watchung community. Some of the sports programs offered to Watchung youth are coordinated by independent organizations. More detailed information is available at each group's web site.

#### Softball

Watchung Ponytail Softball Web: [whponytailssoftball.com](http://whponytailssoftball.com) (email: [WHPSL@optonline.net](mailto:WHPSL@optonline.net))

#### Baseball

Watchung Little League Web: [www.watchunglittleleague.org](http://www.watchunglittleleague.org)

#### Basketball

Watchung Hoops– (email: [watchunghoops@optonline.net](mailto:watchunghoops@optonline.net))

#### Soccer

Watchung Hills Soccer Association Web: [www.whsa.org](http://www.whsa.org)

#### Wrestling

Watchung Hills Wrestling Association Web: [www.whwa.org](http://www.whwa.org)

#### LaCrosse

Watchung Hills Travel LaCrosse Web: [www.watchunghillslacrosse.org](http://www.watchunghillslacrosse.org)

#### Football

Watchung Hills Pop Warner Web: [www.watchunghillspopwarner.org](http://www.watchunghillspopwarner.org)

Watchung Hills Jr. Warrior Football Association Web: [www.whjuniorwarriors.org](http://www.whjuniorwarriors.org)



### **CLEAN WATER FOR OUR TOWN**

Stormwater, resulting from rain and snow, is the source of fresh water that feeds our streams, rivers, lakes and underground aquifers. As a water source, stormwater must be clean and in good supply to protect our drinking water supplies, and preserve streams and lakes for human recreation and wildlife habitat.

#### **Stormwater management:**

- ◆ Reduces water pollution.
- ◆ Decreases flooding potential.
- ◆ Replenishes drinking water sources.
- ◆ Protects wildlife habitats.

#### **WHAT RESIDENTS CAN DO TO REDUCE STORMWATER RUN OFF FROM THEIR PROPERTIES:**

- ◆ Reducing the amount of lawn and pavement
- ◆ Planting groundcover
- ◆ Planting trees
- ◆ Creating gardens, no mow areas and meadows
- ◆ Separating pavement from other hard surfaces with a vegetated border
- ◆ Watering lawns only if necessary

#### **RESIDENTS CAN HELP REDUCE POLLUTION IN RUNOFF BY:**

- ◆ Keeping a buffer along any stream on the property
- ◆ Avoiding use of pesticides
- ◆ Composting leaves and grass clippings
- ◆ Taking hazardous substances to a proper disposal repository
- ◆ Preventing objects or fluids from draining into stormwater grates or inlets



## **RABIES CLINIC**

The Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission will be offering one rabies clinic this winter to help our residents protect their pets against rabies. All residents are encouraged to have their dog or cat vaccinated against rabies. Spring will be upon us and we can expect to see a restart of rabies activity in our local wildlife. Along with this activity comes the increased risk of exposure to rabies. If your pet has been previously vaccinated, the health department recommends that your dog or cat be vaccinated every other year. If your pet has not been vaccinated against rabies, now is the time.

**The clinic is free to all.**

**DATE:** Saturday, Dec. 5, 2009  
**TIME:** 9:00 am to 10:00 am  
**WHERE:** Watchung Fire House  
57 Mountain Blvd.



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## **FLU AND PNEUMONIA CLINICS**



**CHECK OUR WEBSITE AND WATCHUNG TV CHANNEL 15 FOR DATES,  
LOCATIONS AND TIMES.**

**[www.watchungnj.com](http://www.watchungnj.com)**

**OR**

**Call: 732-356-8090, ext.254**



## **YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER**

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### **WATCHUNG ARTS CENTER**

**LOOKING FORWARD TO AN EXCITING 2009-10 SEASON**

**All the best,**

**Claus Cardinal  
908-754-8433**

**Florence Larkin  
908-757-4029**

**Joan Plasner  
908-561-2869**

**[www.watchungarts.org](http://www.watchungarts.org)**

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### **WATCHUNG GARDEN CLUB**

As always, the ladies of the Watchung Garden Club continue to donate a beautiful floral arrangement for display at Borough Hall. They are a beautiful addition to the office and make a nice welcoming touch for visiting residents to enjoy.

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### **WATCHUNG LIBRARY**

The Watchung Library offers programs for all ages. Registration for September and October programs opens on Wednesday, September 2, at 10:00 AM. To see what programs are available, and to register online, go to [www.somerset.lib.nj.us](http://www.somerset.lib.nj.us). Click on PROGRAMS (top of page) and go to WATCHUNG to find the CALENDAR OF EVENTS. The programs are free! By including your email address when you register, you'll receive an email reminder about the program.

**Need more information? Call the Watchung Public Library at 908-561-0117**



## Dog Licenses

*Dog licenses* are due during the month of **January**. *The most efficient method is to mail your license request to Borough Hall.* Simply enclose a copy of the updated rabies certificate (**THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH REQUIRES THAT THE VACCINATION AGAINST RABIES BE VALID THROUGH DECEMBER 1st OF THE LICENSE YEAR**) with your check for payment, and a **stamped, self-addressed envelope.** Using this method will alleviate the inconvenience of waiting at Borough Hall. Licenses can also be purchased in person, Monday through Friday from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

All original documentation will be mailed to you with the license and tag. A license cannot be issued without proof of a current vaccination. All dogs seven months of age or older must be licensed. Please use this form to mail your request to the Board of Health, 15 Mountain Blvd., Watchung, NJ 07069.

OWNER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

DOG: Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_ Breed: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_

HAIR: Short \_\_\_\_\_ Medium \_\_\_\_\_ Long \_\_\_\_\_ Color/markings: \_\_\_\_\_

DOG'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Address if Different from above \_\_\_\_\_

NEUTERED \_\_\_\_\_ SPAYED \_\_\_\_\_ RABIES VACCINE'S DATE EXPIRES: \_\_\_\_\_

VETERINARIAN'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

**Proof of rabies vaccination MUST be sent with this application**

### **Fee Schedule**

License Fee - \$10.80  
\*Non-neutered/spayed fee - \$ 3.00  
State Fees - \$ 1.20

### **Additional Fees:**

Late Fee after Jan. 31st - **\$2.00/dog**

### **Fee Calculation**

License Fee: \$10.80

Non-Neuter Fee  
(\$3.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

State Fee: \$ 1.20

**ADD LATE FEE (\$2.00)**  
**(After Jan. 31st)** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT PRIOR TO  
DECEMBER 31st**

**CHECKS PAYABLE TO  
BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG**

**TOTAL DUE** \$ \_\_\_\_\_



## *Register and Vote!*

Watchung residents age 18 and over may register to vote or request forms for Vote By Mail Application at the Borough Clerk's office, 15 Mountain Boulevard, Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 4 PM, or by calling 908-756-0080 and requesting that forms be mailed. Either form may also be obtained through the Somerset County Government page on the Internet at <http://www.co.somerset.nj.us>. Or Borough Website at: [www.watchungnj.com](http://www.watchungnj.com)

Qualifications to register to vote are: 18 years of age or older by the date of the election, citizen of the United States; a resident of New Jersey for at least thirty (30) days prior to the election; and a resident of Somerset County for twenty-one (21) days prior to the election.

Polls are open from 6 AM to 8 PM on election days. The County Clerk must receive request forms for Vote By Mail ballots not later than October 27, 2009, 7 days prior to the election.

The **Last Day** to register to vote for the November 6th General Election is Monday, October 13, 2009.

## *New Vote By Mail Law*

The Governor has signed the Vote By Mail Bill and it is now law and will be in effect for this November Election.

The following are some significant changes with the new law:

1. An applicant can apply once for all elections in a calendar year.
2. An applicant can apply once for all future general elections. This means they actually get a ballot automatically every November. The old law only provided for an application to be sent.
3. All applications must be received in the Office of the County Clerk 7 days prior to an election. Not postmarked, but physically received.
4. An individual may still come in person up to 3 pm. the day before the election. A voter may also send an authorized messenger up to 3 pm the day before as well. The major difference is that the voter no longer has to be sick or confined to have a messenger. A single messenger can only pick up 10 ballots statewide for an election and cannot be a candidate in that election.
5. There is no longer a permanent and totally disabled category. Those voters are likely to become individuals who check the A box and receive ballots for all elections in a calendar year.
6. The old yellow applications for military voters are no longer valid. There is a special status box on the Vote by Mail Application that can be checked.
7. The new application is available on the County's website at [www.co.somerset.nj.us/clerk](http://www.co.somerset.nj.us/clerk) or at the Borough's website at [www.watchungnj.com](http://www.watchungnj.com).



## *TRAFFIC AND BEAUTIFICATION*



Once again, thanks to all members of the Traffic and Beautification Committee for all their wonderful ideas and hard work.

A very special thanks to Martoccia Landscaping for the great job they are doing on the three triangles in the Watchung Circle. Their offer to plant and maintain the triangles was very generous and greatly appreciated.

This article would not be complete without a special thanks to Public Works Manager Charlie Gunther and his Public Works Crew for all their continuing dedication.

*Hope everyone had a wonderful summer.*



## **FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

The 2009 Leaf Pickup will commence on November 2, 2009 and continue throughout the fall season. All leaves **must be in BIODEGRADABLE PAPER BAGS** and placed on the grass area close to the road. **NO PLASTIC BAGS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR PICKUP.** Pickups will not be scheduled for any specific time or location.

Leaf pickup is limited to high density areas located within the following areas: Brookdale, Stirling and Hillcrest Roads north to Evergreen Lane; Mountain Blvd from Washington Drive to Rock Ave.; Johnston Drive to the water tower including Upper Drive and Johnston Drive Extension. All residents are urged to utilize their leaves as compost; however, should any resident in a rural area desire pickup of leaves in **BIODEGRADABLE PAPER BAGS ONLY**, call the office of Public Works at 756-0091, ext.214. Due to the State's New Stormwater Regulations, the Borough now has an ordinance prohibiting placement of leaves in the street.

**Old man Winter** is just around the corner. The Public Works Department works hard to maintain public streets, thoroughfares and right-of-ways clear for safe passage of vehicular traffic during and following periods of snowfall.

Public Works would like to remind residents that the pushing/plowing of snow onto Borough roads is prohibited by ordinance. Please take the time to advise your contractors. Remember, the icing over of residual snow in the roadways creates unnecessary safety hazards and removal takes a severe toll on the Borough's equipment. For further information regarding property maintenance and snow removal, visit [http://www.codedsystems.com/watchung\\_nj.htm](http://www.codedsystems.com/watchung_nj.htm) to review the Watchung Borough code and check the bulletin board on our borough website @ [www.watchungnj.com](http://www.watchungnj.com).

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**PUBLISHED BY THE BOROUGH OF  
WATCHUNG**

Watchung Municipal Building  
15 Mountain Boulevard  
Watchung, New Jersey 07069

Phone: 908.756.0080

Fax: 908.757.7027

Watchung Public Information Channel  
15

Watchung Radio 1610 AM

**Visit us on the Web**  
**[www.watchungnj.com](http://www.watchungnj.com)**

**CART-RT-SORT WS**  
**Postal Patron**  
**Watchung, NJ 07069**

**MAYOR ALBERT S. ELLIS**

**Stephen L. Black**  
**Debra Joren**

**Thomas Franklin**  
**Stephen Pote**

**Gerald Mobus**  
**William Nehls**

**Administrator/Borough Clerk**

Laureen B. Fellin 756-0080  
lfellin@watchungnj.com

**Municipal Court**

Pamela Steves 757-1407  
psteves@watchungnj.com

**Public Works Facility**

Charles Gunther 753-6115  
cgunther@watchungnj.com

**Construction Official Zoning Officer**

Ed Bennett 756-6093  
ebennett@watchungnj.com

**Watchung Hills Regional High School**

Grades 9 through 12  
108 Stirling Road  
Warren, NJ 07059  
647-4800

**Police**

Emergency 911  
Non-emergency 756-3663

**Emergency Management**

Contact Police Dept. 756-3663

**Engineering Office**

Tom Herits 756-0091  
therits@watchungnj.com

**Tax Assessor**

Edward L. Kerwin 756-3366  
ekerwin@watchungnj.com

**Tax Collector**

Catherine L. Park 756-8333  
cpark@watchungnj.com

**Bayberry Elementary School**

Kindergarten through 4th Grade  
Bayberry Lane  
755-8184

**Fire Department**

Emergency 911  
Central Station Fire Alarm 725-0513  
Non Emergency 756-6288

**Watchung Arts Center**

for information call: 753-0190

**Watchung Public Library**

**Library Hours:**

Monday/Thursday 10am-9pm  
Friday 10am-4:30pm  
Saturday 10am-4pm  
Sunday ...Closed  
Closed Saturdays during July/Aug.  
561-0117

**Valley View Middle School**

Grades 5 through 8  
Valley View Road  
755-4422