

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

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**The Official Newsletter for the
THE BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG**
FALL/WINTER
ISSUE 2015-03

FROM YOUR MAYOR

Dear Residents,

I hope you all have enjoyed what has been a gorgeous and peaceful summer, certainly as it relates to our weather. While many have been away on vacation, I think it is just as nice to have been home in Watchung during these summer months.

The town has been quite active in addressing some of the issues we have had with our roads. We are proud to say that so far this summer, we have milled and paved the long stretch of Ridge Road, as well other roads including Jared Court, Kristy Lane, Tall Timbers, and Oak Ridge Lane. A major culvert repair was completed on Washington Rock Road, and plans are also underway to receive bids for needed roadway improvements on Knollwood Drive and Deer Run.

As many of you are aware, earlier this spring, working with the Somerset County Prosecutor’s Office, we took legal action to address a serious issue we had within our Tax Office. We believe we have identified all affected residents, and will ensure that full restitution is made when it is legally feasible. Mitigating actions are being taken, which will include the future capability to pay taxes by credit card.

We authorized two (2) very effective studies for our Volunteer Fire Department this year. These studies are to accurately assess long-term Fire Department needs and improvements from both an equipment/apparatus perspective as well as an organizational, policy and procedural perspective. The equipment/apparatus study has been completed and is under review by the Council Fire Committee with assistance from Fire Department leadership. Architectural plans on potential fire house renovations are complete and formally will be presented to the Mayor and Council at the end of the summer.

Initial high level conceptual plans have been completed on possible renovations to the Library. A more detailed presentation will be made to the Mayor and Council, and public, on September 17th.

I am working with Freeholder Pat Walsh to enlist the help of a traffic expert to again examine the traffic and safety around Hillcrest Road. We continue to face increasing traffic and frequent incidents of motor vehicle accidents, especially around High Oaks and Ridge Road.

The affordable housing issue across the State of New Jersey continues to evolve as now the New Jersey Court system tries to identify a path for determining and enforcing towns to provide for low and low moderate income housing in their respective communities. This is a real challenge for Watchung as it seems to be for many suburban NJ communities. The Courts are now in control of the process and in response to a State of NJ Supreme Court order, we have submitted documentation through declaratory judgment means seeking temporary immunity from any affordable housing “builders remedy” lawsuits so that the current zoning regulations in the Borough might remain in full force and effect. The Borough’s Affordable Housing team is working to comply with judicial requirements once these become available. The Mayor and Council will need the support of several professionals working for the Borough, along with assistance and cooperation from the Planning Board. The first historic “Mount Laurel” NJ Supreme Court ruling goes back now over forty (40) years. We are doing our best to face this continuing judicial mandate and challenge responsibly, reasonably, and professionally.

Efforts have been made to reinvigorate the design, construction and funding of our 9/11 Memorial. My expectations are that we will take the necessary steps to complete construction in time for the 15th anniversary in 2016.



- continued next page

*******ECRWSS*******
LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER
Watchung, NJ 07069

MAYOR STEPHEN K. POTE

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Thomas Franklin
Robert Gibbs

Police
Emergency 911
Non-emergency 756-3663

Emergency Management
Contact Police Dept. 756-3663

Tax Assessor
Ed Kerwin 756-3366
ekerwin@watchungnj.gov

Construction Official /Zoning Officer
Ed Bennett 756-6093
ebennett@watchungnj.gov

Watchung Public Library
561-0117
Monday-Thursday..... 10 am-9pm
Friday..... 10 am-4:30pm
Saturday.....10 am-4pm
Sunday.....closed
(Closed Saturday during July and August)

Debra Joren
Dianna Beck-Clemens

Fire Department
Emergency 911
Non-emergency 561-9389

Municipal Court
Jodi Hanson Rodriquez 769-2265

Tax Collector
Ray Murray 756-8333
rmurray@watchungnj.gov

Public Works Facility
Robert Burns 753-6115
bburns@watchungnj.gov

Valley View Middle School
Grades 5 through 8
Valley View Road
755-4422

Stephen L. Black
William Nehls

Administration- 756-0080
Thomas E. Atkins, Administrator
tatkins@watchungnj.gov

Michelle DeRocco, Borough Clerk
mderocco@watchungnj.gov

William Hance, Chief Finance Officer
bhance@watchungnj.gov

Engineering Office
Tom Herits 756-0091
therits@maserconsulting.com
Arlene McCoy 756-0091
amcoy@watchungnj.gov

Watchung Art Center
For information call—561-0190

Watchung Hills Regional High School
Grades 9 through 12
108 Stirling Road
Warren,NJ 07059
647-4800

Bayberry Elementary School
Kindergarten through 4th Grade
Bayberry Lane
755-8184

Because of its success last year, this fall Watchung Borough will again be sponsoring a Farmers’ Market on Sundays beginning on September 13th, from 10am-2pm, and running through October 25th. This year it will be at the western side of Best Lake. Upcoming Watchung events also include our annual 9/11 Memorial Service; the third annual Jerry Mobus Fishing Derby on September 12th; History Day on September 26th; and the Harvest Festival on October 24th.

Enjoy this upcoming fall season, one of Watchung’s most beautiful!

Best Regards,



Stephen K. Pote
Mayor



ELECTION TIME LINES

- Oct. 13th Last day to register to vote for the General Election
- Oct. 27th Last day Vote By Mail request forms must be received by County

Voter Registration forms, Vote by Mail forms, Change in Party Forms, are all available at Borough Hall, or on our website: www.watchungnj.gov or www.co.somerset.nj.us/elections



Nov. 3rd Election Day—polls open 6:00 am—8:00 pm

VOTING DISTRICT LOCATIONS

- EXEMPT HALL - DISTRICTS 1 and 4
- BAYBERRY SCHOOL - DISTRICT 3
- WILSON MEMORIAL - DISTRICTS 2 and 5



VETERANS DAY SERVICE
November 11, 2015

To Be Held At
Watchung Borough Hall
9:30 A.M.

Volunteers Needed

The Borough is looking for residents who are willing to work on our volunteer boards. Please let us know if you would have an interest in serving. Cal (908)756-0080 or mail in the form below to the municipal building. You can also fill out this form on the Borough website: www.watchungnj.gov Look on the Bulletin Board and download the form into Microsoft Word. You can email the form to volunteer_form@watchungnj.gov

Please send this completed form to:

Volunteer Pool
Borough of Watchung
15 Mountain Boulevard
Watchung, NJ 07069

Name:

Address:

Home Phone: Work Phone: Email:

Please include me on the list of potential volunteers for the following boards, committees and commissions.

<input type="checkbox"/> Board of Adjustment	<input type="checkbox"/> Board of Health	<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Commission
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Library Advisory	<input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Alliance
<input type="checkbox"/> Open Space Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning Board	<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation Commission
<input type="checkbox"/> Traffic & Beautification**	<input type="checkbox"/> Village Center Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Green Team**
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Service Commission	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain)	

I have the following experience, skills, talents or special interests:

**In Immediate need of volunteers

Note: Additionally, we are currently in need of volunteers with the following skill sets:
Fund campaign/Fundraising capabilities

Watchung Rescue Squad

10 Stirling Road

Est. 1950

100% Volunteer



If you are looking for a rewarding, exciting volunteer opportunity and have the desire to give back to your community, please consider joining Watchung Rescue Squad. We are always accepting new members and would love for you to join our 65-year-old tradition of neighbor helping neighbor. Everyone likes to feel as though they're making a difference, and there's no time like the present to get started!

Since 1950, the all-volunteer Watchung Rescue Squad has been serving the residents of Watchung and surrounding communities with prompt, skilled basic life support in their time of need, free of charge. What began as a group of 12 men who responded to 10 calls in the first year has grown into a dedicated group of almost 50 volunteer members.

No prior medical experience is necessary to join; we provide every new volunteer with on-the-job training and uniform. Members can ride one or more shifts per week and may respond to anywhere from 2-20 calls per month depending on their availability and commitment. Our members range in age from 16-90, so there's no such thing as a "typical" member. WRS members can be students, parents, adults from all walks of life (who work full or part-time in a variety of career fields) and retirees. The common bond that we all share is a passion for what we do, the genuine desire to help others unconditionally, and a standard of professional patient care that is second to none.

There are four Membership Categories to meet our members' schedules and interests, so there's room for everyone: Cadet Member (age 16-18), Affiliate (Non-riding), Driver, and Full Active EMT.

We hold monthly general membership meetings as well as training seminars that help our members to maintain their EMT and other certifications, and participate in practical emergency scenarios with neighboring EMS groups such as last October's MCI Drill and a recent water rescue training. We also offer bi-weekly training meetings on whatever skill or subject those attending feel they need to review in order to maintain our high standards of patient care. WRS also participates in a wide variety of community events, and our members are like family.

If you are interested in joining or have any questions about becoming a member, please send us an email to membership@watchungems.org or visit our website at www.watchungems.org to learn more. We would love to have you join us!

If you're unable to join at this time but would still like to help, please consider making a donation. Your donations allow WRS to make repairs to and maintain our building; purchase and maintain our ambulances and other equipment; respond appropriately to calls by stocking our apparatus with necessary medical supplies, as well as protective equipment for our emergency responders; supply uniforms to our volunteers; and provide up-to-date training to allow us to provide the very best care to our patients. Every donation is important to us, regardless of the amount!



VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED “*HELP YOUR COMMUNITY AND YOURSELF*”

Join the Watchung Volunteer Fire Department. We have many membership categories beginning with our junior program for residents that are 16 years of age.

FOR MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS
PLEASE CALL 908-756-6288
OR PICK UP INFORMATION AT BOROUGH HALL

“CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS....CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES”

Replace the batteries in your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors twice a year. And don't forget to test them monthly.

The Watchung Volunteer Fire Department wishes to thank our community for it's continued support of our organization. Your **100% Volunteer Fire Department** could not continue to provide this life saving service without your generous contributions.

THANK YOU!



The Watchung Historical Committee

The Watchung Historical Committee (WHC) has added a new World War II (WWII) exhibit that we think you would enjoy seeing. The centerpiece of the exhibit features the famous “Raising the Flag on Iwo Jima” photograph taken on February 23, 1945 by Joe Rosenthal. The exhibit includes several interesting pictures of the airplanes, flags, and other memorabilia from the time of the war. During WWII, it was common to see one or more different color stars in living room windows. Featured in the display are actual stars from that time that hung in windows of the families whose son or sons were involved in the war.

We are also hosting a Veterans' Day event at which names will be added to our war memorial which is located outside of the Texier House. The event will be held on Veterans' Day at 9:30 am in Watchung Borough Hall. All are invited to attend. Please visit with some of the young men who will be honored this November 11 as their names will be added to the War Memorial.

We welcome all visitors to the Texier House Museum. We are open on the first and third Sunday of the month from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. If you cannot visit us at those times, we can open by special request by calling either Barbara Diem at 908-756-5949 or Betty Aldrich at 908-755-6575 and requesting a day and time that is mutually convenient. Drop by and see us sometime!

Chairpersons, Barbara Diem	908-756-5949
Betty Aldrich	908-755-6575

HEALTH DEPARTMENT
FREE RABIES CLINICS

South Bound Brook

Saturday, November 7
9:00 am to 10:00 am
South Bound Brook Municipal Garage
44 Washington Avenue

Watchung

Saturday, December 5
9:00 am to 10:00 am
Watchung Fire House
57 Mountain Boulevard

Green Brook

Saturday, November 7
11:00 am to 12:00 noon
Green Brook Fire House
115 Greenbrook Road

Bound Brook

Saturday, December 5
11:00 am to 12:00 noon
Bound Brook Police/Borough Hall
230 Hamilton Street

REMINDER—DOG LICENSE RENEWALS

State Law requires all dogs be licensed and renewed no later than January 31st each year.
Applications are available on the Borough Website or you may pick one up at Borough Hall.

Please note: Renewals available during the month of January
After January 31st there will be a late fee of \$2.00/animal

You must have an updated Rabies vaccine which is valid through
October 31st of the license year.

COMMISSION FOOD ESTABLISHMENT INSPECTION RESULTS

For food inspection results visit: <http://middlebrookhealth.org/restaurant-inspection-results>.
These are updated weekly and can be searched by town, restaurant name, or just peruse all establishments listed.

SAVE THE DATE

The Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission, in conjunction with the local Boards of Health, has tentatively scheduled a blood drive and public health event for Thursday, October 8, 2015 at the Green Brook Municipal Building. Details are under development so please check the Commission website at www.middlebrookhealth.org or call 732-968-5151 for more information!

2015 Weekend Journey through the Past Participating Historic Sites:

- Bedensville Schoolhouse, Montgomery
- Blawenburg Reformed Church, Blawenburg (Montgomery)
- Brick Academy, Basking Ridge
- The Brook Theater/Brook Arts Center, Bound Brook
- Boudinot Southard Ross House, Basking Ridge
- Codington Farmstead, Warren Twp.
- Gen. J. Frelinghuysen House/Raritan Borough Library, Raritan
- Griggstown School House, Franklin Township/Princeton
- Garrett, Amy House, Rocky Hill
- Hageman Farm, Somerset/Franklin Township
- Dr. John Vermeule House, Green Brook
- Kennedy Martin Stelle Farmstead, Basking Ridge
- Kirch Ford Terrell House, Warren Township
- 1860 Millstone School House/Millstone Borough Hall, Millstone
- Mount Bethel Meeting House, Warren Township
- Old Millstone Forge Blacksmith Shop & Museum, Millstone
- The Presbyterian Church of Bound Brook
- Relief Hose Company No. 2 Firehouse, Raritan
- Robert Mansion, Somerville
- Somerville Fire Museum, Somerville
- South Branch School House, Branchburg
- Abraham Staats House, South Bound Brook
- Andrew Ten Eyck House, Branchburg
- **Texier House Museum, Watchung**
- United States Golf Association (USGA)/Frothingham Mansion, Far Hills
- Jacobus Vanderveer House, Bedminster
- Van Horne House, Bridgewater
- Van Veghten House, Bridgewater
- Wallace House State Historic Site, Somerville
- Washington Rock State Park, Green Brook

Watchung's Texier House Museum Joins Weekend Journey Through the Past

This year, 30 historic sites countywide will be open free to the public on Saturday, Oct. 10, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 11, from noon to 4 p.m. We welcome four newly participating historic sites this year: the Hageman Farm in Somerset (Franklin Township), **the Texier House Museum in Watchung**, Blawenburg Reformed Church in Blawenburg (Montgomery Township) and the Dr. J. Vermeule House in Green Brook.

"This is an opportunity to step into and experience the past," said Freeholder Deputy Director Patricia Walsh. "This popular family-oriented program is being presented by the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission in collaboration with 30 local historical societies."

This annual autumn weekend features interpreted tours led by guides in period dress, special collections and exhibitions, and a seemingly unending variety of offerings.

For those who enjoy a challenge, there will be an educational and fun detective investigation activity for kids and the entire family that will test your powers of deduction to solve 30 mysteries. "*What in the World is That...?*" is intended to encourage a multi-generational outing for parents, children and grandparents. Share stories and experiences about "the old days" with your children and grandchildren as you enjoy traveling from one historic site to the next.

At each historic site, one unique item from the past will be featured, displayed and described. As a rookie detective enlisted to investigate, you are assigned to reveal the true identity and function of each mystery item. Download and print an "Official Investigative Task Booklet" from the event website at www.SCHistoryWeekend.com (the current year's booklet will be posted by the end of August).

Next to the name and town of each participating historic site you'll find a small photo of a mystery item you are challenged to identify. After carefully examining the photo, write down in your booklet what you believe the item is. Once you do that for all pictured items, take your booklet and go to as many sites as you can, searching the premises to locate the mystery item (look for the Sherlock Holmes silhouette sticker). When you find it, read the posted information to see if your powers of deduction were correct, and rate yourself as a weekend detective.

Tech-savvy visitors may view each mystery item on a smart phone or tablet at www.SCHistoryWeekend.com (updated at the end of August) prior to visiting each site. Though you may not have a booklet to record your guesses, you and your family or friends will have fun challenging each other before you walk through the door to discover the item's true identity, or confirm that you guessed it correctly upon arrival. Enjoy your quest!



BE PART OF AN ORGANIZED TEAM TRAINED TO PROTECT & SAVE FAMILIES & COMMUNITIES!

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program helps train people to be better prepared to respond to emergency situations in their communities. When emergencies happen, CERT members can give critical support to first responders, provide immediate assistance to victims, and organize spontaneous volunteers at a disaster site. CERT members can also help with non-emergency projects that help improve the safety of the community. CERT is a nationwide initiative.

The CERT training course consists of 20 hours of instruction that includes a final exercise to practice all of the skills that you have learned.

The course includes the following:

- . Disaster Preparedness
- . Disaster Fire Suppression
- . Disaster Medical Operations
- . Light Search and Rescue Operations
- . Disaster Psychology & Team Organization
- . Terrorism

The next scheduled training course is being held at the Somerset County Emergency Services Training Academy - 402 Roycefield Road, Hillsborough, NJ 08844.

The dates are as follows: October 13, October 15, October 20, October 22, October 24, October 27, October 29, with a Practical Exercise on October 31. (All classes start at 7 p.m. with the exception of Saturday's 10/24 and 10/31 which will start at 9 a.m.)

If you are interested in joining the Watchung CERT Team, please email—
watchungcert@watchungnj.gov



Several years ago former Police Chief Sean Whelan directed a few of us to create a survey to distribute to the residents and stakeholders of our community. The idea was to make sure that the service that we were providing was what our residents wanted and expected from their police department. As the surveys were returned I became fascinated with the responses to one question in particular: “How many police officers are there in Watchung?” While a few of the responses were accurate, most of them had to be doubled to represent the actual number. Since so many estimates were that far off, I realized that the majority of people who responded simply did not know what the men and women of the Watchung Police Department do on a daily basis.

I’m sure that most people are aware of the general duties and responsibilities of a police officer, but a closer look at our daily operation may offer some additional insight to the size of our staff. The Watchung Police Department is made up of thirty sworn police officers, four civilian dispatchers, two records clerks, and one administrative assistant / IT specialist. We are responsible for patrolling the six square miles of Watchung, including a significant amount of retail shopping space on RT 22, and providing public safety to all of our residents and visitors around the clock. We enforce motor vehicle laws, we respond to an average of 23,000 calls for service each year, we investigate 700 – 800 motor vehicle accidents annually, and we average 500 – 600 adult arrests per year. Fortunately, the majority of those arrests are of non-violent offenders, but even an arrest for an unpaid traffic ticket requires a significant amount of time and resources. The car stop, the arrest, prisoner transport, prisoner processing, prisoner supervision, report writing, and any subsequent court appearances all take a significant amount of time. When you multiply that process by 500 – 600 times per year, you can begin to see how time consuming these everyday tasks can be. Unfortunately, not every arrest is that simple, and some of our investigations can be extremely involved.

As the old saying goes “there are lies, damned lies, and statistics.” In this case our statistics are not lies, but rather a good indication of our volume. According to the 2013 Uniform Crime Report (UCR) which can be found on the NJ State Police website, Watchung has the highest crime rate in Somerset County with a rate of 65 crimes per 1,000 residents. The fact that the majority of the crime in Watchung is of a non-violent nature is certainly a mitigating factor, but that does not discount the volume of calls, nor does it discount the resources required to investigate those crimes. Identity thefts, internet frauds and other financial crimes are a common occurrence in Watchung, and those investigations usually have many layers that involve multiple jurisdictions. When looked at by itself the crime rate doesn’t really mean all that much, but when compared to other communities, it provides some much needed context. The average crime rate throughout the other municipalities of Somerset County is 13 crimes per 1,000 residents. Second to Watchung in Somerset County was Manville with a rate of 26 crimes per 1,000 residents. According to the same 2013 UCR report Newark had a crime rate of 50 and Camden had a rate of 69 crimes per 1,000 residents. I’m not comparing Watchung to Newark and Camden when it comes to crime, but I do believe that the rates provide the context that is needed to understand the volume.

Without some of this information I can understand why the estimates of the number of police officers in Watchung were so low, and I actually consider it a compliment. Just like a sporting event where the best umpires and referees are the ones you don’t notice, the men and women of the Watchung Police Department are working tirelessly regardless of who notices. It’s not the number anyone guessed that matters, what matters is that you know that we are here for you 24 hours a day – all 37 of us.

As always, please feel free to call me or email me with your suggestions, comments or questions at jcina@watchungpd.com or (908) 756-3663 ext. 117.

Chief Joseph R. Cina

Watchung Environmental Commission

Providing local food sources for wildlife and insect pollinators in New Jersey.

The increase in development in New Jersey has dramatically decreased trees, plants and habitat that are critical to the survival of local pollinators: native bees, honeybees, butterflies, moths, beetles, hummingbirds and other bird species.

We can all help to protect or plant the native trees/shrubs/host plants listed below, to support the conservation of our valuable wildlife, including songbirds, small mammals, native bees, butterflies and moths.

Preserving and planting more fruit and nut bearing trees and shrubs, along with perennial flowers that bloom during the Spring, Summer, and Fall seasons (providing nectar and pollen), will help our local wildlife to survive and flourish and help with pollination of our food crops.

- Oaks:** Provide excellent nesting sites for wildlife, birds, and insects. Acorns feed turkeys, chipmunks and squirrels. Blue Jays eat white oak acorns. Fruits persist up to December and remain a valuable food source during harsh winter months. Heavy fruit crops occur after 40 years. Oaks prefer full sun and when mature, their leaf canopies provide cooling shade for humans and wildlife.
- Native Cherries:** Support 448 species of Lepidoptera (butterflies & moths). Fruits attract over 40 species of birds are edible and offer excellent nesting sites for bluebirds, orioles and robins.
- Birches:** Produce seed and flower buds for songbirds. Peeling bark provides winter homes for many insects and insect food for many woodpeckers. Support 413 species of Lepidoptera (butterflies & moths).
- Dogwoods:** Support over 40 species of birds and 100 species of Lepidoptera (butterflies & moths). Blue and white berries support migratory and over-wintering birds and songbirds. Fruit is high in calcium. Require winter protection from deer rubbing their antlers.
- Viburnums:** Support over 100 species of Lepidoptera (butterflies & moths). Blue and black berries are excellent food source for most songbirds such as robins, cardinals, cedar waxwing, and thrushes. Surround with fencing first several years to protect from deer browsing.
- Blueberries:** Support 194 species of Lepidoptera (butterflies & moths). Best fruit production is when you plant more than one species.
- Milkweeds:** The exclusive food for monarch butterflies, the leaves contain a toxin that monarch caterpillars accumulate in their bodies. By the time they are adult butterflies, this accumulation of toxins makes them taste unpleasant to most predators. Native species to plant include Common (*Asclepias syriaca*), swamp (*A. incarnata*), and purple (*A. purpurea*.) Beautiful pink flowers are excellent nectar sources for bees and butterflies. Since 1996, an alarming 90% decline in the monarch population has occurred. This catastrophic disappearance has been linked to the introduction of Round Up Ready Corn and Soybeans in the Midwest, which began in 1997. These genetically modified crops employ the use of massive amounts of glyphosate (Round Up) applications on crops that also destroys milkweed, exclusive host plant for monarchs that used to grow 20-40 plants per acre along the corn rows.
- Sassafras:** Beautiful spring flowers are a favorite food source for bees and other early pollinators. In summer, leaves serve as host for spicebush swallowtail, tiger swallowtail, palamedes and pale Swallowtail butterflies. In the fall, birds enjoy the bluish, blackish berries. Sassafras prefer moist, loamy soil but are drought tolerant when they mature.
- Native perennials that provide nectar for pollinators include:** Black Cohosh, Fairy Candles, Wild Columbine, NY iron weed, Butterfly Weed, False Blue Indigo, White Turtle Head, Purple Coneflower, Joe Pye Weed, Boneset, Thoroughwort, Cransbill, Sunflower, False Sunflower, Blazing Star *Liatris*, Native Lilies, Cardinal Flower, Lupine, Sundial Lupine, Bee Balm, Wild Bergamot, Horsemint, Phlox, Wild Sweet William, Black Eyed Susan, Sage, Goldenrod, Woodland Pinkroot, Aster, Violets, Lavender.
- Host Plants for butterflies:** Aster, Dill, Hollyhock, Milkweed, Parsley, Turtlehead.
- Native trees, shrubs and vines relatively unpalatable to white tailed deer:** Red Maple, Serviceberry, False Indigo, Milkweeds, Birches, Leatherwood, Black Walnut, Spicebush, Sweet Gum, Coral Honeysuckle, Sweetbay Magnolia, Northern Bayberry, American Sycamore, Black Cherry, Black Willow and Sassafras.

Summarized by Pam Lewis , former member of the Watchung Environmental Commission.

Source: [Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants](#) by Douglas W. Tallamy

BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG
15 Mountain Boulevard
Watchung, NJ 07069

Deer Management Program
Property Owner Authorization Letter

SHOTGUN USE

Dear Resident;

The deer culling season is fast approaching and the Borough is trying to secure all possible sites with those residents that are willing to give permission to utilize their properties for this purpose. Shooting is limited to designated sites in the program with the utmost of safety and will only be done from elevated tree stands. If you are willing to allow culling on your property, please complete the portion below and return it to the Borough of Watchung by October 15, 2015. The continuation of the deer management program was authorized by the Mayor and Council and is strongly recommended by the Borough Wildlife Management Advisory Committee. Your cooperation is most appreciated.

Sincerely,
Linda Monetti
Linda Monetti
Administrative Assistant
(908)756-0080 Ext. 210

I hereby grant permission to the Borough of Watchung and Warren Blue Ridge Sportsmen, Inc., to utilize my property to cull deer using shotguns within 450 feet of any occupied building on my property. This will be done as part of the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife approved Community Based Deer Management Program in the Borough of Watchung. The program will run Monday thru Friday, dawn to dusk, beginning November 30, 2015 and ending on February 13th, 2016.

Property Address: _____

Phone # Home: _____ Cell: _____

#1 Owner (Print Name) _____

Signature: _____

#2 Owner (Print Name): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Watchung Seniors

15 Mountain Boulevard
Watchung, New Jersey 07069
Phone: 908-279-7809
Fax: (908) 757-7027

NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

The **Watchung Seniors** meet the 2nd Wednesday of every month (no meetings in the summers), from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Meetings are held at the Fireman's Exempt Hall, lower level 31 Mountain Boulevard (next to Borough Hall).

The building is handi-cap accessible

Senior Services

Handyman Program Helps Seniors & Disabled Residents

The Handyman Program, operated by the Somerset County Office of Volunteer Services, has trained volunteers available to perform minor home repairs for seniors or disabled residents of Somerset County.

New volunteers, male and female, also are being recruited for the program. No experience is required. Free training is provided. Scheduling of home repairs is flexible.

For information about receiving services through the Handyman Program or about volunteering as a handyman or handywoman, call (908) 541-5715.

For more details on activities and trips please visit the Borough Website at:

www.watchungnj.gov



In the Spring, the Borough’s Office of Emergency Management mailed a special Newsletter, on behalf of our Emergency Service Teams. This newsletter contained important information that could improve your family’s safety in the event of an emergency.

Included in the newsletter was a 2-sided magnet containing valuable information and phone numbers that should be kept in a handy, accessible place, in case of an emergency. We hope that you never have to use it!

If you did not receive a magnet, they are available at Borough Hall in the Clerk’s Office. Feel free to stop in and pick one up. The newsletter is available at Borough Hall or can be viewed on the Borough’s Website at: www.watchungnj.gov.



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The Department of Public Works will have a **Fall Leaf Cleanup** beginning November 2nd thru November 30th. This is for **leaves only** to be recycled.

A fee of **\$2.00 per bag** will be implemented, beginning this year.

Residents must **REGISTER** and **PREPAY** for each bag to be picked up at Borough Hall, in the Engineering Department, 15 Mountain Boulevard, Lower Level, before your bags can be removed.

All leaves must be in **BIODEGRADABLE PAPER BAGS** only (can be purchased at most Hardware Stores or Home Depot) and placed on the grass area close to the road. **We Do Not provide the bags.**

NO BRANCHES, TRASH OR REFUSE WILL BE PICKED UP.
ANY BAGS FOUND WITH TRASH OR STONE IN THEM WILL BE LEFT ON THE CURB

Due to the State's **Stormwater Regulations**, the Borough prohibits the placement of leaves in the street.

Questions? Call the Public Works Department at (908) 756-0091.

The Public Works Department is asking for your help!

If you see a pothole in the road or a catch basin covered with debris, please call Public Works Department at (908) 756-0091 or email Maria Fittipaldi at mfittipaldi@watchungnj.gov to report it.

The winter season is fast approaching please remember it is against Borough Ordinance to push snow from your driveway into the street. Please advise your snow plow contractors.

WATCHUNG RECREATION EVENTS

SAVE THE DATES



HARVEST FESTIVAL

Oct. 24th 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm @ Mobus Park (Rain Date Oct. 25th)
Music, Giant Hay Stack, Rides, Inflatables, Cider, Hot Chocolate, Hot Dogs,
Popcorn, Cotton Candy, Sand Art, Face Painting, Pumpkin Painting, Costume
Contest, Games and Prizes! Free event for all Watchung Residents!

Women's Volleyball—Valley View School, Monday Nights 7:00 - 9:00 PM starting September

Men's Basketball—Bayberry School Gym, 7:00 -9:00 PM, October—June

For further information contact Recreation Coordinator Linda Monetti at: lmoneetti@watchungnj.gov



The Green Team was established by the Mayor & Borough Council to promote efforts to save tax dollars, conserve energy and reduce the community's carbon footprint and natural resource consumption. Members

of the team review and recommend eco-friendly, cost-efficient projects designed to improve municipal operations. The team includes residents and a variety of Borough staff.

Watchung's Green Team continues to work hard toward sustainability efforts. The Team is proud of their collaborative efforts with the Warren Green Team in participating in a joint Green Fair in April of 2015. In honor of Arbor Day, the Green Team distributed 500 Norway Spruce seedlings to residents at the Fair. The Green Team also donated rain barrels to the Library, Watchung Garden Club and to Bayberry Elementary School in an effort to help conserve water.

For the remainder of the 2015, the Green Team has been working hard on planning the Fall Farmer's Market. We are looking forward to be hosting the **Green Fair** in Watchung in April of 2016 and will begin the planning process the end of this year. More information to follow.

Watchung's Fall Farmer's Market is scheduled to run every Sunday from September 13th through October 25th from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Best Lake parking lot. The market will include local food vendors, local produce, food trucks, and entertainment this year including free yoga, zumba and art demonstrations.

The Green Team will be hosting an Animals in the Community education program for school aged children through Lord Stirling Park's Environmental Education Center at the first Farmer's market on September 13th from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM.

The Green Team is working hard toward maintaining Bronze Certification and is striving to obtain Silver certification. The Team currently is in **NEED of active volunteers** who can help us achieve this task, assist with upcoming events and help improve our community. If interested, please contact Bill Hance at bhance@watchungnj.gov or Shelini Parikh at sparikh@watchungnj.gov or call 908-756-0080 for additional information visit the Borough's website at www.watchungnj.gov for updates and additional information.

