



Demarest Digest

The Mayor's Message

Dear Residents,

I hope this summer newsletter finds you and your family safe and well. I am happy to report that our borough did not have a new case of COVID reported since the second week of May. I want to thank all residents who have gotten the vaccine. It is your willingness to be vaccinated that has helped our borough, county and state turn the corner and start to return to a more normal life.

Because our lives are returning to normal, our borough is again resuming some activities that were curtailed or canceled in 2020. Summer recreation camp is back, as are full seasons of spring sports for our borough children through the Demarest Athletic Association. Look for summer concerts at the Gazebo to begin soon. Enjoy the summer everyone! And again, thank you for getting vaccinated and for your patience and forbearance during the pandemic.

Mayor Melinda Iannuzzi

Please see the calendar on the following page and check the website Demarestnj.org for concert information and to stay up to date with Demarest activities!

PLEASE NOTE: Offices will be closed July 5 in honor of Independence Day and September 6 for Labor Day.

Calendar of Events

Please visit Demarestnj.org or call 201-768-0167, ext. 110, for the latest information.

- June 9 Virtual Court 5:30 pm
- June 10 Nature Center meeting 7:30 pm
- June 15 Zoning Board meeting 7:30 pm
- June 21 Library Board meeting 7:00 pm
- June 22 Environmental Commission meeting 7:30 pm
- June 28 Mayor and Council meeting 7:30 pm
- July 1 Shade Tree Commission meeting 7:30 pm
- July 7 Planning Board meeting 7: 30 pm
- July 7 The Kootz concert 7:30 – 9:00 pm
- July 14 Virtual Court 5:30 pm
- July 19 Library Board meeting 7:00 pm
- July 20 Zoning Board meeting 7:30 pm
- July 21 Recreation Commission meeting 8:00 pm
- July 21 The Kover Up concert 7:30 – 9:00 pm
- July 26 Mayor and Council meeting 7:30 pm
- July 27 Environmental Commission meeting 7:30 pm
- August 4 Planning Board meeting 7:30 pm
- August 4 Ray Greiche Band concert 7:30 – 9:00 pm
- May 6 Shade Tree Commission meeting 7:30 pm
- August 11 Virtual Court 5:30 pm
- August 12 Shoreline Anthem concert 7:30 – 9:00 pm
- August 12 Nature Center meeting 7:30 pm
- August 17 Zoning Board meeting 7:30 pm
- August 24 Environmental Commission meeting 7:30 pm
- August 30 Mayor and Council meeting 7:30 pm
- September 1 Planning Board meeting 7:30 pm
- September 2 Shade Tree meeting 7:30 pm

From Our Police Chief



Beginning May 24, 2021, Law Enforcement Agencies from across the country join together to send a zero-tolerance message to the public that driving unbelted on America’s roadways will result in a ticket. The initiative is comprehensive, including creative enforcement strategies, media, social media, and awareness efforts.



During the pandemic there was 62% increase in bike sales. Be considerate of the increase in bicycle traffic when driving. Bicycle riders please remember to wear your helmet.

Storm Preparedness

If you have a power outage, don’t assume that Orange and Rockland Utilities already knows about it:

Visit www.oru.com/ReportOutage from any computer or web-based mobile device.

Access O&R’s mobile app from your iPhone, iPad or Android device – download via Apple Store or Google Play

Text message: text “OUT” to 69678 (myORU)

Call 1-877-434-4100

Once it is safe to assess storm damage and begin service restoration, O&R crews will give priority to repairs that clear major community roads – work that also restores power to a sizable number of neighboring customers. At the same time, crews will restore power to critical and emergency facilities (police and fire stations and hospitals, for example). Then, crews will focus on getting power back to those locations that will return electricity to the most customers quickly and work their way down to restore smaller outages and individual customer’s outages.

Report Downed Wires: In the event of severe weather, report downed wires to the Demarest Police Department immediately at (201) 768-1540. Never go near a downed power line, even if you think it is no longer carrying electricity. Extra caution should be used in areas where downed lines are tangled in trees or other debris.

Receive Notifications During Storm Emergencies: Please register for Swift Reach Reverse Calls and Nixle for urgent notifications.

A Plea from the Department of Public Works

We have been responding to quite a few sewer backups. The usual culprits are baby wipes and grease! Please do not flush either of these items. Both are trash and need to be disposed of in your garbage can.

Municipal Court

The Court office remain is open to the public at this time. However, virtual court will be held on the assigned dates. Anyone needing to speak to the Violations Clerk may call 201-768-1160. Payments may be mailed to the Borough Hall, paid online or dropped in the box at the Borough Hall door.

From the Demarest Ambulance Corps

We are looking for new members. Join us!

Remember to WEAR YOUR MASK, maintain social distancing and practice good hand washing!

FIGHT GERMS BY WASHING YOUR HANDS!

1 Wet your hands

2 Soap

3 Lather and scrub - 20 sec

4 Rinse - 10 sec

5 Turn off tap

6 Dry your hands

DONT FORGET TO WASH:

- between your fingers
- under your nails
- the tops of your hands

News from the Public Schools

Preschool 4: A few spots are available for 2021-2022

To secure a spot in our Preschool 4-year-old program, please call the County Road School secretary, Kathy Daly, at 201-768-6060 EXT. 51535.

From the Demarest Board of Health

Vaccination update: "If you are vaccinated, you are protected," according to the C.D.C. director, Dr. Rochelle P. Walensky. "If you are not vaccinated, our guidance has not changed for you; you remain at risk of infection. You still need to mask and take other precautions."

We urge our community to continue making choices based on their personal circumstances and trust the science. We also hope that people will be kind to those who wear masks out of necessity or by choice. We must remain vigilant and continue to take precautions. #BeKind

As the weather heats up, we offer the following reminders to help you enjoy a safe and healthy summer.

1. Sunscreen use (a priority)!
2. Hydration
3. Tick awareness for both humans and pets especially while walking/hiking the trails (an adult in town got a tick bite while planting near the duck pond).

https://www.nj.gov/health/vph/documents/tick_diseases_dogs_cats.pdf

CCO Reminder from the Building Department

To rent or sell your home, a Certificate of Continued Occupancy is required. The form is on the Demarest website (demarestnj.org). You must complete the application, pay the required fees and have the home inspected prior to any change in occupancy or ownership. This process takes approximately 4 weeks, so make sure you allow ample time. Any question, please call Dot Haight at 201-768-3398.

The Shade Tree Commission



Perhaps you've been wondering about all the new trees planted around Demarest. I'd like to let you in on what the Shade Tree Commission has been doing this spring. Spring is our busiest season, and we kicked it off this year with an Arbor Day Celebration on April 24. With a donation from the New Jersey Forestry Department, we were able to give out more than 75 seedlings to residents and non-residents alike. This year we received oak, birch and dogwood seedlings for homeowners to plant on their property. With a little bit of love and lots of water and sun, we're hoping to see mature trees in the near future.

We have also set a goal of planting of 60 trees to replace those lost in the horrific storm of August 2020. To date, we have planted 36, and if the budget allows, we will reach our goal this fall. We've also introduced new species to our program, including tree lilacs and American Hornbeams, which have shorter mature heights and will not threaten our power lines. If you would like to have a tree planted on your property in the town's right of way, please contact Lee Campbell at Borough Hall, 207-768-0167, ext. 130, and she will put you on the list for next year.

Is Your Number Up?

Emergency personnel need to reach people as quickly as possible. Thus, it is vitally important that your house number be displayed in accordance with Borough Ordinance 78-2. The Police Department reminds you that your number must be affixed in a conspicuous manner on the front of your house so as to be plainly visible from the street. Additionally, you may display an additional house number on a post or mailbox, especially if the front of your house is not visible from the street. Please note that numbers on rocks or otherwise on the ground are not helpful, as they can be covered by leaves or snow.

Here's What's New at The Demarest Public Library

Community Read: Such a Fun Age by Kiley Reid – June 9 at 7pm: Whether you read this bestseller last year or are picking it up for the first time, join us for a relaxed conversation in this hybrid program that will take place simultaneously on Zoom and in person at the Train Station.

Yoga and Meditation on Zoom: Thursdays at 11am: Join Karen Noel for this popular yoga and meditation class, live on Zoom every Thursday morning.

Outdoor Storytime: Wednesdays at 10:30am, weather permitting: Join Miss Kate for a LIVE story time on the library lawn! No registration required.

Summer Reading Kick-Off: Tuesday, June 29, from 2pm to 4pm at the Gazebo. Celebrate the beginning of summer with the library and a storytelling performance by Talewise!

demarestlibrary.org

Sign up for programs at bccls.libcal.com/calendar/demarest

Sign up for emails from the library demarestlibrary.org/email

Removal of Large Appliances and Equipment

Please call IWS sanitation at 201-768-5407 to schedule an appointment for the pickup of large appliances and other household equipment. Refrigerators, air conditioners, and ice makers must have the Freon removed by a certified service person before pickup. If you are buying a new appliance, please check with the merchant as to whether they will remove and dispose of the old appliance.

Municipal Parking

If you are in need of additional parking or somewhere to store a vehicle that should not be parked in your driveway, there are spots available downtown for a nominal permit parking fee. To inquire, please call the Borough Clerk, Susan Crosman, at 201-768-0167, ext. 139, for further details.

Demarest Nature Center

This spring dozens of children built bird houses and birdfeeders from kits at the Wakelee Fieldhouse. We also had a strong turnout for the annual Nature Walk and Volunteer Day. As this newsletter went to press, we were preparing for our first spring Canoe Day on the Duck Pond.

Now is a good time to take pictures for the photo contest. See our website for details.

Mark your calendars for the Craft Show and Oktoberfest, returning in person on Saturday, October 9, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with German food and beer.

We stayed open as a refuge throughout the pandemic. Now we need your support. Please give generously to this all-volunteer organization when you receive our semi-annual newsletter this summer.

And visit us anytime at www.demarestnaturecenter.org.

If you believe any information is incorrect or incomplete, please contact Marti Francis (francis.demarestnj@gmail.com) so I may fix it.

Visit our official website

Demarestnj.org.

Utilize the Google Calendar and Borough Notices

to stay up to date!