

village NEWSLETTER

www.ridgefieldpark.org

VOL. 34 NO. 1

Ridgefield Park, N.J.

MARCH, 2017

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

This message is being prepared in the “DEAD OF WINTER” and we have conflicting “Groundhog” reports about how long winter will last. Even so, we hope that when the Newsletter is delivered, winter will be a memory and that we will be enjoying the early days of spring.

With this in mind — springtime is the time to “paint-up/clean-up/fix-up” — as we all know our Village is a community of older homes — many of which are over 100 years old, and the great majority well over 75 years old. Our homes and properties need our attention. Please do all you can to keep our community an attractive and welcoming place. The Village will be doing its part by “sprucing up” our parks, plazas, and public properties. Please do your part.

Bergen County in cooperation with Rutgers University, is undertaking the development of a master plan for the County Park System. Overpeck Park on Challenger Road is a major park in the County Park System and Rutgers is soliciting your views about the Park System. To participate in this important survey, go online to <http://cues.rutgers.edu/bergen-park-system/>.

In taking this survey, please encourage the County to build the long promised Pedestrian Bridge which will connect the park to the area around the Junior/Senior High School. This bridge is part of the County Settlement which prompted the County to finally build the Ridgefield Park section of the Park, after a 60 year wait! Right now there is no safe way for pedestrians or cyclists to access the park. The only pedestrian access is Emerson Street, which requires, among other things, crossing two (2) Route 95 exit ramps, and walking in an area with no sidewalks. Please encourage the County to proceed with building the bridge now!

The Commissioners are meeting with the Developers of the Eagles Nest Property (the area between the NJ Turnpike, Route

46, and Overpeck creek) and hope that positive news will be forthcoming shortly. Also, we anticipate similar positive news on the vacant Challenger Road properties. We have been at it for a very long time, but a better national economy has improved the outlook.

In springtime, take time to go for a walk, visit our parks and public facilities. Enjoy the flowers and nature. Rent a kayak or canoe and take a ride on the Overpeck creek.

Participate in the many activities sponsored by local organizations. Welcome new neighbors — be involved!

Commissioner John Anlian
Commissioner Margaret Boyd
Commissioner Adam MacNeill
Commissioner Hugo Poli
Mayor George Fosdick



MEMORIAL DAY

Sponsored by American Legion Post 40 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 277, the Village's Annual Memorial Day service will be conducted Monday, May 29, 2017, 11:00 a.m. at the monument, Euclid Avenue and Mt. Vernon Street.

Prior to the Veterans Service, the Fire Department will conduct its Memorial Service, Euclid Avenue and Cedar Street, commencing at 9:30 a.m.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend the Memorial Service. As a Community and a Nation, it is our duty to honor and remember those who have served and continue to serve in the defense of our Freedom and Well-Being.

RIDGEFIELD PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT

Fundraising Update

The Ridgefield Park Police Department and PBA Local 86 would like to extend our gratitude to all Village residents and businesses who generously donated to our annual fund drive mailing. Please be reminded that PBA Local 86 and the Ridgefield Park Police Department Goodwill are the only organizations connected to our department. We absolutely do not solicit donations by telephone under any circumstances. Any requests for donations from any other police organizations should be carefully scrutinized. Please contact police headquarters at 201-641-6400 if you have any questions or uncertainties.

Juvenile Bureau News

The Ridgefield Park Police Department, in cooperation with the Little Ferry Police Department, will be conducting the 13th annual Junior Police Academy Program. The Junior Police Academy will be a five-day program and will be open to boys and girls who will be completing sixth, seventh or eighth grade in June 2017.

Goals of the program are: to expose Village youths to police work through an enjoyable but disciplined forum; to allow members of the police department to interact with Village juveniles in a positive way; and to reinforce the consequences of negative behavior, violence and substance abuse. The week will consist of physical conditioning, military drill, and various hands-on experiences. There will be guests from federal, state and county law enforcement agencies who will provide demonstrations of their expertise. A one day field trip is also being planned.

The program is tentatively scheduled to run from Monday June 26, 2017 through Friday June 30, 2017. Applicants must be permanent residents of the Village of Ridgefield Park. Twenty five juveniles from Ridgefield Park and twenty-five juveniles from Little Ferry will be chosen to participate in the program. Applications will be accepted on a first-come first-serve basis.



The applications will be distributed through the school system and will also be available at Ridgefield Park Police Headquarters in March 2017. Parents can contact Det. Triano or Det. Martin at police headquarters with any questions or concerns they may have. Please use the following contact information for inquiries to the program:

Det. Nicholas Triano ntriano@rppd.org or Det. Karl Martin kmartin@rppd.org

Autism and Special Needs Database

The Ridgefield Park Police Department maintains a database on all autistic and special needs residents. The database is voluntary and is designed for families who wish to complete a Hidden Disability Registration Form. This form can be located on the police department webpage. The purpose of the database is intended to provide police officers with quick access to important information which can be used to aid in the recovery of a missing autistic person as well as the identification of a located person who may be autistic or have special needs. The information stored in this data base is for police department use only and shall not be shared with the public for any reason. Any questions or for more information, please contact Lt. Joseph Rella.

Reminders

Village residents are reminded that they are not permitted to park any truck, bus, tractor, trailer, semi-trailer, boat, camper or other motor vehicle with a gross vehicle weight of more than 5,500 pounds and/or a length of more than 18 feet and/or a height of more than seven feet and/or equipped with more than four tires and/or equipped with any fixed appurtenance on any day of the week on any street within the Village of Ridgefield Park between the hours of 10:00 PM and 7:00 AM. (Village Ordinance 197-10)

Many Village residents have received fraudulent phone calls from the Internal Revenue Service. We would like to remind

residents to be cautious when dealing with individuals soliciting private information via the telephone or internet. If you are unsure if the call is legitimate, ask for a contact name and information and inform the caller that you will be in touch with them at a later date and time. As with anything that may concern you, the police department cannot assist you in your time of need if we are unaware that a problem exists. Please do not hesitate to contact the police department at anytime, regarding any matter where you feel we could be of assistance.

R.P.P.D. Personnel

Effective January 20, 2017, Brian Ooms, Christopher Beirne, James Arnold and Grant Novak have been appointed as full-time probationary police officers and currently enrolled in Basic Training Class 118 at the Bergen County Police Academy. Upon graduation, they will participate in a comprehensive Field Training Program.

Ptl. David Marco resigned from the R.P.P.D. on February 7, 2017 to accept a position with the West Caldwell Police Department and Dispatcher Nick Mc Coy resigned from the R.P.P.D. on February 3, 2017 to accept a position with MICCOM.

We would like to wish good luck to all in their future endeavors.



BOARD OF RECREATION

Just a reminder to everyone, the Board of Recreation is made up entirely of volunteers who generously give their time to run various programs and activities for the residents of the Village. It operates on a small budget provided by the Village and assists hundreds of residents in various activities. You may contact the Board of Recreation by either email at rpboardofrec@gmail.com or calling voicemail at (201) 641-4950 ext. 610. Information on all Board of Recreation activities is available at www.ridgefieldpark.org. Please remember volunteers run these programs and they will get back to you as soon as possible.

Not all activities are run by the Board of

Recreation and the Board will not be able to answer your questions on these activities. To make sure you are calling the right number for assistance, please remember to check our website to see what activities the Board sponsors. Not all sporting activities are run by the Board of Recreation, Baseball, football and soccer, for instance, are all run by private organizations and unfortunately, we are unable to answer any questions concerning these activities. The summer concert series is also not run by the Board.

Please be on the look-out for registration forms and news from the Board of Recreation in the Principal's Message you receive from your child's school. All forms are distributed electronically now so you can print it from there or on the Village website.

Upcoming Board of Recreation activities are as follows:

Acting and Improvisation Grades K-12 Learn to Act! Have Fun! Be creative! Build confidence!

Classes forming for the Spring Session: March 14-June 1 for all grades. Taught by Rachel Maddock, MA Educational Theatre. On-going Registration. Registration forms available at the Clerk's office or on-line. For info: Voicemail (201) 641-4950 ext. 610, Email: rpboardofrec@gmail.com or visit www.ridgefieldpark.org.

Students will be introduced to the basic elements of acting through theatre games and improvisation. They will develop an understanding of building an acting ensemble through cooperative group work and will learn spontaneity, physical and vocal expression, pantomime, character exploration and basic playwriting. — Older students will also study advanced acting techniques such as sensory work, monologue work, and basic scene study. — Acting and Improvisation classes are a great way for students to channel their energy and interact in a fun and creative way. — Acting and Improvisation builds confidence and life-long communication skills that can be applied to any field. Studies have shown that students who participate in the Arts have a greater chance of improving their academic performance.

Girl's Softball (Ponytail) - Registration is open until March 10, 2017. All girls who live in Ridgefield Park or attend school in Ridgefield Park, grades 3 through 8, are encouraged to join. Registration is \$50.00. This is a traveling league that will run according to high school rules (fast pitch,

bunting, leading, stealing). Registrations should be either dropped off at the Village Clerk's Office or mailed to the Board of Recreation at 234 Main Street, Ridgefield Park. Registrations will be accepted until March 10, 2017. **No cash accepted at the Clerk's Office. There will be a meeting at a future date to discuss details of the softball league.** Registrations can be downloaded at www.ridgefieldpark.org

Adult Women's Slow-Pitch Softball - Completed registration packets are due by March 31. The season begins in May and runs through July. All women 18 years of age and older (including out-of-towners) are eligible to play in this league. Late registrations should be immediately dropped off at the Village Clerk's Office. Registration fee is \$90.00 per player (with shirt).

Easter Egg Hunt - The Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for **Saturday, April 15, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. SHARP** at Veteran's Park. Line up at 9:45 a.m. on the Preston Street side of the high school. Prizes will be awarded and the Easter Bunny will be on hand to greet the children. All children up to Grade 6 are invited to participate. The Easter Egg Hunt is a rain or shine (or snow!) event. Don't forget a basket to carry your eggs! Please remember this is a dog-free park and dogs are not permitted to enter the park.


Tennis - The Board of Recreation sponsors a tennis program run by Barry Rubach. Registration forms are distributed in the schools. The program is available for RP residents/students or those attending school in RP. Barry Rubach runs this program, which is taught by All Pro Tennis Staff. For more information, call Barry Rubach at 201-568-3946 or go to www.allprotennis.net or email: barrys10s@gmail.com. Sessions run from the spring through fall.

T2S Basketball - The Board sponsors a basketball specific performance enhancement training program to students in grades 2-12 run by T2S Basketball Academy. There is ongoing registration at www.t2sba.com for registration online using the registration tab on the website. For further information, interested people can email t2sbasketballacademy@gmail.com or on Facebook: @t2sbasketballacademy or follow T2S on instagram for updates on scheduled training sessions, packages and locations.

All Board of Recreation meetings are open to the public. They are held on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building on the third floor

in the Dare Room. Anyone with any questions, comments or suggestions is more than welcome to attend any meeting. Anyone needing to speak to the Board of Recreation may call (201) 641-4950 ext. 610 and leave a message on the voice mail. If you wish to send a letter, please address it to the Board of Recreation at 234 Main Street, Ridgefield Park. For any information concerning Board of Recreation activities or to get a registration form, please go to www.ridgefieldpark.org. If you prefer to send an email, the email address for the Board of Recreation is rpboardofrec@gmail.com.

The Board of Recreation is always welcome to hear your comments.



FREE!

**RIDGEFIELD PARK
DOG & CAT OWNERS
ANTI-RABIES VACCINATION
CLINIC**

Sponsored by the
RIDGEFIELD PARK HEALTH DEPT.

APRIL 20, 2017 7:00PM to 9:00PM

**DEPT OF PUBLIC WORKS
BUILDING (DPW)
24 INDUSTRIAL AVE.
RIDGEFIELD PARK**

All dogs and cats that were inoculated in 2014 must be inoculated this year.
Dogs must be secured to a leash and must be accompanied by a person over age 12. Cats must be brought in a carrier. Licenses for dogs and cats may be purchased at the site.

**\$10.00 - Neutered
\$15.00 - Not Neutered**

**LATE FEE of \$10.00 will be charged
for animals licensed after April 30, 2017**

**JOHN H. ANLIAN
Commissioner**

@ Your Library

Book and Bake Sale

The Friends of the Library's semi-annual Book and Bake Sale will be held 4/20 to 4/22! Books, CDs, DVDs, audio books, and home baked sweets at bargain prices with proceeds benefitting the Friends of the Library. The library will begin accepting donations of gently used materials for sale on 4/1. Please do not donate magazines, encyclopedias, outdated non-fiction, or materials that are in poor condition. Those interested in volunteering to help with the book sale should call the library at 201-641-0689.

History and Health

We have two interesting (and different) programs for adults this spring. Join us on 5/11 to hear His Honor, Mayor Fosdick, speak about the 75th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor. Mayor Fosdick is an exceptional speaker and storyteller, so if you are a history buff then you do not want to miss this. Also, on 6/15, Health Topics from Holy Name Medical Center will be hosting one of their enlightening health programs. This one will be about "The Secrets of Sleep." Bear in mind that spaces for both of these programs is limited. Please register for each program by visiting us at www.ridgefieldparkpubliclibrary.org or simply visit the library.

Build a Better World this Summer!

Summer is right around the corner, and with it comes the library's excellent array of summer programs for readers of all ages. We have a wide variety of reading incentives and prizes to give away, so be sure to check our calendar at www.ridgefieldparkpubliclibrary.org frequently for details. While you're there, please consider signing up for our electronic mailing list so that you'll receive our monthly newsletter highlighting the programs we offer. We promise not to clutter up your mail box with a slew of emails and we definitely never share your email address with any company, agency, or person-your privacy is very important to the library. Registration for programs begins on 6/22 for children and young adults, and 6/26 for adults.

Program Highlights

A full listing of our programs appears at www.ridgefieldparkpubliclibrary.org.

This is also where program registrations are accepted.

Teen Board-Mon., 4/3, 511, 6/12, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Village teens are invited to help

us develop programs and suggest titles for the YA collection, For 7th grade and up.

Movies for the over 18 Crowd-Thurs., 4/6, 5/4, 6/1, 2:00 p.m. Come and enjoy a free movie, coffee, tea, and donuts. Stop by the library, check our website calendar at www.ridgefieldparkpubliclibrary.org or call to see what films will be playing on these dates.

Birthday Party for All-Sat., 4/8, 2:00-3:00 p.m. Villagers in 3rd -6th grades are invited to listen to some stories, play a party game, and decorate a cupcake. Party dress is optional! Registration is required.

Spring Break Movies-Mon.-Thurs., 4/10, 4/11, 4/12, 4/13, 2:00 p.m. Looking for something to do during the school break. We will be showing family-friendly movies and supplying free popcorn. Feel free to bring your own favorite snacks.

Friends of the Library-Tues., 4/11, 5/9, 6/13, 7:00 p.m. Join the Friends to discuss upcoming programs and projects and socialize over refreshments. New Friends are always welcome.

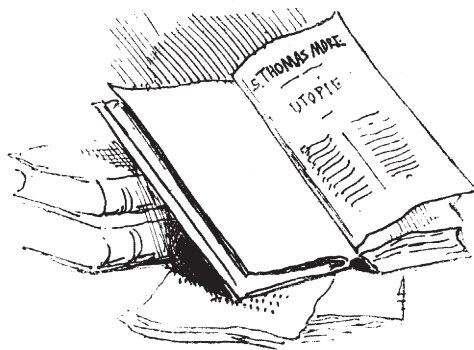
YA Movie-Sat., 4/15, 6/24, 1:00 p.m. Join us for special screenings of movies adapted from popular YA novels. Snacks will be provided.

Book and Bake Sale-Thurs., 4/20, 9:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m.; Fri., 4/21, 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; Sat., 4/22, 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Books, CDs, DVDs, audio books, and home baked sweets at bargain prices with proceeds benefitting the Friends of the Library. The library will begin accepting donations of gently used materials for sale on 4/1. Please do not donate magazines, encyclopedias, outdated non-fiction, or materials that are in poor condition. Those interested in volunteering to help with the book sale should call the library at 201-641-0689.

Yu-Gi-Oh! Tournaments-Thurs., 4/27, 5/25, 6/29 3:10-5:00 p.m. It's time to duel! For fans of deck-building games as well as newbies, bring your cards and play with friends. Open to students going into 7th grade and up. Registration is required.

Saturday Movies-Sat., 4/29, 6/3, 2:00 p.m. Family-friendly movies will be shown and popcorn provided but you are welcome to bring your own favorites

Biblio-Con 2017-Sat., 5/6, 1:00-4:00 p.m. Teens can come in dressed up as their favorite characters from books, movies, comics, or whatever else they can imagine for an afternoon of games, snacks, trivia, crafts, and a truly terrible film. Plus, free comic books! Registration is required.



A Visit to Pearl Harbor-Thurs., 5/11, 6:30 pm Mayor Fosdick will be here at the library discussing the 75th anniversary of Pearl Harbor. So why not come on out and join us for an informative and exciting program? Refreshments will be served. Seating is limited so please register early at www.ridgefieldparkpubliclibrary.org or call the library.

Kid's Tea Party-Sat., 5/13, 2:00-3:00 p.m. Children are invited to celebrate that special lady in their life. A variety of hot teas, finger sandwiches and sweets will be served. Space is limited. Registration is required.

Fun with Legos-Sat., 5/20, 2:00-3:00 p.m. Village children will use our Legos to let their imaginations run wild. We will display their creations at the library.

The Secrets of Sleep-Thurs., 6/15, 7:00-8:00 p.m. As we get older, a good night's sleep becomes increasingly difficult. Learn about what happens in your body while you sleep and get helpful tips to turn counting sheep into sound sleep. This program is presented by Health Topics from Holy Name Medical Center. The program is for adults only. Please register through the calendar at www.ridgefieldparkpubliclibrary.org or call the library.

Grand Event!-Sat., 6/17, 12:00-1:00 p.m. Spend some time with a special man in your life playing a virtual bowling game. He could be your dad, uncle or a person who means a lot to you. Hot dogs and chips will be served, so bring him with you. Registration required, limited space.

6th Grade Bridging-Tues., 6/20, 2:00-3:00 p.m. Join us in an open house celebration as you move up to the young adult section of the library. Meet other young adults, play video games, and enjoy waffles and ice cream. Registration is required.

Build a Better World Mystery Party-Thurs., 6/22, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Kick off Summer Reading with a special mystery dinner party. Guests get to solve a mystery while in disguise! Open to students

going into 7th grade and up. Registration is required.

Build A Better World Adult Summer Reading Program-The theme for this year's Adult Summer Reading program is "Build A Better World,". Come and sign up for the adult summer reading program, the first twenty-five people to sign up will receive a surprise gift. There will be movies, weekly drawings for prizes, special programs, and lots of books from which to choose from. Registration for the program starts 6/26 but you may sign up any time during the summer. Don't get left out, grab a flyer at the library, or check our website www.ridgefieldparkpubliclibrary.org. This program is free and open to all village residents over 18 years of age.

Build a Better World Summer Reading Program for Children-Mon., 6/26, 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. Registration begins 6/26, but you can sign up any time during the summer. Children will get a Summer Reading kit to aid in their summer reading. Our main goal is to help you maintain and improve your child's reading level, and have fun doing it. There will be weekly drawings for prizes and there are incentive prizes to keep them reading all summer. Reading is a skill your child will need to succeed. Let us help them have fun practicing. This program is for village children up to grade 6.

Rizzo's Wildlife Discovery-Tues., 6/27, 7:00-8:00 p.m. Celebrate the beginning of the summer reading program with a special guest, Rizzo and his animal friends. Summer reading registration will be available before and after the program at 6:00-8:30 p.m.

FROM THE VILLAGE CLERKS OFFICE

Commissioners Meetings

The Board of Commissioners of the Village of Ridgefield Park, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act NJSA 10:4-6 et seq., has established their Caucus and Regular meeting dates for the year 2017. The Caucus Meetings will be held on the Thursday preceding each Regular Meeting, unless otherwise indicated, at 7:00 PM at the Municipal Building, 234 Main Street, Third Floor. Regular meetings will be held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, unless otherwise indicated, at 7:30 PM at the Municipal Building, 234 Main Street, Third floor

Remaining 2017 Meetings:

2017 Caucus Meeting Dates

| | |
|-----------|----------|
| March | 9 and 23 |
| April | 6 and 20 |
| May | 4 and 18 |
| June | 8 and 22 |
| July | 6 and 20 |
| August | 3 and 17 |
| September | 8 and 22 |
| October | 6 and 20 |
| November | 3 and 17 |
| December | 8 and 22 |

2017 Regular Meeting Dates:

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| March | 14 and 28 |
| April | 11 and 25 |
| May | 9 and 23 |
| June | 13 and 27 |
| July | 11 |
| August | 8 |
| September | 13 and 27 |
| October | 11 and 25 |
| November | 3 and 22 |
| December | 13 and 27 |

The Caucus Meeting of May 4, 2017 will begin at 6:00 PM. The Caucus Meeting of November 28, 2017 will begin at 6:00 PM with the Regular Meeting of November 28, 2017 immediately following.

Raffles

All Clubs, Organizations, PTAs or Individuals that conduct 50/50's, tricky trays, basket raffles, bingo, casino nights, or any other type of raffle must register with the State of New Jersey Legalized Games of Chance Commission to obtain an Identification Number. **Only after obtaining this ID number can you apply for a raffle license.**

The State will not issue a raffle license unless you are a registered organization. To register: www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/lgecc

Failure to comply can result in your event being shut down.

Raffle license applications are available in the Village Clerk's office. Applications must be completed no less than 6 weeks prior to your raffle.

Property Tax Payments

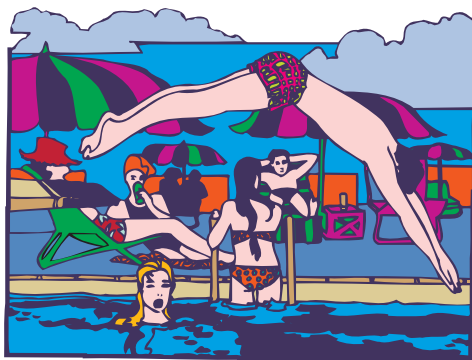
Property Tax Payments can now be made online using a debit/credit card, or your bank account information. There will be convenience fees charged for this service. The convenience fee is charged by the provider and not the Village. To make a payment, visit the Village website: www.ridgefieldpark.org and click on the link: "Make online property tax payments"

When making tax payments, by mail or in person, please submit your entire tax bill for receipting purposes. If making payments by mail, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you request a receipt.



New Website

Our new website was launched late August! We are incorporating an "Event Calendar" to post **ALL** Village events/fundraisers. To accomplish this, we need your help — Any Village Organization, Club, PTA, etc. that would like their event posted, please visit our website and click on "Contact Us." Select "Website" in the Subject Field. Type your information and send. You can also drop off the information to the Village Clerk's office. This will assist organizations with choosing dates that are **NOT** in conflict with other scheduled events.



JOHN B. DAVIS POOL

Although the thermometer may be dipping into freezing temperatures, it's time to start thinking about fun in the sun at the John B. Davis Municipal Pool of Ridgefield Park. This facility is located at the foot of Hobart Street and offers everything you would want in a community pool. In addition to our three pools, we offer swim lessons and a competitive swim team for the children and a lap lane for the adults—there is something for everyone. The pool is open weekends from May 27th through

June 23rd and daily from June 24th through September 4th. Membership is limited to Ridgefield Park, Little Ferry and Bogota residents, as well as employees and volunteers from these towns. In addition, members can sponsor Bergen County residents for full membership.

Anyone interested in information regarding membership fees or rules and regulations, please contact us at 201-641-4950 x100, or visit us at <http://www.ridgefieldpark.org/poolcommish.html>

Don't miss out on the summer fun! You can also visit the pool for one of our Open Houses.

Please check our website later in the spring to check for dates.

Save a life and learn to swim this summer at the

John B. Davis Municipal Pool

Located at Hobart Street and Overpeck Avenue in Ridgefield Park

OPEN HOUSE

Good for ONE FREE ADMISSION VISIT to

The John B. Davis Pool

Valid Sunday, June 4th or Saturday, June 10th ONLY!

12 noon-3pm

Proof of Residency is required for admission. Swim lessons and a five week swim team are available to pool members, Swim lessons are also available to non-members, as well as (14 year old and older) student memberships with parental permission, see pool manager for details,

Also this summer - extended hours June 26 - July 28 M-F till 8:30 pm!

Persons under 14 years old **MUST** be accompanied by an adult for admission on The Open House dates. Passes cannot be reproduced or duplicated.

Please go to www.ridgefieldpark.org for applications and further information.



JULY 4th

The Ridgefield Park Fourth of July Citizens Committee's Chairman John Tymon and committee members have begun the preparations for the 123rd Fourth of July Celebration.

Residents and visitors who have enjoyed one of the oldest continuous parade and celebration in the United States, already know how we celebrate the independence of our Country. New residents to the Village, will be amazed at the participation from schools, organizations, scouting, sports associations, and so much more from a Village of 12,000 residents.

JULY 4TH IN THE VILLAGE IS TRULY AN AMERICAN TRADITION!

We begin the day's celebration with the reading of the Declaration of Independence at the monument (Euclid/Mt Vernon St) at 7:30am, then the raising of the American Flag and end with the awards ceremony at Brewster Park after the Main Parade. Sights and sounds permeate the day with a cannon blast by the the members of the Gooney Bird Detachment (USMCL) from New Milford NJ, fire trucks, ambulances, marching bands, cheerleaders putting on a show, karate student demonstration, stilt walkers, American flags waving, cars from yesterdays and decorated floats. This patriotic spirit and tradition sets Ridgefield Park apart from so many other communities.

You know July 4th is here when passing motorists early in the morning and sometimes the evening before, see our residents setting out their chairs along the parade route.

After the parades, the residents, their families, neighbors and guests are usually found in someone's backyard enjoying a picnic, a swim, resting or planning next year's July 4th Celebration.

GRAND MARSHAL-Chairmen Mercedes and John Haines have posted on the Village website a form to be used to nominate a resident for Grand Marshal of the 123rd Celebration. The June issue of the Village Newsletter will have information about the Grand Marshal or Marshals that was selected. **Please look around your neighborhood, at your club or organization meeting, in your church, at your school, when you are shopping in town, and see who can be honored for their contributions to the Village today, yesterday, or many years ago.**

HOME AND BUSINESS DECORATING CONTEST- Chairman, Alice



Brown, requires a registration form for you to enter the contest. They will be available the beginning of June- Out-of-town judges, select the winning homes and business, just before July 4th. Everyone in Ridgefield Park knows the residents go all out to decorate for the holidays and especially for the 4th of July. **YOU HAVE 4 MONTHS TO PREPARE!**

PROGRAM COVER ART CONTEST- This year students in grades 1-6th attending Ridgefield Park Schools will be eligible to participate in this contest. The entry is to be original and drawn free handed, not to be computer generated. The 1st Place winner's entry will be on the front cover and the 2nd Place on the inside of back cover.

MAIN PARADE- Chairman Russell Papay has an entry form on the website which is needed for your organization to participate in the parade. The Grand Marshal, who is selected by the the Fourth of July Citizens's Committee at their May meeting, will lead the parade. Russell and his parade marshals do a great job in keeping the parade organized and moving along the parade route.

BABY AND YOUTH PARADE- Chairman Maureen Mc Elroy will have the required registration forms available online March 15th, also in June they will be available in the Municipal Building and in the Library, **THE FORM IS REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PARADE.** Eileen McElroy is the chairman coordinator with the Honor Students who were selected by their schools to recognize their academic achievement. Some students will ride in cars and on the trolley. This year's theme is "SOUND THE ALARM FOR THE RIDGEFIELD PARK FIRE DEPARTMENT: CELEBRATING THE 125 YEARS OF SERVICE & DEDICATION TO THE VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK

The parade consists of six divisions. One division is for participants from other towns, and one for children on their personally decorated bicycles. There are divisions for decorated everything, wagons, carriages, small and large floats.

The youngest child from RIDGEFIELD PARK, who is in the parade, will receive an award.

There is a place for everyone, Have fun with your children join the parade, or come and watch it.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO JOIN THE COMMITTEE TO COORDINATE THE REFRESHMENTS AFTER THE BABY AND YOUTH PARADE IF YOU ARE INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT CHAIRMAN JOHN TYMON AT lttjtt@aol.com

WE ARE ON FACEBOOK. SEARCH RIDGEFIELD PARK 4TH OF JULY COMMITTEE'S. IT IS UPDATED WITH INFORMATION AND PICTURES OF PAST JULY 4TH CELEBRATIONS.

THE RIDGEFIELD PARK FOURTH OF JULY CITIZEN'S COMMITTEE INVITES INTERESTED RESIDENTS TO JOIN OUR COMMITTEE TO BRING NEW IDEAS TO KEEP THIS TRADITION ALIVE. THE COMMITTEE IS: John Tymon, Dayle Roberts, Barbara McCoy, Karen Fosdick, Commissioner John Anlian, Russell Papay, Maureen McElroy, Eileen Mc Elroy, Dianne Barbieri, Donna Arciuolo, Jean Lennart, Lucille Waggoner, Sonny Yotka, Mercedes and John Haines, Marge Sellen, Kevin Coyle, Donald Jump, Lisa Infantino, Brian Schiess, Capt. Charlie Gneiding, Alice Brown, Howard Hendricks and Loretta Vorhees. We meet in the Municipal Building (234 Main Street) at 7:30PM **MEETING DATES FOR 2017: Jan 23, Feb, 27, March 27, April 24, May 22 (voting), June 5, and June 26.**



HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

In an effort to bring community awareness to the rich history of the Village of Ridgefield Park, the Historic Preservation Commission has created a calendar featuring old photographs with a brief history of each photo. This project was made possible through a grant from the Bergen County Division of Cultural & Historic Affairs. These calendars are available at no cost and can be picked up at the Municipal Building, library and local schools. Residents can also email the HPC at: RPHistoricPreservationComm@gmail.com

The mission of the Historic Preservation Commission is to review and oversee changes in the architectural appearance of buildings within the Village's Central Business District; and to assure the appearances of these structures, and the district as a whole, is preserved and enhanced. The Village's Central Business District is roughly along Main Street from Summit Street to the Post Office at Pine Street and along Mount Vernon Street from Herbert Street to near Bergen Avenue. Some side street sections, such as along Spruce Street are also within the district.

Several projects that have been completed can be seen at the corners of Park and Main Streets. Exteriors of these buildings have been redone in keeping with the guidelines set forth when the commission was established. This gateway corner is highly visible and helps to show the pride that our village business owners take in their properties. Work is also being done on the west side of Main Street between Cedar and Mt. Vernon Streets. This work will enhance the lower section of the business district and bring new life to the area. The HPC works year round to help businesses open as quickly as possible while adhering to the guidelines of the commission.

Business and property owners in the business district are required to meet with the HPC whenever ANY changes are made to the exterior of the property. The HPC asks that all business and property owners in the area take pride in the property they occupy. Spring is just around the corner. Please check with the HPC before doing any renovations or painting on your property. Applications can be obtained at the Building Department.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Yard Waste

Curbside collection of YARD WASTE will begin on March 20th. Yard waste includes grass clippings, twigs, and small branches. It is a violation of Village of Ridgefield Park ordinance to sweep, cast or throw anything into the gutter. Yard waste can be put into a trash can, brown bag or tied into 4 foot bundles.

Collection Regulation Reminder

- **Newspapers and Comingled recyclables can no longer be placed In PLASTIC BAGS!**
- All containers and recyclables must be placed at the curb NO EARLIER than 5 PM. the night before collection and empty containers removed from the curb by 8 PM on collection day.
- We do not collect building/renovation materials at the curb. If you have a building/renovation project that will generate a large amount of refuse, it is your responsibility to obtain a dumpster for disposal.
- A permit is necessary and can be obtained from the Building Department.
- Small amounts of building/renovation materials may be dropped off at the Recycling Center Mon. Sat., 9 A.M. - 12 Noon. Proof of residence is required.

NO CONTRACTOR OR COMMERCIAL VEHICLES PERMITTED.

Paper Shredding

- The DPW will once again hold a paper shredding day on Saturday, April, 8 2017 at 24 Industrial Avenue from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. This FREE event will provide residents and businesses the opportunity to have their sensitive documents safely shredded and recycled. If you have any questions, please call the DPW at 201-440-4860.

Trash Collection

- Trash is collected on the first Thursday or Friday of each month. Please call the DPW at 201-440-4860 if you have any questions. Trash is defined as everything NOT classified as household garbage.

Village of Ridgefield Park Code 117-13 — TRASH COLLECTION

Trash is Picked up as follows:

North of Mount Vernon Street - First Thursday of each month

Mount Vernon & South - First Friday of each month

NO PERSON, OTHER THAN AN AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, SHALL REMOVE ANY WHITE GOODS PLACED AT THE CURB

Storm Water

- Ridgefield Park has a combined sewer collection system which means that all storm water runoff and sewer waste feeds into the same system.
- It is unlawful to deposit anything into the curb catch basins. This includes oil, animal waste, bottle & cans or other trash.

Street Sweeping

- The mechanical street sweeper is scheduled to sweep in front of your home once each week, weather permitting. If you check the half-day parking ban signs in front of your home, you will know when the sweeper is scheduled. Every Wednesday, Teaneck Road is swept.

White Goods - Every Wednesday

- WHITE GOODS and tires must be called into the DPW before they are placed at the curb.
- Call 201-440-4860, give address, place items at the curb Tuesday night for Wednesday pick up.
- WHITE GOODS include: Tires, Computers, Electronics, TVs, and Air Conditioners & Appliances-just about anything that gets plugged into an electrical outlet.
- Failure to call will result in the item remaining at the curb and you may be subject to a fine.

Note: Refrigerators and freezers must have doors removed & unit should be laid flat to prevent injury.

NO PERSON, OTHER THAN AN AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, SHALL REMOVE ANY WHITE GOODS PLACED AT THE CURB.

Scavengers are taking revenue from the Village. This affects your tax dollars. If you see someone removing items from the curb on Tuesday night-call the Police Department @ 201-641-6400



The **RECYCLING CENTER** is located at 24 Industrial Avenue. Residents can drop off recyclable items from 9 AM to 12PM (NOON), Monday through Saturday. Only small amounts of trash will be accepted and proof of residency is required. **NO COMMERCIAL VEHICLES*NO CONTRACTOR WASTE PERMITTED*NO HOUSE CLEAN-OUTS**

2017 BCUA RECYCLING AND HAZARDOUS WASTE EVENTS

Bergen County sponsors collection events for county residents throughout the year. Proof of county residency is required. Recycling events are specifically for collection of tires, electronics and paper shredding. Hazardous waste collections accept paint, oil, propane cylinders, pesticides, kerosene and other chemicals. For more info call the BCUA Hotline 201-807-5825 or visit online at www.bcu.org

SHADE TREE NEWS

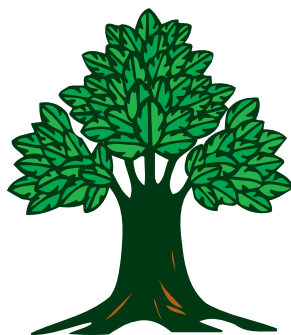
Imagine how bare and bleak our surroundings would be without the canopy of varying sized, shaped trees lining the Village streets. Not only do the trees visually improve our lives but they have positive impact on real estate value, physical health, and utility expenses. The NJ Tree Foundation details findings: Trees "... improve air quality by pulling ozone, particulates, and other pollutants out of the air. They provide shade and cooling in the summer, and slow down street flooding by soaking up storm water. Trees make the area livable and make people want to go outside."

Now ask yourself which is most appealing: A Large asphalt parking lot with no trees or a park with trees? A street lined with only utility poles or a street with the utility poles and trees intermeshed? Waiting on the bus on a hot summer day with no shade or under a shady tree? Most likely, the trees won in each choice!

The Shade Tree Commission strives to keep a healthy tree canopy for Village residents to enjoy. Tree sites with appropriate species for each have been selected with planting planned for spring. Cherry, maples, linden, oak, London plane, are among the species ordered.

Ground Zero Survival Tree

Looking for a day trip in the spring?



Visit the Ground Zero Survival Tree. A Callery pear tree which survived the September 11, 2001 attacks stands on the 9/11 Memorial Plaza next to the South Pool. It was discovered in the rubble at Ground Zero severely damaged with snapped roots and burned, broken branches with little chance of recovery. It was removed from the area and replanted in Van Cortland Park's rich soil where it was nursed back to health by the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation. Its dead limbs and tissue were clipped to allow it to heal while regular fertilizing and careful trimming over the years helped its natural shape return. It was returned to Ground Zero 2010; scars are still visible but it has grown over the nine years. It will be blooming early spring.

Arbor Day

Plan to attend the annual Arbor Day Celebration on Saturday April 29, 2017, at 9:30 am, at the Ridgefield Park Junior Senior High School. All schools have been invited to create presentations to celebrate trees and these will be on view at the Celebration.

Sidewalk Safety Program

The STC has the Sidewalk Safety Program for sidewalks that need lifting or replacing due to Village tree roots. Anyone interested in the program should obtain forms at Town Hall or on the Village website and return the completed forms to the STC to initiate inspection. 34 sidewalks were repaired and/or replaced by SWS in 2016. Currently, there is a short waiting list, but submit your application now because work is done according to the date the application is received.

All reimbursable work **MUST BE PREAPPROVED BY A STC MEMBER** and done by a **STC APPROVED CONTRACTOR**. Property owners will not be reimbursed for work done without preapproval by STC or by a contractor who is not STC approved. Owners are required to pay the contractor and then submit the invoice to the STC for reimbursement.

Reminders

According to Village Ordinance 3-79 no one can fasten any sign...garage sale, lost pet, etc...to any Village shade tree.

If there is a concern about a Village tree, contact the STC either, by letter addressed to 234 Main Street; phone 201-641-4950, extension 640; or by attending a meeting. Always provide your name, phone number, and concern along with the address of the tree site. You will be contacted after a STC meeting; the STC meets on the second and fourth Mondays at 7:30 pm in the third floor conference room.

Join STC and help to keep the Village lovely and green.

MARCH STORM WATER MANAGEMENT MEETING

On Thursday March 30th at 7:00pm, in the municipal building court room, there will be a meeting to discuss issues relating to storm water management in the village. Members of ANJEC (Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions) the the NJ DEP will be there to present, provide information and answer questions.

Storm water runoff is an important issue for Ridgefield Park. We are surrounded on 3 sides by water and have a combined storm water and sewer system in part of the village. There will be innovative ideas discussed such as rain gardens and pervious paving materials.

The meeting is open to all.



COMMUNITY GARDEN

Spring will be here before you know it and so will the opening of Ridgefield Park's first Community Garden! Plots of raised planting beds will be available to our residents; one per household, group or business. They will be free of charge, but you will be asked to maintain common garden areas. No experience is needed, and everyone is invited. This is an opportunity for those who are newcomers or not involved in other activities to participate. Enjoy gardening and growing new friendships! Please keep in mind that space is limited and plots will be on a first come first served basis.

For information or how to get an application, email RPCommunityGarden@gmail.com or call Janet at 201-362-4420. Applications will also be available at www.RidgefieldPark.org/Community-Garden-application.pdf or ask at the village clerk's office.

Watch the village news board located in front of the municipal building. Also check the village website at www.RidgefieldPark.org/Comunity-Garden.

THEY "JUST SAY IT WITH FLOWERS"

You may have noticed that the planters in the Main Street Business District and in the neighborhood business districts come alive with flowers each Spring and Summer. This is the result of a small group of residents who donate a few hours of their time to keeping Ridgefield Park beautiful. We will be doing the same thing this year. There will be two planting events in the Spring. The first planting event will be on April 8th (Saturday) to plant some early Spring plants which are cold tolerant; and then a second planting on May 20th (Saturday) to plant the flowers which will bloom during the Summer.

The initial place of meeting for the two events will be in front of the Municipal Building at 234 Main Street at 9am on April 8th and May 20th. GARDENING EXPERIENCE IS NOT REQUIRED.

If you would like to help with the Spring Planting, please leave your name, address, telephone number and email address at the Village Clerk's Office (641-4950) or you can contact JOHN ANLIAN at johnanlian@yahoo.com.

RIDGEFIELD PARK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT HELD ITS ANNUAL FUND DRIVE AND ELECTION

The Ridgefield Park Fire Department would like to thank the residents of the Village for their generosity with our annual fund drive. The donations will go a long way to helping each Fire Company with the maintenance of their Firehouses. As some residents might not know in the Village, each Fire Company owns their Firehouses and is responsible for the up keep and repairs of their buildings. The Fire Companies, also, must pay their P.S. E. &



G. bill, water bill, telephone bill, just like any homeowner, This is how your donations are used. Thank you again.

The Fire Department has been conducting mandatory testing and training that is required by the State. The Fire Department conducted mask fit testing on every member, blood-borne pathogens, air pack flow testing, hose testing, ladder testing, and a re-fresher class on our air packs. Moreover, each Fire Company also holds their own training each month for their respected members. The Ridgefield Park Volunteer Fire Department is a group of highly trained and dedicated men and women that proudly serve the Village.

In December, the Fire Department held its annual elections for Fire Chiefs and Administrative Officers for the year 2017.

The Chief Officers for Fire Department for 2017 are as follows: Chief of the Department James Van Der Tulip from Engine 3. Assistant Chief of the Department John Antola Jr. from Truck Company 2. Assistant Chief of the Department Rodney Wagner From Engine 1.

The Administrative Officers for 2017 are as follows: President Michael Alberque from Ladder Company 1, Vice President Michelle Lynn from Truck Company 2, Secretary James Schmitt from Truck Company 2, Treasurer Michael Alberque from Engine Company 1.

In December, each Fire Company, also, elects members of their companies to be the Captain and Lieutenants for their respective companies for 2017. The following are the locations of the firehouses in the Village and the names of the Fire Officers for that Firehouse.

ENGINE CO. 1: Located on MT. Vernon Street

Captain Williams Grave
Lieutenant Peter Arciuolo
Lieutenant Ken Corrigan

ENGINE CO. 2: Located on Euclid Avenue

Captain Mike Flynn
Lieutenant Timothy Rudersdorf
Lieutenant Anthony Galasso

ENGINE CO. 3: Located on

Hackensack Avenue

Captain Sean Byrnes
Lieutenant Donald Jump
Lieutenant Tom Mc Gee

ENGINE CO. 4: Located on Teaneck Road

Captain Ronald Wagner
Lieutenant Sylvain Mack
Lieutenant Richard De Pena

TRUCK CO. 1: Located on Euclid Avenue

Captain Brian O'Grady
Lieutenant John O'Grady Sr.
Lieutenant Brian Nevins

LADDER CO. 2: Located on Hazelton Street

Captain Sean Rodriguez
Lieutenant William Lynn
Lieutenant Sean Nuebauer

The beginning of the year has been busy for the Ridgefield Park Fire Department. The Fire Department responded to numerous calls for assistance. These calls were for a wide range of causes from a house fire to smell of gas to active fire alarms to car fires.

If you are between 18 years old and 41 years old and would like to join your neighbors in helping your Village, stop by any of the Firehouses or the Fire Chiefs' office at 50 Main Street on any Sunday morning.

If you are between 16 years old and 18 years old, we can use you too. The Fire Department has a Junior Fire Department that could use your help. Stop by any of the Firehouses or the Fire Chiefs' office at 50 Main Street on any Sunday morning.

And for those of you that are tech savvy, you can E-mail the Fire Chief at RIDGEFIELDPARKFIRECHIEF@yahoo.com.

THE RIDGEFIELD PARK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT IS CELEBRATING ITS 125 TH ANNIVERSARY

A long time ago, in December of 1891, while the Village was still getting its identity, there was a house fire on Preston Street. The Village residents banded together to try to put the fire out but to no avail, the fire spread to 2 more houses. All 3 houses were lost to the fire.

After this disastrous fire, 'a group of concerned residents gathered at a general store in the Village. The group of residents' opinion was unanimous to start a fire company.



This was to be the start of Hose Company Number 1, the forerunner of the Ridgefield Park Volunteer Fire Department,

Hose Company Number 1 was officially recognized and incorporated on February 10, 1892.

A few days later, residents in the southern part of the Village met and they formed Friendship Hook and Ladder Company Number 1. Friendship Hook and Ladder Company 1 was officially recognized and incorporated on April 5, 1892.

So, with the formation of these 2 Fire Companies began the birth of the Ridgefield Park Fire Department, **125 years ago, this**

year. WOW!!!!!! What a milestone for our Department!!!!!! A Department that is built in deep tradition and dedication to the residents of the Village.

Today, the Ridgefield Park Fire Department consists of 6 fire companies located around the Village. The Department has 4 Engine companies (these companies carry the hoses and water) and 2 Truck or Ladder Companies (these companies carry the ladders). The Department has a modern fleet of apparatus and modern day and specialized equipment to handle the different emergencies in the Village.

The Ridgefield Park Volunteer Fire Department is a group of highly trained and dedicated men and women that proudly serve the Village.

The Department, as part of our anniversary, will be hosting the convention for the N.J. & N.Y. Volunteer Firemen's Association in June. The Department has plans for other activities for this year and as they become finalized, we will let the residents know about them.

Please come and join the Fire Department in celebrating its 125 years of service and dedication to the Village and its residents.

RIDGEFIELD PARK HAS NEW WEBSITE!

One of the new features of the new village website is Village Events Calendar which will allow village organizations to have their events added. This should be useful in planning fundraisers, events and meetings, so that dates do not overlap or conflict with other groups. The goal is for this tool to help everyone schedule meetings, hold successful events and fundraisers in a more efficient manner. Please visit: www.ridgefieldpark.org



PLEASE NOTE:



All trash containers must be 32 gallons or less!

- The contents must be lifted by one person.
- **DO NOT purchase the extra-large trash containers that are made for machinery to lift.** These include wheeled containers with a bar instead of handles and flip back tops. They cannot be emptied by one person safely.
- **Bags cannot weigh more than 30 lbs.**
- Do NOT fill your garbage can with rocks or dirt. Do not allow it to fill with water.
- **Yard waste limit is 35 pounds per container.**

**Broken receptacles and those that do not meet regulations
may be classified as trash and collected for disposal**

If you have questions, please call the DPW @ 201-440-8600

♻️ SORT IT OUT

What you need to know about recycling and garbage collection



mixed
recyclables

Aerosol Cans

- Empty & rinse

Plastic Containers

- #1, #2 or #5 includes beverage, cleaning, and laundry containers

Aluminum Cans & Foil

- Empty & rinse/Discard food waste

Tin & Steel Cans

- Empty & rinse

Glass Bottle & Jars

- Empty & rinse



paper
recyclables

Cardboard

- Flatten boxes –place at curb

Newspapers- NO PLASTIC BAGS!

- Place in a brown paper bag, loosely in a container or tied with string.

Magazines -NO PLASTIC BAGS!

- Place in a brown paper bag, loosely in a container or tied with string.

Books

- Remove covers, tie in bundles.



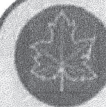
trash
pick-up

Trash is picked up once a month

- North of Mt Vernon-1st Thursday
- Mt. Vernon & South 1st Friday

Trash includes bags of clothing, furniture, mattresses and toys

- NO HAZARDOUS waste materials will be picked up at the curb.
- Appliances, computers & tires will not be picked up on trash day.



leaves
yard waste

Yard waste is picked up once a week

- Mt. Vernon & South-Mondays
- North of Mt Vernon-Tuesdays
- Place in cans or paper bags
- NO PLASTIC BAGS!

Leaves may be raked into the street during October, November & December.

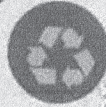
- Place on the sweeper side of the street on the appropriate day



garbage

General household garbage

- Household garbage is picked up at the curb twice a week.
- Place garbage cans at the curb after 5pm the night before scheduled collection.
- Garbage cans must be removed the evening of collection.
- Trash cans should be 32 gallons or less and no more than 50 lbs.



drop off
recyclable center

OPEN → Monday-Saturday 9 am-1pm

Drop off appliances, batteries, bottles & cans, cardboard, cooking oil, electronics, furniture, lightbulbs, magazines, motor oil, newspapers, paint cans, EMPTY propane tanks, styrofoam, and yard waste.

- **Proof of residency required**
- NO Commercial or Rental vehicles permitted



schedule
white goods

"White Goods" are picked up at the curb on Wednesday mornings.

- "White Goods" consist of air conditioners, BBQs, computers, dishwashers, dryers, fans, FAX machines, freezers, hot water heaters metal items, monitors, printers, refrigerators, stoves, tires, TVs and washing machines.
- Call 201-440-4860 by Tuesday to schedule a pick-up



Unsure How to Dispose of a Particular Item?

Call the DPW @ 201-440-4860