

HOLMDEL TOWNSHIP

Fall ~ 2014 Newsletter

www.holmdeltownship-nj.com

Message from the Mayor and Township Committee

Holmdel Municipal Offices
4 Crawfords Corner Rd.
Holmdel, NJ 07733
732.946.2820

Normal Business Hours:
9:00am ~ 4:30pm
Monday ~ Friday

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

2014 Regular Meetings

Town Hall~7:30 pm

October 7, 21
November 18
December 16

Dates are subject to change;

Township

Holiday Closings

Monday ~ Oct. 13
Tuesday ~ Nov. 11
Thursday ~ Nov. 27
Friday ~ Nov. 28
Thursday ~ Dec. 25
Friday ~ Dec. 26

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Dear Holmdel Resident:

This year the Township made significant progress in ensuring Holmdel will remain an extraordinary place to live, work and play. The Township Committee has worked extremely diligently over the past several years to facilitate the re-use of the Lucent property. As you know, it has been empty for too many years, and has been a drain on our tax base.

Applying sensible redevelopment principles, our community will see a revitalization of the property that will provide economic stability to all of us for decades to come, and that will be a positive force in the quality of life in our Township.



Patrick Impreveduto
Mayor

We entered into an Agreement with the redeveloper of the Lucent Site that:

- 1) allows the revitalization to occur;
- 2) will stabilize Holmdel's tax base for the foreseeable future; and
- 3) will not erode the rural character and charm of Holmdel.

As you may know, the Redevelopment of the property involves the reuse of the existing main building, and consists of approximately 350,000 square feet of general office space, 50,000 square feet of retail space, 150,000 square feet of lower podium rental component space, and 280,000 square feet of medical/health care oriented space.

- ◆ The Agreement will allow Holmdel to count on a stream of income that will be constant and predictable for thirty (30) years. It will increase with the success of the redevelopment, and the Township will not be subject to tax appeals in difficult economic times. This will enhance and stabilize the tax base of Holmdel. Property taxes will decrease as a result of this Agreement
- ◆ Without the Agreement, the Township's share of conventional taxes would be approximately thirty two million dollars (\$32,000,000). With the Agreement, Holmdel will retain one hundred three million dollars (\$103,000,000). Thus, over the course of the Agreement, it is projected that the net benefit to Holmdel is over seventy million dollars (\$70,000,000).
- ◆ The revitalization of the site is expected to have virtually no impact on student population and a positive impact on school budget.
- ◆ In addition to other benefits, we will enjoy a savings in the amount of taxes that leave the municipality and go to the County. Currently, approximately sixteen percent (16%) of the local tax levy is paid to the County, which is reduced to five percent (5%) under the Agreement. This results in a net benefit of millions of dollars to Holmdel.

As you can see, the economic and other benefits to Holmdel are enormous. Often in government we are compelled to alert you to bad financial news, therefore we are so pleased to share the news of this great result achieved for our entire community.

As always, the Township Committee and Administration are available to answer any of your concerns and questions. The best way to reach us is to contact the Township Clerk at mdolougherty@holmdeltownship-nj.com or call 732-946-2820 extension 1211.

We hope you all enjoyed your summer, and have a wonderful fall season!

ON BEHALF OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

TOWNSHIP NEWS

HOME IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Does Your Home Need Repairs? Funding is available through the Holmdel Home Improvement Program. The purpose of the program is to financially assist low and moderate income households with substantial repairs or replacement of major system such as roofing, heating, electric, plumbing, foundation and/or windows.

Assistance is provided in the form a ten-year, forgivable loan up to \$22,000, as needed. (*No monthly payments, No Interest charged, No cost to apply and it does not affect your credit score*).

CGP&H, a consulting firm specializing in affordable housing programs, administers the program for the Township. CGP&H's professional inspectors work with program participants to identify needed repairs and to monitor construction completion.

The maximum allowable income ranges from \$51,864 for a one-person household to \$97,801 for an eight-person household. In other words, to participate in the program, your household income must be below the program income limits for your applicable household size. Your financial information is kept confidential.

Funds are provided on a first-come first-served basis until all funds are expended. The Township encourages homeowners to go to www.hip.cgph.net to get more program information and to quickly and easily submit a pre-application. You will then be placed in the applicant pool and receive an application package. For additional questions, call (609) 664-2783, or e-mail carol@cgph.net.

Local general contractors interested in the program are encouraged to get an application for construction opportunities at www.hip.cgph.net.

COUNTY PAPER SHREDDING ~ FALL 2014

The County is hosting **free** events that are open to all Monmouth County residents:

October 18~ Freehold Twp., Town Hall, 1 Municipal Plaza

November 15~ Brielle, Borough Hall, 601 Union Lane

December 6~ Millstone Twp, 4 Baird Rd.

All events are 9:00am—1:00pm unless the truck fills first. For more information, please call the County at 732-683-8686 ext 6721 or Holmdel's Recycling at 732-946-2820 ext 1212.

"DO NOT SOLICIT LIST"

For any person or entity who owns or rents property within the Township may register such property on a "Do Not Solicit" list. Names are not required, just addresses. For more information, please contact the Township Clerk's Office at 732-946-2820 extension 1213 or [email prizzo@holmdeltownship-nj.com](mailto:prizzo@holmdeltownship-nj.com).

In a few weeks the Township's **new website** will be up and running. The site is being redesigned with a fresh, new, user-friendly interface and will be updated with information about our latest projects and ways to access services. Additionally, our new site will provide support and information to answer all of your most common questions. Our web-site address is www.holmdeltownship-nj.com.

INCLEMENT WEATHER.....

With the winter season approaching, so may inclement weather. Holmdel Townships service to the public is paramount. We are committed to the safety of our residents and staff, and maintain open communications when weather conditions arise.

We would like to remind you that during severe weather conditions some of the services of the Township may be affected. In the event that schedules are altered, please be assured that every effort is made to provide updated information on our website.

FREE RABIES CLINIC ~ FALL 2014

Thursday 161 Broad St.	Oct. 16, 2014 6pm - 8 pm	Matawan Hook & Ladder
Wednesday 39 Leocadia Ct.	Oct. 22, 2014 6 pm - 8:30 pm	Hazlet Depart of Public Works
Saturday 33 North Rochdale Ave.	Oct. 25, 2014 10:00am - 11:00 am	Roosevelt Public Works Bldg.
Saturday 120 Francis St.	Nov. 1, 2014 10:00am—12:00	Keyport Dept. of Public Works
Wednesday 147 Lenox Rd.	Nov. 5, 2014 6:30 pm-8:30 pm	Aberdeen Public Works Bldg.
Thursday Main Street	Nov. 6, 2014 5:30 pm-6:30pm	Farmingdale Firehouse
Saturday 14 Crawfords Corner Rd	Nov. 8, 2014 8:30 am - 10:00 am	Holmdel Public Works Bldg.
Saturday 1400 Florence Ave.	Nov. 8, 2014 10:00 am-12:00	Union Beach Public Works

Please have dogs on a leash and cats 1 to a carrier. Animal must be supervised by an adult

TOWNSHIP NEWS

Notice to all taxpayers regarding your 2015 assessment

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Due to the new guidelines of the Assessment Demonstration Program (ADP), the municipality will be reassessing properties annually to reflect the full market value. Below is a list of frequently asked questions that will provide for better explanation:

1. Why are we going through a reassessment annually?

It is mandated by Monmouth County consistent with New Jersey State Law under the Assessment Demonstration Program (ADP). It is appropriate to have properties assessed at current market value. Assessments in Holmdel Township currently reflect 95% of the true market value. In the reassessment, the values will be brought up to 100% based on recent market activity.

2. Will the reassessment affect the taxes on my home?

Many homeowners think that a reassessment is a way to raise property taxes. This is not the case. The amount you pay in real estate tax is determined by municipal, county and school budgets. If these budgets go up from one year to the next, property taxes will rise whether or not the municipality conducts a reassessment. Assuming budgets were to remain static year to year; if the total assessments of the municipality increase, the tax rate would decrease.

3. Will my property be inspected?

Consistent with the guidelines of the ADP, the municipality will be required to have all properties reinspected over a five year period to ensure the Assessor's office has the most up to date data for the annual reassessments. Although only a portion of the properties will be *reinspected* each year, the entire municipality will be *reassessed* annually.

4. When will my inspection be done?

Holmdel Township has contracted with Realty Data Systems (RDS) to conduct the inspections over the 5 year period. Sometime in the weeks prior to your inspection, a letter will be mailed to you with further details.

5. How & when will I be notified of my new assessment; and what if I don't agree with the determination of value?

Please be on the lookout for the green postcard with your 2015 assessment which will be mailed to you at the end of November 2014. If you believe the 2015 assessed value does not reflect the true market value of your property, you should file an appeal with the Monmouth County Tax Board before January 15th, 2015. The appeal site can be located here- <https://secure.njappealonline.com>

If you choose to file an appeal on your 2015 assessment, you will be required to provide evidence to demonstrate your position. "Evidence" is typically recent sales of comparable properties. You can research sales data at the Monmouth County Open Public Records Site- <http://oprs.co.monmouth.nj.us/Oprs> Select "Deed/Sr1a List" under step 1 then you can modify your search according to the other fields.

Please note that the site will not be open until the 2015 assessment postcards are sent out. If you miss the January 15th deadline, you will not be able to file an appeal at the County until the following year.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the Assessor's office at 732-946-2820 ext. 1432.



Holmdel Township POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Holmdel Police Department has certified two officers to conduct **Child Safety Seat Inspections**. These inspections will be done by appointment only. In order to have a car seat inspected at the Holmdel Police Department, please contact our Traffic Safety Supervisor, Sergeant Robert Philhower at (732) 946-9690 ext. 1731 to set up an appointment. If possible, please bring your car seat and vehicle owners manuals to your appointment.

Motor vehicle crashes are the number one cause of death of children over the age of six months in the United States. The proper use of child car seats is one of the simplest and most effective methods available for protecting the lives of our young children in the event of a motor vehicle crash.

However, 3 out of every 4 children in child safety seats are not properly secured, or even worse, not restrained at all. Only the correct use of child car seats will offer the protection your child needs. Please be aware of the facts listed on the Child Safety pages regarding the proper use of child car seats and more information on the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety's website at www.njsaferoads.com.

There are many different types of child car seats on the market today. Each one must meet federal standards and all provide good protection for your child when used correctly. The "right" seat for you is largely a matter of personal choice. Choose a seat that fits your child and your car, read the instructions carefully, and use the seat correctly on every trip.

Just as there are several types of Child Safety Seats, there are also several methods for securing these seats to a vehicle. Seat belt systems, lap belts or lap and shoulder belts are designed to be used for this purpose.

LATCH, which is an acronym for Lower Anchors and Tethers for Children, was designed to make installing child safety seats in vehicles easier. Nearly every car seat, and most vehicles manufactured since September 1, 2002 are required to have the LATCH system.

Note to Expectant Parents: Plan to have your child safety seat (infant seat) installed in your vehicle *at least three weeks* before the due date of your baby. By scheduling an appointment for *at least three weeks* prior to the due date, you'll make sure that you're ready for the big day. Most babies are delivered within the month surrounding the due date, so by including your child seat education three weeks before, the odds of being fully prepared on the birth day are enhanced.

Correct use is easy if you follow four steps:

- ◆ **Read the manufacturer's instructions for your car seat.**
- ◆ **Face the child safety seat in the proper direction.**
 - Infant seats always face backwards. Baby rides in a semi-reclining position facing the rear of the car.
 - Convertible seats face backwards in a semi-reclining position for infants under 20 pounds and under 1 year of age, and forward in an upright position for toddlers.
- ◆ **Secure the child snugly in the car seat.**
 - Always buckle the seat's harness system securely to hold your child safely in the seat. Allow no more than one finger-width of slack between your child's collarbone and the harness strap.
- ◆ **Secure the child car seat with a seat belt.**
 - Anchoring the seat properly with a seat belt is critical. A seat that is not buckled securely to the car can tip over, slide sideways or, in a crash, be ejected from the car.
 - Check your instruction manual to find out how to route the seat belt properly and fasten it tightly.

The Police Department Offers a Free Program for all Seniors Living within the Township

If you live alone, and have a medical condition, we can provide you with a free lock box which we install on your home for use in emergency situations.

The boxes are donated by Lowe's Home Improvement, and are made available to Holmdel Seniors, free of charge, through the Holmdel Township Police Crime Prevention Unit who also installs the box for free.

Many senior residents who live alone have a medical alert bracelet and alarm systems that summon assistance. However, when police and medical personnel arrive, the residence is often locked from the inside. When this happens, Police have no choice but to force entry into the home to assist the victim, which can cause extensive damage.

With the lockbox, responding police officers are able to quickly gain access with a key, avoiding the need to damage a door or window. The lockbox has a digital combination that is only known to law enforcement personnel.

Any resident who may meet the criteria for a lockbox is asked to contact the Holmdel Police Crime Prevention Unit at 732-946-4400.



The objective of Toys for Tots are to help less fortunate children throughout the United States experience the joy of Christmas; to play an active role in the development of one our nation's most valuable resources—our children; to unite all members of local communities in a common cause each year during the annual toy collection and distribution campaign; and to contribute to better communities in the future.

Each year the Holmdel Police Department participates in this program. Those interested can drop off new, unwrapped toys in the collection boxes positioned in the lobby at Town Hall any time after Thanksgiving.

PARKS AND RECREATION

For information on any of the Parks & Recreation programs or events please, call 732-946-2820 ext. 1226

TOWNSHIP FACILITY RESERVATIONS



Veterans Day Ceremony

Saturday, November 1, 2014~10:30am

(rain date; Sunday, November 2)

Veterans Memorial Park

It is our privilege to say "thank you" to all of America's veterans by showing our appreciation for their service and honoring them for their sacrifices. On November 1st the Holmdel Veterans and the Recreation Office will be hosting our annual Veterans Day Ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park (100 Telegraph Hill Road). Various Township groups and organizations will present wreaths in honor of the veterans. Refreshments will be served. Everyone is welcomed to attend.

Ho! Ho! Ho! Santa wants to hear from all the good boys and girls living in Holmdel. "Elf Michele" will be setting up the special "North Pole Mailbox" on November 10th in front of Town Hall. Write out your wish list, tell Santa about your family and friends or draw a picture. **Be sure to include your FULL name and address.**



CHRISTMAS TREE & MENORAH LIGHTING

Thursday, December 4, 2014~6:00PM



Celebrate the season at the annual Christmas Tree and Menorah Lighting. The event will be held at Town Hall, 4 Crawfords Corner Road.

Enjoy an evening out with family, friends and neighbors. *A SURPRISE* visitor will be there! Come to Town Hall and help with the countdown for the lights to be turned on.



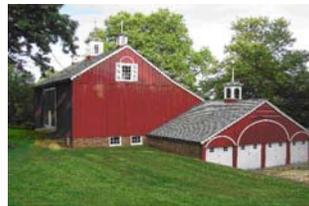
Senior/Community Center:



is available for group use/party rentals. The Center can accommodate a maximum of 150 people. Minimum rental is 2 hours, maximum 5 hours. Fee for residents is \$125 per hour, non-residents is \$250 per hour, plus a refundable security deposit of \$250.

Bayonet Farm Usage:

The natural beauty of Bayonet Farm provides a spectacular backdrop for your special event. Two charming barns and designated grounds area are available for your wedding, reunion or party celebration. It is located at 41 Middletown Road. Refundable security deposit is \$250, plus applicable fees.



Picnic Pavilions at Cross Farm Park &

Veteran's Memorial Park: Reservations are being accepted for their Picnic Pavilions. They can be reserved between May 1 and September 30, 2014. **Cross Farm Park** is located off of Route 520 and Londbridge Rd., accomodates a maximum of 200 persons, fee for resident is \$200/day and non-resident is \$400/day. In conjunction with Cross Farm Pavilion rental, the concession/kitchen is available at an additional fee of \$100/day for resident and \$200/day for non-resident. **Veteran's Memorial Park**, located off of Telegraph Hill Rd, accommodates a maximum of 100 persons, resident fee is \$150/day and non-resident is \$300/day. A ball field, in conjunction with either facility, if available is \$50/day for resident and \$100/day for non-resident. Refundable security deposit is \$150, plus applicable fees.



FALL CALENDAR OF PROGRAMS & EVENTS

SEPTEMBER thru DECEMBER

• Senior Workout	Mon., Wed., Fri am	50+
• Ballroom & Latin Dancing	Mon., pm	Adults
• Yoga	Mon., pm	Adults
• Men's Basketball	Tues., Thurs., pm	Adults
• Karate	Wed., Fri., pm	7-70
• Kickboxing	Thurs., PM, Sat. AM	Adults
• Cooking Class	Monthly	50+

Programs are subject to change (based on participation)

Credit Cards are now accepted as form of payment for all programs

HOLMDEL ALLIANCE

Prevent Alcoholism & Drug Abuse

The Holmdel Alliance to Prevent Alcoholism and Drug Abuse will sponsor our annual Red Ribbon Campaign from October 23-31, 2014. This offers all our school children the opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to a drug-free lifestyle. All school students in the Township of Holmdel will demonstrate their commitment to be drug-free by participating in various red ribbon education activities at their school during this week long campaign.

RED RIBBON WEEK is dedicated to Enrique Camarena, a drug enforcement agent who was killed by drug traffickers in Mexico in 1985. In response to his death, parents across the country began wearing Red Ribbons to symbolize their commitment to being healthy and drug-free. In 1988, the first National Red Ribbon Week was established to be held annually in October. The President and First Lady are the chairpersons. Each year the Red Ribbon Campaign has grown and now impacts millions of Americans like no other drug prevention movement in history.

Alliance Promotes The Great American Smokeout

To help raise awareness of the dangers of tobacco use, especially for children, the Holmdel Alliance will be sponsoring various activities in the high school and middle school on November 20th in recognition of the **Great American Smokeout**.

The Great American Smokeout is an annual event that is held on the third Thursday in November each year. This year the event date is November 20. The Great American Smokeout is held annually to encourage Americans (of whom 45.8 million smoke) to quit tobacco smoking. The Great American Smokeout has been held for more than 30 years and helps to spotlight the dangers of tobacco use and the challenges of quitting.

On this day smokers are challenged to not smoke a cigarette for 24 hours with the hope that their decision to quit for 24 hours will turn into a decision to stop smoking forever.

Take the opportunity on November 20 to stop smoking and commit to making it the first day of a long-term plan to quit for good. Get help to quit. Without help, only 1 in 20 smokers who try to quit are able to do so. There are many things you can do to greatly increase your success such as medications, nicotine gum or patch and counseling.

Quitting is hard ~ Some Helpful Websites:

www.smokefree.gov; www.nj.quitnet.com; www.cancer.org

For local information and resources, visit www.holmdeltownship-nj.com (see Holmdel Alliance link). The Alliance meets the 2nd Tuesday every other month in the Holmdel High School library at 1:00 pm. Everyone is encouraged to attend and join the Alliance. For more information or questions call the Holmdel Alliance at 732-946-2820 ext 1212 or email bhiliard51@comcast.net.

WasteWise Bulletin

- ◆ While throwing that old softball bat or ice hockey stick in the trash may be the quickest way to clean out one's house or garage, there are many organizations that are eagerly looking for **donations of new or used sporting equipment**. These non-profit organizations then distribute the donated sporting equipment to needy communities in the United States, as well as to developing countries in need of assistance. Think of donation, not disposal. There are children and adults all around the world that would treasure these surplus items and put them to good use. **Baseball Equipment Donations:** www.pitchinforbaseball.org/html/faq.html; **Ice Hockey Equipment Donations:** www.restorehockey.org/page/show/266503-recycle-the-game; **Soccer Equipment Donations:** www.ussoccerfoundation.org/our-programs/passback; **Softball Equipment Donation:** www.issoftall.org/english/development/equipmentdonation.asp.
- ◆ **CarpetCycle:** NJ's only carpet recycling facility, has been able to keep over 200 million pounds of carpeting out of landfills and has become the Northeast's largest recycling operation. Once processed through CarpetCycle's separation system, carpet materials can be given "second life" as new carpet yarns for clothing and textiles, auto parts and even racetracks. CarpetCycle recycles both residential and commercial carpeting, including carpet tiles, as well as ceiling tiles. For further information, visit www.carpetrecycle.com.
- ◆ **Business Junk Mail:** The National Waste Prevention Coalition has a Business Junk Mail Complaint Bureau. If the bureau receives several complaints about a problem mailer, it will contact the mailer. Access the National Waste Prevention Coalition's website at <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/swd/nwpc/index.htm>. The site includes a downloadable model postcard that can be sent to mailers to get off their lists.
- ◆ **Steps for Proper Disposal of Prescription Drugs:**
 - 1) Mark out personal information on prescription bottles;
 - 2) Mix liquid medicine with undesirable substances like coffee grounds, cat litter or dirt. Dilute pills with water, then add coffee grounds, cat litter or dirt;
 - 3) Place medicine in an opaque container, like a yogurt container, and secure lid; or wrap in dark colored plastic bag;
 - 4) Hide the container in the trash. Do NOT recycle;
 - 5) Check with our local Police Dept. The U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency schedules (2) collection per year;
 - 6) A secure prescription drug drop off box is available at the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office at 50 E. Main St., Freehold 732-577-6704. Hours: 8:30am-4:30pm.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

The Township of Holmdel implemented its Stormwater Management Plan as mandated by the State of New Jersey DEP. The plan requires that the Township make every effort to improve the water quality of our streams, lakes and oceans. Stormwater management is essential to protecting both our environmental and economic resources. The Township must implement control measures, including educating the public through a variety of outreach efforts; soliciting participation and involvement of the public; detect and eliminate illicit discharges; require control of construction site runoff; require maintenance and operation of post construction stormwater management facilities; and provide pollution prevention at existing municipal facilities using good housekeeping practices. Stormwater management is a broad function that falls within the Department of Public Works.

Your everyday activities can affect water quality. Help reduce the amount of pollution that flows into our waterways by following the tips below:

- ▶ Pick up after your pet.
- ▶ Do not feed wildlife such as geese, pigeons, ducks and deer. Feeding results in more pollution from their wastes.
- ▶ Pick up trash and litter on your property and put it in the trash. Always use a public trash can for trash in public areas. Recycle any reusable materials, especially cans, bottles and paper. NEVER throw litter and debris directly into storm drains. Such debris can wash into waterways and onto beaches and clogged drains can cause street flooding and traffic congestion.
- ▶ Always put your cigarette butts in ashtrays or solid garbage cans, not on the streets. Remember, our parks, playgrounds and beaches are not ashtrays. When an ashtray or garbage can are not available, store extinguished butts in your cigarette pack until you find a proper receptacle.
- ▶ Make sure to properly dispose of leftover household chemicals, paints and automotive fluids. These leftover chemicals should never be thrown away. Take them to a household hazardous waste collection center where they can be recycled.
- ▶ Sweep up dirt and debris and discard on your lawn or in the trash. Hosing off pavement washed pollutants into storm drains, which may lead to

local creeks, bays and the ocean.

- ▶ Rather than wash your car in your driveway, on the street or in your yard, take to a local car wash. This not only conserves water but also eliminates the running off of harmful pollutants.
- ▶ Conserve water. Do not over water your lawn. Adjust sprinklers if water runs into the gutter. Water during cooler times of the day.
- ▶ Identify pests before spraying pesticides. Ask a specialist at your garden center for advice on how to treat for that specific pest. Use integrated pest management (IPM) methods to minimize chemical use in your garden.
- ▶ Reduce the amount of grass by planting ground cover. This reduces the need for fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides.
- ▶ Use natural pesticides such as milky spore and nematodes wherever possible. If you must use chemical pesticides, use them sparingly and in targeted areas.
- ▶ Use a mulching mower instead of bagging grass clippings to reduce lawn wastes and to reduce the need for fertilizer. Do not put loose leaves or grass clippings in the street. Use them in a compost pile as a source for enriched soil.
- ▶ If you must use herbicides, apply them directly to the weeds rather than broadcasting if possible. A healthy lawn will reduce weed growth.
- ▶ Use mulch flowerbeds and gardens to prevent weeds from growing and to help absorb water.
- ▶ Use drought-resistant native plants in gardens and beds. These plants require less fertilizer and less water, thereby reducing the amount of potential polluted runoff.

The Township will strive to build and expand its Stormwater Management Plan through the years. In the interim we need your help in order to make our efforts successful. Please browse the NJ Clean Water Website at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/cleanwater/nj> or by typing in Stormwater Management on your web browser. Community volunteers are always welcome to conduct stream walks, roadside debris collections, reporting of suspected contaminated waters and other Stormwater Management efforts.

SHADE TREE COMMITTEE

We all remember with pleasure the sight of the arch of white flowers in April from the old pear trees on South Holland Road before they were trimmed. The view may have been lovely, but it was also hazardous to people, cars, utilities and the trees themselves.

There are many other locations in town today that have trees with branches that overhang the streets. Some of the trees in question are on township property, but most are more than 10 feet from the curb and thus on private property. The problem branches hang lower to the street than 14-16 feet. What this means is that the branches are far more likely to break and fall either from storm damage or being caught by the top of tall trucks. The current Township concern is that the branches may catch the top of our municipal vehicles – our trucks used for branch pickups, our new large dump trucks used for construction projects and our fire department trucks. Costs for repairs to these vehicles come out of our pockets. This is money that

could much better be used for other purposes. In addition, if tall commercial vehicles bring down branches, it will fall to the Road Department to clean up the residue.

The town will make arrangements to remove some of the most problematic branches, but the Shade Tree Committee is requesting that homeowners take a look at their trees by the curb. If the branches do overhang the street lower than 14-16 feet, please arrange to have them removed. The town's Road Department will do some of the trimming work, but it needs cooperation and help from residents, as it does not have the equipment, training or manpower to do serious tree work. Such projects are contracted out to appropriate parties.

Bear in mind that in the case of snow or ice storms these branches will hang much lower and may even bring down utility lines. JCP&L does trim trees with their electric service interest in mind. They do not trim lower branches that bring telephone or cable service to our homes.

The Green Team would like to remind residents that they can save money on fuel, keep the air clean and reduce global warming when they stop idling their cars. **Did you know???**

- ◆ A state law prohibits idling for more than 3 minutes. There is a \$100 fine for unlawful idling of passenger cars.
- ◆ An idling vehicle emits more pollution than one traveling at 30 mph. Idling for 15 minutes emits almost 1 lb. of carbon dioxide.
- ◆ Automobile engines do not operate efficiently when they idle. There is a maximum 10 second break-even rule. If you are idling longer than 10 seconds, both you and the engine are better off if the engine is turned off and restarted.
- ◆ Modern engines do not need more than a few seconds of idling time before they can be driven safely. The best way to warm up a car is to drive it, since that warms up the catalytic converter and other mechanical parts of the car, in addition to the engine.
- ◆ Frequently restarting your engine does negligible damage to the engine and does not drain modern batteries excessively. Idling an engine forces it to operate in a very inefficient and gasoline-rich mode that can, over time, degrade the engine's performance and reduce mileage.

For the health of your lungs, your car and Mother Earth, consider switching off your engine when picking up your kids, using the ATM, waiting in line for take-out, a crossing train, or while talking to friends or using the cell phone.

The Green Team welcomes new members. If you would like to join, contact Betsy Wilson at 732-671-7807 or BetsyWilson07733@gmail.com.

HOLMDEL'S 2014 TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE



Pictured left to right; Committeeman Greg Buontempo, Deputy Mayor Eric Hinds, Mayor Patrick Improveduto, Committeeman Joseph Ponisi, Committeeman Thomas Critelli

STAFF DIRECTORY

The staff of Holmdel Township is here to assist the public whenever possible. Please use the following list of extensions when dialing 732-946-2820 to contact a municipal staff member or department.

1206	Administration
1304, 1305	Building Inspections/Construction
1604	Court Clerk
1316	Code Enforcement
1953	Dept. of Public Works
1341	Environmental Commission
1402	Finance Department
1301	Fire Prevention
1212	Mayor/Township Committee
1225	Parks & Recreation
1321	Planning Board
1212	Recycling
1212	Registrar
1411	Sewer
1321	Shade Tree Committee
1432	Tax Assessor
1423	Tax Collector
1211	Township Clerk
1323	Zoning Board
1315	Zoning Officer

OTHER NUMBERS:

County Board of Health 732-431-7456
 Holmdel Board of Education 732-946-1800
 Holmdel Library 732- 946-4118
 Holmdel Post Office 732-946-4710
 Police Department (non-emergency) 732-946-9690
 HYAA: 732-946-8016

Holmdel Library Hours:

Mondays: 1:00pm–9:00pm
 Tuesdays: 9:00am–5:00pm
 Wednesdays: 1:00pm–9:00pm
 Thursdays: 9:00am–5:00pm
 Fridays: 1:00pm–5:00pm
 Saturdays: 9:00am–5:00pm
 (July & August/Saturdays 9:00am–1:00 pm)

KEEP HOLMDEL BEAUTIFUL ~ ADOPT A ROAD

We are seeking individuals, businesses and/or organizations to choose a section of a road or an entire road in town to clean up and keep it free of litter and debris. The Township will honor your dedication to this program with a roadside sign. The Township will also provide all the materials needed for the road clean-up. We are looking for volunteers; there will be no charge for participating.

Please partake in this most worthy program and keep Holmdel beautiful!!!

For more information or to volunteer please contact our Code Enforcement Officer at 732-946-2820 ext. 1316 or Lucina@holmdeltownship-nj.com.



To better communicate with you, sign up for the Township's Code Red Communications System in order to receive emergency alerts and public announcements. Your contact information will remain private and will only be used for this purpose. You may sign up by visiting our website www.holmdeltownship-nj.com.