



# EASTAMPTON NEWS

JANUARY 2024

Mayor Dominic F. Santillo  
Deputy Mayor Ricardo J. Rodriguez  
Council Member Robert Apgar  
Council Member Jay Springer  
Council Member Anthony Zeno

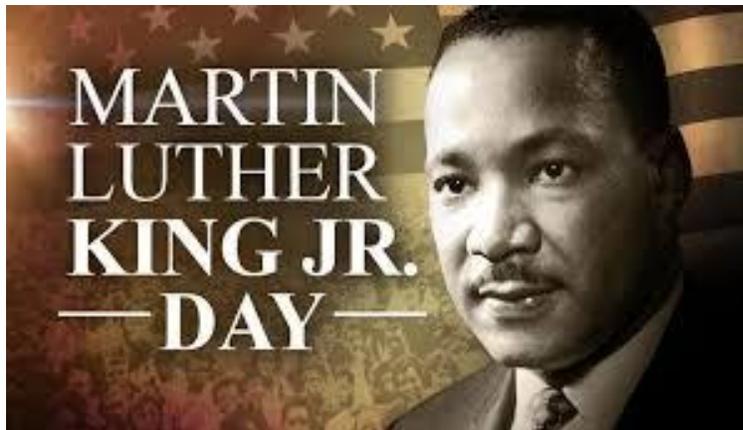
Eastampton Township

12 Manor House Court  
Eastampton, NJ  
08060

(609) 267-5723

[www.eastampton.com](http://www.eastampton.com)

Eastampton News provides information, helpful tips and reminders related to Eastampton Township and the surrounding areas. The Township is continually working to help keep residents informed about our community.



**Municipal Offices are closed** on Monday, **January 15, 2024** in Observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. We will reopen on Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am.

#### In This Issue:

- December Certificate of Appreciation Recipient
- 2024 Township Council
- 2024 Dog Licensing
- Free Rabies Clinics
- Christmas Tree Collection
- Brush & Leaf Collection
- Bulk Pickup Changes Now in Effect

## RECOGNITION CORNER

Eastampton resident **Kati Rutkowski** was recognized at the December 18, 2023 Township Council meeting by Mayor Apgar and Township Council with a Certificate of Appreciation for her community service and dedication to Eastampton Township. Congratulations and thank you Kati!



*Kati Rutkowski and Council Member Robert Apgar*

**The Township Council Reorganization Meeting** was held on Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at 6:00pm. Congratulations to Dominic F. Santillo who will be serving as **Mayor**, and Ricardo J. Rodriguez who will be serving as **Deputy Mayor**.

Best wishes to our **2024 Eastampton Township Council!** Mayor Santillo, Deputy Mayor Rodriguez, Council Member Robert Apgar, Council Member Jay Springer and Council Member Anthony Zeno.



*Pictured Left to Right: Council Member Jay Springer, Deputy Mayor Ricardo Rodriguez, Mayor Dominic F. Santillo, Council Member Robert Apgar and Council Member Anthony Zeno*



## **MAYOR DOMINIC F. SANTILLO**

Fellow Eastampton Residents,

Happy New Year 2024, I hope this message finds you and your families in good health and in good spirits. Thank you for the trust and confidence you all have bestowed on me as a member of township council, I am honored to serve as your Mayor. Along with my fellow council members, we seek to provide quality services to all residents at an affordable cost. We will continue to do this through fiscal responsibility, sound leadership and by continuing the progress of our business development for a stronger Eastampton Township. The coming year will continue to bring progress to town, solidifying the work of our 2023 Master Plan through ordinance, continuing to expand on our township events, and road improvements and infrastructure repairs in Eastampton Farms (partially funded through NJ state grants).

Eastampton Township is a great place to work and live. Whether you are passing through for duty or settled for the long haul to raise a family, we hope you will find our local parks, walking trails, community school and small businesses as sources of pride. Whether you're getting your car or bike serviced, in need of a style or haircut, a quick bite, or a full meal, Eastampton offers one-of-a-kind small businesses.

Thank you to our residents for your support of these local businesses through the past few years when shopping locally meant even more than ever.

I am proud to call Eastampton Township my home. My wife and I made the decision to raise our three children here in our great K-8 school, near local parks and amongst the safe streets. We have been fortunate to meet many of you along the way who have the same mindset. So, whether you're engaging with our knowledgeable administrative and construction staff in the Manor House, seeing our hard-working public works staff on the streets, or passing Eastampton's finest, our local police department, I hope you will continue to find the same experience my family and I have found these past 11 years – a strong sense of community. On a personal note, I want to thank my fellow council members for placing their trust in me, thank you Ricardo, Jay, Anthony, and Rob for your support and mentorship. I want to thank my mother, brother and sister for their love and support through the years. Additionally, I have been blessed to have inspiring people from many aspects of my life, I am grateful and thankful for each of them. Finally, I want to thank my beautiful wife Beth for her love and support, and my three amazing children Dominic, Kaitlyn and David for allowing me to serve on council.

In closing, to continue to strengthen our community I encourage each of you to get involved as time allows. Whether as a volunteer with the fire department, a coach for youth sports, or simply attending a planning board, township council or school board meeting. Feel free to visit our website [eastampton.com](http://eastampton.com) to find ways to get involved in committees and events.

The staff and council are here to serve you and help you navigate local government. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me personally at [dsantillo@eastampton.com](mailto:dsantillo@eastampton.com) .

Best wishes for a happy, safe and healthy 2024,

Dominic F. Santillo  
Mayor, Eastampton Township



### **DEPUTY MAYOR RICARDO J. RODRIGUEZ**

Ricardo has been a resident of Eastampton Township (Eastampton Farms and Eastampton Village) since 1998. Ricardo and his wife Ziebell have three children, Jeancarlo, Carlos, and Alexander, all which attended the Eastampton Community School.

Ricardo graduated from the Inter American University of Puerto Rico with a Bachelor of Science and from the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) with a Master of Science, both in Computer Science.

Ricardo previously served in the United States Air Force and was stationed at McGuire Air Force Base. He was honorably discharged from the Air Force, and has since been employed by Department of Defense contractor Lockheed Martin.

Ricardo was active for many years in the community as a volunteer coach for Sacred Heart CYO baseball, coaching his children's youth baseball teams.

He has served and represented the Township Council on various boards and committees since 2009, including the Economic Development Advisory Committee and the Land Use Planning Board, both of which he was appointed as Chairperson.

Ricardo has also previously served as a member of the Township Council (2010-2014), and was elected as Deputy Mayor and Mayor of Eastampton Township.



## **COUNCIL MEMBER ROBERT APGAR**

Rob has been a resident of Eastampton since 2010. He lives with his wife Ally, a public school teacher, and their two children in Eastampton Farms. His daughters attend the Eastampton Community School.

Currently employed by the State of New Jersey, Rob is a grants administrator with experience in the non-profit and public sectors. Rob has also taught courses in sustainable development and environmental history at Rowan College at Burlington County (formerly BCC) and The College of New Jersey.

Rob earned a Bachelor of Arts in history from The College of New Jersey in 2005, graduating with highest honors, and a Master of Environmental Studies degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 2010, with a concentration in environmental policy. While on Council, Rob has served as a member of the Environmental Advisory Committee, a member of the Land Use Planning Board, Council's liaison to the Eastampton Community School, and as Mayor and Deputy Mayor.



## **COUNCIL MEMBER JAY SPRINGER**

Jay has been a resident of Eastampton Township since 1991. For 10 years he lived in Eastampton Mews and served as President on the board of the Eastampton Mews Homeowners Association. In 2001 he and his family moved to the Lakeview section of town. Prior to his election to Eastampton Township Council, he was active on the Township's Environmental Commission and was Vice Chair of the Township's Land Use Planning Board.

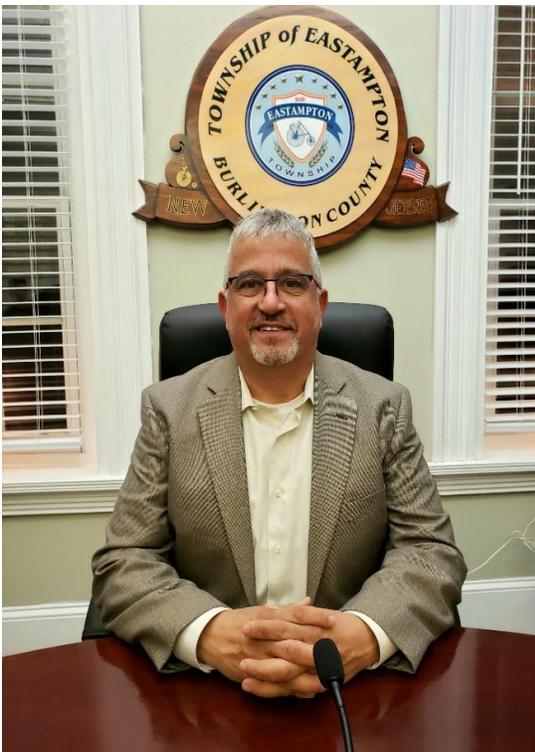
Jay and Kim, his wife of 34 years, have two adult children, Joshua and Jenna, who both attended the Eastampton Community School. Jay has been very active in the community for many years. He coached youth baseball and softball and volunteered much of his time in support of the performing arts

programs at Rancocas Valley Regional High School. He also served as a Chief Steward with the Communications Workers of America Local 1036 and is a New Jersey AFL-CIO endorsed labor candidate.

For 34 years Jay was employed as an environmental professional at the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection with a diverse background in several clean water programs working on initiatives such as watershed restoration, sustainability and controlling water pollution. He also represented the State of New Jersey on the federal Delaware Estuary Program, working with partners from around the region in the corporate, public and non-profit sectors. Jay left the DEP in 2021 and is currently Director at the Burlington County Bridge Commission.

He attended Rowan University, where he met his wife Kim and received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology in 1988. In 2017, he earned a Certified Public Manager (CPM) from the Rutgers University School of Public Affairs and Administration. He has also been an Instructor at Rutgers University teaching Continuing Professional Education courses on Wetlands, Stormwater and Floodplain Management and has been a guest speaker on environmental issues at classes and seminars at the University of Pennsylvania, Yale University, Montclair State University, Stevens Institute of Technology and at several environmental, professional, and governmental organization events.

Jay was first elected to Township Council in 2008 and served as Deputy Mayor in 2009 and 2019; and as Mayor in 2010 and 2017. He currently represents Township Council on the Environmental Advisory Committee and has previously represented the Township Council on the Land Use Planning Board and Economic Development Advisory Committee.



## **COUNCIL MEMBER ANTHONY ZENO**

Anthony has been a resident of Eastampton Township since 2008. He lives in Carriage Park with his wife Michelle and 2 of his 4 children, Dominique (student at Penn State University) and Michael (student at RVRHS). Anthony Jr. now resides in Medford with his wife Ali and their children, Vincent and Giuliana. Angela resides in Columbus with her husband Isaac and their three children, Gabriella, Anthony and Alaina.

Anthony has been employed since 1984 by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 456. He attended Middlesex County College for 2 years, followed by a 5-year Apprenticeship at MCVTS, graduating with High Honors.

Anthony has been the Electrical General Foreman on various large projects throughout New Jersey and is currently working with PSE&G and other utility companies updating the electrical infrastructure throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. Anthony is currently Director of Field Operations for Elecnor Hawkeye New Jersey/Underground Transmission Division. Anthony has been a member of Township Council since 2013, and has served as Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Council Liaison to various Township committees.

Anthony and his family love to call Eastampton home. He is dedicated to providing quality programs and services to the residents of Eastampton Township, and continuing the efforts of various paths to progress.



### **MEETING CORNER**

The Township Council meeting will be held on **Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm.** in the Council Room at the Manor House.

The Land Use Planning Board reorganization meeting will be held on **Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.** The meeting will be held in the Eastampton Community School Cafetorium, located at 1 Student Drive in Eastampton.

### **VOLUNTEER CORNER**

**Eastampton Township Encourages Residents to Volunteer for Township Boards and Committees.**

Are you Active Duty, Guard or Reservist? Or the spouse of a current or former service member? The mission of the VMAAC is to celebrate and recognize our service-connected families and act as a liaison between the town and Joint Base MDL. The VMAAC sponsors the Memorial Day celebration and the annual Boots vs. Badges basketball game. The VMAAC meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Council Room of the Eastampton Municipal Building located at 12 Manor House Court.

The Economic Development Advisory Committee is a seven-member board, and meets as needed in the Council Room of the Eastampton Municipal Building located at 12 Manor House Court. The EDAC makes recommendations to the Land Use Planning Board on the economic development of Eastampton Township.

The Land Use Planning Board is a nine-member board and meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm. in the Council Room of the Eastampton Municipal Building located at 12 Manor House Court.

The Environmental Advisory Committee is a six-member board and meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm. in the Recreation Building located at 7 Knightsbridge Road in Buttonwood Park or in the Council Room of the Eastampton Municipal Building located at 12 Manor House Court. Please go to our website, [www.eastampton.com](http://www.eastampton.com) on the main page, go to the Departments tab, and click on Township Manager to find the Citizen Leadership Form.



## DOG LICENSING

**Residents Are Reminded That All Dogs over 7 Months of Age Are Required to be Licensed Each Year.** Dog licenses are valid for the current calendar year, and expire annually on December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Dog Licensing began on January 1<sup>st</sup> and the cost for the months of January and February is \$10.00 for a neutered/spayed dog, and \$13.00 for a non-neutered or non-spayed dog. A **\$10.00 additional fee** will be assessed for each dog **beginning on March 1<sup>st</sup>** as per Ordinance 2021-5.

Payments are made online, or you can also drop off or mail your dog license application and payment **along with a self-addressed stamped envelope** to 12 Manor House Court to receive your license by mail.

Please note that the **rabies vaccination must be valid through November 1, 2024 by NJ State Law** to obtain the dog license.

Animal Control personnel are permitted to inspect current licenses for all dogs residing within the Township. Licensing information may be obtained by calling (609) 267-5723 ext. 200.

There will be a **FREE Rabies Clinic** at the Burlington County Animal Shelter located at 35 Academy Drive in Westampton **on Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> from 3:00pm-4:00 pm.** Please see the below additional Free Rabies Clinics:

Medford Township  
**January 13, 2024 9:00am-12:00pm**  
49 Union Street  
Medford, 08055-2432

Westampton Township  
**Saturday, February 17, 2024 9:00am-11:00am**  
710 Rancocas Road  
Westampton, 08060

## CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION

The Department of Public Works collects Christmas trees **beginning on January 8, 2024**. Trees should be placed curbside for collection, and all lights, decorations and tree stand must be removed. Live, artificial, or trees which are chemically treated or "flocked" will be collected on an as needed basis. If you have any questions, please contact the Department of Public Works at 609-267-5723 ext. 210.



## LEAF COLLECTION

Residents, please rake leaves and place in the grass strip between the curb and sidewalk for collection. Leaves should not be placed in the street or near fire hydrants, sign posts, portable basketball hoops, or telephone poles.

Leaves must be free of all trash, sticks, branches, vines, rocks, dirt, and debris. **Mixed material will not be collected.** Additional information including your areas scheduled collection week can be found at [www.eastampton.com](http://www.eastampton.com) or by contacting the Public Works Department at (609) 267-5723 ext. 210.

## BRUSH COLLECTION

During the months of December through March **brush will not be collected**. Do not put any brush out for collection during these winter months, or you will receive a letter to remove, followed by a Notice of Violation. If you have brush that needs disposal of you may take it to the Burlington County Resource Recovery Complex located at 2000 Burlington Columbus Rd. Columbus, NJ 08022. You may visit them at [Facilities | Burlington County, NJ - Official Website](#)

## BULK PICKUP

Beginning the first Friday in January 2024 the changes adopted in Ordinance 2023-11 will be in effect. Each household will be permitted a maximum of two large items, such as furniture or bicycles, and 5 bags. Please see the below flyer and visit our website at [www.eastampton.com](http://www.eastampton.com) for further details.

# BULK PICKUP CHANGES STARTING 1/1/2024

**Per Ord. 2023-11 there will be a maximum of two (2) large items and 5 bags allowed per household per bulk trash collection.**



**Please contact the Public Works Department with any questions at 609-267-5723 ext. 210 or email [publicworks@eastampton.com](mailto:publicworks@eastampton.com)**



## SPECIAL NEEDS REGISTRATION

The Eastampton Police Department is seeking voluntary emergency contact information for any person (of any age) that are affected by any form of altered mental status including *Autism, Dementia, Bi-Polar Disorder, Schizophrenia*, or other illness, condition, or “Special Need” that may cause them to become impaired.

Police Officers receive specific training to follow protocols when they contact persons with “Special Needs”. It would greatly help if The Eastampton Police Department was able to understand who the person is prior to making contact. This prior knowledge will aid in better communication which will lead to a safer resolution for all involved parties.

"Please be advised that New Jersey's Open Public Records Act defines information sent to a public agency as a public record and makes public records subject to public disclosure. New Jersey does exempt from disclosure any "information relating to medical, psychiatric or psychological history, diagnosis, treatment or evaluation." So it is the Township's opinion that any information submitted here will be exempt from public disclosure, and the Township will not release this information, however please be advised that the Government Records Council and the Superior Court are the only parties with final authority to determine whether a public record must be released."

The Eastampton Police Department can enter specifics such as:

- Noise, Sound, Touch sensitivities
- Medication they may be taking
- Places they frequent
- Topics to easily discuss to put the individual at ease

Furthermore, after the individual's needs are registered (go to [Eastampton Township, NJ Online Application Forms \(govpilot.com\)](http://EastamptonTownship.NJOnlineApplicationForms.govpilot.com)), they will be provided with an Identification Card, which if kept on their person, can assist an Officer in identifying the individual or contacting a family member/guardian.



## ANNIVERSARY CORNER

Eastampton Township, Mayor and Council would like to thank you for your continued years of service!

January 1	Robert Apgar	11 years	Council Member
	Dominic F. Santillo	6 years	Council Member
	Jay Springer	15 years	Council Member
	Anthony Zeno	11 years	Council Member
January 25	Keith Harrison	3 years	Public Works Department

## EVENTS CORNER

Historic Smithville Park & Smith's Woods  
803 Smithville Road  
Mt Holly, NJ 08060  
609-265-5858

Please go to the following link for all activities at Historic Smithville Park & Smith's Woods for the month of January: [Calendar • Smithville Park & Smith's Woods \(burlington.nj.us\)](http://calendar.burlington.nj.us/Smithville-Park-Smiths-Woods)