

## Morris County Offers Free Disaster Preparedness Training

By Dick Kern, Deputy Coordinator, Morris County Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

Morris County will be offering comprehensive FEMA Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training to educate people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their community. Should you wish to preview the course material, it is found on the FEMA website ([www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)). The complete nine unit course will be offered on Thursday evenings starting April 21 through June 16, 2005, at the Fire and Police Academy on West Hanover Avenue.

Please go to the Academy website ([www.morrisacademy.org](http://www.morrisacademy.org)) to view more information about the course. You will find it listed under **Fire Division Training**. Registration may be done on line through the Academy website. There is no fee for this course.

The course will also be offered during the Fall of 2005 on Saturdays. Each Saturday will be a full day of two units. Should there be any questions, please do not hesitate to call the Morris County OEM at (973) 829-8600.

## An Update From The Department of Public Works (DPW)

By Joseph Giordano

Morris Township entered into a new recycling agreement for paper (mixed paper, newsprint, and corrugated cardboard) in February, 2004. Through your recycling efforts, the first eleven months into the program has resulted in a revenue increase of nearly 200%.

During 2004, approximately three miles of Township roads were resurfaced with some needing extensive preparation. An additional three miles of road resurfacing has been proposed for 2005.

The Township is continuing its efforts to update DPW equipment. In the fall of 2004, a 2005 International dump truck with a 5 cubic yard stainless steel body replaced a 1987 model. A new replacement body which heats asphalt for pothole repairs and berms was mounted on the existing chassis which is in very good condition, resulting in substantial savings. A 1991, 21 foot, mild steel salt spreader was replaced with a stainless steel model as well. In 2005, DPW is expecting delivery of a new 30 cubic yard garbage truck.

In 2004, New Jersey adopted new Municipal Stormwater Regulations which local towns must implement. These mandates deal with drainage structure, roadway maintenance, and even public education associated with rainwater from the time it hits the ground to its final destination. These new regulations also cover fall leaf collection procedures and will affect your responsibilities as a homeowner in the placement of leaves at curbside. You will be receiving the new guidelines as outlined by the State later this year.

Our 2004-2005 winter has been relatively mild so far, so we have been

able to deposit monies earmarked for snow fighting from the 2004 operating budget to a Snow Account approved by the State of New Jersey. If this trend continues, we may be able to reduce related line items in future budgets.

## Recreation Opportunities For Township Seniors

By Marguerite Adams, Director, Morris Township Recreation & Parks Depart.

Are you 62 years of age or older? If the answer is yes, join a club that offers fun & informational activities and gives the senior residents of Morris Township an opportunity to establish great lasting comradeships. The club meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Honeywell Global Auditorium on Columbia Turnpike at 1:00 pm. Dues are \$5 per year.

There is also a senior education program available. This program offers travel opportunities to exciting places and has been very well received. For example, you can travel back stage at Radio City on March 22<sup>nd</sup> or go to Snug Harbor, New York on April 12<sup>th</sup>. Join your friends or make new ones on these Tuesday morning travels!

Come to Morris Mews on the last Wednesday of each month for Bingo. This program runs through the end of April. Maybe you will win a prize, but even if you don't win, you are sure to have a great time trying.

Check the Recreation Brochure or [www.morristwp.com](http://www.morristwp.com) for these and other senior recreation opportunities offered by the Township's Recreation & Parks Department. Please call 973-326-7371 to sign up or for additional information.

## A Plastics Recycling Primer

By Morris Municipal Utilities Authority

If you have ever wondered about what plastic items to place in your recycling container, here is the answer. In the Township's program – like most others – the only acceptable plastics for recycling are bottles.

To help make it easy to recognize which bottles to recycle, follow these simple guidelines:

- A recyclable bottle has a neck or opening at the top that is narrower than its base.
- Only bottles coded #1 PETE or #2 HDPE are accepted.
- Some examples of bottles that are appropriate to recycle are those used for juice, soda, milk, shampoo, and laundry / dishwasher detergent.

Please do not recycle any plastic items with these codes that are not bottles – such as margarine or yogurt tubs, plastic bags, or clamshell-style containers used for fruit or at the salad bar – and please do not recycle any plastic items without codes or with codes different from the two noted above.

How else can you help? Before putting the bottle into your recycling container, remove the cap and discard it, rinse the bottle out with water, and, if possible, flatten it. The workers at Morris Township's Department of Public Works (DPW) will appreciate your assistance.

Thank you for helping to keep our environment cleaner and safer for us all. If you have questions or need more information, please contact the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority at 973-285-8395.