

**Fire Emergency Evacuation Assistance Program** By Morris Township Fire Chief Craig Goss

During a fire emergency, it is important for all members of the family to evacuate the home safely. Rescue of family members who may need assistance to evacuate, and rely on others to assist them, is of the highest priority to the Fire Department since they are the most vulnerable in a fire emergency. Morris Township's Fire Emergency Evacuation Assistance Program focuses on those family members that may need extra help, such as those with **age** (infants, young children, or elderly), **medical conditions, learning disabilities,** or some **other physical handicap** (wheel chair, O2 dependency, etc.). Any of these conditions may work against their immediate evacuation from their home during a fire emergency.

This is where the Fire Department's Fire Emergency Evacuation Assistance Program comes in. Valuable seconds can be saved in a rescue if fire rescue personnel know to look for these vulnerable family members and where they may be located in the home. Efforts are now underway to computerize current program data for 'in the field' use.

When completed, this expanded emergency evacuation program will have the capability to inform the dispatched firefighters on-site about:

- The location in the home where the vulnerable person resides.
- Their specific condition (medical or physical).
- Any hazards the fire department may face in trying to rescue the individuals.
- A floor plan of the house that can be examined prior to going in to aid firefighters in their search of the home.
- External photos of the home showing access points and locations for laddering.

Any existing members of our current program will be contacted during their annual update to add this new information. New program participants may register a family member for this program by calling the Fire Department at 973-326-7435, Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm or by e-mailing [FireChief@Morristwp.com](mailto:FireChief@Morristwp.com).

**Open Space Purchase Gets Matching Grant** By Thomas Kenny, Special Projects Coordinator

Morris Township acquired the Deer Haven tract, a 23-acre parcel located off Mount Kemble Avenue for use as open space & passive recreational activities. The property contains a meadow, woodlands and some steep slopes. If not acquired as open space, the property could have been developed into ten single family homes. The Township purchased the property for \$1.4 million, using a grant of \$700,000 from Morris County's Open Space Trust Fund and a matching grant from NJ's Green Acres Program in the amount of nearly \$613,000. The matching grant means we spent \$87,000 in local funds from our own Open Space Trust – 6% of the total purchase price. This is a land purchase of which we can all be proud.

**Improvements**

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/drainage improvements in various problem areas. Along the same vein, funding will be provided for maintenance equipment, mapping and drainage projects in an effort to meet the state mandated requirements of the new Stormwater Management Regulations.

The Morris Township Engineering Department will also make necessary improvements to the parking lots it maintains and will begin construction on a new lot at the former Pecar Mobil site on Speedwell Avenue. This new parking lot is needed for the public who wish to do business with the merchants in the area.

The Township's Recreation Department will oversee improvements to the parks and playgrounds, as well as the purchase of new maintenance equipment. Fencing is scheduled for installation at the Mennen, Green, Frelinghuysen, Butterworth 1 and 2, Delpho, and LaRue Fields. Playground equipment will be installed at Ginty and Butterworth Fields.

A list of previously noted road, drainage, and sidewalk projects is shown for your information. This should provide a good idea of the commitment that Morris Township has toward improving the quality of life for all Morris Township residents.

**Your Township Committee**

- H. Scott Rosenbush, Mayor
- Robert E. Nace, Deputy Mayor
- Kathleen G. Hyland
- Richard A. Watson
- Jan Wotowicz

Check our website at: [www.morristwp.com](http://www.morristwp.com) or refer to your Municipal Calendar for more information on key dates for Morris Township meetings & other activities.

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Linda K. Murphy

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  - Fred J. Rossi, Twp Administrator
- Questions and/or comments may be sent to [kcarman@morristwp.com](mailto:kcarman@morristwp.com)

Resurfacing	Sidewalk Repair
Alexandria Road	Applewood Lane
Ashley Court	Aspen Way
Bettin Drive	Bell Drive
Degan Lane	Brandywine Terrace
East Drive	Buckley Hill Road
Fraser Lane	Carton Road
Heather Lane	Cottonwood Road
Jean Street	Darnay Road
Jockey Hollow Rd.	DeFarge Way
Lake Road	Exeter Lane
Parker Road	Harter Road
West Drive	Hawthorne Court
Reconstruction	Ketch Road
Cleveland Avenue	Leslie Court
Ketch Road	Manette Road
Monroe Street	Max Drive
Drainage	Norwood Court
Brookfield Way	Peach Tree Way
Bromleigh Way	Rambling Woods Dr
Green Field	Squirrel Run
Loantaka Brook	Stephen Crane Way
MacKenzie Road	Strawberry Lane
Olmstead Road	Three Gables Rd.
Plymouth Road	Trent Court
School House Ln.	Stewart Drive
Vom Eigen Drive	Warwick Road
Watnong Brook	Windsor Way
	Woodland Avenue