

THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE PG POST

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PROFILE IN SERVICE: PEAPACK GLADSTONE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Meet Peter Cuttone: A Dedicated Volunteer Firefighter

The Peapack Gladstone Fire Department (officially Fire Company No.1) is an all-volunteer department with 40 members who respond year-round to emergencies in our Borough and surrounding areas. Among them is Peter Cuttone, a dedicated firefighter who joined just 2½ years ago after a brush fire at his home sparked his interest in serving.

Peter, a Gladstone resident since 2020, owns Cutt-One Woodland Management and is a father of six - with another child on the way. Despite his busy life, he completed over 200 hours of fire training, served as class executive officer, and is now certified in technical rescue, including Confined Space and Ice Rescue. He was also recently appointed as the department's Chaplain, a role that reflects his strong faith and commitment to others. Peter's ambition in the fire service is to be the best fire fighter he can be.

Peter personifies the dedication of the entire membership of the fire department. Members from 16 to over 60 serve our community regardless of time of day or conditions. These dedicated volunteers help their neighbors on what is sometimes the worst day of their lives and they get up to do it again the next time and the time after that. If you'd like to join Peter and the rest of the members, call 908-396-1449 and you can learn more about the opportunity to serve your community as a first responder.



BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE

BOROUGH HALL HOURS

ADMINISTRATION/ CLERK	Monday to Thursday
	8:00am - 4:30pm
CONSTRUCTION	Friday
	8:00am - 1:00pm
TAX/SEWER COLLECTION	Monday to Thursday
	10:00am - 2:00pm
POLICE FRONT DESK	Friday
	9:00am - 1:00pm
	Monday to Thursday
	8:00am - 4:30pm
	Friday
	8:00am - 1:00pm

LIBERTY PARK GEESE UPDATE

A Different Approach to Managing the Geese Population at Liberty Park

This season, we have chosen to take a different direction in managing the Canada Geese population at Liberty Park. We contracted with Geese Chasers, a professional geese control service known for their effective and respectful methods.

Since hiring them in March, we've seen a significant decrease in geese throughout our downtown. Geese Chasers use environmentally friendly and non-lethal techniques - including trained border collies and kayaks - to safely deter geese from settling in the area. These efforts are supplemented by additional remediation measures applied by the Borough.

This approach not only keeps our parks cleaner and more enjoyable for residents but also aligns with our commitment to pursue humane and sustainable solutions first. We're pleased with the results so far and look forward to continuing working with Geese Chasers to keep Liberty Park a welcoming space for all - except the geese!



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VISIT US AT: WWW.PEAPACKGLADSTONE.ORG

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NOTES FROM THE MAYOR: AFFORDABLE HOUSING REDUX

MAYOR MARK A. CORIGLIANO

You likely have heard, one way or another, about our challenges in settling and legislating our Round 3 Affordable Housing obligation either in the media, through Town Hall meetings, published articles or updates provided at Council Meetings. Indeed, I had no idea what I was in for in 2017 when then Mayor Muller asked me to step in and serve as Affordable Housing Chairman and what it took to settle the Borough's Round 3 statutory obligation. While Council President John Sweeney now heads up the Affordable Housing Committee, it is he and I, along with Borough Attorney Steven Warner, Land Use Board Attorney Roger Thomas and Borough Planner John Szabo who worked through what you are about to read.



With the dust having barely settled on Round 3, believe it or not, we are already well into working on Round 4 of Affordable Housing in New Jersey. In this round, the Legislature set statutory deadlines for a town's obligation to be reached, settled and set in law. Here in Peapack & Gladstone, we have been in the heat of this process for over half a year, and it has been a challenging and difficult road. I could easily fill a good-sized white paper with the details and challenges we have faced, but I will keep it short to fit this newsletter.

Back in November of last year, the Division of Consumer Affairs (DCA) released the prospective need numbers for each of the 564 towns in New Jersey for the 10 year period between July 1, 2025 and June 30, 2035. Peapack & Gladstone (P&G) was assigned an obligation of 75 credits (more on 'credits' in a moment), a number we felt was quite high given our lack of qualified land and our stable population base.

We also believed that the DCA's numbers had errors, some of which they admitted existed. The statutory guidelines allowed for an appeal and P&G indeed filed a counter before the deadline of January 31, 2025. P&G countered the 75 with a number of 57, backed up with well-reasoned facts and law.

Challengers had until the end of February to object to our counter and as we approached the end of February, no party challenged...until the last moment. Within the last two days of the month, both the Fair Share Housing Center (FSHC) and the NJ Builder's Association (NJBA) filed an objection to our number. Fair Share claimed our number should be 86 and the NJBA claimed that the DCA number of 75 should be followed. Statutorily, we were obliged to settle these differences before the end of March. It was a heated few weeks of conference calls and on-sites between those listed above (along with others at times), filtering information, talking to other towns and meeting with a Judge and professional planner assigned to mediate the settlements. Of the 564 towns in NJ, about 500 were assigned an obligation. Of those 500, approximately 450 responded either accepting the DCA number (with many apparently thinking they can somehow get their number reduced later) and about 160 appealing it. Of the 160 who appealed it, nearly all were challenged by the NJBA and about 70 were challenged by both FSHC and the NJBA. P&G was in this latter group.

Our team rose to the challenge, preparing for arguments to keep our number at the 57 credits or very close to it.



We prepared an alternate analysis should our rationale for the 57 be invalidated. This analysis examined vacant land in town down to the acre (or in DCA terms 'polygon', as their analysis of vacant land did not overlay with the commonly used lot and block system making analysis confusing and, in some cases, nonsensical). I am the first to admit that this was a stressful time for us all as I pushed for a '57 and no greater' while our attorneys urged us to settle more reasonably so as not to risk an unreasonably higher number. We both had good points.

As the date of our 'session' approached, we were on multiple calls arranged by the NJ League of Municipalities and the word on the street was not good. Some of the judges handling these settlements were considering mandating the DCA number. Meanwhile, our negotiations direct with FSHC continued (with agreement from NJBA that they would accept a settlement negotiated by FSHC) and our numbers started to approach each other. Still, we were quite far apart.

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NOTES FROM THE MAYOR: AFFORDABLE HOUSING REDUX

continued...

On Thursday, March 20, P&G's session with the Judge occurred and we mutually agreed to settle at 62. We believe this is a number that is workable for the Round 4 period. To make this process even more confusing, readers should note that this number is not necessarily the actual number of residential units we are obliged to zone for or see built, but rather the number of 'credits' we must obtain, with certain types of affordable housing earning more than one credit. We will be working with our planner as we lay this out in a Housing Element and Fair Share Plan, which is due by June 30, 2025.

In closing, some residents have said to me to simply ignore the process and let's do what we want (similar to the 50 or so towns noted above who did not respond at all), after all we are a 'home rule' State. Simply put, that would be foolhardy on our part and subject us to a 'builder's remedy' lawsuit – look it up.

Such a suit would force us to accept a development without any control over where it is located or how many units can be constructed. Further, we are a law and order community and, while we may not like the laws imposed upon us by the State, we will respect and abide by them and make them work, just as those who have managed P&G before us have done.



Mark A. Corigliano
Mayor

mcorigliano@peapackgladstone.org

RECYCLING TIPS

The recycling of aluminum beverage cans has been an integral part of local recycling programs for decades. Two significant issues affecting aluminum can recycling have emerged over the past few years:

Plastic Contamination – A number of new beverage products packaged in aluminum cans feature a plastic labeling sleeve around the can and/or plastic tab top. These plastics are contaminants in the aluminum recycling process. Bales of aluminum that contain these plastic contaminants will be rejected by recycling markets. Consumer should remove and dispose of plastic sleeves and tab tops in the trash.

Crushing and Flattening – Consumers are asked not to crush and flatten their aluminum cans before putting them in

their recycling bucket, bin or cart. Crushed and flattened aluminum cans are more difficult to sort at recycling processing facilities as they tend to bypass sorting systems and contaminate other recyclable material streams.

Learn more about recycling at recycle.nj.gov.



PG RECREATION

DAN DOLAN
RECREATION COORDINATOR



Calling all kids!

For over 25 years, PG Summer Rec Camp has been creating memories for generations of PG kids. Our old fashioned "chill" camp is set for June 24 – July 25, 2025 (9AM – Noon).

Come join the fun! We award those who set an individual or team record in hula hoop, ping-pong, running bases, playground events, or perform in "round-down"; we have contests for hockey and soccer shot, quiets, foosball, ping-pong; or play floor hockey, chunky bat baseball, basketball, boxball, 4-Square, or wall-to-wall run; or be part of our talent show. We also have a small craft available daily (color me visors, hats, flying discs, ceramic tiling, bracelets, bead necklaces, windchimes, and more!)

We also have field trips set for Camel Beach Waterpark (5th – 8th graders); Urban Air; and the Gravity Vault (1st – 8th graders). On the last Thursday, we have a waterslide plus counselor/camper water balloon battle!

Register for PG Rec programs online until May 31st at:

<https://register.capturepoint.com/peapackgladstoneborough>



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ANIMAL CONTROL: ABOUT RACCOONS

A Gaze of Raccoons

If you see a raccoon in your yard during the day, don't panic. It is not necessarily sick or dangerous. It's perfectly normal for raccoons to be active throughout the day. It may merely be foraging longer hours to support her young, visiting a garden while the dogs are indoors, or moving to a new location.

Raccoons are excellent climbers; they are very strong and have very nimble hands. They have no problem entering any attic or chimney they choose, on almost any home. Most of the time, they've chosen an attic or chimney based on convenience or proximity of their home range, 3-5 miles.

It's very common for a female about to bear young to find its way into an attic or chimney. The primary reason a raccoon enters an attic or chimney is so she can give birth to and raise her young until they are able to get around on their own. The good news is that the family will move out on its own, mother raccoons usually move the babies at 12 weeks of age.

Never use smoke or fire to drive animals out of chimneys. You will kill young raccoons not mature enough to climb and may even kill adults. Trapping and moving the family will almost inevitably lead to separation and death of the young.

Waiting things out is often the best option. Gentle harassment may encourage the mother to relocate her young. Choose the right time at dusk right before the mother's normal activity period. Don't drive raccoons out during the day; they may be confused in daylight.



Raccoons dislike bright lights, loud noises and strong odors. Place bright lights in the attic. Place a radio in the attic or chimney. Tune it to loud rock or talk station with the volume set as high as you can. Moth balls or cayenne pepper may also be placed around the attic, but not near the nesting area. Ammonia should not be used.

As the human population continues to grow and we continue to develop the open space, animals are constantly losing valuable habitat. This is vital to their survival.

Living with wildlife philosophy is to provide for the protection of wild species now and in the future. Bernards Township Animal Control promotes harmonious and peaceful coexistence between people and wildlife in our community.

For additional information, please contact Bernards Township Animal Control Officer – 908-204-3066.

POTTERSVILLE ROAD BRIDGE CLOSURE AND REPLACEMENT

Residents are advised that the County is scheduled to replace the bridge on Pottersville Road over Peapack Brook starting on or about June 1st. During the replacement, there will be no vehicular access from Pottersville Road direct to the downtown area. The replacement project is scheduled to take 180 days although we are hoping it will be less. While this is an inconvenience for all, the current bridge is in a deteriorated state and its replacement is overdue. As the County releases further details on the replacement project, notices will be posted on the Borough's website and through PG Notify.



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ANIMAL CONTROL: FOX FACTS



Fox Facts

Where do they live?

Both red and gray foxes dig dens mostly for raising kits, but also to use as shelter from severe winter weather. Dens under porches, decks or sheds are not uncommon in urban areas. If you find a fox family in an inconvenient spot, consider allowing them to stay until the young are old enough to begin accompanying their parents on foraging outings. At this point they are nearly ready to say goodbye to the den site and move on for good.

Fox kits are born in the spring, usually in March or April, and you'll see them emerge from the den four or five weeks after birth. At nine weeks, they will begin to hunt with their parents. That's the moment to watch for, as it is then safe to encourage them to leave the den site if there is reason to hasten their departure.

How can I Deter Fox from my Yard?

If you need a fox family to move on sooner rather than later, harassment may encourage an earlier move. Here are a few humane harassment options once the kits have emerged:

- Loosely pack leaves, soil, or mulch in the den openings to disturb the residents
- Place urine soaked kitty litter, a sweat-soaked T-shirt, a pair of smelly sweat socks or old sneakers in or near the den opening
- Mount shiny party balloons or 12-18 inch lengths of Irri-tape mounted on sticks or poles two or three feet off the ground, just outside and around the den entrance
- Spread a non-toxic granular repellent that is capsicum based around the den entry

These tactics are most effective when they are used in concert as part of a comprehensive plan to encourage the foxes to move on. The purpose of these techniques is to make the parents uncomfortable enough to move the litter to a more secure location. Once the den has been abandoned, make sure all the kits are out of the den before any permanent exclusion is put in place.

No repellents are registered expressly for use on foxes, but the many products sold to repel domestic dogs from yards and gardens will have a similar effect on a passing fox. Examples include "Get Off My Garden," which is sprayed at or below ground level or directly on plants, and "Scoot," which is sprayed on lawns or foliage where a fox has been digging or leaving calling cards.

Foxes have a natural fear of people. If you see one outside during the day, it's no cause for alarm. A fox cutting through your yard is probably just passing through on his way between hunting areas and no action is necessary on your part. Both red and gray foxes live among us in cities and towns, where scavenging for food makes life easy. They generally avoid people, but the lure of easy food, such as pet food or unsecured garbage, can result in backyard visits.

Do I need to Protect my Pets from Fox?

You may be concerned about your pets being outdoors when foxes are around. The precautions you take are the very same things that you should do for your pets even if foxes were not around.

Keeping cats safe: A typical adult cat is almost the same size as a fox and has a well-deserved reputation for self-defense, so foxes are generally not interested in taking such cats on. Kittens and very small (less than five pounds), however, could be prey for a fox. The best way to avoid encounters between foxes and cats is to keep your cats indoors - a practice that will keep your cats safe from other hazards as well, such as traffic, disease and fights, to mention only a few.

What about dogs? Most dogs are not at risk from an attack by a fox unless they have threatened its young, but they still should not be left outside unattended for a host of other safety reasons.

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BULK PICK-UP

BULK COLLECTION CLEAN UP DAYS collection service shall be on the FIRST WEDNESDAY of FEBRUARY, MAY, AUGUST AND NOVEMBER

NEXT PICK-UP: WEDNESDAY, MAY 7

Garbage shall be construed to mean offal and refuse of animal and vegetable matter, liquid or solid, which has been used as food for man or beast and refuse matter and vegetable matter which is or was intended to be used, including condemned foods, spoiled meat, fish, fowl, vegetable or birds, all decayable matter of any kind incident to the ordinary conduct of a household (providing the foregoing are contained in plastic bags or regulation cans; no paper bags or boxes).

Refuse shall mean discarded waste materials such as paper, excelsior, straw, boxes, crates, broken glass, crockery and materials of similar nature, but shall not include ashes, tires, plaster or refuse from building operations or repairs.

RECYCLING SCHEDULE

MAY 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

JUNE 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

JULY 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

AUGUST 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

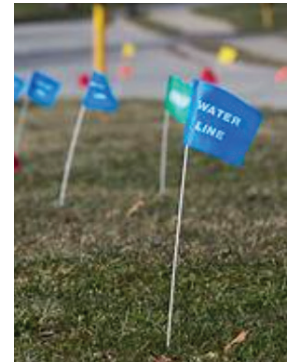
COLORED FLAGS ON MY LAWN - WHAT DO THEY MEAN?

New Jersey Law requires anyone digging to call at least three business days (excluding weekends and holidays) prior to beginning any digging projects. This includes excavators as well as property and homeowners' contractors. Digging activities can include installation of a real estate sign, planting of landscaping, utility installation of repairs, building additions, decks, and other property improvements that require excavation. The utility marking flags may also be due to a proposed utility company repair or construction on a neighboring property.

Property marking flags include:

- Red Flag** – Electric
- Yellow Flag** – Gas/Oil/Steam
- Orange Flag** – Communication CATV
- Blue Flag** – Water
- Ink Flag** – Temporary Survey Markings
- White Flag** – Proposed Excavation
- Green Flag** – Sewer (the only mark-out for which the Borough is responsible for)

The utility flags should remain on the designated properties until the proposed excavation and improvements are completed, as the respective contractor is responsible for any damage to existing utilities within the excavated areas. More information can be found at the following 811 website: www.nj1-call.org.



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SAVE THE DATE : ART IN THE PARK

STACEY ROGERS AND SASHA BLIGH

Peapack & Gladstone's 25th Anniversary ART IN THE PARK SEPTEMBER 14



Over the past 25 years, Art in the Park has grown into a beloved community event that brings together artists, musicians, and neighbors for a day of creativity, connection and celebration. This year's event will take place as usual at Liberty Park on Sunday, September 14, 2025, from 11AM to 4PM - an event that promises to be bigger and better than ever!

ART, MUSIC, FOOD and MORE

This year's event will feature dozens of talented vendors, showcasing an incredible selection of fine art, jewelry, pottery, textiles, photography, and so much more - all created by local, New Jersey artists.

Attendees will enjoy performances from a fantastic lineup of local musicians, Not Enough Jeffs, Nick Dunbar and Sad Cowboy.

There will also be an amazing selection of food vendors - guaranteeing something for everyone. Whether delicious meals to sweet treats.

In addition, exclusive 25th Anniversary merchandise will be available online shortly at www.pgartinthepark.com - all proceeds of the Art in the Park merchandise will benefit the Peapack-Gladstone Recreation Department.

Stay tuned for exciting updates leading up to the big day. Follow them on Instagram and Facebook @pgartinthepark for exclusive sneak peeks, behind-the-scenes fun and the latest event announcements.

*Local Art • Live Music • Delicious Food
Fun for the Whole Family*

WWW.PEAPACKGLADSTONE.ORG



POWERLESS

ONLINE NARCAN TRAINING AND KIT

LEARN HOW TO IDENTIFY AN
OVERDOSE WITH NARCAN TRAINING

UPCOMING TRAINING:
MAY 15, 2025 @ 12 PM

YOU COULD SAVE A LIFE

WHY ATTEND?

- What are the risk factors of an overdose
- How to tell if someone is overdosing
- Rescue Response
- Tips to prevent an overdose
- Receive a FREE Narcan kit

IN COLLABORATION WITH THE FAR HILLS
RACE MEETING ASSOCIATION & RWJUH
SOMERSET COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP.



COMPLETE THE ONLINE TRAINING
AND WE'LL SEND YOU A KIT!

Visit <https://communityincrisis.org/online-programs/#narcan-training>

to register for one of our upcoming dates or scan the QR code on the right.

Registration limited to 25 people. Zoom information and access will be sent to you

via email prior to the training. Please provide a mailing address when you register

so we can send you a kit. Free kit only available to those that work or reside in NJ.

Questions? Email kmusgrove@communityincrisis.org



Register Here

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STREAM CLEAN-UP

On a cold (and snowy!) Saturday morning, April 12, over fifty residents of all ages gathered in town for the Raritan Headwater Association (RHA) 34th Annual Stream Clean Up event. This multi-county event typically attracts over 1000 volunteers, who labor to remove over 10 tons of trash from our rivers and streams. Since 2009, the Peapack & Gladstone Environmental and Shade Tree Commission has partnered with RHA by organizing local spots in town for residents to meet and then pick up trash along the Peapack Brook.

You may have noticed this annual tradition, that features volunteers armed with gloves, bags, and determination descending upon the Peapack Brook. Cans, bottles, wrappers, and even some tires that had marred the landscape were

collected this year. The trash this year seemed at an all-time high, stressing the importance of picking up any trash you see before it ends up in our waterways.

This event fosters a sense of stewardship and pride in the PG community. A special thank-you to DPW Director Brad Fagan, the DPW staff, Mayor Mark Corigliano, and Councilperson Jamie Murphy for their continued efforts and support. If you missed this year's Earth Day celebration cleanup event, please be sure to join us next year. In the meantime, don't wait for an event to clean up litter on your own.



The PG POST is published three times a year to provide the residents of Peapack and Gladstone with relevant news and information about what is happening locally.

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COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS: please email us at newsletter@peapackgladstone.org

THE BOROUGH OF PEAPACK & GLADSTONE

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