camden county
RECYCLER
A PUBLICATION BY THE CAMDEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPRING 2022

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Statewide Bag Ban Goes into Effect in May 2022

On November 4th, 2020, Governor Phil Murphy signed one of the nation's most stringent bag bans into law. Effective May 4, 2022, no retail, grocery, or foodservice business can provide or sell single-use plastic carry out bags to their customers. Additionally, grocery stores are not permitted to provide or sell paper bags.

Items exempt from the law for a limited time include spoons, straws, small portion cups, meat and fish trays, and pre-packaged foods. While not banned under this legislation, plastic straws can only be provided by a foodservice business at the customer's request. These exemptions could be extended indefinitely at the discretion of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

As stores transition out of providing paper and plastic bags, some may offer reusable bags or totes for a fee while others may not. To account for stores that may not, and for spontaneous shopping trips, it is recommended that residents keep a few reusable bags in their vehicle if able. Reusable bags are defined as being made of polypropylene, PET nonwoven fabric, nylon, cloth, hemp product, or other machine washable fabric with a stitched handle. Please keep an eye out for reusable bag giveaways at upcoming County events.

Environmental Impact of Plastic

Plastic is the most prevalent type of debris found in our oceans. It can come in all shapes and sizes, but those that are less than five millimeters in length (or about the size of a sesame seed) are called microplastics. Since plastic isn't biodegradable, it ends up either in landfills or as litter on the landscape and in waterways. Plastic can take hundreds of years to decompose and can release toxins into the soil and water in the process.

Littered plastic is also a huge problem for the health of wildlife and our human food supply, as animals may mistake it for food and develop breathing and digestion issues after consuming.

Another reason for banning plastic bags is their fossil fuel burden. Plastic is not only made from petroleum, but producing it typically requires a lot of fossil-fuel-derived energy. The fact that Americans throw away some 100 billion plastic grocery bags each year means we are drilling and importing millions of barrels worth of oil and natural gas just to have a convenient way to carry home groceries.

"Plastic bags have been found to be a significant contributor to litter in our environment and interfere with the recycling process when placed in a curbside recycling container. While this legislation will require our residents to adjust to the change it will bring, in time these adjustments will become second nature, and our environment will benefit" said Commissioner Nash, liaison to the Camden County Division of Environmental Affairs.

A Message from the Camden County Board of Commissioners

Building a Greener, More Sustainable Future

The Commissioners of Camden County remain steadfast in our commitment to improve our county's overall environmental health. With Spring and Summer months upon us and the recent celebration of Earth Day, now is the perfect time to share our plans to enhance our environment.

The following projects encompass all aspects of sustainability; from promoting recycling by providing local shredding event sponsorships to all municipalities, to expanding our bike share program to at least one county park this summer. We will also be giving away thousands of totes and reusable bags as the state prepares to eliminate all single use plastic bags from retail establishments on May 4th.

Some of our larger initiatives include building and expanding our electric vehicle charging infrastructure and replacing our fleet of county vehicles with electric to reduce our carbon footprint and save taxpayers money at the gas pump. We will also continue to work with our utility providers to replace thousands of streetlights with LED bulbs to reduce power usage and modernize our street and park lighting.

In addition to energy-efficient vehicles and lighting, we plan to preserve more greenspace for our community, and protect and maintain critical natural areas. Our latest open space purchase in Winslow Township will add another 80 acres of green property in Camden County.

On top of these initiatives, we joined Governor Murphy, Congressman Donald Norcross, and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to create a new crown jewel in our park system. The former Harrison Avenue landfill of Camden City has been transformed into a waterfront park, complete with passive recreation, fishing piers and boat launches right on the Delaware River. This previously blighted property is now a beacon for our county and provides walking trails and spectacular views of both the Cooper and Delaware River, as well as the Philadelphia city skyline.

The Board of Commissioners manages about 2,700 acres of park land and thousands of annual plantings every spring. Considering the size and scope of this project, we began growing plants locally at our sustainability campus greenhouses in Gloucester Township to save taxpayers money and shrink our carbon footprint.

At this same campus, we will continue utilizing our hydroponic greenhouse to grow food for the patrons of Cathedral Kitchen and the Neighborhood Center in Camden City. We also plan to open the first Sustainability Center in South Jersey this spring to provide programming and educational events for our community to combat climate change and go carbon neutral.

Furthermore, the Commissioners of Camden County are advancing our strong partnership with our county's representative in Congress to make our county cleaner, safer, and healthier. With input from the community, Congressman Norcross has delivered $500,000 in federal funding to reduce large-scale illegal littering and pollution in our neighborhoods.

Lastly, after suspending household hazardous waste collection events in 2020 due to the pandemic, we got back on track last year by receiving and processing 317,890 pounds of hazardous waste from more than 4,500 Camden County households.

These are just a handful of projects and initiatives the Commissioners are working on to build a greener, more sustainable future for our county. We encourage all residents to participate at both the municipal and county-level in the programs, projects and events highlighted throughout this edition of The Recycler.

Please stay informed by signing up for our weekly newsletter at CamdenCounty.com/SignUp.

Louis Cappelli, Jr., Director
Edward T. McDonnell, Deputy Director
Jeffrey L. Nash, Parks Liaison
Carmen G. Rodriguez
Jonathan L. Young, Sr., Sustainability Liaison
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How to Become a Better Recycler

Residents should be mindful of what can and cannot be recycled, as well as how certain items, like batteries and electronics, should be disposed. Since environmentally responsible recycling programs should follow sustainable markets for raw materials, it isn't unusual for the guidelines
to change. Be alert for changes in recycling guidelines. The following is a snapshot of current guidelines.

For more information on local and countywide recycling programs, please visit your municipal website, **CamdenCounty.com/recycle, or the Recycle Coach website/app** (as discussed on page 5)

The only items that currently CAN be placed in your curbside recycling container include:

- Plastic bottles, jugs, and jars (no loose caps)
- Glass bottles, jugs, and jars of all shapes and sizes
- Aluminum, steel, and tin food and beverage cans and lids
- Corrugated cardboard boxes (clean and empty with no plastic or foam fillers)
- All mixed paper (newspapers, magazines, empty cereal boxes, non-freezer packaging, etc.)

The following items CANNOT be placed into your curbside recycling container

- Plastic bags or other plastic films
- Styrofoam of any kind
- Dishware, glassware, and mirrors
- Dirty pizza boxes
- Product packaging from the freezer
- Shredded paper
- Pots, pans, scrap metal, and small appliances
- Plastic containers, plasticware, and any other plastics not already identified
- Electronic waste (contact your municipality for local drop-off options)
- Batteries

Note: alkaline batteries are non hazardous and can be placed in the regular trash.

Be Careful with That Rechargeable Lithium Battery

From cell phones to laptops, power tools, and electric vehicles, rechargeable lithium-ion batteries are becoming increasingly prevalent in our lives. By 2025, it's estimated that the global lithium battery market will surpass $100 billion.

While rechargeable lithium batteries are recyclable, care must be taken to do so properly. Batteries of any kind should never be placed in curbside recycling containers, as they have led to fires breaking out and, in some cases, destroying recycling facilities. These batteries burn at extremely high temperatures, making them dangerous to people and property. Fortunately, there are several free and convenient ways to recycle them safely.

One way is to bring them to locations that participate in a targeted battery recycling program, like Home Depot, Lowes, and Staples. Countrywide, most retailers with battery drop-off stations receive their containers from Call2Recycle, a nonprofit organization. New Jersey counties recently teamed up with Call2Recycle to produce a statewide battery awareness campaign geared towards its residents. The Avoid the Spark NJ campaign has its own website where residents can find convenient drop off locations and learn more about proper battery safety and identification (see links at the bottom of this article).

Another option is to bring them to a municipal electronics recycling location. Many towns accept rechargeable lithium batteries free of charge if they are attached to an electronic device or power tool, like laptops, cell phones, and cordless drills. Numerous Camden County municipalities often sponsor year-round electronics recycling collection programs.Contact your local public works department to find out your municipality's electronic waste recycling guidelines.

A third option is to bring batteries attached to electronic devices to a state-permitted electronic waste recycling facility, such as Magnum Computer Recycling in Pennsauken (856) 333-0991 or Tab Shredding Inc. in Berlin (856) 768-4402. Tab Shredding does charge a fee. It is advised to schedule appointments before dropping items off.

Lastly, residents can bring all rechargeable batteries and single-use lithium batteries to any of the county's Household Hazardous Waste Collection events. Please note that only loose batteries are accepted at these events- electronic devices are not accepted. See page 8 for the 2022 collection events schedule.

Camden County Commissioner and liaison to the Division of Environmental Affairs, Jefferey Nash, expressed the importance of proper recycling. "With the proliferation of lithium batteries in our society, it is imperative they are handled responsibly and safely. The consequences of not disposing of these items in the proper way can create undue risks to our community and undermine the health and welfare of our residents. The Board of Commissioners encourages all residents to use one of the many convenient in-county recycling locations for these and all rechargeable batteries."

To learn more about proper handling of all types of batteries, and to find convenient drop-off locations near you, visit:

call2recycle.org/avoid-the-spark-nj or CamdenCounty.com/LithiumBatteries.

Five Easy Safety Tips for All Rechargeable Battery and Single Use Lithium Battery Recycling

Safety First! When handling batteries, there are two ways to safely prepare them for recycling. One is to bag each battery separately in its own clear plastic bag before placing them in a storage container. The other is to tape the terminals with clear, non-conductive electrical or duct tape, keeping the label visible.

Stay Cool! Store the batteries in a cool, dry place. Incidents can occur when batteries (or the devices they power like cell phones or tablets) are exposed to inclement or excessively hot weather. Store them in a plastic container, not metal.

Damaged battery? If you have a swollen or bulging battery, immediately place it in a bucket containing a non-flammable material such as sand or kitty litter- **DO NOT THROW THE BATTERY IN THE TRASH.** Contact Call2Recycle customer service at 1-877-723-1297, or its manufacturer/retailer for guidance. This is particularly important if the label indicates the battery is lithium or lithium-ion.

Timing is everything. Try not to hold onto expired batteries for longer than six months. During this time batteries should be stored as directed above, being either individually bagged or taped. You can use the Call2Recycle website to find your nearest drop-off site.

Spread the word! Batteries power our world, and we should do our part to preserve the environment and avoid unnecessary accidents. For additional information, please use this link for the New Jersey Avoid the Spark battery recycling campaign: **call2recycle.org/avoid-the-spark-nj.**

***NOTE:** Single-use alkaline, zinc carbon, and zinc chloride batteries are not considered hazardous waste and can be placed into the regular trash. When storing or disposing of 9-volt alkaline batteries, they should be taped or bagged as described above. Expired 9-volt batteries still contain enough of a charge that, if not handled properly, could spark and cause a fire. Once bagged or taped, they can be stored or thrown away in the regular trash.

County Moves to Improve Convenience for Electronics Recycling Programs and for Document Shredding Events

Prior to the pandemic, County electronics collection events steadily lost participation to more convenient municipal collection / drop-off programs and local businesses that accept electronic waste. Many of these drop-off programs are open to the public year-round, providing a convenient opportunity to recycle electronic waste. Among local businesses to offer free and convenient electronic disposal services is Magnum Computer Recycling in Pennsauken.

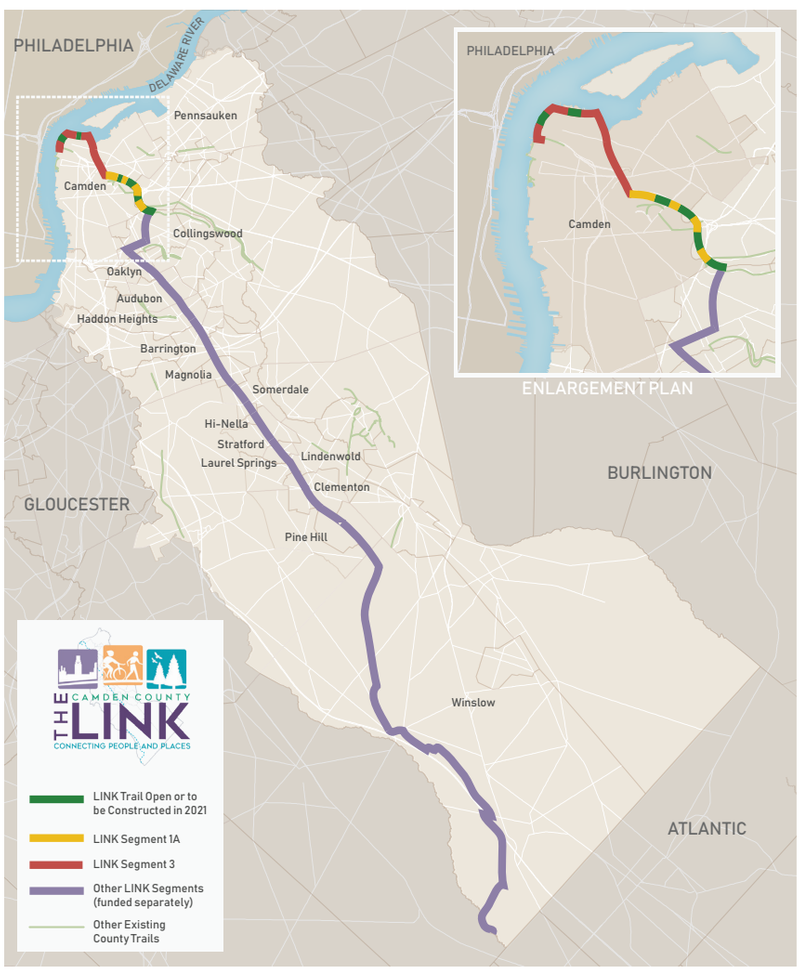
In a similar vein, the County strives to improve its shredding events by reducing the long lines and wait times caused by the hundreds of residents converging on a single location. To accomplish this, a more localized model similar to electronic waste disposal was adopted.

One of the County's approaches to creating more convenient recycling and disposal programs for its residents was utilizing State Recycling Enhancement Act (REA) grant funding to establish a sponsorship program for municipalities that agreed to hold their own shredding events. In 2021, this enabled residents to shred sensitive documents locally while saving time, fuel, and protecting the environment. Municipalities who participated in this county-sponsored program received up to $1,000 to fund a local shredding event. Smaller towns that opted for joint shredding events with neighboring towns were each eligible for up to $1,000 in funding as well.

In total, nine municipalities took advantage of this sponsorship program and generated 73,406 pounds of shredded paper for recycling. Building on this first-year success, the County will once more offer sponsorship for shredding events to interested municipalities in 2022.

In tandem with municipality efforts, the County plans to hold a single countywide shredding event this year on June 4th at the Woodcrest PATCO High Speedline station in Cherry Hill from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Work Continues on the Design and Construction of the Camden County LINK Trail



Design efforts continue for several key segments of the Camden County LINK Trail. These segments are in Camden City, Pennsauken, Audubon, Haddon Heights, Hi-Nella, and Winslow Township.

The LINK, formerly the Cross Camden County Trail, is a planned 34-mile, multi-use trail that will travel through seventeen County municipalities between Camden City and Winslow Township. The trail is part of the Circuit Trails- a network of more than 800 miles of trails in nine counties on both sides of the Delaware River. It's projected that the LINK Trail, once completed, will inject more than $19 million into the local economy each year.

Between 2018 and 2021, Camden County received more than $5.7 million in State and Federal funding for this effort. This includes $1.2 million to construct a 1.2-mile section of trail along Atlantic Avenue in Audubon and Haddon Heights; $1 million to construct a bicycle/pedestrian bridge across the Cooper River adjacent to Admiral Wilson Boulevard; and $3.5 million to design and construct a bicycle/pedestrian bridge across Route 130 near North Park Drive in Pennsauken. The County also awaits funding to build a 6.2-mile trail from the base of the Ben Franklin Bridge to South Park Drive at Browning Road in Collingswood.

As part of the County's commitment to sustainability, a variety of green infrastructure elements, including porous asphalt, will be incorporated into the LINK's design. Additionally, the project will result in a net increase of trees along the trail.

In a recent development, the County is now coordinating with Atlantic County and the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization (SJTPO) to merge the LINK with planned trails in both Atlantic and Cape May Counties that, if realized, would take users from the base of the Ben Franklin Bridge to Cape May City- a distance of approximately 110 miles.

"This active transportation project is part of the County's commitment to a sustainable future. Not only will it serve to connect seventeen Camden County municipalities with a continuous off road, multi-use trail and inject millions of dollars into the local economy each year, but now could be part of a three-county initiative to construct more than 100 miles of continuous trail between the Ben Franklin Bridge in Camden and Cape May City, which is a very exciting prospect," noted Commissioner Jeff Nash, liaison to the Camden County Department of Parks.

Further information on the LINK Trail, including a series of drone videos showcasing the planned route of the trail, is available at **CamdenCounty.com/CrossCountyTrail.**

Reduce Your Carbon Footprint at Home with Backyard Composting!

While all organic matter breaks down in time, there are easy steps you can take at home to effectively speed up the process. The homemade compost you produce can then be used to nurture your plants, garden, and more around your property.

Step 1

Purchase or construct a bin approximately 1 cubic yard in size (3'x3'x3') or use an open area in your yard without a bin. The size of the bin/area is important for obtaining the proper temperature to aid in the decomposition process. If the bin/pile is too small, it will not generate enough heat to promote the microbial activity essential for decomposition. If the bin/area is too large, it will not allow enough air to reach the microbes in the center.

Step 2

Mix two-parts brown material (leaves, straw, small twigs, etc.) with one-part green material (grass clippings, vegetable scraps, etc.). This 2:1 ratio provides the best mix of carbon (leaves) with nitrogen (grass) to promote optimal decomposition. Materials such as kitchen scraps or twigs will decompose quicker with increased surface area, so break them into smaller pieces when possible. Also, to avoid unpleasant odors and vermin, never put red meat or poultry into your compost bin/pile. See the lists below for items you can add to your compost, as well as items you should avoid.

Items You CAN Compost

NITROGEN (GREEN, WET)

- Grass clippings
- Weeds
- Vegetables
- Fruit scraps
- Coffee grounds & filters
- Tea bags
- Eggshells

CARBON (DRY, BROWN)

- Dead leaves
- Hay or straw
- Cornstalks
- Sawdust
- Dried, brown grass clippings
- Newspaper*
- Food-soiled cardboard*

*Shred and add in small quantities

Items You SHOULD NOT Compost at Home

- Grease or oil
- Dead animals
- Diseased plants
- Fatty foods
- Any meat or bones
- Human and/or pet waste
- Treated wood
- Coal
- Pesticide-treated plants
- Weeds with seeds

Step 3

Water your bin/pile as needed to maintain a level of moisture like that of a wrung-out sponge.

Step 4

Compost needs air to decompose. Turning the compost assists the breakdown of materials and helps to prevent any potential odors.

Step 5

When the compost is finished, it should look and smell like rich soil. This means it's ready to use for your garden, flowerbeds, potted plants, and lawn.

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recycle coach

Become a Recycling Expert– Download the Recycle Coach App Today

If you're looking to reduce your household waste, become a better recycler, and become more knowledgeable about local recycling and disposal options, look no further than the Recycle Coach app.

Recycle Coach is a technology company with deep roots in public and private waste management services. It has developed comprehensive digital solutions that optimize waste collection and recycling programs. The app also connects residents with local recycling and disposal information via desktop, mobile, and digital assistants (like Amazon Echo or Google Home).

Camden County is excited to join the Recycle Coach network, which can transform the way the County and its municipalities communicate local recycle and disposal information to their residents.

By leveraging the versatile access to Recycle Coach, Camden County's residents are empowered to discover local recycling and disposal information for thousands of household items when they need it. Best of all, it's free thanks to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and its commitment to educating residents throughout the state.

With Recycle Coach, Residents Can:

- Find the closest recycling and disposal facility for any household item based on their zip code
- Become recycling experts with a comprehensive "What goes where?" search tool, complete with local recycling and disposal info as well as collection requirements for common and unique household items
- Take the "What type of recycler are you?" quiz to learn useful recycling tips and tricks
- Stay organized with customized curbside collection and events calendar
- Receive collection reminders and real-time updates on service disruptions
- Use the problem reporting tool, equipped with geolocation, to notify municipal customer service representatives about issues like a missed collection

Ultimately, the service takes the guesswork out of recycling, empowering residents to make smarter recycling and disposal decisions while taking an active role in reducing household waste. For Camden County as a whole, this can translate into higher recycling rates and less contamination in the waste stream- a win-win for all.

Become a better recycler today by downloading Recycle Coach for free at the Apple App Store or Google Play. Contact your municipal public works department for more information.

Report Your Businesses' Recycling Totals - It is the LAW!

The New Jersey Statewide Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act requires the source separation and recycling of all mandatory recyclable items in the Residential, Commercial, and Institutional sectors. Camden County has designated the following materials as mandatory recyclable items which should never be placed in the trash. **Items in bold** however can be included in a Single Stream Recycling program.

- **Aluminum/metal food and beverage cans**
- **Glass bottles and jars**
- **Plastic bottles and jars (#1 and #2)**
- **Cardboard**
- **High-grade office paper**
- **Mixed-grade paper (junk mail, catalogs, etc.)**
- **Newspaper**
- Scrap metal
- White goods (Appliances)
- Motor oil
- Construction/demolition waste, including: asphalt, concrete blocks, bricks, and clean/untreated wood waste
- Yard waste, including: grass clippings, leaves, brush and tree debris

Additionally, if you are an owner, operator, or manager of a business or institution and you generate fluorescent bulbs, non-alkaline batteries, Covered Electronic Devices (CED), mercury-containing devices, or any other items considered "Universal Waste," it is your responsibility to recycle those items as well. If you operate a business with 50 employees or less, some electronic devices can be recycled for free. Contact a New Jersey State authorized electronic recycler for more information.

As a business owner, operator, or manager, it is your responsibility to ensure that a functioning recycling program is in place to provide effective source separation of the above-listed materials. Under law, the weight of all recycled materials generated by your business, institution, or commercial complex must be reported annually to your municipality's recycling coordinator before April 30 of each year.

Each municipality is eligible for annual grant funding based on the reported weight of all recycled materials. These grants provide municipalities with tens of thousands of dollars for recycling and other important environmental programs. If businesses do not recycle or report their recycling totals annually to their municipality, they are hindering the full potential of grant funding that their municipality should receive.

For Municipal Public Works contact information, please see page 9.

Camden County may conduct random inspections of businesses and institutions in hopes that they are in full compliance with the law. However, if a business is not in compliance, the County reserves the right to issue fines based on its assessment.

Should you have any questions or concerns about the information contained in this article, please contact the

Camden County Division of Environmental Affairs at (856) 858-5241

PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST MOSQUITOES:

Camden County's Mosquito Commission sprays public roads throughout the County during the breeding season to reduce adult mosquito populations. To lessen the occurrence of mosquito breeding, inspectors continuously assess several factors when deciding when and where to spray. However, the frontline to mosquito control is you. Below are tips on how to fight the battle of the buzz and ensure your property doesn't become a mosquito breeding ground.

Tips:

- Mosquitoes need stagnant water to breed. Check your property regularly for anything that holds water for more than a few days. These can be trashcans and lids, flowerpots, bird baths, buckets, tires, rain gutters, kids' toys, tire swings, kiddie pools, and even things as small as bottle caps.
- Dispose of any unnecessary containers that hold water, and regularly empty any remaining containers after a rain event. If possible, store remaining containers indoors.
- Check folds in pool covers and tarps that can trap rainwater and become a breeding site.
- Store boats upside down so they drain. If covered, keep the tarp tight so water doesn't pool on top.
- Check for items under bushes, in tall grass, and other areas that are shaded.
- Check downspout extensions. If ribbed, or at an angle that allows rainwater to pool inside the extension, this creates a perfect habitat for mosquitoes to breed.
- Change water in bird baths, fountains, and animal troughs weekly. Stock ornamental ponds with fish or add mosquito larvicide.
- Maintain backyard pools. Poorly maintained pools can become a mosquito breeding ground within days if you stop adding chlorine or some other disinfectant.
- Buy mosquito repellent to spray yourself and family members when going outdoors.
- Use an oscillating fan on decks and patios while entertaining to keep mosquitoes away.
- Maintain screens on doors and windows to prevent mosquitoes from entering your home.
- Consider hiring a private contractor to spray if you're planning an outdoor event.

To stay up-to-date on the Mosquito Commission's spraying schedule and other news, sign-up for our weekly email newsletter at **CamdenCounty.com/signup.**

By Adopting Zero–Waste Strategies at Home, You CAN Make a Difference

Oftentimes people feel they cannot create change; especially when helping the environment. However, if each of us practice Zero-Waste strategies in our everyday lives, we'll quickly find change is possible. Beginning with these four steps, together we can propel our community toward a more sustainable lifestyle.

1. Perform a Household Waste Audit:

During a waste audit you assess your trash habits to understand what you consistently throw away and how wasteful your behaviors may be. The best way to audit is evaluate your trash over a given period of time, be it a week, a month, or more. Avoid assessing during the holidays or large family gatherings, as this does not reflect your typical household waste stream.

2. Develop waste prevention strategies:

After determining what you throw away, you can develop prevention strategies to improve some wasteful habits. An easy way to reduce waste is to limit what we buy, as we often get more than needed. For example, about 22% of household waste is food. Typically, this is because a consumer may purchase more food than can be consumed before expiration. If this is the case, one strategy would aim to reduce the amount of fresh food purchased on a grocery store trip.

Establishing a backyard compost pile is another simple, inexpensive strategy to reduce food waste. Not only will this reduce the amount of waste sent for disposal, but you will gain a rich soil amendment to nurture your garden and yard with.

3. Find new uses for your trash:

This strategy can apply to a variety of reusable items, like donatable toys and clothes, as well as things that can be repurposed, like refilling and freezing water bottles to use as icepacks. Engage with your neighbors to find new and creative ways to save things from going for disposal. Maybe you're throwing away an icetray that would be perfect for organizing loose screws and bolts strewn around someone's workshop.

Together, these small ideas can grow into a larger, effective plan for waste reduction. Finding creative ways to repurpose something can not only be rewarding, but also shared with others to encourage eco-friendly habits.

4. Engage your family in waste diversion:

Sometimes the best ideas stem from collaboration, and who better to discuss disposal habits with than your family? Allowing enthusiastic kids of all ages to join the conversation can lead to surprising ideas and perspectives adults may lack. Drum up a discussion with your family today- it may yield surprising results!

Camden County's Open Space Trust Fund Supports 6 Amazing Historic Preservation Projects

The Camden County Board of Commissioners recently awarded grant funds to six historic projects, including the Griffith Morgan House in Pennsauken. The Griffith Morgan House, a 17th Century Queen Anne Colonial Plantation House built and owned by the Griffith Morgan family, is a museum of local history listed on the National and State Registers of Historic Places. In 2021, the Board of Commissioners proudly funded the following preservation efforts:

- **Battleship New Jersey - Camden**
- **Griffith Morgan House - Pennsauken**
- **Greenfield Hall - Haddonfield**
- **Newton Meeting House - Camden**
- **American Revolution Trail Signage and Mobile Audio App - Various Municipalities Throughout Camden County**
- **Whitman Stafford Farmhouse - Laurel Springs**

Whitman Stafford Farmhouse

Grifith Morgan House

DISPOSAL OF WATER BASED LATEX PAINT

Latex paint is non-hazardous and should not be brought to our Household Hazardous Waste Collections.

It can be disposed of in the regular trash, provided it is first dried out. Follow these simple steps to dispose of latex paint in the trash year-round.

FIRST check the label for an indication that the paint is latex or cleans up with soap & water

SECOND gather the following materials: cardboard box, strong plastic trash bag, kitty litter, or sand

3. Open trash bag within confines of the box

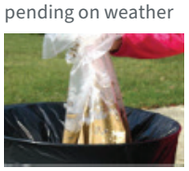
4. Place a small amount of kitty litter or sand in the bottom of the bag

5. Open the paint can and pour the paint into the bag with the kitty litter/sand.

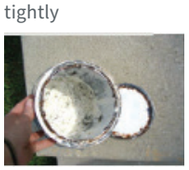
6. Add more kitty litter/sand as needed. Stir/mix the paint with the kitty litter/sand

7. Wait for the kitty litter to absorb the paint. This may take hours or days, depending on weather

8. When the paint is dry, pull the end of the trash bag together and secure tightly



9. Discard the bag in the trash



10. Allow the residue inside the paint can to harden and dispose of the can in the trash

CAMDEN COUNTY HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

2022 COLLECTION EVENTS*

CAMDEN COUNTY RESIDENTS ONLY

NO BUSINESSES OR COMMERCIAL VEHICLES WILL BE ACCEPTED

HOURS: 8:30AM - 3:00PM - RAIN OR SHINE

*APRIL 23: **COLLINGSWOOD** PUBLIC WORKS COMPLEX 713 N. ATLANTIC AVE.

*MAY 14: **ATCO** PARKING AREA AT THE CORNER OF ATCO AVE. AND RARITAN AVE.

*JUNE 11: **LINDENWOLD** CAMDEN COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS COMPLEX 2311 EGG HARBOR ROAD

*SEPTEMBER 24: **PENNSAUKEN** SANITARY LANDFILL 9600 N. RIVER ROAD

*OCTOBER 22: **LINDENWOLD** CAMDEN COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS COMPLEX 2311 EGG HARBOR ROAD

WHAT TO BRING

Automotive
Antifreeze
Brake Fluid
Car Batteries
Car Wax and Polish
Carburetor Cleaner
Degreasers
Diesel Fuel
Engine Starting Fluid
Gasoline
Grease
Lead-Acid Batteries
Motor Oil
Power Steering Fluid
Transmission Fluid

Paint-Related Products
Creosote
Driveway Sealer
Epoxies
Linseed Oil
Oil-Based Paint
Paint Strippers
Paint Thinners
Primers
Pruning Paint

Paint-Related Products cont.
Resins
Shellac
Solvent-Based Paint
Spray Paint
Stains
Turpentine
Varnish
Water Sealer

Household Cleaners
Aluminum Cleaners
Bleach
Cesspool Cleaners
Disinfectants
Drain Opener
Dry-Cleaning Solvents
Floor Wax
Furniture Polish
Lye
Metal Polish
Oven Cleaner
Rug & Upholstery Cleaner

Personal Care
Fingernail Polish & Remover
Hair Coloring
Hydrogen Peroxide
Iodine
Mercury Thermometers

Home and Hobby
Chemistry Kits
Cutting Oil
Fluorescent Bulbs
Glues and Adhesives
Gun Cleaning Solvents
Mercury Thermostats
Pool Chemicals
Propane Tanks
(25 LB & under)

QUESTIONS?
Call (856) 858-5241
for more information

WHAT NOT TO BRING

ACETYLENE/CO_2 TANKS
AIR CONDITIONERS
CEMENT/CEMENT MIX
COOKING OIL
EMPTY CONTAINERS
FIBERGLASS INSULATION
HEATING OIL TANKS
HELIUM/OXYGEN TANKS
JOINT COMPOUND
LANDSCAPE TIMBERS
MEDICATIONS
SCRAP METAL
SMOKE DETECTORS
TIRES

* INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE DAY OF EVENT(S):

- All residents must show proof of residency.
- All residents must remain in their vehicles throughout the event.
- All materials to be dropped off should be placed in the rear cargo area of the vehicle only (not in the passenger seating area).
- Wearing a mask is encouraged.

WHAT GOES IN THE BIN?

camden county
Making It Better, Together.

Rinsed Bottles, Jars, & Jugs
(Glass and Plastic)

Rinsed Cans
(Aluminum and Steel)

Paper

Cardboard

NEVER
Plastic Bags

...AND
WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT!

For more information about
Single-Stream Recycling, go to:

CamdenCounty.com/inthebin

Brought to you by the Camden County Board of Commissioners

MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS CONTACTS

MUNICIPALITY	PHONE
Audubon	(856) 547-1240
Audubon Park	(856) 547-5236
Barrington	(856) 547-2486
Bellmawr	(856) 931-1111
Berlin Boro	(856) 767-0056
Berlin Twp.	(856) 767-5052
Brooklawn	(856) 456-2638
Camden City	(856) 757-7139
Cherry Hill	(856) 424-4422
Chesilhurst	(856) 767-4153 x9
Clementon	(856) 784-0495
Collingswood	(856) 858-0533
Gibbsboro	(856) 783-6655 x170
Gloucester City	(856) 456-0781
Gloucester Twp.	(856) 228-3144
Haddon Hts.	(856) 546-2580
Haddon Twp.	(856) 883-6260
Haddonfield	(856) 429-0183
Hi-Nella	(856) 784-6237
Laurel Springs	(856) 784-1477
Lawnside	(856) 573-6212
Lindenwold	(856) 783-1848
Magnolia	(856) 784-6162
Merchantville	(856) 665-0590
Mt. Ephraim	(856) 931-2529
Oaklyn	(856) 858-2457
Pennsauken	(856) 663-0178
Pine Hill	(856) 784-4697
Runnemede	(856) 931-0646
Somerdale	(856) 783-4648
Stratford	(856) 783-0600
Voorhees Twp.	(856) 428-5499
Waterford Twp.	(856) 767-2359 x220
Winslow Twp.	(856) 567-0700 x9001
Woodlynne	(856) 962-8300

EV Charging Station Update

Electric vehicles are now common in almost every make and model, with many auto manufacturers pledging to have their inventory either most or all electric in the next decade. In 2013, Camden County became the first county in the region to install a network of electric vehicle charging stations for use by its residents. The County received a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy to install 11 electric vehicle charging stations in parking lots at various County facilities, including the Camden County Boathouse, all three campuses of Camden County College, two Camden County libraries (Runnemede and South County Branch), and the Gloucester Township Campus of the VoTech School. Those charging stations are in the process of being replaced with the newest technology in electric vehicle charging, and many will have dual ports, doubling the number of vehicles chargeable at once. Be on the lookout for new chargers at these locations, as well as several new spots, later this year.

Tanks and Compressed Gas Cylinders

Propane Cylinders: Propane fuel is sorted into two groups: refillable tanks and single-use ("disposable") cylinders/ canisters. 20 lb. refillable propane tanks are commonly used with barbeque grills, heaters, and forklifts.

Single-use cylinders come in two basic styles: a short, fat tank (16.4 oz.) typically used for portable appliance cooking and lanterns, and a tall, skinny tank (14.1 oz.) typically used for torch fuel.

Most 20 lb. propane tanks and single-use cylinders are accepted at Camden County Household Hazardous Waste Program events

Fire Extinguishers: Non-rechargeable, residential dry chemical fire extinguishers can be properly disposed of at a Camden County Household Hazardous Waste Program event.

Rechargeable commercial extinguishers are not accepted at these events. Please contact the supplier/ manufacturer for proper disposal information

Helium Tanks: Helium is non-toxic and inert. Please contact the manufacturer of this product for proper guidelines. **Note: small single use party balloon filling tanks can be recycled at a County Household Hazardous Waste event.**

Other Compressed Gas Tanks/Oxygen Tanks: For compressed gas cylinders/tanks or oxygen tanks, please contact the supplier for proper handling and disposal procedures. These tanks are not accepted at County Household Hazardous Waste Events. All tanks should be handled carefully and must not be punctured since they may be under extreme pressure and/or may contain combustible gas.

Camden Powers-Up

Commissioners, Congressman Norcross Unveil Electric Bus Infrastructure in Camden City

Commissioner Jeffrey Nash joined Congressman Donald Norcross and Mayor Victor Carstarphen to unveil groundbreaking electric bus charging infrastructure at the Newton Avenue Bus Garage, a first of its kind initiative in Camden City.

These chargers and related technology upgrades represent the next step in NJ TRANSIT's goal of transitioning to a 100% zero-emissions bus fleet by 2040.

"Electric vehicles are the way of the future and having this electric bus charging infrastructure here in Camden City will allow us to utilize more sustainable means of public transportation and rely less on carbon emitting, traditional vehicles," said Commissioner Nash, who also serves as the liaison to the county's Environmental Commission. "We're excited to have such a transformative initiative underway here in our city and we hope to be an example to other municipalities to show that investing in renewable energy will benefit our communities and our planet in the long run."

The agency's first eight battery electric buses will be deployed in Camden City later this year. Mayor Victor Carstarphen discussed his excitement to see this initiative underway in Camden City.

"I commend Governor Phil Murphy for helping reduce emissions not only in Camden but across New Jersey," Carstarphen said. "I'm also grateful to Congressman Donald Norcross for advocating for sustainable initiatives and transformational projects that improve the quality of life for residents. It makes me proud to know that NJ TRANSIT's new electric bus charging stations at Newton Avenue Garage will be a first of its kind. This is a huge step towards making NJ TRANSIT greener and it shows a strong commitment to not only being environmental responsibly to customers riding NJ TRANSIT buses but also to all those living in the surrounding area."

The project in Camden will test electric buses in real world conditions on specific routes to provide invaluable data and information on the effects of weather, passenger volume, road and other factors on electric bus performance, including travel distance available between recharging.

The project will also review the infrastructure resources and work required to modernize bus garages to accept new charging stations and the greater power feeds needed to energize them.

"With the successful installation of the charging infrastructure at our Newton Avenue bus garage, which will support our eight electric buses arriving later this year, NJ TRANSIT celebrates a significant milestone on our roadmap to a 100% zero-emissions bus fleet," said Kevin S. Corbett, NJ TRANSIT's president and chief executive officer. "NJ TRANSIT's Zero-Emissions Bus Program is aligned with Governor Murphy's Energy Master Plan and we remain committed to achieving our goal of a fully zero-emissions bus fleet by 2040."

Sustainable Jersey Certification

Sustainable Jersey is a certification program for public schools K-12 and municipalities in New Jersey that want to go green, save money, and take steps to sustain their quality of life over the long term. The program identifies actions that schools and municipalities can take to become certified while also providing the guidance and tools needed to propel progress. Some of the support provided is access to grants and help identifying funding opportunities for municipalities. Each of Camden County's municipalities are registered for the program, and 14 have received bronze-or silver-level certification. Towns and schools have received well over $100,000 in grants through this program for their sustainability efforts.

Sustainable Jersey encompasses three equal, interrelated components of sustainability:

- **Prosperity: Support local economies and use community resources**
- **Planet: Practice responsible environmental management and conservation**
- **People: Contribute to a strong civil society that provides opportunity for all**

Local government and school participation is strictly voluntary and never mandated. Sustainable Jersey is New Jersey based and consensus driven. Certification actions are developed through an ongoing process of discussion and research that includes the participation of over 150 New Jersey leaders, experts, and organizations including state agencies, universities, non-profit organizations, and business leaders. Sustainable Jersey has proven to be a great tool at reaching out to our municipalities and schools and getting towns and their residents engaged in sustainability.

County SolSmart Program Certification

Solar energy is a carbon-free electricity source and an essential part of any strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Many communities use it to meet climate change goals or renewable energy targets- all while creating more jobs. Solar energy is also used by homeowners, businesses, and local governments to drastically reduce their utility costs.

To address solar soft costs at the municipal and county levels, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Solar Energy Technologies Office (SETO) funds SolSmart, a program that provides designation and no-cost technical assistance to accelerate the development of local solar energy markets and reduce soft costs. The program's broad national reach helps communities in all parts of the country make it faster, easier, and more affordable to go solar.

Camden County has achieved bronze-level certification in this nationwide program, which will help streamline the permitting and inspection process for residents who want to pursue solar. To find out more about the program, please visit the County's website at:

CamdenCounty.com/SolarEnergy

Camden County Commissioners Fund 26 Local Recreation Projects

Twenty-six grants of $25,000 were imparted to municipalities and organizations throughout Camden County. Each year, the Board of Commissioners provides Recreation Facility Enhancement funds to finance necessary improvements to playgrounds, parks, trails, sports complexes, and other spaces of recreation in the county.

In 2021, the Board of Commissioners proudly awarded a total of $650,000 to the following Recreation Facility Enhancement Grant recipients:

Audubon Borough - Trails at Community Center Park

Audubon Park - Basketball Court Improvements

Bellmawr Borough - Petruzzi Playground Improvements

Berlin Township - Luke Avenue Playground Expansion

Brooklawn Borough - Ball Field Upgrades

Camden City - Cramer Hill Waterfront Trail Connector

Camden City - Tennis Court Improvements

Cherry Hill Township - Barlow Park Improvements

Cherry Hill Township - Brandywoods Park Improvements

Chesilhurst Borough - Challenge Park at Leann Harris Park (Phase III)

Clementon Borough - Bottoms Lake Fishing Pond

Gibbsboro Borough - Gibbsboro Bikeway Network – Multi-Use Trail Amenities

Gloucester City - Park Benches at Various Parks

Haddon Heights - Devon Avenue Rec Complex Well Installation

Haddon Township - Municipal Pocket Park

Magnolia Borough - Magnolia Little League Complex Improvements

Merchantville Borough - Raised Crosswalk at Centre Street for Multi-Use Trail

Mt. Ephraim Borough - Shining Star Park Tot Lot

Oaklyn Borough - Clinton Avenue Pocket Park (Phase IV)

Pennsauken Township - East Pennsauken Park Improvements

Runnemede Borough - Runnemede Lake Park Trail

Somerdale Borough -James Perry Memorial Complex-Playground

Stratford Borough - Vassar Avenue Sports Complex

Winslow Township - Peter Volpa Memorial Park East- Drainage Improvements

Winslow Township - Peter Volpa Memorial Park West- Drainage Improvements

Woodlynne Borough - 4th & Evergreen Playground Upgrades

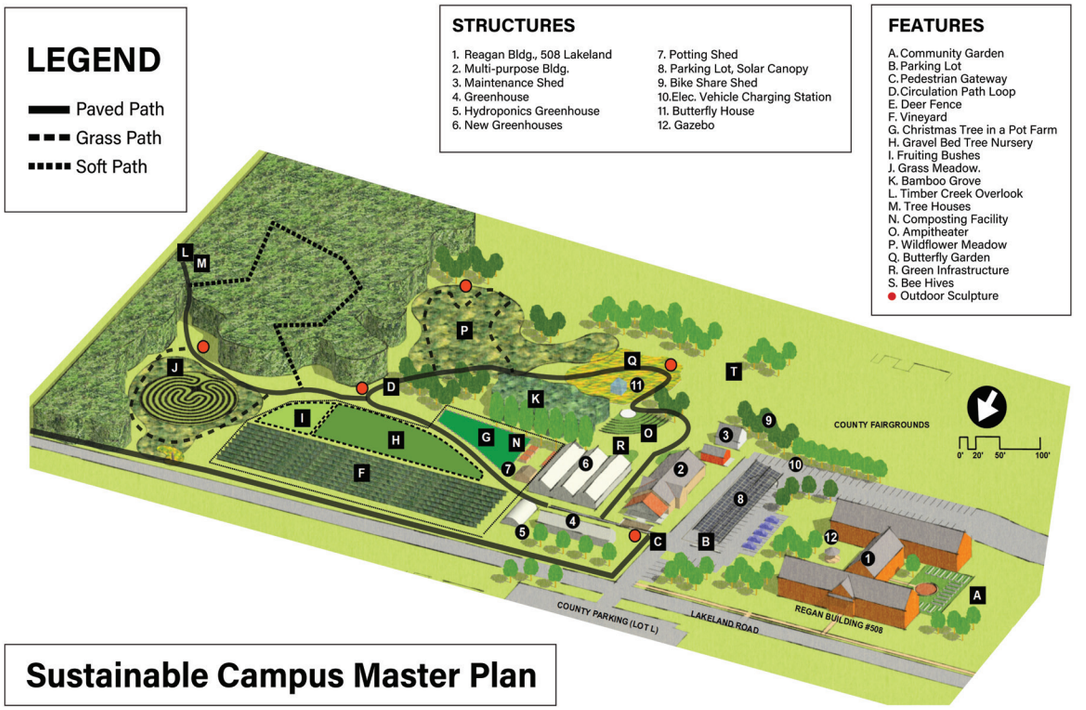
Lakeland Sustainability Master Plan

Sustainable Camden County is partnering with green teams and environmental commissions across the County, including the Certified Gardener Program, to develop an 8-acre site in Gloucester Township known as the Lakeland Campus. This site will become a hub for community gardening, environmental education, sustainability demonstration projects, and programs that will benefit adults and children with disabilities. Currently, the campus has a series of greenhouses and hoop houses which will serve as the foundation for this expansive environmental park.

Planned initiatives include composting, organic growing techniques, beekeeping, viticulture, native plants, vegetable gardens, rain and rainwater harvesting, and renewable energy.

Additionally, the greenhouses will feature several public programs in collaboration with the Camden County Certified Gardeners, including classes and training for those interested in learning what ornamental plants are best to grow in this region, how to grow and maintain a vegetable garden, integrated pest management (IPM) techniques, etc.

As the site grows, the county plans to incorporate programs to supplement the plantings that go into various parks throughout the region, including annuals, perennials, and trees. This year Camden County will establish a tree nursery and a Christmas tree farm where residents can 'rent' a tree during the holidays and return it to be replanted rather than sending it to a landfill. The campus will also feature pollinator meadows, sensory gardens, and programs for children and adults with disabilities to experience a garden using all of their senses (scented and edible plants, water features designed to make sound, sculptures, etc.).



Sustainable Campus Master Plan

County Viticulture Update

The sustainability campus at Lakeland is also home to the county's teaching vineyard, where students at Camden County College can gain hands-on experience growing grapes. The vineyard sits on nearly an acre of land, and its first harvest (in October 2021) yielded about 1,100 pounds of grapes. This number is expected to grow to 7,000 once the vines fully mature.

"The local wine industry is growing by leaps and bounds and one of the only things holding production back is the access to grapes," according to Camden County Commissioner Director Lou Cappelli. "This new vineyard will pave the way for more opportunities, allowing our award-winning wineries here in Camden County to continue to shine and grow. Furthermore, these wineries have become a destination for thousands of people that support our local economy and are now economic generators for towns."

To plant and maintain the vineyard, the county hired Vinetech. As of now, the vineyard contains Chambourcin, which is one of the world's most popular grape hybrids and known for its distinctive, dark coloring and herbaceous aroma. This grape was chosen due to its resistance to disease, high productivity, and overall hardiness. Once ready for harvest, these grapes will be auctioned off to the highest bidder, contributing to the rapid growth of the New Jersey wine industry.

In partnership with the Camden County Office of Sustainability, Camden County College will offer a Viticulture Certificate Program through the vineyard in the near future. A nonprofit is also forming to create and offer a scholarship fund for students who enroll in this program, with plans to develop it into a full degree program. The certificate program will prepare Camden County residents to work in this growing industry through an introduction to viticulture, wine marketing and sales, hospitality, winemaking, wine analysis, and the science of growing grapes.

"There is no secret that our wines are competing at a high-level and gaining a national reputation," Cappelli explained. "Just last year two of our four wineries finished as winners in the Governor's Cup, further proving that the wine produced right here in our county is appreciated statewide and throughout the nation."

Lakeland Sustainable Building Update

Sustainable Camden County - Multipurpose Building

The Camden County Board of Commissioners recently unveiled a cornerstone to the growing sustainability campus in Gloucester Township. Utilizing repurposed equipment, sustainable materials, and simple design and construction, the County and a local architecture firm worked together to develop an innovative solution for an agricultural education facility serving Camden County and surrounding counties for years to come. "This facility will be the jewel of Camden County and an integral part of our ability to welcome residents to our innovative site in Gloucester Township," said Commissioner Jonathan L. Young, liaison to the Office of Sustainability and Shared Services. The design includes a public farmers market area for local producers to display and sell their varying crops throughout the year, an auditorium/educational space for exhibits and lectures about sustainability and agricultural topics, and a full kitchen for the packaging and preparation of local-grown products for both donation and distribution to those in need. This kitchen was also designed to support catering events, programs for Rutgers 4-H of Camden County, Rutgers Family and Community Health Sciences, and other functions which make it a true multi-use facility.

Sustainable Camden County - Campus & Building Views

Hydroponics Program

The Camden County hydroponic greenhouse is gearing up for a new season. So, what is hydroponics and how does it work? Hydroponics is a method of cultivation without soil. This soilless approach has been utilized for thousands of years. The nutrient-rich solution is delivered directly to the plant root system, producing larger plants and higher yields than conventional growing. The solution contains all the important nutrients needed in appropriate proportions which ensures optimal growth. In addition, since the systems reuse the solution, water consumption is far more efficient than traditional cultivation. We can grow over 600 heads of lettuce and a variety of vegetables in the greenhouse at any one time. Some lettuce varieties can go from seed to fully mature and ready to eat in as little as four weeks with these systems.

County staff and Camden County Certified Gardeners grow produce that is donated to the Cathedral Kitchen and the Neighborhood Center in Camden. In addition, some of the produce is sold to the Philadelphia Zoo. This year, we'll also supply produce to the Camden County College food pantries which serve students in need of a healthy food source. Since its first season in the winter of 2017, the team has installed several types of hydroponics systems, including NFT (nutrient film technique), Dutch bucket, floating systems, and aeroponics towers.

Ultimately, our mission is to create a place to produce locally-grown fruits and vegetables in an environment where food safety, nutrition, and water conservation are our key principles to combating food deserts in low-income urban areas as well as educating the public on the fundamentals of hydroponic gardening.

Stewards Of Open Space Cleanups

Help us keep your parks beautiful through our Open Space cleanups. Gloves and tools provided. Please dress appropriately and **RSVP** for these events.

To **RSVP**, and for more information, contact **Michael Hogan, Stewards of Open Space Camden County, (609) 813-1583 or hoganphoto@verizon.net.**

April 23, 10am – 12pm: Gateway Park, Camden Cleanup. Meet at parking lot along Rt. 30/ Admiral Wilson Blvd. East.

May 14, 10am – 12pm: Signal Hill/Bottom Lake/ Big Timber Creek Cleanup, Clementon. Meet at field along Garfield Ave., between Berlin Rd. and Gibbsboro Rd.

May 28, 10am – 12pm: Kirkwood Lake Cleanup, Lindenwold. Meet at the end of Pinelawn Ave.

June 4, 10am – 12pm: Hidden Lake, Little Mill Road Cleanup. Meet at New Road and Little Mill Road.

June 11, 10am - 12pm: Timber Creek Park, Gloucester Twp. Cleanup. Meet at parking lot near pavilion.

July 9, 10am - 12pm: New Brooklyn Lake Park. Meet at playground parking lot.

July 23, 10am - 12pm: Lake Worth Cleanup. Meet in parking lot.

August 13, 10am - 12pm: Cooper River Park Cleanup. Meet in parking lot at Cuthbert Blvd and N. Park Drive.

Sept. 24, 10am - 12pm: Gateway Park, Camden Cleanup. Meet at parking lot along Rt. 30/ Admiral Wilson Blvd. East.

Bike Share/Tool Lending Library Info

Tool libraries are like traditional libraries, only they lend tools instead of books. They are great for people who can't or don't want to buy/rent tools they might only use on occasion. In June of 2015, the first public tool library in New Jersey, opened in the Regan Building across from the Lakeland Campus in Gloucester Township. Membership is free and to borrow, all that is required is a photo ID. The library has a range of hand tools, power tools, gardening, and landscaping tools. The tool library also accepts donations of tools that are in functional and good condition. To browse what's available and make reservations, visit CamdenCounty.com/ToolLibrary.

The County also offers a bike share/lending program. The bike libraries repair used bikes and lend them to residents at no charge. Should you want to borrow a bike for a weekend at the shore or a weeklong vacation in the Poconos, they may have something for you. The program partners with Power Corps Camden, AmeriCorps, sobriety houses, and a variety of other local nonprofits to provide bikes to those in need of one to commute to/from school or work. The Camden County Bike Share accepts donations of bikes in almost any condition. As unrepairable bikes can sometimes be used for spare parts and repairable bikes can be serviced for distribution.

Facility Information:

Sustainability Office
Regan Building 508 Lakeland Road,
Blackwood, NJ 08012
Tool Library Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 AM - 3 PM
Bike Share Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 AM - 3 PM
For More Information Call (856) 374-5195

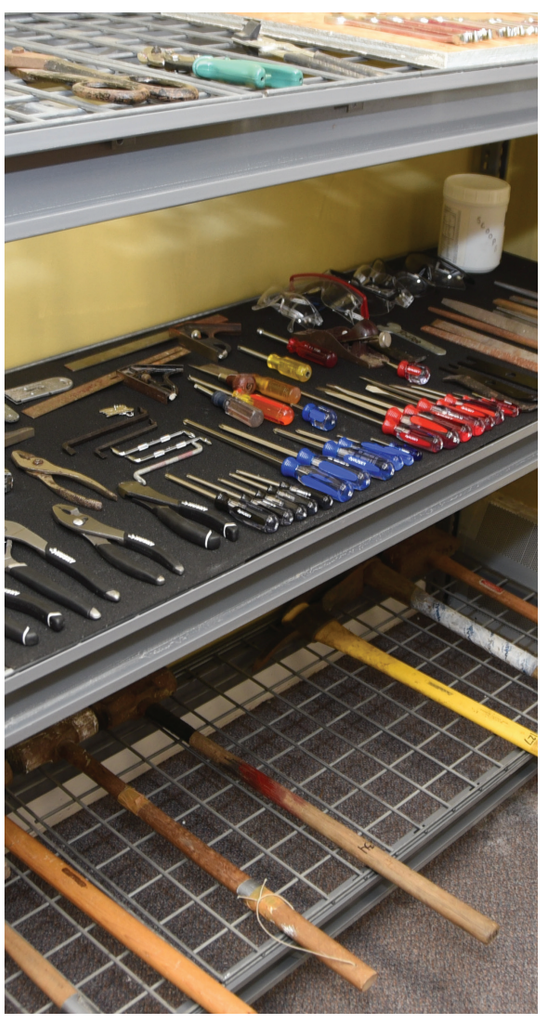
Coming This Summer...
A Convenient Second Location for Both Libraries!
Sgt. Barry Shaw Memorial Stables
at the Environmental Center
1301 Park Blvd., Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

SOS Volunteers making a difference

During 2021, over **100** volunteers of Stewards of Open Space (SOS) came together to complete nine cleanup events of public spaces in Camden County. These cleanups resulted in more than 95 bags and over 4,000 pounds of trash and debris being collected and removed from our environment. Volunteers included NJDEP Watershed Ambassadors, Holman Mitsubishi, Olvay Polymers, local Boy Scout troops, Kirkwood Lake Environmental Committee, Clementon EC, Camden Power Corps., Rutgers University, Adventure Aquarium Interns, Timber Creek High School Students, Gloucester Twp. Green Team, Waterford Twp. E.C. and SJLWT.

The SOS program, along with representatives of The South Jersey Land and Water Trust, routinely monitors and cleans land purchased through the County Open Space Preservation Program. Not only are these cleanups effective at staving off the tide of litter in our communities, but they are also conducted at no cost to the taxpayers of Camden County due to a state grant.

If you or your organization is interested in getting involved with SOS in Camden County, please call (856) 858-5241 or email us at **stewardship@CamdenCounty.com.**



Our Certified Gardeners are Here to Help

Planning to start a new garden this season? Just in time for spring, the Camden County Certified Gardeners are providing residents with a free helpline to solve a variety of home gardening issues. Using current research-based information, the helpline can diagnose plant problems and diseases as well as identify insects, pests, and weeds. By tapping into our volunteers' extensive knowledge and available research tools, we're able to provide the public with answers and practical education.

Certified Gardeners are available by phone every Monday and Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Residents are also invited to bring their sick indoor or outdoor plants, bug-eaten leaves, and flower/insect samples to the helpline office located in the Lakeland Campus at 508 Lakeland Road on the first floor (masks are required for any in-person visits to the helpline office). In addition, you can have your unique gardening questions answered by these dedicated volunteers at local farm markets and special events starting in the spring.

Call or email the Certified Gardeners FREE Helpline:

On Mondays & Tuesdays from 9 AM - 3 PM
(856) 216-7130 / **NJgarden@CamdenCounty.com**

Or visit them at the Lakeland Complex at 508 Lakeland Road, Floor 1, Blackwood, NJ

Helpline Topics:

- **Soil preparation**
- **Plant Selection & placement**
- **Vegetable, fruit, and flower gardening**
- **Insect pests and plant diseases**
- **Weed identification and control**
- **Houseplant care**
- **Container gardening**
- **Pruning and care of shrubs and trees**
- **Lawn and landscape care**
- **Water conservation and support of beneficial wildlife**

To extend the reach of this valuable gardening resource and inspire more residents across the county to take up this healthy hobby, Certified Gardeners will soon host plant clinics at the county's libraries. For upcoming scheduled sessions, visit **CamdenCounty.com/MasterGardeners**

Clean Communities Mini Grants Available

Funded through a New Jersey Clean Communities grant, Camden County is once again making $500 mini grants available to county-based nonprofits that perform cleanups on public lands.

Groups must fill out an application and identify the area they propose to clean. Proof of insurance is required. The County will supply the group with tools, bags, gloves, etc.

If your group is interested in applying, please contact the Camden County Division of Environmental Affairs at (856) 216-8216.

Environmental Center Events

Located at: 1301 Park Blvd, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

This summer we are pleased to announce the continuation of our Young Explorers programs, Art in Nature programs, and Kayaking the Cooper River events!

Young Explorers, a child-caregiver class, offers nature walks, demonstrations, and crafts to develop an awareness and appreciation for the environment. A different nature topic is covered each session, and all classes are held at the Camden County Environmental Center.

For our Art in Nature programs, participants of all ages will incorporate elements of nature into unique, expressive masterpieces to take home and enjoy. Materials are provided to allow creativity while de-stressing in nature. Sessions will take place in the Environmental Center's back garden.

Our kayaking events are a guided introduction to paddling on the Cooper River. In a small group setting, participants will learn the basics of kayaking under the guidance of the Camden County Environmental
Educator, who is a certified instructor. Groups launch out of the Cooper River Yacht Club in Collingswood, and each trip will be 1.5 - 2 hours round-trip. All equipment is provided by the Camden County Department of Parks.

See program dates below and keep an eye on our County Calendar for when they are available for registration.

Young Explorers (Ages 2-5)

Dates: (Wednesdays) June 1st, June 15th, June 29th, July 13th, July 27th, August 10th, August 24th, Sept 7th

Time: AM GROUP: 10am - 11am, PM GROUP: 5pm – 6pm

Art in Nature

Dates: (Fridays) June 3rd, June 17th, July 1st, July 29th, August 26th, Sept 2nd

For more information call (856) 216-8216

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A PUBLICATION BY THE CAMDEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPRING 2022

Camden County Board of Commissioners
1301 Park Blvd.
Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

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CamdenCountyNJ

SUSTAINABLE GARDEN FESTIVAL & PLANT SALE

Saturday, April 30, 2022
10 AM - 3 PM

The Lakeland Complex
508 Lakeland Road, Blackwood NJ

A full day of sustainable, environmental fun!

Vendors · Exhibits · Children's activities
Free tree saplings · Electric vehicle showcase · Presentations and tours

PLUS MUSIC AND FOOD TRUCKS THROUGHOUT THE DAY!

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Making It Better, Together.

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