



## Chief Cicerelle Retires from WTPD

Since 2015, Washington Township has been fortunate to have Chief Thomas J. Cicerelle heading the police department. Tom, a graduate of Warren Hills High School, has been a long-time servant to the community. Before entering into a career in Law Enforcement, he was once a junior member of the Washington Emergency Squad, a member of Washington Borough Fire Department, and Captain of the Franklin Township Emergency Squad.

Chief Cicerelle had been employed by Washington Borough Police as a Communications Operator prior to being hired in August 1987 by the Washington Township Police Department, upon his completion of the NJ State Police Academy Municipal Class. He left the department to work as an officer with the Greenwich Township Police Department before returning to WTPD in 1994. During his time here, he has held the ranks of Patrolman, K-9 Officer, Corporal, Sergeant, Lieutenant, Deputy Chief, and Chief of Police. Throughout his career, Tom was a member of the Warren County Tactical Response Team, a member of the Narcotics Task Force, and served as an Active Shooter

Instructor where he worked with the Warren County Prosecutors Office to ensure that every officer in Warren County was trained to respond to an active shooter. He has volunteered for Big Brothers of Warren County and participated in the PBA #280 Toy Drive. He is a former PBA President and has received numerous commendations on local, county, and state levels for his many accomplishments.



Chief Cicerelle has developed policies and procedures to meet the needs of the department and the community such as lock-down procedures for the local schools to ensure a safer environment for students and staff. He has been instrumental in advancing the department in the latest police training and equipment and has brought a true sense of professionalism to the department. Although his presence will be greatly missed, the benefits of his leadership will be evident for years to come. The entire Washington Township Police Department, along with the Township Committee and staff, thank Tom for his service and wish him the very best in his retirement!



*In Memoriam*

**Michael A. Kovacs**

September 9, 1938 – November 18, 2021

Mayor / Committeeman (Retired)



# Solutions to Stormwater Pollution

*Easy Things You Can Do Every Day To Protect Our Water*

## A Guide to Healthy Habits for Cleaner Water

**P**ollution on streets, parking lots and lawns is washed by rain into storm drains, then directly to our drinking water supplies and the ocean and lakes our children play in. Fertilizer, oil, pesticides, detergents, pet waste, grass clippings: You name it and it ends up in our water.

Stormwater pollution is one of New Jersey's greatest threats to clean and plentiful water, and that's why we're all doing something about it.

By sharing the responsibility and making small, easy changes in our daily lives, we can keep common pollutants out of stormwater. It all adds up to cleaner water, and it saves the high cost of cleaning up once it's dirty.

As part of New Jersey's initiative to keep our water clean and plentiful and to meet federal requirements, many municipalities and other public agencies including colleges and military bases must adopt ordinances or other rules prohibiting various activities that contribute to stormwater pollution. Breaking these rules can result in fines or other penalties.



**As a resident, business, or other member of the New Jersey community, it is important to know these easy things you can do every day to protect our water.**

### Limit your use of fertilizers and pesticides

- Do a soil test to see if you need a fertilizer.
- Do not apply fertilizers if heavy rain is predicted.
- Look into alternatives for pesticides.
- Maintain a small lawn and keep the rest of your property or yard in a natural state with trees and other native vegetation that requires little or no fertilizer.
- If you use fertilizers and pesticides, follow the instructions on the label on how to correctly apply it.



Make sure you properly store or discard any unused portions.

### Properly use and dispose of hazardous products

- Hazardous products include some household or commercial cleaning products, lawn and garden care products, motor oil, antifreeze, and paints.
- Do not pour any hazardous products down a storm drain because storm drains are usually connected to local waterbodies and the water is not treated.

- If you have hazardous products in your home or workplace, make sure you store or dispose of them properly. Read the label for guidance.

- Use natural or less toxic alternatives when possible.

- Recycle used motor oil.

- Contact your municipality, county or facility management office for the locations of hazardous-waste disposal facilities.



### Keep pollution out of storm drains

- Municipalities and many other public agencies are required to mark certain storm drain inlets with messages reminding people that storm drains are connected to local waterbodies.

- Do not let sewage or other wastes flow into a stormwater system.

### Clean up after your pet

- Many municipalities and public agencies must enact and enforce local pet-waste rules.

- An example is requiring pet owners or their keepers to pick up and properly dispose of pet waste dropped on public or other people's property.

- Make sure you know your town's or agency's requirements and comply with them. It's the law. And remember to:

- Use newspaper, bags or pooper-scoopers to pick up wastes.

- Dispose of the wrapped pet waste in the trash or un-wrapped in a toilet.

- Never discard pet waste in a storm drain.

### Don't feed wildlife

- Do not feed wildlife, such as ducks and geese, in public areas.

- Many municipalities and other public agencies must enact and enforce a rule that prohibits wildlife feeding in these areas.



### Dispose of yard waste properly

- Keep leaves and grass out of storm drains.

- If your municipality or agency has yard waste collection rules, follow them.

- Use leaves and grass clippings as a resource for compost.

- Use a mulching mower that recycles grass clippings into the lawn.



### Don't litter

- Place litter in trash receptacles.
- Recycle. Recycle. Recycle.
- Participate in community cleanups.

### Contact Information

For more information on stormwater related topics, visit [www.njstormwater.org](http://www.njstormwater.org) or [www.nonpointsource.org](http://www.nonpointsource.org)

Additional information is also available at U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Web sites [www.epa.gov/apdes/stormwater](http://www.epa.gov/apdes/stormwater) or [www.epa.gov/apdes](http://www.epa.gov/apdes)

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection  
Division of Water Quality  
Bureau of Nonpoint Pollution Control  
Municipal Stormwater Regulation Program  
(609) 633-7021



[www.cleanwater.nj.org](http://www.cleanwater.nj.org)



## WINTER IS COMING . . .

The Township has an ordinance for Storm Emergency Parking which states **"WHENEVER SNOW HAS FALLEN AND THE ACCUMULATION IS SUCH THAT IT COVERS THE STREETS OR HIGHWAYS OR THOROUGHFARES, AN EMERGENCY SHALL EXIST AND NO VEHICLE SHALL BE PARKED ON THE STREETS OR HIGHWAYS OF WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP"**. See Ordinance #97-13 for complete snow emergency details. Please be advised sidewalks must be cleared of snow and treated for ice within 12 hours of daylight after the snow falls or



the ice forms. Snow and ice shall not be deposited onto any street.

When placing your garbage containers and recycling material out for pick-up on your scheduled day, please do not place them in the street. Containers/materials should be placed behind the curb line. This is an obstacle for snow plow drivers and can also create a hazardous condition to the traveling public. The Public Works Department will not be liable for any overturned or damaged containers related to snow removal. (Ordinance #10-12)





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## Contaminants of Emerging Concern

Contaminants of emerging concern are those chemicals that recently have been shown to occur in the environment and have been identified as a potential environmental or public health risk. Contaminants of emerging concern are used in everyday products in our homes, on our farms, in our businesses, or by industry in commercial processes. Although these chemicals have been in use around the world for decades, regulatory agencies are only just starting to understand the dangers the compounds pose to human health and the environment. Collectively referred to as PFAS chemicals, the PFAS group of chemicals are ubiquitous in our environment and pose possible health risks.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) continues to show its commitment to identifying and investigating contamination involving poly- and perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), including perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS). On March 13, 2019, the NJDEP established interim specific groundwater quality standards for both PFOA and PFOS, at 10 parts per trillion. New Jersey is among the first states in the country to pursue regulation of these compounds.

The scientific understanding of the toxicity, fate and transport, health effects, and analytical capabilities of PFAS are continuing to advance. PFAS are man-made chemicals that contain carbon and fluorine atoms of various chain length. PFAS are mobile, persistent, and soluble in water. Certain PFAS can be toxic and bioaccumulate in fish and/or humans when discharged into the environment. These contaminants at low levels can cause adverse health effects, as they persist (bioaccumulate) in the body for many years.

Following a routine sampling by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, an exceedance of Perfluorononanoic Acid (PFNA) was reported in a non-community public well supply located in the area of Route 31 and Rymon Road in the Township of Washington now known as the Route 31 & Rymon Road GW Contamination Site (NJDEP Site ID 647180 and PI Number 834057). Certain residents were notified by the NJDEP regarding the Route 31 and Rymon Road Ground Water Contamination Site. Those residents also received a Drinking Water (PFAS) Fact Sheet and a Potable Well Information form and were asked to return

the completed form to the NJDEP. When eventually made aware of the situation, the Township of Washington sent follow-up letters to those residents and, in some cases, went door-to-door advising them of the importance of responding appropriately even if they did not currently use the well for drinking water.

The Township of Washington has conducted meetings with New Jersey American Water and other pertinent parties and will continue to pursue this course of action



with the intention to provide potable drinking water to the entire area of the contamination site and to inform all township residents of this contamination site within our municipality. As this issue remains the responsibility of NJDEP, they have taken the lead for well testing and notifying residents. Until such time that city water can be provided to these areas, NJDEP will continue to provide a list of contractors able to install the proper filtration system. The Township Committee has adopted Resolution #2021-192 memorializing their commitment to provide available resources to continue searching ways, as expediently as possible, to address a potable water supply and water quality challenges brought to light by the discovery of ground water contamination, by strategically planning and pursuing together with all structures, equipment, work, and materials necessary, including partners and funding sources, to ensure an effective long term solution in the best interest of the residents of Washington Township.

*For more information, visit:*

*<https://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/pfas/> and  
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) in Drinking Water*

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## No Leaves in the Streets!

### **83-2.1 Containerized Yard Waste**

The owner or occupant of any property, or any employee or contractor of such owner or occupant, engaged to provide lawn care or landscaping services shall not sweep, rake, blow, or otherwise place yard waste in the street. If yard waste is placed in the street, the party responsible for placement of yard waste must remove the yard waste from the street or said party shall be deemed in violation of this chapter.







211 ROUTE 31 NORTH  
WASHINGTON, NEW JERSEY 07882

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## ATTENTION DOG OWNERS



License renewals are due by January 31, 2022  
and may be obtained beginning January 3, 2022

**AS PER STATE LAW, LICENSES CANNOT BE ISSUED IF THE CURRENT  
RABIES VACCINATION EXPIRES PRIOR TO NOVEMBER 1, 2022**

Fees: \$7.20 spayed/neutered



\$10.20 non-spayed/neutered

Additional \$5.00 late fee per month beginning in February (RENEWALS ONLY)

Proof of rabies vaccination and veterinary spay/neuter certification must be provided if not currently on record. Rabies and spay/neuter certificates will be returned upon request.

Mail check or M.O. along with your completed application, certification(s),  
and a **self-addressed, stamped envelope** to:



Township of Washington  
Dog License Renewal  
211 Route 31 North  
Washington, NJ 07882



The application can be found on our website: [www.washington-twp-warren.org](http://www.washington-twp-warren.org)

Please call (908) 689-7200 with any questions.

Sorry, no debit or credit at this time – exact change is appreciated