



TOWNSHIP OF NUTLEY

Spring/Summer 2025 Newsletter



Mayor John V. Kelly, III

Mayor's Message

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank everyone for the well wishes, support, prayers, and kind words regarding my recent deployment. My family and I are truly grateful for your thoughtfulness and encouragement during this time.

Please rest assured that the operations in the Township of Nutley will continue without interruption. Commissioners Petracco, Scarpelli, Tucci, Evans, and I remain fully committed and are working in close coordination to ensure that township services and initiatives move forward seamlessly.

Over the past few months, the Township of Nutley has observed Memorial Day, Pride Month, and Independence Day. We celebrated our graduates, and we were entertained by some of the most talented musical groups in the area! Now as summer break slowly winds down, we look forward to our fall calendar of events including our Community Blood Drive, Flu Clinics, Health and Wellness Festival as well as our favorite seasonal events such as Halloween Spooktacular, Veterans Day Ruck March and of course our Annual Tree and Menorah Lighting. Each of our five Municipal departments have so much to offer to our residents, I encourage you to take advantage of all the wonderful events and activities planned for the next few months!

Enjoy the rest of your summer!



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Township of Nutley
1 Kennedy Drive
Nutley, NJ 07110
973-284-4951
nutleynj.org

A Nutley Fourth of July Celebration



Summerfest 2025!



Nutley's 104th Memorial Day Parade



Mayor Kelly to be Deployed to Iraq

The Township of Nutley has announced that Mayor John V. Kelly, III, the youngest Mayor elected in the Township's history, will be deployed to Iraq to serve our country beginning in August.

"We are so very proud of our mayor, U.S. Army Maj. John Kelly as he deploys with the New Jersey Army National Guard in support of Combined Joint Task Force-Operation Inherent Resolve," said Commissioner Alphonse Petracco, Director of Public Safety. "We wish John and all our Citizen-Soldiers success and safety as they complete their mission in Iraq."

"As our mayor and an active service member, we wish him much success during his deployment," said Department of Revenue and Finance Commissioner and Deputy Mayor Thomas J. Evans. "I truly hope for his safe return, and we will carry on in his absence in the Nutley tradition."

Commissioner Joseph P. Scarpelli of the Department of Public Works added, "Godspeed to the mayor as he serves our country. I look forward to his participating in any way he can over the next six months. God bless him and all our servicemen."

"I wish Mayor Kelly the best of luck during his tour of duty," said Parks and Recreation Commissioner Mauro G. Tucci. "We all appreciate his service and can't wait for him to return to Nutley safe and sound."

Mayor Kelly, who will be deployed for approximately six months, serves as the unit commander's legal advisor.

"I am honored to be able to serve my country," Mayor Kelly says, "and I am grateful that with the support of my fellow Board of Commissioners, our Township government and I will continue to function as we always have. Deputy Mayor Evans is ready to preside over Board of Commission meetings." According to state law, the Revenue and Finance commissioner is the Deputy Mayor.



Mud Hole Water Management Project Successfully Mitigates Flooding

The recent implementation of a strategic water management system in Nutley Township's Memorial Park (the Mud Hole) has proven to be a resounding success in reducing flooding in local parks and streets. The project, which has made significant strides in controlling water levels during storm events, highlights Nutley's proactive approach and commitment to environmental management and community safety.

The innovative system features valves that control the water flow into the Mud Hole, allowing for the drainage of up to 2 million gallons of water. This system will effectively lower water levels by approximately 3.5 feet. This capability has been instrumental in preparing for significant rain events, with the Parks and Recreation Department able to respond effectively to forecasts and unexpected weather conditions.

"Our mitigation project is working exactly as intended," said Parks and Recreation Commissioner Mauro G. Tucci. "By monitoring weather patterns and adjusting our strategies, we are able to significantly reduce the risk of flooding in our community. This proactive approach not only protects our parks, streets and homes but also enhances the quality of life for residents."

The system has been tested and proven successful in recent weather events. In the first, a forecast of light rain resulted in over an inch of precipitation. The water management system proactively lowered the water level of the Mud Hole prior to the storm, allowing for absorption of rainwater and ultimately preventing overflow into parks and surrounding areas.

A second storm presented a challenge when the anticipated 0.3 inches of rain unexpectedly exceeded an inch. Although overflow occurred, the Parks Department recognized that had they anticipated the higher rainfall, the system could have been adjusted to prevent flooding.

In a third instance, foreseeing a significant storm, the Department successfully lowered the Mud Hole's water level for management of over an inch of rainfall without flooding.

The new system includes a floodgate that regulates water flow, ensuring that when the pond reaches capacity, excess water is diverted away from streets and into designated areas. This reduces the likelihood of flooding, even during significant rain events.

"Mother Nature can be unpredictable," Commissioner Tucci added, "but we will continue our efforts to ensure our parks remain the gold standard that everyone has come to know and love."



Nutley Students Learn from Local Leaders During Student Government Day

Nutley High School students gained a new appreciation for the inner workings of municipal government by participating in the Township's annual "Student Government Day" on April 8.

Students spent the day working alongside members of the municipality learning about the various different roles and responsibilities of the Township's five departments - the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Public Works, the Department of Revenue and Finance, the Department of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Public Affairs and Health.

Students were paired with "municipal counterparts" including the Mayor, Commissioners and department heads, taking away newfound knowledge about the contributions of each department, the importance of teamwork and how it all comes together to make the Township of Nutley a safe, clean and wonderful place to live.

Mayor John V. Kelly III, Nutley Commissioners and other members of the community gathered with participating students in the Township Council Chambers where they each gave their personal account of their experience. At the conclusion of Student Government Day, each student was presented with a certificate for their participation.

Mayor Kelly commended the students for their hard work, wisdom and interest in wanting to help find ways to improve the Township. "The future is bright and secure because of you all, as you will make sure Nutley continues to be a desirable, welcoming and wholesome place to live," Mayor Kelly told the students.





PARKS AND RECREATION

Spring/Summer Events

Commissioner Mauro G. Tucci

Commissioner Tucci, NHS Students Plant Tree in Observance of Arbor Day

Parks and Recreation Commissioner Mauro G. Tucci was joined by Nutley High School students as the Township celebrated Arbor Day at Booth Park today. After the students spent a few hours cleaning up the park, the Commissioner oversaw the annual ceremony of planting a new tree on the park grounds.

"I want to thank everyone for coming out to join us today," the Commissioner said in his speech to the students. "A large part of today's ceremony is to raise awareness of the importance of keeping the earth clean and green. The reality is, this is your world. You're going to make it what you want it to be. You're going to participate wherever you want and at whatever level you want. But if you don't have clean air and clean water, you have a major problem. If we don't take care of our earth, nobody will. You are our future. I want to applaud you, Principal Williams and my people from the Parks and Recreation

Department for what you've done here today. Thank you."

Earlier in April, the Board of Commissioners, led by Commissioner Tucci, officially proclaimed April 22nd, 2025 as Arbor Day in Nutley. The proclamation encouraged residents to protect trees, support the town's urban forestry program, and plant trees for the benefit of current and future generations.



Festival of Hope! Flashlight Egg Hunt Family Fun Color Run Annual May Day Luncheon



Annual Easter EGGstravaganza Almost Eras at the Nutley Summer Concert Series!



PARKS AND RECREATION

Upcoming Events

Flag Football

This program has been designed to educate young people about football while emphasizing participation and sportsmanship. Players learn skills and lessons that help them succeed both on and off the field. The program provides young players with a fun and exciting opportunity to engage in non-contact, continuous action while learning lessons in teamwork.

Recreation Soccer

The Nutley Recreation Soccer Program is open to Nutley youngsters in grades K through 8. This program is designed to assist young players in developing basic skills of the game while offering a fun, semi-competitive environment. Recreation soccer is a great opportunity for youngsters to exercise and have fun in a safe, social environment. We strive to make the experience of playing soccer FUN for all players. We teach respect for the game and for all participants, coaches, teammates, referees, and opposing players. We also teach the fundamentals of soccer so that players are prepared to meet the physical demands of the sport and to play the game in a safe manner.

Nutley Travel Soccer

Nutley United Travel Soccer is the travel division of the soccer program. Teams play in the very competitive Northern Counties Soccer Association against towns in Northern NJ and Lower NY State. The travel soccer program offers a high level of instruction by professional trainers and experienced coaches who are licensed by the NJ Youth Soccer Association.

Tackle Football

Football is a game of team- work, discipline, determination and dedication. Football requires commitment to physical fitness, practice time, skill development, learning plays and game planning. Communication and teamwork are vital traits that will serve children well when they are teens and into adulthood, and football can be instrumental in developing these traits. The benefits of playing a team sport are endless and rewarding.

Cheerleading

Recreation Cheering is a great way for young ladies to express themselves while being taught team unity, basic dance techniques, and good sportsmanship. Curriculum includes body moves, dexterity development and the coordination of extremities.

Competition Cheerleading Team 5th-8th

Nutley youngsters who will be entering grades 5-8 and are currently participating /registered in the Nutley Rec Cheering Program.

Fun For All Program - Special Needs

An adaptive recreation program offering a variety of seasonal sports and social activities on a weekly basis throughout the school year.

KinderDANCE

Children ages 3 through 6 can register to express themselves through movement, music and fitness, all while incorporating educational concepts.

Contemporary Dance

This class will utilize elements from classical, modern and jazz -- any type of music can be used. As a result, your child will get to explore various musical genres allowing them to uniquely express themselves while they dance.

Aspiring Authors

Come join us for a creative writing class where your children will explore the joys of writing using their own imagination and creativity.

Happily Ever Crafty

This program is open to Nutley children 18 months to 3 years of age. This class is a fun way to build early literacy skills, creativity, and social skills.

2025 Fall Musical

Commissioner Mauro G. Tucci and the Nutley Department of Parks and Recreation proudly present Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer the Musical. Performance dates: Thursday, December 4, Friday, December 5, and Saturday, December 6.

Ancient Stories & Mythology

Dr. Stephanie Dalianis-Antell will be adding this class for Nutley students grades 5-9 to learn about different Greek myths and the idea of how myths and fables have survived the test of time in various cultures. This class will also touch upon the lessons to be learned behind the fables.

Tumbling

This program is open to Nutley residents in grades K-4. Children will be introduced to the exciting world of gymnastics through basic tumbling, exercise, coordination and basic acrobatics skills.

Junior Wrestling

This program is open to Nutley youngsters in grades 2 through 8.

Boys Traveling Basketball

Open to Nutley youngsters in grades 5 through 8.

Girls Traveling Basketball

Open to Nutley youngsters in grades 5 through 8.

Rise and Shine Morning Exercise

Start your day with a high energy workout combining cardio, strength, and core!

Yoga for Life

This class enables residents to get into shape through Yoga and build strength and flexibility through gentle exercises which utilize disciplined breathing and relaxation techniques.

Senior Picnic

Starting at 12:30pm on Thursday, September 25, 2025. Seniors 60 and older are welcome to join us at the Parks and Recreation Department to celebrate the fall season with fabulous picnic food and great friends!

Grandma/Grandpa and Me Pumpkin Painting Party October 15, 2025, 6-7:30pm

This event is specific to grandparents and their little pumpkins. Light refreshments, a pumpkin, and paint will be included for each child. Two adults are limited per child and the children must live in Nutley to participate.

Halloween Spooktacular October 24, 2025, 6:30-8:30pm

A fun night filled with Halloween snacks, drinks, a hayride, and plenty more.

Princess Ball November 6, 2025, 6-8pm

A magical evening filled with fairy tale delight. Children will enjoy a special appearance by Cinderella and other princesses from our favorite fairy tale stories as well as music, a whimsical princess meal, ice cream and more. Be sure to come dressed as your favorite prince or princess!

Christmas Cookie Decorating with Grandma & Grandpa (and Santa too!) December 15, 2025 6-7:30pm

The evening will include cookie decorating, light refreshments, and a visit from Santa Claus. Grandparents are admitted free! Nutley Residents only.



Mayor John V. Kelly, III

PUBLIC AFFAIRS & HEALTH

Spring/Summer Events

Nutley High School Students Entering the U.S. Military

Mayor John V. Kelly III, along with Daniel Jacoby from the Nutley Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Bureau, the Nutley Veterans Council, and several local veterans, held a recognition event at the Nutley VFW Hall to honor graduating Nutley High School students who are entering the U.S. Military.

NHS seniors David Crecco (Army) and Johann Higuera (Air Force) and their families participated in an informative discussion alongside the Mayor and veterans including VFW Post 493 Commander John McGuire, Veteran of the Year Ezzedin M. Bautista III and Courtney Johnson.



Free Rabies Clinic and Dog & Cat License Renewal



Nutley Hometown Trivia Night!



Mental Health Matters Resource Fair



Juneteenth Celebration



PUBLIC AFFAIRS & HEALTH

Upcoming Events

Children's Health Clinic – 08/20/25 | 8:30am

Department of Public Affairs and Health Clinic

Flu Vaccine Clinic – 09/11/25 | 9am – 12pm

Department of Public Affairs and Health Clinic

Children's Health Clinic – 09/17/25 | 8:30am

Department of Public Affairs and Health Clinic

**Hispanic Heritage Month
Mid-September/Mid-October
Various Restaurants TBD**

**Flu Vaccine Clinic – 10/02/25 | 9am – 12pm
Department of Public Affairs and Health Clinic**

**Health and Wellness Festival
10/04/25 | 11:00am – 2:00pm
Yantacaw Park Lower Level**

Paws in the Park – TBD

**Children's Health Clinic – 10/16/25 | 8:30am
Department of Public Affairs and Health Clinic**

**Trivia Night – 10/23/25 | 6:30pm – 9:00pm
Old Canal Inn**

**Veterans Day Observances – 11/11/25 | 11:00am
Commission Chambers, 1 Kennedy Dr.**

**Veterans Day Ruck March – 11/11/25
Immediately following Veterans Day Observances**

**Children's Health Clinic – 11/20/25 | 8:30am
Department of Public Affairs and Health Clinic**

**Tree and Menorah Lighting – 12/07/25 | 5:00pm – 7:00pm
Nutley Town Hall**

Annual Holiday Treasure Chest / Adopt-a-Family Program



Donations can be dropped off at the Nutley Department of Public Affairs and Health, 149 Chestnut Street, Nutley, Monday through Friday, 8:00am – 4:00pm until TBD.



PUBLIC SAFETY

Spring/Summer Events

Commissioner Alphonse Petracco

Commissioner Petracco Guests at John Walker Middle School Career Day

Public Safety Commissioner Alphonse Petracco was a prominent guest at this year's annual Career Day at John H. Walker Middle School in Nutley. The former Mayor of Nutley shared his journey, recounting how he initially aimed to become an electronic engineer but eventually ventured into entrepreneurship, founding one of Essex County's most beloved delis.

"I had an amazing time participating in Career Day," Commissioner Petracco expressed. "It was wonderful to connect with the future leaders of our Township. Although capturing the attention of middle schoolers at 9AM can be a challenge, I think I managed to engage them when I invited a couple of boys who seemed a bit distracted up on stage—much like I would have been at

their age," he chuckled.

The Commissioner highlighted his "three-legged stool" of success. "The first leg represents your dreams, the second is hard work, and the third acknowledges that change is inevitable. You have to dream big, put in the effort, and always be ready for shifts because nothing remains constant."

Recognizing these three principles guided the Commissioner through a diverse career path that included roles in supermarkets, catering, nightclubs, dry cleaners, laundromats, real estate, and eventually, the Mayorship.

"I aimed to engage them," he noted. "I wanted to convey that they have the same opportunities I had years ago. I was fortunate to have many mentors who supported my



success. Events like this are wonderful because they allow us to give back to the next generation."

"I had a fantastic time with those kids. There's a lot of negativity surrounding the younger generations today, but I must say these kids are remarkable. They truly are impressive, and it gives me great confidence in the future of Nutley."

Easter Bunny Meet & Greet



Pancake Breakfast with the Easter Bunny!



EMS Night



Washington School Memorial Day Celebration



Bike Rodeo



PUBLIC SAFETY

2025 Law Enforcement Against Drugs (LEAD) picnic!



Nutley Junior Police Academy



Upcoming Events

 Commissioner Alphonse Petracco
and the Nutley Fire Department
invite you to attend the


43RD ANNUAL FIRE PREVENTION OPEN HOUSE

Friday, October 10, 2025
6:00 - 8:00pm
Fire Headquarters
228 Chestnut Street, Nutley

2025 THEME
CHARGE INTO FIRE SAFETY:
LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES IN YOUR HOME

FUN FAMILY ACTIVITIES

- Bounce House
- Train Ride
- Put Out the Fire
- Carolyn and Her Dalmation Dog
- Fire/EMS Vehicles
- Empanadas, Hot Dogs and Zeppoles
- Gift Bags



For more information please contact
(973) 284-4936 or visit www.nutleynj.org

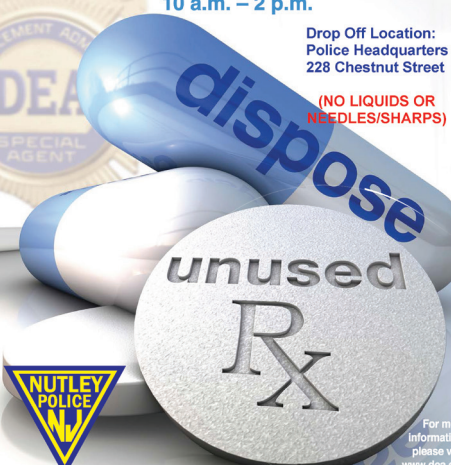
Firehouse Open House
October 10th


Got Drugs?

Turn in your unused or expired
medication for safe disposal
Saturday, October 25, 2025
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Drop Off Location:
Police Headquarters
228 Chestnut Street

(NO LIQUIDS OR
NEEDLES/SHARPS)





For more
information,
please visit
www.dea.gov

**Drug Take Back
Program**
October 25th

Commissioner Alphonse Petracco
& the Department of Public Safety



presents.....
our 15th Annual
TRUNK OR TREAT

A safe way to celebrate Halloween!!!
Friday, October 31st, 2025
3:30pm to 5:30pm
PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING
228 CHESTNUT STREET, NUTLEY



Trunk or Treat
October 31st



PUBLIC WORKS

Spring/Summer Events

Commissioner Joseph P. Scarpelli

Residential Shredding Day



Compost Day



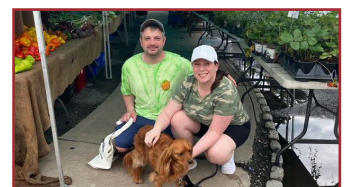
Electronic Recycling



Big Truck Day



Farmer's Markets



PUBLIC WORKS

Upcoming Events

Nutley Farmers Market: Sunday, September 7, 14, 21, 28, October 5, 12, 19 and 26 |

9:00am - 2:00pm | Along Booth Drive (New Location)

Now entering its 16th season, the outdoor Nutley Farmers Market features delicious local foods and goods, live music, special events, and a weekly walking group.

Town-Wide Garage Sale - Saturday-Sunday, September 27-28 | 8:00am - 5:00pm

Town-Wide Registration fee of \$10 to benefit Township Go Green initiative. Pre-Registration Required! Please call the (973) 284-4958 or visit www.nutleynj.org/garagesale for registration information.

Leaf Bag Distribution Day and Food Drive: Saturday, October 4 | 8:00am - 1:00pm | Municipal Garage

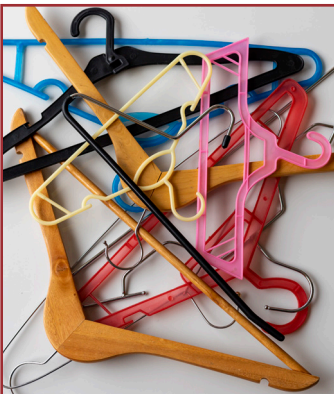
Residents may pick-up their free 10 bio-degradable bags. Donations of non-perishable items will also be collected for Nutley Food Pantry.

Hanger Recycling Day: Sunday, October 12 | 9:00am - 2:00pm | Location TBA

Clean out your closets and bring down all metal, plastic and wooden hangers for recycling.

Rigid Plastic Recycling Day: October 12 | 9:00am - 2:00pm | Location TBA

Bring your bulky rigid plastics such as garbage cans, resin lawn furniture, laundry baskets and children's outdoor play units for recycling.





REVENUE AND FINANCE

"The Department of Revenue and Finance is Always Here to Help."

Commissioner Tom Evans, CPA

Nutley BOC Adopts 2025 Budget

The Nutley Board of Commissioners approved the Township's 2025 budget during last week's BOC meeting. In a press release earlier this year, Commissioner Thomas J. Evans emphasized the importance of transparency, stating, "We have always aimed for transparency in our budget. This presentation clearly illustrates for our residents how their tax dollars are being allocated." A slide presentation detailing the budget is available at: **bit.ly/2025Nutleybudgetadopted**.

The combined tax rate for calendar year 2025 is \$2.699, a 2.77% increase over 2024. This amounts to a \$369.48 increase for the average residential property assessed at \$493,362. The allocations are as follows: School: \$241.78, Municipal: \$106.50, Library \$15.30, and a net \$0.96 at the County level.

"At the municipal level, state aid revenue was reduced by \$547,000 due to the elimination of municipal relief aid, which represents \$54 of the total municipal tax increase of \$106.50 for 2025," Commissioner Evans states. "We continue to be challenged by cost increases primarily in public safety, medical insurance, garbage/recycling collection and disposal. I expect this upward cost pressure to continue in 2026."

Consistent with prior years, the County and School tax portions of the property tax bill are approved separately by the Essex County Board of County Commissioners and the Nutley Board of Education. The municipal portion is approved by the Nutley Board of Commissioners, with each Commissioner responsible for the budget in their department.

This year's third quarter tax bill is due on August 1, 2025. However, given the delay in obtaining clearance from the State for Nutley's 2025 tax levy, the grace period (for the third quarter only) has been extended to Friday, August 29, 2025, after which time interest is charged for all late payments.

New for 2025, the State of New Jersey has released a single-combined property tax relief application form, PAS-1, for seniors and those receiving Social Security Disability benefits. This form replaces the old PTR-1, PTR-2, ANCHOR-H and ANCHOR-T application forms. A new category of tax relief aid entitled STAYNJ has been added to the PAS-1 form. Please note that the Tax Collector is no longer required to certify your application before filing this form. For more information on Property Tax Relief Programs, visit **nj.gov/treasury/taxation/relief.shtml** or call 1(888) 238-1233.

Commissioner Evans encourages residents to visit **bit.ly/2025Nutleybudgetadopted** for further information. If residents have questions, please contact Rosemarie Berry, Tax Collector, at 972-284-4963 x2208 or via email at **rberry@nutleynj.org**. Commissioner Evans can be reached at 973-284-4997 or via email at **commissionerevans@nutleynj.org**.

