



MONTGOMERY
TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY

2024

THE MONTGOMERY GUIDE

TO

MUNICIPAL & OTHER SERVICES

FOR RESIDENTS

2023 Edition
Revised: 1/16/24

THE MONTGOMERY GUIDE & OTHER TOWNSHIP COMMUNICATIONS

This guide and other township publications are created by the staff of Montgomery Township as a service to our community. The Montgomery Guide and its updates are also found on our website at www.montgomerynj.gov

Other publications include “The Montgomery Township Newsletter”, an electronic publication produced four times a year; March, June, September and December. The newsletter includes local government news including meeting dates, new ordinances, hearings, recreational offerings and school news and a community bulletin board for non-profit events. To subscribe to receive the newsletter by email, or view an archived copy, go to the township website at www.montgomerynj.gov

The Montgomery Township website contains the most recent township newsletter, news bulletins, departmental and committees’ information and much more. To have an upcoming community event announcement posted on the News & Events page and in the Community Calendar, see contact below or go to the Submittal Guidelines page of the website under News and Events for instructions.

We recommend subscribing to Montgomery Township e-Bulletins to receive municipal announcements directly by email. To sign up for this free and convenient service, look for the “Sign-up for e-Bulletins” box on the right side of the Township website’s home page at www.montgomerynj.gov. Links to Montgomery Township social media pages are also found here.

If you are a new resident, ask for a copy of “The New Resident Packet” at the front reception desk of the Municipal Building at 100 Community Drive, Skillman, NJ 08558.

Questions related to the above publications or general communication questions can be directed to Community Information Officer, Tamara Garaffa at tgaraffa@montgomerynj.gov or (908) 533-9304.

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INTRODUCTION

Montgomery is a thriving community with excellent schools, diverse recreation opportunities and a collective commitment to preserving open land and protecting natural resources. The community has successfully merged rural and suburban lifestyles in a cosmopolitan region.

Located in the southern portion of Somerset County – six miles from Princeton University and roughly half way between New York City and Philadelphia – the Township is a historic 32 square mile community with an agricultural heritage. It lies in the Millstone River Valley west of the river and east of the Sourland Mountains. There are several hamlets within the Township: Blawenburg, Harlingen, Belle Mead, Skillman, Dutchtown and Zion.

Montgomery has a rich history. Original settlers, mainly farmers, included those of Dutch, Flemish and Huguenot origins among others. Montgomery played a prominent role in the Revolutionary War, and indeed may be named after Richard Montgomery, a brigadier general who served with Benedict Arnold on the expedition of 1775 against Canada.

Until the mid-1900's, the Township retained its original rural origins, with very little change. At mid-century the Montgomery household population was about 2,350 people. The 1950's saw the start of new housing construction as well as the beginnings of some industry. By the 1970 Census, the population was 5,103. Per the 2010 Census, the population was 22,254. According to the 2020 U.S. Census Bureau, the population is 23,690.

Unlike the past, where farming was the dominant occupation, present day Montgomery is home to a variety of businesses and occupations but has retained its rural atmosphere. Montgomery continues to combine a unique convenience of location with the lifestyle features sought by residents and businesses.

Montgomery Township Municipal Complex

100 Community Drive

Skillman, NJ 08558

Telephone Number: (908) 359-8211

Web address: <http://www.montgomerynj.gov>

MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT

Montgomery Township is in Somerset County, with the County seat in Somerville. An elected County Board of County Commissioners exercises legislative power over the County and is charged with the management of the property, finances and affairs of the County. Commissioners are elected at-large for three-year overlapping terms. Montgomery is part of the Seventh U.S. Congressional District. The State of New Jersey is represented by two U.S. Senators.

At the state level, Montgomery Township falls within the Sixteenth Legislative District and is represented by one State Senator and two members of the General Assembly.

To find out the name of state and federal representatives and how to reach them, call the Montgomery Township Clerk's Office (908) 359-8211.

MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Montgomery Township has a township committee form of local government, with an elected five-member Committee which is both the policy-making and administrative body of the township. Members are elected at-large, for three-year terms, on a rotating basis.

MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2023

<u>Committee Member</u>	<u>Role</u>	<u>email address</u>
Neena Singh	Mayor	nsingh@montgomerynj.gov
Vincent Barragan	Deputy Mayor	vbarragan@montgomerynj.gov
Devra Keenan	Committeeperson	dkeen@montgomerynj.gov
Dennis Ahn	Committeeperson	dahn@montgomerynj.gov
Patricia Taylor Todd, Esq.	Committeeperson	ptodd@montgomerynj.gov

The Township Committee is authorized to enact ordinances, appropriate funds, adopt the municipal budget, appoint all personnel employed by the Township, appoint/confirm members of boards and commissions and protect and plan for the general welfare. Members also sit on a number of advisory committees, boards and commissions along with elected, appointed and/or citizen representatives.

At the organizational meeting in January of each year, a Mayor and a Deputy Mayor are elected from among the members of the Committee. The Mayor and Township Committee serve on a part-time basis and are paid a nominal salary. In addition to regular Committee responsibilities, the Mayor presides at meetings, and makes specific appointments to the Planning Board, Environmental Commission, and various advisory boards and committees.

MEETINGS

Township Committee meetings are held in the Municipal Building, unless otherwise noted, on the first and third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. Check the website for monthly meeting calendar and draft agenda to confirm meeting dates and times, found under "[Elected Officials](#)". All meetings are open to the public in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act.

MAYOR'S OFFICE HOURS

For appointments with the Mayor, please call the Township Clerk's office at (908) 533-9188

OFFICES OF TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT

Township records, vital statistics and copies of all ordinances and resolutions are held at the Municipal Building. Deeds are recorded at the County Clerk's Office in Somerville, (908) 231-7000.

TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR

email: administration@montgomerynj.gov

Coordinates all administrative departments and carries out the policies of the Township Committee.

TOWNSHIP CLERK

email: clerk@montgomerynj.gov

The Township Clerk is the official secretary of the Township and of the Township Committee and maintains a record of all proceedings. The Clerk has the power to take affidavits concerning Township business and may administer oaths. Every ordinance passed is recorded by the Clerk in the public record. The Clerk is appointed by the Township Committee. A Deputy Township Clerk, appointed by the Township Committee, has all the powers of the Township Clerk in the Clerk's absence or disability.

The front reception desk is also under the authority of the Township Clerk. The full responsibilities of the Township Clerk are outlined on the Township website (www.montgomerynj.gov).

DEPARTMENT HEADS

<u>Staff Member</u>	<u>Role</u>	<u>email address</u>
Lori Savron	Administrator/Planning Director	lsavron@montgomerynj.gov (908) 533-9293
Lisa Fania	Township Clerk	lfania@montgomerynj.gov (908) 533-9188
Roy Mondri	Construction & Official Fire Marshall	rmondri@montgomerynj.gov (908) 533-9190
Mark Herrmann	Township Engineer	mherrmann@montgomerynj.gov (908) 533-9196
Michael Pitts	Finance CFO/Qualified Purchasing Agent & Tax Collector	mpitts@montgomerynj.gov (908) 224-2071 (908) 533-9292
Devangi Patel	Health Officer	dpatel@montgomerynj.gov (908) 533-9331
Silvio Bet	Police Captain Director	sbet@police.montgomery.nj.us (908) 874-3222, 9-1-1 Emergency
Art Villano	Public Works Superintendent	avillano@montgomerynj.gov (908) 533-9322
Joseph Kane	Public Works Assistant Superintendent	jkane@montgomerynj.gov Dept. of Public Works (908) 874-3144
John Groeger	Parks & Recreation Director	jgroeger@montgomerynj.gov (908) 533-9311
Glenn Stives	Tax Assessor	gstives@montgomerynj.gov (908) 234-0027

CONSTRUCTION/ENFORCEMENT

email: construction@montgomerynj.gov

The Construction/Code Enforcement Department is a Class I Agency with inspectors for all subcodes and oversees commercial and residential projects for plan review, permit processing and field inspections. This includes new buildings, and additions and alterations that would require building, electric, plumbing and/or fire permits.

Permits are required for small projects such as finished basements, raised patios, decks and tool sheds. Not having a permit creates problems, especially when the property is sold and a search reveals that work was done and no permit was obtained.

When in doubt about requirements for permits, please call our office for guidance.

COURT – MUNICIPAL

Telephone: (908) 369-3532

Fax: (908) 369-4401

The Municipal Court serving Montgomery Township is managed out of the [Hillsborough Township Municipal Court](#) at 379 South Branch Road, Hillsborough, NJ 08844.

The Court hears all motor vehicle, disorderly persons offenses, weight/measures complaints, fish and game violations, local ordinance violations and citizen complaints (e.g. simple assault, shoplifting, criminal mischief). The goal of the Court is to ensure that every person is treated with respect and given a fair trial or experience in Municipal Court. Hillsborough Court is typically held on Mondays and Tuesdays. **Please call to confirm.**

EDUCATION (Public)

Township Public Schools are operated under the authority of the State Department of Education. The Montgomery School District operates under the direction of its Board of Education which is a separate entity from the Montgomery Township Committee.

Board of Education 1014 Route 601, Skillman, NJ 08558

Main Tel: (609) 466-7600 or (609) 466-7601

Main Fax: (609) 466-0944

Email: bdofed@mtsd.k12.nj.us

Website: www.mtsd.k12.nj.us

<u>Schools</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Fax</u>
High School	(609) 466-7602	(609) 466-7689 or (609) 466-0243
Upper Middle School	(609) 466-7603	(908) 874-7045
Lower Middle School	(609) 466-7604	(908) 874-4857
Orchard Hill	(609) 466-7605	(908) 359-1126
Village School	(609) 466-7606	(609) 333-0280
Transportation	(609) 466-7601 ext. 7010	

ELECTIONS

General Elections

General Elections are held the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. Polls are open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Primary Elections

Primary Elections are held the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June. Polls are open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

School Elections

School Elections are held annually in November as part of the General Election to elect school board members.

District Board of Fire Commissioners

Members of the two fire houses are elected by the voters in that district, who also vote on the district budget, the third Saturday in February of each year.

Elections - Registered Voters

All Registered Voters receive a sample ballot in the mail. Please do not throw this sample ballot away as it contains valuable information about:

- where to vote
- hours when the polls are open
- offices to be voted on
- candidate information
- how to use a voting machine
- district and municipality
- handicapped accessibility

The sample ballot is the verification of your bona fide residence. Contact the Somerset County Clerk's Office ((908) 231-7013) or County Board of Elections ((908) 231-7084) if you have not received it prior to the election.

Elections - Registering to Vote

To vote in a specific election, you must register by at least 21 days before that election.

Who

- A U.S. citizen residing, at the time of application, in the district in which they expect to vote.
- A resident of the county for 30 days by the date of the next election.
- 18 years old or more by the date of the next election.

How

- Register in person
 - Somerset County Board of Elections, 20 Grove Street, Administration building, Somerville
 - Call this office for information and hours for registration.
- Register by mail. Applications and instructions are available at www.co.somerset.nj.us
 - Somerset County Board of elections
 - Montgomery Township Clerk's Office

Elections – Key Contacts

Montgomery Township Clerk: Lisa Fania
(908) 533-9188
100 Community Drive
Skillman, NJ 08558

Somerset County Board of Elections: (908) 231-7084
Administration Building
20 Grove Street
Somerville, NJ 08876-1262

ENGINEERING & GIS

email: engineering@montgomerynj.gov

The Department of Engineering is responsible for overseeing many township capital improvement projects, development projects, reviewing plans, preparing Township mapping information, ensuring property owner/developer compliance with planning/zoning board requirements and applicable ordinances, and reviewing Street / Right-of-Way, Driveway, Soil Hauling, Soil Disturbance, Building, and certain Zoning permit applications.

- Capital Improvement Projects** Engineering assesses road conditions and prepares contract documents for road resurfacing, overlays, reconstruction, or rehabilitation. Our road projects typically include repairs to sidewalks, drainage and sewer infrastructure, ADA curb ramp upgrades, NJDEP compliant stormwater inlet upgrades, new street signs, and other relevant. We also contract for drainage improvement, recreation, pathway and other capital projects.
- Design** The Department is responsible for preparing designs or contracting for capital projects. We assess feasibility, prepare budget requests, design, coordinate, estimate, bid, and oversee construction for capital projects. Our office also prepares Municipal Aid grant applications for qualifying projects.
- Compliance** Engineering ensures that the approvals and conditions of the Planning/Zoning Boards and Township Code are followed; proper construction sequence is followed to protect public health and safety; proper materials and construction methods are used; traffic control measures are in place, testing and record drawings are provided; and projects conform to approved plans.
- Permit Review** Engineering reviews site work outside of your house or building, including work that coincides with Building and Zoning Permit applications. Our staff reviews grading, land disturbance (clearing, tree removal, soil disturbance), soil importing and exporting, sidewalks, curbs, driveways, stormwater / drainage, development in environmentally sensitive areas, traffic control, sewer connections, and other forms of land use. It is often better to call us to see if you need a permit. Engineering applications and general information can be found [here](#). Applications are typically reviewed within 10 business days
- GIS Interactive Mapping** The Geospatial Information Technology (GIS) section of Engineering maintains the tax maps, other township map information, and geographic databases for zoning, open space, easements, road right-of-way, sanitary sewer, storm drainage, and road sign maps. Interactive map applications are also developed and maintained on the Township [website](#) for township staff and the general public use.
- Flood Hazard Area Searches** Engineering will conduct a search and provide a diagram and certification of FEMA delineated flood hazard areas on a property.

FIRE PREVENTION

email: rmondi@montgomerynj.gov

Current Fire Prevention Bureau staff is located in the **CODE ENFORCEMENT** division in the Montgomery Township Municipal Building. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Fire Official is available for any major fire emergency call-out twenty-four (24) hours every day of the year.

Our primary responsibility is enforcement of the New Jersey Uniform Fire Code and other local fire safety regulations. Major activities within the scope of this office include: Life hazards, Non-Life Hazard Inspections, Complaints, Permit Control, Smoke Detector Inspection on re-sale, Violations Notices and Penalty Notices for failure to comply with the law. We also conduct Fire Safety Presentations for Schools, businesses, and other community groups; Fire Investigations to determine origin and cause; control of false alarms and Fire Zones and Fire Prevention Week activities.

We inspect all business structures and operations throughout the Township at least once every 12 months, and certain inspections (Life Hazards) are conducted every 3 months. Allegations of fire safety violations are frequently received and usually result in spot inspections within a few hours. A Notice of Violation is issued if warranted, and a date and time for re-inspection for compliance is specified.

FOOD PANTRY

The Food pantry is located on the Senior Center side of the Otto Kaufman Center and operates by appointment only. It is open to all Montgomery Township residents who are experiencing temporary financial hardships and having difficulty making ends meet. The pantry is managed by the Montgomery Township Community Resource Manager Denise Crowley. She is responsible for connecting people in need in our community with resources available through the County and other organizations.

All visits to the Food Pantry are by appointment only to protect the privacy of all clients and to ensure that we do not interrupt senior programs. The Pantry has non-perishable food and non-food grocery items for Montgomery residents with temporary needs.

To take advantage of the Montgomery Township Food Pantry, please call or email Denise Crowley to make an appointment for an initial visit. You will need to complete an application form that will be reviewed at the initial meeting. At that time, the manager will explain how the pantry works. You will be asked to bring proof that you live in Montgomery Township as well as income documentation. While there is no income eligibility, there is an income verification process. The manager will make copies for her files.

Please be assured that outside of the Montgomery Food Pantry's administrative staff, no one will know about your participation in this program. All information generated is coded by number so your identity is always protected.

Food and non-food grocery items are provided by a very caring and generous community. Donations of food, non-food grocery items and funds are needed on a regular basis. Donations to the Montgomery Township Food Pantry are deductible in accordance with §170 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Volunteers assist throughout the year to help sort donations, stock the pantry shelves, and assist with special program support. Food Pantry visits, volunteers, and donations are by appointment only to protect the privacy of Pantry clients.

For more information you may email FoodPantry@montgomerynj.gov or call (609) 466-1054.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

email: health@montgomerynj.gov

- A Health Hazard or Just a Nuisance?** Our environmental inspectors are trained to investigate many types of hazardous conditions reported to us by concerned residents. Please contact us in the event you notice something that you think could be a health hazard, or a condition that, if left unattended, could jeopardize public health and safety.
- Child Health Conference** Do your children need immunizations or well-child checkups? The Health Department provides Child Health Conferences (clinics) in cooperation with Hillsborough Township. Eligible families with infants and/or pre-school age children can attend clinics. Call (908) 725-9355 for an appointment.
- Zufall Health Center** A full range of health care services are available through the Zufall Health Center in Somerville. Available services include preventive care, pediatrics, cancer screenings, pregnancy testing and STD testing. Sliding scale fee schedule for those without insurance. Call (908) 526-2335 to schedule an appointment.
- Does your family need health insurance?** Get affordable health insurance for your family at www.healthcare.gov. You or your children may also qualify for free health insurance through **NJ FamilyCare**. For enrollment information, call (800) 701-0710 or go to www.njfamilycare.org.
- Free Blood Pressure Monitoring** Available through our Public Health Nurse. Call (908) 219-7473.
- Flu Immunization Clinics** The Centers for Disease Control recommend that everyone over age 6 months get an annual flu shot. Montgomery Township offers both day and evening clinics throughout the fall. Watch for our press release/e-bulletin announcing the dates. You may also find the Health Department announcement online at: <http://www.montgomerynj.gov>
- On-Site Nurse** An on-site Nurse supports the Health Department in various ways including the research of communicable diseases and by providing immunizations. For additional information, please contact the Township Health Department at (908) 219-7473.
- Household Chemicals** Many products that are commonly used around the house contain toxic ingredients. If disposed of improperly, these chemicals could pose a public health or environmental threat. Common household chemicals that need special disposal include:
- Paints, paint-strippers, paint thinners, solvents
 - Oven cleaners, floor waxes, furniture polish
 - Drain cleaners, spot removers, degreasers
 - Motor oil, battery acids, anti-freeze
 - Photographic chemicals
- Somerset County offers special Hazardous Waste disposal days throughout the year. For a schedule of Hazardous Waste disposal days, call (908) 231-7031, or go to www.co.somerset.nj.us

- Restaurant Inspections** All food establishments in the Township are regularly inspected by the Health Department. Look for the ratings placard by the entrance to your favorite eatery, or ask the manager for a copy of their latest inspection report – you have the right to know! If you see conditions in a food establishment that trouble you, call the Township Health Department at (908) 224-3953 and tell us about it.
- Rodent and Pest Control** It's a violation of health ordinances to accumulate debris or garbage where rats could live. If you have concerns, call the Township Health Department at (908) 359-8211.
- Septic Systems** About half of Montgomery homes are served by septic systems, not public sewers. Maintaining your septic system will add years to its life and could save you tens of thousands of dollars in repair bills. Our Septic Management licensing system helps homeowners track their system's maintenance and helps protect water quality. We also offer a free homeowner's manual for you with tips on proper system care and maintenance.
- Septic Systems – Cont.**
- Well Water** The Health Department recommends homeowners test their well water every 3-5 years. Testing is mandatory if you are selling or renting out your home. The Health Department has a list of state-certified water testing laboratories that can help.

PETS – ANIMAL CONTROL

- Animal Control Officer** If you see stray dogs or other stray domestic animals, call our animal control officer. The animal control officer will follow up on those complaints, and will try to capture the animal to reunite it with its owner. To contact the Animal Control Officer, call (908) 219-7392
- Cats** Licenses are required for all cats over the age of 6 months, beginning in 2016. Proof of current rabies protection is necessary to obtain a license. Rabies vaccinations cannot expire prior to October 31st of the licensing year. Licenses expire on December 31st of each year and must be renewed annually. The fee is \$10.00 per neutered/spayed cat or \$15.00 per non-neutered/spayed cat; 3 or more cats is a flat fee of \$25 annually; late fees are an additional \$1.00 per month. Forms are available in the Township website for mail-in-registration, or at the Health Office.
- Dogs** Licenses are required for all dogs over the age of 6 months. Proof of current rabies protection is necessary to obtain a license. Rabies vaccinations cannot expire prior to October 31st of the licensing year. Licenses expire on December 31st of each year and must be renewed annually. The fee is \$20.00 for neutered/spayed or \$23.00 for non-neutered/spayed; late fees are an additional \$1.00 per month. Forms are available in the Township website for mail-in-registration, or at the Health Office.
- Be a Responsible Pet Owner**
- Spay or neuter your pet!
 - Clean up after your dog – it's the law!
 - Keep your dog on a leash in public.
 - Adopt a homeless animal! Call SAVE A Friend to Homeless Animals for available pets (609) 309-5214.

VITAL STATISTICS

- Marriages, Births & Deaths** Marriages, births and deaths are recorded in the municipality where they occurred. Certified copies of Marriages, or for home births or deaths, are available from the Registrar of Vital Statistics. If the event occurred in another municipality, or in a hospital, the Registrar can help you find where to look for a certified copy. To contact the Registrar, call (908) 533-9326

Marriage Licenses and Civil Unions

The Montgomery Township Registrar of Vital Statistics issues licenses for Marriages. There is a 72-hour waiting period between the time you apply and the time your license can be issued, and we are closed evenings and weekends.

Contact the Registrar to:

- Determine where you should apply for your license,
- Make an appointment to apply for your license, and
- Find out what to bring with you when you apply for a license.

PARKS & RECREATION

email: recreation@montgomerynj.gov

The Montgomery Parks & Recreation Department serves the needs of the community through well-balanced program offerings, an extensive park system offering active and passive recreational opportunities, stewardship of thousands of acres of preserved open space and over 40 miles of pathways.

The Parks & Recreation Department and the Otto Kaufman Community Center is open Monday through Friday as follows:

Sept 1 – June 30: 8:00am to 9:00 pm
 July 1 – August 31: 8:00am to 6:00pm

and are located at: 356 Skillman Road
 Skillman, NJ 08558
 Telephone: 609-466-3023

We offer over 120 programs throughout the year for seniors, adults and children (sample listing below). We also have an extensive summer day camp programs for children from 1st grade through 8th grade. Information and class offerings are included in the Recreation Newsletters as well as on our website: www.montgomerynj.gov/parksrec

Adults - educational, health and well-being classes:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fitness ▪ Yoga 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Swimming
Children:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Swim lessons/swim team/diving ▪ Summer day camp ▪ Dance ▪ Extensive summer creative camps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Extensive summer sport camps program ▪ Yoga ▪ Coding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ After school classes that include Chess, Taekwondo, Drawing and Painting, Piano, Mad Science, Bricks4Kids, Girls on the Run, and Yoga 	
Coaches Safety Clinic – for any person coaching for one of our in-town sports leagues	
Special Events	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Independence Day Celebration w/Fireworks ▪ Outdoor Movie Night ▪ Halloween Trunk of Treat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Holiday Tree Lighting ▪ Holiday Lights Spectacular

Parks e-mail: parks@montgomerynj.gov

With a staff of four operators, four laborers, and one foreman, and using environmentally friendly alternatives to indiscriminate spraying of chemical pesticides for lawns, trees and shrubs, this division presently maintains over 350 acres of active parklands..

Montgomery Parks & Recreation sports fields and parks may sometimes be closed due to wet weather or other unsuitable conditions.

Parks

Montgomery Veterans Park – 235 Harlingen Road, Belle Mead

- 3 softball fields
- 2 lighted basketball courts
- Sand volleyball Court
- Bicycle, jogging, walking path (approx. 1 mile in length)
- Pathways
- 2 Soccer Fields
- 1 Cricket Field
- 2 Playgrounds
- Concession Stand with Restrooms
- Picnic area, 2 pavilions and grills
- Veterans Memorial
- 9/11 Memorial

Arboretum Field – Harlingen Road

- 2 lacrosse Fields
- Arboretum of Native Flora

Mill Pond Fields – 29 Mill Pond Road, Belle Mead

- 6 Soccer Fields
- 1 Flag Football Field
- Playground
- Concession Stand with Restrooms
- Picnic area, shade structure and grill
- Pathways

Harlingen Green – 37 Harlingen Road, Belle Mead

- Passive Recreation area with Gazebo

Bessie Grover Park – 20 Camp Meeting Avenue, Skillman –
Playground and Picnic Area

Hobler Park – 1645 The Great Road, Skillman

- Passive Recreation Area with Playground, Picnic Area and Gazebo
- Natural surface (grass) pathways

Lubas Field – 285 Route 601, Belle Mead

- Lighted Multipurpose Field
- Playground and Picnic Area

Broadway Field – 140 Broadway, Belle Mead

- Cricket Field

Van Horne Park – 1225 State Rd

- 2 Softball Fields
- 2 Multi-purpose Fields
- 2 Basketball Courts
- 2 Playgrounds
- Walking/Jogging Paths
- Pavilion, Grill and Restroom

Open Space & Farmland Preservation Approximately 38% of the Township’s overall land area is preserved through a mix of publicly owned lands and privately owned preserved lands. The Township partners with State agencies (State Agriculture Development Committee, NJ DEP Green Acres), Somerset County, and various nonprofits (Montgomery Friends of Open Space, New Jersey Conservation Foundation, D&R Greenway) to fund preservation.

If you are interested in preserving your property, or what restrictions may be in place on protected land, please contact Lauren Wasilauski at (908) 533-9302.

Recreational Pathways Come out and enjoy the miles of trails on Township open space. Parks and pathways maps are available on the township website under “Recreation”. Volunteers are always needed for trail building and maintenance.

PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

Planning email: cchrusz@montgomerynj.gov

Zoning email: jsamec@montgomerynj.gov

This office supports the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment, Site Plan/Subdivision Committee, Development Review Committee and the Master Plan Committee.

This office accepts all applications for:

- Site Plans (Minor, Preliminary Major and Final Major)
- Subdivisions (Minor, Preliminary Major and Final Major)
- Variances (Use and Bulk), Interpretations and Appeals

Meeting dates for the above boards are available by contacting the Planning Department. Informal Plans (both with and without Professional Review) may be presented to the Planning Board only. There is only one general document used for these above applications, which is the Township of Montgomery Planning/Zoning Application. It is found under “Land Use” on the township website www.montgomerynj.gov

This office also accepts all correspondence on behalf of any of the above Boards and Committees. On file at the office are the applications, plans, correspondence, minutes of the meetings and any other information that may pertain to the Boards or Committees. Much of this information is available to the general public.

ZONING DIVISION

This division is charged with the enforcement of the Montgomery Township Land Development Ordinance (LDO) and resolutions of the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment. This enforcement is done in cooperation with all other Township Departments. Zoning reviews building permits prior to their review by the Construction Department. We also review and issue permits for projects which do not necessarily require building permits, such as on grade patios, walkways, driveway expansion, temporary signs, sidewalk sales and home occupations. All applications to the Planning and Zoning Boards are reviewed prior to hearings.

Zoning is also the source of information for any questions citizens and interested parties may have about the Land Development Ordinance or resolutions. The Zoning Officer is authorized to interpret the LDO, although the Zoning Board of Adjustment can overrule the Zoning Officer's interpretation if an application is made to the Board and a compelling argument is presented.

The **Planning Department** also handles all aspects related to:

- Historic Preservation
- Administration of affordable housing, including existing and proposed units
- Businesses considering expanding or relocating to Montgomery

Affordable Housing If you are interested in owning or renting affordable housing, please see the Township website at <https://montgomerynj.gov/departments/planning/affordable-housing/>

If you have questions about the Township’s Housing & Fair Share Plan, please contact Dawn Baker (908) 206-7307

Local Business Directory Looking for a business in Montgomery? Check out the [online business directory](#) on the Township website. Planners work closely with the Economic Development Commission.

Historic Resources If you own a home that has been designated a local historic site, or live within a designated historic district, Planners can work closely with you in determining what restrictions may apply.

POLICE

- **Police, Fire & EMS Emergencies, dial 9-1-1**
- **Non-emergency requests for Police assistance, (908) 359-3222**
(dispatched 24/7 through Somerset County Communications)
- **Police Administrative Business (908) 874-3333** (Monday – Friday, 8:00am – 4:00pm)
- **Captain/Police Director Silvio Bet (908) 359-2311** email: sbet@police.montgomery.nj.us
- **Administrative Asst., Deborah Axtt (908) 533-9333** email: daxtt@police.montgomery.nj.us

The primary objectives of the Montgomery Township Department of Police Services are to ensure the safety of all citizens and their property, and provide services to the community through contingent tasks, education, guidance and help for those in need. It is important that all citizens be safe in their homes and businesses and that they feel free to live, work, drive and play without fear. We will provide all services with courtesy, respect and integrity.

Administrative Division Commander Lieutenant Tom Frascella (908) 533-9334
email: tfrascella@police.montgomery.nj.us

This position is responsible for supervision of all civilian personnel, Police Records, Property & Evidence, facilities management, policy development, entry level hiring & selection processes, promotional processes, technology, internal affairs, Basic & In-Service Training, and Media Relations.

Administrative Officer Sean Devlin (908) 533-1019
(OEM Coordinator) email: sdevlin@police.montgomery.nj.us

Operations Division Lieutenant Kurt Rock (908) 533-9330
email: krock@police.montgomery.nj.us

Commander

This position is responsible for Patrol and Patrol Duties.

Services

Acting Lieutenant Andrew Perry (908) 281-5869

Division

email: aperry@police.montgomery.nj.us

Commander

Detective Bureau

The **Detective Bureau** conducts criminal investigations and conducts investigations involving applications for Firearms permits and other Township sourced permits.

Detective Sergeant Brian Hofacker (908) 533-9192

email: bhofacker@police.montgomery.nj.us

Detective Chris Bleistine (908) 533-9193

email: cbleistine@police.montgomery.nj.us

Detective Bureau

Detective Joseph Ceccato (908) 387-7147

Email: jceccato@police.montgomery.nj.us

Traffic Bureau

The **Traffic Bureau** provides assistance in traffic related issues to the governing body, conducts investigations into serious motor vehicle collisions and assists the Engineering Department with the proper placement of signs and signals. The traffic bureau also assists citizens with traffic related complaints (speeding etc.) that occur within the township and assists residents with child car seat installations. Officers are also available to conduct child passenger safety events.

Officer Timothy Giaccone (908) 533-9197

email: tgiaccone@police.montgomery.nj.us

Officer Jason Clifford (908) 235-3002

email: jclifford@police.montgomery.nj.us

PUBLIC WORKS

email: dpw@montgomerynj.gov

This office supervises and directs the Buildings Division, Roads Division, the user-fee supported Sewer Division and the Container Facility. The office staff lends support to all of the Divisions. The main telephone number is (908) 874-3144. The Pothole Hotline is (908) 874-8947.

Buildings

email: dpw@montgomerynj.gov

The division maintains operations and cleanliness of the municipally owned public buildings and grounds

Roads

email: roads@montgomerynj.gov

This division employs twelve operators, five laborers, and one foreman in the maintenance of drainage ditches and other drainage facilities around town, installing driveway inlets, roadside mowing, erection and removal of snow-fence, pre-treatment (brine), salting, snow plowing, sanding and patching of roads, and other general maintenance of the roadways. The division presently maintains approximately 135 miles of roadway.

Container Facility

The Container Facility is for Montgomery Residents only for the purpose of disposing of household items that are not recyclable, not hazardous waste and that cannot be collected by their trash hauler. More information including the calendar is available at <http://www.montgomerynj.gov/departments/public-works/container-facility/>

Recycling Public Works Superintendent Art Villano serves as the Township Recycling Coordinator. Questions regarding recycling may also be addressed to the Somerset County Recycling Center at 732-469-3363. Recycling information is available at <https://www.co.somerset.nj.us/government/public-works/recycling>

SENIOR CENTER

The Montgomery Senior Center is for all residents of Montgomery and Rocky Hill who are age 60 or older. The Senior Center is operated through a partnership between Montgomery Township and the Somerset County Office on Aging. The center, located in the Otto Kaufman Community Center at 356 Skillman Rd., Skillman, offers a wide array of programs and activities, including lunch, and is open Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 3:00pm.

Montgomery Township covers building operations, transportation and subsidizes many of the center's activities. Somerset County provides meals and staff.

For information on activities or to make a lunch reservation, call the Senior Center at 609-466-0846 or email dcrowley@montgomerynj.gov. Lunch is served at 11:45 for a suggested donation of \$2.50; reservations required. Transportation may be available from the Somerset County Division of Transportation, if you do not drive. For information on Transportation, call (908) 231-7115 or (800) 246-0527.

TAX & FINANCE

Tax Collector email: grojek@montgomerynj.gov

Tax Assessor email: gstives@montgomerynj.gov

Finance Department email: chiggins@montgomerynj.gov

Tax Assessment The Tax Assessor's Office ensures an accurate valuation of all real property and equitable distribution of the real estate tax levy.

Tax Deductions Senior citizen and veteran's deductions require an application from the Tax Assessor's office.

Tax Collection The Tax Collector is responsible for the collection of property and sewer taxes.

Property Taxes are payable quarterly on the 1st day of February, May, August and November, after which date they are delinquent and subject to interest. Further info on this is available on the Township website.

Sewer Utility Charges Sewer utility bills are also paid at the tax collector's office. Sewer utilities are payable semiannually on June 1st and September 1st and are subject to the same rate of interest as property taxes.

Drop Box For your convenience an after-hours drop box for tax & sewer payments only has been installed at the main entrance of the Municipal Building. Payments left in the drop box will be posted as of the next business day.

Contact the Tax Collector:

- If you are a new homeowner and did not receive your bill at the closing
- If you pay off your mortgage and will be paying your own taxes and do not have your copy of the bill
- If for any reason you do not have a copy of your tax or sewer bill.

**Finance
Department**

The Finance Department oversees cash receipts, cash disbursements, investments, budget, purchasing and payroll.

Cash Receipts

Monies collected by the various departments throughout the township are brought to the Finance department on a daily basis, then recorded and deposited into the Township's various bank accounts.

**Cash
Disbursements**

Vouchers are processed and presented to the Township Committee at their regular sessions which occur the first and third Thursdays of each month. Payment vouchers must be presented to the Finance Department at least one week before the meeting to be processed for payment. After approval from the committee the checks are mailed to the various vendors. From the records of these payments 1099 tax forms are prepared each year.

Budget

The Finance Department reviews the individual department budget requests with the department head and makes any necessary adjustments. These requests are then reviewed with the Township Administrator and Committee for final approval before Introduction and Approval at the township meeting and then sent to the State.

Payroll

Time sheets are prepared and turned in from all departments and reviewed for any overtime or special hours. New employees are set up after receiving paperwork from personnel. After each payroll is processed, payments are made for Federal and State taxes. Once a month payments Public Employees and Police & Fire Retirement Systems are made. Quarterly and yearly reports as well as W2 tax forms are prepared here.

**Computer/
Network
Technology**

The Finance Department is responsible for all aspects of computerization of the Township. Included with the responsibilities is forecasting future needs of the Township and evaluating requests from the various departments for network needs. Township communications is also under the Finance department.

VOLUNTEER BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Montgomery Township relies heavily on the resources of its residents to fill positions on its volunteer boards and committees. The Board of Health, Economic Development Commission, Environmental Commission, Open Space Committee, Planning Board, Recreation Committee, Shade Tree Committee, and Zoning Board of Adjustment are just a few examples.

You can learn more about the work of municipal boards and committees on the township's web site: www.montgomerynj.gov (click on Community, and then "Volunteer with Us"). The monthly regular meetings and holiday calendar is posted on the [Calendar](#) section of the website.

Montgomery residents who would like to volunteer to serve on a municipal board, commission or committee can fill out the “Municipal Volunteer Form” [Volunteer Application](#) on the [Volunteer](#) section of the Township website.

Although it is impossible to appoint every interested resident to a committee, resumes and letters are kept on file in the event that seats open up during the course of the year. In addition, there may be special short-term volunteer project opportunities available. For further info, call the Township Clerk’s Office at (908) 224-1795

Utilities

The electricity, gas, water, garbage collection, and interconnectivity need of Montgomery residents and business owners are served by a number of private companies, as listed below. Curbside pick-up of Recycling is handled by Somerset County. Sanitary Sewer service is provided by Montgomery Township DPW.

- Broadband/Cable
- Electric & Gas
- Phone
- Recycling
- Sewer / Septic
- Trash Disposal
- Water

[Utilities | Montgomery Township New Jersey \(montgomerynj.gov\)](#)

COUNTY & OTHER SERVICES

CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES

Libraries

Montgomery Library

100 Community Drive

Skillman, NJ 08558

(908) 458-8430

montgomery@sclibnj.org

The Montgomery Library is a branch of the Somerset County Library System, located within the Montgomery Municipal Center. Montgomery residents are encouraged to sign up for a free library card- stop by the branch or visit <https://sclsnj.org> for more information. The Montgomery library offers multiple reservable spaces, access to technology, programs for all ages, and much more. Other SCLSNJ library branches can be found throughout Somerset County, for a list of other locations visit:

<https://sclsnj.org/about/branch-locations/>

Somerset County Library cards can be used at any of the other member libraries: Bridgewater, Bound Brook, Hillsborough, North Plainfield, Peapack Gladstone, Warren Township, Watchung and the Branchburg or Washington Valley Stations.

Culture & Heritage

Somerset County Culture & Heritage Commission

(908) 231-7110

History Administers programs and services that preserve, promote and protect the culture and heritage of Somerset County. <https://www.co.somerset.nj.us/government/public-works/cultural-heritage>

Van Harlingen Historical Society library@vanharlingen.org
P.O. Box 23 info@vanharlingen.org
Belle Mead, NJ 08502 www.vanharlingen.org
(908) 359-8304

The Van Harlingen Historical Society, founded in 1965, works to preserve the heritage of the Montgomery Township area to interpret the area's history through educational programs, publications, and exhibits. The Society maintains a library and archives at the 1752 Dirck Gulick House at 506 Route 601. Please call for information.

The 1853 one-room Bedensville Schoolhouse was restored by the Society and is interpreted by a volunteer "school marm" for school and private groups. The schoolhouse is located on the grounds of Orchard Hill School. It is open by appointment.

The Society's Farm Museum, on Montgomery Road, is the Voorhees-Opie barn. This barn was moved from its original location near the intersection of Rt. 206 and Bridgepoint Road. This museum contains a renovated sleigh, a unique assortment of hand and farm tools, as well as household implements, such as milk pails, butter churns, and spinning wheels.

Music **The Blawenburg Band**

www.blawenburgband.org

Started in 1890, the Blawenburg Band is a nonprofit organization that performs 30 times per year at nursing homes and celebrations of all types. Members rehearse Monday evenings for the enjoyment of playing music.

Newspapers There are several local newspapers with broad Montgomery readership which cover government news regularly:

The Montgomery News (908) 874-0020, <https://www.themontynews.org/>, is distributed free monthly to all Montgomery and Rocky Hill residents.

The Princeton Packet (732) 358-5200, www.centraljersey.com, is published on Fridays.

The Courier News of Somerville (800) 675-8645, www.mycentraljersey.com, is the newspaper through which Montgomery publishes its public notices.

The Star Ledger 1-888-782-7533, www.nj.com

Trenton Times news desk 609-989-5454, www.nj.com

Theater **The Montgomery Cinemas** **609-924-7444**
1325 Route 206
Skillman, NJ 08558

The Montgomery Performing Arts Center (MPAC) presents professional music, theatre and dance entertainments. A Saturday children's series, a Family Favorites

Theater series, and a Major Performance series are scheduled from September through May. Located in Montgomery High School, the theatre also presents concerts and plays in student programs, and is available for rental to outside organizations. For information on upcoming events, call 609-466-7194.

Live theater is available at Raritan Valley Community College, as well as in Princeton, Trenton, New Brunswick and other neighboring towns. Upcoming events are listed in local newspapers.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

<http://www.mems47.org>

Emergency..... 911

Non-Emergency: (908) 359-3222

Montgomery EMS has approximately 50 volunteer members who are trained according to State and Federal requirements. The Squad owns three ambulances, which are housed in the EMS building on Harlingen Road in Belle Mead. The Squad is financed mainly through fund raising with a small amount allotted by the Municipal Government. Meetings are held the third Monday of the month in the EMS building, 8 Harlingen Road, Belle Mead, NJ 08502.

In addition to emergency services, the Squad provides non-emergency medical transportation (must be pre-arranged) and lends hospital equipment. Certain members are qualified to offer instruction in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

If you are interested in becoming a member of Montgomery EMS, call (908) 359-4112, or drop by our squad building any weekday night at 7pm.

FIRE COMPANIES

Emergency.....911

Fire protection in Montgomery Township is provided by two volunteer fire companies:

Fire Company #1

35 Griggstown Road

P.O. Box 188

Belle Mead, NJ 08502

(908) 359-6511

<http://www.mtvfc1.org/>

Fire Company #2

529 Route 518

P.O. Box 267

Blawenburg, NJ 08504

609-466-3926

<https://www.mtvfc2.com>

Junior and cadet members can join as young as 14 years of age. To be able to actually fight fires, however, you must be at least 18 years of age. Interested parties can go to the local fire station between 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. on their meeting night. #1 meets on Monday nights and #2 meets on Wednesday nights.

Each fire company is administered by its own District Board of Fire commissioners. The 3rd Saturday of February, members of each Board are elected by the voters of their district. Each board annually submits the fire company's budget to the district voters, also at February elections. If the district rejects the budget, the amount to be raised by taxation in that district is determined by the Township Committee.

SENIOR SERVICES

Alzheimer’s Association Greater NJ Chapter	(800) 272-3900
NJ Health and Senior Services	(973) 977-4231
Lifeline Program – is a statewide utility assistance program that offers an annual benefit of \$225.00 to persons who meet the PAAD eligibility requirements or who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI). This includes utility customers as well as tenants whose utility bills are included in their rent. Income limits apply.	(800) 792-9745
Meals on Wheels - Flemington	(908) 284-0735
Meals on Wheels – New Brunswick	(732) 249-3488
MERWICK Care and Rehabilitation Center	(609) 759-6000
Penn Medicine Princeton Medical Center	(866) 460-4776
Princeton YMCA	(609) 497-9622
Princeton YWCA - Offers Arthritis and Rehabilitation Swim Therapy and Vitality in Maturity fitness classes for seniors. Located at Paul Robeson Place and Route 206, Princeton.	(609) 497-2100
Project Lifesaver (Somerset Co. Sheriff’s Office)	(908) 231-7140
New Jersey Register Ready – NJ Special Needs Registry Self-register at www.nj211.org	
Senior Center in Montgomery Township – see “Recreation Department”.	(609) 466-0846
Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP)	(800) 792-8820
Somerset County Office on Aging	(908) 704-6346
RWJ University Hospital Somerset	(908) 685-2200
Somerset Valley YMCA (Hillsborough)	(908) 369-0490
State of NJ Public Guardian for Elderly Adults	(609) 341-5555

Hotlines

- AIDS (800) 624-2377
- Alcohol Abuse (866) 709-0213
- Child Abuse (877) 652-2873
- Drug Abuse (800) 662-4357
- NJ 2-1-1 Information & Assistance Dial 211 or (877)652-1148
web: www.nj211.org
- Parents Anonymous / Family Hotline (609) 585-7666
- Statewide Domestic Violence (800) 572-7233
- Women’s Referral (health, legal, safety, services etc.) (800) 572-7233

GENERAL INFORMATION

SOMERSET KEY CONTACTS & TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Emergency.....911

- Police
- Fire
- Medical

Police – State of NJ (908) 725-0106
Police – Montgomery Non-Emergency (908) 359-3222

Utility Companies:

- Water: New Jersey American Water (800) 272-1325
- Electric & Gas: PSE&G (800) 436-7734
- Board of Public Utilities Customer Assistance & Complaints (800) 624-0241

Montgomery Township:

- Court (shared with Hillsborough Court) (908) 369-3532
- Health Officer (908) 359-8211
- Food Pantry & Social Service Resources (609) 466-1054
- Board of Education (609) 466-7601
- Montgomery Library (908) 458-8430
- Parks – Township (609) 466-3023
- Montgomery Township Schools – General Number (609) 466-7600
- Recreation Department (609) 466-3023
- Senior Center (609) 466-0846
- Township Offices (908) 359-8211
- YMCA – Princeton (609) 497-9622
- YWCA – Princeton (609) 497-2100
- YMCA - Hillsborough (908) 369-0490

Somerset County:

- Offices Main Number (908) 231-7000
- Board of Elections (908) 231-7084
- Office on Aging (908) 704-6346
- Parks (908) 722-1200
- Hazardous Waste (908) 231-7031
- Recycle Program (732) 469-3363
- County Clerk’s Office (908) 231-7006