

# Seasonal Notice - Winter

## Leaf and Grass Clippings

Montgomery Township encourages leaf and grass clipping composting. For guidance on how to compost yard waste on your property, please attend one of Somerset County's Composting Workshops (call 908-231-7109) or read [Home Composting, a Rutgers Cooperative Research & Extension Worksheet](#).

The Township does not have curbside pick-up of these items. Go to [Container Facility](#) to learn what to do with brush and branches.

Do not dump leaves into rivers, canals, streams, ditches, streets, inlets or storm drains!

## Potholes need to be reported

Pothole repairs are ongoing but due to the weather and temperature they will be prioritized based on location and size. The most severe will be addressed first.

Residents may report potholes on township-maintained roads by calling the Montgomery Township Pothole Hotline: 908-874-8947. Please provide your name, address and telephone number, and the location of the pothole.

Residents may report potholes on Somerset County maintained roads by emailing the Somerset County Road Department at RoadDiv [at] co.somerset.nj.us. Somerset County roads include:

- Rt. 518 – Georgetown-Franklin Turnpike
- Rt. 533 – Millstone River Road
- Rt. 601 – Belle Mead – Blawenburg Road / The Great Road / Trent Place
- Rt. 602 – Skillman Road west of Rt. 601
- Rt. 604 – Dutchtown-Harlingen Road
- Rt. 605 – Kingston River Road to Princeton
- Rt. 630 – Belle Mead-Griggstown Road
- Rt. 632 – Griggstown Causeway
- All roads in Skillman Park

Rt. 206 – residents should go to the New Jersey Department of Transportation website under [Pothole / Highway Maintenance Reporting](#) for more information and a reporting form to complete.

For questions on the maintenance of streets within private housing developments whose maintenance is the responsibility of a property management company, please contact your respective property manager.

#### Power & Streetlight Outage Information

[Report power and streetlight outages](#) through the PSE&G website

If you encounter a downed line or are out of power, please call PSE&G at 1-800-436-7734 or sign up for [MyAlerts](#) so you may text “Out” to 4PSEG.

To track power outages, the [PSE&G online outage map](#) in their Outage Center is updated frequently.

#### Snow Plows

Did you know that when it snows Montgomery Township plows 260 lane-miles of roadway, in several sweeps, before getting to curb-to-curb plowing? Residents play an important role and your cooperation and patience are both needed and appreciated. In order for our crews to do the best clearing job possible, here are some guidelines:

- Montgomery Township has an ordinance that prohibits “parking on street” during snow emergencies which is strictly enforced.
- Please stay off the roads during a snowstorm unless essential. You will be helping to keep first responders safe, as well as yourself.
- **DO NOT** put snow into the roadway as you clear your driveway and/or sidewalk. Throw snow off the road and “down drift” of the plow which means to the right of your driveway when facing the street. Snow piled “up drift” is more likely to end up back in your driveway! The Township does not clear driveways.
- If you clear driveways/sidewalks before plowing is done curb-to-curb, expect to have snow that comes off the plow at the end of the driveway or in the sidewalk. Due to snow coming off the plow, mailboxes can be damaged. It is not the intent of the driver to damage a mailbox. If your mailbox is damaged, see instructions below.
- Do not place trash cans or recycling cans out until the plows have passed.
- Please watch children and keep them out of the plows’ path and harm’s way.

#### Mailboxes can be damaged

- If your mailbox is down because of a snow plow and you live on a *County Road* (see County Road list under “Potholes”), please email RoadDiv [at] co.somerset.nj.us and include your name, telephone number, address (& nearest cross street) and include any photos of the mailbox. Please note that there is a 36 hour window after-the-fact in which to report your mailbox damage to Somerset County.

- If your mailbox is down because of a snow plow, and you live on a Township Road, please email your name, telephone number, address (& nearest cross street) and any photos of the mailbox, to [dpw \[at\] montgomerynj.gov](mailto:dpw[at]montgomerynj.gov). There is no set schedule as to when the mailbox will be repaired. Public Works is balancing their workload to accommodate priority issues. In the meantime, please make arrangements with your Post Office to have your mail held until the mailbox is repaired. Doing this will ensure that your mail is safe until you retrieve it.
- If snow is piled up around the mailbox so that the post office cannot deliver mail, you have a couple of options:
  - Have your mail held at the post office until the snow has melted and mail delivery can be resumed
  - Consider clearing the snow away from your mailbox

#### Storm Drains can get blocked

To report that a storm drain is blocked because so much snow has been plowed onto the side of the road, please email your name, telephone number, and the address where the storm drain is located, to [dpw \[at\] twp.montgomery.nj.us](mailto:dpw[at]twp.montgomery.nj.us). Public Works will prioritize these issues. If the storm drain is clogged with a small amount of snow, we appreciate your effort to clear the snow away from the drain as much as possible.

#### Fire Hydrants are important too

If you are able, please assist our volunteer firefighters by removing snow from around fire hydrants near your home. It could save firefighters precious time helping you or a neighbor in an emergency!

#### Christmas Tree Collection

- **Christmas tree pick-up will begin on Monday, January 8, 2024.** Please do not wait to put your tree(s) out. Your section of the township may be the first area for pick-up service. Trees must be free of tinsel and ornaments.
- **We ask everyone to please be patient.** Tree collection takes several weeks, the routes are random and pick-up is dependent upon weather conditions.
- **You have an alternative.** You may drop off your tree at the Dept. of Public Works site at 12 Harlingen Road. This site is available for drop off at any hour, or day, starting December 26 through January 31. **Trees must be free of tinsel and ornaments.**
- Regular tree limbs/brush may be brought to the Public Works yard without charge but **only** during the regular drop-off dates by appointment.
- **Questions?** Please call the Department of Public Works at 908-874-3144.

