

Borough of Rockaway

1 East Main Street • Rockaway, New Jersey 07866
www.rockawayborough.org • Telephone (973) 627-2000 • Fax (973) 627-8294



July 1, 2024

Dear Residents and Business Owners:

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has established a Municipal Stormwater Regulation Program ("MSRP") for all municipalities within the State. The program is designed to reduce pollutants, protect water quality, and satisfy Federal and State requirements.

As part of these NJDEP regulations, the Borough enacted several ordinances to control non-point source pollution. Non-point source pollution is the accumulation of various pollutants such as heavy metals, petroleum, organic sediment, animal waste and excessive fertilizers, which are exposed to rain water and washed into our nearby lakes, rivers, and streams. Our ordinances control the improper disposal of pet waste, feeding of wildlife, solid waste collection, littering, containerization of yard waste, and prohibiting illegal hookups to the storm sewer system. The ordinances are available at www.rockawayborough.org.

The Rockaway Borough Stormwater Management Plan and the Rockaway Borough Pollution Prevention Plan are available at <https://rockawayborough.org/municipal/stormwater>.

The Borough is systematically retrofitting storm drain inlets to meet State standards to eliminate litter and floatable debris into streams and waterways. All inlets have labels with medallions that say "No Dumping Drains to River." A liquid brine is used to pre-treat road surfaces prior to ice or snow storms to reduce the amount of grit and salt. A salt shed was built to prohibit sodium runoff into the groundwater.


Dumpsters and refuse containers utilized on commercial properties are required to be covered at all times to eliminate rainwater contact with dumpster contents. Rainwater can transport pollutants in the dumpster to our waterways rather than a landfill where it is intended. Lids for dumpsters can be provided by the waste management company that owns the dumpster. Commercial property owners should be aware that the resurfacing or paving of a parking lot will require the upgrading of the inlets within the paving area and should contact the Department of Public Works for details on the requirements prior to doing any work. The Department of Public Works may be reached at 973-627-7025.

The annual Garbage and Recycling Schedule Newsletter provides information and solutions to stormwater pollution that we can do every day to protect our water. It is available at Town Hall, on the website, www.rockawayborough.org, or call 973-627-2000 to have a copy mailed to you.

More information regarding how to keep our Earth and New Jersey's waterways clean may be found at our website, www.rockawayborough.org or at www.cleanwater.nj.com. Topics include composting leaves, minimizing grass clippings, developing a home composting program, and how to participate in worm composting. Brochures are also available regarding backyard composting.

Thank you for your cooperation and efforts to help protect our environment and keep the Borough of Rockaway a desirable place to live, work and raise a family.

Sincerely yours,


Mayor Thomas Mulligan

Updated Ordinance

Tree Preservation and Conservation Ordinance

Chapter 170. Land Use Design and Performance Standards, Article V. Tree Conservation and Protection has been amended to comply with requirements of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). Please visit the Borough website at www.rockawayborough.org to review Ordinance 24-02 and obtain a tree removal permit application prior to the removal of any trees.

Pay Property Tax and Utility Bills Online

Visit the Borough website www.rockawayborough.org or scan the QR code below for all of these services and more:

- Make a one-time utility or tax payment (no account required).
- Sign up for autopay/direct withdrawal. Once you sign up, your payment will be automatically withdrawn from your account. You can do this for both utilities AND tax.
- Go green, sign up to receive your utility bill via email. Add waterclerk@rockawayborough.org to ensure the email doesn't get sent to your spam folder.



Please note there are fees associated with paying your bill online (\$1.95 for ACH or e-check, approximately 2.95% of your total bill for debit and credit card payments). Paperless billing only applies to utility accounts; paper tax bills will continue to be mailed annually.

RAVE (Smart 911)

Rave Smart 911 can provide you with fast, reliable information during emergencies and other critical events, including road closures or water advisories. Emergency alerts and notifications can be received via phone call, text message, email and social media. Scan the QR code below or visit the Borough website www.rockawayborough.org to sign up.

RAVE (SMART911):

