



MAYOR DIPAOLO'S MEETING REPORT DECEMBER 17, 2024

- The Recreation Commission's 5th Annual Deck the Homes Contest will begin on December 21st. A map of participating addresses will be posted on the Emerson Recreation Commission's Facebook page and Borough website in the coming days. The first-place winner will receive a \$250 gift card; second place a \$100 gift card; and third place a \$50 gift card.
- A friendly reminder that tomorrow, December 18th, is the last day to drop off new, unwrapped toys at the Emerson Police Department for the PBA's Toy Drive.
- The Emerson Volunteer Fire Department is holding their annual 'Santa Around Town' tonight through Thursday, December 19th. You can follow Santa's route in real time by visiting www.emersonfire.org/santa-tracker. More information can also be found on the borough website.
- The Fire Department is also having their annual Holiday Market with special appearances by Santa and the Grinch on Saturday, December 21st from 11 AM to 1 PM at the Firehouse. There will be light refreshments as well as a 'Cup of Cheer' coffee cart sponsored by Emerson Starbucks and a Winter Story Corner with our friends from the Library. We look forward to seeing you there! Flyers with information on these events are displayed in the back.
- I am pleased to announce that the Borough, in collaboration with Congregation B'nai Israel, will hold a Chanukah Celebration with a public Menorah Lighting at Borough Hall on Saturday, December 28th at 6:00 pm. A flyer will be posted on the website soon.
- As we get into the winter months, I encourage our residents to sign up to receive emergency notifications and other information through our RAVE Alert System at www.emersonnj.org/RAVE. And, as always, more information on all of events and current news is posted on the borough

website at www.emersonnj.org/news or our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Emersonnj>

- The last day for mixed garden debris pickup (including grass and leaves) is on Monday, December 30th. These weekly pickups will resume on Monday, April 7, 2025.
- There are no changes to the garbage and recycling schedules during the holiday weeks. A schedule confirming all the regular pickup dates will be posted on the website though.
- The Motor Vehicle Commission will be at the Senior Center Monday, December 30th through Friday, January 3rd, with the exception of New Year's Day, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM to process license renewals, registrations, and Real ID's. Real ID appointments are full but don't worry, the requirement to have a Real ID doesn't go into effect until May 2025. We are working on scheduling more dates for Motor Vehicle to come to Emerson, so keep a lookout for more information. Appointments for registration renewals, non-driver ID's and duplicate or replacement titles are still available. Other MVC mobile services such as to surrender license plates or get handicapped, veterans or purple heart placards do not require an appointment. Visit our borough website, www.emersonnj.org, or call the Clerk's Office for more information.
- Yesterday, during a Mayor's meeting with the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, the US Department of Homeland Security, the FBI, and the FAA, we were informed that there is no evidence of foreign interference and no evidence of threats to national security from the mystery drones. However, there is still no information about the owners, operators, or origins of the drones. I will continue to give updates as new information comes in. It is also important for the public to refrain from shining laser pointers up into the sky as they can interfere with the pilots' ability to safely fly passenger planes.
- The 2025 Garbage and Recycling newsletter will be delivered in the mail starting December 27th.
- To all of our residents who celebrate, I wish you and your families a Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, Happy Kwanzaa and a Happy New Year!