



TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE

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Press Release 3/25/22

1. On March 7, 1872 Florence Township was incorporated as a community by New Jersey Legislature.

150 years is a long time. A great deal of things happened not only locally, but around the world over that span of time. Thru some of that history, Florence Township and its residents played an important role. Whether it be from the hard work of many responsible for "bridging" states across our great nation, or piping communities from one to another, or proudly serving our country during times of war or by holding positions in various levels in our legislature or judiciary branches. Maybe our view was from a pitcher's mound or by representing the United States in an Olympic stadium. Thru agriculture we've played a part in feeding the masses and as neighbors, families and friends we have all been a part of much more.

Each resident, business and organization have been a part of this history. There have been many highs and lows both locally and globally. There have been countless times for celebration and there have been moments in history that have challenged our very existence. Thru perseverance, sense of community and unwavering patriotism residents of Florence Township have proudly played a role in our town's history and beyond.

As we slowly continue forward, leaving more than two years of pandemic behind us, we look forward to celebrating as a community once again. As Spring arrives so will youth sports, parades and celebrations along with other events and activities. We thank you in advance for your support and participation. We encourage all residents to continue to be involved in your community. Support your schools, fire, police and emergency personnel. Get to know your neighbors and enjoy visits to waterfront parks and community playgrounds. Continue your patronage of local business and be a vital part of the next 150 years.

Happy 150th Anniversary Florence Township!

2. **CONFIRMED CASES OF COVID-19 VIRUS IN THE TOWNSHIP:** As of **March 23, 2022** the Burlington County Department of Health has reported **Two Thousand Two Hundred and Forty-One (2,241) confirmed cases of the COVID-19 virus in Florence Township.** Unfortunately, **twenty-eight (28)** residents have passed away.

COVID-19 Testing to include PCR & Rapid Testing: The only Burlington County COVID-19 testing site still open is in Willingboro. Visit the Burlington County Health Department web-site for dates and times: co.burlington.nj.us/1927/COVID-19-Testing

For Federal Sites visit www.covidtests.gov or state's saliva test: learn.vaulthealth.com

New Covid-19 Vaccination Sites: For Burlington County COVID New Vaccination Sites visit the Burlington County Health Department web-site: www.co.burlington.nj.us/290/Health-Department

The new Burlington County Megasite hours are:

WEEKS OF MARCH 13th through APRIL 12th:

Tuesdays 9am to 3:45pm (March 15th, 22nd, 29th)

Tuesdays 9am to 1:45pm (April 5th, April 12th)

Fridays 11am to 5:45pm

Saturdays 9am to 1:45pm

CLOSED EASTER WEEKEND APRIL 15TH & 16TH

WEEKS OF APRIL 17TH through APRIL 30TH:

Fridays 11am to 5:45pm

Saturdays 9am to 1:45pm

Mask Recommendations: KN95 or N95 or double layered well-fitting surgical and cloth are still recommended by the CDC in certain situations (immunocompromised, etc.). Here is the link to the CDC page: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>.

Websites for looking up approved Kn95 and N95 masks are CDC:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html> and www.ProjectN95.org .

- 3. Free Rabies Vaccination Clinic:** The 2022 Free Rabies Vaccination Clinic will be held Saturday, April 23rd, at the Public Works garage located at 875 Summer Street from 10am-12pm. The deadline to register/renew your dog and/or cat license has been extended to Saturday, April 30 and a late fee will be charged for each pet licensed after that date. Licenses may be obtained from the Township Clerk's Office, 711 Broad Street, from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday or by mail. If renewing by mail, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope, license form, proof of rabies vaccination, proof of spaying/neutering and a check made payable to Township of Florence.
- 4. Municipal Offices:** The municipal building is open to the public. For the safety of our employees and the public, we encourage individuals to wear a mask while inside the municipal building. We encourage the public to continue to use the drop box located inside the front entrance to the Municipal Building for all payments, license renewals, construction permits, etc. Normal office hours are 9am – 4:30pm.
- 5. Animal Licenses:** For your health and safety, we will be accepting the animal license renewals via our drop box located in the lobby of the municipal building or through the mail. Checks or money orders are the required form of payment. Once we receive your completed form & payment, we will mail you the license and the tag.
- 6. Recycling:** **The recycling center hours are:**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 11am to 5pm
Saturday from 9am to 3pm

7. **Township Council Meetings:** The next Council meeting will be Wednesday, April 6, 2022 starting at 7:00pm. For the safety of our board members, professionals and the public, residents are encouraged to attend the meeting virtually. Instructions for virtual attendance can be found on the Township's Home Page website www.florence-nj.gov or by calling the Clerk's Office at 609-499-2525 Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
8. **Zoning & Planning Board Meetings:** For the safety of our board members, professionals and the public, residents are encouraged to attend the meeting virtually. Instructions for virtual attendance can be found on the Township's Home Page website www.florence-nj.gov. The next Planning Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 26, 2022 at 7:30pm. The next Zoning Board meeting is Monday, April 4, 2022 at 7:30pm.
9. **Tax Bills & Water/Sewer Bills:** Payments can be made online www.florence-nj.gov or use the Drop Box located next to the trophy case in our front lobby. **The Drop Box will be checked multiple times daily for your convenience. Payments must be check or money orders, NO CASH.** Please provide a phone number with your payment and we will call to confirm payment was received. Please allow 48 hours for your payment to be posted to our online account portal. Feel free to call the office with any questions, 609-499-2525. The office hours are 9am – 4:30pm. Any documents left in the drop box will be processed and mailed back to residents as needed. The Drop Box is available 24/7 for resident's convenience.
10. **Construction Office:** The office hours are 9am – 4:30pm. Residents and developers dropping off permits, plans, etc. are encouraged to use the drop box located inside the front entrance to the Municipal Building. Any questions, please call the Construction Office at (609) 499-2130.
11. **Police Department: Boat Ramp permits will be required effective April 1, 2022.** The police lobby window will be open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday from 8am -4:30pm, Wednesday 8am – 8pm and Saturday 8am -1pm. If you require police assistance, please use the yellow call box located by the Municipal Building Main Lobby doors. When using the call box, please state your business to the call taker. A police officer will subsequently be dispatched to handle your matter. Please see Police Department web-site on how to obtain Police Reports, Handicap Placards or call (609) 499-3131.
12. **Municipal Court:** We encourage individuals paying tickets and/or fines to continue to pay on-line or use the drop box located inside the front entrance to the Municipal Building. Please contact the Court Office at (609) 499-2222 if you have any questions. The office hours are 9am – 4:30pm Monday - Friday.

I apologize for the inconvenience that these temporary operational changes may cause to our residents. Florence Township will continue to do our best to deliver a high level of services to our residents as we meet the challenges of the unprecedented COVID-19.

Mayor Craig Wilkie