



# Gloucester Township

Spring/Summer 2010

## Energy Initiatives to Help Save on Expenses

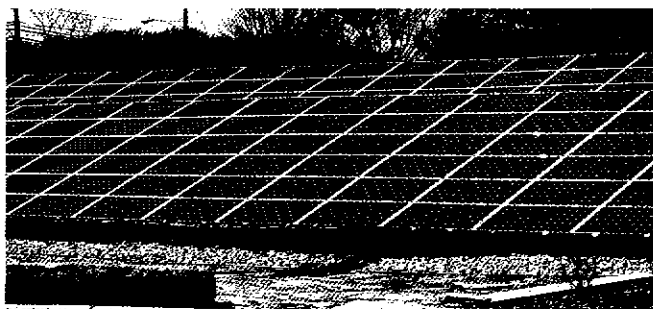
Gloucester Township is in the process of implementing a town-wide Energy Master Plan.

Mayor David Mayer announced that the Township will be reviewing all government-owned buildings and land in an effort to maximize utility savings as well as the potential of developing revenue for alternative energy.

This plan will include an energy audit as well as the installation of solar panels on the Municipal Hall this summer.

Under a federal grant, the Township will also install LED lights in all of our traffic signals and renovate the HVAC system to provide remote climate control.

The Township Housing Authority has also taken the solar initiative with the installation of several solar panels (pictured below) to serve the new Senior Housing project at Lakeland.



## Financial Changes Coming: Township Going Back to Calendar Year Budget

The Township will be going to a calendar year Budget starting January 2011, replacing the Fiscal Budget that has existed for many years. The Fiscal Year Budget procedures have proven to be more expensive and impractical and Mayor David Mayer has recommended the change to a Calendar Year Budget.

The Mayor notes that sending several tax bills each year is sometimes confusing and expensive and the Budget time conflicts with other procedures such as labor contracts. Going to a Calendar Year Budget will help streamline Township finances and save money.

The Township is required to follow State mandated procedures for conversion. First, a Transition (6-month Budget) is created for end of 2010. This will include a tax bill in July for the August payment, and then a bill in October which will have the November quarter payment as well as the First and Second quarter payments for 2011.

State procedures for Fiscal Year towns have created extra billings over the past two years. The first half of 2010 also had two bills, one in January, and the other was recently sent in early April. Once the Township completes the transition, only one bill will be sent each July.

### Chief Ed Smith Retires;

#### Harry Earle becomes New Police Chief

Chief Ed Smith has retired after 32 years on the Township Police force, the last 4 as Chief. He was praised by Mayor and Council at the transition ceremony held in early March.

Deputy Chief Harry Earle has been promoted to Chief of Police by the Mayor and assumed responsibility for the 110-member police force. Chief Earle is a lifelong resident of the township, a product of the local school system, and has been with the force for 21 years.

United States  
Census  
2010

## HAVE YOU BEEN COUNTED?



IT'S IN OUR HANDS

Make a difference in your community. Help Gloucester Twp. get what it needs for the next 10 years. Please fill out your 2010 US Census Form. We can move forward when you send it back.

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## MAYOR'S CORNER



As I plow through my fourth month in office, I have been able to initiate several important changes to help move our Township in a positive direction. First, we are working hard to upgrade our Finance Department.

New Township CFO Christie Ehret brings significant experience and is working with Business Administrator Tom Cardis to streamline our accounting system.

They are also working with me to convert our cumbersome Fiscal Year Budget back to a Calendar Year Budget, which will save on tax billing expenses.

In addition, our tax office is installing new, updated software which will include bar-scanning for more efficiency.

We are looking at all of our expenditures to help cut costs where possible. Particularly, we are focusing on our energy costs. More efficient LED traffic lights are being installed (through a federal grant) and we are working on solar energy projects to help power our municipal properties.

We are also concerned about health and safety. I have expanded our "Quality of Life Committee" which meets weekly with our Code Enforcement team to look at problem properties in town and help clean them up.

We had four devastating snowstorms this winter which were quite an expense, but thanks to a coordinated effort from our Public Works Dept. and contractors under our Director, Len Moffa, we were able to get Township roads passable in minimal time.

During the past four months I've met with many residents and business owners to discuss their economic plights as well as ride in snow plow trucks and spend time with Police officers - all to get a better handle on Township management. I thank retired Police Chief Ed Smith for his service (and the other retirees) and welcome new Chief Harry Earle.

We are living in challenging times and I will be working hard for you during our economic recovery. I will continue to explore new ways to make government more efficient.

Sincerely,  
*David Mayer*

## COUNCIL TOWN MEETINGS

The Gloucester Twp. Council will be having local town meetings throughout the Twp in 2010. This will be in addition to their regularly scheduled meetings. These meetings will be informal & will let the residents know about local government happenings. Below is a schedule of the dates and locations.

May 19 Chews Landing Fire Hall  
October 20 Point Ariel Park

Meetings will be at 7pm. For further information, please contact the Township Clerk's Office.

## GLOUCESTER TWP GRANTS DEPARTMENT

The Gloucester Township Grants Department has 0% Interest Home Improvement Loans for Income Eligible residents of Gloucester Township. If you own your own home and meet the income requirements you may qualify for a Home Improvement Loan. Loans can be used for improvements and repairs to owner occupied single family homes. Applications are accepted on a first come first served basis and there is always a waiting list. Contact the Grants Department for an application at 228-4000, x350.

## REVALUATION ASSESSMENTS TO BE REFLECTED IN JULY TAX BILLS

Letters of new assessment and projected tax impact were mailed out in December and residents had the opportunity to review those assessments with the Reval Firm (PPA) through March.

The tax rates established by the County for 2010 (from the Schools, County, and Fire Budgets plus the Township's estimated transition Budget) will be applied to the new assessments. The impact will be reflected in the August and November billings.

## SPONSOR A BENCH

Gloucester Twp. is offering the opportunity to sponsor park benches in Veterans' Park. This is a unique way to remember a loved one, or to honor friends or family. Benches will be permanently installed in Veterans' Park. Each sponsored bench will contain a 4" x 6" plaque with your message. The cost of each bench is \$1,000. For more information, contact Bill Fagan at 856-435-5734.

### Bench Description

6ft contemporary park bench  
4" x 6" plaque  
concrete platform with grey paver trim  
10 yr. maintenance guarantee of bench

## SENIOR HOUSING



Senior Campus 1 as developed by the Township Housing Authority has opened 75 brand new apartments for seniors 62 and older on 5 acres of land at the Lakeland complex. This is an affordable housing community with maximum income restrictions of \$27,250.00 for a single applicant and \$31,100.00 for two applicants.

As a newly constructed facility, it has many updated features; a community room with full size kitchen and a courtyard with plenty of benches. For more info and to schedule an appointment, call 856-227-5077.