



# SCUTTLEBUTT

Red Bank, New Jersey

DECEMBER 2023



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## SPIRIT OF THE SEASON

The holidays are a special time of year when we gather with loved ones, indulge in delicious treats, and exchange gifts to show our appreciation for one another. It's a season of joy, warmth, and love that brings people together from all walks of life. As we reflect on the winter holidays, it's important to remember the true essence of this magical time.

It's important to remember that it's not about the grand gestures or expensive presents; it's about the little things that bring joy and create memories. It's about the cheesy holiday rom-coms that make us laugh and cry, the peppermint, gingerbread, and eggnog-flavored treats that warm our hearts, and the time spent finding the perfect gift for a loved one.

These small moments are what make the holiday season truly special and meaningful. They remind us of the importance of cherishing the little things and embracing the spirit of the season. So this winter, let us all take a moment to reflect on the true essence of the holidays and make a conscious effort to bring back the warmth, joy, and love that makes this time of year so magical.

No matter what holiday you celebrate this winter season, whether it's Diwali, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Three Kings Day, Las Posadas, Winter Solstice, Chinese New Year, or Christmas, I wish you a new year filled with all that you hope for. May it be sprinkled with love, friendship, and the true essence of the holidays.

- Laura Reinertsen, Borough Clerk

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## IN SINCERE APPRECIATION

As the new year approaches, we take a moment to reflect on the contributions and achievements of Chief Darren McConnell, who will be stepping down as the Borough Manager in 2024. We would like to express our deepest appreciation for his exceptional service and unwavering dedication during his tenure as the interim Borough Manager.

Chief McConnell has been instrumental in ensuring the smooth functioning of the borough, taking charge of various responsibilities that came with the role of an interim leader.



One of the key qualities that set Chief McConnell apart was his ability to handle crises with composure and sound judgment. In times of uncertainty and adversity, his strategic thinking and level-headedness proved invaluable, ensuring the well-being and safety of the community. Under his interim leadership, the borough not only survived testing times

but emerged stronger, showcasing his exceptional leadership capabilities.

His holistic approach to problem-solving resulted in effective decision-making, benefiting the community as a whole. Moreover, his commitment to inclusivity and transparency further enhanced trust and confidence in local governance.

As we bid farewell to Chief McConnell, we welcome the new Borough Manager, James Gant, who will commence duties in January. The selection process has been rigorous, and we are confident that the incoming leader will build upon the solid foundation laid by Chief McConnell. As we move forward, we express our profound gratitude for his dedication, leadership, and devotion to the betterment of our borough.

In conclusion, Chief Darren McConnell's contributions as the interim Borough Manager have been invaluable. His exceptional leadership, commitment to public service, and unwavering dedication have left an indelible mark on the community. We extend our heartfelt appreciation for his selfless service, wishing him continued success in his future endeavors.

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*"Christmas isn't a season. It's a feeling." -Edna Ferber*

Tennis and Pickleball courts are now open to the public at Eastside Park, Red Bank!

For access to pickleball nets, please contact us at [recreation@redbanknj.org](mailto:recreation@redbanknj.org)

Please follow court guidelines!

Court scheduling system coming soon!



### Looking to donate any winter clothing?

Red Bank Recreation is now collecting new/used Winter clothes for the Winter season.

All donations will be sent to local families in need.

Drop off at 90 Monmouth Street, Red Bank, Red Bank Parks and Recreation office.

**A big THANK YOU to all who donated food to the Borough Hall Food Drive for Lunch Break.**

**Your contribution has made such a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve – thank you for your kindness and generosity.**



## PUBLIC LIBRARY

- Director E. Glykis

Happy Holidays from the Red Bank Public Library!

The Borough of Red Bank Council Members welcome the public to their office hours at 5:45pm every Wednesday, and they have added more meeting dates on Friday, December 1st, and Friday, December 8th. Please visit the library and greet Red Bank's public officers - these additional time slots provide ample opportunity!

Anime Club is back! Join us in the West Room at 4pm every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month for Anime watching, crafting, and painting. Video Game Night also takes place every Tuesday night in the Children's Room starting at 5pm.

Story time is abundant at the Red Bank Public Library. Please join us for Yoga Family Story Time at

10:30am on Saturday, December 2nd in the Children's Room, Race and Diversity Story Time at 11:30am on Saturday, December 9th on YouTube, and weekly Story Time every Tuesday at 10:30am in the Children's Room (Story Time for Tuesday, December 26th has been canceled).

The Red Bank Public Library will be closed on the following days in observance of the holidays: December 22nd, 23rd, 25th, 29th, and 30th. We wish you a cozy and healthy holiday season with family and friends.

Can't make it to the Library? Use the Library's 24/7 Library through our website to access eBooks, movies, TV shows, music, and learning opportunities at [www.redbanklibrary.org](http://www.redbanklibrary.org).



# WHERE DO I GO FOR PERMITS?

## ZONING

732-530-2753

The primary purpose of the Zoning Department is to administer and enforce the Zoning Regulations of the Borough. The Department guides public and private development through planning & development policies and review standards in order to create and maintain a balanced community.

## BUILDING DEPARTMENT

732-530-2760

The primary responsibility of the building department is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of New Jersey's citizens. To accomplish this construction officials and subcode officials review construction permit applications to ensure that

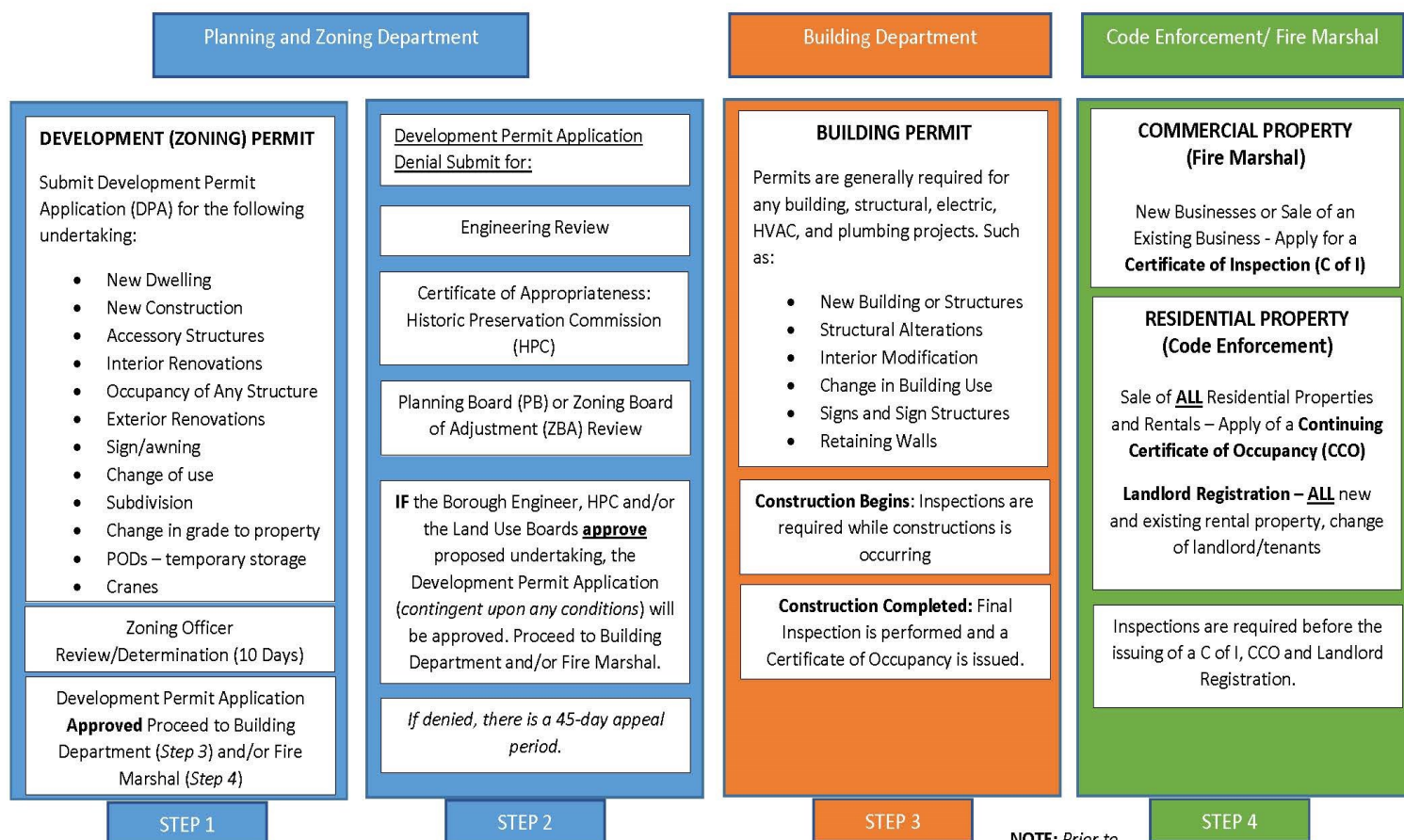
building plans and specifications conform to the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code (NJUCC), inspectors perform field inspections for construction projects to ensure that the construction is in accordance with the NJUCC.

## CODE ENFORCEMENT

732-530-2764

The primary responsibility of code enforcement professionals is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of Borough residents and visitors. To accomplish this code enforcement officials and inspectors perform field inspections to ensure that properties are maintained in accordance with the Property Maintenance Code (PMC) adopted by the Borough.

### PERMIT APPLICATION FLOW CHART



- Go through these decision points to determine which department will affect your project.
- Obtain all permit applications once you have a survey, plot plans and/or building plans.
- The accuracy of your information determines the timeframe for your application to be approved.

**NOTE:** Prior to Proceeding to Fire Marshal's Office, ensure all building permits are closed.



### CHECK TIRES.

Be sure your tires have good tread, are properly inflated and don't forget to check your spare.



### STOCK UP.

Keep blankets, ice scrapers, emergency flares, flashlights and jumper cables handy.



### SERVICE YOUR CAR.

Have your vehicle checked thoroughly before long road trips.



## HITTING THE ROAD FOR THE HOLIDAYS?

### PLAN AHEAD.

Check weather, traffic and road conditions before you leave the house.

### STAY ALERT.

Always be aware, drive sober and buckle up.

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

LOOKS LIKE YOU CAN'T USE SOCIAL DISTANCING TO AVOID THE IN-LAWS THIS YEAR...

## 12 Days of Holiday Safety

It's easy to make safety a part of your holiday with these tips. Tackle one a day and you're well on your way to a safe New Year!



Day 1

### What's that noise?

Test your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. Make sure everyone knows what to do if they hear them.

Day 5

**Ouch!** Prevent trips and falls by keeping cords safely along walls and out of doorways and high traffic areas.

Day 9

**Nice and warm.** Keep space heaters at least 3 feet away from anything that can burn—decorations, trees, gifts, and curtains.

Day 2

### What a shocker!

Before use, inspect all electrical lights, decorations, and extension cords for damage.

Day 6

**Kids eat the darndest things!** Avoid putting lights, metal hooks, breakable ornaments, and other small decorations within reach of young children.

Day 10

**Can't touch this!** Consider installing tamper-resistant outlets/receptacles to prevent kids from inserting objects into the slots.

Day 3

**Two's company, three's a crowd.** Do not overload outlets with too many decorations or devices.

Day 7

**Thirsty?** Keep your Christmas tree stand full of water. A fresh, green tree poses less of a fire hazard than a dry tree.

Day 11

**Escape Route:** Share your family fire escape plan with overnight guests.

Day 4

**Is it working?** Test your ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) and arc fault circuit interrupters (AFCIs) to make sure they're protecting you.

Day 8

**Make a wish!** Blow out the candles before leaving a room or going to bed.

Day 12

**Hot stuff!** Keep children away from cooking areas; use back burners and turn pot handles in away from little hands.

There's no greater gift you can give your family than a safe and happy holiday! Learn more at [holidaysafety.org](http://holidaysafety.org).

*"One kind word can warm three winter months." -Japanese Proverb*





## Red Bank Parks and Recreation HOLIDAY EVENTS 2023



### Letters to Santa

Santa wants to know if you have been good this year! Write him a letter and he will respond! Santa will have two mailboxes in town, (1) corner of Monmouth St. and Broad St. (2) at the corner of Shrewsbury Ave. and Drs. James Parker Blvd. Drop off letters by December 18th!



### Phone Calls From Santa

Santa will be calling on December 12 and 13 from 6:00 PM- 8:30 PM. If you would like Santa to call your household, please fill out application sent out to Red Bank Schools.



### Holiday Home Decorating Contest

Do you have the most decorative house? Sign up for our Contest! Judging will take place on December 19th. Gift Baskets for the Top 3 Houses! Registration deadline same day.  
Exterior ONLY!

### Contact us:

732.530.2782  
recreation@redbanknj.org  
90 Monmouth St, Red Bank NJ 07701



### Holiday Tree Lighting

At Johnny Jazz Park  
(Corner of Shrewsbury Ave. and Drs. James Parker Blvd.)  
Friday, December 8th at 6:00 PM  
Special Guest from the North Pole!



## Red Bank Parques y Recreacion EVENTOS FESTIVOS 2023



### Saluda a Santa Claus

Santa Claus quiere saber si te has portado bien este año. Escribe una carta y te responderá. Santa tendrá dos buzones en Red Bank, (1) esquina de Monmouth St. y Broad St. (2) en la esquina de Shrewsbury Ave. y Drs. James Parker Blvd. Deje sus cartas antes del 18 de diciembre.



### Iluminemos el Arbolito

Johnny Jazz Park  
(esquina de Shrewsbury Ave. y Drs. James Parker Blvd.)  
viernes 8 de diciembre.  
A las 6:00 pm  
¡Habrá un invitado especial del Polo Norte!



### Llamadas de Santa Claus

Santa estará llamando el 12 y 13 de diciembre de 6:00 PM- 8:30 PM. Si desea que Santa llame a su hogar, por favor llene la aplicación enviada a las escuelas de Red Bank.



### Concurso de Casas Festivas

¿Tienes la casa más decorativa? ¡Apúntate a nuestro concurso! El exterior de la casa será juzgado el 19 de diciembre. ¡Cestas de regalo para las 3 mejores casas! Fecha límite de inscripción el mismo día.

### Información de contacto

732.530.2782  
recreation@redbanknj.org  
90 Monmouth St, Red Bank NJ 07701

## Employee Spotlight



### Claudia Ferreira

Finance/Tax Office Clerk



Claudia has been with the Borough since 2013. She splits her time between the Tax Department and Finance Department. A team player, Claudia always takes the

initiative to go above and beyond. Her supervisors appreciate her strong work ethic, proficiency and drive to further her education. When she isn't tending to her succulent garden, which you can see in Monmouth Street window, she likes to paint and travel.

Red Bank PBA

## TOY DRIVE



DONATIONS ARE ACCEPTED TILL

**December 11th**

DROP OFF LOCATION

Red Bank Police Department  
90 Monmouth St  
Red Bank, NJ

Toys for ages 5 years old to 10 years old

*"It seems like everything sleeps in winter, but it's really a time of renewal and reflection." — Elizabeth Camden*





# BOROUGH OF RED BANK

## COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

**Monday, January 1, 2024 3PM Reorganization**

***Regular Meetings\* are Thursdays at 6:30PM***

\*Contingent upon Council approve at the Reorganization Meeting

**January 11th and 25th**

**February 8th and 22nd**

**March 14th and 28th**

**April 11th and 25th**

**May 9th and 23rd**

**June 13th and 27th**

**July 11th and 25th**

**August 8th and 22nd**

**September 12th and 26th**

**October 10th and 24th**

**November 14th**

**December 12th**

The meetings will be held in the First Floor Council Chambers of 90 Monmouth Street, Red Bank, NJ unless conditions exist within the Borough whereby in-person meetings are inadvisable under the State's public health guidelines. In such event the meeting cannot be held in person, an electronic meeting will be scheduled with adequate notice sent to the official newspapers and posted on the Municipal website at [www.redbanknj.org](http://www.redbanknj.org) in the ordinary course.