



Dear Friends & Neighbors,

**Storm clean up continued all week and I want to thank our DPW for all their hard work.** Whether we see some more snow this weekend or during the rest of the winter, I wanted to share a few winter storm related reminders.

- **It is the responsibility of homeowners or business owners who have a sidewalk to remove snow and ice following a storm.** The Borough ordinance relating to this requirement can be viewed **here**. Thank you to all of our residents that took the time to ensure their sidewalks were cleared so that walking is as safe as possible. We understand that the amount of snow that fell coupled with the low temperatures made this a difficult task.
- When removing snow from your driveway, sidewalk and cars, please **DO NOT move snow into the road**. This creates dangerous driving conditions for our residents and threatens everyone's safety. It also undermines the hard work of our DPW in removing the snow, which can lead to additional time for our DPW to remedy the situation and may create an unnecessary cost for the Borough.
- **If you have a fire hydrant on your property, we ask for your help removing snow around the hydrant to ensure access to the hydrant for the fire department in the case of an emergency.** In the past, our Volunteer Fire Department did this work, but enrollment is down and the Department cannot complete the task. **The DPW is assisting them in getting this clean up completed but there are over 400 fire hydrants in town!** We thank those of you who took the initiative to clear the hydrants of snow located on their property (and there were a lot of you who pitched in). In most surrounding towns, it is expressly the property owners responsibility to clear the hydrant pursuant to Borough Ordinance. The Borough of Demarest has not yet enacted such an ordinance due to the combined efforts of the Fire Department and neighbors undertaking the task. **However, without your voluntary assistance, the Council may need to consider whether to follow other towns and enact an Ordinance to require homeowners to clear the hydrant, similar to the Ordinance requiring homeowners to clear their sidewalks of snow.** If you are able to shovel out your hydrant or help a neighbor to do so, it will be a great help and the Council may not need to consider an Ordinance. So please pitch in if you are able to do so. **Remember, "It takes a village" and thank you!**
- **Please use caution when driving (and walking!) as the bitter cold weather continues.** While our DPW has done all they can to clear streets and salt where appropriate, the effectiveness of salting is compromised by continued freezing temperatures and refreezing. They will continue to monitor the roads and do more work where conditions dictate, however forecasts show that the low temperatures will be with us for a while, so please be careful! **Let's hope Punxsutawney Phil doesn't see his shadow on Monday so spring can arrive ASAP!**

#### **Board of Health**

**On Saturday, March 14, 2026 at 11:00 AM,** the Board of Health will host a **Narcan training class**. This essential skill could help you save someone from an opioid overdose. The class is for Demarest residents/employees and residents of Bergen County. The class will run 30 to 45 minutes and is **limited to 30 participants**. To register, please email [lcampbell@demarestnj.gov](mailto:lcampbell@demarestnj.gov) with your NAME, AGE, phone number and Town in which you reside.

### Demarest Nature Center

Mark your calendars for the **Demarest Nature Center's Annual Maple Syrup Day**, which will be held on **Saturday, February 7th from 10am-12pm at the DNC entrance adjacent to the Imagination Playground**. Learn how real maple syrup is made with live demonstrations, hands-on activities, scavenger hunts, and a trivia station. There will also be coffee, hot chocolate and s'mores for the whole family to enjoy! Not a member of the DNC? Visit their website [www.demarestnaturecenter.org](http://www.demarestnaturecenter.org) to join or renew.

### Environmental Commission

Last year the Environmental Commission began a neighborhood composting program. Over 25 families are currently participating but there is room for more! They've already diverted more than 5000 pounds of food waste from landfills! In addition to food scrapes, many paper products can also be composted, including pizza boxes! A solution for the dreaded pizza boxes. For more information and to sign up click [here](#).

### Demarest PBA Golf Outing

The Demarest PBA Local 350 will be hosting its **2nd Annual Golf outing on May 4, 2026**, at the Alpine Country Club. Registration is limited and filling up fast. Don't miss your chance to join the PD for a great day of golf. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. [Click here for all the info!](#)

### REMINDER - You Can Help Your Neighbors!

**NVD Junior, Dylan Entner is collecting gloves on behalf of Family Promise of Bergen County** to help keep all our neighbors warm this winter. They are specifically looking for warm, durable adult gloves sizes XL & XXL to distribute to the unhoused. A drop-off box is now at Borough Hall if you are able to help!

**REMINDER - Please update your pet license for 2026. All dogs and cats must be licensed by March 1, 2026.** Applications are available [here](#) and at Borough Hall and were included with the Annual Newsletter. The Borough will also have a **free Rabies Clinic on February 7, 2026 from 10AM-11:30AM** if your dog or cat needs an updated vaccine, don't miss out!

### Demarest Library

Join Christine from Woolly Pets to needle felt a snowy owl on **Wednesday, February 4th from 3:30 - 4:30 PM!** This is open to tweens and registration is required. Recommended age is 9-13 years old. Register [here!](#)

Want to learn how to present more confidently in public speaking/work meetings? Always wanted to try acting but found it too expensive for lessons and intimidating? Join our **Adult Beginner Acting/Presenting Class** starting on **Thursday, February 5th at 5:45 - 7:45 PM** where we will enhance your public speaking skills and confidence through the lens of performance. **There will be five classes total. Please try to attend a majority of the classes as the classes will build off of each other.** Register [here!](#)

**Have a great weekend and stay WARM!**

Mayor Brian K. Bernstein

*My Friday emails to the residents are now reaching **1,208 people!** My goal is for every Demarest resident to be up to date on what is going on around town, please help with that goal by forwarding this email to your friends so they can visit [demarestnj.gov](http://demarestnj.gov) and sign up for my weekly emails! The link can be found about halfway down the homepage.*



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