



OCT
2025

70 WEST FRONT STREET, KEYPORT, NJ 07735 | (732) 739-3900 | WWW.KEYPORTONLINE.COM



MESSAGE FROM MAYOR

Dear Residents and Friends,

The air is crisp, the leaves are turning, and autumn has officially arrived in Keyport. Our charming town is aglow in the warm hues of fall—golden yellows, fiery reds, and rich ambers that frame our beautiful waterfront and tree-lined streets. It's the perfect time to take a stroll, breathe in the brisk air, and enjoy the natural beauty that surrounds us.

As the year winds down, Keyport is bustling with a variety of events to celebrate the season and the upcoming holidays. Whether you're sipping hot cocoa at the Mini Park or enjoying the glow of twinkling lights along West Front Street at our many boutiques and eateries, there's something special for everyone this season. Let's take a moment to appreciate the cozy magic of autumn and prepare for the festive months ahead!

Upcoming Events – Sponsored by the Keyport Bayfront Business Cooperative (KBBC):

November 29 – *Winter Wonderland & Tree Lighting* Kick off the holiday season with a magical evening of lights, music, ice skating, and community cheer amid the fading tones of autumn.
12 PM – 8 PM | Mini Park & West Front Street

December 15 – *Hanukkah Celebration & Menorah Lighting* Join us in celebrating the Festival of Lights with warmth, tradition, and unity.
7 PM | Mini Park

Looking ahead, we're thrilled to announce that Keyport will be participating in **Monmouth County's America 250 Celebration**, commemorating the 250th anniversary of our nation's founding in 2026. Planning is already underway, and we look forward to sharing all the exciting details in the upcoming months. To learn more, visit www.monmouthNJ250.org.

As we enjoy the brilliant tones of fall and the spirit of the season, I want to extend heartfelt thanks to our residents, businesses, and devoted volunteers. Your continued support and community pride are what make Keyport not only a wonderful place to live but also a favorite destination for visitors year-round.

A special thank you as well to the **Keyport Police Department, Fire Department, and First Aid Squad** for your tireless dedication to keeping our community safe and thriving.

Wishing you all a safe, joyful fall season and a festive start to the holidays!

Warm regards,
Mayor Rose P. Araneo

CONTACTS

KEYPORT BOROUGH HALL

70 West Front Street
Keyport, NJ 07735

MAILING ADDRESS

BOROUGH OF KEYPORT
P.O. Box 60 Keyport, NJ 07735

PHONE

(732) 739-3900

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday
8:30am to 4:00pm

ROSE P. ARANEO

Mayor

☎ 732-739-5120

@ mayoraranEO@keyportonline.com



KIMBERLY HUMPHREY

Borough Administrator

☎ 732-739-5123

@ khumphrey@keyportonline.com



MELISSA VECCHIO

Council President

☎ 732-739-3900

@ mvecchio@keyportonline.com



MICHELE CLARK

Borough Clerk

☎ 732-739-5124

@ mclark@keyportonline.com



DENISE NELLIS

Confidential Secretary/Land Use Secretary

☎ 732-739-5123

@ dnellis@keyportonline.com



SOFIE CLARK

Zoning Officer

☎ 732-739-5436

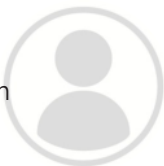
@ zoning@keyportonline.com



CODE ENFORCEMENT

David Quinn—dquinn@keyportonline.com
Paul Murphy—pmurphy@keyportonline.com

☎ 732-739-5157



LAURA AMADA

Tax Collector & Treasurer

☎ 732-739-5125

@ lamada@keyportonline.com



WILLIAM KANE

Public Works Superintendent

☎ 732-739-5428

@ bkane@keyportonline.com



CHRISTOPHER MCMANUS

Director Senior Center

☎ 732-264-4916

@ cmcmanus@keyportonline.com



TAMMY O'STEEN

Water/Sewer

☎ 732-739-5127

@ tosteen@keyportonline.com



DONNA PURCELL

Board of Health

☎ 732-739-5136

@ dpurcell@keyportonline.com



CODE ENFORCEMENT

The Borough of Keyport Code Enforcement Department strives to promote and maintain a safe and desirable living and working environment throughout the Borough. Our goal is to help maintain and improve the quality of our community by administering fair and unbiased enforcement of state laws and local ordinances. We aim to correct violations and reduce hazards that create blight and adversely affect the quality of life for residents in the affected areas of the Borough. We continue to work closely with residents, neighborhoods, public service agencies, and other Borough departments to facilitate voluntary compliance.

Phone Number 732-739-5157

pmurphy@keyportonline.com
dquinn@keyportonline.com

ZONING OFFICER

Please be reminded that any alterations, additions, or modifications to your property—such as fences, retaining walls, decks, porches, pavers, walkways, driveways, AC units, etc.—require zoning approval. Applications can be obtained at <https://www.keyportonline.com/forms>

Zoning Officer – Sofie Clark

zoning@keyportonline.com

Zoning Complaints – Paul Murphy

pmurphy@keyportonline.com

EMPLOYEE SPOT LIGHT

OCTOBER EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

JEFF ELSASSER CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

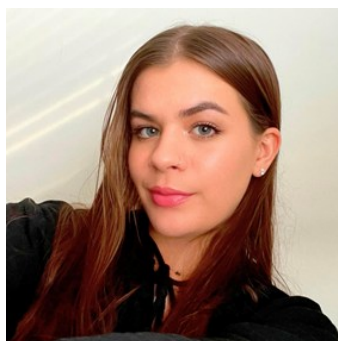
I was born and raised in Barnegat, New Jersey, and graduated from Southern Regional High School in 2007. I went on to earn my Bachelor's degree in Accounting from Ramapo College of New Jersey in 2011, where I was a three-year starter for the Men's Volleyball Team.

My career began at Edmunds and Associates, where I discovered that public service could be a rewarding and meaningful career path something I hadn't considered while studying to become a CPA in college. Motivated to pursue this direction, I completed the courses to become a Certified Tax Collector, Certified Chief Financial Officer, and Qualified Purchasing Agent.

Over the next nine years, I worked in both Ocean and Burlington Counties. During that time, I met the love of my life, Sarah, and we were married in November 2017. In 2021, I became the Chief Financial Officer for Freehold Township, and in May 2025, I was appointed CFO for the Borough of Keyport through a shared services agreement.

Professionally, I strive to take a practical, real-world approach to accounting—looking beyond the numbers to understand and address the realities they represent. Outside of work, I am the proud father of four wonderful children who keep me focused and driven in my professional life and "young" in my personal life.

I look forward to serving the Keyport community with the same dedication I have brought to other municipalities throughout my 10+ years of experience, and I welcome the challenges and opportunities that come with this role.



NOVEMBER EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

SOFIE CLARK ZONING OFFICER

Born and raised in Keyport, I have been proud to work for the Borough since graduating from Keyport High School in 2016. I currently serve as the Zoning Officer and am passionate about contributing to the growth and improvement of my hometown. Outside of work, I enjoy traveling, gaming, spending time with my family and pets, and unwinding with either a Disney favorite or a good horror movie.



DECEMBER SPOTLIGHT

CHRIS MC MANUS SENIOR CENTER SUPERVISOR

Christopher serves as the Supervisor of Senior Center Activities at the Keyport Senior Center, where he oversees daily operations, plans activities, and organizes trips and special events for members.

Before joining Keyport, Chris was the Recreation Director for the Township of Hazlet, managing town-wide events, the Hazlet Swim Club, and the summer recreation camp. He also led the renovation of 8th Street Park—now Freedom Park.

A graduate of Kean University with a degree in Recreation Administration, Chris first worked with Keyport as Camp Director in 2018. He's also a dedicated volunteer driver with the Hazlet First Aid & Rescue Squad.

For Chris, the Senior Center feels like home. He believes its members are more than participants—they're family.

. TAX AND WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL 732-739-5127

Mailing Address:
PO Box 60
Keyport, NJ 07735-0060

Tax & Water/Sewer Billing Information

Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM

Quarterly Tax Payments:

- Due on **February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1.**
- A **10-day grace period** applies. On the **11th day, interest is accrued** back to the 1st of the month, per state law.
- Tax bills are mailed **annually in July/August**. If you do not receive a bill, you are still responsible for payment (NJSA54:4-64).
- If annual bills are mailed late, the due date remains **August 1**. However, under NJSA 54:4-66.3d, a **resolution is passed to delay interest accrual for 25 days**. If payment is made past this date, interest is charged retroactively to August 1.

Account Updates: Please submit any changes in writing (e.g., new mailing address, mortgage company changes). Notices can be faxed to **732-739-4701**.

Water & Sewer Payments:

- Billed **quarterly** with due dates on **January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1.**
- A **10-day grace period** applies. Interest is accrued from the **1st of the month** per NJ State Statute.
- Bills are mailed around the **15th of the previous month.**

Payment Extensions for Weekends & Holidays:

- If a collection day falls on a **Saturday or Sunday**, payments are accepted until the following **Monday without interest.**
- If the last day to pay is a **holiday**, the next business day is the deadline.

Payment Options:

- **Drop-Box:** Located in the **vestibule of 70 West Front Street** (No cash payments accepted). Payments are posted on the **pickup date (Monday-Friday, 9 AM-10 AM)**. Payments dropped after 10 AM are posted on the next business day.
- **Online Payments:** Visit www.keyportonline.com. Click on **Tax and Water Sewer Payments**, read notices, and proceed.
- **E-Check:** \$1.95 per transaction
- **Credit/Debit Card:** 2.95% of the transaction amount
- *Convenience fees are retained by the service provider and not by the Borough of Keyport.*

Moving?

- Schedule a **final meter reading** to receive a **final bill** before moving.

Meter Maintenance:

- Residents are responsible for meter upkeep, especially **during winter.**
- For protection tips, call **The Department of Public Works at 732-739-5428.**

Preparing for The 250th Anniversary of the United States of America

By Tom Gallo, Keyport's 250 Liaison

In 2026, the United States of America will commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution. That year will be recognized and commemorated at the national, State, County, and local levels. You may have already seen advertisements for this major celebration. What can you do to celebrate and/or participate?

The connection between the Revolution celebration and you and your business, organization, or neighborhood block can be a simple accent, complementing what you do every day, or play it up big! Tourism has been cited as a major aspect of the benefits. If you are a business, it can be as simple as having special sales days leading up to the week of July 4th, 2026. Our great eateries? Plan a special "Revolutionary" new menu for that week. Or how about red, white, and blue specials (you know – strawberries, blueberries, and whipped cream!) Antiques shops? Easy enough – advertise your oldest treasures, especially early Americana collectibles. Anyone with employees can have them dress in period clothing. What can our many volunteer organizations do? Do what you would be doing and just add an accent or touch of America's history. The Garden

Club can explain the roots of 1776 flora in today's gardens. Fire Department - how about holding a "bucket brigade" contest? Environmental and Green Teams: Plant special trees (bury a capsule) or during Beach Sweeps, "find the Cannonball." Already in the works, the Keyport Historical Society 2026 Tea and Fashions will feature clothing from the Revolutionary period! We may even dump some tea in the bay! (Just kidding!)

Involvement at the Borough level will be forming up soon. Mayor Araneo envisions a "Stars and Stripes" Street Fair for the week of July 4, 2026. Monmouth County officials have organized Monmouth250, a group that has spearheaded workshop sessions with all its municipalities. Keyport is already recognized as a "250 Partner!" There are several large-scale events already scheduled in our area. Two key events are June 28, 2026, a county-run 250 Parade in Middletown, and July 3-4, 2026, Sail250 (formerly OpSail) and an event at Earle Naval Base.

More information (national to local) is available on many of the "250" websites.

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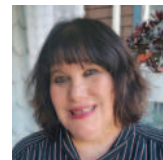
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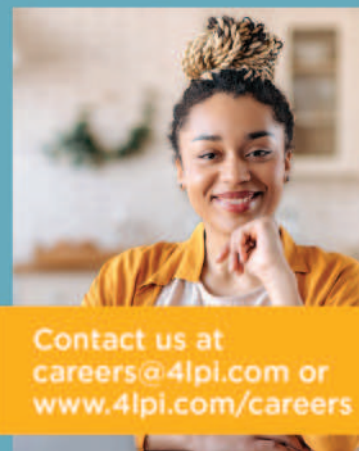
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Borough of Keyport, Keyport, NJ

06-5421

PUBLICWORKS

Public Works Update: Collection Schedule for 2025

As we look to finish 2025, the Keyport Department of Public Works is hard at work to ensure our community remains safe and beautiful. Our dedicated team of 12 workers is committed to maintaining public utilities,



Leaf and Branch pick up (NO GRASS)

Zone 1 & 2

Nov. 5, Dec. 10

Zone 3 & 4:

Nov. 12, Dec. 17

Leaf & Branch Collection Reminder

All leaves must be bagged in approved leaf bags for collection. These bags are available free of charge to Keyport residents at the Keyport Recycling Center every Saturday from 9 AM to 12 PM.

Leaf & Branch Pickup will take place during your scheduled collection week.

Any issues related to roads, water, sewers, or other safety concerns, please don't hesitate to contact the Public Works Department at **732-739-5428**. Leave a message, and we will return your call at our earliest convenience.

Thank you for your cooperation and support. Wishing everyone a safe and healthy end to 2025!

Keyport Environmental Commission

Remember, Keyport



Let's do our part in keeping our town's drainage system free of contaminants and clear of debris for protection of our Raritan Bay and Watershed.

Stormwater Pollution Prevention Tips

- 1. SWEEP!**
Your curb and gutter clean.
- 2. BAG IT!**
Use compostable bags to dispose of grass clippings and leaves.
- 3. SCOOP THE POOP!**
Kindly pick up after your pet.
- 4. RECYCLE RIGHT!**
Separate paper and plastic.
- 5. DON'T LITTER!**
Dispose of trash properly.
- 6. REPAIR!**
Vehicle leaks on time.
- 7. PREVENT!**
Illegal dumping.
- 8. MAINTAIN!**
Your curb inlet clear of brush debris.
- 9. PROVIDE!**
Proper sediment and erosion controls at your construction sites.
- 10. SHOVEL!**
Keep stormwater drains clear of snow and ice in the Winter months.

Keyport
Your Quality



Stay Connected with Keyport Public Schools!

Learners Today...Leaders Tomorrow

Stay connected with Keyport Public Schools! Our newsletter is filled with updates showcasing a fantastic start to the 2025-2026 school year. Inside, you'll find articles highlighting our focus on educational innovation, student leadership, and our commitment to building strong community partnerships. Read about our efforts to bring funding and programs to our students, and celebrate the many achievements that reflect the hard work of our entire school community. Scan the QR code to read the full issue. If you are a community member without a student in the district but wish to stay informed, please sign up using our [linked Google Form](#). For more information about our district, please visit our website.



KEYPORT SENIOR CENTER

Things are going great at the Senior Center! The vibe has been open, warm, and welcoming. With our new Supervisor, the center feels brighter and more cheerful than ever. Come visit us—we'd love to see you!

We offer **something for everyone** here at the center:

Daily **exercise classes**

Weekly visits from our **social worker**

Quarterly health screenings with visiting **nurses**

Monthly **parties** and **themed events**

Fun and exciting **trips**

Upcoming Events:

October

Friday, October 3 – Trip to **BAPS Swaminarayan Akshardham** in Robbinsville, NJ

Friday, October 17 – Bus trip to **Wind Creek Casino** in Bethlehem, PA

November

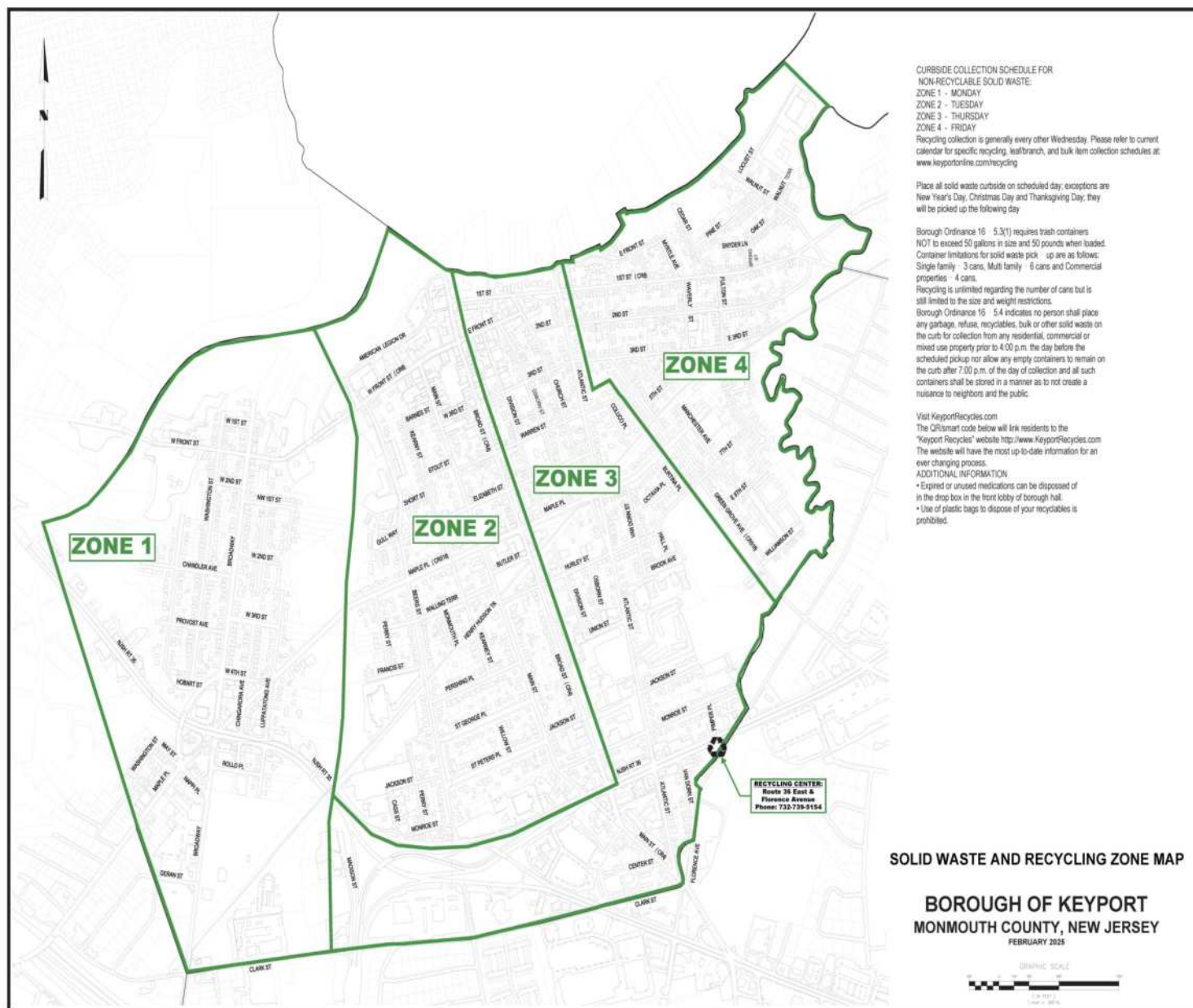
Tuesday, November 19 – Trip to **Hunterdon Hills Playhouse** to see "Christmas at the Playhouse"

December

Tuesday, December 10 – Our **Annual Holiday Party** – food, fun, and festive cheer!

Come join the fun, stay active, and connect with others in a vibrant and supportive community!

KEYPORT RECYCLING SCHEDULE





BOROUGH CLERK, MICHELE CLARK RMC

Election & Voting FAQs

Am I registered to vote?

Check your voter registration status:

<https://voter.svrs.nj.gov/registration-check>

How can I register to vote?

Download a voter registration application or register online:

<https://voter.svrs.nj.gov/register>

Where do I vote?

Find your polling place: <https://voter.svrs.nj.gov/polling-place-search>

Where are Vote-By-Mail Ballot Drop Boxes located?

Find a Ballot Drop Box:

<https://www.monmouthcountyvotes.com/voter-information/vote-by-mail-drop-box-locations/>

October 14th – Last Day to Register to Vote in the 2025 General Election

October 25th through November 2nd – Early Voting at Designated Early Voting Polling Locations for the 2025 General Election (Monday-Saturday, 10AM–8PM and Sunday, 10AM–6PM)

October 28th – Deadline to apply by mail for Mail-In Ballot for the 2025 General Election

November 3rd – Deadline to apply in-person (by 3 PM) for applications for Mail-In Ballot for the 2025 General Election

November 4th – 2025 General Election Day (6AM to 8 PM)

November 4th – Deadline to submit timely postmarked Mail-In 2025 General Election ballot to the U.S. Postal Service

November 4th – Deadline to submit Mail-In 2025 General Election ballot (8PM) to the Monmouth County Board of Elections or Ballot Drop Box

Borough Clerk Office Information

Michele Clark, RMC

732-739-5124

mclark@keyportonline.com



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Borough of Keyport, Keyport, NJ

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KEYPORT FIRE DEPARTMENT



The **Keyport Fire Department** was established in 1877 by officials and citizens following a devastating fire that destroyed much of the town's business district. Fire wagons were first hauled by hand or horses, with firefighters running to the firehouses, which explains how the seven firehouses became located. As decades evolved, apparatus became mechanized and self-propelled, and firefighting protective clothing and air packs offered better protection for entering burning buildings. Fire code enforcement through the Fire Marshal's Office, modern building codes, and public education have reduced fire fatalities. Adapting to the nationwide decline in volunteerism, the KFD reorganized in April 2025, becoming a single entity operating from a central location. This has improved response times and increased efficiency. The traditions and history of the KFD are preserved and on display at the Keyport Fire Museum, located at 86 Broad Street. KFD Chief Edward Lewandowski shares, "The KFD will be 150 years old in 2027. The reorganization has ensured we will continue to serve and protect the public."

KEYPORT FIRST AID



The **Keyport First Aid Squad** was formed in 1927 and is now the oldest operating volunteer First Aid Squad in the United States! Its primary purpose is to provide high-quality emergency medical attention to you and visitors to our town. The first KFAS building was located where Jesus the Lord is today. The current building on Atlantic Street was built in 1969. Early first aid equipment was limited to simple first aid kits, splints, blankets, a stretcher, and an inhaler. The nearest hospitals in 1918 were South Amboy and Red Bank. Over its history, the squad has consistently evolved, implementing and acquiring modern equipment and lifesaving protocols. The Cadet program feeds the active roster with drivers and EMTs even after they graduate from High School. The KFAS is affiliated with the New Jersey EMS Task Force. One of two Medical Ambulance Buses (MAB) in Monmouth County is housed and operated from the Squad building. Ken Krohe continues as the chief of the KFAS, a position he has held for many years.



KEYPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT

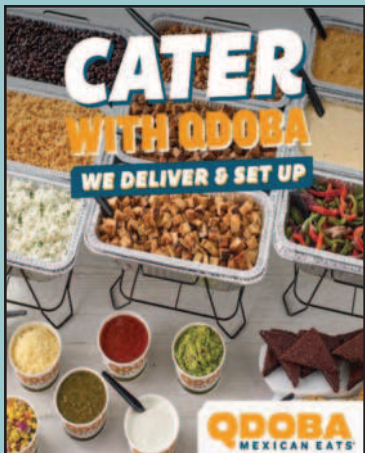
The **Keyport Police Department**, established on December 13, 1926, has built on a tradition of law enforcement dating back to 1850. In those early days, a town marshal and constable patrolled Keyport's bustling business district and vital wharf areas, laying the foundation for our modern police force. Currently under the guidance of Chief Michael A. Ferm, the department includes a full-time force, dedicated School Crossing Guards, Special Law Enforcement Officers, and a department secretary and records personnel. As the historic wharves transformed into our beautiful waterfront of today, the Keyport Police Department has also modernized and remains steadfast in its mission, working tirelessly to ensure the safety and well-being of our residents, business owners, and visitors alike. Keyport Police Chief Mike Ferm offers this perspective - "Our blend of historic roots and modern policing practices allows us to serve Keyport with pride, professionalism, and an unwavering commitment to public safety."



KEYPORT OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Keyport Office of Emergency Management (OEM) coordinates efforts on a local basis with FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Keyport's OEM Coordinators plan and prepare for emergencies, educate the public about preparedness, coordinate response, and prepare, collect, and disseminate emergency information. During Superstorm Sandy in 2012, the Central School became a shelter for anyone needing food and safe lodging. In addition to OEM coordinators and First Responders, residents, school children, and out-of-towners "worked" the shelter around the clock, prepared and served fresh meals, provided comfort, clothing, and medical needs, and kept those sheltered in touch with loved ones. Secure notification and alert systems are available when you sign up. Check www.keyportonline.com for details. Under OEM authority is the Community Emergency Response Team, or CERT. Members are residents who have been trained to handle responses at a basic level. They are activated to assist other First Responders when all hands are on deck. If you do not have the many hours required to be a firefighter or an EMT, CERT may be a good fit for your available time. It will help you prepare your family and neighbors for emergencies. Deputy OEM Coordinator Jim Lawson reminds everyone, "Sign up for alerts. It is best to know in advance and act before the crisis."

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ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

On June 3, 2025, the Keyport Environmental Commission teamed up with Teacher Ms. Mary Kreiss-Papalski and 30 Volunteer Students from the Somerset County Vocational School to perform a Cedar Street Park Beach Clean-Up.

In the Fall of 2025, the Keyport Environmental Commission is teaming up with the Northern Monmouth Watershed Alliance to work cooperatively with neighboring communities to support the revised requirements of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permitting process by participating in a "Know Your Stream" Day, focused on the Waackaack/Mahoras and Flat Creek Watersheds.

Watch for the Keyport Environmental Commission's Mailer in the Spring of 2026 Water/Sewer bills for tips on how Residents can help to reduce bacteria from entering our Bay!

Best Regards,
Joe Sheridan
Keyport Environmental Commission President



BOARD OF HEALTH

As per State Statute, dogs are required to be licensed in the Borough of Keyport on an annual basis.

Applications are available at Keyportonline.com under the FORMS tab then Board of Health.

You must present a rabies certification that is valid through October of the issuing year.

The fees are as follows dogs \$8.20 for spayed or neutered and \$11.20 if they are not.

Questions about licensing dogs may be directed to 732-739-5136.



KEYPORT FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Keyport Free Public Library is proud to be serving the citizens of Keyport for over 120 years. The Library is a part of the STELLA (Sharing & Technology Enhancing Local Library Access) Consortium which has reciprocal borrowing with over 40 libraries in the area. The Keyport Library offers books, audio books, DVDs, magazines, eBooks, eMagazines, electronic resources, museum passes, and a Library of Things (DVD players, fishing poles, telescope, etc.). There are monthly programs for adults, teens, tweens, and children. It is a fine-free Library.

Every summer the Library provides a Summer Reading Program that helps kids retain what they learned through the school year by reading. It is not reading instruction but rather incentivized reading to keep them practicing. Kids, teens, and adults can win prizes for reading and attend programs that both teach and entertain.

Important Information

109 Broad Street
Keyport, NJ 07735
(732) 264-0543
info@keyportnlib.org
keyportlibrary.org

Library Hours:

Monday 10 AM to 6 PM
Tuesday 10 AM to 8 PM
Wednesday 10 AM to 8 PM
Thursday 10 AM to 6 PM
Friday 10 AM to 6 PM
Saturday 10 AM to 2 PM
Sunday Closed



KEYPORT RECREATION COMMITTEE

Come out and meet us!

The recreation committee meets the first Monday of every month at 7pm in the Council Chambers, 70 West Front Street.

Let's make the rest of this year unforgettable together and unlock some new, fun events!

Upcoming Events

Go to our Face book page or www.keyportonline.com to see our events for the spring and summer

- **November 1st Day of the Dead** /12PM to 4PM /Keyport Water Front
- **November 29th—Winter Wonderland & Tree Lighting/November** 12PM to 8PM/Mini Park
- **November 15th to December 21st Holiday House Decorating Contest/Keyport Borough**
- **December 15—Hanukkah Celebration & Menorah Lighting/7PM/ Mini Park**