

IT'S ALL HERE.

The Rahway Preview and Review are your definitive go-to-guides for what's happening in our City. Right here. Right now.

THE rahway preview

PUBLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF MAYOR RAYMOND A. GIACOBBE

VOL XXXI ISSUE 1 | SPRING-SUMMER 2021 EDITION



STRONGER THAN EVER:

Rahway is.

- DINING
- SHOPPING
- CULTURE
- COMMUNITY

Throughout the past year, I have seen our community come together and support our City through the hard times. As your Mayor, as well as a lifelong Rahway resident, not only has it filled me with tremendous pride, but it has made me think about everything that Rahway is. Rahway is more than just a

city. Rahway is home and I have seen our residents take pride in their home more than ever. Rahway is strong. Rahway is resilient. Rahway is vibrant and beautiful. There are so many things that Rahway is, that I could not put my finger on just one. This left me with just **Rahway is.**

As a City and a community, we embrace our diversity, with residents old and new who bring varying backgrounds and perspectives to the table. Rahway is: Dining. Arts. Culture. Recreation. Seniors. Industry. Rahway is happening and will

continue to be a complete melting pot of diversity, spirit, and community.

This edition of the Rahway Preview will give our residents a look into the various safe events that are scheduled for April, May, and June. I look forward to our resilient community heading back into relative normalcy and once again showing the rest of the state who Rahway is with lively events, new businesses opening, continuing City projects, and celebrating our community.

-Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe

#RahwayIsHappening

PRRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #105
RAHWAY, NJ

POSTAL PATRON

THE rahwayreview

Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe
City of Rahway
1 City Hall Plaza
Rahway, NJ 07065

rahway IS STILL HAPPENING!



Stay in the know with upcoming events that are added to the calendar throughout the year.

Please visit the Rahway Recreation Center, Rahway Arts + Business Partnership and the Rahway Public Library on the web and social media for the latest information.

RAHWAY TASTE PASSPORT 2021



April 8-11/ April 15-18/ April 22-25/April 29-May 2;
Event goers purchase a passport for \$5.00 that allows them to "travel" to all the participating restaurants in Rahway where they can purchase a \$5.00 feature only available to those passport holders. Visit rahwayishappening.com for more information!



MAYOR RAYMOND A. GIACOBBE
AND THE RAHWAY CITY COUNCIL PRESENT
**RAHWAY'S ELECTRIFYING
5K NIGHT RACE!**

THE **cityofrahway**
**READY-SET-
GLOW!**

5.27.21

Race Start: 8:45PM

No pre-race party this year, but
PRIZES FOR BEST COSTUMES
will be given at 8:30

Vouchers redeemable at Rahway
restaurants to all participants

Log In to register!
www.readyssetglowrace.com

All Covid restrictions will apply.

THE **cityofrahway**
EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT
MEMORIAL DAY TO LABOR DAY
Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe
and the Rahway City Council proudly present
Big Thursday Nights!

**BIG
THURSDAY
nights
RAHWAY**


IBAILE!
RAHWAY

**MAYOR
RAYMOND A. GIACOBBE
SUMMER
CONCERT
SERIES**

**Movies
ON THE PLAZA**

#rahwayIS
HAPPENING

For more info visit
www.cityofrahway.com



THE **rahwayreview**
ONWARD

VOL XXXI ISSUE 1 | SPRING-SUMMER 2021 EDITION

The Rahway Review is published by the Office of the Mayor, Raymond A. Giacobbe. Its purpose is to keep citizens informed of important programs and events that the administration has developed in efforts to improve the quality of life in Rahway.

13,000 newsletters are printed and mailed to each postal customer in the City of Rahway. Others are distributed by request to individuals, companies and organizations interested in living or doing business in the City.

Although great care has been taken to ensure that information contained in this newsletter is accurate, the City of Rahway assumes no liability for errors or omissions.

The Rahway Review welcomes comments and concerns from its readers. These may be sent to:

City of Rahway • Office of the Mayor • 1 City Hall Plaza, Rahway, NJ 07065

RAHWAY MUNICIPAL DIRECTORY

If you get an answering machine when calling any of the following numbers, please leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible. All area codes are 732 unless otherwise specified.

Municipal Offices	Helpful Numbers
Building Inspector..... 827-2087	Board of Education..... 396-1000
City Clerk..... 827-2100	RWJU Hospital at Rahway 381-4200
Community Development..... 827-2193	Rahway Library 340-1551
Comptroller/Finance..... 827-2020	NJ Transit 973-275-5555
Municipal Court..... 827-2039	P.A.L. Hot Line..... 827-2097
Economic Development 827-2181	Parking Utility 381-8778
Emergency Management..... 827-2120	Post Office 388-3264
Engineering 827-2183	Rahway Redevelopment Agency 827-2001
Fire (non emergency)..... 827-2155	Rahway Y.M.C.A. 388-0057
Fire Prevention Bureau..... 827-2133	Union County
First Aid..... 911	Performing Arts Center 499-8226
Health Department 827-2085	
Mayor's Office..... 827-2009	
Municipal Administrator..... 827-2001	
Police (non emergency) 827-2200	
Public Works..... 827-2060	
Recreation..... 669-3600	
Recycling..... 827-2159	
Tax Assessor..... 827-2030	
Tax Collector 827-2050	
SUEZ-Rahway 827-0748	
Vital Statistics 827-2085	

Rahway Schools

Superintendent's Office..... 396-1020
Business Administrator..... 396-1010
Services for Children..... 396-1035
Rahway High School..... 396-1090
7th & 8th Grade Academy 396-1025
Grover Cleveland School..... 396-1040
Franklin School 396-1050
Madison School 396-1070
Roosevelt School 396-1060

Rahway is.

SPRINGIN' AHEAD

The City of Rahway invites you to be a part of these safe, free, community wellness events!

APRIL 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Taste of Spring Passport	12 RRPL Take Home Crafts Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Art Exhibit	13 RRPL Take Home Crafts Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Senior Tai Chi Art Exhibit	14 RRPL Take Home Crafts Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Senior Tai Chi Kick and Sculpt (Zoom) Art Exhibit	15 RRPL Take Home Crafts Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Art Exhibit Taste of Spring Passport	16 RRPL Take Home Crafts Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Art Exhibit Taste of Spring Passport	17 RRPL Take Home Crafts Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Cardio Yoga (Zoom) Taste of Spring Passport Pop-Up Music
18 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Taste of Spring Passport	19 RRPL Take Home Crafts Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	20 RRPL Take Home Crafts Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Senior Tai Chi	21 RRPL Take Home Crafts Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Senior Tai Chi Kick and Sculpt (Zoom)	22 RRPL Take Home Crafts Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Taste of Spring Passport	23 RRPL Take Home Crafts Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Taste of Spring Passport	24 RRPL Take Home Crafts Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Cardio Yoga (Zoom) Taste of Spring Passport
25 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Taste of Spring Passport	26 RRPL Take Home Crafts Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Art Exhibit	27 RRPL Take Home Crafts Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Senior Tai Chi Art Exhibit	28 RRPL Take Home Crafts Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Senior Tai Chi Kick and Sculpt (Zoom) Art Exhibit	29 RRPL Take Home Crafts Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Taste of Spring Passport Art Exhibit	30 RRPL Take Home Crafts Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Taste of Spring Passport Art Exhibit	

Here's What's Happening!

Take Home Craft-Rahway Library
During curbside hours: Mondays and Thursdays 10AM-2PM, Wednesdays 3-7PM, and Tuesdays, Fridays & Saturdays 1-4PM

Pop Up Walking Club eMail List
Weather and staff dependent. Rahway River Park. Email: beatthefatigue@cityofrahway.com

Covid To-Go Bags
Courtesy of The Union County Board of County Commissioners. Rahway residents with disabilities and/or special needs (including seniors) call the Rec Center at 732-669-3600

Tai Chi for Seniors at Rahway Recreation Center
Tuesdays & Wednesdays, Through April 28;

10:30-11:30AM; Limited Capacity; Free, but registration required at www.cityofrahway.com/springinahead

Virtual Rahway Fit for Adults: Kick and Sculpt (Zoom)

Wednesdays, Through April 28; 6:00pm-7:00pm; Free, but registration required at www.cityofrahway.com/springinahead

Virtual Rahway Fit for Adults: Cardio Yoga (Zoom)

Saturdays, Through April 24; 9:00am-10:00am; Free, but registration required at www.cityofrahway.com/springinahead

Art Exhibit
Weekdays (Mon-Fri), Through April 16; 1-4PM at The Gallery Space; "With Grace & Grit: An Art Exhibit on the Many Roles of Women"
For more info: www.galleryspacerahway.com

Taste of Spring Passport
April 8-11/ April 15-18/ April 22-25/April 29-May 2; Event goes through a passport for \$5.00 that allows them to "travel" to all the participating restaurants in Rahway where they can purchase a \$5.00 feature only available to those passport holders. Visit rahwayishappening.com for more information

Pop Up Music
April 17 - Train Station Plaza 2pm-8pm

Art Exhibit
Weekdays (Mon-Fri), April 26- May 21; 1:00pm - 4:00pm at The Gallery Space; "Going For Baroque: Artworks Inspired by Baroque Era Style or Ideas of Painting" For more info: www.galleryspacerahway.com

POP-UP POETRY and MUSIC - May 8
Location TBA

Ready Set Glow 5k - May 27
5/27 Costume Contest: 8:30pm City Hall Plaza Stage
Race Start: 8:45pm; Register online at www.readysetglow-race.com

Big Thursday's -
June Baile 6:30pm
June: 3, 10, 17, 24
Train Station Plaza

Farmers Market and NCNW I Love 2 Read Book & Literacy Festival
June: 3, 10, 17, 24
12pm-7pm
Train Station Plaza

Senior Picnic at Home-
Early June. Details coming soon!

Culture Crawl Music in the Paseo - Fridays June: 4, 11, 18, 25 6:30-9:30pm at Rahway Paseo

Culture Crawl Music in the Park
Saturdays: June 12, 26
6-8pm
Rahway Arts District Park

Culture Crawl Pop Up Dance
with ReFrame Dance
June 18-20; 7pm
Rahway Arts District Park

To enroll in these events, or for more details please visit: cityofrahway.com/springinahead



#springinahead

RAHWAY FARMERS MARKET

THURSDAYS
NOON TILL 7 PM
June 3, 10, 17, 24
RAHWAY TRAIN STATION PLAZA

MAY 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Taste of Spring Passport Art Exhibit
2 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Taste of Spring Passport Art Exhibit	3 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Art Exhibit	4 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Art Exhibit	5 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Art Exhibit	6 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Art Exhibit	7 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Art Exhibit	8 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Art Exhibit Pop-Up Poetry & Music
9 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Art Exhibit	10 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Art Exhibit	11 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Art Exhibit	12 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Art Exhibit	13 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Art Exhibit	14 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Art Exhibit	15 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Art Exhibit
16 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Art Exhibit	17 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Art Exhibit	18 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Art Exhibit	19 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Art Exhibit	20 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Art Exhibit	21 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags Art Exhibit	22 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags
23 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	24 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	25 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	26 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	27 Ready Set Glow 5k Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	28 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	29 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags
30 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	31 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags					

JUNE 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	2 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	3 Big Thursdays - Baile! Farmer's Market NCNW! I♥2 Read Festival Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	4 Culture Crawl Music: Paseo Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	5 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags
6 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	7 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	8 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	9 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	10 Big Thursdays - Baile! Farmer's Market NCNW! I♥2 Read Festival Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	11 Culture Crawl Music: Paseo Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	12 Culture Crawl Music: AD Park Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags
13 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	14 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	15 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	16 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	17 Big Thursdays - Baile! Farmer's Market NCNW! I♥2 Read Festival Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	18 Culture Crawl Pop Up Dance Culture Crawl Music: Paseo Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	19 Culture Crawl Pop Up Dance Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags
20 Culture Crawl Pop Up Dance Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	21 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	22 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	23 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	24 Big Thursdays - Baile! Farmer's Market NCNW! I♥2 Read Festival Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	25 Culture Crawl Music: Paseo Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	26 Culture Crawl Music: AD Park Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags
27 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	28 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	29 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags	30 Pop Up Walking Club COVID To-Go Bags			

Rahway CARES

Mayor Raymond Giacobbe, the Rahway City Council and the Rahway Arts and Business Partnership created the Rahway CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Forgivable Loan/Grant Program, with the partnership of the Union County

Economic Development Corporation, to financially help small businesses during the economic downturn due to the extension of the COVID19 restrictions.

“The COVID19 pandemic has wreaked havoc among small businesses all

over the country and the City of Rahway is no different. Over the last year, I have seen many of our local businesses struggle and unfortunately some have closed their doors,” Mayor Giacobbe stated. “It is my belief that, at the city level, we have a responsibility to assist

our small businesses in any way that we can during these unprecedented times, and that is why the City of Rahway has allocated over \$500,000 to the Rahway CARES Program to financially aid small businesses.”

In the first phase, completed in Summer

2020, over \$250,000 of forgivable loans were provided to nearly 70 small businesses. The second phase of the CARES program provided another \$290,000 in grants to over 100 businesses to help address specific needs brought about by the

pandemic, including construction, PPE, technology, and general business expenses. Together, the two phases of this program have returned over a half million dollars of Special Improvement District assessments back to our businesses.



Il Forno a Legna



The World Famous Waiting Room



Nancy's Townhouse



Butch Kowal's Tavern

Rahway Welcomes New Businesses!

Even during a global pandemic, Rahway is Happening! The City celebrated many (socially distanced) ribbon cuttings this past year. Some proprietors have been established for years in other locations and made a new home, such as Rahway Dance Theatre who moved down the street to their new, larger space at 1571 Irving St., and Dance Starz Academy who moved to 970 New Brunswick Ave. from Colonia.

Several entrepreneurs opened their first locations and we welcomed them to the Rahway business community. Baba & Boogies Learning Center at 75 E Cherry

(in The Mall) entertains little ones with their hands-on play areas! Rahway Nutrition (35 E Milton Ave.) and Mi Casa Bistro & Steakhouse (78 E. Cherry St.) added their unique flavors to Rahway's culinary scene, while Arch Angels NJ (1600 St. Georges Ave) is lending a helping hand.

The Rahway Arts and Business Partnership collaborated with the Rahway Chamber of Commerce and the Friends of the Rahway Library to install four Lending Library boxes throughout the City. Artists Nick Rosal, Ellen Avigliano, Girl Scout Troop 41748, and Raquel Agatep each brought to life a unique Library box.



You can find them at the following locations: Rahway Arts District Park (at the corner of Central Ave and Irving St.); The Girl Scout Park (E. Milton and Emerson); Stein Field (Concord and Jefferson); and Flanagan Field (Wall St.)

We are looking forward to the upcoming grand openings of the Portuguese Cuisine Bar and Wine on Main Street and Captain Cooks Seafood Boil on Rts 1&9 in the near future! Find out about all the businesses at www.Rahwayishappening.com

Rahway Pavilions: Safe outdoor dining and gathering

The City of Rahway took strides to tackle the needs of both businesses and residents through the establishment of outdoor public spaces, which provided for shared, safe outdoor dining and gathering throughout our downtown, including closing portions of Cherry, Lewis, and Monroe streets. Through the

summer and fall, these proved to be immensely popular with residents and visitors and brought a vibrance to our streets despite the constraints imposed by the pandemic. As the winter months approached, two of these public spaces were enhanced by the design and construction of two

use. Looking ahead to the upcoming warmer months, these outdoor spaces will once again provide a vibrancy to our downtown socializing with live music, poetry, and other events. We are proud to provide our residents, businesses, and visitors with safe areas to gather and once again enjoy our City.



For more information on the following programs, please visit cityofrahway.com



SPRING PROGRAMS
RECREATION AND SENIOR SERVICES

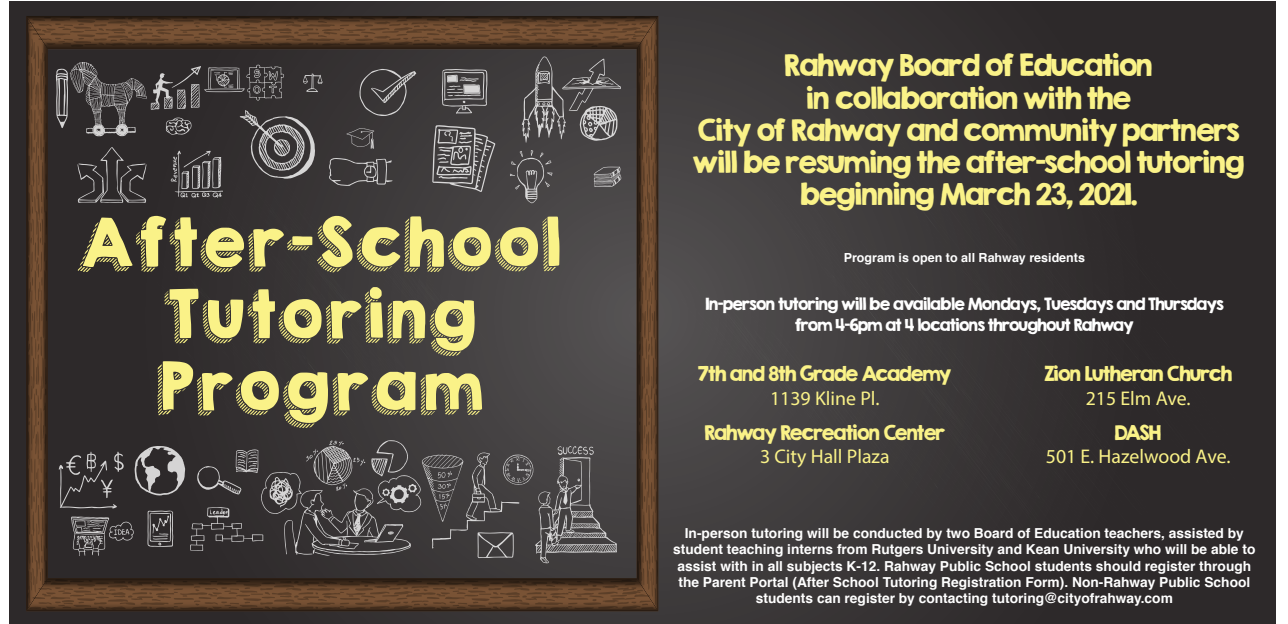
SPRING PROGRAM SESSION
MAY THROUGH JUNE

YOUTH:
Art, Outdoor Athletics

ADULT:
Art, Yoga, Exercise Programs, NEW Outdoor Programs

SENIOR:
Art, Exercise, Tai Chi, NEW Strength and Conditioning Programs

REGISTRATION AND PROGRAM BROCHURE AVAILABLE AT cityofrahway.org/departments/parks-and-recreation/



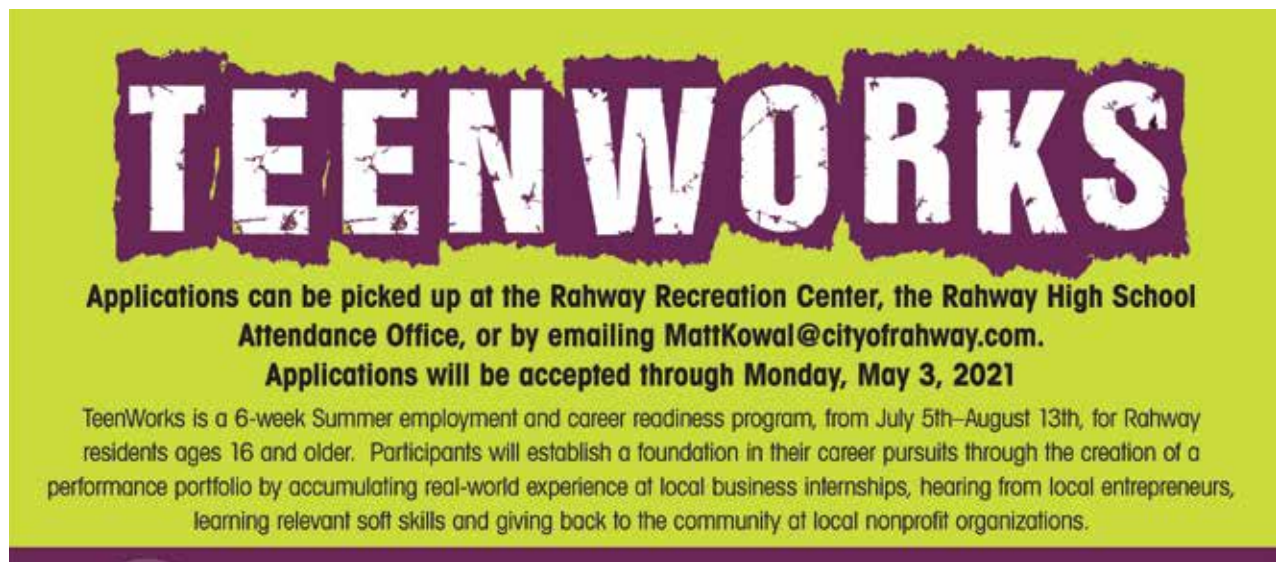
After-School Tutoring Program

Program is open to all Rahway residents

In-person tutoring will be available Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4-6pm at 4 locations throughout Rahway

7th and 8th Grade Academy 1139 Kline Pl.	Zion Lutheran Church 215 Elm Ave.
Rahway Recreation Center 3 City Hall Plaza	DASH 501 E. Hazelwood Ave.

In-person tutoring will be conducted by two Board of Education teachers, assisted by student teaching interns from Rutgers University and Kean University who will be able to assist with in all subjects K-12. Rahway Public School students should register through the Parent Portal (After School Tutoring Registration Form). Non-Rahway Public School students can register by contacting tutoring@cityofrahway.com



TEENWORKS

Applications can be picked up at the Rahway Recreation Center, the Rahway High School Attendance Office, or by emailing MattKowal@cityofrahway.com. Applications will be accepted through Monday, May 3, 2021

TeenWorks is a 6-week Summer employment and career readiness program, from July 5th–August 13th, for Rahway residents ages 16 and older. Participants will establish a foundation in their career pursuits through the creation of a performance portfolio by accumulating real-world experience at local business internships, hearing from local entrepreneurs, learning relevant soft skills and giving back to the community at local nonprofit organizations.

CITY OF RAHWAY: FLOOD PROTECTION INFORMATION

The City of Rahway is a participant in a federally subsidized program that has allowed most property owners to purchase flood insurance with up to a 20% discount on their flood insurance premiums. The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), requires that the City adopt specific flood damage reduction education, planning and building criteria.

In an effort to inform residents and property owners of the presence of flood hazards in Rahway and to suggest possible actions that may be taken to protect persons and property, the following article is being sent to you because the City of Rahway has many flood prone areas and your property may be susceptible to flooding.

Flood Insurance

Most homeowner insurance policies do not cover losses due to floods. However, since Rahway is a participant in the NFIP, it is possible for property owners to obtain federally backed flood insurance. This insurance is available to any owner of insurable property (a building and/or its contents) in Rahway. Tenants may also insure their personal property against flood loss. Also, most flood insurance policy holders in Rahway benefit from premium discounts. This is due to the City's extensive efforts to obtain credits, through the Community Rating System (CRS), to maintain specific measures for flood damage reduction.

The City strongly urges you to buy flood insurance as needed to protect yourself from devastating losses due to flooding. Following the purchase of flood insurance, NFIP imposes a 30-day waiting period, so residents should purchase insurance before the onset of the rainy season to ensure coverage during the flooding season. You can find out if your property is located in a special flood hazard area through the Office of the City Engineer at (732) 827-2176.

The local flood hazard

The areas in and around the North and South Branches of the Rahway River, the Robinson's Branch of the Rahway River, the Orchard St. Brook, Maurice Avenue Brook, Allen Street Brook, Milton Lake, Rahway River Park and certain other watercourses are subject to flooding. Flooding occurs in Rahway because the flood carrying capacities of the river channels are exceeded, which is caused by a number of factors, such as record rainfall

intensities and increased impervious surfaces due to upstream development. Floodplain maps, charts, reports and studies that document these areas are available for review in the Division of Engineering and also available for review at the Rahway Public Library.

Flood protection assistance

The City Engineer's office can provide technical assistance relating to flood elevations and data on historical flooding, and is available to advise owners of appropriate flood protection measures. The City also has copies of elevation certificates for some properties in the floodplain. City staff members are available to undertake site visits, if requested and authorized, to review flood, drainage, and sewer issues. Please contact the Engineering Division at (732) 827-2176 for this service.

Flood safety

Following is a list of important considerations that should be followed during times of flooding:

1. Keep children away from flood waters, ditches, culverts and storm drains.
2. Evacuate the flood hazard area in times of impending flood or when advised to do so by the police or fire department.
3. In your home, turn off flood prone electrical circuits and shut off the water and gas service valves.
4. Do not walk through flowing water. Currents can be deceptive; six-inches of moving water can sweep you off your feet.
5. Do not drive through a flooded area. More people drown in their cars than anywhere else. Do not drive around road barriers; the road or bridge may be washed out. If your car stalls in high water, abandon it immediately and seek higher ground.
6. During times of heavy rainfall monitor the level of water in the drainage way.
7. Plan escape routes to high ground.
8. Know the following flood warning system.

Flood warning system

When the City of Rahway is expecting or experiencing inclement weather that may include heavy rain, residents in flood prone areas or low lying area are urged to plan preventative actions to protect life and property.

Residents are urged to monitor frequently weather and flood conditions that are broadcast over local radio and television stations. Residents will be provided with flood watch and flood warning advisories. A flood

watch advisory indicates that the potential for a flood exists in the watch area, while a flood warning indicates that a flood has been detected.

Comcast Channel 34 covers the City and will issue timely updated information. This station is part of the Emergency Broadcast System (EBS) as are local television stations Channel 5 & 9. Radio station NJ 101.5 FM, NIXLE and UCFIRSTALERT will also carry EBS messages. Please register for these updates at Nixle.com and Ucfirstalert.org.

In extreme situations, personnel of the Rahway Office of Emergency Management or Department of Public Safety will conduct "Route Altering" within flood prone areas to advise residents to move to higher ground prior to water levels reaching critical stages.

Property protection measures

There are various actions which can be taken to flood-proof structures. Depending upon the situation, location and availability of funds, the following measures can be used:

- a) Install a sump pump system to dispose of infiltrating water to grade outside of the structure;
- b) Move essential items and furniture to the upper floors of your home;
- c) Elevate electrical and mechanical equipment in the basement;
- d) Flood proof walls, windows and doors;
- e) Construct flood walls or closures;
- f) The most effective way to flood-proof a structure is to elevate it.
- g) During times of flooding, homes that have not been retrofitted can be protected during emergencies by the installation of sandbags.
- h) Install flood vents in building walls, doors, or enclosures that are subject to frequent flooding and are not flood-proofed.

Floodplain development regulations

Please be advised that all development, including filling of land located in a special flood hazard area, is regulated differently from other areas and may require a permit. Contact the Office of the City Engineer at 732-827-2176 for further information and prior to undertaking any activity within the floodplain or if you see non-permitted building or filling in the floodplain.

Recognize the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains to help reduce flooding

Floodplains are a natural component of the City of Rahway environment. Understanding and

protecting the natural functions of floodplains help reduce flood damage and protect resources. When flooding spreads out across the floodplain, its energy is dissipated, which results in lower flood flows downstream, reduced erosion of the stream bank and channel, deposition of sediments higher in the watershed, and improved groundwater recharge. Floodplains are scenic, valued wildlife habitats, and suitable for residential gardening. Poorly planned development in floodplains can lead to stream bank erosion, loss of valuable property, increased risk of flooding to downstream properties, and degradation of water quality. A number of County and Municipal parks like the Rahway River Park and Milton Lake Park preserve the stream corridor and prevent development in perpetuity.

Drainage system maintenance

In addition to regulating development and fill within the flood hazard area, the City of Rahway and State of New Jersey have regulations prohibiting dumping in channels, obstructing flows or any activity that would adversely effect the water-carrying capacity of any channel, floodway or floodplain. It has been demonstrated that regulating development and maintaining drainage systems can alleviate recurrent flooding which endangers life and damages property and facilities. Any activities that may be in violation of these regulations should be reported to the Division of Engineering at (732) 827-2176.

Substantial improvement requirements

With respect to requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) relative to substantial improvement in the flood plain, please be advised that if the cost of reconstruction, rehabilitation, additions, or other improvement to a building or home equals or exceeds 50 percent of the building's market value, then the building must meet the same flood plain construction requirements as a new building. Substantially damaged buildings must also be brought up to the same standards. This requirement means elevating the lowest floor, including basement and certain utility systems, at least one (1) foot above the base flood elevation, which is the 100-year flood elevation. A 100-year flood water surface elevation is caused by a storm having a 1% chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.

Map of the local flood hazard area:

To determine whether your property is located within a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA),

FEMA's Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) are available at the Office of the City Engineer at One City Hall Plaza, Rahway, New Jersey 07065. The maps are also available online at FEMA's Map Service Center website at www.msc.fema.gov, and a FEMA map specialist is available to assist you by phone (at 877-336-2627). In addition, the effective base flood elevation and location of the SFHA on the effective FIRM are mapped on the City's website at www.cityofrahway.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Flood-Hazard-Area-Mapping-website.pdf. A comparison of the effective vs. preliminary FIRM is available from FEMA's website at <https://fema-maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=e7a7dc3ebd7f4ad39bb8e485bb64ce44>.



Important Contact Information:

City of Rahway Internet Home Page:
www.cityofrahway.com

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
Phone: (425) 487-4600
Web: www.fema.gov/nfip

FEMA Map Service Center:
www.msc.fema.gov

The National Flood Insurance Program:
www.fema.gov/business.nfip

City of Rahway Public Library:
<http://catalog.rahwaylibrary.org>

Hiring a Contractor:
www.state.nj.us/lps/ca/contractors/consumercont.htm