



Department of Parks and Recreation Frequently Asked Questions

1. How do I get a park permit?

Complete a park permit application and submit it to the Franklin Township Parks & Recreation Department. Applications can take up to 30 business days to process. Park permits reserve Franklin Township park facilities and are enforceable by law. Some park permit requests may require a special event permit, which may be obtained by the Township Clerk's Office.

2. When is a Special Event permit needed?

A Special Event permit or other Township approval may be needed if you can answer yes to any of the following questions:

- Is the event open to the public?
- Is there an admission fee?
- Will the event take place on public property of roadways? (Including but not limited to Township property, buildings and parks)
- Will alcoholic beverages be served?
- Does the premise possess a liquor license?
- Are tents or canopies proposed?
- Will food be prepared, cooked, warmed or served on site?
- Are any open flames, fireworks or pyrotechnics proposed?
- Will portable lighting, power or sound amplification devices be used?
- Are raffles or games of chance proposed?
- Are restroom facilities available? Permanent or portable? How many?
- Are amusements, rides, animals, show mobiles, etc. proposed?

3. How much is a park permit?

PARK RENTAL RATES	
\$40/4hour block for Picnic Area	\$20 Non-refundable deposit
\$30/4hour block for Grass/Paved Athletic Field	\$300.00 Maintenance Escrow
SYNTHETIC TURF FIELD RATES	
\$100/2hr for residents, plus \$25/2hrs for lights	\$200/2hr for non-residents, plus \$50/2hrs for lights
\$50/2hr for resident non-profit, plus \$25/2hrs for lights	\$100/2hr for non-resident non-profit, plus \$50/2hrs for lights
\$200/hr resident for profit, plus \$50/2hrs for lights	\$250/hr non-resident for profit, plus \$50/2hrs for lights

4. How do I schedule an event in Colonial Park?

Colonial Park is a county-run park. You will need to call the Somerset County Parks Commission in order to schedule events at this location. (908) 722 – 1200.

5. How do I register for a program?

Registering for a program can be done in-person at the Community / Senior Center, mailed in or online from our Township website: www.franklintwpnj.org.

If you are registering online for the first time, you will need to set up a household account. *Please follow these steps:*

- Visit Township website (listed above)
- Click on "Recreation and Events"
- Click on "Online Program Registration"
- Click on "Account"
- Follow Instructions to set up New Account

- Once New Account is set up, move pointer to "Register" and drop box will appear
- Click on "Programs or Activities"
- Follow Instructions moving forward

To register in-person, stop by the Community / Senior Center Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30am and 4:30pm.

6. My check was cashed but I haven't received a call. What do I do?

Confirmations will only be made via email if you get into a program. If you DO NOT get into a class, you will be notified, placed on a waiting list, and your payment will be returned if you mailed in your registration.

7. How does the waiting list work?

If you do not get into a class, you are placed on a waiting list in order of registration. If an opening becomes available in a closed program, the space will be offered to the first person on the waiting list. If that person declines or is unreachable after three attempts, the staff will then contact the next person on the list. You are simply required to forward a payment to the Recreation office once your registration has been confirmed. There is no need to fill out another registration form. All your information is already on file.

8. I am currently having financial hardship. How can I/my children still be involved in Township activities?

Fee waivers/reductions are available to low/moderate-income families. Program fees may be waived/reduced pending proper documentation. Please call the Recreation office for additional information.

9. Where can I take the Volunteers Coach's S.A.F.E.T.Y. Clinic?

Simply access the Rutgers University Youth Sports Research Council Website at www.youthsports.rutgers.edu.

On May 12, 1986, New Jersey became the first state in the nation to pass legislation which protects volunteer athletic coaches, managers, and officials from lawsuits. Commonly referred to as the "Little League Law" (2A:62A-6 et. seq.), this legislation extends partial civil immunity to volunteers who have attended a "safety orientation and training skills program." Please check site frequently for clinic availability updates. Site is updated as classes fill.

10. The following Youth Sports Organizations run independently of the Franklin Township Parks & Recreation Department. Each organization administers their own program including registration, scheduling, fees and organizational structure.

- Franklin Township Adult Co-Ed Softball League
 - (609) 395-9167
- Franklin Township Baseball League
 - www.ftllbaseball.com
 - ftblsometerset@gmail.com
- Franklin Township Pop Warner Football & Cheerleading
 - www.ftpw.org
 - ftpwnj@gmail.com
- Franklin Township Soccer Club
 - www.franklinsoccer.com
 - Nt.webmaster@franklinsoccer.com



Department of Parks and Recreation

Senior Programs

Frequently Asked Questions

1. **How old must I be to attend Senior Programs and Activities at the Senior / Community Center?**

Franklin Township residents may begin attending Senior Programs at the Community / Senior Center once they turn 55 years of age.

2. **How do I join the Community / Senior Center?**

As a Franklin Township resident, there is no membership for the Community / Senior Center. Proof of residency makes you eligible to frequent the facility and participate in the programs and activities that you are interested in. We offer fee-based programs as well as free "drop-in" activities. Please visit our website: www.franklintwpnj.org to view the monthly calendar and for additional information.

3. **What are the hours of operation?**

The Community / Senior Center is open Monday – Friday from 8:30am to 4:30pm. ****Drop-in" activities end at 4:15pm****

4. **What types of programs are offered?**

We offer a variety of programs for individuals 55 years of age and older. Our programs include; group exercise classes, social clubs, enrichment classes, workshops and special events throughout the year.

5. **Do I need to join one of the three Senior Clubs to attend activities?**

No, we invite you to participate in our other activities regardless of whether you do or do not belong to one of the Senior Clubs. You determine how much or how little you'd like to do here by selecting the activities you want to get involved in.

6. **Is there transportation to the Community / Senior Center?**

The Township contracts with Somerset County to provide FREE round trip transportation from your home to the Municipal Complex. Residents can utilize the transportation service Monday through Friday between 8:30am and 3:00pm once they have registered with the Somerset county Transportation Department.

7. **How do I register for transportation?**

Contact the Somerset County Transportation Department toll free at 800.246.0527 or at 908.231.7115 on weekdays to speak with a representative. Inform them that you would like to schedule transportation to the Franklin Township Community / Senior Center at 505 Demott Lane, Somerset. They will then ask for additional information including the days and times you would like to schedule transportation. *(Please note: Some residences are inaccessible by bus so check with the representative when you call the Somerset County Transportation Department).*

8. How do I set up transportation to and from doctors' appointments?

For more information, contact the Somerset County Transportation Department toll free at 800.246.0527 or at 908.231.7115 on weekdays to speak with a representative. Please try to schedule such services a minimum of 7 days in advance.

9. I need to have a snack or meal during the day. Since you do not provide lunch, what should I do?

You may bring a bag lunch, snack or order delivery from a local restaurant and enjoy it here, or depending on your schedule and the time of day, you can set up Somerset County Transportation to take you from the Community / Senior Center to the Somerset County operated Quailbrook Senior Center which is located on New Brunswick Road in Somerset for a hot lunch. There is a fee for lunch at the Quailbrook Senior Center. Please contact their office at 732.563.4213 for additional details.

10. I'm on a fixed income; do you have any senior discounts for programs?

Our programs are priced with that in mind. The senior discount is already incorporated into the prices for fee based programs. Keeping our seniors in mind, we try to run free programs as often as possible.

11. I have an Aide, are they allowed to accompany me at the Community / Senior Center?

Yes, your Aide may accompany you to your program and assist you as needed at no additional cost. If they choose to participate in any fee based program, they are required to register and pay all corresponding fees.

12. Is there someone at the Community / Senior Center who can assist me with senior housing?

We do not have someone here who specializes in housing. We have limited information on some of our local senior communities that we are happy to share with you. We suggest you visit the various senior housing communities and either put your name on their waiting list and schedule an appointment with one of their representatives to learn more about their residence. You may also try calling the Somerset County Office on Aging at 908.704.6346 for more information.

13. I'm looking for a job, are you hiring?

Township employment opportunities are posted at the Municipal Building (outside of the Human Resources Department) as well as on the Township website: www.franklintwpnj.org.

14. I would like to volunteer. With whom do I speak?

Volunteer applications are available at the Community / Senior Center. Once a need is identified for a volunteer, you will be contacted to schedule an interview as well as be required to complete a criminal background check and drug screening before you are scheduled to volunteer.

15. **I'm still not sure what I want to do. Can I speak with someone at the Community / Senior Center for more guidance?**

We are always here to help. Feel free to stop by or call us during our office hours: Monday through Friday, 8:30am – 4:30pm.

Franklin Township
Parks & Recreation Department
Community / Senior Center

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