

CALIFON CRIER

39 ACADEMY STREET | 908-832-7850 | CALIFONBORO.ORG

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What is Tier A?

As a result of actions taken by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, we have been required to institute new ordinances regulating activities related to stormwater management and to change how we maintain the borough's roads, storm drainage systems, and other infrastructure. We are striving to do so in a way that minimizes costs while, we hope, improving the quality and management of the community's stormwater.

In July 2022, the state DEP informed Califon that our community would be reclassified from a Tier B to a Tier A municipality to permit our stormwater management systems. In order to maintain a Tier A permit, Califon must perform specific actions that were not required by a Tier B permit. These include the creation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, the posting of certain stormwater documents and other information on our webpage, the implementation of community-wide pollution-prevention programs, improved mapping of stormwater infrastructure, training for borough employees and officials, and the implementation of required ordinances for the borough.

Those new ordinances are the most recent changes brought on by the new Tier A requirements mandated by the state. Several codify things that most of you are already doing, such as prohibitions regarding littering and feeding wildlife on public lands, requirements to dispose of pet waste and yard waste properly, private storm inlet requirements, and tree removal and replacement requirements. The last ordinance may be the one likely to impact residents the most. Permits are now required to remove certain trees on private property, and planting replacement trees may be required. There are exclusions and exceptions for certain emergency situations. While this state-mandated ordinance requires more from property owners, it is also our hope that it will improve (and help to reduce) stormwater in Califon. The texts of the new ordinances, adopted in April 2024, can be found in Title 17 of the borough code, which is located on the Stormwater section of our home page and within the Code section under Ordinance 2024-02. Please contact the borough if you need further information.

The borough will also be required to change and upgrade how it constructs and maintains roads and stormwater facilities. For example, the frequency of street sweeping on borough roads will need to increase to three times a year to keep more pollution out of stormwater, our streams, and the river. We will also be required to repair and possibly reconstruct inlets and other municipally-owned stormwater structures to reduce pollution. These standards will also require increased training and documentation. We will work with Tewksbury Township, our public works provider, to meet these state standards as cost-effectively as possible and pursue funding offered by the state DEP and other agencies to cover some of the costs.

The Tier A requirements also include increased public outreach and communication. While this letter is a start, please look for additional information on stormwater in our community on our website and other publications. If you have any questions about how these changes may apply to your property, please reach out for more information.

- Leo Janus, on behalf of the Califon Council

Street Fair

The 11th Annual Califon Street Fair will be held on Sunday October 13th from 11:00AM - 4:00PM

[Click here](#) for more info

Leaf Pick Ups

There will be two leaf pick ups this year. The dates will be November 6th and December 6th.

[Click here](#) for more info

Halloween

Trick or Treating will be from 3:00PM to 7:00PM.

The Califon Fire Company Parade will start at the intersection of Main and School Street, at 7:00 pm. Refreshments and costume judging will take place at the fire house directly following the parade on October 31st.

Food Pantry

Flemington Area Food Pantry is holding a fundraiser on October 25th.

[Click Here](#) for more info

Pancake Breakfast

The Califon Fire Company's Pancake Breakfast will be held on October 6th and November 3rd from 7:00AM-11:00AM in Creamery Hall.

Blood Drive

The Lower Valley Presbyterian Church is hosting a blood drive on October 23rd.

[Click here](#) for more info

Tree Planting

The South Branch Raritan River Volunteer Tree Planting will be taking place on Monday October 21st.

[Click here](#) for more info

Election Info

The General Election will be held on November 5th. The polls will be open from 6:00AM till 8:00PM at the Califon Municipal Building. Also, the deadline for voter registration is October 15th.

[Click here](#) for more voting info

Fall Events

The Califon Methodist Church has several events going on this fall season.

[Click here](#) for more info

October 2024 Meeting Dates

Borough Council

October 3rd & 17th

Parks and Rec Committee

October 1st

Environmental Commission

October 8th

Historical Society

October 15th

Planning and Zoning Board

October 23rd

November 2024 Meeting Dates

Borough Council

November 7th & 21st

Parks and Rec Committee

November 5th

Environmental Commission

November 12th

Historical Society

TBD

Planning and Zoning Board

November 20th

Historical Society

October 6, 20 & Nov. 3 from 2:00pm-4:00 pm are the final days of the "History of Voting in Califon" display at the Cabin by the River.

Nov. 17 from 2:00pm-4:00 pm will be the preview of the "Christmas in Califon" display at the Hoffman House & Cabin by the River.

Don't forget to check out their Street Fair booth.

Water Main Project

The Aqua Water Main Replacement project is moving along well.

[Click here](#) for more info on the status of this project

Crier Submission

If you want to submit something for the next issue of The Crier please email your announcement to Jay Ruggiero at jruggiero@califonboro.net no later than November 25th for the December/January issue.

Town Subscription

Califon Borough will no longer be sending out notifications in the mail. All residents should subscribe to the borough website to receive future related notifications as well as important alerts of events happening in Califon.

[Click here](#) to sign up

CALIFON SCHOOL NEWS

Califon School opened the 2024-2025 school year with 92 students enrolled this year which is 10 more students than last September. Staff returned on August 26 & 27 for Professional Development and room preparation. Students started on August 28 with our opening day tradition when students, parents and staff gathered in the courtyard to cheer on the new school year at the sound of our school bell.

Califon School enjoyed recognition from the GoHunterdon Safe Routes to School Program where the district received the gold status for our commitment to the program. Although we are a walking district, there is a definite increase in students walking to school with their parents. Califon School will be participating in other events sponsored by GoHunterdon and the Walking School Bus program during the school year.

Once again, Califon School has a co-ed soccer team of 19 students in grades 5-8. Students practice and play games on the field at Califon Park. Coach Bruton and Coach Downey put the students through their paces to improve skills and develop game strategies. The students have played a couple of competitive games and had a win against Kingwood Twp School District already this year!



Along with strong academic subject areas, students are enriched through music and art as well as STEM in all grade levels. A focus on Social Emotional Learning is incorporated into daily lessons helping our students learn social skills and ways to manage stress and conflict. Educating the whole child is an important focus of the Califon School. We are pleased to be working once again with Amy Rubin who provides instruction to both staff and students on Mindfulness.

Students also enjoy interacting with each other across all grade levels in programs such as Preschool Buddies where the students are able to go in the Preschool class and work with students on projects, experiments and reading to our youngest learners. Our students, especially the preschool students, also enjoy ringing the bell in the morning with Mr. Belenguer! It takes a few hands to do the job!

Califon School is off to a strong and exciting start this year. We are looking forward to our many traditions and exciting student activities. The Califon Fire Department will make the annual trip to Califon School in October to educate our students on fire safety. Before we know it, Halloween will be upon us with parades, parties and trick-or-treating in the Boro.

Wishing the Califon Community a wonderful Fall season!

Dr. Cone

