



2025 Budget Presentation

RECREATION, SPECIAL EVENTS, AND SENIOR CENTER/OFFICE ON AGING

NANCY BERGEN
SUPERINTENDENT OF RECREATION



2025 OPERATING BUDGET REQUESTS

\$133,000

The Recreation Budget is a financial plan that backs a variety of community programs, events, and park enhancements. Spanning administrative needs, park improvements, program requirements, and equipment, it establishes a comprehensive strategy, enriching the overall well-being and enjoyment of our community.

**RECREATION
DEPARTMENT**

\$22,000

The Special Events Budget includes funds for advertising, equipment rental, food, entertainment, and miscellaneous items that contribute to the success of community events. This budget guarantees that every aspect of the event is well-organized and promoted, supporting both logistical and creative components.

**SPECIAL
EVENTS**

\$18,500

The Senior Center Office on Aging budget at Lawrence Township supports residents aged 60 and older, providing essential services such as socialization events, health services, and cultural programs. The budget also ensures accessibility through van transportation, playing a crucial role in enhancing the overall well-being and quality of life for seniors in Lawrence Township.

**SENIOR CENTER
OFFICE ON AGING**

LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Nancy Bergen (Superintendent of Recreation)

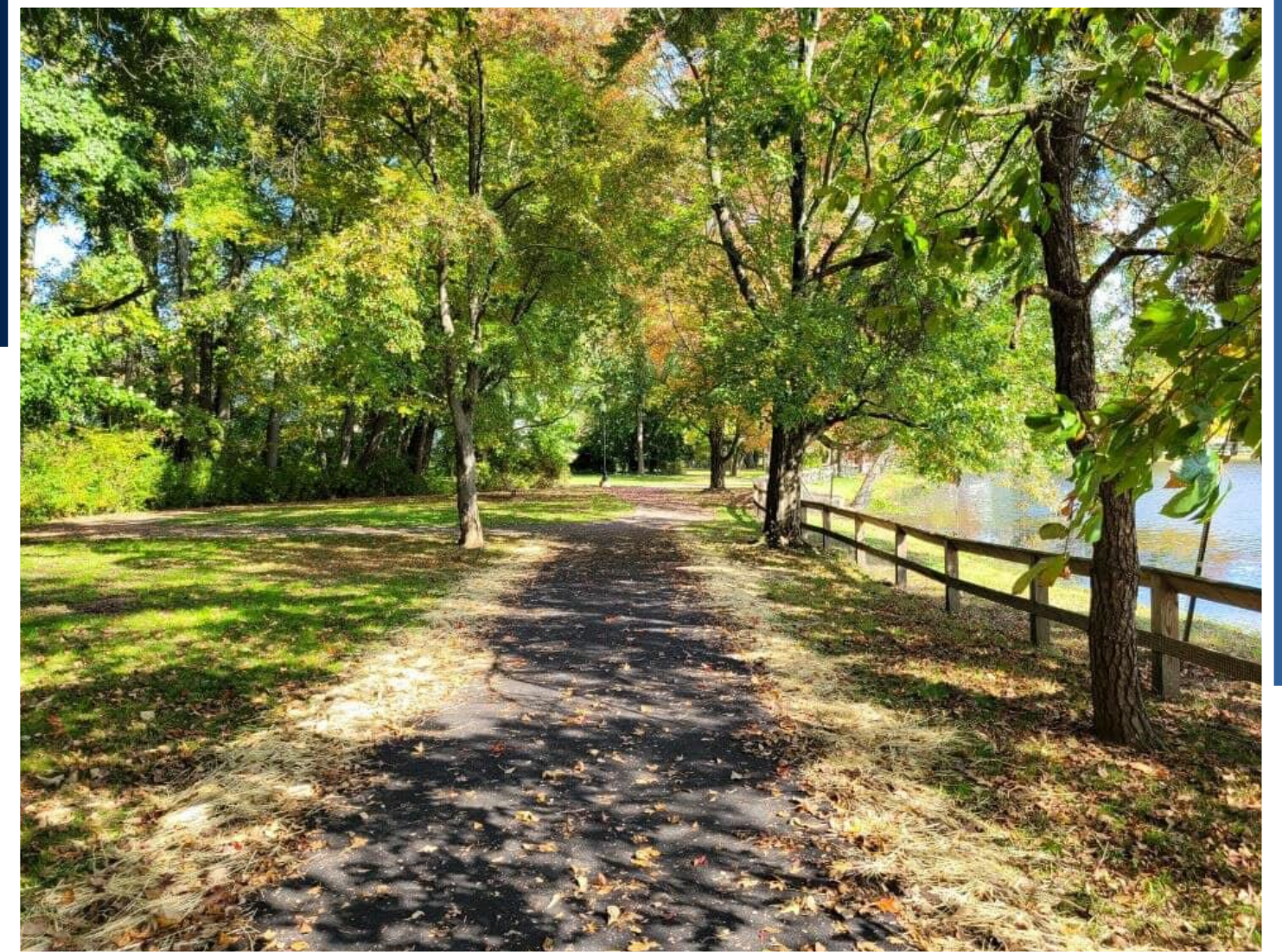
Jeffrey Radice (Recreation Leader)

Emily Suydam (Recreation Leader)

The Lawrence Township Recreation Department is dedicated to enhancing the social, cultural, and physical well-being of our residents through diverse programs, events, and community partnerships. With a small but dedicated team, we strive to create a vibrant and inclusive recreation experience for all.

- Lawrence High School Pool: Lifeguard scheduling, training & operations
- Facility Rentals & Scheduling: Pavilions, fields, lighting & weather closures
- Coaches & Volunteers: Recruitment, training & oversight
- Nature Center Management: Programs & operations at Anne Demairis Nature Center
- Recreation Programs: Youth basketball, swim team, summer camps & more
- Special Events: Planning & executing community-wide events
- Park Improvements: Playground upgrades & park enhancements
- Community Collaboration: Partnerships with local organizations
- Communications: Latest in Lawrence newsletter & active Facebook updates

We are committed to providing high-quality recreational opportunities that bring our community together!



LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP RECREATION DEPARTMENT

ALLOCATION OF OUR OPERATING EXPENSES BUDGET

The Operating Expenses (OE) budget is strategically distributed across various sectors to effectively support community programs, facility maintenance, and essential services. Below is a detailed breakdown of the primary expenditures: This budget allocation is designed to ensure the delivery of high-quality programs, the maintenance of facilities, and the efficient operation of services for the residents of Lawrence Township.

- Programs & Activities: This includes costs for youth and adult sports, such as trophies, referees, uniforms, and equipment.
- Camps & Clinics: Expenses for various camps, including Art Camp, Just Play Camp, Nature Center Camp, and Summer Fun Camp, which cover supplies, t-shirts, and entertainment.
- Travel Camp: Funding for trips, encompassing transportation and admission fees.
- Community Events: Costs associated with events such as fireworks displays, 9/11 and Memorial Day ceremonies, and Community Fun Day.
- Park & Field Maintenance: Expenses for porta-potty rentals, field lighting maintenance, and upkeep of playgrounds and equipment.
- Office Supplies & Printing: Program flyers, brochures, and general office supplies.
- Software & Technology: Investment in digital tools, including Canva, CommunityPass, League Manager, and others.
- Training & Certifications: Costs related to lifeguard certifications, CPR training, and memberships with the New Jersey Recreation and Park Association (NJRPA).

2024

RECREATION PROGRAMS

Lawrence Recreation Department offers year-round programs for all Lawrence Township residents. The department provides affordable programs for recreational opportunities for all ages with a variety of interests.

- Summer Fun Camp
- Travel Camp
- Adult Walking Program
- Art Camp
- Observational Drawing
- Nature Center Camp
- JustPlay! Camp
- Safety Town
- Kids & Teens Exercise Class
- Swim Lessons - spring & summer
- Basketball Clinic
- Yoga in the Park
- Hula Hoop Exercise Classes
- CSI Camp
- Tennis Lessons
- Tennis Camp
- Junior Golf Clinic
- Pickleball Classes
- Nature Detectives
- Painting in the Park
- Track & Field
- Youth Basketball league
- Lawrence Lightning swim team
- Youth Wrestling
- Adult Volleyball
- Pool Memberships
- Community Gardens
- Pavilion Rentals



RECREATION DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

Scheduling and management for all parkland activities are organized through the township Recreation Department, including permits and reservations for field usage of parks, athletic fields, open space, pavilions, and Lawrence Township Nature Center. The department supports and communicates with various community groups on a daily or weekly basis. Which including the following:

- **Lawrence Hamnett Soccer**
- **Lawrence Lacrosse Club**
- **Lawrence Junior Baseball/Softball Association**
- **Lawrence Junior Cardinal Football**
- **Lawrence Environmental Education Foundation**
- **Girl Scouts and Scout Organizations**
- **Lawrence Hopewell Trail**
- **Friends of Colonial Lake**
- **Lawrence Township Community Band**
- **Lawrence Township Patriotic Committee**
- **Lawrence Township Public School District**
- **Lawrence Recreation Advisory Board**
- **Rider University**

RECREATION DEPARTMENT HOUR OF OPERATIONS

Recreation Department Hours:

Recreation Office

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

LHS Pool Hours:

Monday-Friday: 6:00 pm - 9:30 pm

Saturdays: 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Park Facilities: (for various youth non-profit groups) and Pavilion Rentals – Village Park (2) And Veterans Park,
Field Usage/Light Scheduling:

Monday – Friday Until 9:30 pm

Saturdays And Sundays All Day Until 9:30 pm

Nature Center:

Weekdays- 6:00 pm - 9:30 pm Scouts

Saturday And Sundays: Programs

Senior Center:

Band Practice-Tuesdays And Thursday Evenings until 9:30pm

Various Programs At LTPS Facilities

Program Times Are Usually At Night Until 9:30 pm and Saturdays all day.

Basketball practice, swim team practice, adult volleyball, wrestling practice, and many other programs



LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP SENIOR CENTER/ OFFICE ON AGING

Lillian Lasalle (Executive Director)

Natasha Pacera (Recreation Leader)

Ron Dziminski (Senior Van Transportation Driver/Clerk)

The Lawrence Senior Center, situated at 30 Darrah Lane East, welcomes residents aged 60 and older to engage in a wide variety of activities. Open from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday, the center is efficiently managed by a dedicated team of full-time staff along with numerous volunteers.

Local residents are highly encouraged to participate in the different programs and social events hosted at the Senior Center, promoting a vibrant and connected community spirit. Transportation services are conveniently available for pickups to the center for activities, shopping, and doctor's appointments whenever feasible.

Serving as a County Nutrition site, the Mercer County nutrition program offers hot lunches to registered seniors throughout the year.



OFFICE ON AGING/SENIOR CENTER

ALLOCATION OF OUR OPERATING EXPENSES BUDGET

The budget for our Office on Aging/Senior Center is dedicated to a diverse range of programs, activities, and services designed to enhance the lives of residents aged 60 and above in Lawrence Township. Below is a breakdown of our key expenditures:

- Office Supplies & Equipment: Copier, toner, and general office supplies.
- Programs & Entertainment: Live music performances, cultural programs, exercise classes, and DJ services
- Food & Refreshments: Catering for events
- Decorations & Supplies: Table covers, floral decorations, and party supplies
- Transportation & Miscellaneous: Transportation for senior outings

This budget allocation ensures the delivery of high-quality programs, the maintenance of well-equipped facilities, and the efficient operation of services that benefit our senior community.



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SENIOR CENTER PROGRAMS

In 2024 the Lawrence Township Senior Center Programs offer a diverse range of engaging activities and events tailored to the interests and well-being of individuals aged 60 and above.

- ACRYLIC ART
- BINGO
- BUSY BEES - KNITTING AND CROCHETING
- HEALTHY COOKING DEMONSTRATIONS AND SAMPLING
- CLUB #1 AND CLUB#2 MEETINGS
- COMPUTER ROOM
- CRAFTS
- COMPUTER TECH HELP
- CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS
- DUPLICATE BRIDGE
- GROUP EXERCISE
- GROUP OUTINGS/FIELD TRIPS -(MUSEUMS, THEATRE PRODUCTIONS, AND NATURE PROGRAMS)
- HEALTHY BONES (2 CLASSES)
- HEALTH DEPARTMENT OUTREACHES
- INTERGENERATIONAL PROGRAMS (SENIOR PROMS (2))
- LINE DANCING (HIP HOP, AND TRADITIONAL)
- MAH-JONGG
- MATTER OF BALANCE (FALLS PREVENTION)
- MEMOIR WRITING
- NATURE WALKS (LED BY STAFF)
- PEOPLE AND STORIES (SHORT STORY READING AND DISCUSSION)
- POETRY
- RELAXATION ROOM (TRANQUILITY, ADULT COLORING, RELAXING MUSIC, PEACEFUL AMBIANCE)
- SCULPTURE CLASS
- SOCIALS/EVENTS (MONTHLY)
- TAI-CHI
- WALKING WITH EASE (FALL PREVENTION AND HEALTH PROMOTION PROGRAM)
- WATER COLOR
- YOGA



2024 SENIOR CENTER SOCIAL EVENTS

- National Popcorn Day Social
- National Puzzle Day Event
- Senior Leadership Breakfast
- Lunch and Learn: Nutrition & Wellness
- Valentine's Day Paint and Sip
- Black History – Music History Program
- Women's' Heart Awareness Wear Red Day
- Lunar & Chinese New Year Program
- Valentine Prize Bingo
- Visit from George Washington (Reenactor)
- Black History Month Social
- Food Safety & Healthy Recipes Series
- Saving Money While Shopping Series
- St. Patrick's Day Social
- Falls Prevention Presentation
- Cornhole
- Father's Day Craft
- Juneteenth Celebration
- Park Photography Walking Group
- Walking with Ease at Colonial Lake

- Connect with Nature Talk
- AARP Safe Driving Program
- Women's History Paint and Sip Event
- People and Stories Reading Group
- Medicare Patrol Fraud Prevention Program
- Poem in a Pocket Social
- Volunteer Appreciation Program/Social
- Taste of Spring Breakfast at PJ's Pancake House
- Connect with Nature Walk – Tulpehaking
- Intergenerational Prom – Notre Dame
- Intergenerational Prom – Lawrence High
- Honoring Mothers Program
- Aging and Mental Health Talk
- Prize Bingo Event
- Memorial Day Parade Participation
- Legal Talk: Estate Planning
- Ice Cream Social
- Elder Abuse Awareness Promotion
- Group Trip to NJ State Museum

- Health Department Senior Outreach
- Dog Day of Summer – Captain Paul's
- Senior Outing to Clover Meadows Picnic
- Computer Camp for Seniors at the Library
- Luau Social
- Technology & Fraud – Lunch and Learn
- Group Trip to Trenton Thunder Ball Game
- 33rd Senior Center Anniversary Program
- Connect with Nature Group Outing
- Nutrition Picnic at Mercer County Park
- Group Outing to Mercer Airport
- Memoir Group Reading & Reception
- Prize Ticket Bingo
- Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration
- Nature Talk with Park Naturalist
- Intergenerational Craft with Zera
- Health Dept. Drive-Thru Flu Clinic
- Fall Foliage Walk

- Lawrence Township Community Day & Festival
- Fall Back in Time – Senior History
- Lunch & Learn: Fraud Seminar
- Lunch & Learn: Medicare Update
- Holiday Crafting
- 100th Birthday Celebration
- Senior Olympics – Trenton YMCA
- Breakfast with the Elves
- Holiday Pizza Party at Post 458
- Medical Assisted Device Clinic
- Group Outing – The Nutcracker
- Flower Arranging Workshop
- In-House New Year's Eve-Eve Social
- In-House Holiday Party – Nutrition
- Evening Holiday Community Concert
- Evening Holiday Site Orchestra Concert

LAWRENCE SENIOR CENTER COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

- NEIGHBOR HELPING NEIGHBORS PROJECT: Seniors handcrafted hats, scarves, and lap blankets for local nursing homes and community organizations.
- LAWRENCEVILLE SCHOOL: Students provide weekly tech help for seniors.
- LAWRENCE COMMUNITY CENTER: Hosts exercise, Tai Chi, and yoga classes to accommodate growing participation.
- COUNTY OF MERCER:
 - Nutrition Site offering weekday lunches, nutrition education, and social services.
 - Collaborates on nature programs, adult protective services, SHIP, legal aid, and a senior trip to Mercer County Airport.
- HENRY J. AUSTIN COMMUNITY CENTER: Health programs like Walk with Ease & Disease Prevention.
- AARP: Tax Prep Assistance & Safe Driving Program.
- GREATER TRENTON YMCA: Weekly senior exercise program & annual Trenton Senior Tap Dancers performance.
- SENIOR SERVICE PROVIDERS: The Office on Aging collaborates with Clover Meadows, The Meadows of Lawrenceville, Lawrence Rehabilitation Hospitals, Hamilton Grove, Capital Health Life, Robert Wood Johnson University Health, Capital Health, Princeton Hospital, and the Sleep & Wellness Center. Together, they offer health screenings, education, fairs, Prize Bingo, pancake breakfasts, Lunch & Learn events, paint & sips, and group outings.
- INTERFAITH CAREGIVERS OF MERCER COUNTY: Referrals for transportation, housekeeping, friendly visits & Healthy Bones Program for osteoporosis support.

LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP SPECIAL EVENTS

The Recreation Department is responsible for the planning, coordination, and execution of a wide array of special activities and events that celebrate and promote Lawrence Township. Each year, these events attract thousands of residents.

We work in close collaboration with various departments and volunteers, and we would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Lawrence Township Recreation Advisory Board, the Lawrence Township Patriotic Committee, the Lawrence Township Public Works, the Lawrence Township Police Department, the Office of Emergency Management, and the Fire Departments for their unwavering support at our events.



SPECIAL EVENTS

ALLOCATION OF OUR OPERATING EXPENSES BUDGET

The Special Events budget is crafted to support vital community gatherings, providing enriching experiences for Township residents. The allocation examples are categorized as follows:

- Miscellaneous Contractual Expenses:
 - Rentals for tables, chairs, inflatables, and children's rides
 - Supplies needed for events
- Food and Refreshments:
 - Catering for events like Memorial Day and Veterans Day
- Other Expenses:
 - Supplies for Memorial Day, including wreaths, portable restrooms, and parade items
 - Band for the fireworks event
 - Entertainment for Community Fun Day

This budget plays a crucial role in ensuring smooth operations while promoting community engagement through well-supported events.



2024

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Colonel Hand March
- Valentine's Day Candlelight Walk
- Lawrence the Leprechaun
- Egg Hunt with LTPD
- Memorial Day Parade
- Hero Park Grand Opening
- Juneteenth Event
- Independence Day Fireworks Celebration
- 9/11 Memorial Service
- Community Fun Day and Food Trucks Festival
- Trunk or Treat
- Halloween House Decorating Contest
- Veterans Day
- Holiday Event and Tree Lighting at Town Hall
- Holiday House Lighting Contest
- Jingle for Joy
- Jolly Trolley Rides

RECREATION, OFFICE ON AGING /SENIOR CENTER AND SPECIAL EVENTS

CONCLUSION

Supporting Our Community

This budget request helps us keep recreation programs, special events, and senior services going strong, giving residents more ways to stay active, connected, and engaged.

Making the Most of Our Budget

With careful planning, we ensure funding goes where it's needed most—maintaining programs and bringing the community together through great events and activities.

Thank you for your time and support!

