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BLOCK PARTIES:

- **Q: My neighborhood wants to have a block party, is a permit required?**
- **A:** Yes, to temporarily close a road for a block party, you need a permit issued by the Municipal Clerk and approved by the Township Committee. There is no charge for the permit but you must submit your application at least 5 weeks prior to the event.

ELECTIONS:

- **Q: How has COVID-19 changed the General Election?**
- **A:** [Please click here for 2020 General Election Information during Covid-19](#)
- **Q: Where do I vote?**
- **A:** [Polling Place Search](#)
- **Q: Voting Map Link?**
- **A:** [Click here to view Voting Map Link](#)
- **Q: How can I register to vote in New Jersey?**
- **A:** You can register online by clicking [here](#). Or you can print and mail this [form](#).
- **Q: I recently moved to Bernards Township, do I need to re-register to vote?**
- **A:** If you moved from another county or state you must re-register. If you moved within the county or have had a name change, you must change your address and name. Please visit our website at www.bernards.org to [download the form](#), or call us at (908) 204-3002.
- **Q: What is the difference between a Primary Election and a General Election?**
- **A:** A [Primary Election](#) is used by political parties to narrow the field of candidates within their party for the general election.

A [General Election](#) is used to choose a winner from all the candidates.
- **Q: Who can vote in the Primary Election?**
- **A:** Any registered voter can vote in the Primary Election; however, that voter must vote for the candidate within their political party affiliation. If a voter is unaffiliated that voter can declare a party affiliation at the polls, then vote for a candidate of their political party.
- **Q: If I declare a political party affiliation, can I change that later?**
- **A:** Yes, you can switch your party affiliation as many times as you would like, or you can undeclare and go back to being “unaffiliated” as long as any changes occurs no later than 55 days prior to a primary.
- **Q: Can I vote for any candidate in the General Election?**
- **A:** Yes, a voter can vote for any candidate in the General Election, regardless of party affiliation.
- **Q: Can I vote for any candidate in the Primary Election?**
- **A:** No, you must vote for a candidate in your party unless you are unaffiliated and wish to “declare” (or) pick a party at the polls.

FUNDRAISING:

- **Q: My organization wants to have a fund raising raffle or 50/50, what do I need to do?**
- **A:** First, your organization must be registered with the State and hold a current registration certificate. If you do not have a current registration certificate, please go to [NJ Division of Legalized Games of Chance Control](#) web site to obtain. When you have a current registration, you then apply to the municipality for each game of chance conducted. Please apply four weeks prior to your event for processing. Click [here](#) for the Raffle Application.
- **Q: Can I submit my fund raising application on-line?**
- **A:** Bernards Township's website enables you to fill out the application on-line by clicking on the raffle application link on the Municipal Clerk's home page. Print out 3 copies, bring notarized copies along with Registration ID and checks to the Municipal Clerk's office
- **Q: My organization is thinking of sponsoring a fund raising event such as a bike race, walk-a-thon, or parade, what do I need to do?**
- **A:** Depending on the size, scope and location of your event, you may need a license for a Special Event Permit issued by the Municipal Clerk and approved by the Township Committee. Applicants must reimburse the township if township staff is required in connection with the event. Applications must be submitted at least 60 days prior to the event.

SOLICITORS:

- **Q: Do all solicitors in Bernards Township need a permit?**
- **A:** Those organizations who are selling goods and services are required to have a solicitor's permit. Certain organizations are not required to have a permit. Charitable Causes, Full-time students selling school related goods or services, or Religious & Public interest groups can solicit without a permit.
- **Q: Are solicitors required to wear a badge?**
- **A:** Yes, all solicitors with a valid solicitor's permit must wear a badge. Each badge is unique and is issued directly from the Bernards Township Municipal Clerk. The badge must always be visible during solicitation.
- **Q: Which organizations currently have active solicitor's permits for 2020?**
- **A:** Priscilla's Pantry LLC,
Alice's Crew Inc. (Bridgeville Ice Cream)
- **Q: Are solicitors required to go through background checks?**
- **A:** Yes, in order to be issued a valid solicitor's permit in Bernards Township, our police department vets all applicants through the use of background checks and fingerprinting.
- **Q: What are the hours of solicitation in town?**
- **A:** Between 10:00 am – 8:00pm Monday – Saturday. No solicitation on Sundays.
For Ice Cream Vendors: Between 8:00am – 9:00pm Monday – Sunday.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE:

- **Q: How can I contact the Township Committee?**
- **A:** The best way to contact the Township Committee is by e-mailing them at townshipcommittee@bernards.org.
- **Q: I can't always attend Township Committee meetings. How can I keep abreast of what is going on?**
- **A:** Township Committee meetings are broadcast live on Cablevision Channel 15 and FIOS Channel 35, and video-streamed live over the township website. After a meeting, video clip links will be integrated to the related township committee agenda on the website.

TOWNSHIP SERVICES:

- **Q: Where can I find a notary?**
- **A:** Notaries are on staff in the Municipal Clerk's Office during normal business hours 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM. Please bring two forms of ID. Standard notary fees apply.
- **Q: How do I obtain a parking permit for the township's commuter parking lots at the Lyons Train Station (off Thomson Way behind the Lyons Shopping Mall), the Basking Ridge Train Station and the Stonehouse Road Bus Lot?**
- **A:** Residents can purchase an electronic permit in the Municipal Clerk's Office.
- **Q: Do I need a decal to park in the NJ Transit's commuter parking lot at Lyons (Cross Road)?**
- **A:** There are a limited number of daily spaces available for which no decal is required. You pay your daily payment at a kiosk on the site. You can also obtain a quarterly hang tag for more frequent use by contacting Park America who maintains the lot (800-523-1026).

UTILITIES:

Q: What utility companies service Bernards Township and how do I contact them?

A: Cable/Internet: **Cablevision** 732-356-1300

Verizon 1-800-837-4966

• **Electric:** JCP&L 800-545-7741

• **Garbage:** K.W.S. 908-903-9031

Midco 800-273-7539

Pinto Brothers - 908-561-8231

Raritan Valley Disposal - 800-342-5783

Gas: PSE&G - 800-436-7734

Water: N.J. American Water Co. 800-652-6987

Recycling: Somerset County 732-469-3363