



BOROUGH OF Tenafly Newsletter

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TENAFLY RESPONDS TO THE LIGHT RAIL DEIS

Northern Branch Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) Released

On December 12, 2011, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and NJ Transit Corporation (NJ Transit) announced the release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Northern Branch Corridor Project (Northern Branch) for review and comment. Copies were made available to public libraries, municipal clerks' offices, and on the internet at <http://northernbranchcorridor.com>. The release of this long awaited document also initiated a 45-day comment period that ran from January 6, 2012 to February 21, 2012.

How Did This Announcement Affect Tenafly?

The announcement stated that, "two project alternatives are under consideration. The Preferred Alternative extends from the existing Hudson-Bergen Light Rail Station in North Bergen, Hudson County, to the boundary of Tenafly and Cresskill, in Bergen County. A second alternative begins at the same location in North Bergen but terminates in southern Englewood, near NJ Route 4. While the project's commuter improvements end in either Englewood or Tenafly, changes to existing freight operations on the Northern Branch line will affect communities along the rail alignment between the respective terminal station and Northvale.

The project will include the replacement of existing tracks within the rail right-of-way with up-graded tracks rated for passenger light rail service and the construction of either nine passenger stations (Preferred Alternative) or five passenger stations (Englewood Route 4 Alternative). The infrastructure necessary to power electric light rail vehicles, including overhead catenary and electrical substations, will also be installed within the existing rail light-of-way or within the footprint of the proposed passenger stations."

What is the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Process?

The EIS process is mandated by the National Environment Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). NEPA regulations govern the environmental review process for projects that may result in significant environmental impacts, to ensure that all significant issues are identified and the full range of alternatives and impacts of the proposed project are addressed. The EIS is part of a process that must be completed for a project to be eligible for federal capital funds. The EIS will identify significant environmental issues in the environmental review process, including thorough consultation with federal, state, and local agencies and from public input.

What Action Did Tenafly Take?

The Tenafly Transportation Committee, acting in conjunction with the Mayor and Council, took immediate steps to undertake an exhaustive analysis of the DEIS and submit a comprehensive response to NJ Transit on behalf of Tenafly by the stated closing date for comments of February 21, 2012. (Continued on Page 4)

From the Desk of the Mayor...

Tenaflly residents have numerous opportunities to get involved with community-wide programs in 2012. Two such opportunities are The Mayors Wellness Campaign and Tenaflly Presents! If you have an interest in serving Tenaflly by assisting in either program, please contact the Mayor's office at 201-568-6100 or prustin@tenaflly.net.

Over 200 New Jersey municipalities are currently participating in The Mayors Wellness Campaign whose mission is to decrease obesity rates and increase the overall health in their communities. By improving the health of New Jersey's citizens it is anticipated that there will be a reduction in our skyrocketing health care costs. Volunteers are needed to help create, promote and support such programs as "Seniorcize" (aerobics for seniors), "Kicking Butt" (giving up cigarettes), and "Walk Wednesdays" (group walks). Together we can bring this program to Tenaflly and help to make our town healthier.

"Tenaflly Presents!" is the committee charged with creating cultural events in Tenaflly, such as concerts in Huyler and Davis-Johnson Parks. In the past art shows have also been successful events. As a member of this committee you will help to improve the cultural atmosphere of Tenaflly starting in the summer of 2012 and hopefully continuing far into the future.

If you have the interest in working in these two areas please contact me at your earliest convenience.

Peter S. Rustin, Mayor

The Tenaflly Public Library & Tenaflly Presents!

We are pleased to offer a free professional piano concert on Sunday, March 11th at 2 pm in the Tenaflly Public Library. The featured artist will be Ms. Iris Perry, who has performed as a soloist and with orchestras throughout Europe and the United States. Ms. Perry will perform a program featuring music by Bach, Beethoven, and Brahms. All are welcome!

SAVE THE DATE

**Independence Day Celebration: Sunday, July 1, 2012—Roosevelt Common
Fun for the Whole Family! (Rain date: July 4th)**

**Annual Fireworks Display: Sunday, July 1, 2012—Tenaflly High School
Colorful & Exciting Entertainment! (Rain date: July 3rd)**



ELECTION INFORMATION

On January 25, 2012, the Tenaflly Board of Education adopted a resolution to move the election of school board members to the General Election in November in accordance with Public Law, P.L. 2011, Chapter 202 (Senate Bill S-3148).

Therefore, the 2012 Election Dates have been revised to the following:

Primary Election: Tuesday, June 5, 2012 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

General Election: Tuesday, November 6, 2012 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The Presidential Primary Election will be held on June 5th. Due to recent legislation, there is no separate primary in February, as in 2008.

Voter Registration forms are available in the Borough Clerk’s Office, Bergen County Superintendent of Election’s Office, or can be downloaded from the NJ Division of Elections’ website: <http://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/voter-registration-application.html>.

Voter Registration forms are required to be completed if you will be 18 years of age for the next election, if you have changed your name, or if you have changed your address. The deadline to file your form is the 21st day before the election. Late Night Voter Registration is held on the 21st day before each election in the Borough Clerk’s office. Announcements will be posted on the Borough website with further information. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Borough Clerk’s Office at 201-568-6100.

MUNICIPAL DIRECTORY

**POLICE, FIRE
AMBULANCE
EMERGENCIES
9-1-1**

**Police Department
Non-Emergency
201-568-5100**

**Borough Hall
100 Riveredge Road**

Main 201-568-6100

- Mayor Ext. 5535
- Administrator Ext. 5502
- Assessor Ext. 5531
- Clerk’s Office Ext. 5544
- Property Code Ext. 5506
- Construction Ext. 5505
- Fire Prevention Ext. 5566
- Health Office Ext. 5511
- Library Main Desk Ext. 5579
- Planning Board Ext. 5501
- Recreation Ext. 5515
- Tax Office Ext. 5533
- Violation Bureau Ext. 5540
- Zoning Board Ext. 5454

**Public Works
107 Grove Street
201-568-4134**

**Recycling Center
153 Grove Street
201-541-7325**

**Senior Citizens Center
20 South Summit Street
201-569-2159**

**Youth Center
100 Riveredge Road
201-567-7579**

**Recreation Office
100 Riveredge Road
201-871-3008**

PAY YOUR PROPERTY TAXES ON LINE

Go to: <http://www.tenafllynj.org>

On the right side of the page, scroll down to **IMPORTANT LINKS** and click on **Pay Your Taxes on Line**

Follow the instructions...It’s quick and easy!

OTHER IMPORTANT BOROUGH WEBSITE FEATURES:

- Borough News • Events • Calendars**
- New Residents Information • Register to Vote**
- Volunteer for Tenaflly • Open Public Records Act**
- Online Municipal Forms • Borough Code • How Do I?**

Join Our Mailing Lists to Receive Automatic E-mail Updates

The Borough diligently prepared for the eventual release of this document by contracting with a consulting firm to prepare a written response within the anticipated 45-day DEIS review period. The planning consultant team of Urbana Consulting and Sam Schwartz Engineering was contracted to address several aspects of the process including direct contact with NJ Transit, coordination among Tenafly's review participants, development of public information, legislative interaction, a thorough technical review of the transportation and traffic engineering elements of the proposed project, and the preparation of the Borough's formal response to NJ Transit and the FTA. A summary timeline of Borough activities is provided in the table below:

Dates	Activities
December 13, 2011	Posted NJ Transit DEIS release announcement & document link on borough website
December 15, 2011	Convened a coordination meeting with Urbana for Transportation Committee Session Prep.
December 20, 2011	Convened Transportation Committee's DEIS Review Kick-off Meeting
December 22, 2011	Published DEIS Review process & meeting dates in a Press Release
December 22-31, 2011	Maintained regular website updates of local DEIS news items over the holidays
January 1-12, 2012	Transportation Committee coordination, document review, idea & opinion exchanges
January 5, 2012	Public meeting to receive comments & plan the Borough's response content prioritization
January 12, 2012	Public meeting to receive comments & refine the Borough's responses to specific issues
January 13 - 23, 2012	Consolidated comments submitted to the Committee and planned a press conference
January 24, 2012	Conducted a Press Conference on the DEIS at the Tenafly Train Station
January 24-26, 2012	Participated in four NJ Transit DEIS Public Hearings in Tenafly & Englewood
Jan 27 - Feb 12, 2012	Extensive media exposure in newspapers, radio & television; Mayoral interviews
February 1, 2012	Convened a Transportation Committee work session to draft the formal response
February 2-9, 2012	Prepared & received draft response w/ incorporated comprehensive technical analyses
February 10-12, 2012	Responded to first draft and received 2 nd draft for Committee Review
February 13, 2012	Mayor and Council reviewed and approved the draft DEIS response for final submission
February 14-17, 2012	Consultant to prepare and disseminate formal response to NJ Transit & other parties
February 21, 2012	End of 45-day DEIS review and comment period to NJ Transit

Is There More Information?

Yes there is! The entire document is too extensive to reprint in this publication. We have only inserted the seven-page main letter. The main letter begins on page 5 of this edition. To see the full text of the Borough's response, which includes additional detailed traffic analysis of impacts and possible mitigation actions, please visit the Borough's website at tenaflynj.org and use the link on the homepage under Tenafly News and Information. **Appendix A** provides more detail on traffic mitigation measures in the DEIS, and **Appendix B** covers Supplemental Issues not covered in the main letter. The document is also linked to the Transportation Committee's webpage listed under Boards & Committees.

What Happens Next?

After February 21, NJ Transit staff and their consulting engineers will review all of the oral and written comments received during the 45-day official period. They will categorize the comments by geographic area (e.g., near which proposed station location) as well as noting the source of each one. Some of the comments that raise new issues not anticipated in the DEIS will require further analysis and study. After NJT analysis is complete, the agency will begin to formulate the policy decisions to be reflected in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). Project Director Linda Mosch committed at the public hearings to meet with each impacted municipality, in the format they request, to discuss the key policy points before NJT finalizes the FEIS. The timing of all these steps is not known, but likely at least 4-6 months will elapse before NJT is ready to meet with the communities.

The Recipient of Tenafly's Formal Response Letter to NJ Transit is: Ms. Linda A. Mosch, P.E., Project Director, Northern Branch Corridor EIS Capital Planning & Programs, located at: NJ TRANSIT, One Penn Plaza East, Newark, NJ 07105.

Dear Ms. Mosch:

This letter provides the Borough of Tenafly's official comments concerning the findings of the Northern Branch Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). It elaborates upon remarks delivered by Tenafly officials at the NJ Transit public hearings held in late January 2012 in Tenafly and Englewood.

Attachment A provides more detail on traffic mitigation measures in the DEIS, and Appendix B covers Supplemental Issues not covered in the main letter text which immediately follows.

Tenafly's Overall Position

While generally supportive of mass transit improvements in Northern New Jersey, the Borough of Tenafly strongly opposes any construction of the Northern Branch light rail line within the Borough's corporate limits.

This position was determined through public referendum on November 2, 2010 when residents voted 2271 to 1183 against restoration of light rail within the Borough and reiterated through Municipal Council Resolution #R11-84 approved February 15, 2011. A copy of the Council's certifying resolution is appended at the end of this document.

However, the Borough does support provision of sensible mass transit within Bergen County, and has no objection to the DEIS option which terminates the light rail project at Englewood Route 4.

Arguments in Opposition to Restoring Passenger Rail in Tenafly

The proposed plan of five grade crossings and two stations would cause significant and disproportionate impacts that Tenafly would have to absorb under the proposed light rail line configuration. Unlike most other municipalities along the line, NJ Transit's passenger rail plan would divide the central business district and the entire developed area of the Borough, which includes the central business district.

TRAFFIC: Plan would create repeated traffic back-ups when a train passes every 6 minutes during peak hours. (page 9-3)

It would provide 2 intersections with a failing F grade even after NJT-proposed mitigation is completed. (pages 9-26, 9-28 and 9-39 – all page references refer to the DEIS or its Appendices)

Tenafly Borough contains 14 of 37 significantly impacted intersections, more than North Bergen, Ridgefield, Palisades Park and Leonia combined. (page 9-6)

Tenafly Borough contains 2 of 4 intersections that fail after mitigation. (page 9-40)

This increased traffic in Tenafly will cause localized air pollution in the low lying areas of town, which will lessen any pollution benefits achieved by the light rail in other towns.

GRADE CROSSINGS – SCHOOL SAFETY: Proposed service requires 5 improved grade crossings, the most of any town except Englewood; these crossings are all within 0.62 mile of each other. (page 3-12)

Page 8-20 states that "study area schools include 6 public schools and 4 private schools. Public elementary schools approximately one-half mile from the right-of-way include MacKay Elementary School at 111 Jefferson Avenue and J. Spencer Smith Elementary School at 101 Downey Drive. Maugham Elementary School on Magnolia Avenue and Stillman Elementary School on Tenafly Road are 1,300 feet and 1,000 feet, respectively, from the right-of-way. Tenafly Middle School on Sunset Lane serves students in grades 6 through 8 and is 1,000 feet from the right-of-way. The Tenafly Senior High School on Columbus Drive has a student population of 1,100 and is approximately 1,000 feet from the right-of-way. Private schools within the study area include the Spring School Montessori on North Summit Avenue and the Temple Sinai School at 1 Engle Street just north of the Tenafly-Englewood municipal boundary. Our Lady of Mount Carmel School and the Lubavitch School of the Palisades are both located within 200 feet of the right-of-way."

The project would exacerbate Borough-wide school traffic patterns and compromise the safety of students attending 6 public and 4 private schools. Students would need to cross the tracks at 5 grade crossings. Middle and High School students living on the east side of town would all need to cross the unguarded, unfenced rail line to get to school. (page 8-20)

GRADE CROSSINGS – EMS RESPONSE: Page 22-1 states that “the rail alignment north of Englewood Route 4 Station, which includes the remainder of Englewood and all of Tenafly, bisects the municipalities, with emergency responders located west of the right-of-way. Increased rail activity will affect the accessibility of grade crossings, which may result in increased response time for emergency responders accessing areas east of the right-of-way.

NJ TRANSIT will coordinate with all local jurisdictions along the corridor and Hudson and Bergen Counties to develop physical and operational measures to mitigate the potential for emergency service access issues.”

This type of ambiguity is inappropriate and inadequate for inclusion in the DEIS for a project of this magnitude.

LOSS OF DOWNTOWN PARKING: Project proposes to remove 50 Downtown parking spaces and would not provide the 40 new spaces NJT believes are required for the Tenafly Center Station. (page 9-37)

40 new spaces are woefully inadequate to support Downtown light rail ridership forecasted by NJ Transit to average 1,315 passengers/weekday.

Material shared with Tenafly in August 2009 stated that riders to the Tenafly Town Center Station would arrive by: Bus (39%); Walk/Bike (37%); Drop-off (18%); Carpool (3%) and Parkers (3%). The Borough believes the assumptions for bus and walk/bike are too high and that for parkers it is significantly too low.

LOCAL REVENUE IMPACT: Project would Tenafly’s reduce tax base by \$8.9 million in equalized value; the Borough estimates a loss of local tax revenue of \$186,000/year based on 2011 data. This approaches 1% of the municipal budget at a time when the state 2% cap is in effect. (page D-3)

ECONOMIC IMPACT: Tenafly is the only community with residential takings. Five residential units would be eliminated. Additionally, 6 businesses with 85 employees would be evicted from their current locations. (page 5-1)

USE OF OLD, OUT-DATED DATA: DEIS traffic projections were based on 10-year old data (2002) “validated or adjusted” to “approximate existing conditions for the year 2006”. This point is expanded upon in Appendix A. (page 9-4)

FAILURE TO MEET PROJECT’S GOALS: Pages 2-2 through 2-4 express goals and objectives which include: Improve travel time and reduce roadway congestion. Point-to-point travel times from Tenafly to Manhattan will be higher with proposed light rail compared with existing commuter bus; and roadway congestion will be increased in Tenafly along with restoration of passenger rail service. Additionally, the goal to attract growth and support development in Bergen County would not be realized in Tenafly because of the negative impacts the line would have on the Borough’s central business district.

DEIS OMITTS KEY DOCUMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS such as Borough Resolution #R11-84 and letters from Police Chief Michael Bruno; this omission tends to position Tenafly as being less supportive of public transportation. Chief Bruno recalls that transit officials first promised to get back to him to answer his questions and then later stated that all the answers would be contained in the DEIS. However, most of his questions were never answered in the document.

Contingencies if Line Constructed Over Tenafly Opposition

The Borough pledges to consider all available options to defeat restoration of light rail within Tenafly including, but not limited to, taking of legal action to prevent its construction.

Should the line be built over the Borough’s objections, Tenafly will strongly insist that any approval be conditioned upon incorporation of all of the following mitigation:

ROADWAY MITIGATION: Tenafly requests increased roadway mitigation through improvements to traffic circulation and pedestrian movements in the Central Business District. Mitigation needs to separate “through” CBD traffic from “to” CBD traffic by encouraging through traffic to use County and Jay/Riveredge so as not to add congestion to the center of the business district.

It should include provision of traffic calming measures and pedestrian amenities at Washington Crossing and along Highwood Avenue to make this area more pedestrian-friendly and construction of two pedestrian plazas along Piermont on either side of Washington Crossing. More details will be provided in the written testimony to be submitted in February.

NJT’s proposed mitigation at County Road/Clinton Avenue/Piermont Avenue intersection does not satisfactorily address the safety concern of Clinton Avenue eastbound as it merges with County Road southbound. The merging of the two heavy movements along a curve and within a very short distance is unacceptable. More detail covering each intersection is provided in Appendix A.

DOWNTOWN PARKING: The Borough advocates for the creation of a parking garage of at least 300 spaces in the vicinity of Tenafly Town Center Station to restore 50 lost spaces and provide at least 250 new ones to complement the light rail service. The Borough’s mass transit consultant recommends that 200-250 new parking spaces be provided to support this level of projected downtown ridership.

TENAFLY NORTH PARKING DECK: Tenafly notes that the DEIS provides for constructing parking decks at several higher ridership stations such as Leonia and Englewood Route 4. The Borough would support a shared use parking deck constructed at Tenafly North Station to reduce the proposed “sea of cars” now planned for this station. The deck could also assist in anchoring adjacent transit-oriented development.

FENCING: Tenafly requests that NJ Transit provide fencing to protect the tracks adjacent to key crossings, existing school “short-cuts” and at selected other areas. An example would be to fence the area between Tenafly High School and Piermont Diner where students regularly congregate.

TRAINING & EQUIPMENT FOR FIRST RESPONDERS: Page 8-2 of the DEIS states that “the NJ Transit Police Department serves more than 400,000 commuters that use the NJ Transit system on a daily basis. The Department consists of approximately 244 sworn officers and 61 non-sworn members.” When you divide these numbers by three shifts and subtract supervisory and specialized police personnel, the statewide force in the field is extremely lean. NJ Transit Police Chief Trucillo recently confirmed this point in the press stating that “NJ Transit’s police force is stretched so the agency will be looking to local police departments to enforce trespassing laws on railroad tracks.” Accordingly, first responders in most communities including Tenafly will be local Police, Fire and EMS personnel.

Tenafly advocates that all first responders be trained in safety aspects of electric catenary power and in techniques for entering into a closed train car that has derailed or otherwise become part of a critical accident. Such training should be completed prior to opening of the line with funding provided to compensate local responders for their training time. Additionally, first responders should be provided on site in Tenafly specialized capital equipment to enable them to save lives during accidents and other incidents. This would include the ability to override electric traction power and operate crossing gates in the event of an emergency.

PROTECTION FOR HISTORIC STATION: Tenafly requests adequate protection for and attention to our historic Tenafly Train Station. NJT should minimize vibration to its structure and provide catenary pole supports, signals and signage especially selected to be compatible with the historic character of this architectural jewel.

NOISE & VIBRATION ABATEMENT: Tenafly will recommend specific track sections for noise and vibration abatement to involve strategic planting of shrubs and trees, noise walls and/or other appropriate measures.

Signal warnings at each protected grade crossing should be loud enough for distracted students and the visually-impaired to hear, but not so loud as to disturb surrounding businesses and residents.

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE: Tenafly requests that video cameras be installed at station platforms and parking facilities so they can be monitored locally by the Tenafly Police Department.

If passenger rail service is restored only as far north as Englewood Route 4, the Borough notes the following:

The DEIS identifies that the “number of north-south roadways should sufficiently absorb the increase in traffic” and “the grade crossings in Tenafly would not be affected by the project”. The Borough’s traffic engineering consultant believes that several critical north-south roadways, intersections and grade crossings within Tenafly will be affected by the increase in traffic associated with the light rail station in Englewood at Route 4. Accordingly, the following intersections must be evaluated by NJ Transit for potential impact in this scenario:

- County Road/East Clinton Avenue/Piermont Road
- East Clinton Avenue/Dean Drive/New Street
- Engle Street/Clinton Avenue
- Tenafly Road/Clinton Avenue
- County Road and Highwood Avenue

Continued on the Back Page

Tenaflly Recycling Center
153 Grove Street
201-568-4134



HOURS OF OPERATION

Friday through Monday – 7:45 am – 3:00 pm
Tuesday – Closed
Wednesday and Thursday – 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

UPCOMING HOLIDAY CLOSURES:

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS CLOSED FOR HOLIDAYS

Friday, April 6, 2012
Monday, May 28, 2012

RECYCLING CENTER CLOSED FOR HOLIDAYS

Sunday April 8, 2012
Monday, May 28, 2012

TIRES/ ELECTRONICS/COMPUTERS RECYCLING:

Sunday, April 29, 2012

Bergen County Community Services Building
327 East Ridgewood Avenue
Paramus, NJ
Hours: 9:00am to 2:00pm – rain or shine.

By achieving the Bronze level of certification with Sustainable Jersey, it shows that the Borough has taken the first significant step on the long road toward sustainability.

One of the programs the Green Team is considering as we try to achieve the next level, is anti-idling education and enforcement. Many of us do it, but are unaware of our actions or their impact on the air quality. New Jersey’s Air Pollution Control Act, which has been effective since 1985 and updated in 2007, states that no motor vehicle (diesel or gas fueled) may have its engine running, if stopped, for more than three (3) consecutive minutes. Some noteworthy facts are:

- Idling more than 10 seconds uses more fuel than stopping and restarting the car’s engine.
- Car idling degrades air quality and the environment. Car tailpipes emit carcinogens and other toxins.
- Children are especially vulnerable to air pollution since they breathe faster than adults and inhale more air per pound of body weight (up to 50%). Plus their smaller sizes put them closer to the tailpipe level. Add to that these small elementary school children usually are excited and running to their cars.
- Unnecessary idling can occur when:
 - Dropping off and especially picking up children from school
 - Warming up the vehicle in winter
 - Cooling the vehicle in summer
 - Waiting at drive-through windows or gas stations
 - Stopping to use a cell phone
 - Picking someone up
 - Behaving out of habit

If you are interested being a part of Sustainable Jersey, please contact Bob Beutel at 201-568-4134.

GRASS & LAWN MAINTENANCE – CUT IT AND LEAVE IT.

As the days lengthen and the smell of fresh-cut grass fills the air, this year it's time to save time and money (less fertilizer and less water) with lawn care by simply acting to **cut it and leave it**. During the height of the growing season grass clippings can account for as much as one-third of the solid waste generated. A 5,000 square foot lawn will produce 2,000 pounds (one ton) of grass clippings. By leaving grass clippings on the lawn when mowed, you are letting nature do the recycling for you. This is better for your lawn and our environment.

Here's How to Cut it and Leave it

To maintain your lawn properly, do not cut more than the top third of your lawn so the small clippings will filter down to the soil. Since these clippings will provide a natural fertilizer, your lawn will be healthier. Most lawns grow well when they are mowed to about 2 to 3 inches high. The tall grass will shade the soil and cool the grass roots, resulting in a healthier lawn.

Thatch is not a result of grass clippings but is formed from the accumulation of dead roots and stems. The more you fertilize and water your lawn, the faster it grows and the faster thatch accumulates.

So let's practice best turf management, either personally or through our landscapers!

Licensed landscapers in Tenafly will receive information on this initiative

HELP SPREAD THE WORD - BUT NOT THE FERTILIZER!

On **January 5, 2011**, Governor Chris Christie signed into law the most restrictive fertilizer content standards in the nation for nitrogen and phosphorus. The law also requires specific fertilizer application practices. These standards and practices will help reduce pollution from nutrients in all of New Jersey's waters.

According to New Jersey's fertilizer law, as of **November 15, 2011** residents could not apply fertilizers containing nitrogen or phosphorus to their lawns until **March 1, 2012**. Commercial fertilizer applicators were required to complete their customer service cycle of late fall nitrogen or phosphorus fertilization by **December 1, 2011**. Fertilizer containing nitrogen or phosphorus could not be applied onto lawns again until **March 1, 2012**.

Effective **January 5, 2012**, all professional applicators are required to undergo training and become certified through the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station at Rutgers University. The test became available as of **February 3, 2012**.

Effective **January 5, 2013**, all fertilizer products for turf must contain at least 20 percent slow-release nitrogen, and zero phosphorus unless a soil test demonstrates a need for more.

For more information on the New Jersey's fertilizer law visit, www.nj.gov/dep/healthylawnshealthywater/



313 Hudson Avenue, Tenafly
201-568-6093

March

- 4: Guided Nature Walk
- 4, 11: Maple Sugaring
- 17: Nature Story Hour
- 18: **2012 Annual Dinner**
- 24: Family Frog Watch
- 24: Seasonal Campfire
- 31: Lost Brook Trail Race

April

- 1: Guided Nature Walk
- 6: Full Moon Hike
- 9-13: Spring Break Camp
- 14: Eggs Bunnydict
- 14: Scavenger Hunt
- 21/22: **Earth Day Weekend**
- Nature Story Hour
- Wildflower Walk
- Seasonal Volunteer Day
- Earth Day Walk
- Party for the Planet
- Fiber Art: Making Felt Fabric
- 28: Terrific Trees

May

- 12: NJ Goes Native (at PIP)
- 13: Mothers Day Hike
- 19: Spring Bird Walk
- 20: Bats for Beginners
- 26: Natural Henna Workshop
- 27: Nature and Birding Walk

The Tenafly Nature Center is an independent, non-profit member-supported nature preserve. Our mission is to protect almost 400 wooded acres, all of its inhabitants and teach the next generations to do the same.

To become a 2012 Tenafly Nature Center member or to register for a program, please visit

www.tenaflynaturecenter.org

Trails are open 365 days a year from dawn to dusk. Visitor Center hours: 9–5pm Monday–Friday and weekends from 11am–4pm (except major holidays).

Tenafly Nature Center 2012 Annual Dinner

On Sunday, March 18th, at 5:30 p.m., Tenafly Nature Center's Board of Trustees will host an Annual Dinner at The Clinton Inn, Tenafly. Senator Frank Lautenberg will receive the Nature Center's highest honor, the Founder's Award for Conservation. Bergen County resident, Senator Lautenberg has consistently been an effective leader and advocate for the environment, preserving open space, protecting our drinking water and greening our buildings. Tenafly resident Lori Stokes was named Honorary Dinner Chair. Lori is co-anchor of *Eyewitness News This Morning* and *Eyewitness News at Noon* on WABC-TV. Joining Lori, as event committee Chair, is Tenafly resident and Nature Center advocate, Mary Beth Wilmit. Cocktail reception begins at 5:30 p.m. followed by an auction and dinner. **For sponsorships/ad journal advertising and ticket information** please contact Lesley Whyard, 201-568-6093, or visit: www.tenaflynaturecenter.org.

Coyotes Q&A

What do coyotes look like?

Coyotes have wide, pointed ears, and a long, thin snout, and weigh 30-50 pounds. They look similar to German Shepherds, but unlike dogs, their tails stay down when walking or running. You can tell it is not a wolf because there are no wolves in NJ.

How many coyotes live at the Tenafly Nature Center?

Coyotes have been spotted and heard at TNC on occasion. But the nature center is much too small to fully support the roaming and dining habits of even one coyote year round. A number of coyotes do pass through the nature center, as well as through other back yards and neighborhoods in the area. They are not generally dangerous to hikers.



Are coyotes dangerous?

We have lived mostly peacefully with coyotes for the past 100 years. In the past 10 years there have been a few reported attacks on people in New Jersey. Without coyotes, or other top predators, the population of rodents could explode. Coyotes live in every county in NJ; it would be nearly impossible to eliminate them.

What are coyotes good for?

Coyotes are beneficial to the environment and to people. As a top predator in our natural ecosystem, they help control small mammal and deer populations. This benefits people since rodents and deer can be carriers of ticks with Lyme disease, so in this sense coyotes reduce the spread of the disease.

Can we get rid of them?

It is nearly impossible to wipe out Coyotes. They have proven to be quite elusive-remember the wily coyote! Even if coyotes, or any species, were eradicated from NJ or hunted to extinction there are often unforeseen negative consequences to our ecosystems that will result.

What do I do if I encounter a coyote?

Coyotes are naturally afraid of people. This is healthy both for us and the coyote. In order to encourage coyotes to remain wild, you can raise your arms, yell, stomp, spray water from a hose, use an air horn, and throw sticks or rocks. Don't run (prey behavior) and don't stare it down.

If you have any questions about coyotes, deer or other wildlife, please contact Jennifer Kleinbaum, Executive Director at 201-568-6093

ADA COMMITTEE SUPPORTS PLAYGROUNDS FOR ALL...

Tenaflly is in the process of evaluating the design, features, and condition of its existing playgrounds in order to improve their accessibility and enjoyment by all of our children. The Committee's hope is to create parks that welcome all age groups and abilities, and addresses the needs of the physically and developmentally challenged, as well as providing an enriched play experience for all children.

The Borough has approved a proposal from Maser Consulting, the Borough Engineer, to perform an assessment of the Borough's seven existing playground facilities for accessibility according to guidelines established by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Features that will be examined include: safety, grading, drainage, points of entry, circulation, and other operational characteristics. The report will also identify specific repairs and modifications required at each site. The sites include: Roosevelt Common, Froggy Park, Sunnyside, Walnut, Davis-Johnson, Huyler Park, and the Churchill Nature Preserve. Each facility report will contain a suggested priority list of work to be performed based on the level of safety or compliance that is affected.

The Public Works Director and Borough Engineer will meet with the ADA Committee during the assessment process to obtain their input. The ADA Committee's next meeting is scheduled for March 21st at 7:30 PM at Borough Hall in the Wilson Committee Room. For more information about the ADA Committee, contact Rebecca Moldover, Co-chair, at moldover@aol.com.



TENAFLY WELCOME! COMMITTEE

Annual Maple Sugaring Event



The Tenaflly Welcome! Committee, in collaboration with the Tenaflly Nature Center, is inviting new residents to learn about Maple Sugaring at the Nature Center on March 18th from 2-3 PM. Did you know that the Tenaflly Nature Center offers a free one year membership to new residents? Come to the March 18th event to find out more, call the Nature Center directly at 201-569-2266 or visit www.tenafllynaturecenter.org. We hope to see you there.

This March, the Tenaflly Welcome! Committee will once again be asking local businesses for their support. The committee could not run without the support of the Borough of Tenaflly and local Tenaflly Businesses. When the letter from the Welcome! Committee arrives, please open it. Residents, look for stickers at local businesses that show they are Tenaflly Welcome! Committee supporters.

The Welcome! Committee is run by a group of dedicated volunteers, but we need your help. If you are interested in volunteering for the committee, please contact us through borough hall or the web site. We look forward to meeting you and seeing you around town. Welcome to Tenaflly. It's a great place to live.

WINNERS OF THE WINTER POEM CONTEST

The Cold

Christina Xiao-T.H.S

He wraps me up in a frigid bliss,
Tickling my ears with his frozen fingers.
He nips at my nose, leaving a glowing pink kiss,
Yet the warmth in my chest still lingers.

He dashes through the snow, whipping the clear,
artic air.
Leaving my cheeks red and burning bright.
He caresses my face, runs his finger through my
hair,
And pushes my breath, wispy and white.

His hands are cold, engulfing and numbing
mine,
Siphoning the last drops of heat.
Our fingers entwine, aligned in a line,
Chilling me to the toes of my feet

I love the bitter cold I feel with him here,
Such a pity I only feel it once a year.



Winter is Fun

Skyler Salk-Smith School

Winter is fun
But there is no fun

I like to ride in a sled
And I am glad I don't hit my head

I like to pile snow up so high
Maybe it will touch the sky

Snowball fights are really fun
I like to play til the day is done.

Snow's Disguise

Camryn Bolkin-T.M.S.

Tiny stars are falling down,
spreading out upon the ground.

Diamonds scatter, sparkling, bright
adding to the endless white.

I hold my tongue out far to catch
A single flake picked from the batch.

It truly does taste truly sweet,
To lick some of the frozen treat.

Of sugar that can simply rain
Right down across this cold terrain.

The moon is shining quite a glow
on what is trying to pass as snow.

Casting almost a grayish hue,
it doesn't seem to have a clue.

That this is not a winter scene,
But something pulled from an icy dream.

Step through tiny shards of glass
Amazed at how they seem to pass.

As what they so are clearly not,
Honestly, who would have thought

That seemingly only I do know
That this is too gorgeous to be snow.

Winter Wonderland

Julia Rosenstein-Mackay School

I like winter it is fun
For everyone

I stick my tongue out to eat some snow
Then I make a snow angel and add a bow

I build a snowman with a pipe and a hat
Then I go sleigh riding on a mat

Hot cocoa is so so so yummy
I like it when it goes to my tummy

WINNERS OF THE WINTER POEM CONTEST

The Snowball Fight

Alexandra Yanowitz-Maugham School

I step outside
And feel alive

The touch of snow on my skin
Makes me grin

The sound of giggles-
a snowball is thrown
I run fast and flee on my own

Who dares strike me in a snowball fight?
I'll get them I vow, with all my might.

I hide behind a tree
And spot my sister running free

I make my own ball
And then give her a call

She looks round the place
The ball lands on her face

Got you I say! I'm the winner today.



Horseback Riding in the Snow

Cecilia Gutierrez-Stillman School

Horseback riding in the snow,
What fun it is to ride

Run and jump, have lots of fun,
Lots of fun outside.

Horseback riding in the snow,
What fun it is to ride,

“Look!” you say, “the snow’s beautiful!”
It brings you so much pride.

Horseback riding in the snow,
What a fun trend,

We’ve run, we’ve jumped,
I guess all good things must come to an end.

TENAFLY TEEN CENTER SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION

The Tenafly Youth Services will host the 11th Annual Tenafly Teen Summer Camp for students entering the 6th – 10th grade. This year’s seven-week camp will start on June 26, 2012 and ends on August 10, 2012. The Teen Summer Camp features 14 trips to amazing attractions like Great Adventure, Mountain Creek, Catamount Adventure Park as well as going to the Yankees and the Mets baseball games. The new trip this year is the Beast, a 30 minute speedboat ride on the Hudson and lunch at Ellen’s Stardust Café. The Teen Summer Camp offers four programs: (1) a seven-week program; (2) four-week program, (3) your choice of weeks; a weekly program and (4) a trip only program as well as two periods to save money. Currently you can save up to \$600 if you sign up before May 1, 2012.

Weekly price includes all trips during the weeks you attend. Tenafly Teen Summer Camp Fees:

Dates	Feb 1 – Apr 30	May 1 – June 25	After June 25
Seven-weeks	\$850.00	\$1200.00	\$1400.00
Four-weeks	\$600.00	\$950.00	\$1100.00
One-week	\$250.00	\$525.00	\$775.00
Trip Only	\$65.00	\$85.00	\$100.00

To find out more information stop by the Youth Center or call us at 201-567-7579.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS — Mark Your Calendar

NATURALIZATION/CITIZENSHIP INFORMATION SESSION

Tuesday, February 14 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Conducted by staff from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services intended for legal permanent residents (green card holders) and others interested in official naturalization and citizenship process.

ELEPHANTS IN ITALY? Tuesday, March 13 1:00 p.m.

Join *Lorraine Matys* for a slide/lecture tour of historic Sicily.

COLORADO ROCKIES Tuesday, April 17 1:00 p.m.

Award-winning nature and art photographer *Fred Dammont* will present a photographic essay on slides.

DIXIELAND JAZZ CONCERT Sunday, April 29 2:00 p.m.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Tenafly Library

ONGOING PROGRAMS

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION GROUP—Meets the first Thursday of the month @ 7:30 p.m. in the Friends Room. Upcoming dates: Feb. 2 - *Of Personal Identity* by David Hume; March 1 - *Thus Spoke Zarathustra* by Friedrich Nietzsche; April 5—*The Inferno* by Dante Alighieri.

FOREIGN POLICY DISCUSSION GROUP—Meets on the first Monday of the month @ 7:30 p.m. in the Friends Room. Discussions are nonpartisan and are usually based on articles from *Great Decisions*, a publication of the Foreign Policy Association, and from *Foreign Affairs* and other current publications. Upcoming dates: February 6, March 5, April 2, May 7, June 4

POETRY CIRCLE—Meets the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Friends Room. The Poetry Circle meets to share the original poetry of circle members and the works of favorite poets. Upcoming dates: February 9; March 8; April 12; May 10, June 7.

EVENING BOOK GROUP — Meets monthly on Thursday evenings at 7:15 p.m. Pick up the current month's discussion title at the circulation desk. Upcoming meeting dates: February 16, March 29, April 19, May 17.

BOOK SALE— The Library maintains an ongoing book sale in the alcove to the right of the front entrance. Due to space considerations, donations are limited to one box or bag at a time. The next large scale book sale is tentatively planned for the spring of 2013.

NEW SPECIAL OFFERINGS

MANGO LANGUAGES is offered online from home. You need your Tenafly Public Library card barcode. Visit the Tenafly Public Library website: tenafly.bccls.org. Click on links. Scroll down and click on: Language Links. The Library also has an extensive collection of *Pimsleur* language learning kits on compact disc for borrowing.

MUSEUM PASS PROGRAM for Tenafly Residents —Allows resident Tenafly Public Library card holders to visit area museums for free. Choose from The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, the Children's Museum of Manhattan and the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum Complex. Please call the Library's circulation desk for details.



CHILDREN'S ROOM

WINTER BEDTIME STORIES for all ages — Mondays at 6:00 p.m. Through March 5.

TENAFLY NATURE CENTER RAPP'N with RAPTORS - February 23 @ 11:00 a.m.

READ TO DOGS— 201-568-8680 to reserve time

Visit the Children's Room blog @ <http://tenaflylibrary.blogspot.com> for further information.

Exhibits

Edna Kawulitzki Gallery

February & March

Japanese Scrolls

Library Hours

MONDAY	10 – 9
TUESDAY	10 – 9
WEDNESDAY	10 – 5
THURSDAY	10 – 9
FRIDAY	10 – 5
SATURDAY	10 – 5
SUNDAY	12 – 4

Closed Sundays
In June, July, August

Library

Holiday Closings

Presidents' Day

Monday Feb. 20

Good Friday

Friday April 06

Easter

Sunday April 08

Visit us

on the web:

tenafly.bccls.org
www.tenaflynj.org

Contact us

by phone:

201-568-8680

TSC - Leisure and Learning for Individuals 55 and Over

The Senior Center offers 30 different programs each week including:

Art Classes: Drawing, Watercolor and Chinese Brush Painting.

Dance Classes: Line, tap, ballroom and folk dancing

Language classes: Spanish and Italian lessons

Card Games: Bridge, Canasta, Bingo

Discussion Group and Weekly Movies

Speakers and monthly luncheons

Craft Classes

Chess

Exercise classes: Body and Brain, Stretch and Tone, Zumba Gold, and Osteoporosis, Tai Chi, Qi Gong, & Chair Yoga.

***The classes and luncheons listed below require pre-registration and space is limited. Please contact the Center for more details. Please refer to the town website or call for a monthly newsletter for details on all programs and special events.**

Highlighted Special Events for the February through April

March 8th – **Dizziness** is a major problem for many seniors. Dr. Terri Katz, a renowned board-certified Geriatrician and Medical Director of PM&R's Center for Dynamic Aging, will speak about the effects of dizziness and how those afflicted may take an active approach in addressing this problem.

March 15th – **St. Patrick's Day Luncheon***

March 22nd – **Management of Shoulder Pain** – Presentation by **Dr. Juliana Khowong** who will discuss the symptoms of common shoulder issues and introduce non-operative ways to treat the pain.

March 16th and 23rd - **AARP Safe Driving Program** – This four-hour program will help you fine tune your driving skills and save money on your insurance costs.*

April 12th - **“What Do the Different Titles of the Romantic Composers Mean”** Join us for a special program by Carolyn Enger, Teacher and Concert Pianist

April 13th – **“ARTifacts”** This outreach program from the Morris Museum uses objects from its collection to discover how to appreciate fine and decorative art objects using a four-step art critique.

April 26th – **Spring luncheon** with entertainment by the Garden State Harmonica Club*.

May 17th – **Identify Theft** – Protect yourself! A presentation by Sandy Grossman from the New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicles

May 31st – **Unclaimed Property** – Are you entitled to property you are not aware of? Presentation by Linda Henderson from the State of New Jersey Department of the Treasury The above classes and luncheons require pre-registration and space is limited. Please contact the Center for more details. Please refer to the town website or call for a monthly newsletter for details on all programs and special events.

Travel Opportunities

March 8th – **Philadelphia Flower Show**. \$ 52.00 **WAIT LIST ONLY**

March 16th – **The Brownstone for a St. Patrick's Day** luncheon and Irish entertainment \$57

April 28th – **Cherry Blossom Festival** at the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens - Cost TBA

Please call the Center to be put on the list to receive more information on Spring and Summer trips including a trip to the 9/11 Memorial. Your suggestions are always welcomed.

**BOROUGH OF
TENAFLY**
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Peter Rustin

Council Members
Anthony Barzelatto
Barry Honig
Martha Kerge
Nadia LaMastra
Jon Warms
Mark Zinna

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Continued from page 7—

Quiet Zone capital improvements, identical to those already assumed in the DEIS if the light rail line were to end at the Tenafly/Cresskill border, must be funded and implemented at Tenafly's crossings to prevent freight train horns from blowing in the middle of the night.

In summary, the Borough of Tenafly strongly opposes any construction of the Northern Branch light rail line within the Borough's corporate limits. However, the Borough does support provision of sensible mass transit within Bergen County, and has no objection to the DEIS option which terminates light rail at Englewood Route 4.

Please note that on February 13, 2012, the Tenafly Municipal Council voted unanimously, with all members present, to approve this letter to NJ Transit, along with the attached Appendices.

When NJ Transit is ready to discuss Tenafly's comments to the DEIS, please contact me at (201) 568-6100 x5535 to set up meetings with our Transportation Committee and elected officials. The Borough looks forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Peter S. Rustin
Mayor

THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND HARD WORK ON THE DEIS!!

Tenafly Mayor & Council

Tenafly Transportation Committee

Tenafly Borough Officials

Tenafly Planning Board

Tenafly Environmental Commission

Tenafly Board of Education & HSA

Tenafly Historic Preservation Commission

Business Improvement District Management Corp.

Tenafly Chamber of Commerce

Transportation Consultant Team Members

Tenafly Municipal Employees

Concerned Residents and Public Meeting Attendees