### MONTCLAIR'S OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY JULY NEWSLETTER

### Keep Montclair Sparkling Clean: Firework Safety and Disposal

The 4th of July is an exciting time to celebrate in Montclair! However, it is important to make sure fireworks don't leave a negative lasting impression on our community and environment. Did you know that fireworks contain particulate matter and other contaminants that affect air quality? The aftermath also leaves the ground scattered with miscellaneous debris that can prove harmful to our pets.



To reduce air, noise, ground and water pollution, we recommend attending a community fireworks event instead of

setting off your own. If you do set off your own fireworks, make sure to clean up and dispose of your fireworks properly.



### **Celebrate in Town!**

This year Montclair will host its 68th annual July 4th parade with exciting performances and live entertainment. The parade is followed by a fun Family Picnic in Edgemont Park and a spectacular fireworks display in the evening at Yogi Berra Stadium on the campus of Montclair State University.



## Montclair's Community Forestry Program

The Office of Sustainability is proud to announce the receipt of the Urban & Community Forestry Inflation Reduction Act Grant to the Township of Montclair by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)!

#### What Will This Program Do for the Montclair Community?

This grant aims to support the township's endeavor for equitable urban tree access and climate resilience through expansion of Montclair's urban tree canopy, effectively mitigating hotspots and reducing the Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect. Moreover, it will give precedence to underserved communities, increase educational outreach, and provide backing for youth employment.

Research indicates that communities with ample access to trees and green spaces experience improved health outcomes, decreased crime rates, lower average temperatures, and a surge in various types of investments and new economic prospects.



We firmly believe that initiatives such as tree planting, improving air quality, reducing energy demands, bolstering workforce development, and fostering greater community involvement will yield substantial benefits in tackling the damaging effects of extreme heat and promoting environmental equity within our communities.

Learn more about the 2023 Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program and the value of urban forests at <u>www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/urban-forests</u>.

# Moniciar Farmers' Market FARMS • FAMILIES • LOCAL • SUSTAINABLE Eat Sustainable



Every Saturday, 8AM - 2PM Walnut Street Station 86 Walnut Street, Montolair, NJ June - November

The Montclair Farmers' Market brings you an array of local farmers and food artisans, offering fresh fruits & vegetables, meats, poultry, fish, cheeses, prepared foods, baked goods, condiments, honey, flowers, wine, pickles, and so much more. Montclair was one of the very first towns in the Garden State to host a farmers' market back in 1993.The Montclair Farmers' Market is now a community gathering spot for thousands of local residents and visitors each year.



For more information visit: https://www.montclairfarmersmarket.org/

Do you want to know more about the topics in this newsletter? Are you interested in volunteering for initiatives/projects with our department? Feel free to reach out!

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Stay tuned for next month's issue where we discuss topics like the AARP Livable Communities Grant. Haven't read our other newsletters? Take a look on our department page: https://www.montclairnjusa.org/Government/Departments/Office-of-Sustainability/Monthly-Newsletter