

LOOK UP – DOWN & AROUND

Your PROPERTY!

Washington Township and its residents, visitors and property owners face natural hazards from Wildfires in the Pinelands and coastal marshlands, and from Storms with hazardous winds and precipitation (downpours, snow or ice) from both Coastal Nor'Easters/Hurricanes and intense Summer Thunderstorms. Also, insect damage in recent years to oak and pine trees has increased the number of large dead snags in many forest areas. Risks to property are affected by forests and landscaping on and around homes, farms, businesses, recreational areas and other properties.

Some situations that you should look-out for at your property:

- LOOK UP for dying or leaning trees, and dead branches that could fall during a storm!
- LOOK DOWN for brush, dead grass and leaves covering the ground that could fuel a wildfire!
- LOOK AROUND for hazards to your property due to trees or branches that could fall and damage buildings, roofs or other property. Also, watch-out for wildfire hazards, including accumulations of dead leaves or dry grass, and dead landscape plants around the foundations that could spread fire into the building. Maintain defensible space for fire protection by mowing brush and tall grass, and by pruning branches that are close to buildings.

Our Emergency Responders are prepared for when an incident has occurred, however it is important for the public to take actions ahead-of-time to be prepared and reduce the risks from these hazards.

Two important sources of public information are available:

1. *FIREWISE* of the National Fire Protection Association – www.nfpa.org and
2. *READY: Prepare, Plan, Stay Informed* of the Federal Emergency Management Agency – www.ready.gov

Informational materials are available to the public at the Municipal Building, and you are encouraged to view these and obtain copies during regular business hours.

9-1-1 REMINDER: Use 9-1-1 only for emergency reporting and assistance. Should the Operator have difficulty in determining your location, it is important that you provide your Street Address and indicate that you are in Washington Township, Burlington County.

Washington Township

Office of Emergency Management

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