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From the desk of the Freeholder Director  
Brian D. Levine

### [2020 CENSUS](#)

It is vitally important that Somerset County residents participate in the next census, which starts April 1, 2020. Data collected from the census not only determines the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives but also how \$675 billion dollars in federal funding is allocated annually.

Somerset County relies on federal funding to support many of the services we offer residents. Municipalities, schools and local agencies that serve the community also rely on federal funding. We are asking all of our residents to complete the census, because the more accurate the population count, the more funding we may be allocated in the future.

To support this initiative, a local Complete Count Committee was established by the county Planning Board and a logo, which states that “Everyone Counts in Somerset County,” was created. [Learn more on our Census webpage.](#)

### [Recycling Calendar](#)



An additional [Household Hazardous Waste drop-off](#) has been scheduled for Nov. 9 in Branchburg. The next [First Saturday recycling drop-off](#) will be held Nov. 2. [Recycling pickup dates](#) will be adjusted for the Thanksgiving holiday.

### [Prevent Identity Theft!](#)



The [last free document-shredding event for 2019 will be held Nov. 9](#) in Green Brook. Proof of residency is required.

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### **[Community Resource Fair](#)**

Stop by Pine Grove Manor Elementary School in Franklin today (Oct. 24) from 4 to 6 p.m. and learn about Somerset County's many free social service programs.

### **[Drug Take-Back Day](#)**

Drop off your unused or unwanted medications Oct. 26 at the Sheriff's Office in Somerville and at any of several local police stations.

### **[Project Warm Your Heart](#)**

Please consider donating new or **gently-used** coats, mittens, scarves, etc., for needy children by Nov. 1.

### **[Adopt-A-Family](#)**

You can help provide a local family with a Thanksgiving meal. Please postmark donation checks by Nov. 23.

### **[Annual Photo Contest](#)**

Photographers of all levels, amateur to professional, are invited to submit entries for our annual "[Show us Somerset County Through Your Camera Lens](#)" photo contest. The deadline is Nov. 29.

### **['Vibrant Connections' Newsletter](#)**

Learn more about county services and programs! Check out our redesigned print newsletter.

### **[Freeholder Meetings Livestreamed](#)**

Catch the Board of Freeholders' [twice-monthly work sessions and regular meetings](#) as they happen by visiting the [livestreaming page of the county website](#). You can also access archived meetings.

### **[It's Hurricane Season - Be Prepared](#)**

Stay prepared and informed in the event of severe weather!

[Register Ready helps residents with special needs during a disaster.](#)

[Sign up for free email or text alerts about county road and bridge closings, flood warnings, and more.](#)

### **[Senior Center Programs](#)**

There's something for all interests at our six county-operated senior centers!

### **[Fall Leaf Clean-up](#)**

Volunteers are needed in November to help elderly and disabled residents get their yards ready for the winter months.