

## **With spring around the corner here are some Do's & Dont's**

Bloomfield is very proud of their municipal park system. They have over 55 acres of land in 10 municipal parks. Park amenities include active recreational opportunities including baseball, softball, basketball, tennis, skateboarding, tot lots and biking to name a few. Passive recreational opportunities include sitting on a park bench, listening to a babbling brook, having a picnic, flying a kite, gardening at Pulaski Park's Community Garden and whatever you and your family can think of.

Be on the lookout for walking, biking and hiking opportunities at Morris Canal Park at Oak Tree Lane and the Morris Canal Greenway. More details on this initiative, including our interactive Mobile App that will track your walks and fitness goals will be coming in April!

## **When fowl are foul**

While stopping by the local park and feeding the geese/ducks seems harmless it actually causes several issues for the fowl and park goers. First and foremost, feeding wildlife in our municipal parks and open spaces is in violation of the township ordinance. Remaining food can attract rodents and other undesirable animals, not to mention the goose poop!

If you think you're helping ducks and geese by feeding them, think again! Feeding birds high protein and high-energy foods like white bread cause a debilitating condition among water fowl known as "angel wing." The birds' wing joints become twisted, limiting or preventing flight.

To reduce water fowl populations, the Township hires a company with trained border collies to chase the geese and oil the birds' eggs to discourage them from returning to prior mating grounds. Preliminary discussions with the BOE might spur them on to enter into a contract with the same company as part of a concentrated effort!

## **No Smoking in Municipal Parks and Public Buildings**

You might have already known that you can't smoke in and near municipal buildings but did you know the Township recently adopted an ordinance prohibiting smoking in all outdoor parks and recreational facilities. All Township owned properties are now 100% smoke free!

## **Park Rules and Regulations**

- All municipals parks are open daily from 7:30AM to Dusk except while playing on a lighted athletic field. Play on lighted athletic fields is permitted until 10:00PM.
- All animals must be on a leash and owners must clean up after their pets. No pets on ballfields or tot lots.
- No drugs, smoking, alcoholic beverages or open flames are permitted
- No unauthorized vehicles in the park
- All athletic field use is by permit only

To request the use of an athletic facility or park area please visit the Recreation Department's website at [www.bloomfieldrecreation.org](http://www.bloomfieldrecreation.org) and click the facilities tab to download the permit application.