

## **PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT**

For immediate release  
March 6, 2018

The Wyckoff Township Committee announced that the Township of Wyckoff was presented with the "Platinum Certificate of Achievement – 2017 Safety Incentive Program" at the Annual Bergen County Joint Insurance Fund Safety Incentive Awards Ceremony. The Township of Wyckoff was presented with the **JIF's highest award**:

### **PLATINUM CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT 2017 SAFETY INCENTIVE PROGRAM AND \$2,500 GRANT**

The Township of Wyckoff is a member in the consortium of municipalities who have participated in a regionalized program called the Bergen County Joint Insurance Fund to provide a program of cost effective insurance for its member municipalities.

The Platinum Safety Award was presented to the Township for its overall safety record, for achieving a low lost time frequency rate and one-hundred percent (100%) completion of JIF's 2017 Safety Incentive Program. The purpose of the Wyckoff Safety Committee is to achieve safe work areas for its employees and to encourage safety in the work place. Safety is a team effort in Wyckoff and the key ingredient is the participation of all Township employees.

As a participating member municipality, the Township has an active in-house safety committee that works to provide; a safe work environment, training to avoid employee injuries and making an effort to limit insurance costs. The Bergen County Joint Insurance Fund provides a safety incentive program. If a municipality achieves 100% completion of the safety incentive programs, it assists in limiting future insurance costs. Wyckoff was recognized for this accomplishment.

This is the twenty-fourth (24) consecutive year the Township of Wyckoff has been commended since joining the regional Joint Insurance Fund consortium for its compliance with the safety incentive program. The focus of the Township's safety committee is pro-active accident protection and periodic safety surveys are conducted to maintain a safe work and recreation environment on municipal property. The Township Committee is proud of Township Administrator Bob Shannon and his fellow workers. "The every day little things they do - add tremendous value for the taxpayers of Wyckoff. For example, the DPW crews are very cognizant of safety and it is reflected in their daily work functions. Safety seminars are conducted to implement work skills for employee safety as well as limit insurance costs to the taxpayers."

The Township received a dividend this year from the Bergen County Joint Insurance Fund based on its safety efforts in past years, which was used to decrease the 2018 insurance costs. Safety is also a positive fiscal operation. Since 1995, the Township of Wyckoff has received dividends amounting to \$706,965.47 from the Bergen County Joint Insurance Fund which have been used to reduce subsequent year insurance costs.

The Township's Safety Committee consists of; Bob Shannon, Township Administrator; Nancy Cole, Denise Capparelli; Fran Piskadlo; David V. Murphy, Chief of Police; Tim Brock, Fire Chief; Diana McLeod, Chief Financial Officer; Joyce C. Santimauro, Municipal Clerk; Andy Wingfield, Recreation Director; Thomas Gensheimer, Construction Code Official/Building Subcode Official ; Scott A. Fisher, Public Works Manager, Susan DeRosa, Tax Assessor assistant; Mark A. DiGennaro, Township Engineer, Don & Janet Healey of the Wyckoff Ambulance Corps, Joseph Vander Plaat, Assistant Fire Chief and Laura Leonard, Library Director.

The Bergen County Joint Insurance Fund (BCJIF) is a consortium of municipalities that have regionalized to provide their own cost effective property and casualty insurance as well as workers compensation insurance. The impetus of the regionalization effort is to avoid costly insurance premiums through risk management and safety programs. The BCJIF is regulated by the state's Department of Banking and Insurance and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs. It is the oldest municipal joint insurance fund in the state and currently has 38 member municipalities.