

VERNON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF RECREATION

Events

2026 Snapshot

VERNON TOWNSHIP
APPALACHIAN TRAIL



Board of Recreation Goals

OUTLINE OF TOPICS

- *Promote the assets of Vernon through programs and events*
- *Create no-cost or low-cost programs and events for all ages*
- *Encourage cooperation amongst the various town committees/boards and civic organizations*
- *Create a better community for all*
- *Seek input from Vernon residents and encourage them to bring new ideas to be developed*



Snowshoe 5K 'Yeti or Not'

January

SNOWSHOE INVASION

Formerly known as the 'Viking Snowshoe Invasion' - this unique event takes place at the beginning of each year at our very own Mountain Creek. This event not only brings locals out for an adventure filled morning, but we have people from all over the country sign up to take a part!



Puzzle Hustle

February/March



PUZZLE HUSTLE

Vernon Township Recreation's Puzzle Hustle is a fun, family-friendly event that brings the community together for a spirited puzzle competition. Teams race against the clock to complete challenging jigsaw puzzles, putting their problem-solving skills and teamwork to the test in a lively and engaging atmosphere. Perfect for all ages, the Puzzle Hustle promises laughter, camaraderie, and a unique way to spend quality time together while celebrating the joy of puzzling.



Easter Egg Trail

April

2022 was our 1st ever Easter Egg Trail and each year it continues to be a community favorite. This FREE event is fun for all families to enjoy! The Easter Bunny hops along the trail at Maple Grange Park taking photos with the kids as they search for eggs & treats along the path!



Group Hiking Series

Hike with Sasquatch

April - June



It's Nice Outside... Go Take a Hike!

A series of organized group hikes discovering hidden gems "Off the Beaten Path". Everyone knows of the popular destination hikes, but Vernon is also home to many natural trails filled with history, beautiful scenery and amazing views that we will show you.

Visit www.vernontwp.com for a list of scheduled hikes.

Art in the Park Series



Focusing on classes spring through fall

'Art in the Park' is created for our youngest residents and sensory sensitive members of the community. Creating a fun, nature driven activity each month for the littles to gather, interact and work with their senses and motor skills. We are happy to provide this activity for families with young children or special needs who would not be able to participate in other programs.

The background of the entire image is a close-up, slightly blurred view of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes in detail. The flag is draped and flowing, with the blue field of stars on the left and the red and white stripes on the right.

Memorial Day Parade

May

Memorial Day is a day to commemorate the men and women who lost their life while defending our country. It is a day designated to memorialize the veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms.

Join the VFW Wallkill Valley Post #8441 at Veterans' Memorial Park on Vernon Crossing Rd at 11:00am on Memorial Day to honor our fallen soldiers and remember all that they gave for our freedom.

VERNON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF RECREATION

Spring Makers Market

May

The market is held at
Heaven Hill Farm & Garden Center,
451 NJ-94 in Vernon
from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Featuring handmade goods, locally grown
and sourced produce, honey, desserts,
hand made items, food and more!



VERNON TOWNSHIP
RECREATION PRESENTS

VERNON MAKERS MARKET

40+ VENDORS | MAKERS | FOOD | DESSERTS



Plant Swap

May & September

Pass the Perennials

This annual event is a celebration for gardeners, plant lovers, and new plant parents looking to grow their plant families.

This event invites the community to swap seedlings, plants, vegetables, shrubs, flowers, herbs, houseplants, pots, and garden tools. It's a welcoming day of making new connections, learning from fellow plant enthusiasts, supporting local makers, and enjoying great conversations in a vibrant, community-centered atmosphere.



FAMILY DAY

Vernon Day is the heart of community celebration, bringing residents and visitors together for a day filled with fun, entertainment, and connection. This vibrant event features music, local vendors, delicious food, activities for all ages, and a showcase of community organizations. From kids' games to cultural displays, Vernon Day highlights the township's spirit and diversity, creating cherished memories and strengthening community bonds.

**Vernon
Day**
June

A FUN COMMUNITY EVENT

A fun gathering of family, friends and neighbors celebrating our wonderful community.
It's a day where everyone comes together to celebrate all that makes Vernon Township special!





Annual Car Show

June

Vernon Township Recreation's Annual Car Show is a highly anticipated June event that brings car enthusiasts and families together from across the region. Now in its third year, the Car Show continues to grow each season, featuring a diverse display of classic cars, muscle cars, and modern favorites. This community-focused event offers a fun, welcoming atmosphere with opportunities to connect, celebrate automotive craftsmanship, and enjoy a lively day in Vernon Township.

Trails of Vernon Challenge

An ongoing challenge for personal growth and making a commitment that may change life for the better! Studies show that spending time outdoors is beneficial to your overall health, so take a break and get some nature's therapy!

Log 50 miles of travel for the Original Challenge or add some objectives to make your hikes more interesting with the Next Level Challenge !

Once you reach your goal, send in your trail log and/or objective list to receive a Certificate of Completion.

Sidewalk Chalk Art Festival



August

The Sidewalk Chalk Arts Festival is back for its 7th year!! This event allows adults and children to bring their imagination and creativity to turn the walking path at Maple Grange Park into a continuous masterpiece! Local guest artists share their skills with demonstrations and helpful tidbits to bring out your best works of art!

Finished fast? Check out the other masterpieces in progress!

Fun giveaways are awarded for creativity along with music, ice pops and most importantly - FUN.

Adult Field Day

August



Adult Field Day is a high-energy, adults-only event that debuted in 2025 and is poised to grow even bigger this year. Designed for ages 18+, this fun-filled event brings friends together for friendly competition, laughter, and classic field day games with a playful twist. Teams go head-to-head in hilarious challenges like blind volleyball, capture the chicken, hose ball, bucket brigade, and more—creating an unforgettable night of camaraderie, movement, and community fun. Free to participate with registration required, Adult Field Day encourages residents to reconnect, let loose, and play like kids again—this time with grown-up bragging rights.

VERNON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF RECREATION

Trick or Trail

October

Partnering with the Vernon PAL, Trick or Trail is a beloved fall tradition that provides families with a safe, fun, and festive way to celebrate Halloween. This family-friendly event invites children and their families to stroll along a designated trail while enjoying trick-or-treating, themed stations, and seasonal activities in a welcoming outdoor setting. Trick or Trail brings the community together to celebrate the season, create lasting memories, and enjoy a safe Halloween experience for all ages.





Cars & Coffee

Oct/Nov

Cars & Coffee is a laid-back community gathering for car enthusiasts to come together and share their passion in a relaxed, welcoming setting. Now entering its second year at Maple Grange, this event is all about great cars, good coffee, and even better conversations.

Cars & Coffee focuses on connection, storytelling, and appreciation for all types of vehicles—creating an easygoing afternoon experience that brings the community together around a shared love of cars.

Vernon Holiday Market

Come on down to see us at Mountain Creek's Cobblestone Village and check out our Holiday Market & Bazaar; supporting local artists, vendors and businesses.





HELPING OUR COMMUNITY

Each year, Vernon Recreation hosts a Thanksgiving Day 5K Turkey Trot to raise funds and collect non perishables for the Harvest House Food Pantry. Our route is a nice combination of hills and turns through a picturesque rural landscape, including a cheering section of local cows!

5K Turkey Trot

Thanksgiving Morning

5K RUN, WALK OR TROT

Dust off your finest feathers and join the Vernon Township Board of Recreation for a breath of fresh autumn air Thanksgiving morning to hobble before you gobble. It's easy as pumpkin pie! Run or walk...on your own, with the family or create a team with some friends—this is a fun tradition to kickoff this day of giving and benefit such a worthy cause.





Quiet Time with Santa

December

Quiet Time with Santa is a sensory-friendly holiday event that offers children and families a calm, welcoming environment to enjoy a meaningful visit with Santa. With reduced noise, smaller crowds, and a relaxed pace, this special experience ensures all families can create joyful holiday memories in a comfortable and inclusive setting.





Holiday Tree Lighting

December

Kick off the Holiday Season with our annual Holiday Tree Lighting complete with crafts, hot cocoa, holiday music and of course, pictures with Santa!



Operation Toy Train

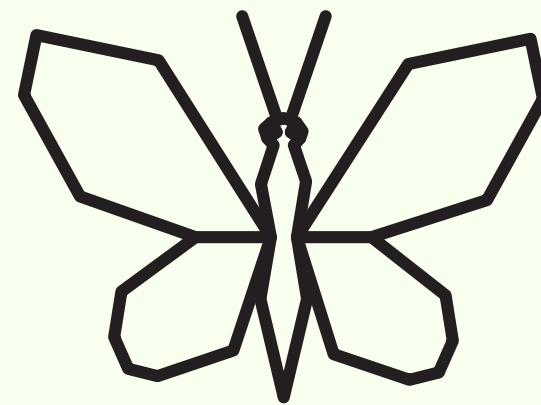
December

Operation Toy Train and its crew stops at Veterans' Memorial Park at our original train station (now the Tracks Deli) as part of their Toys for Tots mission conducted by the U.S. Marine Corps to collect new, unwrapped toys for local families.

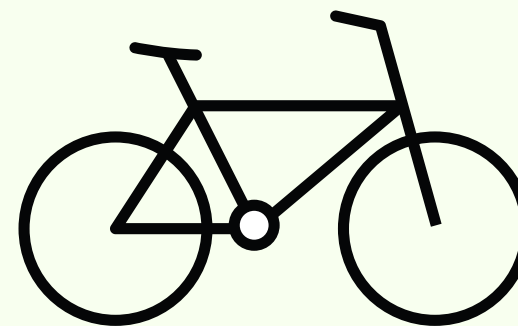
Since 2009, Operation Toy Train has operated a special mission in northern New Jersey and southern New York. It took four years of coordinating to have Vernon be an official stop for this holiday event and it is such a joy to see everyone there giving a big Vernon welcome to the conductor and the crew! Bring the kids for pictures with Santa!



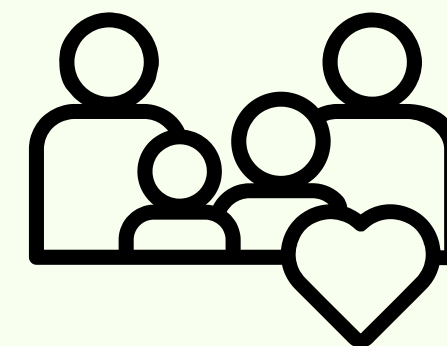
Future Projects



**BUTTERFLY
RELEASE**



**HIKE, BIKE
& KITE DAY**



**FAMILY GAME &
THEME NIGHTS**

Thank You



BOARD OF RECREATION



VOLUNTEERS



**RECREATION & COMMUNITY
AFFAIRS**