Dear Mountain Lakes Resident,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that all Mountain Lakes residents are familiar with and adhering to Borough ordinance 142-5, which prohibits dumping of garbage and yard waste, including leaves, brush, and grass clippings, in our pocket parks and woodlands. Residents are responsible for their own actions and those of their landscapers.

The Borough is in the process of completing an audit of our pocket parks. During this process, we are finding that most parks contain a substantial quantity of yard waste, which is both unsightly and environmentally damaging. Compacted yard waste can smother existing vegetation, disrupt water flow, and damage the native ecology. In addition, yard waste often contains herbicides, insecticides, fertilizer and seeds and sprouts of non-native plants, all of which can be detrimental to the health of our woodlands and lakes.

Pocket parks and woodlands are an important part of the Borough's natural environment, and we have a shared responsibility to keep them healthy and free of unsightly garbage and yard waste. If you employ a landscaper, we ask that you share this communication with them. Borough ordinances will be strictly enforced.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue!