There is no doubt that “911” is the first call you should make during an emergency, as that one call can bring trained firefighters, medical technicians, and law enforcement personnel to assist you. And while you wait for help to arrive, the dispatcher taking your call—the very first responder—will provide you with instructions and support as needed. But not all situations demand a 911 response, and those calls should be made to other agencies. Here is some information so you can reach the right contact on the first call.

**Call 911 for a Life-Threatening Emergency or Injury or for a Threat to Personal Property or Public Safety.**

**Do Not Call 911 for problems such as these, but call _ _ _ _:**

* Broken household water pipes - Plumber
* Chronic aches & pains (ongoing, not severe or sudden onset) - Doctor
* Dead animals on the side of the road - see page 2
* Domestic cats or dogs on the loose - see page 2
* Flu/Common cold (unless with life-threatening complications) - Doctor
* Municipal info, like zoning laws or parade start times - Town hall
* Potholes or other poor road conditions - see page 2
* Request for a phone number - Phone carrier information
* Rodent infestation - Exterminator (see below for a public health issue)
* Transport to or from a medical office for a routine visit - see below
* Tree branch in the roadway - see page 2
* Wasp nest or bee hive (undisturbed, no one stung) - Exterminator
* Wrong order from a fast food restaurant - Store manager or owner

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**Non-911 Fire Services**

Obtain an open burn permit
NJ Forest Fire Service
973-786-6350

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**Other Help**

Warren County Official Website – www.co.warren.nj.us
Cancellations of County Services, “Important Announcements”
County Health Dept. (908) 475-7960: Community Health (Rabies Control, Health Nuisances); Environmental Health (Air, Water & Noise Pollution, Private Well & Septic System Code Inspections, Hazardous Materials)
County Human Services (908) 475-6331: Mental Health & Substance Abuse, Medical Transportation, Senior Services, Meals at Home, Caregiver Support, Home Health Aides, Emergency Housing Assistance
TASS (Temporary Assistance & Social Services): (908) 475-6301, after 4:30/Hotline (877) 661-4357

Call “211” (24 hours/day, 7 days/week), www.nj211.org: Health & Social Services, Affordable Housing, Financial Advice, Veterans’ Assistance. In an Emergency, for locations of Shelters, Warming/Cooling Centers.

Finding Nemo or Fido or Fluffy

Loose dog? Stray cat? Don’t call 911, but contact your local Animal Control Officer (ACO).

Allamuchy: Nellie (908) 246-3239
Alpha, Lopatcong, Phillipsburg, Pohatcong: Vince (610) 721-0762
Belvidere: Robert (908) 763-5035
Blairstown, Frelinghuysen, Hardwick, Hope, Knowlton, Liberty: Alan (908) 377-0808
Franklin, Hackettstown, Mansfield, Oxford, Washington Boro & Township, White: Kim (908) 625-0106
Greenwich, Harmony: Amanda (908) 619-2830

Most ACOs handle domestic animals only. Some may offer assistance with wild or feral critters, or you can call NJ Fish & Wildlife at (877) 927-6337, or visit www.njfishandwildlife.com.

Pot & Debris on the Roadways

KaBoom... There goes your wheel alignment! Where should you report those potholes, tree branches, and other road hazards?

State Highways - NJ Dept. of Transportation (NJDOT): North of Rt. 57 - (609) 588-6877
South of Rt. 57 - (609) 588-6212

County Roads - Dept. of Public Works (DPW): (908) 475-7975
Local Roads – Call your town or township Municipal Building for the number of your local DPW.

Be on the lookout for deer in the roadways!

The fall mating season for deer, known as the rutting season, runs from about late-October to mid-December. During this time, bucks are very actively pursuing does, and they will often run into the road and into any vehicle in their path. They’re most active in the early morning hours and around sunset. The NJ Department of Environmental Protection offers these tips:

* If you spot a deer, slow down and watch for sudden movement. Don’t drive around the deer – wait for it to pass and the road is clear. Trying to anticipate which way a deer will run is hit-or-miss... and you don’t want a “hit” (collision) with your vehicle.

* Pay attention to “Deer Crossing” signs, but always be alert since deer don’t read signs!

* If traveling after dark, use your high beams if there is no oncoming traffic. The light will reflect in the animals’ eyes. And if you see one deer, be on guard for others as they typically move in family groups
and in single-file.

* Report any deer-vehicle collision to a local law enforcement agency immediately (Call 911).

If you see a dead deer or other animal on the side of the road, it should be reported to the agencies noted above. (Note: Lakota Wolf Preserve, located at 89 Mount Pleasant Road in Columbia, may accept fresh road-kill deer for its wolves. Call 1-877-733-9753 for more information or a pick-up.)