

# MUA Gets \$9K State Grant to Help Firefighters Quickly Locate Hydrants



**The Mt. Laurel Municipal Utilities Authority has received a \$9,000 state grant that will help firefighters quickly locate fire hydrants within the Township.** Photo Credit: Mount Laurel MUA

**By Kristin Antonello**

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**MOUNT LAUREL, NJ** — The Mount Laurel Municipal Utilities Authority (MUA) has received a grant from the state of New Jersey that will help firefighters quickly locate fire hydrants within the Township.

The \$9,000 Local Efficiency Achievement Program (LEAP) Challenge Grant, which is administered by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, will be used as a shared service with the Mount Laurel Fire Department (MLFD) for the implementation of a fire hydrant tracking program using a geographic information system, which will provide real-time hydrant information and the most up-to-date information on the location and condition of all fire hydrants within the MUA's jurisdiction.

The tracking app will help the MLFD determine the best route to the nearest hydrant and will provide information on the flow rate of the hydrant, which will allow fire personnel to respond quickly and more effectively to emergencies.

"The app can save precious minutes for our firefighters; it's a win-win situation," said MLFD Deputy Chief Larry Fox.

In addition to becoming a crucial tool for the MLFD to fight fires, the new program will also allow firefighters to immediately document and share hydrant-performance information with the MUA, so that any flow issues can be addressed quickly. Previously, there could be up to a one-week delay between the MLFD and MUA in reporting issues.

"This app will streamline the sharing of important information regarding fire hydrants between our agencies," said MUA Executive Director Pam Carolan.

While the app was deployed earlier this month, MUA employees and MLFD personnel are presently being trained on its use.

LEAP grants are aimed to incentivize shared services implementation across New Jersey's local government entities in order to reduce costs, deliver municipal services in a more efficient manner, and generate increased value for each dollar spent while ensuring local units remain responsible stewards of the public trust. For more information about LEAP, [click here](#).

The Mount Laurel Township Municipal Utilities Authority provides both water and wastewater services to nearly 18,000 customers. For more information about the MUA, visit <http://www.mltmua.com/>.

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