



**Fall
Edition
Newsletter**

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A Message From The Mayor's Desk

I want to talk about something that may sound simple, but means so much: Taking pride in our town and loving the place we call home.

A town is more than streets, buildings, businesses, and neighborhoods. A town is made up of people. It is our families, friends, neighbors, seniors, children, teachers, workers, volunteers, and everyone who gets up every day and contributes something to our beautiful Town of Laurel.

When we take pride in our town, we are saying, this place matters to me. We are saying that our town is worth caring about, worth protecting, and worth making better.

Sometimes pride starts with something small. It can be picking up a piece of trash, instead of walking past it. It can be checking on a neighbor or volunteering for an event. It can be attending a town hall meeting and suggesting an idea. Taking pride does not mean our town is perfect.

Every community has challenges and we may disagree on how things should be done. We may see things need to be changed or improved. But loving our town means that instead of simply pointing out what is wrong.

We ask ourselves "What can I do to make it better?" Because a strong town is not built by one person. It is built by all of us. Do we want to see a town where people are divided and disconnected or do we want a town where people stand together, support one another, respect differences, celebrate progress and work toward a common future.

I challenge each of us to take a little pride in our town. Look around and see what is good, see what needs our attention and then ask yourself what can I do, because when each of us does our part something powerful happens.

Our town becomes a stronger neighborhood with better relationships and we become closer and our community becomes a place where people are proud to say this is my town, these are my neighbors, this is my home and I love where I live.

Thank you to all the Town of Laurel and may we continue to work together, stand together, and take pride in the wonderful town, we call home.

Blessings to all.

"Love Where You Live."

Mayor, Carlos Oliveras



**In Memory of
"Mayor John Shwed"**

It is with deep hearts that the Town of Laurel announced the passing of former Mayor John Shwed on Sunday, August 2, 2026. Former Mayor Shwed served as the Mayor for the Town of Laurel for 22 years. He was appointed to Mayor & Council in April 2003 and served until April 2025. Mayor Shwed served on various community organizations where he provided instrumental service for the betterment of the town. Mayor Shwed was very involved in all town-based community events that included the annual 4th of July Event - Mayor's Challenge & 4th of July Parade, & Car Show, the Christmas Parade, Town Movie Nights, the annual Trunk or Treat, and the annual Christmas Tree Lighting. If there was an event Mayor Shwed would had been in attendance. Mayor Shwed looked and inspired for residential and commercial growth within the town. All flags were lowered from August 2, 2026 to August 9, 2026 to honor Mayor Shwed's service and commitment to the Town of Laurel.



**Disponibilidad de boletines informativos
listos para español**

Para hogares de habla Hispana

Tenga en cuenta que las copias del Boletín de la Ciudad de Laurel estarán disponibles en español en Laurel Town Hall, 201 Mechanic Street. Los boletines informativos de la ciudad se publican trimestralmente con una edición de invierno, una edición de primavera / verano y una edición de otoño que se envía por correo a los residentes. Copias del Programa de Basura, Reciclaje y Desperdicio de Jardín también están disponibles en español en Laurel Town Hall, 201 Mechanic Street.



**Town of Laurel's
Planning & Zoning Update**

The Town of Laurel's Planning & Zoning Committee meets the second Wednesday of each month on as needed basis. The Planning & Zoning Committee is made up of One Chairperson and 6 Planning Members.

The intent of the Planning & Zoning Committee is to uphold the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Laurel to protect the character of the town and to facilitate community economic development. The committee reviews various items including minor/major subdivision, concept plans, preliminary site plans, and final site plans. They also are responsible on updating the Town's Comprehensive Plan every 10 years.

P&Z Agendas

Please note agendas are posted one week prior from the regular scheduled P&Z Meeting if needed that month.

HOW TO ACCESS A P&Z AGENDA:

(1.) Visit www.townoflaurel.net. Click on "Department Tab," then Click on "Planning & Code Enforcement."

***** Listed Below are the proposed P&Z Dates*****

**PROPOSED P&Z DATES -
(SEPTEMBER 2026- DECEMBER 2026)**

- **Wednesday, September 9, 2026**
(MEET IF NEEDED)
- **Wednesday, October 14, 2026**
(MEET IF NEEDED)
- **Wednesday, November 4, 2026**
(MEET IF NEEDED)
- **Wednesday, December 9, 2026**
(MEET IF NEEDED)



**Appointment & Oath of Office
Councilman Doug Taylor**

At August's Mayor & Council Meeting Councilman Doug Taylor was appointed to fulfill and complete Councilman Jim LaRue's Term that expires in April 2027. Councilman Taylor was sworn into office by Mayor Oliveras where he will fulfill the remaining term. Councilman Taylor thanked the Mayor & Council for his appointment, and he is looking forward in serving the town and working with the citizens.



**Town of
LAUREL
DELAWARE**
TOWN OF LAUREL
201 MECHANIC STREET
LAUREL, DELAWARE 19956

OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY - FRIDAY

8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

CONTACT TOWN HALL AT 302-875-2277.



Town of Laurel's FY 2027 Budget Highlights

The Town of Laurel held a Public Hearing on Monday, June 1, 2026, at Laurel Town Hall. The citizens were invited to attend the hearing to listen to the presentation and to ask any questions pertaining the FY 2027 Budget. The town has achieved a balanced budget, while understanding the increased cost to operate the various sectors of the municipal government and balancing that without financially burdening our citizens.

Highlights of the FY 2027 Budget included:

- Building construction of new homes is expected to remain into FY2027 alongside commercial development within the town.
- New structures of incentives for the Downtown Development District.
- Sussex County completed its property reassessments, and the town has adjusted its tax structure to establish two separate tax rates: one for residential properties and one for commercial properties.

FY 2027 Budget Adoption:

The Town of Laurel's FY 2027 Budget was adopted at Monday's, June 15, 2026, Mayor & Council Meeting.

FY 2027 Budget Highlights:

Revenues:

- R/E Tax penalties.
- Proposed tax rate for Residential Properties is \$0.47 per \$100 of the assessed value and Commercial Properties \$0.98 per \$100 of the assessed value.
- Increase to water usage and sewer rate of \$0.50 to each per 1,000 gallons, along with \$0.50 to each base rate.
- Increase rental license to \$175.00.
- Flat rate of business license established at \$225.
- Plan Review for Residential of \$150/hr.
- Inspection and Plan Review for Commercial of \$0.05% of total costs.
- Towing fee amended to include Admin Fee of \$50.
- Septic receiving increase of \$0.005 per gallon.
- Court Security \$20 increase, amendment to COPS Grant.

Expenditures:

- Increase to all insurances, and debt service increase.
- Funds to hire consultant to rewrite the zoning ordinance.
- Personnel compensation adjustments.
- Funds for demolition of derelict properties.
- Increase repairs to infrastructure.
- The loss of the Laurel School District paying for the School Resource Officer.
- Wastewater Treatment Plant Capital Improvement Project. include expenses for Federal Mandate of Lead and Copper Testing on privately owned properties.

FY 2027 Budget Available

The Town of Laurel's FY 2027 Budget was made available at Laurel Town Hall or at www.townoflaurel.net for citizen's review.



Town Property Taxes FY 2026

The Sussex County Tax Assessment List was adopted by Mayor & Council at July's meeting. The list is provided by Sussex County where the Town of Laurel's Board of Assessments reviews the list prior to Mayor & Council accepting the list. It was explained when Sussex County completed their property reassessments, the town adjusted its tax structure to establish two separate tax rates: one for residential properties and one for commercial properties. During the process of reviewing and calculating the proposed tax rates it was evident that residential properties were experiencing higher assessed values than commercial properties. Taking these factors into consideration the proposed tax rates have been structured to ensure the town is able to meet its financial obligations while also working to minimize the tax burden placed on property owners.

What Are The Board of Assessments?

The duties of the Board of Assessment are to meet once a year to review the Assessment List provided by Sussex County. Once they review a copy of Sussex County's Assessment List, the Mayor & Council adopts the list in July, and a Court of Appeals is held in August.

Board of Assessment Appointments:

The Mayor & Council appointed Mr. Jeff Hill and Mrs. Ann Davis to accept the two new appointments at June 15th's Mayor & Council Meeting.

Sussex County Tax Assessment Adoption

The Mayor & Council adopted the Sussex County Tax Assessment List on Monday, July 17, 2026, to allow the Court of Appeals to be held in August.

Court of Appeals

The Town of Laurel held their Court of Appeals on Monday, August 17, 2026. The Court of Appeals allows the public to appeal the assessment and the appeal will be sent to Sussex County.

Property Taxes: Due Date

Taxes were distributed by mail to all property owners in late August of this year.

Listed Below Are Details Regarding Payment

- 1% Discount if taxes are paid in full before September 30th.
- If payment is not received by November 30th a penalty rate of 5% per month is added.
- Retroactive to October 1st and 5% every month thereafter.



Town of Laurel: FY 2024 Audit

Mr. Brandon Tull, from Lank, Johnson, & Tull presented the FY 2024 Audit for Mayor & Council's review at July's Meeting. He presented the audited financial statements for the 2024 Fiscal Year where the report covers the period from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024. He answered questions that Mayor & Council and residents had. The FY2024 Audit was accepted that night by Mayor & Council.



Communication Committee

A Communication Committee was formed by the Mayor & Council to allow for better transparency and communication between the town. At March's Mayor & Council Meeting Mayor Oliveras made the following appointments for the Communication Committee.

Communication Committee Members:

- President of Council Chris Calio
- Councilman George Lodato
- Mrs. Sharon Ardisana - (Resident of Laurel)
- Mrs. Cheryl Barber - (Resident of Laurel)
- Mrs. Jill Cranmer

Communication Committee Meeting Dates:

The Communication Committee meets approximately two times a month on Thursday evenings at Laurel Town Hall at 6:30 p.m. Agenda's are posted on the Town of Laurel website at www.townoflaurel.net one week prior of the scheduled meeting.

BROCHURE: "Welcome to Laurel"

The Communication Committee created a Welcome to Laurel Brochure that features various sections consisting of:

- Welcome to the Neighborhood
- Message from the Mayor
- Local Representatives
- Community and Civic Organizations
- Resources
- Our Vision

If you wish to obtain a "Welcome to Laurel," Brochure copies can be made available at Laurel Town Hall. For more information please contact town hall at 302-875-2277.



Community Development Block Grant

A public hearing was held regarding the CDBG where Mr. Brandon Hamilton from the Sussex Community Development Office was in attendance. The funding comes from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, (HUD), and is allocated to Sussex and Kent County and the Delaware State Housing Authority. This grant year, there's approximately \$3 million that will be awarded to Kent and Sussex counties on a competitive basis. The purpose of the CDBG Funding is to assist households on low to moderate income levels for housing projects. The projects will benefit persons at low and lower income, as defined as households with incomes at or below 80% of the area median income for Sussex County set by HUD. The home must be owner-occupied and it must be the owner's primary residence. The home must be insured, and their county taxes and utilities must be current. When a rehab project occurs a lien is required, to put on the property in order to protect the funding. There are currently 18 houses on the waiting list. He stated applications are available either at their office or online at Sussex County website.

TOWN NEWS

"WELCOME TO LAUREL" BROCHURE SAMPLE

Welcome to the Neighborhood

Laurel was founded in 1883 and incorporated as a town in 1883. In the summer of 1899, a major fire destroyed much of the downtown area, and the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department was organized. Laurel has had five persons from the area serve as Governors of the state: Nathaniel Mitchell (1805-1808); John Collins (1821-1825); William Barkley Cooper (1841-1845); William Ross (1851-1855); and Elbert Newton Carvel (1949-1953, 1961-1965). Laurel also is home to more historic buildings than any town in Delaware, with 800 on the National Historic Register. You should take time to visit them. The town's current population is 3,688.

Message from the Mayor

Welcome to Laurel, our charming town! We're thrilled to have you here and can't wait for you to explore our beautiful parks, take in the breathtaking waterfront views, wander through our picturesque historical neighborhoods, and connect with our vibrant communities. Throughout the year, we celebrate all major holidays and cherished town traditions, including the Heritage Festival, the spectacular 4th of July Fireworks, the Point Laurel Plain Air, fishing tournaments, and many more. Laurel is a fun, friendly, and rapidly growing place where everything seems to work out perfectly. We're incredibly proud of our community and love where we live. Whether you're looking for a place to call home or a thriving business hub, you'll find warm hospitality and the quintessential small-town charm of Laurel waiting for you. We hope you have a wonderful stay!

Local Representatives

State Senator Bryant L. Richardson, representing District 21, 302-744-4298, covering the southwestern corner of Sussex, which includes Seaford, Laurel, Deltmar, Bethel, Gumboro, and Reliance. bryantlrichardson.com.
State Representative Tim Drake, representing the citizens of the 43rd District in the Delaware House of Representatives, which includes Laurel, Deltmar, and Bethel. <https://housegop.delaware.gov>.

Councilman Matt Lloyd, serves as the 1st district councilman on the five-member Sussex County Council, representing the southwestern portions of Sussex County, including the Bethel, Blades, Deltmar, Gumboro, Laurel, and Seaford areas. 302-955-7743.

Communications

Morning Star Publications, 951 Norman Eskridge Hwy, Seaford, 302-629-9788 <https://morningstarpublications.com>

Laurel Runway Club, a community service and promotion organization located at 1008 West Street.

Community and Civic Organizations

The Ark

The Ark is a Non-Profit 501(c)3 educational Resource Center located at 208 East Front Street, 302-716-5318, <https://arkeducation.org>

Laurel Women's Civic Club Inc., 384 Main Street, <https://www.facebook.com/laurelwcc>, P.O. Box 105, Laurel

14FW, <http://www.14fw.org>, 302-626-0993

Loof Fraternal Organization, 302-875-1154, 319 S. Poplar Street, <http://loof.org>, **Old Fellows Charity Lodge 27**, 302-875-1154, 319 S. Poplar Street

Laurel Lions Club

This organization is a part of Lions Clubs Intl, a network of volunteers who work to answer the needs that challenge our community, 357 US-13 Alt, <https://laurellionsclubhouse.org>

Hopewell Lodge #4 (Masonic Organization)

102 W. 6th St. They were the founding lodge of the Grand Lodge of Delaware in 1806.

One Laurel - The four focus areas are: Respect & Safety, Pride & Ownership, Race & Diversity, and youth engagement. You're invited to attend every second Wednesday, 123 N. Central Ave., at 9:00 a.m. and fourth Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. at the Paul Laurence Dunbar Public Safety Building, 1110 West Sixth Street.

Laurel Boys and Girls Club, 316 N. Central Ave. 302-875-1200. The club is a trusted place where young people can learn, grow, and build a better future. Fees apply.

Operation West Laurel (OWL) is an interfaith advocacy organization committed to the safety and well-being of the children and citizens of West Laurel while empowering and advancing our community to build a better tomorrow. <https://operationwestlaurel.org>

Laurel American Legion Post #19, 1268 Laurel Rd. 302-875-9948. The American Legion strengthens our communities, states, and nation with programs and services for our veterans.

<https://www.americanlegionlaurelpost19.com>

Laurel Senior Center, is a non-profit organization providing community-based services to the elderly in Western Sussex. 103 N. Central Ave., 302-875-2536, <https://sussexseniorcenter.org>

Gun Violence Intervention, Ron Handy, Leader and Transition Coordinator of GVI, their motto is Safe, Alive, & Free. They are situated in the State Services Building on Poplar Street, five days a week, 302-983-6980.

Resources

Help Initiative of Delaware, Inc. 833-888-040, 302-672-0778 www.helpinitiativeDE.org

Trash, Yard, & Recycle waste - please call the town office at 302-875-2277. Trash should be put out the evening before pick-up and removed within 24 hours after pick-up.

Laurel Library, 101 E. 4th Street, 302-875-3184

Xfinity Cable Company, 800-934-6489

Western Sussex Chamber of Commerce, <https://westernsussexchamber.com> The mission is to establish and maintain itself as the primary advocate voice, and resource for business organizations in our area.

Laurel School District, <http://laurelschoolsdistrict.org>, 1180 S. Central Ave. 302-875-8000

Laurel DE Historical Society, 502 E. 4th Street, <https://laureldehistoricalsociety.org>, 302-875-1344

Health Assistance

Laurel State Services Center, 31039 N. Poplar Street, 302-875-2280

Sussex Counseling Services, 302-877-0825

Division of State Services Centers, 302-875-8402

TidalHealth Immediate Care, Laurel, 30549 Sussex Highway, 302-297-2579

Pregnancy Care Hotline, 800-672-2296

Dr. Harris Mental Health Services, 443-365-5115. Hopes Helping Hands 2 LLC. Provides compassionate professional and spiritually grounded mental health support. <https://hopeshelpinghands2llc.org/about>

Financial Assistance

First State Community Action, 302-856-7761

Catholic Charities, 302-856-9578 or 302-856-6310

Good Samaritan. The thrift shop is located at 115 W. Market Street, 302-875-6943 or 302-875-2425. They have a wide variety of furniture, clothing, and antiques. <https://www.to.woodlaurel.net>

Delmarva Clergy, It's mission is to educate and cultivate self-worth and dignity in the community. <https://dcassfoundation.org>



Our Vision

We are building on our proud heritage while creating new and exciting residential neighborhoods, commercial centers, recreational venues, and job opportunities. Visit us, shop, dine, and enjoy our community. You may get caught up in the magic and decide to make Laurel your home. While we may be small in stature, Laurel stands tall in spirit.



Keeping in Compliance

Feel free to meet our officers. Mayor and council meetings are held the 1st (as needed) and 3rd Monday of each month, 201 Mechanic Street, Laurel, DE 19956. Payment can be made online. <https://www.townoflaurel.net>
Mayor - Carlos Oliveras
Town Manager - Jamie Smith

There are Four Council Wards:
Open First Ward
Jonathan Kellam, Sr. Second Ward
George Ladato Third Ward
Chris Calio Fourth Ward
No Holden President & At Large Fourth Ward
At Large Third Ward

What's your address? City ordinance requires the clear display of your address; numbers shall be a minimum of four inches high and placed in a conspicuous place where they can clearly be seen.

Dog Ordinances All dogs must have a state issued license and rabies vaccination. They must be leashed or securely confined to prevent their escaping. Delaware laws prohibits dogs from barking continuously for more than fifteen minutes.

Laurel Police Department, <https://www.laurelpolice.com>
Robert Krcayla, Chief, 1110 W. 6th Street, 302-875-2244

Laurel Fire Department, <https://laurelfiredept.com>, 205 W. 10th Street, 302-875-3081, Jeff Hill, Chief

Laurel Alderman's Court, Alderman Marcealeat Ruffin, 201 Mechanic St., 302-875-2855. The court has jurisdiction of all breaches of the peace in Laurel for offenses under its Municipal Code, certain Title II misdemeanor offenses and title 21 traffic violations. Court is open from 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Park - Market Square Park: This park features a Victorian bandstand, town mural, fountain, period-style streetlights, and winding brick sidewalks.

Roger C. Fisher River Park, W. 6th Street. This is a pet-friendly environment with wheelchair accessibility, ample parking, and two entrances for easy access.

Laurel River Park: This park has a small fishing pier, a boat ramp, a picnic pavilion, and easy traffic flow.

Jamaica Park: This graceful tree-lined park faces the Records Pond spillway and fishing areas.

Tidewater Park: This park features a new playground, a zipline, and showcases some of the history and folklore of the Nanticoke Indian Tribe.

Trap Pond State Park, 33587 Bald Cypress Dr., (302) 875-5153. It preserves one of the largest fragments of what was once an extensive wetland containing an extensive patch of bald cypress trees. **Jason Beach** is located in the park where the local Black community remembers gathering to picnic, socialize, dance, and attend church services.



Welcome to the
Town of Laurel
Love where you live.



The Town of Laurel does not endorse, recommend, or verify the quality of service

Let Us Introduce Ourselves



Town of Laurel: Hometown Hero Banners

The Town of Laurel began the Hometown Hero Banner Initiative Program in the summer of 2025. Over the past two years the town has proudly displayed over 50 banners to honor the town's hometown heroes and first responders throughout various town streets. The town will once again be accepting Hometown hero Banners Applications for the upcoming 2027 season. Please read below pertaining to how to retrieve and to submit an application.

Hometown Hero Banner Applications

Applications will be available beginning in January 2027 at Laurel Town Hall or online at www.townoflaurel.net for the 2027 Summer Season. Please click on the "Form Tab," and select "General," to obtain an application online.

Please note applications and pictures must be submitted together in-person at Laurel Town Hall or via email provided on the application. **Applications must be submitted by March 8, 2027, in order for the flags to be displayed for the 2027 Summer Season.** Please be advised applications received after March 8, 2027, submittal deadline will not be ordered for the 2027 Season. The banner project is at least a two-month process including the production and shipment of the banners. The cost of the banner will include the production of the banner along with the brackets/hardware.

Hometown Hero Banner Display

Banners are displayed at the beginning of Memorial Day to Labor Day all throughout the town. Please be advised the town will make the decision in where the 2027 Season Banners will be displayed at as applicants cannot make requests as what street they would like their banner to be displayed at.

TOWN OF LAUREL'S 4TH OF JULY FIREWORK SPONSORS 2026

GRAND FINALE SPONSOR
Sussex County Council
Eastern Shore Veterinary Hospital

FIRECRACKER SPONSOR
Laurel Redevelopment Corporation

SPARKLER SPONSOR
Carey's, Inc.
Lank, Johnson, & Tull
Baynum Enterprises, Inc.
The Insurance Market
George, Miles, Buhr, LLC
Edward Jones Investments-Melinda & Kevin Tingle
Laurel Community Hardware, Inc.
Sons of the American Legion Post. 19
American Legion Home, Inc.

STARS & STRIPES SPONSOR
Laurel Fire Dept. Auxiliary
O'Neal's Antiques, LLC.
Chet's Autobody, Inc.
Wilson Baker, Inc.
Odd Fellows Charity Lodge #27

RED, WHITE, & BLUE
Conaway Associates, Inc.
Fulton Bank
A.C. Schultes of Delaware, Inc.



★★★★★
— WE WILL NEVER FORGET —
25TH ANNIVERSARY
— PATRIOT DAY —

9/11/2001



LAUREL POLICE DEPARTMENT

NIGHT OUT

BUILDING COMMUNITY. BUILDING TRUST.

OCTOBER 1ST

STARTING AT 5 P.M.

BRYAN'S BOWLING CENTER
1103 S. CENTRAL AVENUE, LAUREL, DE 19956

- ROCK CLIMBING WALL
- BOUNCY HOUSE
- K-9 DEMONSTRATION
- EMERGENCY VEHICLES
- FOOD AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE
- VENDORS



**Mayor & Council
September - December 2026**

Listed below are the scheduled Mayor & Council Days for September through December 2026.

SEPTEMBER 2026

- Tuesday, September 8, 2026*
- Monday, September 21, 2026

OCTOBER 2026

- Monday, October 5, 2026*
- Monday, October 19, 2026

NOVEMBER 2026

- Monday, November 2, 2026*
- Monday, November 16, 2026

DECEMBER 2026

- Monday, December 7, 2026*
- Monday, December 21, 2026

(1st Meetings of Each Month are Held Open If Needed.)

Mayor & Council Agenda's

Please note agendas are posted one week prior from the regular scheduled Mayor & Council Meeting each month.

**HOW TO ACCESS A MAYOR & COUNCIL AGENDA:
YOU HAVE THREE OPTIONS:**

- (1.) Visit www.townoflaurel.net. Click on "Mayor & Council Tab," then Click on "Mayor & Council Meetings."
- (2.) Visit www.townoflaurel.net. Scroll all the way down on the Home Page. It will be listed under "Community Events."
- (3.) A hard copy is posted at Laurel Town Hall inside the office on the Community Bulletin Board.

Mayor & Council Packet

If you wish to review a packet prior to the Mayor & Council Meeting they will be available online at www.townoflaurel.net that Friday morning prior to Monday's Mayor & Council Meeting.

Please follow these instructions to obtain a packet online: Visit www.townoflaurel.net. Click on "Mayor & Council Tab," then Click on "Mayor & Council Meetings."

TOWN NEWS



**One-Laurel Meetings
SPETEMBER 2026- DECEMBER 2026
"YOUR'RE INVITED!!!"**

One-Laurel is an organization that meets the second and fourth Wednesday of every month. One-Laurel was organized in early 2020 and where four focus areas were created to help create a more engaged and stronger Laurel community.

FOUR FOCUS AREAS

- Respect/Safety
- Pride & Ownership
- Race & Diversity
- Youth Engagement

SEPTEMBER 2026

- Wednesday, September 9th, Vital Church, 9:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, September 23rd, Paul Laurence Dunbar Public Safety Building, 5:00 p.m.

OCTOBER 2026

- Wednesday, October 14th, Vital Church, 9:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, October 28th, Paul Laurence Dunbar Public Safety Building, 5:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 2026

- Wednesday, November 11th, Vital Church, 9:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, November 25th, Paul Laurence Dunbar Public Safety Building, 5:00 p.m.

DECEMBER 2026

- Wednesday, December 9th, Vital Church, 9:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, December 23rd, Paul Laurence Dunbar Public Safety Building, 5:00 p.m.

QUESTIONS:

If you have any questions about attending any meetings, please contact Laurel Town Hall at 302-875-2277.

**TOWN HALL CLOSING DATES
SEPTEMBER 2026 - DECEMBER 2026**

- **LABOR DAY:** Monday, September 7, 2026
- **COLUMBUS DAY:** Monday, October 12, 2026
- **GENERAL ELECTION DAY:** Tuesday, November 3, 2026
- **RETURNS DAY:** Thursday, November 5, 2026
- **VETERANS DAY:** Wednesday, November 11, 2026
- **THANKSGIVING:** Thursday, November 26, 2026
- **THANKSGIVING FRIDAY:** Friday, November 27, 2026
- **CHRISTMAS EVE:** Thursday, December 24, 2026
- **CHRISTMAS DAY:** Friday, December 25, 2026
- **NEW YEARS DAY:** Friday, January 1, 2027



**TOWN OF LAUREL
TRASH, YARD WASTE & RECYCLE
SEPTEMBER 2026 – DECEMBER 2026**

SEPTEMBER 2026

East Side of Town Schedule:

- *Trash Pick-Up Dates:* Sept. 1st, Sept. 8th, Sept. 15th, Sept. 22nd, & Sept. 29th
- *Recycle Pick-Up Dates:* Sept. 2nd, Sept. 16th, & Sept. 30th
- *Yard Waste Pick-Up Dates:* Sept. 9th & Sept. 23rd

West Side of Town Schedule:

- *Trash Pick-Up Dates:* Sept. 3rd, Sept. 10th, Sept. 17th, & Sept. 24th
- *Recycle Pick-Up Dates:* Sept. 9th & Sept. 23rd
- *Yard Waste Pick-Up Dates:* Sept. 9th & Sept. 23rd

OCTOBER 2026

East Side of Town Schedule:

- *Trash Pick-Up Dates:* Oct. 6th, Oct. 13th, Oct. 20th, & Oct. 27th
- *Recycle Pick-Up Dates:* Oct. 14th & Oct. 28th
- *Yard Waste Pick-Up Dates:* Oct. 7th & Oct. 21st

West Side of Town Schedule:

- *Trash Pick-Up Dates:* Oct. 1st, Oct. 8th, Oct. 15th, Oct. 22nd, & Oct. 29th
- *Recycle Pick-Up Dates:* Oct. 7th & Oct. 21st
- *Yard Waste Pick-Up Dates:* Oct. 7th & Oct. 21st

NOVEMBER 2026

East Side of Town Schedule:

- *Trash Pick-Up Dates:* Nov. 3rd, Nov. 10th, Nov. 17th, & Nov. 24th
- *Recycle Pick-Up Dates:* Nov. 11th & Nov. 25th
- *Yard Waste Pick-Up Dates:* Nov. 4th & Nov. 18th

West Side of Town Schedule:

- *Trash Pick-Up Dates:* Nov. 5th, Nov. 12th, Nov. 19th, & Nov. 27th
- *Recycle Pick-Up Dates:* Nov. 4th & Nov. 18th
- *Yard Waste Pick-Up Dates:* Nov. 4th & Nov. 18th

DECEMBER 2026

East Side of Town Schedule:

- *Trash Pick-Up Dates:* Dec. 1st, Dec. 8th, Dec. 15th, Dec. 22nd, & Dec. 29th
- *Recycle Pick-Up Dates:* Dec. 9th & Dec. 23rd
- *Yard Waste Pick-Up Dates:* Dec. 2nd, Dec. 16th, & Dec. 30th

West Side of Town Schedule:

- *Trash Pick-Up Dates:* Dec. 3rd, Dec. 10th, Dec. 17th, Dec. 24th, & Dec. 31st
- *Recycle Pick-Up Dates:* Dec. 2nd, Dec. 16th, & Dec. 30th
- *Yard Waste Pick-Up Dates:* Dec. 2nd, Dec. 16th, & Dec. 30th

MONTHLY CALENDARS ARE AVAILABLE!!!

NOTE: IF YOU WISH TO OBTAIN A MONTHLY TRASH, RECYCLE, & YARDWASTE CALENDAR FOR THE FOLLOWING MONTHS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026 TO DECEMBER 2026 PLEASE VISIT EITHER LAUREL TOWN HALL FOR A PAPER COPY OR VISIT WWW.TOWNOFLAUREL.NET FOR AN ELECTRONIC COPY.



TRUNK OR TREAT 2026

PLEASE CONTINUE TO LOOK AT THE TOWN OF LAUREL'S FACEBOOK PAGE AND AT THE TOWN WEBSITE AT WWW.TOWNOFLAURE.NET FOR MORE DETAILS REGARDING THE DATE, TIME & LOCATION OF THE EVENT!!!!



Town of Laurel's Annual Trick or Treat

DATE: Saturday, October 31, 2025

TIME: 6:00 P.M. - 8:00 p.m.

NOTE: Age Limit is 12 and under.

TOWN NEWS



Trick-Or-Treat Safety Contract



- ☐ I will wear a brightly colored costume.
- ☐ I will use a flashlight or glow stick.
- ☐ I will walk, not run.
- ☐ I will stay with a group of friends or adults.
- ☐ I will stay on the sidewalk.
- ☐ I will look both ways before crossing the street.
- ☐ I will not go inside a strangers home.
- ☐ I will wear comfortable shoes.
- ☐ I will follow trick-or-treating times.
- ☐ I will let a grown up check my candy before I eat it.

I Will
Be Safe
& Have Fun!



Signature

FREE Vendor Spots!
ALL SPOTS ARE FREE!
FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE!

LAUREL LEGACY YOUTH FOUNDATION
Empower • Support • Inspire

Businesses, Organizations, Childcare & Early Learning Organizations & Vendors Needed!

Laurel's FAMILY DAY

PEACE FESTIVAL

We made it through the summer peacefully, now let's celebrate our strength, unity, and brighter tomorrow together!

FOOD • FAMILY • FUN

We made it through the summer peacefully, now let's celebrate our strength, unity, and brighter tomorrow together! Join us as we celebrate a summer of peace, unity, and positive choices. Together, we've shown the power of love, respect, and community. Let's keep building a safer, stronger Laurel—together!

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26TH 2026

TIME: 1:00PM - 4:30PM

JOHNNY JANOSIK PARK LAUREL, DE

Call / Text if interested in a spot! **(609) 526-3930**

Email: laurellegacyyouthfoundation@gmail.com

FOOD VENDORS
COMMUNITY RESOURCES

GAMES & ACTIVITIES & MORE!

BUSINESSES & ORGANIZATIONS

CHILD CARE & EARLY LEARNING ORGANIZATIONS

SPONSORS ARE WELCOME!

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

BE A SPONSOR!

TRICK OR TREAT CHECKLIST

- ☒ TRICK-OR-TREAT BAG
- ☒ COMFY SHOES
- ☒ EMERGENCY CONTACT CARD
- ☒ FLASHLIGHT OR GLOW STICKS
- ☒ REFLECTIVE STRIPS OR TAPE
- ☒ WATER
- ☒ FIRST AID KIT
- ☒ TRICK-OR-TREAT ROUTE
- ☒ CELL PHONE
- ☒ WARM CLOTHES
- ☒ WELL-FITTING COSTUME

CDC



**Town of Laurel's
Annual Christmas Parade**

It's beginning to "Look A Lot Like Christmas," it's that time of year again for the Town of Laurel's Annual Christmas Parade to jumpstart your holiday.

Date: December 4, 2026

Time: Parade begins at 7:00 p.m.

Parade Line-Up: 6:00 p.m. on Evergreen Drive.

Pick-Up a Christmas Parade Application:

-Applications are either available:

(1.) **At Laurel Town Hall**

(2.) **Online at www.townoflaurel.net**

-Applications may either be dropped off or mailed to Town Hall.

Address: Town of Laurel
201 Mechanic Street
Laurel, Delaware 19956
ATTN: Christmas Parade

REMINDER:

"BRING YOUR CHAIRS & BLANKETS"



REMINDER TO SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK!!!

STARTING ON:

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2026



Santa Claus Is Coming To Town

Santa will be coming to town this holiday season. Santa will be making his first appearance on December 4, 2026, the same night as the parade.

Dates & Times

Santa dates and times will be available at Town Hall or online at www.townoflaurel.net.

Location

Santa will be at the Market Street Square Park. (The Santa House)



**Christmas Family Movie
CHECKLIST**

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1) Elf | 11) A Christmas Carol |
| 2) Home Alone | 12) A Charlie Brown Christmas |
| 3) The Polar Express | 13) The Grinch |
| 4) The Santa Clause | 14) The Christmas Chronicles |
| 5) It's a Wonderful Life | 15) One Magic Christmas |
| 6) Christmas Classics (Rudolph the Red-Nose Reindeer, Frosty the Snowman, and Santa Claus is Coming Town) | |
| 7) National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation | |
| 8) A Christmas Story | |
| 9) Miracle on 34th Street | |
| 10) Arthur Christmas | |



*****ATTENTION: NEWSLETTERS AVAILABILITY*****

PLEASE BE ADVISED THIS IS THE LAST MAIL OUT FOR ALL TOWN OF LAUREL NEWSLETTERS.

NEWSLETTERS WILL ONLY BE MADE AVAILABLE ELECTRONICALLY AT WWW.TOWNOFLAUREL.NET EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT LAUREL TOWN HALL AT 302-875-2277.



3

Laurel Public Library
Connect. Create. Inspire.

Back To School Emoji
BINGO!
MONDAY
SEPT 14TH
5:30-6:30PM

NO REGISTRATION.
LIMITED TO THE FIRST
30 PEOPLE. ARRIVE ON
TIME TO SAVE YOUR
SPACE!
ALL AGES EVENT!

14

13

10



Laurel Public Library
Connect. Create. Inspire.

Discover
Color the
Sustainable
Way

FRIDAY, SEPT 4th
**Sustainable
Fabric Dyeing**
- STEM WORKSHOP -
11AM-12PM
- Laurel Public Library
All Ages Welcome!

PLIX Bring your passion for color & earth!
All materials provided

TEENS & TWEENS:
JOIN THE
KICK BUTTS GENERATION AND LEARN
HOW TO KICK SMOKING/VAPING OUT
OF LAUREL

Free
stuff!



Make a
Difference!

1st & 3rd Friday
each month
3-4pm

Laurel Public Library
Bring a friend!
Learn how to incite change
in our community and make
it better!

Get
Volunteer
Hours

KBG
THE NEW GENERATION

Laurel
Public
Library
Connect • Create • Inspire

KICK BOXING FOR KIDS

taught by MMA fighter,
Steve Baker!



**Every Tuesday and Thursday
from 3:45-4:45pm**

Laurel
Public
Library
Connect • Create • Inspire

Learn how to defend yourself while getting
fit and having fun!
No experience or registration necessary.
Wear comfortable clothing and
closed-toe shoes.
All supplies provided.
Best suited for ages 6+.
Adults welcome.

SUSSEX
COUNTY HEALTH COALITION



DELAWARE HEALTH
AND SOCIAL SERVICES
Division of Public Health

Weekly Reset with Farah

FREE WORKSHOP FOR BUSY FAMILIES

LESS OVERWHELM. MORE INTENTION.

What You'll Gain

- Practical strategies for reducing overwhelm
- Sustainable routines that work in real life
- Ideas for creating calmer mornings and evenings
- Tools for managing the demands of everyday life
- Small changes that create meaningful results
- Something useful for everyone!

Save The Date

- ✓ Free to attend
- ✓ Dinner Served

Thursday, September 10

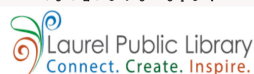
5:30pm

LEARN MORE & REGISTER

Laurel.lib.de.us

or call

(302) 875-3184



PLEASE REGISTER IN ADVANCE SO WE CAN
PLAN CLASS MATERIALS

bit.ly/weeklyresetwithfarah



PILLOWS AND PAGES

For Teens!



COME HANG OUT WITH US AND TELL US
ALL ABOUT WHAT YOU ARE READING.
NONE OF THE PRESSURE. ALL OF THE
COZY. ALL ARE WELCOME.
ALL SUPPLIES AND SNACKS PROVIDED.

2nd and 4th Friday
3-4pm



STEM TOY RESCUE!

School's out! Let's do something fun at the library!
What happens when a toy drone gets stuck in a tree? It's time to engineer a rescue! Made possible by Youth Engineering Solutions (YES), this hands-on STEM program challenges participants to design and test a solution for retrieving a toy drone from a tree. Geared for ages 6-11. No registration needed!

FRIDAY, SEPT 25

1-2PM



NEW DATE!



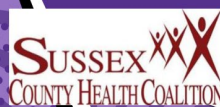
3rd Annual
Delaware Goes Purple
Event!

Saturday,
Oct 3rd

11am-
1pm

Join us for our third annual day of fun, information and prevention. Delaware Goes Purple focuses on providing resources to you and your family on how to be safe and healthy. Free food and more! Hope to see you there. No registration necessary.

*Made possible by a grant from Sussex County Health Coalition and Delaware Division of Health and Social Services.



Fall Edition Newsletter 2026

Town of Laurel
201 Mechanic Street
Laurel, Delaware 19956