



Spring & Summer Newsletter

A Message From The Mayor's Desk

I want to thank the voters for giving me some more time to serve as Laurel's Mayor. I and members of Council have served during some of the most difficult times in Laurel's history. Now in the past few years we are seeing Laurel make great progress. Council and I look forward to basking in the sunshine of renewal now and in the near future.

What is a Town? Is it just the physical structure, the homes, businesses and parks? No, I believe it is more like a beautiful tapestry made of physical things woven together by a multi-cultural society. I believe we have dedicated, hard-working people who all share common goals. We all want a safe place, decent housing, a place for our families to grow and have fun, an opportunity to get a good job, and a place to proudly call home.

I believe we have made great strides. We are a community of parks. The new Tidewater Park on North Central is only one third completed, but it is already getting a lot of use. Soon you will see new attractions added to the park. The Kayak Launch on Broad Creek has also been received very well. Soon the Laurel Lions Club will construct a tennis court and two pickle ball courts next to the basketball courts on the North Laurel Elementary School grounds. The renovation of the former Dunbar School into a new Laurel Police Station is proceeding slower than planned due to the inflationary costs of materials and construction.

We have paved the way for expansion in the Route 13 Corridor by extending water and sewer services to the east side of Route 13. Several business and residential developments are in the planning process. This economic development will add tax revenue to our property tax rolls allowing Mayor and Council to minimize increases in your and my property taxes. We and community organizations have been fortunate to receive millions in grants from the County, State, and Federal governments to help us do all these exciting things. Based on U.S. Census data Laurel is currently listed as the poorest Town in Delaware. Our median household income is \$34,615 and our percentage of families living in poverty is about 40%. At one time the DuPont Seaford Nylon Plant had over 4,700 employees, many of whom lived in Laurel, and earned better than average wages. Today that site employs just over 100 employees. Over the next few years as 600 new families buy homes at market rate prices in the new developments on the east side of Route 13, Laurel's median household income will rise. As more people come, new businesses will be added to meet the demand.

Finally, I want to discuss what I call some "soft, but very important things". In a song on **The Beatles Abbey Road classic 1969 album** there is a song titled "**The End**" with a line that says "And in the end the love you take is equal to the love you make". Right now we need a lot of love everywhere in America. Sometimes that might require supportive love or even tough love. We need to listen to each other, debate ideas, and support each other. What we give to our Town, our community's families and the children are so important to keeping us all on the track to a brighter future. . In a popular 1970 film called "**Love Story**", actress Ali MacGraw says to Ryan O'Neal "Love means never having to say you're sorry". Some might say that's an over simplification, but the point is, if we all behave by respecting each other and put others above self, America would be a better place.

-Mayor John J. Shwed

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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 Dedication & Commitment Tribute Councilman Randy Lee

At Monday's, April 17, 2023, Mayor & Council Meeting former Councilman Randy Lee was honored for his dedication and commitment to the town. Councilman Lee was appointed to the Mayor & Council in October 2004 and served until April 2023. Councilman Lee has been a true asset to the town for his willingness to serve on town council for 19 years. Councilman Lee is also a member of the Laurel Fire Department. The town presented Councilman Lee with a plaque, a tribute, a state senate tribute, and a house representative tribute for his service to the town. Councilman Lee thanked the Mayor & Council for the opportunity with working with them and thanked the town staff for all their hard work.



General Municipal Election 2023 Results

The Town of Laurel held their General Municipal Election on Thursday, March 23, 2023, at the Laurel Fire Department Meeting Room from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The Town of Laurel utilized the Sussex County Delaware Department of Election Registration Voting Logs. The contest of Mayor was between John Shwed and Mark Sikora. John Shwed was elected Mayor with receiving 82 votes with Mark Sikora receiving 52 votes.



Town of Laurel:

Mayor & Council Office Swearing-In Ceremony

The Town of Laurel held a Mayor & Council Office Swearing-In Ceremony on Monday, April 17, 2023 at the Laurel Fire Department's Meeting Room. Listed below are the newly sworn-in officials.

Mayor & Council Office Swearing-In Mayor John Shwed

- Ward 4
- Term Expires April 2025

President of Council Chris Calio

- At-Large Council
- Ward 4
- Term Expires April 2027

Councilman Carlos Oliveras

- Ward 1
- Term Expires April 2027

Councilwoman Cheryl Martin

- Ward 4
- Term Expires April 2027

Mayor & Councilpersons Terms

The Town of Laurel's Charter states a Mayor serves a two year term and Councilpersons serve a four year term.

Town of Laurel's: Mayor & Council

Mayor: John Shwed, Ward 4

President of Council: Chris Calio, At-Large Ward 4

Councilman: Carlos Oliveras, Ward 1

Councilwoman: Robin Fisher-Cornish, Ward 2

Councilman: Jonathan Kellam, Ward 3

Councilman: Donald Holden, At-Large Ward 3

Councilwoman: Cheryl Martin, Ward 4



Town of Laurel's FY 2024 Budget

The Town of Laurel's Administrative Staff and Budget Committee are currently preparing and drafting the FY 2024 Budget for the Mayor & Council's and resident's review.

Availability of FY 2024 Budget

The FY 2024 Budget will be made available for public review in late May 2023. The FY 2024 Budget will be available either at:

- Town of Laurel's Website: www.townoflaurel.net
- Town of Laurel's Facebook Page
- Laurel Town Hall, 201 Mechanic Street

Public Hearing:

A Public Hearing will be held on Monday, June 5, 2023, at the Laurel Town Hall regarding the presentation of FY 2024 Budget for citizen's review.

Adoption & Approval of FY 2023 Budget:

- The proposed FY 2024 Budget will be approved by Mayor & Council in June 2023.
- The FY 2024 budget will be in effect beginning of the fiscal year of July 1, 2023.



**Sussex County Habitat for Humanity
Affordable Housing**

Mr. Kevin Gilmore and Mrs. Katie Millard attended February's Mayor & Council Meeting to present a presentation on Affordable Housing. Mrs. Millard advised affordable housing varies per person and varies per housing type. Affordable housing is considered to both the population you serve and the housing type.

Affordable Housing Definition:

Where only 30% or less of your income (pre-taxed) is used for your household costs.

Affordable Housing Benefits:

- Local economy growth.
- More money invested in local businesses.
- Fewer evictions and vacant housing.
- Improved government infrastructure.



120 Water lead and Copper Inventory

At February's Mayor & Council Meeting, Mrs. Samantha Bitcliffe was in attendance to present a proposal from 120Water pertaining a federal mandate of lead and copper inventory requirements. She stated by October 2024 the town will be required to complete a Service Line Inventory Map that portrays a map of the towns water system and showing the type of line that services each property. On the private side verification, a lead check swab can be completed. She noted the pipe within the home is being checked for lead. There is federal funding available for pipe replacements for both the public and private side. If the homeowner declines to install a new pipe the town is required to offer to repair the lead pipe twice to the homeowner, at the homeowners cost. If the homeowner declines twice the town must document the declination with a signature.



Comprehensive Plan Update

Every Delaware Municipality according to state law are required to write a Comprehensive Plan every 10 years with a review period every 5 years. The Town of Laurel's Comprehensive Plan was approved in 2018. At March's P&Z Meeting, the P&Z reviewed the comprehensive plan to meet the 5 year review period. With no changes or amendments, the P&Z recommended for Mayor & Council's Approval. At March's Mayor & Council Meeting the Mayor & Council accepted the P&Z Committees recommendation of no changes or amendments to the plan.

What is a Comprehensive Plan?

A Comprehensive Plan's goal is to help municipalities forecast on how they envision their city to grow and evolve.

Comprehensive Plan Regulations

All local governments in Delaware both county and local are required to prepare and adopt a plan. The plan is reviewed by the Preliminary Land Use Service (PLUS) and certified by the governor.

Plans are available at Laurel Town Hall, 201 Mechanic Street.



Town of Laurel's Special Event Request Form

It's that time of year where the days are longer, the flowers are in full bloom, the birds are chirping, and the town parks are holding various gatherings. If you wish to reserve one of the town's park you must submit a Special Event Request Form to Laurel Town Hall, 201 Mechanic Street.

Overview of Special Event Form:

The Special Event Form will inquire about your date, time, and location of your event. The form will also require a brief description of your event and the anticipated number of participants. The form will also require contact information needed for the approval process. The form also inquires if you would need any Town Services, which are optionable with a fee.

Registration Fee

The Town of Laurel requires a **\$50.00** Registration Fee when the Special Event Request Form is submitted to the town office.

Town Services (Optionable)

- **Electric:** \$50.00 fee
- **Trash Cans:** \$25.00 per trash can after the 4th.
- **Road Closings**
- **Police Services**

(The Town Service Fee is Non-Refundable. Please review the weather before submitting payment.)

Approval Process:

Once the form is submitted to Town Hall the form is first reviewed by the Town Manager, Chief of Police, and the Public Works Director. Once the event is approved the individual is contacted with approval of their event.

"Please note forms are submitted on a first come first serve basis."

Special Event Forms Availability

Special Event Forms are available at:

1. Town of Laurel's website:
www.townoflaurel.net
2. Laurel Town Hall:
201 Mechanic Street

Town of Laurel Parks:

- Market Street Square Park
- Roger C. Fisher Laurel River Park
- Janosik Park
- Venables Park - Owned by LRC



Republic Services - Recycle Update

The Mayor & Council approved to accept the recycle proposal recommended by Republic Services pertaining recycle pick-up.

Recycling Day Change & Update

Please note that Recycling Pick-Up will be scheduled for **Tuesday's beginning the week of June 6th, 2023.** Recycling will still be picked-up every other week as before.

Trash, Yard Waste, & Recycle Calendar

Please note that the new Recycle Day scheduled on Tuesday's will reflect beginning on Junes Trash, Yard Waste, & Recycle Calendar.

Notifying Residents of Change

Republic Services will be helping the town notify residents of the change. The town will post the change on the Town's Website www.townoflaurel.net, Town's Facebook Page, Water Bills, and in Laurel Town Hall.

PLEASE REVIEW THE RECYCLE UPDATE & CHANGE ABOVE!!!



Bush, Grass, and Weed Highlights

(Highlights of the Code Listed Below.)

Cutting or Removal of Weeds Required

Every owner of any area, lot or parcel of land shall cut, trim or otherwise remove or cause to be removed all weeds, grass, brush or vegetation **more than six inches in height** on any lot within the Town of Laurel unless said property is in agriculture production.

Notice

The Town of Laurel Code Enforcement Officer is hereby authorized to notify in writing via mail (**Certificate of Mailing**) the owner of the property, as determined by the official tax rolls of the Town of Laurel, to cut, remove, and destroy such grass and weeds, and/or remove and dispose of growing grass, cuttings, and other plants growing through, onto or over such sidewalks, driveways or streets from the subject property **within seven (7) calendar days from mailing of said notice.**

An owner of any property will be given only one notice per calendar year after which the Town shall cut the grass after each additional violation days.

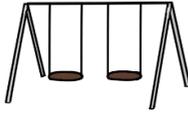
Bush, Grass, and Weed: Repeat Offenders

On June 17, 2019 Mayor & Council passed a Resolution to amend the fee pertaining Grass and Weed Works Order. The resolution became effective July 1, 2019.

REPEAT OFFENDERS:

Each violation increases by 25%.

Town Projects



Tidewater Park Update

At January's Mayor & Council Meeting the town announced they were awarded a federal grant for the completion of Tidewater Park. The park currently features a swing set, a pavilion, a beaver, a ceramic turtle, a kayak, and a railway fence.

What Is Tidewater Park?

Tidewater Park is a piece of the Ramble Project, where it will consist of a nature base playground. This park will be environmentally friendly due to its ability to produce a greener infrastructure and provide a stormwater management with a constructed wetland.

Tidewater Park:

Features 3 Playground Areas:

- A 5 to 12 year's old play area.
- A 2 to 5 year's old play area.
- A sensory area.

Tidewater Park: Phase 2 & Phase 3

- Phase 2: "The Squirrel Council"
- Phase 3: "The Rainbow Crow"

Construction Scheduled

Construction for the completion of Tidewater Park is scheduled for this Summer 2023.

Town News



Good Samaritan Thrift Shop

Volunteers are needed at the Good Samaritan Thrift Shop on Market Street, Laurel, De 19956. If you wish to volunteer, please stop in and inquire. All proceeds go right back in the community to help families who are in need. *Listed below are their hours if you wish to stop in to help volunteer.*

Hours:

Monday: Closed, Cleaning Day
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Thursday & Friday
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Town Reminders



What Items to Avoid Flushing Down the Toilet

Flushing detrimental products down the toilet leads to clogged drainpipes, contamination of the water system, and causing environmental damage. *Please review the avoided items to disperse in a toilet.*

Flushable Wipes
Paper Towels and Tissues
Too Much Toilet Paper
Cotton Balls, Rounds, or Swabs

Feminine Products
Dental Floss

Hair

Bandages

Medication & Other Hazardous Materials

Cigarette Butts

Kitty Litter

Fats, Oils, or Grease



Mayor & Council Schedule

May - August 2023

Listed below are the scheduled Mayor & Council Days for May through August 2023.

May 2023

- Monday, May 1st *
- Monday, May 15th

June 2023

- Monday, June 5th (Public Hearing FY 2024 Budget)
- Tuesday, June 20th

July 2023

- Monday, July 3rd *
- Monday, July 17th

August 2023

- Monday, August 7th *
- Monday, August 21st

Mayor & Council Agenda's

Agendas are posted one week prior at Laurel Town Hall and the town's website at www.townoflaure.net

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



Laurel Town Hall Closed

Memorial Day, Monday, May 29th

Juneteenth, Monday, 19th

4th of July, Tuesday, July 4th

Labor Day, Monday, September 4th

Reminder Dates



**Republic Service Recycle Change
Recycling Day Change & Update**

Please note that the new Recycling Pick-Up will be scheduled for:

Tuesday's beginning the week of June 6th, 2023. Recycling will still be picked-up every other week as before.

♻️ RECYCLING IN DELAWARE ♻️

☑️ ACCEPTED IN BIN
Place only these materials loose, empty, clean and dry in your recycling cart or dumpster:



❌ NOT ACCEPTED IN BIN
Keep these items out of your recycling cart or dumpster:



For More Information Visit: www.dswa.com or call 1-800-404-7080

MAY 2023				Trash, Recycle, Yard Waste Schedule		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	3 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	4 RECYCLE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	5 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	6
7	8	9 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	10 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	11 RECYCLE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	12 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	13
14	15	16 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	17 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	18 RECYCLE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	19 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	20
21	22	23 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	24 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	25 RECYCLE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	26 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	27
28	29	30 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	31 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	1 RECYCLE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	2 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	

JUNE 2023				Trash, Recycle, Yard Waste Schedule		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 RECYCLE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	2 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	3
4	5	6 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE WEST SIDE	7 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	8	9 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	10
11	12	13 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE EAST SIDE	14 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	15	16 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	17
18	19	20 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE WEST SIDE	21 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	22	23 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	24
25	26	27 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE EAST SIDE	28 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	29	30 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	

JULY 2023				Trash, Recycle, Yard Waste Schedule		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE WEST SIDE	5 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	6	7 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	8
9	10	11 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE EAST SIDE	12 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	13	14 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	15
16	17	18 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE WEST SIDE	19 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	20	21 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	22
23/30	24/31	25 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE EAST SIDE	26 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	27	28 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	29

AUGUST 2023				Trash, Recycle, Yard Waste Schedule		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE WEST SIDE	2 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	3	4 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	5
6	7	8 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE EAST SIDE	9 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	10	11 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	12
13	14	15 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE WEST SIDE	16 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	17	18 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	19
20	21	22 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE EAST SIDE	23 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	24	25 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	26
27	28	29 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE WEST SIDE	30 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	31	1 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	2



Hydrant Flushing and Waterline Maintenance -Spring & Summer 2023

You may notice Public Works crews working at fire hydrants and see water running down the street. Normally in the spring, we flush water lines through the use of fire hydrants, which is an important preventive maintenance activity. Although it may appear to waste water, the process is part of a routine maintenance program necessary to maintain the integrity of the water system and allowing us to ensure the hydrants are in proper working order. Hydrants that are found to not be in working order are tagged and submitted for repair. As a result of the line flushing process, residents in the immediate vicinity of the work may experience temporary discoloration of their water. This discoloration consists primarily of harmless silt and air and does not affect the safety of the water. If you experience discoloration in your water after crews have been flushing in your neighborhood, clear the pipes in your home by running all water faucets for a few minutes. The same philosophy of water line and hydrant preventive maintenance is one that you should use in your own home to ensure the quality of water inside your home. Your home's water heater should be drained and flushed on a regular basis, according to manufacturers' recommendations, to keep it working effectively and efficiently.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Why does the water system need to be routinely flushed?

A: The town's water distribution system is a complex network of pipes and storage reservoirs where sediment or deposits may naturally accumulate over time. If not removed, these materials may cause water quality deterioration, taste and odor problems, or discoloration of the water.

Water may also stagnate in lesser used parts of the distribution system. This can result in degraded water quality.

Q. When does flushing normal occur?

A. Normally, flushing takes place during early spring. Crews from Public Works flush the lines between the hours of 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Q. What should I do after the flushing?

A. If the tap water is used during flushing, it could come out with sediment and discoloration. If you encounter discolored water, shut the water off and wait several minutes. After waiting, check the clarity by running cold water for a few minutes allowing new water to work its way into your pipes. If not, wait a few more minutes and check again. In some cases, you may experience slight discoloration for a few hours. This discoloration only affects the appearance of the water; it does not affect the taste or water quality.

Q. What should I do if my water pressure or volume seems low after flushing?

A. Check your faucet and washer screens for trapped debris.

Q. Why does the water look funny after hydrant flushing?

A. When a hydrant is opened, there will always be temporary incidences of discolored water containing fine sediment particles. There is no health hazard associated with discolored water. Allow a few hours for discoloration to dissipate. To verify the water has settled, allow your cold water tap to run a few minutes. If the discoloration persists for more than twenty-four (24) hours, please contact the Town Office at 302-875-2277.

Q. Is it OK to drink sediment-laden or discolored water during temporary disturbance events?

A. It is recommended that water users wait until the water has cleared before using it for potable purposes.

Q. What is the silt in the water system after flushing?

A. Water contains minerals, and these minerals react with the inside of the pipe to produce the by-product. This chemical reaction between the pipe and water is a normal and natural process. This process can occur on the inside of the pipe and prevent an adequate volume of water flow. The flushing process removes much of this by-product which is why it is done annually.

Q. What will happen if fire hydrants are turned on or off too quickly?

A. This will cause "water hammer", which is a pressure surge or wave when water in motion is forced to stop or change direction suddenly. The pressure wave can cause major problems, from noise and vibrations to pipe collapse. In home plumbing, this is experienced as a loud bang resembling a hammering noise.



**Town of Laurel's
Farmers Market**

The Town of Laurel is proud to announce the re-establishment of the Town of Laurel's Farmers Market. There is an array of vendors including local farm produce including eggs, breads, meat, and much more. Local artisans featuring handmade candles, blanket crochets, and designed t-shirts.

Farmers Market Details:

WHEN: 2nd and 4th Saturdays throughout June to August.

WHERE: Tidewater Park (Across from Pizza King)

TIME: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Please note that Farmers Market will be cancelled for those schedule Saturdays for inclement weather.

Please come out and visit the Farmers Market to help support our local farmers and artisans.

Farmers Market 2023 Season

JUNE 2023

- June 10th
- June 24th

JULY 2023

- July 8th
- July 22nd

AUGUST 2023

- August 12th
- August 26th

**THE 2023 FARMERS MARKET SEASON
KICKS-OFF SATURDAY, JUNE 10TH,
2023!!!**



Habitat for Humanity Rock the Block
Habitat for Humanity is proposing a Rock the Block in June 2023. A date, time, and location has not been determined. Please visit the towns website: www.townoflaurel.net and the town's Facebook Page for more information.



Town of Laurel's

29th Annual 4th of July Celebration

The Town of Laurel will be hosting their 29th Annual 4th of July Celebration on Tuesday, July 4, 2023. This year's festivities will be located at Janosik Park. Please continue to review the Town of Laurel's website www.townoflaurel.net and the Town of Laurel's Facebook Page for more information. **Listed below is a tentative schedule of events.**

A Prayers Breakfast at Abbott's

- Tickets will be available at Laurel Town Hall.
- Time to Be Determined.

Food Vendors & Non-Food Vendors

- Vendors are scheduled to begin setting up at 2:00 p.m.
- Vendors may begin selling at 3:00 p.m.
- Vendor applications are available at Laurel Town Hall, 201 Mechanic St.
- **Location:** Janosik Park

Live Entertainment - Bands

- Kick Back & Pistol Whipped will be performing.
- First performance is scheduled at 3:00 p.m.
- **Location:** Janosik Park

Car Show

- A \$10 Registration Fee
- Early Registration at 3:00 p.m.
- Car Show is from 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- **Location:** Janosik Park

4th of July Parade

- Line-Up begins at 6:00 p.m. on Evergreen Drive.
- Parade begins at 7:00 p.m.
- **Parade Route:** Will begin on Evergreen Drive and travel north onto Central Avenue, turn right onto Market Street and travel down Delaware Avenue.
- **Parade Theme:** "PARTY LIKE IT'S 1776"
- **Parade Applications:** Available at Laurel Town Hall, 201 Mechanic St. or at www.townoflaurel.net

**"PARADE ENTRIES ARE NEEDED, PLEASE
SUBMIT APPLICATIONS!!!"**

Firework Display

- Firework Display will begin at dusk.

"BRING YOUR CHAIRS & BLANKETS"

Community Events

Laurel's First Annual

MAY DAY FESTIVAL

May 13, 2023 | 4:00-7:00 pm | Laurel Fire Hall
 Proceeds benefit Laurel Community Foundation and the Laurel Fire Department Auxiliary
 Proud partner with Western Sussex Boys and Girls Club-Laurel Site

WRIST BANDS \$10 TICKETS-6 FOR \$1
SILENT AUCTION
VENDORS
LIVE MUSIC & KARAOKE
GAMES & PRIZES
FOOD & DRINKS
BOUNCE HOUSES
PETTING ZOO
TRAIN RIDES

6-10 Vendors \$25/table Call Denise (302)542-7431

Join Our

BLOCK PARTY

Laurel Public Library
 Summer Reading Block Party

DATE: Saturday, June 10th, 2023
WHERE: Market Street Square Park
TIME: 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

What is the Summer Reading Block Party?
 The Laurel Public Library is kicking-off their Summer Reading Program with free food, music, activities, and non-profit vendors.

ONE-LAUREL, ONE DAY

SATURDAY MAY 20TH

FIVE FREE COMMUNITY EVENTS

- PAINT LAUREL PLEIN AIRE** @ Janosik Park
 -Begins at Sunrise.
 -Art Walk 11:30 a.m.
 -Judging 1:00 p.m.
- WATER COLORS BUS PAINT** @ Janosik Park
 -9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- Ballin For God** @ Webb Avenue Courts
 -10:00 a.m.
- ST. PHILLIPS STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL**
 -8:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.
 -Featuring scrapple sandwiches, strawberry desserts and vendors.
- COMMUNITY MEAL** @ Janosik Park
 -Ice Cream & Ethnic Cuisine Offerings.

WATER COLORS
 THE ARTISTIC SIDE OF AGRICULTURE

YOU'RE INVITED!!!

Please reach out at Laurel Town Hall at (302)-875-2277 for more information.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Town of Laurel's
 "29th" Annual
 4th of July Celebration
 Parade

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

JULY 4 • 7:00PM

PARADE LINE-UP: Begins at 6:00 p.m. on Evergreen Drive.

PARADE ROUTE: Begins on Evergreen Drive, turns onto Central Avenue, turns right onto Market Street, and travels down Delaware Avenue.

PARADE THEME: Party Like it's '1776.

PARADE APPLICATIONS: Available at Laurel Town Hall, 201 Mechanic Street.

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LAUREL
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National Iced Tea Month

Throughout the summer months we are constantly grabbing a cool treat whether it's an ice cream, shaved ice, or just a cold glass of water to beat the summer rays. Most time summer is a season where many of us joy outdoor activities including picnics that always features a refreshing glass of iced tea. Did you know June is considered National Iced Tea Month? Many of us accompany our tea with a citrus whether it's a lemon or orange slice on the glass of our rim. Tea comes in variety forms either served cold or hot with an arrange of flavor combinations. Iced tea is considered to be low in caffeine which makes it suitable beverage for younger kids to consume (National Today, 2023).

History of National Iced Tea Month

It wasn't until after 1904, iced tea became a very popular and desirable drink to consume. It was founded by Richard Blechynden who was the director of the East India Pavilion at St. Louis World's Fair. Mr. Blechynden would serve hot tea to patrons during the summertime in Missouri, which he began to question if hot tea was a very desirable drink during the summer months. He then began to serve iced tea by dunking several lead pipes in ice creating iced tea, which instantly turned into a favorable and desirable beverage for Americans. During the 19th Century, General Stores were known to carry green tea which came from China or Japan. After World II, green tea became difficult to acquire, so America began to import black tea from India. Today's iced tea is made mostly out of black tea (National Today, 2023).



Five Fun Facts of Iced Tea

- (1.) **Tea is a very popular drink.**
-Tea is the second most popular beverage behind water.
- (2.) **Tea comes in many varieties.**
-Tea comes in as many as 1,500 varieties sold in the market.
- (3.) **Tea is made with salt.**
- (4.) **Tea can tell the future.**
-Tasseography is reading of tea leaves, which is a common practice in many cultures.
- (5.) **Tea protects teeth.**
-Tea contains natural sources of fluoride that keeps your teeth and gums strong and healthy.



National Peach Month

Every summer season, we typically take advantage of the fresh and bountiful seasonal fruits and vegetables that have become a staple in our summer cuisine. Every summer we patiently await for the arrival for one of the season's most juiciest fruit the "peach." Did you know peach season actually begins in June but it isn't until August the peaches are at their ripest. Peaches are a very versatile fruit whether it's for a savory dish or a sweet dessert. Peaches symbolize youth and immortality. In the Chinese culture they symbolize fertility and union as many brides will carry a peach blossom bouquet at their wedding. They're approximately 700 varieties peach in the world, including nectarines. The difference between a peach and nectarine is that a peach is velvety, and a nectarine is smooth. The peach is considered to be known as a drupe due to it has a hard stone center. There are also two different types of peaches either the clingstone and the freestone (National Today, 2023).

History of National Peach Month

How did August become National Peach Month many of you may ask? National Peach Month was declared by President Reagan on June 16, 1982, to promote health and nutrition. Not only are peaches juicy and delicious to consume they also have a rich source of Vitamin A and Vitamin C. It's also important to recognize that August 22nd is National Eat a Peach Day and August 24th is National Peach Pie Day. Peaches were founded all the way back to ancient China, 6000 B.C. In the Chinese culture peaches were considered to be an extravagant food where only emperors and royals consumed. The Persians began to consume the peach which they renamed to the Persian Apple. Alexander the Great brought the peach to Europe and the peach made it's first way to America in the 1500's. China is known as the largest producer of peaches globally. The peach is the third most popular fruit grown in the U.S where a quarter of the world's supply comes from (National Today, 2023).



Five Fun Peach Facts

- (1.) **World's Largest Peach Cobbler.**
-Largest peach cobbler made in Georgia every year measuring a good 11 foot by 5 foot.
- (2.) **You're a Real Peach.**
-The sayings came from the tradition giving your closes friend a peach.
- (3.) **Giant Peach.**
-The largest peach located at Gaffney, South Carolina weighing over 10,000 lbs.
- (4.) **12 Years a Peach.**
-An average peach tree produces fruit for 12 years and can be harvested multiple times the same season.
- (5.) **Tri-Color Peaches.**
-Peaches come in three different colors.

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