



**Spring & Summer
Edition
Newsletter**

Message From The Mayor's Desk

On Monday, April 13, 2024 millions of people on the North American Continent from Mexico to Canada were united in a special way as they gathered together to watch the Solar Eclipse. In Laurel people spread blankets on the grass of Market Street Park at a Solar Eclipse party hosted by the Laurel Library. For a few minutes racial and ethnic differences were overcome by the realization that we are part of something bigger than each of us. People donned their protective glasses and gazed skyward to watch the moon move across the sun and slowly block out the sunshine. In the main pathway of the eclipse the sky darkened, birds and other animals got confused, and most of the people marveled at the spectacle. I believe you would all agree, it would be nice if we could create those bonds of friendship between all people everyday.

We have several organizations working hard to move our population in that direction. Operation West Laurel, One Laurel, several churches, and the Community Engagement Unit of the Delaware Department of Justice are examples. State assistance is being provided to Laurel as a result of a visit by Governor John Carney to one of Operation West Laurel's meetings focused on reducing violence among our community's youth. The Community Engagement Unit led by Program Administer Corie Priest held a "Pop-Up" event at Little Creek Apartments on Friday, March 8th and a second "Pop-Up" event at Carvel Gardens Apartments on Friday, April 11th. A third "Pop-Up" is planned for Holly Brook Apartments. The goal is to strengthen families, encourage good decisions, and to build hope for a better future; a future that leads to good jobs for high school graduates or a pathway to college. There is a famous Chinese saying, "A journey of a 1000 miles starts with a single step". These "Pop-Up" events are a small, single step on our journey to a better, safer Laurel for all our citizens. We need everyone to help.

In addition to working on our social order, the Town continues to promote new business and residential development in the Route 13 corridor. The Laurel Redevelopment Corporation and the Laurel Historical Society are doing a great job restoring historical structures. New Park attractions are coming. Renovations to Dunbar school should be complete this year. Britt's restaurant had a "Help wanted" sign in the window. New buildings are being planned at the former Globe building and Rigbie Apartments sites.

Working together with the collegial spirit of the Eclipse watchers, we can do great things for this and future generations!

John J. Shwed
Mayor, Town of Laurel

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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.

Know the Code



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 of Laurel's FY 2025 Budget

The Town of Laurel's Administrative Staff and Budget Committee are currently preparing and drafting the FY 2025 Budget for the Mayor & Council's and resident's review.

Availability of FY 2025 Budget

The FY 2025 Budget will be made available for public review in late May 2024. **The FY 2025 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 3, 2024, at the Laurel Town Hall regarding the presentation of FY 2025 Budget for citizen's review.

Adoption & Approval of FY 2025 Budget:

- The proposed FY 2025 Budget will be approved by Mayor & Council in June 2024.
- The FY 2025 budget will be in effect beginning of the fiscal year of July 1, 2024.



Mayor & Council

May - August 2024

Listed below are the scheduled Mayor & Council Days for May through August 2024.

May 2024

- Monday, May 6th *
- Monday, May 20th

June 2024

- Monday, June 3rd (Public Hearing FY 2024 Budget)
- Monday, June 17th

July 2024

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

August 2024

- Monday, August 5th *
- Monday, August 19th

Mayor & Council Agenda's

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

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

Laurel Town Hall Closed

Memorial Day, Monday, May 27th
Juneteenth, Tuesday, June 18th
4th of July, Thursday, July 4th
Labor Day, Monday, September 2nd



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



Town of Laurel's Trash Bid Proposal

The Town of Laurel held a Trash Bid Proposal at April's 2024 Mayor & Council Meeting. The town received 5 Trash Bid Proposals with all contracts having a proposed 3-to-5-year contract period. All trash bids were due on Friday, April 12, 2024, at Laurel Town Hall at 12:00 p.m.

Trash Bid Proposal Selected

The Town of Laurel's Mayor & Council awarded the trash bid to Deihm's Disposable for a 3-year period. Deihm's Disposable will continue to offer waste, recycle, and yard waste services to residents.

Notifying Residents of Change

Please note Deihm's Trash Bid will go into effect beginning of July 1, 2024. **Please review the new trash, recycle, and yard waste days listed below with calendar on Pg. 5.** If you have any questions, please contact Laurel Town Hall at 302-875-2277.



Tidewater Park Update

At April's Mayor & Council Meeting it was announced that Tidewater Park is near completion. The final stages including sight work and delivering of the playground equipment and installation. The park is expected to be completed in Summer.

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.



**Town of Laurel's
Downtown Development District (DDD)**

Town of Laurel's History DDD District

The Town of Laurel designated their core downtown into the DDD in August of 2016. The DDD is a state program where it offers property owners local and state incentives within the designated district to rehab their homes, businesses, and investment properties. If you would like to take advantage of the incentives of having property within the DDD District please contact Laurel Town Hall at 302-875-2277,

Incentives Include:

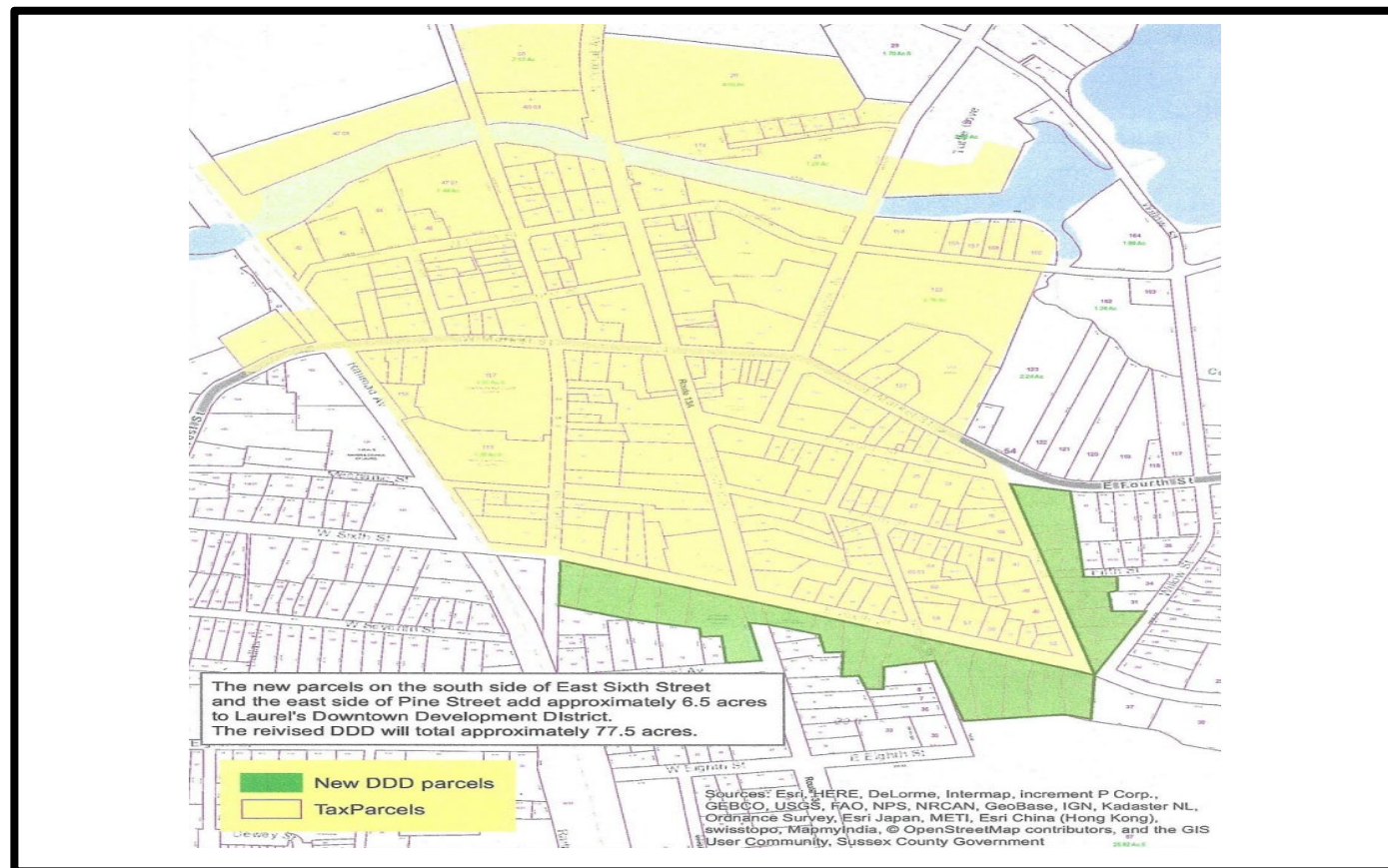
- A town property tax abatement on improvements for five years.
- State Historic Tax Credits equal to 20% to 30% of the cost of rehabilitating homes, businesses, church, and non-profits.
- State Grant of up to \$50,000 or 20% of eligible expenses (Most "hard" costs)' minimum investment of \$15,000 required.
- Rebates of up to \$9,100 for residential energy efficiency improvements.
- Matching grants of up to \$10,000 per project from Sussex County.

Town of Laurel: DDD Expansion

At February's 2024 Mayor & Council Meeting it was noted that the town has 89 acres designated to the DDD and they're permitted to have 95 acres based on the town size. The property at 121 Delaware Avenue, where the Rosemont House resides on the corner of Delaware Avenue and Maryland Avenue will be incorporated in the towns DDD expansion. The town recommended to increase the DDD area on Delaware Avenue to include more of the historical homes in town. The DDD has been a huge asset to our town where many property owners have applied for funding.

The Town of Laurel's DDD District (MAP DATED AS OF 2017)

District includes portions of Central Avenue, Market Street, Second Street, E. Fourth Street, Poplar Street, Sixth Street, Delaware Avenue, and Pine Street.



ATTENTION!!!

Please be advised Deihm's will be dropping trash totes and recycling totes at all residential properties and apartment complexes the week of June 24, 2024. Each residential dwelling/unit will receive a 96 gallon trash tote and a 96 gallon recycling tote (it will be marked).

ALL PICK UPS WILL BEGIN AT 6:00 A.M. ON THE SCHEDULED DAY. PLEASE BE SURE TOTERS ARE OUT PRIOR TO 6:00 A.M. THEY CAN BE PLACED OUT THE NIGHT BEFORE FOR CONVENIENCE.

Pick up days will be as follows:

Trash:

-East side of Town (Central Avenue is dividing line) - Tuesday (starting July 2, 2024)

-West Side of Town (Central Avenue is dividing line) - Thursday, however the first week it will be on Friday, July 5th due to holiday (please note new day)

Yard Waste:

-Entire Town - Bi Weekly on Wednesdays, beginning July 3, 2024

Recycling:

-West side of Town (Central Avenue is dividing line) - Bi Weekly, Wednesday - (starting July 3, 2024)

-East Side of Town (Central Avenue is dividing line) - Bi Weekly, Wednesday - (starting July 10, 2024)

Deihm's Disposal will take up to three additional trash bags outside of the trash toter.

Please be advised any yard waste or recycling that is contaminated (standards set by Delaware Solid Waste Authority) will not be picked up. A list of permitted recycling materials can be obtained at Laurel Town Hall or online at <https://dswa.com/residential-recycling-guidelines/>

"EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024"

May 2024				Trash, Recycle, Yard Waste Schedule		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	2	3 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	4
5	6	7 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE WEST SIDE	8 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	9	10 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	11
12	13	14 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE EAST SIDE	15 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	16	17 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	18
19	20	21 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE WEST SIDE	22 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	23	24 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	25
26	27	28 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE EAST SIDE	29 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	30	31 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	

JUNE 2024				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	24	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
30						

DEIHM'S DISPOSABLE - EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024
PLEASE REVIEW JULY & AUGUST CALENDARS LISTED BELOW
AS TRASH, RECYCLING, & YARD WASTE COLLECTIING DAYS
HAVE CHANGED.

<u>JULY 2024</u>				Trash, Recycle, Yard Waste Schedule		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	3 YARD WASTE ENTIRE TOWN RECYCLING WEST SIDE	4 HAPPY 4 TH OF JULY!!!	5 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	6
7	8	9 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	10 RECYCLING EAST SIDE	11 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	12	13
14	15	16 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	17 YARD WASTE ENTIRE TOWN RECYCLING WEST SIDE	18 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	19	20
21	22	23 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	24 RECYCLING EAST SIDE	25 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	26	27
28	29	30 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	31 YARD WASTE ENTIRE TOWN RECYCLING WEST SIDE	1 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN		

<u>AUGUST 2024</u>				Trash, Recycle, Yard Waste Schedule		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	2	3
4	5	6 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	7 RECYCLING EAST SIDE	8 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	9	10
11	12	13 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	14 YARD WASTE ENTIRE TOWN RECYCLING WEST SIDE	15 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	16	17
18	19	20 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	21 RECYCLING EAST SIDE	22 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	23	24
25	26	27 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	28 YARD WASTE ENTIRE TOWN RECYCLE WEST SIDE	29 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	30	31



Town of Laurel's Farmer's Market

The Town of Laurel is proud to announce the Second Annual Season of the Town of Laurel's Farmers Market. Last year's market was a huge success due to the vendors commitment and the patron's support. We're hoping for another successful season!!!

There will be 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 & 4th Saturdays (June - August)

WHERE: Janosik Park

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 2024 Season

JUNE 2024

- June 8th
- June 22nd

JULY 2024

- July 13th
- July 27th

AUGUST 2024

- August 10th
- August 24th

**THE 2024 FARMERS MARKET SEASON
KICKS-OFF SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2024**



St. Phillips 15TH Annual Strawberry Festival

Featuring scrapple sandwiches, strawberry desserts, and vendors!!!

WHEN: Saturday, May 18, 2024

WHERE: St. Phillips Episcopal Church, 600 South Central Avenue, Laurel, De 19956

TIME: 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.



Paint Laurel Plein Air

The Third Annual Paint Laurel Plein Air will be held on Saturday, May 11, 2024 (rain or shine) in historic Laurel, DE. All artists working en plein air in oil, acrylic, pastel, and watercolors will be setting up their easels to capture this historic town and surrounding picturesque natural areas on a spring day. **This Years Event is Sold Out with 30 Registered Artists coming from Manassas, VA to Baltimore, MD.**

This event will give artists an opportunity to display their artwork during a "wet paint" art walk and sale along the Broad Creek in Janosik Park. In the past two years, more than \$6,000 worth of artwork was sold!

Schedule of Events:

Friday, May 10th

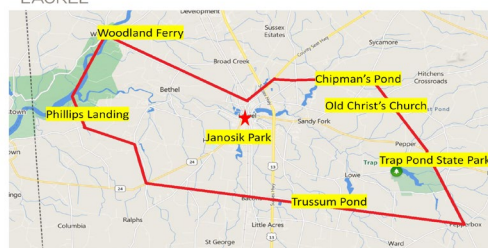
- Artist Check-in begins at 5:30 p.m. with an artist reception/dinner starting at 6:00 p.m. in Janosik Park located on Front Street.

Saturday, May 11th

- Artist check-in reopens in Janosik Park at 7:00 a.m.
- Artists may paint anywhere within the Laurel area identified on the provided map.
- Artists are asked to stop painting at 11:00 a.m. and return to Janosik Park.
- A community art walk featuring the finished pieces will begin at 11:30 a.m.



Artists are encouraged to paint within the identified area



FREE EVENT

LAUREL PUBLIC LIBRARY

BLOCK PARTY!

JUNE 8, 2024
11AM-1PM
MARKET STREET

CASCADING CARLOS
DJ RANDY P
ARTS & CRAFTS
FAMILY FUN
FREE FOOD
LOCAL
ORGANIZATIONS &
VENDORS

GRAND PRIZE
DRAWINGS @
12:45 MUST BE
PRESENT TO WIN

Laurel Public Library
Connect. Create. Inspire.

Wawa

LAUREL POLICE DEPARTMENT IS PROUD TO
ANNOUNCE THE RETURN OF THE YOUTH ACADEMY

OPEN TO STUDENTS IN THE SIXTH THROUGH NINTH GRADE

LEARN ABOUT:

- LEADERSHIP
- TEAMWORK
- ONLINE SAFETY
- K-9 DEMO
- POLICE CULTURE
- FIELD TRIPS



WHEN? AUGUST 5TH - AUGUST 9TH 2024
9AM TO 430 PM

WHERE? LAUREL MIDDLE SCHOOL

**APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE FROM SRO HANDY, AT LAUREL POLICE
DEPARTMENT OR ONLINE VIA OUR DEPARTMENTS FACEBOOK**
**APPLICATION DEADLINE IS JULY 1ST. ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT DETECTIVE GARDNER AT
302-875-2244**



WATER COLORS

THE ARTISTIC SIDE OF AGRICULTURE

Town of Laurel's

Watercolor Bus Painting

This year the town will hosts its Annual Watercolor Bus Painting in July at Roger C. Fisher Park. Please bring your families to this free event as children and adults are provided the following supplies: paint brushes, paints, and smocks for painting the bus.

DATE: Saturday, July 13, 2024

WHERE: Roger C. Fisher Park



Town of Laurel

National Public Works Week

Laurel Public Works helps preserve Laurel by maintaining the water and sewer infrastructure, consisting of three water production wells, a water treatment facility, and a modern ENR (Enhanced Nutrient Removal) Wastewater Treatment Plant. Staff also conducts park maintenance and snow removal.

NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

MAY 19-25, 2024



FOURTH of July

**TOWN OF LAUREL
"30TH ANNUAL"**

**JULY 4 • 02PM
JANOSIK PARK,
FRONT STREET, LAUREL, DE 19956**

**FOOD VENDORS • NON-FOOD VENDORS • CAR SHOW •
SILVER HEART BAND • DISTILLED GRACE BAND • PARADE
• FIREWORK DISPLAY**

CONTACT LAUREL TOWN HALL @ 302-875-2277 FOR MORE INFORMATION



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2024 4th of July Car & Truck Show

**30TH ANNUAL
4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION**

**7-4-24
THURSDAY
4:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.**

JANOSIK PARK, FRONT STREET LAUREL, DE 19956

1ST 100 PLAQUES - 30 TROPHIES- 3 BEST IN SHOW

**EARLY REGISTRATION: 3:00 P.M.
REGISTRATION FEE: \$10.00
CONTACT PERSON:
WILL WARREN 410-726-8617**



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Town of Laurel's 4th of July Celebration "30th Annual" Parade

July 4th - 7:00 P.M.

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

PARADE ROUTE: Route will begin on
Evergreen Drive, turn right onto S. Central
Avenue, turn right onto Market Street, and
end on Maryland Avenue.

**Parade Theme: Bold Stripes, Bright Stars, &
Brave Hearts**

PARADE APPLICATIONS: Available at Laurel
Town Hall, 201 Mechanic Street, Laurel, De
19956

**For More Information Please Contact Laurel Town Hall at
302-875-2277.**

"PARADE ENTRIES NEEDED!!!"



Made with PosterMyWall.com

Town of Laurel's 4th of July Celebration 2024

CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

DATE: July 4, 2024

**LOCATION: Janosik Park,
Front Street**

TIME: 5:30 P.M.

**- Registration Fee: \$25.00
- Cash Payments Only.**

**- Minimum of 4 Teams.
- Single Elimination.**

- Register Either Two Ways:

**(1) Laurel Town Hall, 201 Mechanic Street
(2) Same Day.**



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National S'more's Day

The summer days are calling our names, which means longer days with an arrange of outdoor activities to enjoy. We happily store away our winter boots and coats, and we will pull out our shorts and flip flops to embrace the summer season. Summer truly wouldn't be summer without a bonfire in the evenings accompanied by our seasonal favorite simply known as a "Smore." The smore consists of a chocolate bar and a melty plush marshmallow smashed in between two graham crackers. The great debate over a smore's is whether your team lightly golden toasted marshmallow or team charred marshmallow to no return. Whichever way you prefer your marshmallow we can simply agree that smores are delicious and a cookout tradition.

History of S'mores

S'mores was first introduced as a dessert in approximately the 1920's where it was published by Campfire Marshmallows in a book of recipes. Campfire Marshmallows is known as the original marshmallow and they're still in business today. A smores wasn't officially named a smores it was first referred as a "Graham Cracker Sandwich." The Girl Scouts in 1972 published a similar recipe in Tramping and Trailing with the Girl Scouts known as "Some More," which finally led to the official name smores in the late 30's to the late 50's (National Today, n.d.)

NATIONAL SMORE'S DAY **SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 2024**



S'more's Fun Facts

- Grand Rapids in Michigan is the city that records the maximum consumption of s'mores.
- In 2014, the world's largest s'more weighing 267 pounds was made in Pennsylvania.
- The graham cracker was invented in 1829 by Presbyterian minister Sylvester Graham in New Jersey.
- The records show that Americans buy 90 million pounds of marshmallows every year and almost 50 % of them are used to make s'mores.
- After the invention of The Hershey Bar in 1900, it began to be used as a chocolate layer in s'mores. Each section of the Hershey bar is called a pip and it takes six pips to make the traditional s'mores.



Spring & Summer Edition Newsletter 2024

The Town of Laurel
201 Mechanic Street
Laurel, Delaware 19956