



**Spring & Summer
Edition
Newsletter**

A Message From The Mayor's Desk

In 1930 author Watty Piper wrote a book titled "The Little Engine That Could." It is a children's book that teaches the value of optimism and hard work. A locomotive trying to pull a train up a hill breaks down. Several other large locomotives are asked to help but they turn down the requests. A much smaller engine agrees to try. She hooks herself onto the front of the train and she begins the hard climb up the hill. Like with all children's books the author tries to come up with a catchy phrase or words that will attract the attention of the children reading the book. Watty Piper captures the sound of a train in the repetitive words "I think I can, I think I can, I think I can!" In the end, the little engine shows up those bigger locomotives that refused the job. She struggles and works hard but she gets the train over the hill.

At times I see our community in the context of this story. Here we are with one of the best small towns in Delaware, but we are in between commercial development to our south in Delmar and impacted by Seaford, the largest commercial center in Western Sussex. So, like the little engine that could we have a formidable task, a hill to climb, to make our town even better. But we have dedicated, caring citizens, enthusiastic service organizations, and a Town Government and Police Department that works diligently to bring new businesses to our town while keeping us all safe.

I am glad we are able to have a normal Independence Day Celebration this year. I look forward to the parade, the vendors, and the Firework Display. However, I think we need our organizations to come up with a new event that will attract hundred, perhaps thousands of visitors. July 4th seems to be limited because people don't want to come out in the heat. Our friends to the north in Bridgeville have successfully sponsored "Apple Scapple" for many years. What kind of event could we put together in the Spring or Autumn? I'd like to hear your ideas. One idea that I have suggested is around St. Phillips Church's Strawberry Festival, which is normally held in May. What if we had organizations come up with ideas related to strawberries, pies, cakes, desserts, games, picture painting, and maybe even a "Little Miss Strawberry Shortcake," contest in the Market Street Park Bandstand? You can probably think of many more ideas. We would also need many community volunteers to assist with any new large-scale event. Town staff can't do it alone.

We have many "little engines" trying to pull our community over the hill to a brighter future where we have new businesses and services, recreational opportunities, exciting parks, and museums to attract tourists, and an overall great quality of life for our citizens. Do you think we can do it? I think we can, I think we can, I think we can!

Mayor, John J. Shwed

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Special Event Request

With the Winter Season finally behind us, that means more outdoor gatherings with friends and family. It's that time a year again where the town's park are blooming with outdoor recreational activities. Just a friendly reminder if you're interested in reserving one of the town's park a Special Event Request Form must be submitted to Laurel Town Hall.

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.

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



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 FY 2021 Audit

The FY 2021 Audit was presented at January's 2022 Mayor & Council Meeting. Mr. Tom Sombar from Sombar Co. gave a brief presentation of the FY 2021 Audit to the Mayor & Council. Mr. Sombar reviewed various audit documents and explained the different aspects of each documents. His presentation also included the expenditures of each department within the town. Mr. Sombar explained the town had a positive financial year.

Town Departments Include:

- Administrative Staff
- Police Department
- Code Enforcement
- Alderman Court
- Public Works, Wastewater Dept., and Water Dept.
- Mayor & Council

Executive Summary Available

An Executive Summary of the FY 2021 Audit was published in the Laurel Star for resident's review.

Town News



Town of Laurel: FY 2023 Budget

The Town of Laurel's Administrative Staff and Budget Committee are currently preparing and drafting the FY 2023 Budget for the Mayor & Council's and resident's review.

Availability of FY 2023 Budget

The FY 2023 Budget will be made available for public review in late May 2022. **The FY 2023 Budget will be available either at:**

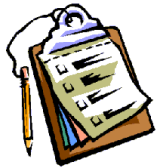
- Town of Laurel's Website: www.townoflaurel.net
- Town of Laurel's Facebook Page
- Laurel Town Hall, 201 Mechanic Street

Public Hearing:

A Public Hearing will be held on Monday, June 6, 2022, at the Laurel Town Hall regarding the presentation of FY 2023 Budget for citizen's review.

Adoption & Approval of FY 2023 Budget:

- The proposed FY 2023 Budget will be approved by Mayor & Council in June 2022.
- The FY 2023 budget will be in effect beginning of the fiscal year of July 1, 2022.



Town of Laurel's:

Planning & Zoning Committee Update

The Town of Laurel and the Town of Laurel's Planning & Zoning Committee are truly saddened by the passing of both Planning Member Bill Martin and Planning Member Bill Hearn. Mr. Martin and Mr. Hearn were both advent members who had the best interest of the town. The Town of Laurel and the Town of Laurel's Planning & Zoning Committee truly thank both for their service and commitment to the town.

Appointment of Planning & Zoning:

At the March 2021 & April 2021 Mayor & Council Meeting, the Mayor & Council appointed Mr. George Sakellis and Mrs. Amy Handy to fill both vacancies. Mr. Sakellis has numerous businesses within town and Mrs. Handy has been a lifelong resident to the town who are both willing to serve.

Planning & Zoning Meeting Dates:

The Town of Laurel's Planning & Zoning meets on the second Wednesdays of every month on an as need basis. Agendas are posted a week prior of every meeting at Town Hall and on the town's website at www.townoflaurel.net

Town Projects



Tidewater Park Update

A Ceremonial Blessing was held in the Fall of 2021 for the dedication and completion of Phase 1 at Tidewater Park. The ceremony included the following: the Nanticoke Indian Association, town representatives, and local/state officials.

Tidewater Park: Phase 1

As your crossing over the Central Avenue Bridge, you will easily notice that Tidewater Park features an array of interactive nature-based playground equipment for children. Did you know that the large wooden beaver was crafted in the Czech Republic with rot-resistant wood? The Phase 1 playground equipment features equipment for the 2-5-year age groups.

Phase 1 Playground Equipment Includes:

- A ceramic turtle.
- Logs.
- A large wooden beaver.

What's Next at Tidewater Park?

The Town of Laurel announced in early Spring of this year they were awarded a Delaware Division of Parks Grant in the amount of \$80,000. The grant will go towards the installation of a shade structure and a swing set.

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.

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: Phase 2 & Phase 3

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

Know the Code

Reminder Dates



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%.



**Mayor & Council Schedule
May - August 2022**

Listed below are the Mayor & Council dates for the following months of May 2022 through August 2022.

May 2022

- Monday, May 2, 2022*
- Monday, May 16, 2022

June 2022

- Monday, June 6, 2022*
- Monday, June 20, 2022

July 2022

- Tuesday, July 5, 2022*
- Monday July 18, 2022

August 2022

- Monday, August 1, 2022*
- Monday, August 15, 2022

ZOOM Virtual Option

The Town of Laurel's Mayor & Council Meetings are both held in-person at Laurel Town Hall or held virtually via ZOOM. Please note the ZOOM Dial-In Information is listed on the bottom of the agendas.

Mayor & Council Agenda's

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

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



Town Hall Closing Dates

Listed below are the dates that the Laurel Town Hall will be closed in observance for the following holidays.

Good Friday

- Friday, April 15, 2022

Memorial Day

- Monday, May 30, 2022

4th of July

- Monday, July 4, 2022

Labor Day

- Monday, September 5, 2022

Reminder Dates



**TRASH LIMITS FOR THE TOWN OF LAUREL
IN CONJUNCTION WITH REPUBLIC SERVICES**

This note is to inform you that the allowable Trash Limit in the Town of Laurel is as follows:

- Our 96-gallon Trash Container with an additional 30-gallon Personal Trash Container.

"OR"

- Our 96-gallon Trash Container and up to 4 bags.

There will not be any exceptions to this limit and Republic Services will adhere to it during our Trash Collection.

<u>MAY 2022</u>				Trash, Recycle, Yard Waste Schedule		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	4 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	5 RECYCLE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	6 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	7
8	9	10 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	11 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	12 RECYCLE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	13 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	14
15	16	17 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	18 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	19 RECYCLE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	20 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	21
22	23	24 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	25 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	26 RECYCLE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	27 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	28
29	30	31 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN				

Reminder Dates

<u>JUNE 2022</u>				Trash, Recycle, Yard Waste Schedule		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	2 RECYCLE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	3 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	4
5	6	7 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	8 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	9 RECYCLE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	10 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	11
12	13	14 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	15 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	16 RECYCLE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	17 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	18
19	20	21 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	22 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	23 RECYCLE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	24 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	25
26	27	28 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	29 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	30 RECYCLE EAST SIDE OF TOWN		

<u>JULY 2022</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 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	6 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	7 RECYCLE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	8 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	9
10	11	12 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	13 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	14 RECYCLE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	15 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	16
17	18	19 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	20 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	21 RECYCLE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	22 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	23
24	25	26 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE OF TOWN	27 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	28 RECYCLE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	29 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	30/31

<u>AUGUST 2022</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 WEST SIDE OF TOWN	4 RECYCLE WEST 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 EAST SIDE OF TOWN	11 RECYCLE EAST 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 WEST SIDE OF TOWN	18 RECYCLE WEST 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 EAST SIDE OF TOWN	25 RECYCLE EAST 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 WEST SIDE OF TOWN	SEPT. 1 RECYCLE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	SEPT. 2 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	

Police Department Update



Police Department Update

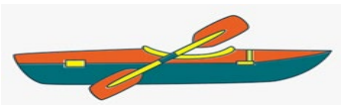
The Laurel Police Department is currently in the process of completing their first Citizen Police Academy "Go Behind the Badge." The department invited any town residents and any local residents the opportunity to sign-up for a free 8-week course for a behind scenes of law enforcement. The academy has been operating from March 2nd through May 4th consisting of a once-a-week three-hour course. The following topics have been covered: K-9 demonstrations, simulated car stops, patrol & traffic enforcement procedures, drug investigations, use of force simulators, de-escalation, impaired driving, community policing, consumer protection, and a 9-1-1 Communications Center Tour. Many of the presentations were presented by the Laurel Officers with the assistance of local and state agencies. The class currently has approximately 25 attendees. Once the academy is completed students will receive a Certificate for their completion of the Citizen Police Academy.

The department rocked their socks on Monday, March 21st in support of World Syndrome Day.

Chief Wright presented a PowerPoint Presentation pertaining the FY 2021 Yearly Statistics at April's Mayor & Council Meeting for both Mayor & Council and resident's review.

Laurel Police Department
Address: 205 Mechanic Street
Phone #: 302-875-2244

"Our Community, Our Commitment"



Broad Creek Kayak Excursions

It's Kayak Season once again in the Town of Laurel. The season will once again run through Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Details About the Kayak Excursions:

The self-serve rental stand allows individuals to retrieve their reserved rental kayak. The individual may reserve a rental kayak online where they will receive a key code to retrieve their kayak. A full staff will be staffed during the peak hours and for guided tours.

Guided Tour Schedule

Please continue to check the towns website: www.townoflaurel.net or the Town's Facebook Page regularly regarding the 2022 Guided Tour Schedule.

Quest Kayak

For more information pertaining Quest Kayak please visit: <https://www.questkayak.com/>

Town Events



Family Movie Nights

The Town of Laurel and the Laurel Police Department will once again be hosting free "Family Movie Nights," this spring at Janosik Park.

Town Website & Town Facebook Page

Please continue to review both the towns website and the towns Facebook Page for more information pertaining movie nights dates and times.

"Bring Your Own Chairs & Blankets"



Paint Laurel Day

Heads up Laurel Community!

We are having a party! On May 21 Come participate in One Laurel, One Day. We will be celebrating Arts and Athletics. There are 4 major events. Paint Laurel is an outdoor painting event where artists will be coming to laurel to paint pictures of our town. They will be painting in the morning and displaying and selling their paintings later in the day. Art in the Park is a fun event for our youth. There will be areas for rock painting, Flower pot painting, sponging, Mini-canvas painting and sponging. Everyone is an artist! Balling for God is returning this year and will be bigger than ever. This event brings teams from all over Delmarva to the Paul Laurence Dunbar School for a 3 on 3 basketball tournament along with other games and activities. Lastly but most importantly is our Library's Long Table Community Meal. A community that breaks bread together and shares fellowship is a strong community. This will be a served meal in the park.

We have company coming and so like any family or organization that is expecting guests we need to "pick up the house"! There will be a week of clean up sponsored by service clubs in early May and May 18 & 19 before the event. Think about sprucing up the front of your house, picking up trash when you see it and getting to share our community with our visitors. Stay tuned to our website for more information. If you are interested in painting visit the Reimagine Laurel website.



WATER COLORS
THE ARTISTIC SIDE OF AGRICULTURE

DATE: Saturday, July 9, 2022

LOCATION: Roger C. Fisher Park

Town Events



LAUREL COMMUNITY 4TH of JULY

The Town of Laurel will be holding their "28th 4th of July Celebration," on Monday, July 4, 2022. The town is excited to present an in-person patriotic celebration after two years of cancellations due to the pandemic. Please continue to review the Town's Website: www.townoflaurel.net or the Town's Facebook Page regarding updates of the 4th of July Celebration. **Listed below is a tentative schedule of the event.**

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.

Delmarva Party Animals; Petting Zoo

- Scheduled from 3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- **Location:** Market Street Square Park

Live Entertainment - Bands

- Lime Green & Pistol Whip will be performing.
- First performance is scheduled at 3:00 p.m.
- **Location:** Market Street Square 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 and ending on Maryland Avenue.
- **Parade Theme:** "Freedom & Fireworks"
- **Parade Applications:** Available at Laurel Town Hall, 201 Mechanic St. or at www.townoflaurel.net

Firework Display

- Firework Display will begin at dusk.

"BRING YOUR CHAIRS & BLANKETS"

Community Events



Trap Pond Partners: 18th Annual Family "Get-In-Gear," Bike Rally

Date: Saturday, May 7, 2022

RAIN DATE: Sunday, May 8, 2022

Time: Begins at 10:00 a.m. / Arrive at 9:30 a.m. (Arrive at Baldcypress Nature Center)

Tickets: \$10 per rider / \$25.00 per family

Bike Course: Riders will bike around the Bob Trail at Trap Pond.

How to Register?

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!!!

- Registrations available online "OR"
- Registration by mailing-in.

For Registering & More Information:

Please visit

<https://www.trappondpartners.com/bike.html> to register and for more information.

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN BIKE AS THERE IS LIMITED LOANERS AVAILABLE.

"EVERY RIDER UNDER THE AGE OF 16 MUST WEAR A HELMET"



Laurel Historical Society Re-Opening

The Laurel Historical Society will be re-opening their museums to the public May 1, 2022. Listed below are two museums within the town.

COOK HOUSE

NAME: Cook House

ADDRESS: 502 East 4th Street
Laurel, DE 19956

HOURS: First Sunday of each month from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Appointments on an as need basis by calling 302-875-2820.

HERITAGE MUSEUM

NAME: Heritage Museum

ADDRESS: 215 Mechanic St
Laurel, De 19956

HOURS: First Sunday of each month from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Appointments on an as need basis by calling 302-875-280.

National Lemonade Day



National Lemonade Day

With the summer months finally approaching many of us can't wait to take advantage of the longer evenings with evening walks, summer ball games, and picnics. The summer season allows us to take advantage of the great outdoors including outdoor family and friend gatherings. Summer picnics include a bountiful feast of summer classics including hamburgers, hotdogs, baked beans, cold salads, and homemade ice cream. We also can't forget the summers most popular beverage of all time the cold, sweet, and tart refreshing glass of lemonade. Lemonade is surely a summer beverage that helps all of us beat that summer heat.

History of Lemonade Day

Did you know there is a day that the United States dedicates and celebrates National Lemonade Day? Many of you may think National Lemonade Day is simply just a day to consume lemonade. However, National Lemonade Day was created by a Mr. Michael Holthouse in 2007 to create an entrepreneurial spirit in children by igniting them with the motivation of starting their own business to operate. Throughout the summer many of us see local lemonade stands operated by children in our neighborhoods and community. Since the existence of this holiday, it has encouraged children to take on the role of the entrepreneurial spirit (National Lemonade Day, n.d.).

History of Lemonade

Did you know that lemonade goes back as far in Ancient Egypt where one of the earliest written evidence of this beverage was found around 1000 A.D. It was assumed that lemonade was founded even earlier due to lemons were introduced in Egypt from Asia in 700 A.D. The early lemonade recipe may not be as similar as today's lemonade as we know today. The Egyptians lemonade consisted of not only lemons and water but also included honey as their sweetener and dates (National Lemonade Day, n.d.).

Celebrate National Lemonade Day

Let's celebrate National Lemonade Day by inspiring our children to take on the entrepreneur mind set of creating their own business. With children creating their own business, parents can take on the role of assisting their child with developing the proper skills of money management, communicating with customers, and advertising. Promote this holiday by using hashtag #NationalLemonadeDay to help empower children the motivation to operate their own Lemonade Stand (National Lemonade Day, n.d.). The official National Lemonade Day is celebrated in the United States on August 20th this year. Many states in the United States also celebrate National Lemonade Day the first Sunday of each May depending on your state (National Lemonade Day 2022: When & How to Celebrate, 2022).

NATIONAL LEMONADE DAY
SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 2022

**Spring Cleaning -
History & Tips**



**Spring Cleaning
History & Tips**

Many of us wait patiently for the first glimpse of spring looking out our front window to witness the first blooms of the spring season. When spring has sprung many of us take advantage of the outdoor activities that the season offers. With the outdoor activity completed many of us walk around our home and notice the dust and dirt that has accumulated over the winter months. The largest spring cleaning took place during the early spring of the 1800's when the winter season was completed. During that century, many utilized lamps with whale oil or kerosene that needed to be heated with coal or wood. Once the warmer season arrived, to help eliminate the residue they opened windows to allow clean air to circulate. Many religions or customs have their own reasonings behind the annual Spring Cleaning. For the Jewish culture they link Passover to Spring Cleaning as Passover is held in March or April that resembles the freedom of Jews from slavery from Egypt. The Catholic faith represents Spring Cleaning as cleaning the altar the day before Good Friday. Many of us during the winter months become more sluggish and tired due to the shorter days and the lack of sun. Once the days become more longer and warmer many of us become more active and begin the Spring-Cleaning Routine (Carter, 2016).

Helpful Spring-Cleaning Tips:

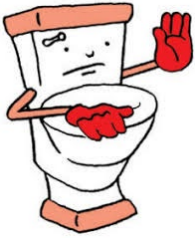
- Clean Room by Room.
- Organize and Clear the Clutter.
- Get the Household Involved.
- Tackle the Seasonal Chores.
- Keep Cleaning Products to a Minimum.
- Establish New Cleaning Habits.



Fun Facts About Lemonade

- In the 17th century, vendors in Paris would sell "lemonades" made from lemons, honey, and sparkling water.
- In 1840, frozen lemonade was invented in Naples, Italy.
- Lemonade stands could be found in New York as early as the early 1870s.
- Lemonade is often made with crushed mint leaves in many parts of the Middle East.

What Items to Avoid Flushing Down the Toilet



What Items to Avoid Flushing Down the Toilet

Many of us are guilty flushing various household products down the toilet instead of dispersing them in the trash can. When we flush these items down the toilet it leads to clogged drainpipes, contamination of the water system, and causing environmental damage. *Please review the twelve items listed below that we should avoid always flushing down the toilet.*

(1.) Flushable Wipes

- These items shouldn't be flushed down the toilet because they don't break down easily, which causes clogs.
- To disperse the flushable wipes please place in your trash can.

(2.) Paper Towels and Tissues

- We all have that dreadful feeling when we are out of toilet paper, and we are looking for a substitute.
- Paper Towels and Tissues shouldn't be used as a substitute as they absorb water, and they don't break down easily.

(3.) Too Much Toilet Paper

- Please avoid using too much toilet paper as it can be difficult to flush and cause clogs.
- Use only what you need.

(4.) Cotton Balls, Rounds, or Swabs

- Cotton products shouldn't be flushed as they do not break down and they can build up inside the pipelines.

(5.) Feminine Products

- Feminine Products including tampons and sanitary pads when flushed begin to swell leading to block pipes in the sewer or septic system causing a backup and an overflow.
- Disperse feminine products in a trash can.

(6.) Dental Floss

- Dental Floss can wrap around other items when flushed leading to larger clumps that can create blockages.
- Dental Floss doesn't dissolve quickly and is recommended to be dispersed in a trash can.

(7.) Hair

- Hair can easily stick to the inside of pipes creating large build-ups and clogs overtime.
- To help prevent blockages utilize drain covers in your shower.

(8.) Bandages

- Bandages can easily pollute the water system due to their sticky adhesiveness that can adhere to the other items when flushed.
- Bandages should be dispersed in a trash can.

(9.) Medication & Other Hazardous Materials

- Please avoid flushing medications or other hazardous materials down the toilet.

(10.) Cigarette Butts

- Cigarette Butts may not always go down the toilet when flushed which can lead to potential harmful effects to our water system and wildlife.

(11.) Kitty Litter

- Flushing kitty litter down the toilet can lead to clogged drains and harmful parasites into the water supply.
- Please dispose kitty litter into a tied bag and disposed in a trash canister.

(12.) Fats, Oils, or Grease

- They may start as a liquid form and in time they begin to solidify which attaching to the interior lining of your pipes when flushed down the toilet.
- Please dispose in trash can once ingredients are cooled.



Hydrant Flushing and Waterline Maintenance May 16th-20th

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.

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