



JANUARY 2026

DELAWARE'S FAVORITE PLAYGROUND

Official Newsletter of The Town of Dewey Beach

A Bright Horizon Ahead

As we welcome the new year, Dewey Beach looks ahead with optimism and excitement. January is a time for fresh starts, new goals, and continued progress for our community. From upcoming projects to plans that strengthen our town year-round, we're grateful for the residents, businesses, and visitors who make Dewey Beach such a special place. Here's to a bright and productive year ahead at the beach!

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TOWN MANAGER'S

Update

Welcome, 2026! As we begin the new year, we have many projects continuing in town.

One of those projects is an analysis of the Police Department and station. In 2019, the Town Council decided to have an analysis done on the department by retired Captain Warren of American Law Enforcement Training and Consulting. The analysis discovered several items that needed to be addressed. When I arrived in 2021, one of my priorities was addressing and correcting the findings in the 2019 analysis. Some of the findings were directly related to low funding of the Police Department budget. With the support of the commissioners and the public, a majority of those budget issues were addressed. However, there were still other areas that needed to be improved. In 2025, we brought Captain Warren back to complete an updated analysis of the Police Department based on the 2019 findings. The 2025 analysis revealed a department that has made major improvements. The updated analysis can be found [here](#), and will be discussed on January 16th at the Town Council meeting. I want to thank the Chief and her team for all of the hard work improving the department!

The new Town Hall & Public Safety building continues to progress. Now that the roof is on, Costello is completing the framing on the second floor. Rough-ins are being installed with some drywall on the first floor. Hopefully the doors and windows will be next!

To address flooding on the bay side on Read, Dickinson, and Van Dyke Ave, we are doing the following:

- **Read Ave** - I've been in contact with Senator Coons Office reference the \$1 million in funding being held by the Army Corps of Engineers. I spoke with his office who advised they are still engaged and are attempting to free the funding for the project. The approved funding in the 2025 federal budget earmarked 1 million dollars for the Town of Dewey Beach, and cannot be used for any another projects. This funding is not BRIC or FEMA funding, but a line item in the federal budget. I will update as I receive more information from the Senator's Office.
- **Dickinson Ave** - Beacon Engineering has obtained approval from DelDOT to improve, clean, and update the storm drain on the circle. This will include a backflow valve that will be placed for easy cleaning and maintenance access. Hopefully bids will go out soon for the project.
- **Van Dyke Ave** - JMT Engineering is preparing a report on the cost to install a small pump station, versus moving the existing storm drain pipes off the middle of the beach.

The paving project has been completed with Allen Myers. They finished striping of parking spaces and stop lines last week. If you should have any questions about the project, please contact Dustin Fisher at dustin.fisher@allenmyers.com or (610)425-8071.

A couple of reminders:

- Holiday tree pick up will be this Friday, January 16th at 7am. Please have your trees out in front of your property.
- If you have stopped your trash pick-up with Casella, the public trash cans are NOT for your household trash. Take your trash home!
- Please DO NOT plant or put anything in the town right-of-way without contacting the Town first. Items in the town right of way will be removed.



-Bill

EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2026

NEW LEGISLATION

Building Permits

[CLICK TO
READ THE
FULL
ORDINANCE](#)



Previous rules for building permits required owners to obtain permits for routine work on their homes. New legislation, effective April 1, 2026, aims to simplify the process.

Maintenance Activity Thresholds

Maintenance Activities Under \$1,000

Work may begin immediately and requires no application or notification.

Maintenance Activities \$1,000 – \$10,000

Notification and estimate must be provided to the Building Department. Once approved by the department, work may begin. No fees are assessed.

Maintenance Activities \$10,000+

Building permit required.

FEMA Regulations

In accordance with FEMA, maintenance in a flood plain must not:

- Increase the structure's market value by 50% or more
- Involve expansion, elevation, or enclosure of the structure
- Compromise flood-resistant design or materials

Inspections

The Town reserves the right to conduct inspections of all work performed, regardless of whether a formal building permit was issued, and to designate the inspection official.

- Inspections will seek to ensure that work is consistent with all Town code requirements and any approved permits.
- Inspection is required for any project for which total cost is at least \$15,000, and the cost of the inspection will be added to the building permit fee.
- Inspections will not validate the quality of work performed.

Defining Maintenance Activities

Maintenance includes both preventive and corrective actions to preserve property in good repair.

Maintenance Activities include:

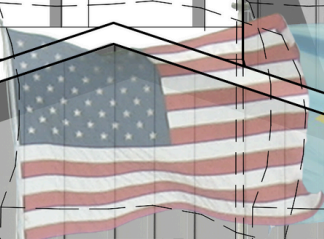
- Routine upkeep of structures and premises
- Non-structural repairs that do not alter the footprint or load-bearing elements
- Cosmetic improvements that do not involve major construction

Specific Maintenance Activities Include:

- Repainting walls, trim, or exterior surfaces
- Replacing or refinishing flooring
- Repairing drywall or other wall or ceiling materials
- Updating fixtures (e.g., light switches, faucets, cabinet handles, doorknobs), excluding any relocation of plumbing fixtures and upgrading or relocation of electrical outlets and circuitry
- Roof or siding replacement not exceeding 25% of existing sheathing
- Cleaning or power-washing surfaces
- Replacing window treatments or decorative elements
- Minor appliance or HVAC component replacements
- Non-structural alterations are allowed for patios, concrete slabs, decks and decorative hardscaping



TOWN OF
DEWEY BEACH
TOWN, POLICE, EMS



BE A PART OF DEWEY BEACH HISTORY!

Purchase an engraved brick for the new Dewey Beach Town Hall & Public Safety Building! Your personalized brick will be proudly displayed in the walkway bordering the new building, honoring your support and helping to fund this important community project!



A personalized brick makes a great gift for all lovers of Dewey Beach! Advertise a business or organization, honor your family or loved one, or show your Dewey pride with a fun message!

BEST DESSERTS
ON THE COAST
SUSIE'S BAKERY

LOVE OUR
DEWEY DOGS!
BELLA & THOR

SHE SAID "YES!"
CINDY & MARK
EST. JUNE 2, 2018

THE THOMAS FAMILY
DEWEY BEACH
OUR HAPPY PLACE

FOR NANA & POPPA
FROM YOUR
SANDY CREW

WE LOVE YOU
DEWEY BEACH!
THE MARTIN FAMILY

MORE INFO

townofdeweybeach.gov

townclerk@townofdeweybeach.com



302-227-1110

WE'RE HIRING



Seasonal Police Officers **2026**

**PAID
TRAINING**

**PAY STARTING AT
\$19.00/HR**

**DEPARTMENT ISSUED
UNIFORMS**

**Accepting
applications
until:
03/13/2026**

**Academy
begins on
April 11, 2026
Online training to
begin prior to
Academy**



APPLY HERE

THE TOWN OF DEWEY BEACH IS AN
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



105 RODNEY AVE., DEWEY BEACH, DE 19971



[HTTPS://WWW.DEWEYBEACHPOLICE.GOV/](https://www.deweybeachpolice.gov/)

MAKE WAVES. SAVE LIVES.

JOIN THE DEWEY BEACH PATROL

Spend your summer on the sand, in the sun, and making a difference! Be a part of a skilled team dedicated to keeping our beaches safe. Competitive pay, training provided, and unforgettable experiences await!

JOIN NOW



TOWNOFDEWEYBEACH.GOV

what's happening

don't miss these activities in and around dewey!



JAN 24TH

Winter Gala – Sail Away Soiree



MAR 22ND

Run for the Buds 5K



MARCH 2026

Dewey comes alive again in March for St. Patricks Day and Spring events! Stay tuned!



Book a Bonfire

Private bonfires are available for booking year-round here in Dewey!

Winter Gala

January 24th is a night of glitz, music, dancing and community spirit!

Dewey Egg Scoop

April 4th marks the start of spring events in Dewey with the Annual Egg Scoop!

Dewey in Bloom Fundraising

Our very own Dewey in Bloom has two fundraisers scheduled for 2026! Stay tuned for more details, but mark your calendars today!

March 17th
Big Fish Grill (Rehoboth)

April 27th
Nicola Pizza (Lewes)



Dear Community Partners,

On behalf of the Rehoboth Beach Volunteer Fire Company, thank you for your generous support of our 2025 Stuff-a-Truck program. Your partnership played a vital role in making this year's effort a tremendous success.

Through the program, we were able to assist 23 children from eight families within the Cape Henlopen School District, ranging in age from 8 months to 14 years old. In addition, your support helped us donate 987 toys, 150 stocking stuffers, 88 books, 242 stuffed animals, and 10 bicycles to Toys for Tots—filling a total of 42 Toys for Tots boxes this holiday season.

By helping us with Stuff-a-Truck events and place a collection box at your location, you helped bring holiday joy to children and families throughout our community. We are deeply grateful for your generosity and for the continued support of our community, which makes initiatives like this possible year after year.

Thank you again for helping us make the holiday season brighter for so many local children.

Warm regards,

Clara Marie C. Marshall

Assistant Supervisor - Station 2//FTO
Rehoboth Beach Vol. Fire Company

db news

BRIEF

QUICK UPDATES YOU SHOULD KNOW!



Code Red

Are you registered for emergency alerts from Dewey Beach? Sign up for Code Red today! Be the first to know about road closures, severe weather, and more. Sign up is free, and open to all.

**TEXT "DEWEY"
TO 24639 to
REGISTER**



Tree Pickup

Casella will pick up Christmas trees for disposal starting at 7:00am on Friday, January 16th. Have your tree placed in the right-of-way no earlier than Thursday evening, January 15th.



Trash Talk

Questions or concerns about your trash service? For the quickest service, contact the Millsboro office directly at (302)934-1364, or email deweybeachtrashhotline@casella.com.

[Read more](#)



Good News



Congratulations to Commissioner Paul Bauer, the new president of the Delaware League of Local Governments! Commissioner Bauer is a firm believer that the elected officials closest to the issues are best equipped to understand and solve those issues, and that home rule needs to be considered in the drafting of state legislation. Commissioner Bauer will continue to serve here in Dewey Beach in addition to his new position at DLLG.

[Learn more](#)



***Are you registered on the Dewey Beach Services Portal?
Subscribe to newsletters, and register for alerts related to all things Dewey!***

Upcoming Meetings

January 16th - Budget Workshop
January 16th - Town Council Meeting & Public Hearing
February 3rd - Marketing Committee
February 5th - Resiliency & Sustainability Committee
February 13th - Town Council Meeting & Public Hearing

[Learn More](#)






2025
2026

Contact Us

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Dewey Beach, DE 19971
(302) 227-6363



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Website



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