



MARCH 2026

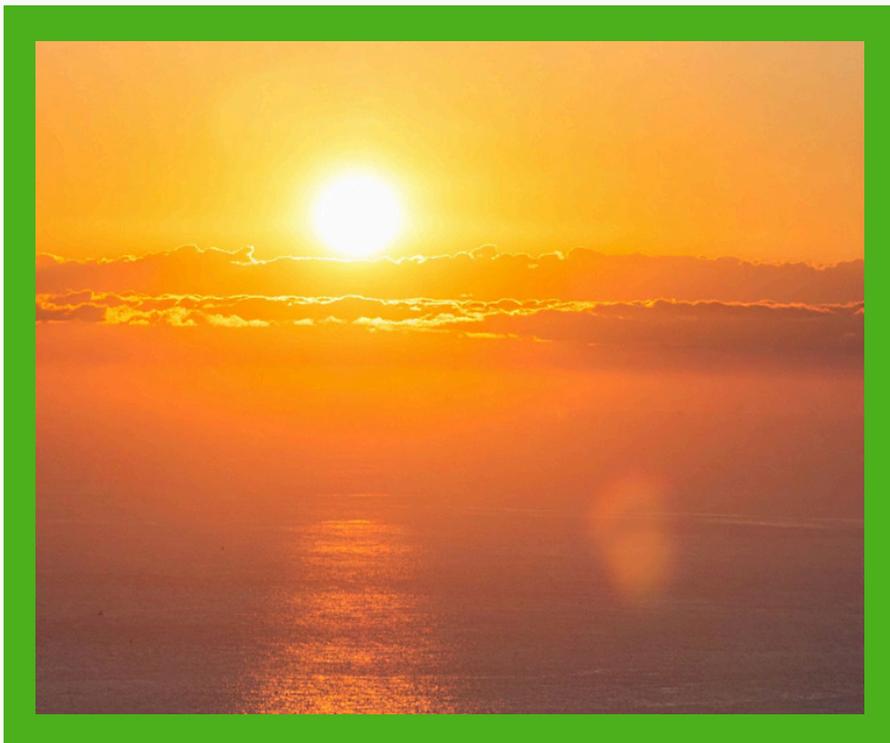
DELAWARE'S FAVORITE PLAYGROUND

Official Newsletter of The Town of Dewey Beach



Chasing Rainbows in Dewey Beach

Spring is sneaking back into Dewey Beach, and with St. Patrick's Day just around the corner, the town is ready to shake off winter and soak up some sunshine. March breathes new life into the streets, the sand, the ocean, and every evening the bay beach puts on its own show - turning the sunset into Dewey's very own pot of gold. Don't blink, or you might miss it!



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... And More!

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TOWN MANAGER'S

Update

We are all looking forward to the warmer weather this spring. This winter was challenging, with a January storm that dropped 8" of snow, and a February blizzard with winds topping out at 60mph and dropping at least 15" of snow. In the 5 years I've been the Town Manager we've had over 4" of snow in one year, and over 8" to 15" in the other four years. Who says it doesn't snow in Dewey Beach!? Our two-man maintenance team did an outstanding job plowing the streets and clearing tree debris during these storms. We had to bring in a vendor to clear the 2' of snow on the sidewalks from the DelDOT plowing, see photos below. We were lucky enough to bring in Complete Tree Care to assist with the tree clean up within 72 hours after the storm. We've also contacted Comcast about a number of their service wires being down or needing repair around the town. If your service is out, please call Comcast/Xfinity at 1-800-934-6489. I want to thank our employees and citizens for all of their Dewey teamwork during this blizzard!

We still have some clean-up to do around town. To assist in this effort, the Town will again bring in a tree vendor on March 25th to pick up all branches in the Town right-of-way. The Town has established specific guidelines for debris removal that residents must follow:

- All large pieces of branches must be cut down to sections measuring 5 feet or smaller, or they will be left behind during collection runs.
- The vendor, nor the Town, will enter private properties to remove debris. Property owners will be responsible for clearing their own land.
- The vendor, nor the Town, will pick up or remove trees, stumps, or bamboo.

The Dewey Beach Civic League is providing our town's residents use of a 20-yard dumpster the week of April 20 thru April 26 for your spring clean-up needs. The dumpster will be located on McKinley Street, bayside, opposite the Lion's Club playground in the town right-of-way. The dumpster company, CDI, advises that tires, appliances, paint and hazardous waste are prohibited. Thank you Civic League!

Hang in there Spring is coming!

-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



Join the Comprehensive Plan Committee

We are preparing to draft our 2028 Comprehensive Plan! A town comprehensive plan is a long-range planning document that serves as a community's blueprint for future growth and development, typically looking 10 to 20 years ahead. It reflects the community's shared vision for how the town should evolve, while preserving what makes it unique.

We're looking to build a Comprehensive Plan Committee to fairly address the interests and needs of the community's stakeholders - including residents, property owners, business owners, and visitors - to shape a balanced vision for Dewey Beach's future. This vision supports goals like maintaining the town's character, addressing infrastructure and environmental issues, and ensuring a high quality of life for all who live, work, or visit the area.

Members of this committee should plan to meet at least once per month for approximately one year. Virtual participation via Zoom is available. Recommendations from the committee will be forwarded to Town Council for possible inclusion in the 2028 Comprehensive Plan.

[CLICK HERE](#)



LICENSING



The payment portal for business licenses will open on April 1st. The new license year begins May 1st. Any business that plans to operate in town from May 1, 2026 through April 30, 2027 must obtain a license prior to starting work.



Online payment for rental licenses opens on April 1st. If you plan to rent your property between May 1, 2026 and April 30, 2027, you must first obtain a rental license.



If you rented your property between October 1st and March 30th, your accommodations tax is due by April 15th. If you owe accommodations tax, you will not receive your rental license for 2026-2027 until it is paid.

Questions?

We're here to help!

[contact us!](#)

The Celebration Begins!

What you need to know before visiting Dewey for St. Patrick's Weekend!

Ask a local service industry worker, and they'll tell you how excited they are to welcome you back to Dewey Beach! After a quiet winter, we are ready for the excitement that spring and summer brings. Be kind, be patient! We're here to ensure you have a good time!

We've said it once, we'll say it again. When you're here, you're part of the Dewey Beach family.

We share the responsibility of everyone's safety. Look out for one another, and help a fellow Dewey beachgoer if needed. Let's keep Dewey a safe place to have fun!

Prepare for increased police presence throughout the Delaware beach area. With larger crowds comes an increase in emergency vehicles. Delaware law requires motorists to move over for all stopped police, emergency vehicles and tow trucks. If you see emergency lights, you must move over a lane until you've passed the emergency vehicle.

During times of high pedestrian traffic, police officers may be on site to discourage loitering. If you are asked to move out of a location, please do so. Crowd control is done in the interest of public safety.

Also, if you see something, say something! Report any suspicious behavior to a police officer immediately.

Protect yourself and others. Never drive under the influence. Plan ahead! Consider scheduling your Uber or Lyft rides ahead of time in your app.



There is a strict curfew for minors in town. No person under the age of 18 is permitted on the beaches, streets or sidewalks after 11:00pm, unless they are working or running an errand for a guardian. If your child is out and about after curfew, they, as well as their guardian, could be subject to a fine. The goal of our police officers is to protect your children. Please assist us in this effort, and ensure your kids are home safe before 11:00pm.

COUNTDOWN

Summer 2026

74

get vacation ready

days until Memorial Day

Seasonal parking permits available starting April 6th!

It's never too early to book your beach bonfire!
Enjoy a beach fire during your vacation - book online today!

New furry addition to the family?
Skip the line and license your dog online today!



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



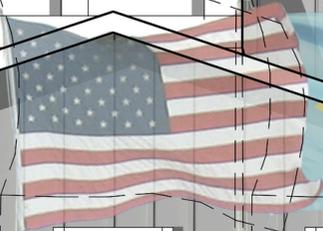
TOWNOFDEWEYBEACH.GOV



TOWN OF DEWEY BEACH
**BUY
A
BRICK**
fundraiser



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

what's happening

don't miss these activities in and around dewey!



MAR 12TH

St. Patricks Day Weekend

Dewey comes alive again in March for St. Patricks Day weekend!



MAR 22ND

Run for the Buds 5K



APRIL 4TH

Dewey Egg Scoop



Book a Bonfire

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

Coastal DE Running Festival

Register now to participate April 11-12 in the biggest race of the year!

Doodles in Dewey

The doodles take over Dewey April 24-26! Register today and support PAWS for People!

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)

BIG FISH GRILL



Dine *Out*
FOR OUR COMMUNITY

TUESDAY
MARCH 17TH

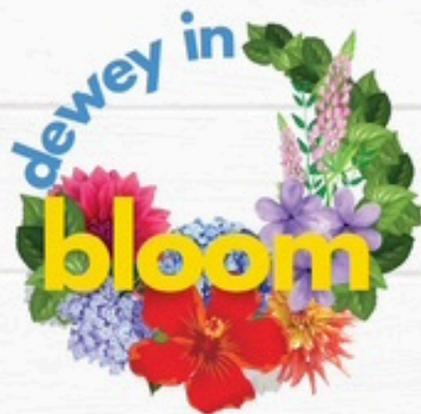
Lunch or Dinner

12PM-9PM

at Big Fish - Rehoboth Beach

Proceeds to benefit

DEWEY IN BLOOM



20298 Coastal Highway • Rehoboth Beach, DE • 302.227.3474 • bigfishgrill.com
*Includes all food & beverage purchases. Does not include take-out from the BF Market.

db news

BRIEF

QUICK UPDATES YOU SHOULD KNOW!



Pools & Pool Fences

The Town has received numerous public comments regarding pools and the height of fences permitted in front of residential structures. This conversation is ongoing. Further discussion is scheduled for the [Town Council Meeting on March 20th](#).



Donor Wall

The design of our donor wall, featuring Dewey Beach history and culture, is moving forward! There's still time to support the new Town Hall, and be recognized for your contribution. We also welcome [donations in any amount](#) to help offset the cost of the new Town Hall!



We're Hiring!

The Town of Dewey Beach still has positions available for the summer season, including Front Office Assistant and Maintenance & Grounds Technician.

[Read more](#) >>

Good News



On February 22nd and 23rd, Dewey Beach was hit with a major blizzard that blanketed our area in snow, with high winds that caused significant damage throughout town. We'd like to extend our sincere thanks to our two-man Maintenance Team, Scott and Justin, for your tireless efforts to keep our roads as clear as possible throughout this storm. Our small but mighty maintenance crew continues to impress us year after year. Thank you!

[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

March 20th – Town Council Meeting
March 25th – Board of Adjustment Hearing
April 7th – Marketing Committee
April 17th – Town Council Meeting

[Learn More](#) >>





Contact Us

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Website

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