

SEPTEMBER 2024



DELAWARE'S FAVORITE PLAYGROUND

Official Newsletter of The Town of Dewey Beach

The Sun Sets on Summer 2024

September marks the unofficial end to the summer! But don't worry... the fun doesn't stop at Labor Day here in Dewey. With perfect sunny days that aren't too hot, and warm breezes off the ocean, the locals will tell you that September may just be the best time to enjoy the Delaware beaches. Our local businesses are still up and running and excited to welcome you, too! Some of the best events in Dewey are happening this month, and we want you to enjoy "locals season" right along with us!



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...and more!

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TOWN MANAGER'S

Update

It's been another great summer in Dewey Beach!

Let's talk, Rehoboth Beach Fire Department donations, flood projects, SCHMP, dog waste on the beach, and dune crossings.

Our police and lifeguards have kept us safe this summer but there is another team that also helps protect us, our Rehoboth Beach Fire Department! Please contribute to our annual RBVFC Fundraiser. The Town of Dewey Beach will match every donation that is made. [Donate today!](#)

The town is currently working on 3 flood mitigation projects on Read Ave bayside, Jersey Street 1st and 2nd block, and Van Dyke Ave bayside. On Read Ave, the town is working with the Army Corps of Engineers on a proposed pump station project. On Jersey Street, the town is working with Beacon Engineering to move water off the lowest parts of the streets. This will be accomplished by either putting in storm or french drains in those areas. On Van Dyke Ave, the town has submitted a grant request to DNREC to study possible projects on the storm drain outlets that run into the bay. More information about these projects can be obtained from the Town Manager.

Our Building Official Daune Hinks continues to do an outstanding job handling the hundreds of building permits that are submitted every year to the town. After a lot of research and hard work, Daune has ensured the town meets the requirements to participate in the Sussex County Hazardous Mitigation Program (SCHMP). This means if the town should experience a major flood event, we meet the requirements to receive funding from FEMA and state agencies. Thank you, Daune, for all your continued hard work to accomplish this goal!

We love our dogs in Dewey, and want to continue allowing them on the beach. Recently there has been an increase of dog owners not cleaning up their dog's waste on the beach. The owners are either not picking it up at all, or leaving it in a bag. The town supplies doggie bags at every dune crossing. There is no excuse for not cleaning up after your dog. If this should continue, and dog owners don't clean up after their dogs, restrictions for dogs on the beach may need to be put in place. Please clean up after your dog !

We are always looking at ways to improve the town's appearance. At each dune entrance, there is opportunity to improve the conditions and appearance. If you would like to see two great examples of improving the dune entrances, please see Bellevue and West Streets. These projects were funded and maintained by property owners on these streets, in coordination with the town. They look great! If you are interested in discussing a dune entrance project on your street, please contact me at townmanager@townofdeweybeach.com

Enjoy September!

-Bill





congrats

DEWEY BEACH PATROL

USLA NATIONAL LIFEGUARD CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

Mens Beach Flags

CJ Fritchman - 1st Place
Austin Rhue - 6th Place
Wilson Ingerski - 16th Place
Steve Hagen - 1st Place(30-34 Age Bracket)

Womens Beach Flags

Lulu Rishko - 11th Place

Open 90 Meter Sprint

Mack Leonhart - 5th Place

Mens 4x90 Sprint

Kyle Green, Mack Leonhart, Vance Barbato, Wilson Ingerski - 2nd Place

Austin Rhue, CJ Fritchman, Hunter Jones, Kolbe Green - 3rd Place

Womens 4x90 Sprint

Hadley Rhue, Lulu Rishko, Ella Rishko - 4th Place

Run Swim Run

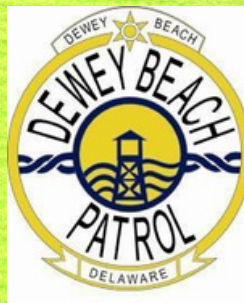
Mary Kate Keegan - 16th Place

Rescue Race

Mary Kate Keegan - 15th Place

The Sussex County Team, comprised of our Dewey Beach lifeguards, as well as guards from all of our neighboring beaches, took home the top team award of the competition, the Howard Lee National Championship Trophy!

Congratulations to all of our Delaware lifeguards!



As the DBP closes out another fantastic season here in Dewey Beach, we extend our sincerest gratitude to all members for their service to the town. We wish you all lots of luck in your future endeavors, and hope to see you back for Summer 2025! Thank you for protecting all of us here in Dewey!



Let's Talk Trash

- Our current residential trash contract expires in the spring of 2025. Town staff begins the work now to assess the needs of our residents and homeowners, and decide if changes need to be made in the collection process of waste and recycling. We want to hear your thoughts! But first, in order to move forward, it's important to understand how far we've come.



Trash & Recycling Committee

In 2016, the Trash & Recycling Committee was formed to tackle trash problems in town. There were a number of concerns:

- Residents had the choice of securing their own trash provider. While this was great to have the freedom to price shop, it had many drawbacks. Streets became overrun with different trash collection companies, driving around 24/7, all on different schedules. It was noisy, congested, and created excessive wear and tear on our streets.
- Without proper oversight, some residents decided not to pay for trash collection, and instead disposed of household waste in public trash cans. This resulted in many overfilled cans on street corners, and trash blowing around town.
- There was no mandatory valet service for rental properties. Cans were left in the public right-of-way by tenants for extended periods of time, overfilling with trash.

In the end, the committee recommended to the Town Council to enter a contract with a single-source vendor for residential properties (only one company would serve the town for residential trash and recycling). This vendor would provide cans for each property. Property owners who rented their home were required to secure valet service - this would prevent cans being left in the right-of-way, or not being put out for collection. These changes greatly improved the issues related to trash.



Where Are We Now?

In 2016, the bidding process for a single-source trash and recycling vendor yielded only one applicant. While the company has been bought out numerous times, we've continued with the original service contract.

Considerations...

- Current pricing is as follows:
 - In Season (twice/week trash collection, once/week recycling collection): \$31/mo basic; \$47.12/mo valet
 - Off Season (once/week trash collection, biweekly recycling collection): \$26.57/mo basic; \$37.31/mo valet
- From the start of the contract in 2017 to 2024, homeowners have experienced a price increase of less than \$1 per year.
- Property owners may opt to cancel service temporarily when their home is not occupied.
- Arguably, Dewey Beach trash collection is not a sought-after contract. The amount of valet service, narrow, crowded/busy streets, and traffic congestion makes collection exceptionally difficult.
- In order to lower pricing, changes will likely need to be made. For instance, this could include fixed, yearly pricing for all properties, with no option to "opt out."

Let's Hear It!



Are you satisfied with your trash collection services? Do you have ideas for change? Let us know [here!](#)



dewey in bloom

As Dewey in Bloom closes out their first season, we wish to thank the public for all of your support. All of our volunteers have received such kind compliments while out caring for our plants! It's been a pleasure to serve the community, and we look forward to continuing our mission.

The Dewey in Bloom initiative doesn't just make the town more beautiful. It's also highly beneficial:



Gardens serve to protect and nourish our bird population. Small birds are known to take shelter in large container gardens, and will also feed on nectar and seeds from flowers (we planted plenty of zinnias - one of the birds' favorites).



Save the bees and butterflies! Pollinators are essential to our ecosystem. They cross-pollinate 90% of wild plants and 30% of the world's food crops. Climate change, pesticides, and habitat destruction continue to threaten the world's pollinators. Planting varieties of flowering plants helps to provide both food and protection for our bees and butterflies.



Community gardening projects, including container gardens, promote social cohesion. While the act of gardening is shown to reduce stress and enhance physical wellbeing, merely being around plants and trees is beneficial for all of us. The presence of community gardens is also shown to reduce crime in heavily-populated areas. Though the reasoning isn't completely understood, we know that people tend to show a greater respect for an area that has been enhanced and maintained with trees, shrubs and plants.



fall 2024



keep dewey blooming

Fall is a great time to enjoy Dewey Beach, and we're doing our part to keep our town blooming for as long as possible! October 13th is our Fall Planting Day, and we'll be sprucing up our bloom boxes with colorful pansies to last throughout the colder season.

get involved

There are lots of ways to help support Dewey in Bloom! Many of our volunteers leave town for the off-season, and we can always use more help! [Reach out](#) if you're available to help on Fall Planting Day, or can help water plants throughout the off-season.

donate

We're always collecting donations in any amount to help continue our project! Donations are used for replacement flowers, soil, and gardening equipment. If you like what you see coming from Dewey in Bloom, support us [here](#)!

share a water source

One of the challenges of our project is getting water to each of our planters. The further a planter is from a water source, the further a volunteer must cart water to keep those plants alive. Do you have a home or business with an outdoor water source you're willing to share with us? Let us know [here](#)!



fall planting day october 13



help us grow in 2025

Spring of 2024 marked the kickoff of the Dewey in Bloom project. Thanks to generous donations, we had an amazing start. Our original plan was to add 18 bloom boxes down Coastal Highway. However, we received far more requests for sponsorships, and grew to a total of 28 bloom boxes! We're consistently meeting with our volunteers and learning what works, and what challenges we need to overcome. We're also planning for the future of Dewey in Bloom, and how we can contribute even more to our community.



children's learning garden

Dewey in Bloom is researching sharing space in town to create a Children's Learning Garden. This would be a place to relax, enjoy nature, and a perfect spot to host special events for kids! Learn more [here](#).

community herb garden



Another gift to our community! We're investigating the option of placing a planter in town filled with fresh herbs for all to enjoy.



new bloom boxes

Back by popular demand! We wish to add more bloom boxes throughout town. We're seeking volunteer teams to sponsor, plant, and maintain a bloom box.



We've got big plans, and even bigger dreams for 2025! But, we can't do it alone! Your donations are key to making these projects come to fruition!

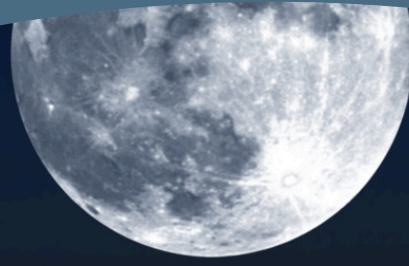
The more volunteers we have, the more we can achieve! If you enjoy working with a team, being outdoors, and helping your community, we want to meet you!



Spring 2025



the lunar tide



The most recent severe flood happened just north of the Inlet Bridge, where the ocean breached the dunes, temporarily shutting down Coastal Highway. This occurred during an overnight storm on August 18th, just one day before the full moon. This is the second time this year that the inlet beach has flooded. The first was March 26th – one day after the full moon. After the latest flood, DNREC and DelDOT began emergency repair, placing rip rap (large stones) to help protect the roadway from future flooding. This is a temporary measure, and both organizations will be evaluating this section of beach at the conclusion of hurricane season. The most likely scenario will involve beach replenishment and adding height to the existing dunes.



THE ROLE OF THE MOON IN TIDE PREDICTIONS

Those who live on the coast know that a full or new moon phase creates higher tides. When these phases coincide with a storm, we've got trouble.

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While the tides are created by the gravitational tug-of-war between the Earth, Sun, and Moon, it's the Moon that creates the best-known tides. And when the Earth, Moon and Sun align – at full moon and new moon – gravitational pulls combine to create higher high tides, and lower low tides. While these “lunar” tides are already high, even a minor storm event that coincides with the full or new moon creates problems in our area.

The kneejerk response to flooded streets or a steep drop off on the beach is “fix it now!” When on vacation, no one wants to be inconvenienced with a closed street, or a difficult walk across a storm-beaten beach.

The fact is, nature gives, and nature takes away. A good example of this is a nor'easter seemingly stealing away the width of a beach, only for it to slowly rebuild itself over time.

Defending our infrastructure, while minimizing negative impacts on the environment, is a balancing act. We like to say, trying to fight a rip tide is useless. But we can prepare for its inevitable arrival, and make a plan to survive it.

Our Climate Change and Infrastructure Committees continue to work alongside our Town Council to plan and prepare for storm events and high tides. Keep an eye on our [Meeting Calendar](#) to learn how we're working to protect Dewey Beach.



END OF SUMMER BEACH PARTY

SEPT 14TH
5:30-9PM

FOOD, DRINK, MUSIC
& BONFIRE ON THE BEACH

LEARN MORE



LIVE MUSIC BY
BRYEN O'BOYLE & FULL BAND

\$5 DONATION REQUESTED
CASH ONLY EVENT

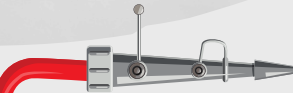
REHOBOTH BEACH VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

Donation Drive

The Rehoboth Beach Volunteer Fire Company responds annually to over 600 calls from residents and visitors alike, and that number is continuing to increase steadily year after year. Your generous monetary donations enable the RBVFC to continue their mission of providing the best emergency services to you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Please consider donating what you can to help the RBVFC help you, when you need it most..



Many residents and visitors to our area are surprised to learn that when they dial 911 in an emergency, most of the people who respond are volunteers. They leave their families at a moment's notice, day or night, rain or shine, ready to place their lives in harm's way to protect your lives and property. This type of dedication and commitment is tough to come by, but it's one of the reasons the Delaware beaches are such a great place to live, work or vacation. These firefighters are your neighbors and co-workers. They dutifully spend hundreds of hours training each year to be ready to respond at any time to emergencies such as structure fires, motor vehicle accidents, brush fires, water rescues, downed power lines and much, much more.

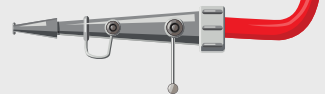


Join the Town of Dewey Beach in supporting our local heroes in their mission to continue providing life-saving service to our area. From July 1st - September 9th, the Town of Dewey Beach will match donations up to a grand total of **\$15,000!**

The Rehoboth Beach Volunteer Fire Company is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and donations made by check are 100% tax deductible.

Donations are accepted by check payable to the Rehoboth Beach Volunteer Fire Company. Please send checks to Dewey Beach Town Hall at 105 Rodney Ave, Dewey Beach, DE 19971.

*Donations may also be made on our [website](#).



*In many cases, online donations submitted to an organization that is not a 501(c)(3) can not be deducted on taxes (The Town of Dewey Beach is not a registered 501(c)(3)). We can provide a receipt for you to verify your donation is for the Rehoboth Beach Volunteer Fire Company, but can not guarantee this will be accepted as a tax deduction. Please check with your tax accountant prior to making an online donation if you wish to use your donation as a tax deduction, or, submit your donation by check made payable to Rehoboth Beach Volunteer Fire Company.



DEWEY BEACH

*PUBLIC
SAFETY DAY*



COME OUT AND MEET YOUR FIRST RESPONDERS!



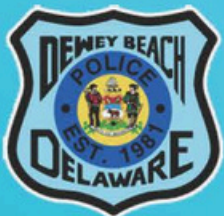
SEPT 21, 2024 12-4PM

115 McKinley Ave., Dewey Beach, DE 19971

ACTIVITIES

FOOD

DJ & MORE



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSOR



Where the Fun Never Ends!

DEWEY BEACH HOSTS A VARIETY OF EVENTS ALL YEAR LONG!



Book a Bonfire

We offer booking for private bonfires all year long, and anytime is the perfect time to enjoy a fire by the sea!

READ MORE



Stay Golden

Calling all dog lovers!

Dewey's Golden Jubilee returns September 27-28th!

READ MORE



Local Events

The Rehoboth-Dewey Chamber of Commerce will keep you updated on all area events! Mark your calendars!

READ MORE



End of Season Party

Get ready for the biggest beach party of the summer on September 14th!

READ MORE



ELECTION NOTICE

NO ELECTION TO BE HELD IN 2024

The Town of Dewey Beach WILL NOT hold its Annual Municipal Election on Saturday, September 21, 2024

No other persons except the (2) incumbents are on file for the (2) Commissioner seats. Therefore, it is determined by the Dewey Beach Board of Elections that it is not necessary to hold an election.

Pursuant to Section 10(a) of the Charter of the Town of Dewey Beach and certified by the Dewey Beach Board of Elections, the incumbent Commissioners William Stevens and Gary Persinger shall be deemed elected for a full two (2) year term each.

Congratulations to our commissioners, and thank you for once again volunteering your time and efforts to the Town of Dewey Beach.

GET INVOLVED!

In a resort town, great summers are made in the off-season! Fall and winter are often the busiest times for our boards and committees, as we take time to review our successes and challenges of the previous season and assess where change and improvement is needed.

We'll be keeping you updated via our newsletter, but also ask that you keep an eye on the [Town Meeting Calendar](#) to see what's up for discussion. New meetings are posted at least one week in advance, and could be added anytime depending on which topic needs review. Your voice is important, and we offer opportunities to join meetings either in person or virtually.

News Brief

Good News

Dewey Beach lifeguard Burke Healy gladly accepts a beachgoer's request for assistance entering the water. Burke's kind heart and willingness to lend a hand embodies the spirit of our entire Beach Patrol. Kudos to Burke, and all of our guards. We can't wait to see you back for Summer 2025!



Upcoming Meetings

September 7th - Climate Change Committee
September 10th - Marketing Committee
September 17th - Planning Commission
September 20th - Town Council

MEETING CALENDAR & AGENDAS

Mark Your Calendar Now!

The Dewey Beach Lions Club is hosting a blood drive on Tuesday, October 8th from 12:00-6:00 PM at the Dewey Beach Lions Clubhouse. Let's make this community service project a success once again! Please tell your neighbors, friends & family to sign up to donate blood. Remember, you must wait 8 weeks between donations, so please register ahead of time to donate [here](#)!





Contact Us

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Dewey Beach, DE 19971
(302) 227-6363

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Website

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