

MAY 2026



DELAWARE'S FAVORITE PLAYGROUND

Official Newsletter of The Town of Dewey Beach

Welcome Back!

This month marks the start of summer for all of our coastal towns. We've been working hard during the off-season to prepare for Summer 2026, and we're excited to welcome you all back to the beach here in Dewey!

We'd also like to extend our sincere thanks to our Dewey residents and visitors who have served, and continue to serve in the armed forces. We honor you not just on Memorial Day, but every day. Thank you for your service.



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**BONUS VACATION
GUIDE
INCLUDED!**

**Everything you need to
know for Summer
2026!**

Click here to
subscribe!

TOWN MANAGER'S

Update

Here comes summer, ready or not! The town is completely staffed with our summer police officers, lifeguards, and our parking and dog ambassadors. Over 100 summer employees in all! These seasonal employees work hard keeping our town safe and clean. I want to thank the commissioners for their continued support of our summer employees' pay levels.

I want to thank everyone for their patience while the town was repainting all of the driveway entrances. This was a huge undertaking - waiting for the warmer weather, ordering enough paint, and ensuring each line was straight and in the right place. Our maintenance team still has to mark the handicapped spots, some lifeguard spots, and paint some last-minute driveways. I want to thank our team for a great job!

With summer comes an increase of our four-legged, tail wagging friends on the beach. The Town provides doggie bags at all dune crossings, so use them! We love our "Dewey Dogs", but you must clean up after them.

Just a couple of summer reminders:

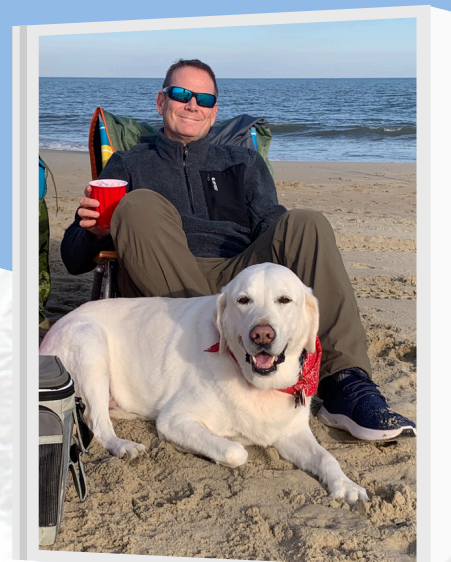
- Parking starts at 9:00am on May 15th - not 10:00am.
- Scooter parking is free in designated scooter parking areas around town.
- Four post canopies, umbrellas, and open-sided tents are permitted on the beach. Camping tents, privacy/potty tents, or similar enclosed structures are prohibited. Baby tents measuring 36" square may be used. Canopies may not be set up and left unattended before 9:00am.
- No glass, smoking, or vaping on the beach.
- Do not place signage in the right-of-way or on sidewalks. Signs placed here will be removed.

I want to thank the Dewey Beach Civic League for the donation of the 3 dumpsters on McKinley Bayside for spring cleanup. They were a huge success!

Also, thank you to all of the sponsors and Dewey in Bloom Volunteers. The flowers look great around town. We all look forward to spring flowers on Planting Day, May 17th!

Enjoy May,

-Bill





BE A STAR
IN DEWEY
BEACH!

DEWEY BEACH

Walk of Fame

LEGENDS ★ HISTORY ★ MEMORIES

ONE TOWN.
THOUSANDS OF STORIES.
SET YOURS IN STONE!



LEARN MORE





Avoid the Rip

- Learn how to spot a rip current
- Swim near a lifeguard
- If caught in a rip current, remain calm
- Yell for help if able
- Don't fight the current

Flip, Float, Follow

- Flip onto your back and stay calm
- Float to conserve energy
- Follow the path of least resistance parallel to the shore, then back towards the beach when out of the current



Stay Aware of the Waves

- When in doubt, don't go out
- Shore breaks are more powerful than you think
- Never face your back to the waves



Umbrellas & Canopies

- Don't block a lifeguard's view with a canopy or shade
- Carefully anchor umbrellas and canopies, wind gusts are common on the beach



Hole Digging

- Avoid risk of burial during a cave in
- Never tunnel through the sand or into the side of the dune
- Dig holes only knee deep - use the shortest person in your group to measure



Beat the Heat

- Know the warning signs of heat stroke
- Apply sunscreen of SPF 30 or higher regularly
- Drink plenty of water and avoid alcohol

THE DEWEY BEACH PATROL RETURNS FOR DUTY ON MAY 22ND

what's happening

don't miss these activities in and around dewey!



MAY 9TH

Arts & Fun Festival



MAY 9TH

Golden Jubilee



MAY 22ND - 25TH

Memorial Day Weekend



Book a Bonfire

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

Ten Sisters 5K Kick Off

The road race series begins May 25th with the Highway One Companies 5K!

Dewey in Bloom Planting Day

Dewey Beach blooms again on May 17th with new floral displays lining Coastal Hwy!

Memorial Day Weekend

The summer season is right around the corner! We can't wait to welcome old friends and new back to Dewey Beach for Summer 2026!

Check with your favorite restaurants and shops to learn more about all the fun that's in store here in Dewey!

Red White & Bloom Kids Bike Parade

July 5th
9:30am - 11:30am

McKinley Ave Bayside
Dewey Beach

All are
welcome!

Decorate
your bike
and join the
fun!



Family
Friendly Activities
Following Parade!

Hosted by



**A LONG TIME AGO, IN A BEACH
TOWN NOT SO FAR AWAY, IT
BEGAN...**

DEWEY BEACH PARKING WARS

**IT IS PEAK SEASON. THE METERS ARE
TICKING, THE STREETS ARE PACKED,
AND CONFUSION IS STRONG.**

**BUT ONE MAN STANDS BETWEEN
ORDER AND CHAOS...**

**ARMED WITH A HANDHELD AND AN
UNSHAKABLE CALM, DAN GUIDES THE
LOST, ANSWERS THE ETERNAL "CAN I
PARK HERE?" AND KEEPS THE CURBSIDE
FORCE IN BALANCE.**

**LET US INTRODUCE YOU TO DAN.
THE PARKING MAN.**

ONE MAN. MANY METERS.

In a town where finding a parking spot can sometimes feel like a competitive sport, there's one guy helping keep the chaos (mostly) in check - Dan. For the past four years, he's been one of Dewey Beach's Parking Ambassadors, guiding drivers, answering questions, and occasionally delivering the news no one wants to hear. It's not exactly a job that comes with standing ovations, but it's a necessary one in a place where parking can be, let's say, a bit of an adventure. So who signs up for a role like this - and sticks with it? Let's take a minute to meet Dan, one of Dewey's unsung heroes.



WHAT KEEPS YOU COMING BACK?

I enjoy being outdoors, riding a bicycle to do my job, and I really like the Dewey Beach atmosphere.

ANY "REGULARS" THAT YOU ENJOY SEEING DURING A SHIFT?

There's a lot of residents and business owners that always make my day by waving, saying hello, and even offering me some water when it's hot out!

IF YOU COULD RENAME A STREET BASED ON THE PARKING ADVENTURES THERE, WHAT WOULD YOU CALL IT?

Rename Saulsbury to Money Lane. It's high demand, every one wants to park there. They'll even park illegally just to be on that street.

FAVORITE INTERACTION WITH A VISITOR?

On a Monday around 4:45pm I noticed a guy get out of his car and walk away towards an ice cream shop without paying. He looked at me, stopped, and ran back to his car. I approached him and realized he was a famous sportscaster! He said he was just going to get some ice cream and forgot about feeding the meter. I told him free parking starts in 15 minutes... and to go ahead and get his ice cream. Can't let a matter of a few minutes ruin someone's attempt at dessert.

IMAGINE DEWEY BEACH WAS A MOVIE - WHAT ROLE WOULD THE PARKING DEPARTMENT PLAY? COMEDY? DRAMA? ACTION?

All three! The comedy of people's explanations as to why they didn't pay to park, the drama of being yelled at for issuing a ticket, and the action of people running towards me thinking I'm writing a ticket when I'm just standing near their car.

WHAT'S THE WEIRDEST THING SOMEONE HAS LEFT IN THEIR CAR?

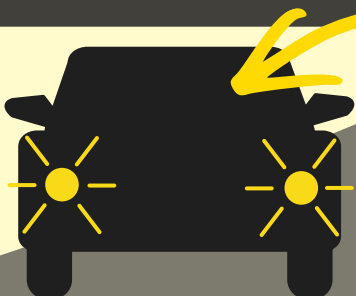
Some people leave donuts and pizza right on their dashboard, maybe they're keeping it warm in the sun?

WHAT IS SOMETHING PEOPLE DO THAT MAKES YOUR JOB EASIER, OR HARDER?

Easier when they're understanding when I have to issue a ticket because I'm just doing my job. Harder when they start yelling.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE THE PUBLIC TO KNOW?

I'm always willing to help - just ask - especially with the Park Mobile app! Bring lots of quarters if you're old school. Oh, and stop trying to fit your car in the moped spots.



**CLICK HERE FOR
2026 PARKING
INFO!**

db news

BRIEF

QUICK UPDATES YOU SHOULD KNOW!



Town Hall Hours

Starting May 11th, Town Hall will be open:

Mon - Thurs 8am - 4:30pm
Fri 8am - 6pm
Sat 9am - 3pm
Sun 10am - 2pm

Due to events and expected crowds on May 9th, we'll be open from 9am - 2pm.



Beach Bonfires

The Town now permits up to two bonfires per street - one located on the south side, and one on the north side of each dune entrance - providing more opportunities for residents and visitors to safely enjoy beach gatherings. A valid permit is still required prior to any fire being conducted.



DSWA Collection Event

On May 23rd, DE Solid Waste Authority will host a shredding and waste collection event at Rehoboth Beach Elementary from 8am - 2pm. [Click here](#) for more information on this event.

Good News



Our resident ospreys who secured prime real estate atop a Costello Construction crane at the end of Rodney Avenue are doing great (if you didn't catch the story, [click here](#))! A stroll down the street to visit our feathered neighbors has been a popular activity for both construction workers and town staff during lunch breaks.

Our ospreys aren't alone! Check out the Lions Club live [Osprey Cam](#) for an up close and personal look at another nesting couple on McKinley Ave!

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

Upcoming Meetings

May 4th - Marketing Committee Meeting
May 6th - Finance Committee Meeting
May 15th - Town Council Meeting
June 12th - Town Council Meeting

Learn More





Contact Us

Dewey Beach Town Hall
105 Rodney Ave
Dewey Beach, DE 19971
(302) 227-6363

Visit the Town
Website

View the Staff
Directory

Follow us on
Facebook

DEWEY BEACH

VACATION GUIDE

2026

COMMUNITY *Events*

Monday Movies on the Beach

Join us every Monday at 8:30pm on the beach at Dagsworthy Ave for a family-friendly movie night! This event is free to the public. Glow necklaces are available for \$1 donation. Movie schedule is subject to change. This event is weather-dependent.

June 15th - The Spongebob Movie: Search for Squarepants (PG)

June 22nd - Grow (PG)

June 29th - Zootopia 2 (PG)

July 6th - Lilo & Stitch (2025) (PG)

July 13th - Freakier Friday (PG)

July 20th - How to Train Your Dragon (2025) (PG)

July 27th - The Santa Clause (PG)

August 3rd - The Goonies (PG)

August 10th - Wicked: For Good (PG)

August 17th - Mean Girls 2024 (PG 13)

August 24th - High School Musical (G)

Wednesday Bonfires on the Beach

Every Wednesday at 7:00pm from June 17th - August 26th, on the beach at Dagsworthy Ave, enjoy a community bonfire on the beach! This event is free to the public. Roasting marshmallows and glow necklaces are available for a \$1 donation. Feel free to bring your own fireside snacks! This event is weather dependent.

More Events

The Rehoboth-Dewey Chamber of Commerce is always adding new events to the summer schedule! Check beach-fun.com regularly to stay up-to-date on what's happening in and around Dewey Beach!



MADE IN THE *Shade*

Rules for Canopies

Camping-style tents, privacy tents, and other enclosed shelters are not permitted on the beach. Umbrellas, open-sided canopies of any size, and baby tents measuring 36" square or less are welcome.

Visitors are not permitted to set up any canopies and leave them unattended prior to 9:00am.

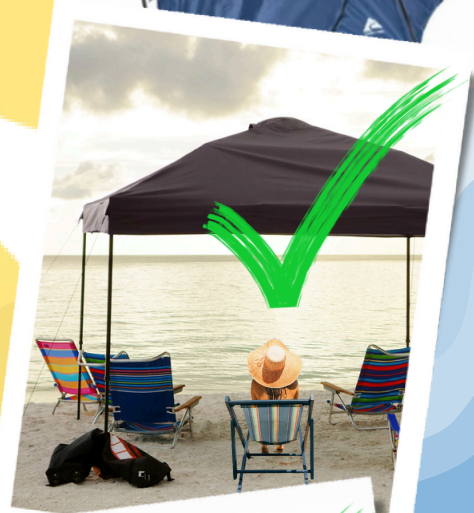
Lifeguards must have a 180-degree view of the beach, with the ability to see and signal to neighboring stands, while also having a clear path to the water. If the placement of your canopy is inhibiting the duties of the Beach Patrol, you will be asked to move.

Chair & Umbrella Rental

Lynam's Beach Concessions provides chair and umbrella rentals Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend (extended season may apply, weather permitting). Visit one of the blue and white beach shacks for details.

Additional Beach Rules

- The beach is open from 5:00am to 1:00am
- No vaping or smoking
- No glass containers
- No alcohol from May 15th - September 15th
- No unauthorized vehicles
- No commercial activity without prior approval
- No littering
- No launching, landing or swimming to and from boats
- No surf fishing within 100 feet of bathers



DOGS ON THE *Beach*

We Love Our Dewey Dogs!

Dewey Beach is the vacation destination for pups and their people! One of our main attractions is our dog-friendly beach. From the Saturday of Memorial Day Weekend to the Sunday following Labor Day, dogs may enjoy the beach before 9:30am and after 5:30pm. Outside of these dates, dogs may enjoy the beach all day long!

Dog Licenses

All dogs in Dewey must be licensed with the town. This is in addition to any state license or rabies tag you may currently have. You have your choice of a temporary license, or a lifetime license. Check out the options and pricing [here](#). Licenses may be purchased online, in-person at Town Hall, or from the automated kiosk at the entrance of the Town Hall parking lot.

What to Expect

In the early morning hours or at dusk, expect many dogs on the beach. Leashes are not required on the beach, but dogs must be kept under the control of their handler. Do not bring an aggressive or unpredictable dog to a crowded beach. Know your dog and their limits, and be prepared to remove them from a situation if need be. Mutual respect, care, and concern for others and their pets keeps Dewey Beach dog-friendly.

Keep It Clean

Waste bags are provided at each beach entrance. You must pick up after your dog, and dispose of waste in trash receptacles, or risk penalties and fines.



Pet Emergencies

Our local veterinarians are extremely busy with an overload of patients, especially during the summer season. Emergency hospitals offering 24/7 care are at least an hour away.

For these reasons, it is imperative that you exercise extreme caution and care with your pets to avoid a medical emergency whenever possible.

Never arrive at a vet hospital unannounced with an emergency - a doctor may not be available right away, and this could waste precious time. CALL FIRST to ensure availability and to allow the staff to prepare for your arrival.

Rehoboth Beach Animal Hospital

Established patients only
(302) 227-2009

Savannah Animal Hospital

Established patients only
(302) 645-8757

Precious Paws Animal Hospital

Emergency service during daytime business hours
118 Atlantic Ave., #201, Ocean View, DE 19970
(302) 539-2273

Approx 20 minutes south of Dewey Beach

Home Care Vet of Delaware

Mobile veterinarian, availability will vary
(302) 493-3010

Pets ER

Open nights, weekends, and holidays only
2402 Punkin Court, Salisbury, MD 21804
(410) 543-8400

Approx 1 hour southwest of Dewey Beach

Delmarva Animal Emergency Center

Open nights, weekends, and holidays only
1482 E. Lebanon Rd., Dover, DE 19901
(302) 697-0850

Approx 1 hour north of Dewey Beach

Blue Pearl Pet Hospital - Christiana

Open 24/7

106 Geoffrey Dr., Newark, DE 19713
(302) 322-6933

Approx 1.5 hours north of Dewey Beach



PARKING 101

Parking Overview

During the summer season (May 15 - September 15), from 9:00am - 2:00am the following day, you must pay to park on all public streets in Dewey Beach. The easiest way to pay for parking is through the Park Mobile app. We highly recommend downloading this free app to your phone prior to visiting with us.

Parking Pricing

- Seasonal Hangtag Permit \$300 (discounts available for property owners, town-licensed businesses and their employees)
- Seasonal Virtual Permit \$300
- Weekly (8 consecutive days) \$120
- Weekend (9a Fri - 9a Mon) \$60
- 24 Hours \$30
- Metered Parking by the Hour \$4

Park Mobile charges \$1 per transaction through the app. You'll be charged a \$1 fee on any transaction, no matter the time limit.

Handicap plates or placards are valid to use as a parking permit at all permit and coin meter spaces, but must be visibly displayed.

Parking is free on Mondays from 5:00pm to 11:00pm, excluding major holidays.

Where to Park

Permit areas are marked with bright green signs displaying the number 4012. You may park here with any parking permit, or, use the Park Mobile app to pay on site.

Coin meter spaces are for quick turnover and are usually located near restaurants and shops.

Be mindful of driveways, which are often flanked with signage and a yellow bar painted on the roadway.

You may not always find parking in your desired location. Explore a less busy area of town to find a spot - the beach is accessible from every street.



DEWEY BEACH

Amenities

Accessibility

We're always working to make Dewey Beach more accessible for everyone. Beach wheelchairs are available to rent for free through the Dewey Beach Lifesaving Station during daytime hours Memorial Day to Labor Day. Visit our website to [reserve your wheelchair](#). Also stop by the Van Dyke ocean beach for the dune landing. This is a perfect spot to enjoy an easily accessible view of the beach.

Snacks & Sweets

Lynam's Beach Concessions doesn't just provide chairs and umbrellas! Stop by the beach shacks for plenty of snack options. Planet Ice will also be making the rounds with shaved ice and other treats. Of course, many of the beach entrances are in close proximity to Dewey's amazing restaurants, too!

Bonfires & Events

The beach bonfire is a tradition here in Dewey! Get your permit [online](#) today to host your own private get-together. Be sure to read the rules and guidelines prior to your bonfire.

Dewey sets itself apart from other beaches with the variety of [activities available](#). Skimboarding and surfing classes, kayak, SUP and jet ski rentals, volleyball camps, fitness and yoga classes, beach picnics, and more are all held right here in Dewey. You can also schedule your own private wedding or event. [Contact us](#) today!



PLAY IT *Safe*

Getting Around

Dewey Beach is only 1 mile long and 2 blocks wide, making it a great place to walk, bike, scoot or skateboard. Drivers must remain hyper-aware while driving through Dewey. Maintain the 25mph speed limit, and keep an eye on the shoulder before making a turn.

Bikes & Boards

It is imperative for parents to teach their kids how to ride bikes, skateboards and scooters safely in Dewey Beach. Always ride with the traffic, and obey all traffic signs and signals. Make eye contact with oncoming drivers to ensure they see you before crossing a street. Wear a helmet, and consider bright-colored clothing when out for a ride.

Pedestrians

Crosswalks and crossing beacons are placed along Coastal Highway. Pedestrians should hit the button on the beacon, and ensure both lanes of traffic are stopped before attempting to cross the highway. Do not assume that because the beacons are flashing, that traffic will stop.

Scooters & Mopeds

Visitors may be surprised to see so many scooters and mopeds in Coastal Delaware. This is a popular mode of transportation, and part of the culture here at the beach. Unfortunately, each summer there are multiple accidents involving scooters. Please keep an eye out - many of these riders are our hospitality workers on their way to and from their job to make your vacation great!

If you are joining the fun of scooting through Dewey Beach, please stay aware and use caution. Avoid riding the shoulder through town. We offer free scooter parking throughout Dewey - look for spaces marked "moped parking."



DEWEY BEACH

Nightlife

Something for Everyone

The magic of Dewey Beach is that we have something for everyone! We pride ourselves on being a fun and energetic place to be, from sunup to sundown. Being "Delaware's Favorite Playground" comes with an increased responsibility of safety - which is our number one priority here in Dewey. The Dewey Beach Patrol and the Dewey Beach Police are dedicated to protecting you and your family 24/7 this summer. Keep in mind - safety is everyone's responsibility!

Dewey After Dark

The nightlife in Dewey Beach is a cultural staple. Spending hot summer nights strolling in and out of restaurants, listening to live music and meeting new and old friends is one of our favorite pastimes! We keep the party going by ensuring that Dewey is a safe place to have a great time. Do your part by respecting those around you, and caring about the wellbeing of others. If you notice suspicious behavior - say something. If you see a person in need of assistance - call for help. When you're here, you're a member of the Dewey family. Together, we can make this summer the best yet!

What You Should Know

- The Dewey Beach Police maintain a strong presence throughout town, especially in the evenings during the summer. Expect to see them patrolling in vehicles, on bikes, motorcycles, and on foot. Our K9 unit is also active throughout the evening.
- There is a minor curfew nightly from 11:00pm - 5:00am. Unaccompanied minors are not permitted on the beach or in public spaces during this time.
- All are welcome! Dewey isn't just for young adults - with a variety of places and different genres of music to entertain you, we're sure you'll find the perfect spot to enjoy the night. We're excited to welcome you!





**FOR MORE
DETAILS,
VISIT
DEWEYBEACH.GOV**