



CITY NEWS

DELAWARE CITY, DELAWARE

www.delawarecity.delaware.gov

January 13, 2011

NOTICE TO SENIORS/DISABLED

With certain household income limitations, you may be eligible for a reduction on your city property tax and water rates during fiscal year 2012. (Beginning July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2012).

The household income, excluding Social Security and disability pension, is limited to:

Single Applicant:	\$20,000
Married Applicants:	\$25,000(combined income)
Household:	\$25,000 (total household income)

You may be eligible if you were 65 years of age or a disabled resident on SSI and have owned your current residence for one (1) year by December 31, 2010, and your income does not exceed the limits above.

You must submit the following documents with your application:

1. Copy of Federal Tax Form (1040) for 2010. *If you do not file a Federal Tax Form, you must submit: a copy of 2010 Social Security Benefit Statements and/or a copy of 2010 interest statements and/or a copy of 2010 pension statements.*
2. Proof of income for all household residents over 18 years old
3. Certificate of Insurance Award if disabled
4. Proof of age (Picture ID, License, or Birth Certificate for homeowner applying for discount)

Applications for Exemptions are available at Town Hall. If you need assistance filling out the application please feel free to stop by Town Hall, and we will be glad to assist you. Office hours are Monday 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm and Tuesday through Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

PLEASE NOTE: The application form and the required documents must be submitted every year to demonstrate continued eligibility.

Deadline for Filing: April 18, 2011

DID YOU KNOW that Town Hall has new office hours? Town Hall is open on Monday 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM and Tuesday through Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing will be held on Monday, January 24, 2011 at 7:00 PM at Town Hall, 407 Clinton Street, in the Mayor and Council Chambers to discuss the Clinton Streetscape Environmental Improvement Project. The City of Delaware City has been granted Community Transportation Funds that were allocated by former Representative Cathcart. The purpose of the hearing is to gather input regarding the design and installation of plantings and landscaping in the historic downtown district. Topics to be discussed are types, locations and installation of planting beds/planters, best environmental use of the grant, and future maintenance of the plantings. The City welcomes new proposals. All residents are invited to attend.

Friendly Reminders:

Snow Removal

Property owners and renters are reminded that they are responsible for proper maintenance of the sidewalks. This includes clearing snow and ice from sidewalks abutting their home or business. By Code, sidewalks must be cleared within 24 hours of a snow or ice event. Please ensure that pedestrians can safely travel on all sidewalks and do not forget to lend a hand to your elderly or disabled neighbor.

Dog Owners

Recently we have received numerous complaints about dog owners allowing their dogs to defecate on others' properties and not picking it up. Please be considerate and pick up your dogs' waste. There are "mutt mitts" in Battery Park for your convenience. We have also been receiving complaints of dogs being walked around the neighborhood without a leash. New Castle County has a law that dogs must be on a leash when walking outside their yard for safety reasons. Please respect your neighbor's property and safety. Thank you for your consideration.

Tax Credit Workshop for Historic Property Owners....

Anyone drawn to historic properties can recite the perks of living or working in an older building: unique architectural and artistic details, the human history ingrained in the building and, if you're lucky, quality construction that is still usable. Also, historic buildings are being recognized for their embodied energy and their use of green and sustainable materials and design. Unless you have deep pockets, however, rehabilitating historic buildings can challenge a budget if maintenance has been neglected for a long time. This is not necessarily because every maintenance project is complicated, but because there are fewer and fewer craftspeople trained to perform the task. Also at work is the ceaseless and slick marketing of cheap replacement or cover-up materials, which entice people to settle for short-term convenience over long-term quality. Most modern materials are not appropriate for historic properties in general, and are not allowed in many instances. In order to encourage quality rehabilitation projects that use appropriate materials and techniques, tax credit programs targeting National Register of Historic Places properties were developed at the federal and state levels. These credits operate as rewards or "carrots" for good work that results in the preservation of the character-defining features of a historic property. While commercial properties are eligible for both the state and federal tax credits, homeowners can only apply for the state credits. For homeowners, the potential credit to your state tax obligation is 30% of qualified costs. On Tuesday March 1, 2011, 7:00 PM, Joan Larrivee of the DE

Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs will present a state tax credit workshop at the regular meeting of the Delaware City Historic Preservation Commission. If you live or own property within the DC National Register Historic District and are contemplating work on your building, plan to attend this workshop to learn more about the process. You can also visit the state website for an application: <http://history.delaware.gov>. A map of the Delaware City Historic District is available at Town Hall and on the City's website: www.delawarecity.delaware.gov.

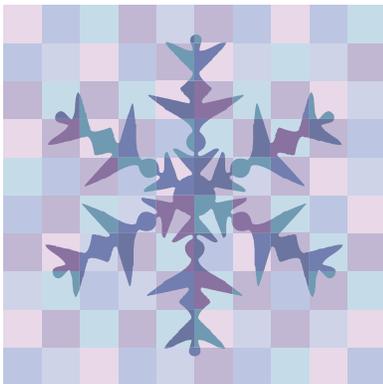
CITY ELECTIONS SCHEDULED

The Delaware City Municipal Election will be held on Tuesday, April 5, 2011. The Mayor and two seats on Council are up for election this year. The deadline for filing to become a candidate for Mayor is Friday, February 4, 2011 and for Council is Monday, March 7, 2011. Stop by Town Hall to pick up the necessary forms and for further information on qualifications for office. You can also visit our website at www.delawarecity.delaware.gov for all the information regarding the election: Click on Mayor and Council and then Elections. Notices are also posted around Town at the Post Office, Sunset Market, Valero Gas Station, and Library.

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