



CITY NEWS

WWW. delawarecity.delaware.gov

Sept 9, 2014

2nd ANNUAL COATDRIVE/EXCHANGE

As you are putting your Summer clothes away and bringing out the Winter coats, please donate any items that you no longer want that are in good shape to the 2nd Annual Coat Drive/Exchange. Also, if you have items you or your kids have outgrown and need a new size, drop off these items and on October 18th stop by the Delaware City Marina from 12-4 PM and pick out new sizes. Coats, gloves, scarves can be donated to the Marina from today until Friday, October 17th. We had over 240 items donated and distributed to folks in Delaware City last year. Let's top that number this year!

DELAWARE CITY FIRE CO. NEWS

With Halloween right around the corner, the Delaware City Fire Company is holding a Costume Party Fundraiser. Anyone can go to this link: www.costumeandpartyfundraiser.com and enter promo code FUN3279 at checkout and the Delaware City Fire Company receives 15% of their purchase and the customer receives 10% off their order. Help support your fire company.

RIVER TOWNS RIDE & FESTIVAL

Saturday, October 4th from noon-5PM
Celebrating Historic New Castle & Delaware City. This FREE event will take place rain or shine and will feature food, music, vendors, craft beer and family fun at both locations! Cycling Time Trials from the City of New Castle to Delaware City and recreational bike rides between the two Cities for all ability levels. Come out and enjoy this Family Festival. For more information go to: RiverTownsFestival.com.

PUT ON YOUR RUNNING SHOES

Put on your running shoes and come out to the Pike Creek Valley Running Club 15K and 5K Running Race. It will take place on Sunday, October 12th from 6AM to 11:30AM.

HEROIN ALERT DRUG AWARENESS PROGRAM

Research shows that 65% of teens who have abused prescription pain relievers say they got them from friends and relatives. Children as young as 12 are abusing drugs and many teens incorrectly believe that taking a prescription medication to get high is less dangerous than taking illegal drugs. Misuse of Prescription opiates can quickly spiral out of control. Currently prescription drug abuse/misuse is the #1 Public Health epidemic and this is fueling a rise in heroin addiction across Delaware.

The Heroin Alert Program is an educational and emotionally moving multimedia presentation that guides the audience through the destructive path of heroin. The program eliminates the stereotypical views of heroin use and the addict themselves. Legal consequences are discussed and the harmful effects of heroin use are amplified through images depicting death and trauma. This **FREE** program will be held at the Community Center on Wed., 9-17 from 6-7 PM. Marie Allen, a local parent, portrays her family's victimization by heroin, which resulted in the death of her daughter. Come out for this compelling presentation.

NOTICE OF INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED UPDATE TO DELAWARE CITY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ZONING CODE

Delaware City will consider updating the City's Comprehensive Plan and amending the City's zoning code (the "Proposed Amendments") in part as they relate to lands currently known as the Fort DuPont Complex as more fully described in House Bill No. 310. The Proposed Amendments will be available to the public at Town Hall, 407 Clinton Street, Delaware City beginning September 5, 2014.

The Proposed Amendments will be introduced at the Mayor and Council meeting beginning at 6:30 P.M. on September 15, 2014 at the Paul H. Morrill Jr. Community Center, 250 Fifth Street, Delaware City. It is anticipated that the Proposed Amendments will be referred to the Delaware City Planning Commission at this meeting.

The Planning Commission shall hold a public hearing to consider the Proposed Amendments at 7:00 P.M. on September 29, 2014 at the Paul H. Morrill, Jr. Community Center, 250 Fifth Street, Delaware City. The public is invited to attend and comment.

GOT DRUGS!

Delaware City will be sponsoring a **Drug Take Back** program on Saturday, September 27th from 10 AM to 2 PM at the Delaware City Fire Company. Turn in your unused or expired medication for safe disposal **anonymously-no questions asked**. Not only does this help you dispose of unwanted drugs it keeps you from flushing them down the toilet which would enter the Stormwater. Remember only rain down the drain!

COMMUNITY CENTER AND DRAGON RUN TRAIL MASTER PLAN

There will be an unveiling and soliciting of public comments on the Community Center and Dragon Run Trail Master Plan on Thursday, September 11, 2014 at 6:30PM at the Community Center.

UPCOMING EVENTS**SEPTEMBER:**

13th- Movie Night in Battery Park, 8:30PM
27th - Cruise Club with Cool Cars

OCTOBER:

4th - Rivers Town Ride & Festival- Delaware City to City of New Castle, noon-5PM
11th - Historic Ghost Tours, 7PM
12th- Pike Creek Valley Running Club- 15K & 5K
24-26th - The Ghosts at Fernwood Place-Reedy Point Players- Community Center
25th - Cruise Club with Cool Cars

NOVEMBER:

1st - Walk Across Delaware, Trail Club
29th - Cruise Club with Cool Cars

HYDRANT FLUSHING Water in the system remains treated during the flushing and slightly discolored water is still safe to consume. However, it is recommended that customers open their **COLD** water taps until the water runs clear. Avoid turning on hot water taps until the water runs clear to prevent discolored water from getting into the hot water heater.

The hydrant flushing program is performed every year and helps keep the distribution system clear of mineral deposits. It also allows all fire hydrants to be tested and repaired if necessary. The flushing will be performed by employees of Artesian Water Company on behalf of the City. If you encounter some staining of laundry, stain remover powder is available at Town Hall that may be able to help. The hydrant flushing will take place from Mon, Sept 29th through Oct 3rd.



City of Delaware City
407 Clinton Street
P. O. Box 4159
Delaware City, DE

PRST STD
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 NEWARK, DE
 PERMIT NO. 20

HYDRANT FLUSHING
STARTING MONDAY,
SEPT 29th THROUGH
FRIDAY, OCT 3rd

BOXHOLDER
DELAWARE CITY, DE
19706

FLOOD HAZARD AREAS

Delaware City is vulnerable to coastal storms and flooding. A significant percentage of the town is located within the FEMA defined 100-year (1% chance) flood plain. These areas are noted as Zone AE on the FEMA flood map and are particularly susceptible to flooding.

Flash-flooding is the general type of flooding caused by the Canal. For Delaware City, flooding will occur if there is a storm surge or if two or more high tides take place without an intervening ebb tide.

Information on whether your property is in the 100-year floodplain can be obtained by coming into Town Hall and we can help you. Maps are available to look at as well as other flood-related information. You can contact Town Hall at (302) 834-4573 for further assistance.

FLOOD SAFETY

The following common sense guidelines can help you from the dangers of flooding:

- Do not drive through a flooded area. More people drown in cars than any where else. Do not drive around barriers.
- Do not walk through flowing water. Currents can be deceptive. Six inches of water can knock you off your feet.
- Stay away from power lines and electrical wires. If your house is about to be flooded, turn off the power at the service box. Electrical current can travel through water. Electrocutation is the 2nd leading cause of death during floods.
- Be alert to gas leaks. Turn off the gas to your house before it floods. If you smell gas, report it to your gas company. Do not use candles, lanterns or open flames if you smell gas or are unsure if your gas has been shut off.
- Keep children away from the flood waters, ditches, culverts and storm drains. Flood waters can carry unimaginable items that have dislodged themselves. Culverts may suck smaller people into them rendering them helpless.

DELAWARE CITY FLOOD INFORMATION

floodplain area. Please contact Town Hall to receive all the information you will need in order to properly develop in the floodplain at (302) 834-4573. You may report any illegal development activities to the above number as well.

SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT / DAMAGE

The NFIP requires that if the cost of improvements to a building or the cost to repair damages (from any cause) to a building exceeds 50% of the market value of the building (excluding land value), the entire building must be brought up to current floodplain management standards. Building improvement projects include exterior and interior remodeling, rehabilitation, additions and repair and reconstruction projects. Please contact Town Hall at (302) 834-4573 for further information.

FLOOD INSURANCE

If you do not have flood insurance, talk to your insurance agent. Most homeowner's insurance policies do not cover damage from floods. Flood insurance is only available to those participating communities in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Because of our floodplain management programs that attempt to protect us from the multiple flooding hazards, Delaware City is part of the NFIP and thus, residents are able to obtain flood insurance. Additionally, because Delaware City participates in FEMA's CRS program, flood insurance premiums are discounted.

Be sure to check your policy to ensure you have adequate coverage. Usually these policies cover the building structure, but not the contents. Contents coverage can also be obtained by asking. There is a 30-day waiting period before flood insurance coverage becomes effective. Plan ahead; do not wait until a flood is predicted before purchasing flood insurance.

- Clean everything that has been wet. Flood water will be contaminated with sewage and other chemicals which pose severe health threats.
- Look out for animals, especially snakes. Small animals that have been flooded out of their home may seek shelter in yours.

- Do not use gas engines, such as generators, or charcoal fires indoors during power outages. Carbon monoxide exhaust can pose serious health hazards.

PROPERTY PROTECTION MEASURES

If your property is susceptible to flooding, there are many flood damage reduction measures you can employ.

- Watertight seals can be applied to brick and block walls to protect against low-level flooding.
- Utilities such as heating and air conditioning systems, water heaters and other major appliances can be elevated to higher floors in the structure or on raised platforms.
- Temporary measures such as moving furniture and other valuables to higher floors or sandbagging exterior openings will also help.
- Elevating or relocating the entire structure may also be a feasible option.

FLOODPLAIN PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

All development within the 100-yr. floodplain (1% chance) (not just construction of buildings, but filling, excavation, fences, etc.) is required to obtain a Delaware City Building and Floodplain Permit. Applications must be made prior to doing any work in a

If you are building inside the floodplain, the purchase of flood insurance is mandatory if using a federally regulated/insured bank for a loan.

NATURAL & BENEFICIAL FUNCTIONS

Floodplains play a valuable role in providing natural and beneficial functions to the area around, and including, Delaware City. Floodplains that are relatively undisturbed provide a wide range of benefits to both human and natural systems. These benefits provide aesthetic pleasure as well as function to provide active processes such as filtering nutrients. Parts of both the Old Canal and Dragon Run floodplain are used as a means to filter farm chemical run-off so that these areas can maintain bio-diversity and ecosystem sustainability. Both floodplains contain historic and archeological sites that provide opportunity for education and study. Both enhance waterfowl, fish and other wildlife habitats and provide feeding/breeding grounds. And lastly, both floodplains provide natural erosion control and open space so further flooding damage does not occur.

DRAINAGE SYSTEM MAINTENANCE

As simple as it may sound, simply keeping smaller ditches and streams free of debris can dramatically improve the run-off capacity of low-lying areas, as well as greatly reduce the occurrence blockage that significantly contributes to flooding. It is illegal to dump materials into a required waterway and violators may be fined. If you see someone in the act of dumping or see debris in one of our watercourses, please contact Town Hall at (302) 834-4573.

FLOOD WARNING SYSTEM

Many times, flooding along the Old Canal and Dragon Run within Delaware City can be predicted days in advance, giving ample warning for preparation and evacuation. However, in the event of a flash flood due to a large rain event, you may be the first to notice the

oncoming situation and have only hours to execute your plan. Notify the Police/Fire Department. Tune your radio to WFLD - 88.1 FM for local and National Weather Service Updates. You will also see regular interruption on local radio and television stations advising you of the situation.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you should require further or more detailed information regarding flood-related issues in Delaware City, here are some additional sources:

- FEMA.gov website
- Delaware City Town Hall (302) 834-4573
407 Clinton Street
Delaware City, DE 19706
- Floodplain on the website www.delawarecity.delaware.gov under Community/Public Service and by a link on our Home Page.
- Delaware City Public Library

Delaware City participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Properties in the 100-year flood plain are subject to regulation under the Delaware City Flood Plain Ordinance (Chapter 48 of the City Code), which meets FEMA requirements for the NFIP. These regulations are designed to save lives and reduce property losses when flooding occurs. Without access to the NFIP, property owners would find flood insurance to be prohibitively expensive, if available at all. Special rules apply for development in the flood plain, including minimum floor elevation and hydrostatic venting of foundations. A FEMA elevation certificate is required for all new construction and "significant improvements" in the flood zone. In addition, no filling or grading may take place within the flood plain without a permit from the City. You can come to Town Hall, 407 Clinton Street, to get an Elevation Certificate

application and instructions on how to fill it out or you can visit www.fema.gov. Any resident in need of a copy of the elevation certificate for flood insurance for their residence can check with Town Hall to see if there is one on file prior to contacting an engineer or surveyor.