



CITY NEWS

WWW. delawarecity.delaware.gov

April 26, 2012

ELECTION RESULTS

Delaware City held their elections on Tuesday, April 3, 2012. Congratulations to the three newly elected Council Members Betty Barrett, Paul Johnson and Megan Titus. They will serve for two years. They were sworn in on Tuesday, April 10, 2012.

Thanks to Ron Graham who served as a Council Member of Delaware City since 2000.

DELAWARE CITY DAY...

Mark your calendars!! Delaware City Day is Saturday, July 21, 2012. Anyone interested in helping make this the best Delaware City Day ever, contact Dick Cathcart at 834-4573.

ALL RESIDENTS EAST of FIFTH STREET will need a RESIDENTS' PARKING PERMIT!!! East of Fifth Street will be closed to all traffic after 6:00 PM on Delaware City Day, July 21, 2012. All residents are asked to stop by Town Hall at 407 Clinton Street to obtain a **free Parking Permit**. You will need to show your registration card for all vehicles in your household and a parking permit will be issued for all vehicles for free. Without a permit you will not be able to enter the City until after the fireworks.

DOG OWNERS...recently we have received numerous complaints about dog owners allowing their dogs to run around the neighborhood and park without a leash. New Castle County has a law that dogs must be leashed when walking outside their yard for safety reasons. Also, please respect your neighbors and do not allow your dog to defecate on other's properties. Pick up your dogs' waste. There are "mutt mitts" in Battery Park for your convenience.

TOWNWIDE YARD SALE DAY IS SATURDAY, APRIL 28th

The official hours begin at 8 AM and run until 5 PM but we all know about those early birds who try to arrive before anyone else to get the bargains. Everyone in Delaware City is invited to have a yard sale at their home with the Delaware City Main Street Association providing the advertising all over this area to bring customers and visitors to our town. In case of rain the Yard Sale will take place on Sunday, April 29th. Let's be sure our visitors are welcomed to the community.

And don't forget—the FREE Large Item Pickup on Monday, April 30th. You will be able to put unsold items at the curb with one exception each residence is restricted to one large item of furniture or large appliance that day. Refrigerators and air conditioners will only be removed if you have made advance arrangements with Independent Disposal Services by calling (302) 378-5400.

EVENTS FOR MAY & JUNE

MAY

- 4-6 Paranormal Expo Weekend
- 4 DCFC Shrimp Fest
- 5 Fort Delaware Opens
- 6 Delaware City Fire Co. Fire Muster
- 12 Delaware City Fire Co. Spaghetti Dinner
- 15 Fort Delaware opens Wed-Sun
- 26 Cruise Night with Cool Cars
- 28 American Legion Memorial Day Ceremony

JUNE

- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Drawbridge Market
- 2 Happy Joker Poker Run
- 23 Cruise Night with Cool Cars

HEALTHY HOMES

There will be a "Home Health Hazard Workshop" on Wednesday, June 20th in the Community Room at the Library. Through the Department of Public Health's partnership with Delaware City Environmental Coalition, this event will offer free green cleaning supplies, as well as participants being able to learn how to clean with less toxic products and safer methods of cleaning. At this event, participants can sign up for a free confidential home health hazard assessment through the Delaware Public Health and get \$50 of free green cleaning supplies for participating in this assessment. Homes can be assessed for mold, lead, radon, and a variety of other environmental hazards. Available for Delaware City residents only. Residents can also request an assessment by calling 1-800-464-help.

DRAGON RUN...is having a volunteer clean up day on Saturday, May 12, 2012 from 9:00 AM—until..... Come out and help beautify Dragon Run.

FEDERAL FOOD COMMODITIES PROGRAM

Delaware City is part of the Federally funded Food Distribution for The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). The program helps supplement the diets of lower income, needy persons, and elderly people by providing them with emergency food and nutrition assistance. The distribution of food is the last Thursday of every month at the Dragon Run Hall. Any one interested in this program or has any questions please contact Council Member Betty Barrett at 838-4237.

Delaware City Fire Company

The Fire Company would like you to go to their website www.dcf15.com/newsletter.cfm to sign up for their newsletter. They have stopped the actual newsletter but send out information via email.

They would also like any photos you may have of the fire company from parades, fires, etc. They also need old photos from the Town's Halloween Parades from the 1970's. It is for their 125th Anniversary Celebration!

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



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 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) 328-4996 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

- 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 (not just construction of buildings, but filling, excavation, fences, etc.) is required to obtain a Town Hall Building Permit. Applications must be made prior to doing any work in a 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.

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) 328-4996.

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) 328-4996
407 Clinton Street
Delaware City, DE 19706
- Floodplain on the website www.delawarecity.delaware.gov under Planning, Building, Zoning
- Delaware City Public Library