

*Town
of Delmar
Summer 2024
Newsletter*



Mayor & Council
Town of Delmar, Delaware
2024 Election Calendar

<u>Newspaper Notice-Candidacy & Voter Registration</u>	Monday, August 19, 2024
<u>Deadline-Candidate Filing</u>	Monday, September 23, 2024 4:30 p.m.
<u>Deadline-Voters to Register</u>	Monday, September 23, 2024 4:30 p.m.
<u>Deadline-Absentee Ballot Applications</u>	Monday, September 30, 2024 4:30 p.m.
<u>Newspaper Notice-Candidates</u>	Monday, September 30, 2024
<u>ELECTION DATE</u>	Monday, October 7, 2024 starting at 7:00 a.m. closing at 7:00 p.m. or until the last person in line at close of doors has voted.
<u>Absentee & Emergency Ballots</u>	Monday, October 7, 2024 7:00 p.m.

If you have any questions, please contact Delmar Town Hall at (302) 846-2664.

DELMAR, DE MUNICIPAL ELECTION WILL BE HELD AT:

- **DELMAR PUBLIC LIBRARY (NORTH MEETING ROOM); 101 N. BI-STATE BLVD., DELMAR, DE. DOORS WILL BE OPEN STARTING AT 7:00 A.M. CLOSING AT 7:00 P.M. OR UNTIL THE LAST PERSON IN LINE AT THE CLOSE OF DOORS HAS VOTED.**

Special Message from the Desk of Municipal Clerk, Kimberly Layton:



Happy Spring & Summer! In this newsletter edition we have included the High-Volume User Form and the Senior Citizen Discount. Form. Forms need to be completed annually and turned in by the stated deadline on the form.

High Volume User Discount! This discount is for residents that use additional water that doesn't enter the sewer lines due to the following reasons; swimming pool, excessive shrubbery and flowers, gardens, sprinkler system or usage. This discount is only given in the summer billing quarter; June/July/August. Customers meeting guidelines will receive a sewer abatement for the excess usage over normal average consumption.

Senior Citizen's Discount on Taxes! Receive a five percent (5%) discount. Only one of the property owners on record must be 65 years old. The discount does not include the garbage. It is an annual application process and no discounts are given after September 30th. Taxes must be current and paid by the due date.

Did you know that you can make weekly, bi-weekly and monthly payments on your Utility Account!! Many residents have found that paying on their utility bill in this manner has really



assisted in the ability to satisfying their quarterly billing by the due date. Consequently, no interest or late fees being accrued. Just review your last few billings to obtain an average bill and split it out accordingly to fit your budget. If you need assistance in calculating your average just give us a call or go online to our website and review your billing history. You can submit payment through your bank account or through our website at your leisure, drop it off in our drive-up drop box, or come in and visit us during our business hours. Our website address is townofdelmar.us. **If you ever have any questions or concerns pertaining your bills, please contact me as soon as possible to discuss them.**

Garbage Collection Tidbits! Just a reminder to our residents; garbage collection for the Town of Delmar is outsourced. *Chesapeake Waste* collects garbage for **Delmar, Delaware** on **Tuesday** and **Delmar, Maryland** on **Thursday**. *Chesapeake Waste* is responsible for the removal of a reasonable accumulation of household garbage. For **removal of yard waste, contact Town Hall.**

Garbage missed on pickup day call Town Hall and we handle the situation on your behalf.





TOWN OF DELMAR-DE/MD
Application for Senior Citizen Discount

Owner (s): _____

Property Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Tax ID: _____

(Can be completed by Town Hall Employee)

THE APPLICANTS DO HEREBY SWEAR OR AFFIRM:

1. That one of the property owners has attained the age of 65 years by March 1st of the year the application is filed.
2. That as of March 1st they are the sole owner of the property; they reside on said property 7 out of 12 months of the year; that the property is used exclusively for residential purposes; and that property taxes are current.

I hereby swear and affirm that this information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and further understand that a false declaration in this application will subject me to the penalties provided by the law for perjury.

Signature

Date

This Form MUST accompany payment to receive discount.

Please be informed that no discounts will be given after September 30th or after initial payment has been received and processed. The allowed discount **is 5% of the Property Taxes only. This does not apply to the garbage fee.**

If your taxes are paid through escrow by your mortgage company, please complete this form and return it to Town Hall prior to July 1st.

This request is to allow the discount to be applied prior to sending the bills out to the residents and mortgage companies. Applications will not be sent directly to the mortgage companies. If you have any questions pertaining to this application please call (410) 896-2777 or (302) 846-2664, Extension 107.



High Volume User Data Form

****FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND TURNED IN BY AUGUST 15TH***

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____ Account #: _____

Reason(s) for high usage: (Check off any that apply)

☐ Swimming Pool

☐ Excessive Shrubbery & Flowers

☐ Garden(s)

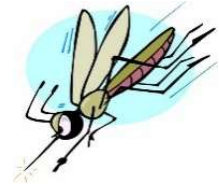
☐ Boat Maintenance

☐ Sprinkler System

☐ Other (please specify below)

This form must be completed each year. Customers meeting guidelines will receive a sewer abatement for the excess usage over normal average consumption. Customers that feel they are a high-volume user, but do not qualify within the guidelines, must present their request before the Utility Commission. This policy will be in effect during the summer months of June, July, and August. High Volume Users will only receive a reduction of the sewer charge, not the water fee.

**Special Message from the Desk of Administrative Assistant/Human Resources,
Starr Conaway:**



Mosquito Control

With the warm weather and frequent rainy weather, we are seeing an influx of our pesky friends, the mosquito. The Town of Delmar has contracts with both Delaware Mosquito Control and Wicomico County Mosquito Control. Both agencies have been contracted to monitor and control mosquito infestation within the town limits of Delmar. While we are taking every precaution possible to prevent infestation, there may still be times when additional spraying is needed.

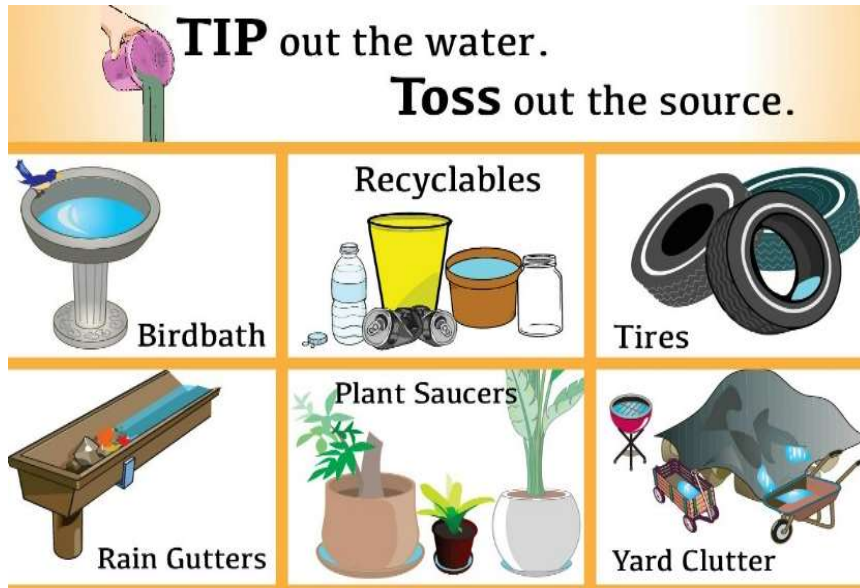
If you notice an increase in mosquito population, please contact Starr Conaway, CMC at Delmar Town Hall, 410-896-2777 or 302-846-2664, ext. 101 or by email at sconaway@townofdelmar.us. Please have the following information available:

- Is there any standing water on the property?
- Are mosquitoes biting during the day or in the evening?
- How long have you noticed that the mosquitos are biting?

It is virtually impossible to completely rid the Town of all mosquitos, so here are a few things to consider.

Residents are encouraged to remove any unnecessary water holding containers and should report any suspected or known mosquito breeding areas to our office. Here are a few tips to help eliminate common backyard mosquito breeding:

- Clean and filter swimming pools
- Cover or drain open boats
- Clear clogged rain gutters
- Fix broken window and door screens
- Stock ponds with mosquito larva eating fish
- Tip anything that can hold water for more than a few days
- Recycle used tires
- Fix leaky watering equipment
- Flush and refill birdbaths one time per week
- Fill in holes in yard where water puddles



A message from the desk of Water Treatment Plant Superintendent, Dr. Sophia Oberton:

Keeping Our Water Safe: Important Updates for Delmar Residents

Monitoring for Unregulated Contaminants

This year, the Town of Delmar, DE/MD, will participate in the EPA's Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5) to test our water for PFAS levels, a group of potentially harmful substances. This proactive step helps ensure the safety and quality of our drinking water.

Lead and Copper Sampling

In addition to PFAS testing, we'll also conduct our required tri-annual lead and copper sampling. These tests are crucial for detecting any potential contamination and ensuring our water remains safe for consumption.

Partnering with HydroCorp

To further enhance our water safety efforts, we've partnered with HydroCorp to assist with the Lead Service Line Inventory and Cross Connection Control inspections:

Lead Service Line Inventory: We're gathering information about lead service lines to submit to the EPA by October 16, 2024.

Cross Connection Control Inspections: We'll also complete our Cross Connection Control Plan and inspections this year to prevent any potential contamination.

Our Commitment to Safe Drinking Water

The Town of Delmar has a long-standing commitment to providing safe drinking water to our residents and businesses. We've consistently met and exceeded safety standards through:

Regular Testing: Conducting daily, monthly, annual, and tri-annual tests to monitor water quality.
Maintenance and Upgrades: Continuously improving our water treatment plant to maintain high standards.

By following these guidelines and rules, we ensure that our water remains safe and clean. Thank you for your continued trust in our efforts to provide the best quality drinking water.

Message from the desk of Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent, Frank Daniels:

New ChemScan Unit Installed at WWTP

- The Town of Delmar Wastewater Treatment Plant recently purchased and had installed a new ChemScan Testing unit for the testing and control of chemicals for nutrients in the Effluent sand filter. This unit is an online analyzer for Ammonia, Nitrate, and Phosphorus in the influent and effluent section of the Enhanced Nutrient Removal Sand filter. If nitrates go above 1 part per million in the influent of the sand filter the ChemScan analyzer will cause the Program Logic Computer to increase the methanol pump to feed carbon to the bottom of the sand filter where microorganisms that remove nitrate populate. These Microbes will then use the oxygen in the nitrate compound (NO_x) and off gas the Nitrogen gas to atmosphere.
- The ChemScan unit also gives us test results hourly so adjustments can be made in the Aeration Tank. This is needed due to the time it takes to receive results from our outside lab that test the effluent going to Wood Creek for our permit compliance reporting.



Message from the desk of Planning and Zoning Director, Twain Evanson:

Community Safety Alert

It's that time of year again for home repairs. Please be aware of the permit process to start your home repairs or construction on your dream home. Pulling a permit typically involves several steps to ensure compliance with our local regulations and safety standards. Here's a general overview of the process:

1. **Determine the Type of Permit:**
 - Identify whether you need a building, electrical, plumbing, or other specific types of permits based on your project.
2. **Consult Local Regulations:**
 - Contact Town hall to understand specific requirements and regulations.
3. **Prepare Required Documents:**
 - Gather necessary documents like project plans, property surveys, and any other required technical specifications.
4. **Submit Application:**
 - Fill out the permit application form available online. Submit with the required documents.
5. **Pay Fees:**
 - Permit application fees must be paid at the time of submission.
6. **Review Process:**
 - Planning & Zoning will review your application and plans to ensure they comply with local codes and regulations.
7. **Corrections and Resubmission:**
 - If there are issues, you might need to make corrections and resubmit your plans.
8. **Permit Issuance:**
 - Once approved, you'll receive your permit, allowing you to begin work on your project.
 - Permits must be posted so it is visible from the street.
9. **Inspections:**
 - During and after the project, inspections may be required to ensure compliance with the permit and safety standards.

10. Final approval:

- After successful inspections, you will receive a final approval or a certificate of occupancy, indicating that the project meets all requirements.
Always check with Town hall as procedures can vary based on location and the nature of the project.

It's important to remove clippings from the sidewalk and street to prevent them being washed into the storm drains which places an even more increased burden on the Town treatment plant operation.

Message from the desk of Chief Finance Officer, Heather Chandler:

Town of Delmar
Highlights of Fiscal 2025 Budget

The Town of Delmar budget public hearing was held on Monday, May 13, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. via teleconference and in person. The teleconference was open to the public by way of a toll-free number. The budget is a public record in the office of the Town Manager, open to public review by anyone during normal business hours of Mon-Fri, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

BUDGET 2024-2025

	Operating	Capital	TOTAL
Delmar, Maryland	\$ 3,668,923.00	\$ 626,122.00	\$ 4,295,045.00
Delmar, Delaware	\$ 2,391,056.00	\$ 230,839.00	\$ 2,621,895.00
Delmar Utility Commission*	\$ 3,648,392.00	\$ 580,671.00	\$ 4,229,063.00
TOTAL	\$ 9,708,371.00	\$ 1,437,632.00	\$11,146,003.00

*The Delmar Utility Commission is a joint venture of the Mayor & Commissioners and Mayor and Council. It is not a component unit of either town and is therefore reported separately. The Utility Commission is referenced in the Town of Delmar Budget Message for disclosure and the details are presented in a separate budget document.

REVENUES:

The Mayor & Commissioners (Delmar, MD) voted to maintain the real property tax rate at .69, which exceeds the Constant Yield Tax Rate set by the Maryland Department of Assessments of 0.6323. The Mayor & Council's (Delmar, DE) real property tax rate will remain the same at 0.70. Personal property tax for Delmar, MD will remain the same, at \$2.50. Operating tax will

remain the same at \$3.00 for Delmar, MD and Delmar, DE. Real property taxes, personal property taxes, and operating taxes are calculated per 100 of assessed value.

Tax Rates 2024-2025

	Real Property	Operating Property	Personal Property
Delmar, Maryland	.69	3.00	2.50
Delmar, Delaware	.70	3.00	

- Garbage collection fees remain constant at \$215.00 per EDU for Delmar, Maryland and \$235.00 for Delmar, Delaware. The fees will continue to be collected by the Town on the annual tax bill.
- Rental license fees will remain the same, at \$75.00 per unit.
- The connection fees for water & sewer will remain the same in FY 25. The water service charge for residential will increase from \$4.00 to \$5.25 per 1,000 gallons. The sewer service charge for residential will also increase from \$5.50 to \$6.75 per 1,000 gallons. The quarterly availability fee will remain the same at \$17.45 and the quarterly front footage fee of \$35.00 will also remain the same.

EXPENDITURES:

- The Joint Council is currently allocating cost shares based upon the 2020 census population data which determined the split should be 60/40 in the Police, Executive and Finance Department's expenses.
- A cost-of-living adjustment of 3% was included in this year's budget in addition to a 3% to help offset the cost of pension contributions to the new State of Delaware pension plan that went into effect July 1st. Police Dept. salaries are determined by a step and grade that was part of a 3-year contract effective 07/01/2024.
- Capital outlay requests for Maryland, Delaware, and Utility include several items. A detailed listing is available for review within the FY 25 Budget Presentation which is available upon request. A digital copy is also available on the Town website at www.townofdelmar.us.

Please contact Town Hall at (410) 896-2777 or (302) 846-2664 with any questions pertaining to the FY 2025 budget.

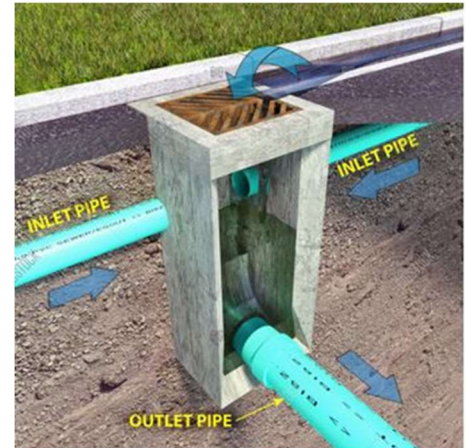
Message from the desk of Code Enforcement Officer, Liz Peek:

Grass Clippings Notice

When cutting grass, please be mindful to keep all grass clippings contained to the yard so they do not end up on the sidewalk or the street where they can be easily washed into storm drains.

The Town maintains storm drain catch basins which are designed to channel rain water away from our streets. When these basins become clogged with grass clippings, they can no longer function properly, leading to flooding during rain storms.

It is a violation per Delmar, DE & MD Town Ordinances to leave grass clippings on the sidewalk and/or in the street. Citations will be issued to the property owner when a violation is observed.



Swimming Pool Requirements

If you're planning to set up a swimming pool within Delmar Town limits, remember to apply for an accessory structure permit with Delmar Code Enforcement before you start.

All pools with 24 inches or more of water need to be secured to prevent unauthorized access by either a fence with a self-locking gate or a locking ladder.

Drowning is a leading cause of child and youth deaths, and together, we can help prevent these tragedies.

We want to ensure everyone's safety, so pools that aren't in compliance will receive a notice to make the necessary changes. Ignoring these notices could lead to municipal citations and fines.

Thank you, and have a wonderful pool season!

Message from the desk of Delmar Police Chief, Ivan Barkley:

Are you ready for a weather emergency?



Here on Delmarva our weather can quickly go from calm to holy cow where'd that come from! It's better to be prepared ahead of the event, than trying to figure things out once the storm is upon us.

Here are some ideas to help you get ready.

Basic Disaster Supplies Kit

To assemble your kit store items in airtight plastic bags and put your entire disaster supplies kit in one or two easy-to-carry containers such as plastic bins or a duffel bag.

A basic emergency supply kit could include the following recommended items:

- [Water](#) (one gallon per person per day for several days, for drinking and sanitation)
- [Food](#) (at least a several-day supply of non-perishable food)
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert
- Flashlight
- First Aid Kit
- Extra batteries
- Whistle (to signal for help)
- Dust mask (to help filter contaminated air)
- Plastic sheeting, scissors and duct tape (to [shelter in place](#))
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties (for personal sanitation)
- Wrench or pliers (to [turn off utilities](#))
- Manual can opener (for food)
- Local maps
- Cell phone with chargers and a backup battery

Additional Emergency Supplies

Consider adding the following items to your emergency supply kit based on your individual needs:

- Soap, hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes to disinfect surfaces
- Prescription medications. About half of all Americans take a prescription medicine every day. An emergency can make it difficult for them to refill their prescription or to find an open pharmacy. Organize and protect your prescriptions, over-the-counter drugs, and vitamins to prepare for an emergency.
- Non-prescription medications such as pain relievers, anti-diarrhea medication, antacids or laxatives
- Prescription eyeglasses and contact lens solution
- Infant formula, bottles, diapers, wipes and diaper rash cream
- Pet food and extra water for your pet
- Cash or traveler's checks
- Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records saved electronically or in a waterproof, portable container
- Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person
- Complete change of clothing appropriate for your climate and sturdy shoes
- Fire extinguisher
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Feminine supplies and personal hygiene items
- Mess kits, paper cups, plates, paper towels and plastic utensils
- Paper and pencil
- Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children
- Extra fuel for your grill so you can cook if the power goes out.

Information about your medical devices, including oxygen, walkers and wheelchairs. The information should include model numbers and the vendor of the products.

- Documents in a waterproof bag. They should include a personal care plan; contact information for family members; a medication list including the dosage, exact name, pharmacy information and the prescribing doctor for each medication; a list of food or medical allergies; copies of photo IDs and medical insurance cards; and durable power of attorney and/or medical power of attorney documents.
- Cash to be used if automatic teller and credit card machines are not working.

The CDC also recommends people include additional supplies to address the spread of the coronavirus, flu and other viruses. They include masks for everyone 2 and older, soap, hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes.

As always, you can find additional information and suggestions online at [Plan Ahead for Disasters | Ready.gov](#)

A message from the Town of Delmar:

Recent Projects:

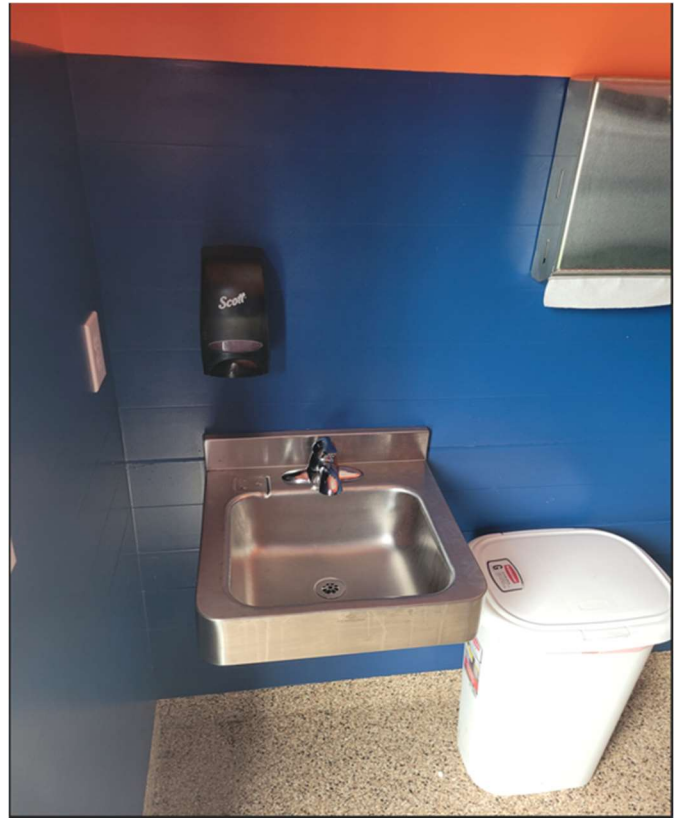
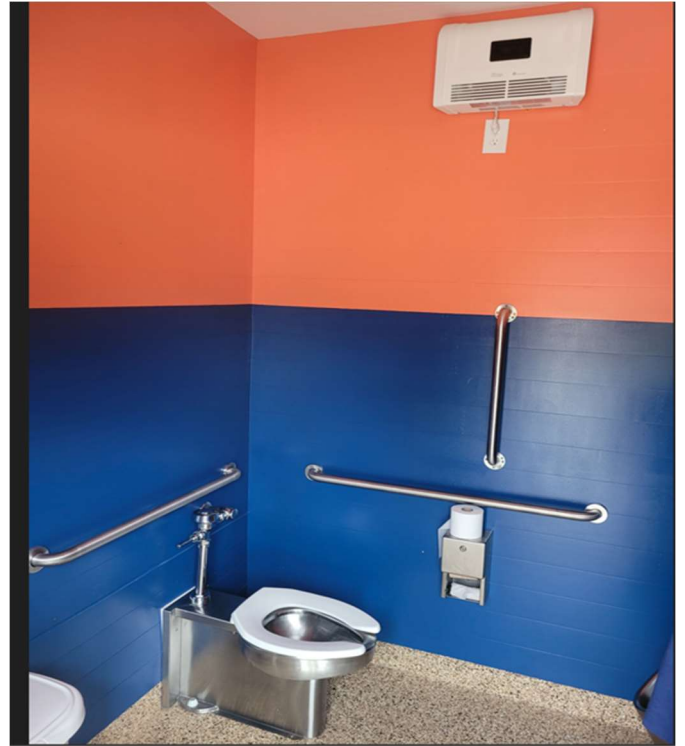
State Street Park Restrooms

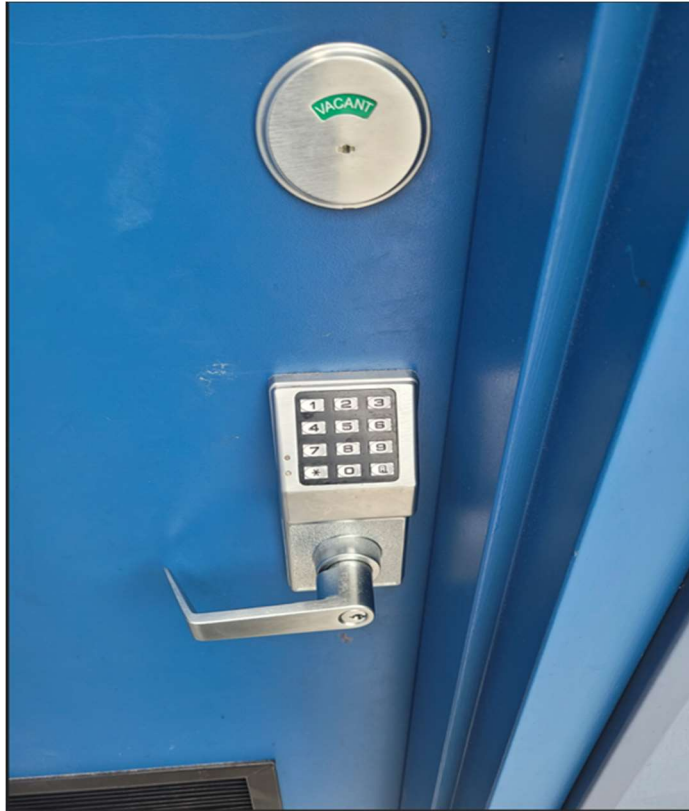
- We have completed ADA Compliant restrooms.

State Street Park Parking Area

- Paved and lined parking area with a fence boundary.







Continued:

Delaware Avenue Sewer and Stormwater

- **We have started to replace the sewer line on Delaware Avenue between Fourth and Eighth Streets. In addition we will be replacing stormwater piping. In the end all of Delaware Avenue will receive new paving.**

Various Streets in town:

- **Patch paving on a number of streets will begin soon.**

