

# Summer 2026 Newsletter



To: *Town of Delmar Residents*

from: *The Town of Delmar*



## A Message from Chief Finance Officer, Heather Chandler:

### Town of Delmar Budget Highlights FY 2027

The Joint Council unanimously approved the FY 2027 budget at a public hearing held on Wednesday, May 13, at 6:30 p.m. in Town Hall. Below are the total operating budgets for all three funds. A more detailed budget presentation is available at <https://www.townofdelmar.us/departments/finance.htm>



#### BUDGET 2026-2027

|                            | Operating        | Capital       | TOTAL            |
|----------------------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Delmar, Maryland           | \$ 3,907,136.00  | \$ 320,258.00 | \$ 4,227,394.00  |
| Delmar, Delaware           | \$ 2,572,141.00  | \$ 126,097.00 | \$ 2,698,238.00  |
| Delmar Utility Commission* | \$ 3,695,385.00  | \$ 155,700.00 | \$ 3,851,085.00  |
| TOTAL                      | \$ 10,174,662.00 | \$ 602,055.00 | \$ 10,776,717.00 |

**Delmar, Maryland** – Assessments for FY 27 increased by \$7,476,235.00. The Constant Yield Tax Rate (CYTR) proposed by the State of Maryland was 0.6537. The Mayor & Commissioners voted to maintain their current tax rate of 0.69, exceeding the CYTR by 5%. Operating taxes will remain at \$3.00 per 100 of assessed value. Personal property tax rates will also remain constant at \$2.50 per 100 of assessed value.

**Delmar, Delaware** – The Mayor & Council real property tax will increase by 5 cents to .765 (per 100 of assessed value). The 2008 assessments continue to be used for the assessable tax base. Reassessment of Delaware properties would have to occur through private reassessment agency services at the expense of Delmar, Delaware residents. Operating Property tax rate will remain at \$3.00 per 100 of assessed value.

#### **WATER & SEWER SERVICE CHARGES:**

The Delmar Utility Commission service rates for water will remain the same for FY 27 however due to increased operating costs, there will be an increase in sewer rates. The water service charge for residential will remain at \$5.25 per 1,000 gallons. The sewer service charge for residential will increase to \$8.00 per 1,000 gallons. The quarterly availability fee of \$17.45 and the quarterly front footage fee of \$35.00 will remain the same. An average water and sewer customer, with quarterly usage of 15,000 gallons, can expect a quarterly bill of \$269.95.



A Message from Municipal Clerk, Kimberly Layton



**I have exciting news!!!**

**Everyone is getting a 95-gallon garbage bin for their regular garbage pickup!!!**

I thank the Elected Officials for making this much needed change come to reality! I have wanted this so long for our residents and town. This change will make the Town look so much neater because everyone will have the same garbage bin. Also, the best part there will be no increases in costs!!! Below all the facts are given for the changes that are on their way!

- ✓ The garbage collection company is changing from Chesapeake Waste to Seagull.
- ✓ Delmar, DE June 17<sup>th</sup> – Last recycle pick up from Chesapeake Waste

After June 17<sup>th</sup> - Chesapeake Waste Recycle bin will be picked up

After June 18<sup>th</sup> – Seagull will deliver a new 95 gl. Recycle bin

After June 30<sup>th</sup> – Seagull will deliver a 95 gl. Regular garbage bin

- ✓ Delmar, MD After June 25<sup>th</sup> – Seagull will deliver a 95 gl. Regular garbage bin

- ✓ **If you have been missed or have an issue after July 1<sup>st</sup> Seagull will take your call. Their number is 443-880-0809**

We are recommending to all residents to keep at least one or two of your personal trash cans for the purposes of yard debris pick up that is completely free. Just call us at Town Hall, this type of pickup is completed every Wednesday, by our Public Works Department.

### **Utility Titbits!**

**Auto Pay is here!** Forget about paying your bill on time since it is quarterly well, we have cure! Sign up for AutoPay through our website; [townofdelmar.us](http://townofdelmar.us). It is secure and very convenient. You just have to complete a few steps. Five business prior to the due date an email will be sent to the email address provided stating the amount and date that will be deducted from your bank account. That's it!!!

Don't want to sign up for Auto Pay 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. 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.

# TOWN OF DELMAR-DE/MD

## Application for Senior Citizen Discount



Owner (s): \_\_\_\_\_

Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Tax ID: \_\_\_\_\_

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### THE APPLICANTS DO HEREBY SWEAR OR AFFIRM:

1. That one of the property owners has attained the age of 65 years by March 1<sup>st</sup> of the year the application is filed.
2. That as of March 1<sup>st</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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 1, 2026.**

This request is to allow the discount to be applied prior to sending the bills out to the residents and mortgage companies. If you have any questions pertaining to this application please call

(410) 896-2777 or (302) 846-2664 X 107.



## High Volume User Data Form

**FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND TURNED IN BY AUGUST 15<sup>TH</sup>**

**SUMMER QUARTER DOES NOT BEGIN UNTIL AFTER METER READINGS FOR MARCH, APRIL, MAY QUARTER HAVE BEEN DONE.**

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)
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

S/O/N \_\_\_\_\_

D/J/F \_\_\_\_\_

M/A/M

***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.***



## **A Message from Planning & Zoning Director, Twain Evanson:**

### **Summer Newsletter 2026**

As we begin the summer of 2026 for the Town of Delmar, the Planning and Zoning department is pleased to introduce a step-by-step process on applying for permits. Our goal is to keep citizens informed, engaged and connected as we continue working together to guide responsible growth, preserve community character and support economic development.

Our Town continues to experience new opportunities and improvements. With that growth comes the responsibility to ensure safe build of commercial properties, in fill lots in Town and properties with failed septic. Here's a general overview of the permit process:

#### **1. NEW HOME BUILD – ADDITION TO HOME:**

- Certified Site Plan/ Signed and Sealed Construction drawings
- Planning and Zoning - Mayor & Council or Mayor & Commission
- Pre Construction meeting

#### **2. COMMERCIAL - NEW RESTAURANT/ TENANT FIT-OUT:**

- Certified Site Plan/ Property owner approval/ Signed and Sealed Construction drawings
- Request for Services application – Town Engineer review and approval
- Fire Marshal approval/ Department of Transportation
- Planning and Zoning - Mayor & Council or Mayor & Commission
- Pre Construction meeting

#### **3. FAILED SEPTIC:**

- Certified Site Plan
- Request for Services application – Town Engineer review and approval
- Utility Commission – Mayor & Council or Mayor & Commission
- Pre Construction meeting

#### **4. ANNEXATION:**

- Review property location – Contiguous with Town Boundary – Comp Plan Future
- Complete Annexation petition – applications – Certified Site Plan
- Annexation Committee review - Town Engineer review – Town Attorney review
- Advertisement for Public Hearing
- Mayor & Council or Mayor & Commission

We encourage citizens to join us at our monthly Mayor and Council and Mayor and Commissioners meetings to voice their concerns.

Twain Evanson  
Planning and Zoning Director  
410-896-2777 x103  
[tevanson@townofdelmar.us](mailto:tevanson@townofdelmar.us)

## A Message from Code Enforcement Officer, Kayla Trice:

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The Town of Delmar has a permit process for the above examples as well as more. Any resident that wishes to complete any additions, alterations and repairs to their home please give our Code Enforcement Officer a call at 410-896-2777 or 302-846-2664 x 104 to inquire what permit process you need to follow. Also, feel free to visit our website, [www.townofdelmar.us](http://www.townofdelmar.us), to view more valuable information.

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### ***Business Licenses***

The Town of Delmar requires that all businesses operating within town limits, or located within Town Limits must obtain an annual business license. All Town business licenses are effective from February 1st thru January 31<sup>st</sup>. expire on January 31. Applications may be obtained at the Town Hall and must be submitted with the annual application fee. The schedule of fees is as follows:

In Town limits = \$ 50.00      Outside Town limits = \$ 75.00

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### ***Grass and Weeds***



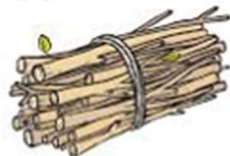
The Town of Delmar requires property owners to maintain their sidewalks free of grass and weeds and to maintain the height of their grass below 6 inches in height. The Code Enforcement Officer will inform property owners by mail that are in violation of the Grass and Weeds Ordinance, and property owners are required to remove weeds or cut the grass within seven days of notification. If the property owner fails to comply, the Town will remove the grass from the sidewalk or cut the grass at the expense of the property owner.



### ***Yard Waste***

The Town of Delmar offers FREE yard waste pick-ups on Wednesdays. Our Public Works will pick up bagged yard debris and bundled limbs that are placed near the curb. Limbs must not exceed 4' in the length and no greater than 2" in diameter. To be sure you're on the schedule, contact Town Hall at 302-846-2664 or 410-896-2777.

Having accumulated debris in your yard is an enforceable violation by Code Enforcement. The Code Enforcement Officer will inform property owners by mail that are in violation of the Tree and Shrub Ordinance, and property owners are required to dispose of the mentioned yard debris within 10 days of the notification. If the property owner fails to comply, the Town will remove the debris from the property at the expense of the property owner



### ***Is Your Number Up?***

For a moment, imagine the unimaginable. Someone you love, someone in your home, needs an ambulance, and fast! You call 911 with your cry for help and then you wait, watching the seconds turn into minutes. You know every moment is costly. While you wait and worry, the rescue team drives up and down your street, passing your home several times. They cannot determine which home is yours because none of the homes have numbers on them. Now imagine how fast help can reach you when your house number is displayed in a position easily observable and readable from the public right-of-way. **Numbers on your home, three inches high and ½ inch stroke, could save the life of you or someone you love.** The small effort required to put the numbers on your home could save precious minutes for the rescue team should an emergency arise. Help protect yourself and those you love. Be sure that your house number is located in a position on your home that is easily seen from the street.

### ***Portable Basketball Hoops***

To ensure the safety of adults, teens and small children that reside in our Town, we have enacted legislation that prohibits playing on all public streets and/or obstructing sidewalks. In order not to encourage playing on the public streets, we are asking your participation in not placing the portable basketball hoops on public streets, the edge of your driveway, the sidewalks or edge of your lawn. If you do opt to purchase a portable basketball hoop, please place it on your property in a location that will prohibit playing on the public street or hindering free passage of vehicular traffic and/or pedestrians' use of the sidewalks.



Playing on the public streets is an enforceable violation with a fine, by the Delmar Police Department. If a portable basketball hoop is identified on any of the prohibited areas aforementioned, the Town's Code Enforcement will tag it with an allotted timeframe to have it removed. If not removed within the timeframe by the property owner, the Town's Public Works Department will remove and discard.

The Town of Delmar has several park locations available for open play. As well as, a recently refurbished basketball courts located at Gordy Park; corner of South Pennsylvania Avenue and Walnut Street. Thank you for working with the Town to ensure the safety of all our residents. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Town Office.



## **A Message from Water Treatment Plant, Superintendent: Ron Bailey**

The Town of Delmar recently underwent a \$500,000 Capital upgrade to our water treatment facility. While most people do not see what was accomplished the upgrades will ensure that our water plant continues to provide safe drinking water to all citizens for the coming years.

Here is a list of what was completed:

- Automatic valves were installed for the wells and SCADA System. The SCADA System is the automated control system of the plant.
- Two larger booster pumps were installed for the Clear Well.
- The media was replaced in three filters.
- The York St. water tower was cleaned.
- Guardrails were installed on the platform in the rear of the plant.
- New steps were installed to the platform on the generator.
- Well 2A was put back in rotation. We now have 3 active wells that are being rotated.
- The Clear Well was cleaned out and the inside was relined with epoxy.
- New valves were installed in four Clear Well booster pumps.

## A Message from Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent, Frank Daniels:



### The Chemical Compound that Disrupted our WWTP: QAC

The Town of Delmar Wastewater Treatment Plant experienced a nightmare that every wastewater operator fears in February of this year. For 6 years our secondary and nutrient removal processes have been humming along and the bugs were happy. Then in February of 2026 the biomass began dying, ammonia levels began to rise, and the sludge refused to settle in the clarifiers. We were in a treatment plant upset at the worst possible time for our microbes due to very cold weather conditions.

There was a slug of chemicals that hit our WWTP late January 2026 that killed our biomass. This chemical is called Quaternary Ammonium Compounds (QAC's for short). Any test result over 7 mg/l of this compound in the treatment process is a killer for nutrient removal bacteria. Our WWTP tested at 38 mg/l in February. Where could this slug of chemical have come from?

QAC's are a family of compounds, primarily used as antimicrobial ingredients in things such as disinfecting sprays, soaps, wipes, hand sanitizers, and for **industrial cleaning applications such as nursing homes, hospitals, COVID killing retail products, food and beverage disinfecting cleaners**. For example, when a place such as a beverage making facility cleans its tanks, it may use QAC's in the process. They then drain the tanks down the drain to the sewer system where it makes its way to the WWTP. Another example is any QAC sanitizer product that is used in the home usually makes its way down the drain in some manner.

Due to this slug of QAC's in late January we had numerous nitrogen violations until the middle of march when the QAC oxidizer chemical that we spent thousands of dollars on to treat the QAC began to kick in. We also spent a lot of time pumping out the dead microbes to the digester tank and then pressing for landfill application.

### **How can we prevent this in the future as a community?**

At the WWTP we have decided to continue to feed a small amount daily of the QAC oxidizer to be proactive to another possible QAC slug. Town residents can help by using alternatives to QAC containing products. Chlorine containing products are a good alternative as well as alcohol containing products. QAC's remain unchanged from the source until it reaches the WWTP. Chlorine has so many reactions in the sewer pipe that it normally never reaches the WWTP.

With your help and with our proactive approach at the WWTP we hope to eliminate any future QAC disruptions at the Town of Delmar facility.

### **BEVERLY SERVED ON THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FOR 15 YEARS. SHE WILL BE MISSED AND WE WISH HER WELL.**



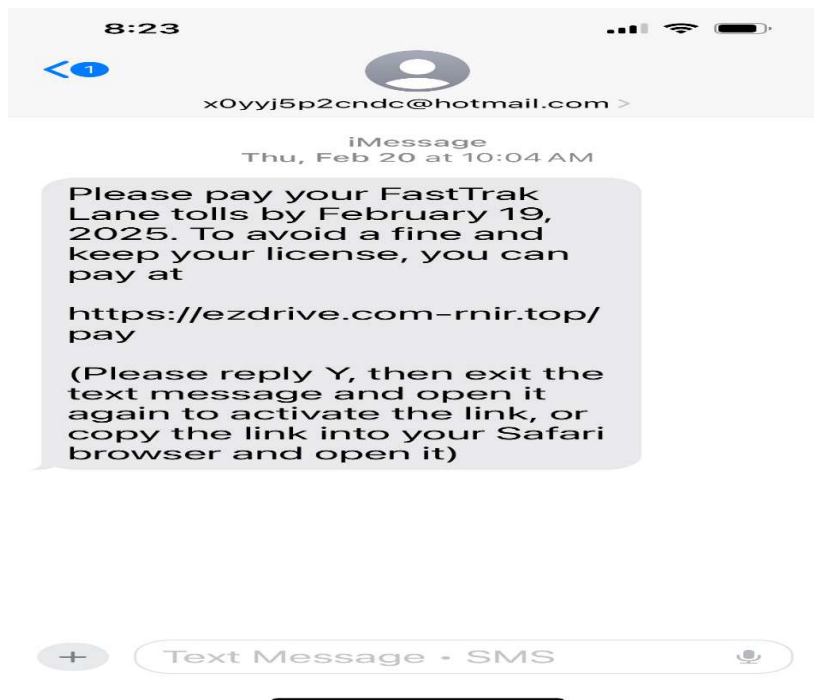
## SPRING IS IN THE AIR



Winter is on its way out and spring is just around the corner. As the weather gets warmer we all want to enjoy the easy life and so do those who wish to separate you from your Valuables. Most criminals don't want to work hard to take what you have.

Here are a just few tips to help you have a safe and joyful season.

1. Lock your car when you're not in it and don't leave anything of value inside.
2. Always have good lighting around your home at night.
3. Never leave your car running unattended, even if it is just for a minute.
4. Be alert for scams, that email may look real but it could be a clever fake.





Never click or follow the link provided, if you think it's from a company you do business with login your account directly.

Don't ever give access to your computer or personal banking details to anyone you don't know.

**WARNING! WARNING! WARNING!**

It is illegal in both Delaware and Maryland to park in Fire Lanes, Left wheel to the curb or anywhere designated "No Parking" by sign or yellow painted curb.



It doesn't matter if you've been doing it for years, it is illegal.

Summer 2026 is upon us:

I hope this message finds you and your families well. As your Town Manager, I want to take a moment to share some updates, express my gratitude, and reaffirm our commitment to making our town a place we are all proud to call home.

Over the past few months, we have made significant progress on several community projects — from improving our parks and roadways to enhancing public safety and expanding local events such as our Farmers Market. These achievements are the result of collaboration between our dedicated town staff, elected officials, and you, our residents.

community. Your feedback is invaluable in guiding these efforts, and I encourage you to participate in our public meetings, share your ideas, and stay connected through our town website and newsletters. I extend to all citizens if you want to meet with me and tour the town please call me at Town Hall and I will make the time for you. Your ideas are most important and valuable.

Thank you for your trust, your involvement, and your shared vision for our future. Together, we can ensure our town remains vibrant, welcoming, and resilient for generations to come.

With appreciation,



Jeff Fleetwood  
Town Manager