



# Town of Delmar

## Winter 2020 Newsletter

### We're Here For You....

Greetings to All,

On behalf of the Town Officials and Personnel, I am sending a very special thank you to all of the Delmar residents, for the patience and consideration shown to us during these unprecedented times and alarming challenges resulting from the impact of COVID 19. This pandemic is horrific and has not come without causing hardships that have significantly impacted many families, locally and across the country, in a variety of ways. Out of an abundance of caution the Town will continue to closely follow the guidelines as set forth by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the MD/DE Governors to take whatever measures necessary, to the very best of our ability, to limit exposure to our residents and personnel. The Town Officials and Personnel will strive to make every effort to continue serving our community without interruption amid this pandemic.

It is our hope that we are nearing the end of this very dark tunnel and the light is just around the corner. Be encouraged that things will get better, however; until that time, please remain safe and follow the precautionary measures as set forth by the CDC, State and Local Officials.

~ Sara Bynum-King, Town Manager

#### **Administrative Assistant Starr Conaway with a Welcome message:**

2020 has held some challenges in all of your lives. Some of those life challenges and opportunities led to quite a few staff changes. We've had a few retirements and a few employees that are trying out new paths. This being said, I would ask you to welcome our new staff to the Town of Delmar!

**Town Hall**-Please welcome our new **Administrative Clerk, Donna James and Clerk of Council, Vondell Spencer.**

**Police Department**-Please welcome our new **Cadette, Zachary Coco**, who is currently attending the Police Academy.

**Public Works**-Please welcome our new **Public Works Tech I, Devene Spence, Jr. (also known as DJ)** and **Public Works Tech II, Calvin Bruce.**

**Waste Water Treatment**-Please welcome our new **Waste Water Operator, Dan Majors.**

Please join us in welcoming all six of our new staff members to the Town of Delmar family! They are here to serve you, the residents of our Little Town Too Big for One State!



## **Special Message from the Desk of Municipal Clerk Layton**

As you know already I manage the utility and tax accounts for the Town of Delmar. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some key areas that will assist you in future matters.

**Have a toilet not working properly?** Repair it immediately! A malfunctioning toilet can increase your bill by 30,000 gls. In one billing quarter; which could increase your bill by \$285.00. (True Story) Internal toilet parts normally cost around \$10-\$20.

**Garbage Tidbits!** Our contract vendor is Republic Services. Gargabe missed on pickup day? Call Town Hall and we will handle the situation on your behalf. Delmar, DE is every Tuesday and Delmar, MD is every Thursday. Cans must be 35 gallons. You can have up to four cans out for pick up.

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

**If you ever have any questions or concerns pertaining to your bills, please contact me as soon as possible to discuss them. Our number one goal is to serve our residents – you are our #1 priority!!!!**

### **Here are some reminders from our Office of Code Enforcement:**

#### **Yard Trimmings Pick-Up**

With the changing seasons, please be mindful of any yard debris that may accumulate on your property. The Town will pick up bagged leaves and yard trimmings for free for residents that call Public Works at (302)846-3696 and request a pick-up, providing that the materials are bagged and or bundled correctly. To take advantage of this free service, leaves must be bagged in durable plastic bags and tree trimmings must be cut so they are not longer than four feet and securely tied in bundles not more than two feet thick.

#### **Snow and Ice Removal from Sidewalks**

In preparing for this Winter Season, I'd also like to remind residents that they are responsible for clearing all snow and ice from sidewalks running along their property within 24 hours from the time snow has stopped falling. Thank you for cooperating to ensure that our sidewalks are clear and safe for everyone this Winter.

A special note from Waste Water Treatment Plant

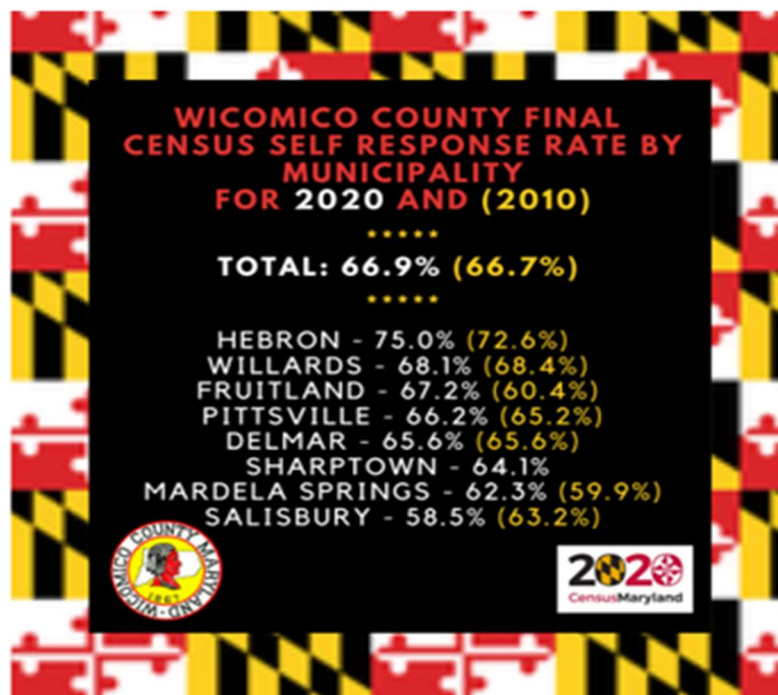
Superintendent Frank Daniels:



Thank you in advance for your cooperation!!!!

#### 2020 CENSUS COUNT RESULTS

Delmar, Maryland



DELAWARE STATE COUNT GOAL 80.0%, DE RESPONSE RATE 64.7%  
(Down -0.6% from National Avg.)

## **Delmar, Delaware**

### **Final Delaware Census Count by County**

New Castle County – 70.1%

Sussex – 53.7%

Kent – 69.3%

The noted Maryland and Delaware counts totals represent the basis for funding allocation to state, county and local government for schools, infrastructure, social services, grant programs, congressional districting and all other census-based programming. Congratulations Delmar for your participation. We'll take another run at it in 2030!

### **Community Safety Alert**

**PORTABLE BASKETBALL HOOPS** in the street continue to be a safety concern in our neighborhoods, especially in this pandemic environment with modified school schedules. Portable hoops are prohibited in the street of dedicated Town communities. The reason is not to deprive our youth of a recreational outlet but rather to help protect our youth and keep them safe from injury. Let it not take a serious resulting or death to motivate us to comply, then it's too late. Help us keep our streets safe for motorist and pedestrians alike.

**SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL** - The latest such route is S. Second St. from E. State to the elementary school, however every route with a sidewalk is one. Please instruct and encourage our youth to use the sidewalk and not walk in the street wherever possible. We endanger our safety when walk in the street. Promoting a healthy and safe life style.

### **Community Revitalization Projects**

The West Delmar Tot Lot remains closed doing completion of the renovation project. The Good News – the Office of Community Development, Delmar Public Works in conjunction with the Delaware Forestry Service planted (7) new trees in the Tot Lot on October 12th, this is in keeping with the Town's commitment to maintain a healthy and vibrant tree canopy that can help provide clean air and promote a safe environment for future generations. Go to the Town Facebook page, website or contact Delmar Public Works (302) 846-3696 for a project update.





## New Community Development Construction/Renovation Projects

**THE LITTLE TOWN TOO BIG FOR ONE STATE**, continues to grow. A look around town will reveal new construction starts in Pond's Edge, Woodcreek, and Heron Ponds. Pond's Edge Phase II (168 apartments, 24 townhomes), Woodcreek Phase II (81 single family dwellings) and Heron Pond's Expansion (35 single family dwellings). Not to mention numerous home renovation of existing homes throughout the core portion of town.

## Community Development Block Grants

The Office of Community Development, Delmar, Maryland is still accepting waiting list applications for the SFY 2022/2023 grant period to assist eligible low-moderate income, Delmar, DE/MD resident occupant/homeowners repair sub-code living conditions. Interested candidates should contact William Hardin, Community Development Coordinator at 410-896-2777 ext. 103 or come to Delmar Town Hall drive-thru to obtain program eligibility information and receive an application. Applications will be evaluated for assistance eligibility when funds become available. Eligible waiting list candidates will receive assistance at that time in the order that their application was received.



## **PUBLIC WORKS HOME TIPS: WINTER!!**



Winters can go from mild to below zero within hours! Prevention is key when winterizing your home. Here's a list of tips to help ensure you don't end up with a lot of headaches and costly damage in need of repair.

- Remove, drain and store attached garden hoses.
- Shutoff the valves and insulate the faucet.
- Seal cracks by caulking around openings to help prevent cold air from seeping in. Install weather stripping and seals around windows, doors, air conditioners and mail chutes.
- Protect pipes from freezing by insulating those susceptible to freezing. With severe temperature drops, keep a stream of water running in a few faucets to guard against freezing and bursting.
- Winterize your house, shed or any other structure that may provide shelter for your family, neighbors, or equipment. Install storm shutters, doors, and windows; clear rain gutters; repair roof leaks and check the structural ability of the roof to sustain heavy weight from the accumulation of snow or water.

## LEAF & DEBRIS PICK UP

- LEAVES AND GRASS SHOULD BE PLACED IN BAGS
- TREE TRIMMINGS AND SIMILAR MATERIALS SHALL BE CUT TO A LENGTH NOT TO EXCEED FOUR FEET AND SHALL BE SECURELY TIED IN BUNDLES NOT MORE THAN TWO FEET THICK.
- REMEMBER, BACKYARD COMPOSTING OF YOUR LEAVES AND BRUSH REDUCES THE FLOW OF WASTE, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME, PRODUCES VALUABLE ORGANIC MATTER FOR THE SOIL. IT IMPROVES YOUR SOIL AND PLANTS GROWING IN IT.



## HYDRANT FLUSHING

- FLUSHING OF THE HYDRANTS OCCUR TWICE A YEAR ONCE IN APRIL AND ONCE IN OCTOBER. HYDRANT FLUSHING IS A VERY IMPORTANT FUNCTION OF THE WATER DEPARTMENT. IT IS PERFORMED TO ENSURE THAT NO BUILDUP OF SEDIMENTS COLLECT IN PIPES AND MAINTAIN QUALITY DRINKING WATER. DURING THE FLUSHING OPERATION YOU MAY EXPERIENCE DISCOLORED WATER WHICH IS NORMAL AND EXPECTED AS THE MOVEMENT OF THE WATER COLLECTS ANY SEDIMENTS IN THE PIPES AND "FLUSHES" THEM OUT OF THE SYSTEM. PLEASE RUN YOUR FAUCETS A LITTLE WHILE LONGER AND WATER SHOULD CLEAR SHORTLY AFTER.



## WINTER WEATHER PREPARATIONS:



### SIDEWALK SHOVELING & ICING GUIDELINES

- One of the best ways property owners and residents can do their part in the community is to diligently clear the sidewalks of snow and ice throughout the winter months.
- Per the town ordinance 531 sidewalks must be cleared by 24 hours after the snow has stopped falling during a winter storm.
- Also, the ice must be managed all winter long in the event of melting and refreezing water.
- Properties may be subject to fees and fines for not complying with this ordinance.





## SNOW PLOWING INFORMATION

- Among the most important task during the winter season the Public Works Department is responsible for is to keep clear town streets before, during, and after snow events all winter.
- During a snow event, major roadways, intersections, and hospital routes and school routes are plowed and salted first and repeatedly. Next, operators attend to the second-tier roadways including railroad crossings, neighborhood streets, cul-de-sacs, and alleys.
- Residents can help get the roads plowed faster and more effectively during the winter by moving parked vehicles off the street whenever three or more inches of snow is predicted. Snow emergencies are generally declared when three inches of snow or more is predicted within a short period of time, or when other weather conditions will make the roads hazardous. Sometimes a snow emergency is declared ahead of a snowstorm to give residents plenty of warning to move their parked vehicles.
- Even if a snow emergency is not declared, residents can help the City plow the roads faster and more effectively by moving parked vehicles off the street whenever significant snowfall is expected.
- Please take into consideration that driveway aprons will be covered with snow from street plowing operations. It is an inconvenience, but necessary so that roads can remain safe for drivers. Do not put snow from your driveway or sidewalk back into the cleared street.
- Be sure cars are off the road and not in an area where the snowplows or emergency vehicles may need to turn around.
- Remember, if you are following a snowplow and can not see the truck's side mirrors, it's likely you are too close for the driver to see you.

## **A Message from the Delmar Police Department:**



### **Tis The Season**

While most of us look forward to the holiday season for all the good reasons, criminals are looking for ingenious ways to separate you from your money. Here at the Delmar Police Department, we are seeing an increased number of complaints for citizen's falling victim to common scams. Here are just a few to be aware of.

#### **1. Fake Government**

If you received an email, letter or phone call from a government agency (typically the IRS or FBI) and it instructs you to purchase a pre-paid gift/ money card, call a number and provide the information on the card, or follow a link and enter information - don't believe it! The U.S. government would never instruct anyone to use those methods to pay any bill or carry out a financial transaction, particularly with an overseas bank or agency.

#### **2. Identity Theft, Phishing and Pharming**

Scammers gain access to your confidential information, like social security numbers, date of birth and then use it to apply for credit cards, loans and financial accounts. Typically, the victim receives an email that appears to be from a credible, real bank or credit card company, with links to a website and a request to update account information. But the website and email are fakes, made to look like the real website.

### 3. Phone scams

This includes telemarketers violating the [Do Not Call list](#), Robo dialers, scammers calling up pretending to be from a bank or credit card company. The National Do Not Call Registry (U.S.) or the National Do Not Call List (Canada) offer consumers a free way to reduce telemarketing calls. Scammers call anyway, of course, and they've even found a way to scam consumers by pretending to be a government official calling to sign you up or confirming your previous participation on the Dot Not call list! A good example of this is the "[Your Microsoft license key has expired](#)" scam call - which you can hear and read about on this page.

### 4. Loans / Credit Fixers

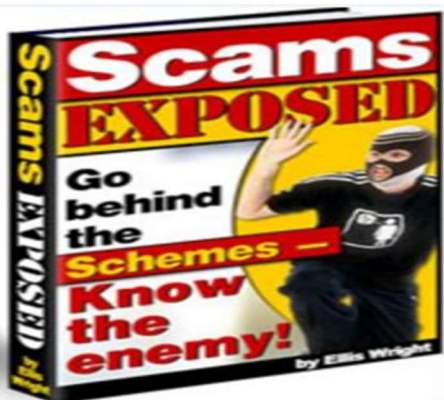
False promises of business or personal loans, even if credit is bad, for a fee upfront. Or a scam that promises to repair your credit for a fee.

### 5. Fake Prizes, Sweepstakes, Free Gifts, Lottery Scams

You receive an email claiming you won a prize, lottery or gift, and you only have to pay a "small fee" to claim it or cover "handling costs". These include scams which can go under the name of genuine lotteries like the UK National Lottery and the El Gordo Spanish Lottery. Unsolicited email or telephone calls tell people they are being entered or have already been entered into a prize draw. Later, they receive a call congratulating them on winning a substantial prize in a national lottery. But before they can claim their prize, they are told they must send money to pay for administration fees and taxes. The prize, of course, does not exist. No genuine lottery asks for money to pay fees or notifies it's winners via email.

### 6. Arrest Warrant Scam

Scammers create a fake Caller ID, which allows them to call you and appear to be calling from a local police, sheriff or other law enforcement agency. They say there is a warrant out for your arrest, but you can pay a fine in order to avoid criminal charges. Of course, these scammers don't take credit cards; only a Western Union Money-Gram, other wire transfer or pre-paid debit card will do.





## **7. Fake check payments**

You sell something online or through Craig's List Consumers and you're paid with phony checks and instructed to wire money back to buyer. The check looks real... but after you try to cash it, you find out it is a fake; and you're arrested for passing a counterfeit check! Read more about [scam checks on this page](#) and here about [the EBay check scam](#).

## **8. Scam Text Messages**

It looks like a text alert from your bank, asking you to confirm information or reactivate your debit card by following a link on your smart phone. But it is just a way to steal personal information.

## **9. Computer Performance Scams**

Scammers claim to offer "technical support" for computer problems and charge a fee to fix nonexistent problems, or claim that someone has accessed your home network and offer to help remedy the issue.

## **10. Grandparent Scams**

You'd think this would be hard to pull off but it happens thousands of times per year. Thanks to social media it's easy to track family connections.

Once a scammer has selected a grandkid grandparent pairing, the grandparent will be contacted by phone or email saying the kid needs emergency money now for bail, airfare, medical bill, or some other urgent issue. The money needs to be wired now! Some scammers will even impersonate the grandkid and plead directly to the grandparent.





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**Don't give your personal or financial information in response to a request that you didn't expect.**

Legitimate organizations won't call, email, or text to ask for your personal information, like your Social Security, bank account, or credit card numbers.

If you get an email or text message from a company you do business with and you think it's real, it's still best not to click on any links. Instead, contact them using a website you know is trustworthy. Or look up their phone number. Don't call a number they gave you or the number from your caller ID.

**Resist the pressure to act immediately.** Legitimate businesses will give you time to make a decision. Anyone who pressures you to pay or give them your personal information is a scammer.

**Know how scammers tell you to pay.** Never pay someone who insists you pay with a gift card or by using a money transfer service. And never deposit a check and send money back to someone.

**Stop and talk to someone you trust.** Before you do anything else, tell someone — a friend, a family member, a neighbor — what happened. Talking about it could help you realize it's a scam.

## Report Scams to the FTC

If you were scammed or think you saw a scam, [report it to the Federal Trade Commission](#).

## What You Can Do to Avoid a Scam

**Block unwanted calls and text messages.** Take steps to [block unwanted calls](#) and to [filter unwanted text messages](#).



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**Delmar Town Hall Holiday Closings:**

Christmas: December 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>

New Year's Day: Friday, January 1, 2021

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day: January 18, 2021

Please note: There will be no changes in regular trash service for Delmar, Delaware, and Delmar, Maryland due to the Holiday. Delmar Delaware's Recycle service will occur on Saturday, December 26<sup>th</sup>.



**Town of Delmar**  
**100 S. Pennsylvania Avenue**  
**Delmar, MD 21875**