



# New Castle Crier

*The official newsletter of New Castle City*

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New Castle, Delaware

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## Police Department experiences personnel changes

There have been some recent personnel changes in the New Castle City Police Department. Corporal Paul Allston served with the Department since 2001. Being a former Marine, he felt a personal obligation to serve his country. He resigned his position with NCPD to become a police advisor to Afghanistan law enforcement officers.

At the beginning of September, Master Sergeant James Barnes retired from police service. Sergeant

Barnes started his law enforcement career with NCPD in 1990.

We wish both of these former employees good health and prosperity.

As a result of the above changes, NCPD Master Corporal Jamie Rogers was promoted to Sergeant and two new officers have been hired. Mr. Gene Wood replaced Officer Allston. Officer Wood had prior service in Delaware City.

Mr. Zachary Bascelli replaced Sergeant Barnes. Officer Bascelli

served as a police officer in Bethel Township, PA.

A celebration honoring Sergeant Barnes will be held at 7 p.m. on Sept. 22 at Delaware Park. This event is open to the public. Tickets are \$26. Reservations are due by September 7, by calling 322-9800.

**New! On the New Castle City Web Site:  
City Code Updated, Online and Searchable!  
Visit: [www.NewCastleCity.org](http://www.NewCastleCity.org)**

**Next regular  
City Council  
meeting: 7 p.m.,  
Tues., Sept. 11 at  
Town Hall**

See Agenda at City Offices or  
in the *New Castle Weekly*

## City position dedicated to maintaining gardens and other plantings

In May, Mr. Hulon Spencer was hired by the Public Services Department to perform a number of landscaping functions for the City and the Beautification Committee. Mr. Spencer, with guidance from Beautification Committee Chair Ms. Kirsten Almquist, maintains City gardens, entrance parks and various flowers around the City.

He can be seen watering flowers and gardens every Monday, Wednesday and Friday without fail. Approximately 400 to 500 gallons of water is consumed on these days to ensure the proper care and feeding of all plants and flowers. Mr. Spencer is responsible for weed control, edging, mulching and general upkeep of plantings.

Prior to creation of this position, these important tasks were performed on a sporadic basis, and

sometimes were preempted by other core responsibilities such as trash collection or grass cutting, with the City responsible for maintenance of 140 acres.

The City Council first included funds in the 2006/07 budget dedicated to filling this seasonal position. That commitment was reconfirmed with continued funding approved in the 2007/08 budget.

The City values the efforts of Mr. Spencer and is pleased to have him dedicated to maintenance of all items related to the Beautification Committee.

And of course, we are ever grateful to all our wonderful volunteers serving on our Beautification Committee. *We cannot thank them enough for their invaluable dedication and donation of time, talent and efforts!*

***New Castle – The First Capital City!***

## Code Enforcement Corner

The City of New Castle Board of Health strives to keep properties in conformance with adopted rules and codes. To report any problems or file a complaint, please call Code Enforcement Officer John Lloyd at 302-323-6081. Complaint forms are also available on the City Web site at:

[www.NewCastleCity.org](http://www.NewCastleCity.org).

### From the City Code...

§ 140-18. Prohibited growths of weeds and grass.

B. Height limitation for developed lots less one acre in size or less. No person being the owner or possessor of a developed parcel one acre in size or less shall permit grasses or weeds to grow more than eight inches high or so as to create a nuisance detrimental to adjoining property or to the health or safety of other persons.

C. Application to multiple adjacent parcels. If an owner holds title to more than one parcel and such parcels are adjacent to each other, sharing a common property line, such parcels may be considered as one parcel for purposes of the application of this section.

Go to [www.NewCastleCity.org](http://www.NewCastleCity.org) for full code text.

## Local utility provider plans improvements

The Municipal Services Commission (MSC) is New Castle's local utility provider of electric and water services. Business and residential properties within the City limits receive services from MSC.

### *New utility poles to be installed*

MSC is building a new electric service across the city to meet the growing electric demand on the west side of town. This construction will require the replacement of the utility poles along West 8th Street and West 9th Street and South Street. The MSC will replace the current poles with 50 foot poles equipped to handle two circuits.

### *Green energy available*

There is a limited amount of Green Energy still available. A 100 kilowatt subscription costs 21 cents and it assures the purchaser that a portion of their electric comes from a renewable energy source. Please stop by the office of the Municipal Services Commission at 216 Chestnut Street for an application.

## Solid Waste Authority offers variety of services

The Delaware Solid Waste Authority (DSWA) offers a wide variety of services. New Castle City residents are encouraged to take advantage of DSWA programs such as household hazardous waste (HHW) collection and disposal, and electronic goods recycling.

The next HHW collection is scheduled for November 3. Details will be included in the next two editions of this newsletter or can be found on the DSWA web site at [www.dswa.com](http://www.dswa.com).

***Items which are HHW materials should not be thrown away with normal household garbage.*** When this occurs, it is a hazard to both the environment and the collection personnel employed by the City. These items must be saved and stored safely until they can be properly disposed of at a HHW collection sponsored by the DSWA.

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***"...HHW... should not be thrown away with normal household garbage."***

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***Homeowner tip:*** Latex paint can be mixed with kitty litter or sand and discarded with regular trash. When this procedure is properly followed, the resulting mixture is not considered HHW.

### ***Recycle electronic goods***

An alternative to trashing old electronic goods is recycling offered by the DSWA. One of the three New Castle County drop off locations is very convenient for City residents, located at:

#### **Delaware Recycling Center**

1101 Lambsons Lane, New Castle  
Off Rt. 9 North  
Hours: Weekdays, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Items which are accepted include old computers, computer parts and other related hardware (i.e., keyboards, printers, etc.), telephones, fax machines, radios, televisions and other audio and video equipment, toys and some small appliances.

Visit the DSWA Web site for other drop-off locations and a brochure which includes a complete list of acceptable items.

The DSWA complex on Lambsons Lane includes the Mercantile Store, open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Saturday. The store has many items for sale such as old computers, children's toys, furniture, household appliances, and much more. The store accepts cash only, so no credit cards or checks are accepted.