



New Castle Crier

The official newsletter of New Castle City

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New Castle, Delaware

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News from the MSC

State designates MSC as CFL disposal site

The State is setting up sites where homeowners can dispose of broken or non-functioning Compact Fluorescent Light (CFL) fixtures. Because CFL's contain small amounts of mercury, the Municipal Services Commission will be a certified drop off location at 216 Chestnut Street for disposing of non-working bulbs. CFL's

should only be disposed of at certified locations to prevent the mercury from contaminating the environment.

Free home energy audits

The MSC is offering homeowners a new tool that will allow them to conduct a free home energy audit via the Internet. Enercom® introduces Energy Depot which provides a valuable online energy audit, energy calculator, energy library, FAQ's and is accessible by

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Separation Day Historic New Castle, DE Saturday, June 14

Parade at 11 a.m. on Delaware St.



Featuring: The award-winning Bushwackers Drum & Bugle Corp. of Harrison, NJ ★ Avalon String Band ★ Original Hobo Band ★ Citizens' Hose Company Band ★ DE Military Academy Marching Seahawks ★ 287th Army National Guard Band ★ William Penn Marching Band ★ The Wheelmen and much, much more!

Arts & Crafts in Battery Park from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Great Amusement Rides ★ Games ★ Food ★ Regatta ★
Encampments ★ Magic Show ★ Beautiful Baby Contest

All Day Bands including Cole Younger Band ★ Sin City ★ Steve Ketterer Acoustic Trio

Also back by popular demand: The Masters of Chainsaw ★ Moonbounce ★ Clowns ★ Dunk Tank ★ Face Painting ★ Pony Rides ★ Non-Profit Booths

Concert at 7:30 p.m. featuring the **287th Army National Guard Band**

Ending with a Grand Finale of **Fireworks** at 9:30 p.m.

Sponsored by the State of Delaware, the Separation Day Committee and the Mayor & Council of New Castle
For more information, call the Mayor's Office at (302) 322-9802, or e-mail mikki@NewCastleCity.org
Free Parking and Shuttle Bus Service from First Baptist Church, New Castle Middle and Carrie Downie Schools

New Castle – The First Capital City!

New Castle City News You Can Use

New Director of Public Services hired

The City has hired Mr. Joseph Freebery as the new Director of Public Services. Mr. Freebery has a wealth of experience in managing government operations, having served a number of years in New Castle County government as General Manager of the Department of Special Services. In that position he had responsibilities overseeing fiscal matters, operations, capital improvements and personnel management.

Kick-off held for Comprehensive Plan update; additional \$15K grant funding secured for project

At the March Planning Commission meeting, Commission members met with representatives from the URS firm as the first step in updating the City's Comprehensive Plan. URS is the consulting firm which serves on a regular basis as the City's Planning Consultant and has also been hired under a separate contract to spearhead efforts for the update.

An important component of the update process is citizen input. The Planning Commission will continuously work on the project as a portion of their regular meetings, held the fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Hall on Delaware Street. The public is welcome to attend.

Additionally, separate meetings will be scheduled especially designed to obtain input from citizens with ideas concerning the update. Keep watching the *New Castle Crier* for details as they become available.

In related news, the City was recently informed that a request for grant funding for the update was approved. The WILMAPCO will provide up to \$15K for the project, which will be used along with a previously awarded grant from the State for \$10K through the Livable Delaware initiative.

The next
regular
City Council
meeting is 7 p.m.,
Tues., May 13 at
Town Hall

Please Note!

City Offices will be **CLOSED** and **No Trash Pickup** will occur for the Memorial Day holiday on **Monday, May 26**. Check your City Calendar for the revised trash pickup schedule.

Online energy audit

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going to the City's Web site at NewCastleCity.org. Click on "Utilities" to go to the MSC home page, and then click on the house graphic to access the audit tool.

This new tool allows the homeowner to better understand their energy consumption and offers options to become more efficient in their energy use. The MSC hopes its customers will take advantage of this excellent new tool.

Here's how to apply for a tax exemption

Residents are encouraged to contact City Finance Director Marian Delaney, at 322-9811, to make an appointment to apply for the tax exemption available to seniors over 65 and persons with disabilities. New income limits are \$15,000 for a single person and \$30,000 for a married couple. *The last day to apply is June 16th.*

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.

This month's highlights; general reminders...

Lawn maintenance and yard waste

Lawns should be maintained weekly to ensure Code compliance. Remember, yard waste is collected once each week by City crews on Wednesdays only. Household trash and yard waste must be separated for disposal. Containers left curbside with a mix of household garbage and yard waste will not be collected.

From the City Code, Section 140-15a Care of Premises:

"It is unlawful to park or store, on public or private property, other than fully enclosed in a building, any motor vehicle or off highway vehicle, that is incapable of being moved under its own power, or that does not have current registration plates attached to the vehicle."

From the City Code, Section 185.1, 302.7.2 Swimming Pools:

"Swimming pools shall be maintained in a clean sanitary condition, and in good repair."