



# New Castle Crier

The official newsletter of New Castle City

Vol. 2, Iss. 9

New Castle, Delaware

October 2008

## New Castle Comprehensive Plan Update Citizens attend workshop, provide input

The Community Design Workshop hosted by the New Castle City Planning Commission was a great success. Scores of citizens attended the meeting held at the New Castle Middle School and provided input on a wide variety of planning issues.

The workshop was part of the Comprehensive Plan update conducted by the City. A Comprehensive Plan is a document that sets general policy for the City's land development, transportation investment, housing strategy and community services.

Not only did participants indicate their views by interactive "voting," but many provided written or verbal comments. After the workshop, City Planning Consultant Marian Hull, from the URS Corp., analyzed and condensed all the input in a report which Planning Commission members reviewed at a meeting on September 30.

There is still time for input in this process. The City has images of the poster boards on its Web site at: [www.NewCastleCity.org](http://www.NewCastleCity.org).

The large poster boards are also available for viewing at the City offices (220 Delaware Street). Persons are encouraged to view the boards and submit comments in writing to the City Administrator, either hardcopy or via e-mail to: [CathrynThomas@NewCastleCity.org](mailto:CathrynThomas@NewCastleCity.org).

Planning Commission members will consider citizen input when drafting the Comprehensive Plan update. Once the draft is completed, the document will be made available and citizens will be invited to a public hearing (before the Planning Commission) to voice their views on the draft plan.

Next, input from the public hearing will be considered when developing the final plan. Once the final plan is completed it will be made available for public review prior to a public hearing before the City Council. Depending on the input at that public hearing, City Council members will decide how to proceed, with the ultimate goal of adopting an ordinance approving the Comprehensive Plan update.

Meeting dates will be publicized in the *New Castle Weekly* newspaper, on the City Web site and in this newsletter. Also, for those who wish to follow along in this process, all meetings of the Planning Commission are open to the public. They meet the fourth Monday of each month at the Town Hall.



## Free mulch from DNREC

Have you wondered what happens to yard waste collected by the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC)? They turn what had been trash into a treasure! It's black gold – not exactly oil – but an invaluable addition to Delaware gardens. ***It's mulch, and it's free!***

According to *the-Organic-Gardener* Web site, "Autumn is the main time for mulching. Mulch retains heat in the soil over winter giving a higher starting temperature in the new season. It also protects delicate soils from the ravages of winter rains and erosion."

Get your free mulch at any one of the following locations:

- Brandywine Hundred Site (302-739-9403) between Holly Oak and Bellefonte on the Cauffiel Pkwy. (enter from Parkway – there is no entrance from nearby Philadelphia Pike)
- DNREC/DART Mid-County Site (302-739-9403), 1423 DuPont Pkwy., Bear (near Dart Maintenance Yard)
- Polly Drummond Hill Site (302) 739-9403, Polly Drummond Hill Rd., Newark (1/2 mile N. of Kirkwood Hwy., across from the entrance to Judge Morris Estate)

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

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Please join us for a community event to benefit the **New Castle Senior Center**  
**El Dia de Los Muertos: A Halloween Fiesta!**  
**November 1 in the River Room at the Senior Center from 7 to 11 p.m.**

Attire is Party Casual, Costumes are Optional

Many cultures celebrate "El Dia de Los Muertos" — the Day of the Dead, on Nov. 1st, when they honor their loved ones who have passed on, as part of their immortal family.

Cost: \$35 per person

All reservations must be made by October 27th by contacting  
Natalie at the Senior Center at 326-4209 or natkaplan@verizon.net

### 5th Annual New Castle Kitchen To Garden Walking Tour

Hosted by the New Castle Library Friends

**Saturday, October 11, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. (rain or shine)**

Tours begin at the Library at 424 Delaware Street (corner of 5th Street)

Proceeds benefit the expansion and renovation of the New Castle Public Library

Pre-Tour Party: Friday, October 10, 6 to 9 p.m. at the historic Van Dyke House

\$65/person advance purchase only

Combination ticket for Pre-Tour Party and Kitchen To Garden Tour: \$80

Tour Tickets are \$20 each in advance and \$25 the day of the event

Tickets are available online at [www.NewCastleLibraryFriends.org](http://www.NewCastleLibraryFriends.org)

Tickets can also be purchased by mail:

New Castle Public Library, 424 Delaware Street, New Castle, DE 19720 (phone: 302-328-1995)

Please include name, address and phone number with order

The next  
regular  
**City Council**  
meeting is 7 p.m.,  
Tues., Oct. 14 at  
Town Hall

**VOTE**  
**Election Day**  
**Tues., Nov. 4**

#### DEADLINE:

October 11 is the last day  
to register to vote in the  
General Election.

For election/voter  
information, contact the  
Board of Elections at  
577-3464, or online at:  
[elections.delaware.gov](http://elections.delaware.gov)

To find your polling  
place, click on the  
link on the front page  
of the City Web site at  
[www.NewCastleCity.org](http://www.NewCastleCity.org).



City Offices are closed  
with no trash pickup  
on Election Day,  
Tues., Nov. 4. Tuesday's  
trash will be collected  
Wednesday, Nov. 5.

## 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, call Code Enforcement Officer John Lloyd at 221-6507. The entire City Code and Complaint Forms are also available on the City Web site at [www.NewCastleCity.org](http://www.NewCastleCity.org).

### *From the International Property Maintenance Code*

Section 303  
(Exterior Structure)

#### 303.1. General

The exterior of a structure shall be maintained in good repair, structurally sound and sanitary so as not to pose a threat to the public health, safety or welfare.

#### 303.2 Protective Treatment

All exterior surfaces...shall be protected from the elements and decay by painting or other protective covering or treatment. Peeling, flaking and chipped paint shall be eliminated and surfaces repainted...

#### 303.3 Premises identification

Buildings shall have approved address numbers placed in a position to be plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property. These numbers shall contrast with their background. Address numbers shall be Arabic numerals or alphabet letters. Numbers shall be a minimum of 4 inches high with a minimum stroke width of 0.5 inch.