

The next Regular City Council meeting is 7 p.m., Tues., Sept. 12th at the N.C. Senior Center 400 South Street \*\*\*\*\*\*\*

**Public Works summer hours** will end as of September 11th. Standard hours will return -7am -3:30pm City and MSC offices will be closed on Monday, September 4th in observance of Labor Day **Revised Trash Pick-up Schedule: Regular Date** Revised Date Sept. 4th Sept. 5th Sept. 5th Sept. 6th Yard Waste Pick-Up: Thursday, Sept. 7th **CITYWIDE RECYCLE** Pick-Up: Fri., Sept. 8th

# The New Castle Crier

The Official Newsletter of New Castle City



Please Help the City Control Wildlife Issues... See back of newsletter.

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Understanding your City of New Castle Property Tax Bill

Tax bills were mailed in July. Please note: the City <u>does not</u> accept a

postmark to qualify payment as on time. Payment must be received in our office either by mail or in person by the close of business on the due date.

The City offers a 2% discount if payment is received at the City office by 4:30 p.m. on August 31st.

From September 1st through October 2nd the base tax amount is due. Payment must be received at the City office by 4:30 p.m. on October 2nd or a 6% late penalty will be applied, with an additional 1.5% per month accrued on all unpaid taxes. For your convenience the City has 3 ways to pay your tax bill:

**Pay in Person at the City office: 220 Delaware Street** (Cash, Check, or Money Order Only.)

#### Pay online by credit or debit card or by e-check on the City's website: <u>www.newcastlecity.delaware.gov</u>

Please be aware, there are convenience fees associated with paying your bill online. Fees over and above your taxes are not kept by the City. Echecks are mailed by your financial institution and must arrive by close of business on due date.

**Pay by mail** (Please note, postmark not accepted as payment on time.)

AMOUNT DUE	
LAST PAYMENT: (Last Year's Tax Payment)	
PAST DUE: (Any Amount Still Past Due Amount)	
CURRENT CHARGES: (This Year's Base Tax Amount)	
DISCOUNT: (Amount of 2% Discount, if paid by 8/31)	
IF PAID BY 08/31/22:	
AMOUNT DUE IF PAID BY 10/02/23:	
IF PAID ON OR AFTER 10/03/23:	

## **August/September Events**

Final Annual Summer Concert in Battery Park Wednesday, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

• Wed., Aug. 16th FINN

#### Fourth Friday Art Loop

**Friday, August 25th, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.** Sip and snack and check out all your old and new favorite spots in New Castle's Downtown District.

24th Annual Chautauqua Tent Show on The Green "That's Entertainment"

Sat. & Sun., Sept. 9th & 10th 12p.m.-6p.m. \*Programs – Live and Livestreamed \*Entertaining and Educational \*Experiences for All Ages

Annual Fall Car & Motorcycle Show Saturday September 16, 2023, 9a.m. to 2p.m. This show is held annually at Bellanca Airport Museum, 2 Centerpoint Blvd, New Castle, DE 19720 There is free parking for spectators and no entry fee for visitors. www.bccdelaware.org

### Art on the Green in Battery Park

#### Saturday, September 23rd 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Started in 1970, it is the 4th Saturday in September, in Battery Park, on the scenic Delaware River. 200+ Artists & Crafters, food vendors, free shuttle and free admission. For more information go to <u>www.artonthegreende.net</u>



#### Belgian Beer Fest Saturday, September 23rd - 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.



This is the 2nd year for this event. VIP and general admission tickets, 30+ varieties to taste. Music by Finn, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Tickets are available at <u>www.historicnewcastle.com</u>

#### River Towns Ride & Festival Saturday, October 14th 2023 Start time 9:00 a.m.

The 11th annual River Towns Ride & Festival provides riders the opportunity to visit the historic riverfronts of New Castle, Delaware City, Wilmington and Chesapeake City, Md. (NEW THIS YEAR!) while earning medals based on distance completed. Postride will be held in Historic New Castle's Battery Park featuring live music, beer, food and non-alcoholic beverages. www.rivertownsride.com/#ride

*New Castle – The First Capital of the First State!* The most picturesque and historic waterfront community on the East Coast!



## Block Party Sept 24th - 3p.m.- 8p.m.

The New Castle Senior Center in partnership with the Mercury Cafe and Tea House is having a Block Party on the Green, Sunday, September 24, 2023 (rain date Oct. 1) from 3:00pm to 8:00pm.

Bring a covered dish to share with your table and participate in a live art auction with art donated by your favorite local artists. There will also be live music and a cash bar. Help support you local Senior Center and welcome in Fall with your neighbors.

Tickets are \$25/person. Tables seat 8. Picnic style tickets are \$5/person, though tickets are limited. Tickets available on Eventbrite beginning August 1st. Dining in the Street will return next year.

#### \*The incorrect date was printed in last month's crier

## **Code Enforcement Corner**

<u>Code Enforcement</u> helps to maintain and improve the quality of life of New Castle City residents by administering an unbiased enforcement program to correct violations of City zoning, property maintenance and building codes. Complaint forms are available on the City website at

<u>newcastlecity.delaware.gov.</u> or in the City office; or call the Code Officer at 302-322-9801. Complaints are handled on a confidential basis.

#### PLEASE HELP THE CITY CONTROL WILDLIFE AND FERAL CAT COLONY PROBLEMS... DO NOT FEED WILD ANIMALS OR FERAL CATS.



According to the National Geographic Society, feeding wildlife is generally a bad idea. Foodseeking squirrels bite more people than any other animal in National Parks. Also, providing

food for wildlife teaches those animals to associate humans with food. This can make them more likely to get hit by cars, or get into altercations with children or pets.

- Make sure all garbage is secured in covered plastic or metal trash containers.
- Keep yards clean and mowed and cleared of any debris including: compost, piles of wood, lumber or rocks and junk. Also, clean outdoor grills regularly.
- Eliminate all protective cover. Clear any brush areas or hedge rows.
- Close up any open areas that provide access under structures, porches or decks that could be used as potential den sites.
- Clean up any pet food, bird seed, fruits or vegetables

that may have accumulated.

- If there is any evidence of a den, make sure the animals are gone and fill hole with dirt and rocks. Sprinkle flour on the ground to detect tracks.
- If your yard has a grub or other subsoil insect problem, these are a feast for skunks.
- Raccoons and skunks may carry rabies and distemper, so keep pet vaccinations up to date.

#### What is a "Feral Cat?"



Both stray and feral cats live outdoors, where they can find food and shelter. The difference is that stray cats are usually lost or abandoned house pets - cats who are friendly with humans

and can often be re-adopted. In contrast, feral cats are domestic cats that are not socialized to human contact. They live in all kinds of settings, usually in family groups called colonies. Because they have not been socialized to human contact, feral cats older than 2 months are generally not adoptable.

It is <u>vitally</u> important <u>not</u> to feed feral cats; if they have an unlimited food supply the colony will stay and grow. Feeding these cats will also attract other undesirable wildlife such as raccoons and skunks.

**TNVR (Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return)** is a humane and effective program that ends the birth of unwanted litters, stabilizes the cat populations, improves the quality of life for the cats themselves, and prevents the spread of disease. For more information on feral cat resources in Delaware go to <u>www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/oaw/foundstraycats.html</u>