

# The New Castle Crier The Official Newsletter of New Castle City



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

Volume 18 Issue 9 \* New Castle, DE \* September 2024

The next Regular City Council meeting is 7 p.m., Tues., Sept. 17th at the N.C. Senior Center 400 South Street \*\*\*\*\*

**Public Works summer hours** will end as of September 30th. Standard hours will return -7am -3:30pm

City and MSC offices will be closed on Monday, September 2nd in observance of Labor Day **Revised Trash** Pick-up Schedule: Regular Date Revised Date Sept. 2nd Sept. 3rd Sept. 3rd Sept. 4th Yard Waste Pick-Up: Thursday, Sept. 5th

> CITYWIDE RECYCLE Pick-Up: Fri., Sept. 6th

**Understanding your City** of New Castle Property Tax Bill

Tax bills were mailed in July. Please note: the City does not 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

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

From September 1st through September 30th the base tax amount is due.

Payment must be received at the City office by 4:30 p.m. on September 30th 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 echeck on the City's website: www.newcastlecity.delaware.gov

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. E-checks are mailed by your financial institution and must arrive by close of business one due date.

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

| AMOUNT DUE                                     |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| LAST PAYMEN                                    | T: (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 8/30) |  |
| IF PAID BY 08/30/24:                           |  |  |
| AMOUNT DUE IF PAID BY 09/30/24:                |  |  |
| IF PAID ON OR AFTER 10/01/24:                  |  |  |

# **August/September Events**

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

Wed., Aug. 14th NYC Burn 2.0

Wed., Aug. 21st **Conley & Watson** 

**Fourth Friday Art Loop** Friday, August 23rd, 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.

Saturday New Castle Farmers Market on the Green, 9 p.m.-2 p.m., rain or shine. Produce, Meat, Eggs, Baked Goods and other Artisan Creations.

Summer Tennis Program- Tues & Thurs - July 9th thru August 29th 5:30p.m. to 7:00p.m.

1 Delaware St, New Castle, DE 19720 All Age Groups

https://www.jotform.com/241824510910145

## **Annual Fall Car & Motorcycle Show** Saturday September 14, 2024, 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

**New Castle Senior Center Annual Block** Party Sunday, September 22nd, 4:00p.m.-8:00p.m. (Rain Date 9/29) Covered Dish on the Green. Tickets \$25 on Eventbrite, New Castle Senior Center and The Mercury Café and Tea House.



**Annual Art on the Green in Battery Park** Saturday, September 28th, hosted by the New Castle Hundred Lions Club. www.artonthegreende.net

Belgian Beer Fest Saturday, September **28th,** Hosted by the NCCP. www.historicnewcastle.com



#### **BLOCK PARTY!**

Date: September 22nd, 2024 from 4:00p.m.-8:00p.m.

The Annual Block Party is an outdoor event held on the Green in Downtown Historic New Castle City. The event will be held on September 22, 2024 from 4 to 8 P.M. (rain date September 28, 2024). It is a BYOF (Bring your on food) event with a cash bar open to the public. The annual event features the music of "Somethin' Like That", local bands and a live art auction. This event benefits the New Castle Senior Center.





#### **NEW PROGRAM ALERT**

Community Collaboration of Delaware, a local 501c3 nonprofit, is thrilled to announce their newest initiative, the HOPE (Healthy Options for Prevention Education) Program! Thanks to generous grant funding from the City of New Castle, this evidencebased prevention program will be available to twenty 7th grade students living within the city limits of New Castle. The HOPE Program, designed to educate adolescents on resisting substance abuse, will consist of 11 weeks of comprehensive lessons (one lesson each week) from September through December at the New Castle Public Library. CCD is proud to offer this valuable resource in partnership with the New Castle City Police Department and the New Castle Public Library. Please contact CCD's Executive Director, David Salter, by emailing

<u>David.Salter@communitycollabde.org</u> with any quesions about the program.

## **Code Enforcement Corner**

**Code Enforcement** 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 <a href="mailto:newcastlecity.delaware.gov">newcastlecity.delaware.gov</a>, 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 <a href="https://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/oaw/foundstraycats.html">www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/oaw/foundstraycats.html</a>