

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR JULY 2025

HAPPY JULY FENWICK ISLANDERS!

To stay informed about events, meetings and things going on around Town, please be sure to check out the Town's website at <https://fenwickisland.delaware.gov/> and look under the **MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND CALENDAR** tab in the center of the homepage to review all the events, meetings and links for Zoom attendance. There is lots of information on the website and you can even access many of the forms that the Town uses.

You can also sign up for an "**Events Subscription**" by going to the **Contact** tab at the top of the Town's website homepage which will result in the receipt of an email to you on each day that notices of meetings and events are published on the Town's website, including a link to the activity.

You can also use the **Contact** tab on the website to contact Town Hall if you have a question, need assistance or have a suggestion.

The Town's Facebook page also hosts updates/announcements and is on Facebook at **Town of Fenwick Island-Government**.

There are LOTS of activities and meetings going on and we hope by using the Town's website and Facebook, you will not miss the things that are important to you and your family. Of course, if you do not use the internet, you can always call or stop by for assistance or information.

UPDATE ON FENWICK'S DREDGING PROJECT:

FINALLY! We are pleased to announce that we have received official approval of our application for new Channel Markers from DNREC.

In late February, the Town of Fenwick Island received official US Coast Guard approval for our permit to install markers in designated locations along the recently dredged Fenwick channels. Unfortunately, DNREC's permitting team was much slower to complete their review and provide the necessary approval.

We were in contact with DNREC's permitting lead several times every month for the last three months. Unfortunately, DNREC's lead in the permitting team moved to another DNREC division and while we were promised our permit approval would occur before her departure (May 30) that did not happen.

We contacted other members in the DNREC permitting department, Representative Gray, Senator Hocker and Governor Meyer in hopes of shaking loose the permit and this week we received the long-awaited and promised approval. Thank you to all who helped with getting the permit approved.

DNREC's waterways management team (completely different DNREC division) has been excellent to work with and has provided a lot of help in preparing for the installation of the channel markers. They donated some of the materials for the markers as well as putting us in contact with the vendor to source the 20-foot PVC pipes. We have all the material necessary for the installation of the channel markers purchased, staged and ready to go.

In addition, this week we received 5 bids for the installation of the markers. On Monday, we may select the winning bid and start the contracting process. We hope that once the winning bid is selected and contract signed, we will be able to move forward as quickly as possible.

In the meantime, please see the map which shows where the dredging occurred. For those that have boated in the area, the Fenwick channels going into the Town are where they were in the past but are much deeper and wider.

As for the main western channel and the shoaling present, the Town has informed DNREC about the dangerous shoaling for several years and again this year. In addition to the shoaling, the channel markers had been damaged. Recently, DNREC placed some temporary buoys to better mark the channel.

The western main channel is one maintained by DNREC and while we offered to allow DNREC to piggy-back on our dredging project several times in the last four years, they declined to do so, citing lack of funding. We will continue to urge DNREC to prioritize dredging at that location so that the western main channel remains open and can be safely navigated. Mayor Magdeburger has also spoken with Representative Gray and he is seeking funding for DNREC to complete the dredging along the western channel.

A huge shoutout goes to Bill Rymer and the Dredging Committee for working through all the red tape to get the Dredging Project completed.

Please stay alert while boating!



TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Town's overall cash balance as of May 31, 2025, was \$4.2 million.

The RTT taxes collected in May were \$37,000 and total RTT collected in 2025 to date is \$651,007 as compared to the \$350,000 budgeted.

We continue to maintain overall operating expenses consistent with the annual budget.

Based on current results, we continue to forecast that the town will beat the combined operating budget and RTT revenue budget by approximately \$500,000 for the full year.

In addition, the Town Council unanimously approved the 2026 budget. Details regarding the approved budget can be found at: <https://fenwickisland.delaware.gov/files/2025/06/FY2026-Budget-Comparison.pdf>.

At the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee, the Town Council voted to decrease the short-term rental tax for rentals of residential homes to 7.5% because of the State imposing a tax on short-term rentals while increasing the hotel tax from 3.5% to 4% to equalize the tax paid by visitors to the Town. The change in the tax rate is budget neutral to the Town and will go into effect on January 1, 2026.

CHARTER AND ORDINANCE UPDATES:

The Charter & Ordinance Committee has been asked to review the Town's Charter to consider making changes to the voting cycle (date elections are held), term limits of Town Council Members and Town Council composition (currently 4 members of Town Council must live within 50 miles of the Town). No recommendation has been finalized by the Charter & Ordinance Committee at this time.

In addition, at the request of the Business Committee, the Charter & Ordinance Committee was asked to review and modify a parking ordinance to allow businesses to exchange compensation for allowing another business entity to use their parking lot in the commercial zone. Town Council unanimously approved the modification at the June meeting. The amended ordinance provides:

(3). Notwithstanding anything in Section 160-10 to the contrary, a licensed business operating in the Commercial Zone (the "Requesting Business") shall be permitted to enter into an agreement with another licensed business operating in the Commercial Zone (the "Granting Business") for purposes of allowing the Requesting Business (for a fee or not) to utilize excess off-street parking capacity located on the Granting Business's Lot ("Business-to-Business Parking Sharing Agreement"), provided that the following requirements are met:

- a. **the shared parking spaces under a Business-to-Business Parking Sharing Agreement may only be used for employees of the Requesting Business;**
- b. **the shared parking spaces under a Business-to-Business Parking Sharing Agreement may not be used for general public parking by the Requesting Business;**
- c. **neither the Business-to-Business Parking Sharing Agreement, nor anything in this Section 160-10(C)(3), shall authorize or be construed as authorizing a**

reduction in the minimum number or size of off-street parking spaces otherwise required by Section 160-10(A) and (B) of the Code;

- d. a Business-to-Business Parking Sharing Agreement shall be submitted to the Town's Building Official and Police Chief, signed by both parties to the Business-to-Business Sharing Agreement, and**
 - a. shall delineate the number of spaces to be utilized; and**
 - b. any time restrictions pertaining to the Business-to-Business Sharing Agreement; and**
 - c. the beginning date and end date of the Business-to-Business Sharing Agreement shall be in effect between the parties; and**
 - d. disclosure of the actual consideration for the Business-to-Business Sharing Agreement shall not otherwise be necessary so long as the parties execute the Business-to-Business Sharing Agreement submitted to the Town's Building Official and Police Chief.**
- e. a Business-to-Business Parking Sharing Agreement shall not be effective until five (5) days after it is submitted to the Town's Building Official and Police Chief.**

INFRASTRUCTURE /FLOODING UPDATE:

We received disappointing news that the FEMA BRIC grant we requested in February 2024 that was to be used to purchase engineering recommendations to mitigate bayside flooding/resiliency efforts was no longer available for funding. In response, the Infrastructure Committee recommended to Town Council to proceed with creating a Comprehensive Engineered Master Resiliency Plan for the Town without federal funding and was able to negotiate a proposal for a total cost of \$299,000.00 (approximately \$125,000 less than what was proposed with federal funding).

Given the high priority and need for resiliency planning and bayside flooding mitigation, Town Council unanimously voted to proceed with the proposal offered by Straughan Environmental. Thank you goes out to Susan Brennan and Tim Leahy who worked to get this proposal for the Town.

The Town is familiar with Straughan Environmental as we had already contracted with Straughan Environmental to perform the Resiliency Planning Prep project. This project was completed and entailed collecting an accurate mapping of GIS data relating to our

stormwater management and flood protection infrastructure. These materials will be needed for any future engineering design project.

The new scope of work to be completed by Straughan Environmental will include creating a Comprehensive Engineered Master Resiliency Plan for the Town, defining engineered methods of mitigation, recommending proposed demonstration projects, developing concept designs for the demonstration projects, preparing final design plans with cost estimates and preparing bid documents for the high priority demonstration projects.

We hope to have the Comprehensive Engineered Master Resiliency Plan completed by Straughan Environmental within the next 18 months. The Comprehensive Engineered Master Resiliency Plan will provide the tools and insight for taking the next steps for mitigating bayside flooding and planning for resiliency.

Please mark your calendar to attend the third annual resiliency presentation, “Achieving Resiliency”, sponsored by the Fenwick Island Infrastructure Committee, scheduled for August 21, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. in Town Hall. This presentation will be available for both in person attendance as well as via Zoom.

STREET REPAVING:

All street repaving and sealing has been completed. South Shultz Street from Dagsboro Street to the south end, Wright Street, McWilliams, and Bay streets were milled and repaved. W. Essex Street, Ebb Tide, W. Houston Street and a portion of Bunting Avenue underwent crack sealing.

RESIDENTIAL CONCERNS UPDATE:

The “Faucett Okie Family Nature Preserve” is now open for visitors from dusk to dawn and can be accessed from East Bayard Street near Coastal Highway. Please make a trip to walk through but be careful to check for ticks when you do.

Thank you to Deb Cowell and the Green Infrastructure working group of the Residential Concerns Committee for taking lead on completing the first phase of the preserve which included creating pathways and a Rain Garden. Also, please look for a new “OLD FENWICK SERIES” installment on the Town’s Facebook which details the remarkably interesting history of the Faucett family legacy and their ties to our namesake, Thomas Fenwick—warning, the story involves pirates!

The next phase of the Faucett Okie Family Nature Preserve will be managed by the Environmental Committee, who brought the Pollinator Park, located on the north side of Bunting, to the Town.



Figure 1--Mr. Okie and Mayor Magdeburger

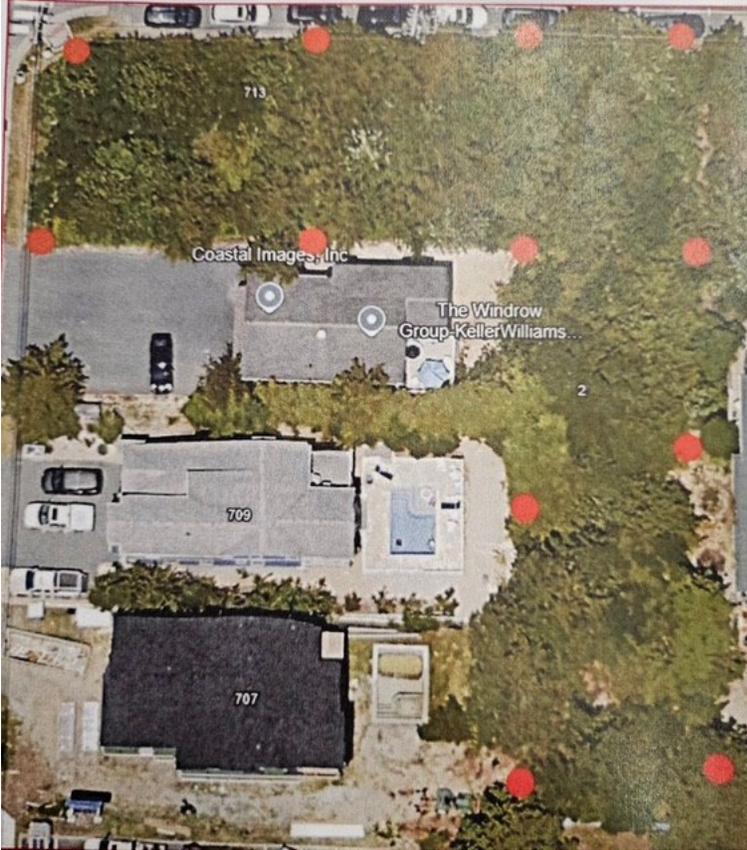
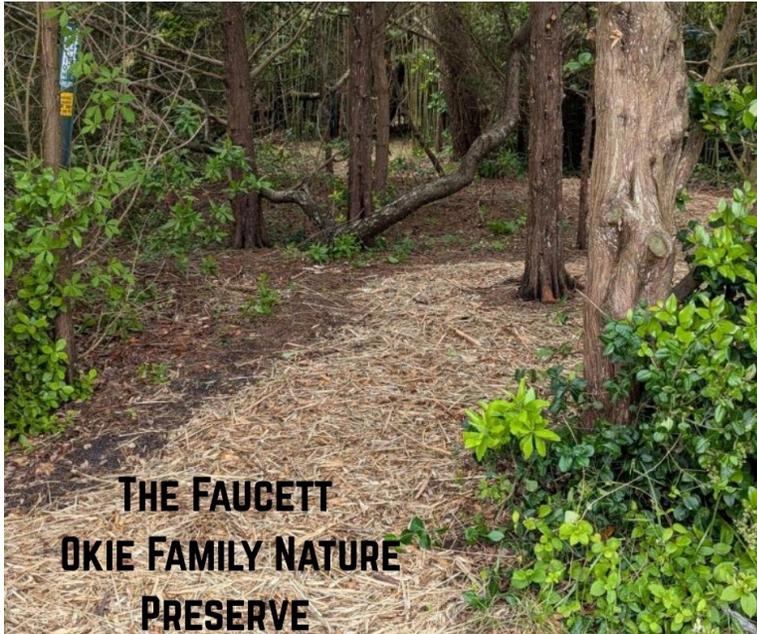


Figure 2-Faucett Okie Family Nature Preserve at corner of Bayard Street and Route 1



Volunteers for the continuation of this project will be needed and appreciated. If you are interested, please attend one of the Environmental Committee meetings.

The Residential Concerns Committee will also be hosting the Fenwick Nurtures Nature on Green Infrastructure seminar on July 17, 2025, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Town Hall. We have some great speakers lined up so please try and attend. Thank you to Deb Cowell, Janice Bortner and the Residential Concerns Committee for planning this event.

Fenwick Nurtures Nature

Come and engage with subject matter experts

FENWICK ISLAND TOWN HALL
JULY 17, 2025, from 1-3 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84452752252>
Meeting ID: 844 5275 2252
Call In: 1 301-715-8592

Parking available at Town Hall & Holly's Treasure Chest

Come learn and ask questions on how to protect and enhance our green infrastructure for the environment, flood mitigation, and the enhancement of wildlife and pollinator habitats; the importance of 'just one tree'.



SPEAKERS

Stephen Pryce Lea -
Delaware Botanical
Gardens

Richard Pratt -
Delaware Urban
Forestry Associate

Carol Anderson-
Austra - Landscape
Architect

Blake Moore -
University of
Delaware

Tripp Colonell -
Brother Nature
Landscaping

Krista De Cooke -
Homegrown National
Park *(via zoom)*

Enjoy some sweets & raffle items, all are welcome!

Come learn how just one tree can make a difference! Discover ways to protect and enhance our environment, support flood mitigation, and create vital habitats for wildlife and pollinators. Parking available at Town Hall and Holly's Treasure Chest

<https://fenwickisland.delaware.gov/.../Fenwick-Nurtures...>

Can't make it in person? Join us live on Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84452752252>

Call-in: 1-301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 844 5275 2252

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE UPDATE:

The Environmental Committee, led by Colleen Wilson, continues to work opposing the Maryland Offshore Wind Project.

The Delaware legislature passed a bill, SB 159, to overturn Sussex County's denial of the substation near the Indian River. Unfortunately, the bill was passed along party lines with the Democratic caucus endorsing the provisions and supporting wind farms off our coast and into Delaware. The bill was met with fierce opposition by the Republican caucus as well as New Castle, Kent and Sussex County Councils as it effectively overruled home rule on zoning decisions (home rule meaning local governmental groups are empowered to make decisions involving local zoning issues); however, given the Democratic majority, the Republican caucus did not have the votes to defeat it. As such, the Republican caucus threatened to withhold approval of the Bond Bill which caused the last-minute filing of SB 199 that delayed the effective date of SB 159 until January 31, 2026. It is anticipated that there may be a legal challenge to SB 159 in Court and Jane Brady, a retired Judge and former Attorney General of Delaware, has offered to represent the Sussex County Council.

The substation is a necessary component for U.S. Wind to move forward with the Maryland Offshore Wind Project. Without the substation, U.S. Wind would have to find another way to connect to the cables at 3 R's beach.

Mayor Magdeburger met with and wrote to Representative McBride, urging her to oppose offshore wind. See Letter to Representative McBride <https://fenwickisland.delaware.gov/files/2025/03/LETTER-to-Representative-McBride-re-windfarms-in-Delaware.pdf> with citations to pertinent scientific and national security references. She also met with Governor Meyer who, unfortunately, has stated that he is supportive of allowing access into Delaware for the Maryland Offshore Wind Project and testified against SB 159 in Dover.

Meanwhile, we are waiting to hear whether the Trump administration will revisit the permits that have been approved by BOEM (Bureau of Ocean Energy Management) for the Maryland Offshore Wind Project.

In addition, on the federal level, we joined Ocean City, Maryland, Commissioners of Worcester County and other plaintiffs (made up of members from fishing, tourism,

business and public advocacy groups as well as individuals) in challenging the adequacy of the BOEM permitting process and determination. A motion to dismiss was filed by U.S. Wind and the federal Judge overseeing the case denied U.S. Wind's motion, while dismissing some lesser counts in the complaint. We now move to the briefing and summary judgment stage.

We have also filed appeals in Delaware with Caesar Rodney Institute challenging the permitting process undertaken by DNREC that approved connecting the cables at 3 R's Beach by jet plowing through the Indian River Bay, citing the negative impacts on the environment, including the inland bays, tourism and property values, as well as DNREC's failure to adequately follow its own regulations in approving the project. Recent document exchanges have revealed that the Center for Inland Bays had deemed that jet-plowing through the Indian River Bay was the "worst option" and would have a significant negative environmental impact. Recent hearings have resulted in DNREC being ordered to produce all of their file materials on the discussions that occurred between their agency, Governor Carney and U.S. Wind.

We will continue to keep our residents informed. Meanwhile, write to your U.S. Senator, U.S. Representatives and Delaware governmental representatives and express your views. Fenwick Island has been at the forefront of this issue in Delaware since discussions began. We successfully fought a transmission station being built at the State Park. We held the first local symposium on the issue. From the research that has been completed to date, the Maryland Offshore Wind Project is not green, clean or good for Delaware and will create generational damage to our coastal community. Please take some time and review the BOEM Environmental Impact Statement (<https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/maryland-offshore-wind-final-environmental-impact-statement-eis>) which details the negative impacts on the environment, whale/mammal/bird mortality, economy (loss of tourism), destruction of the commercial and recreational fishing industry and loss of radar and sonar capabilities that are expected if this project goes to construction. The Nantucket experience, in which a newly built turbine blade broke last summer causing beach closures, business loss and debris collecting in the ocean and washing up on shore, should be a stark warning to all of us.

This is how our beach will look if the Maryland Offshore Wind Project moves forward:



VIEWING INSTRUCTIONS: To approximate the field of view represented by a 50.5" single frame simulation captured with a 50-mm lens it should be printed on an 11" x 17" sheet of paper and viewed from 24 inches away! If viewed in a digital format (i.e. on screen) then similar size and distance should be used. In all cases care must be taken to not over- or underrepresent the visual context! See Sheet 3 for citations.

6. 84TH STREET BEACH, OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND
 SINGLE FRAME (50-mm LENS) SIMULATION, MORNING (6:22 AM)

Maryland Offshore Wind Project Visual Impact Assessment Simulations

Sheet 5



**KEEP THE OCEAN HORIZON BEAUTIFUL FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.
 NO OFFSHORE WIND TURBINES!**



imgflip.com

On the good news front, the Pollinator Park at the north end of Bunting Avenue is in full bloom and the Environmental Committee hosted the Summer Solstice Soiree at the Pollinator Park on June 21st which was a wonderful way to kick off the summer. In addition, the Environmental Committee collaborated with the Barefoot Gardener's Garden Club and

won first place from the Delaware State Garden Club for their work in developing the Pollinator Park. Kudos to Colleen Wilson for working to achieve this recognition for Fenwick Island.



Figure 3--Environmental Committee Members Deb Cowell, Susan Brennan, Vicki Carmean, Chair Colleen Wilson and Liz Lear with Barefoot Gardener President, Audrey Serio (4th from left).

The Environmental Committee is now taking on Phase II of the Faucett Okie Family Nature Preserve as well as developing an additional bird sanctuary on property owned by the Town on Glenn Avenue.

Please consider coming out to help with these opportunities to benefit Fenwick!

DARKSKY COMMITTEE:

Our DarkSky Committee is working on an upcoming Fenwick Nurtures Nature webinar event on August 5, 2025, with guest speakers from DarkSky International, to highlight the negative impacts of excessive nighttime lighting and provide education on how Fenwick Islanders can make a difference. In addition, they will host a table at the Annual Town Bonfire with instructions on how to use stargazing tools on your phone.

Rosemary Hoy and George Stone have spearhead the efforts of this new committee and we thank them for their work.

The five principles of DarkSky Responsible Outdoor Lighting are:

Five Lighting Principles for Responsible Outdoor Lighting



Responsible outdoor lighting is

1 Useful

Use light only if it is needed

All light should have a clear purpose. Consider how the use of light will impact the area, including wildlife and their habitats.



2 Targeted

Direct light so it falls only where it is needed

Use shielding and careful aiming to target the direction of the light beam so that it points downward and does not spill beyond where it is needed.



3 Low Level

Light should be no brighter than necessary

Use the lowest light level required. Be mindful of surface conditions, as some surfaces may reflect more light into the night sky than intended.



4 Controlled

Use light only when it is needed

Use controls such as timers or motion detectors to ensure that light is available when it is needed, dimmed when possible, and turned off when not needed.



5 Warm-colored

Use warmer color lights where possible

Limit the amount of shorter wavelength (blue-violet) light to the least amount needed.



Rev. 05-2023

The DarkSky Committee wishes to share tips on how to help with your electric bill:

1) **LIGHT BULBS:** Switch to energy efficient LED bulbs...but select the LED bulb carefully to make sure your lighting is 'DarkSky' friendly:

a. Choose LEDs with a 'warm temperature' of 3000 Kelvins or less. This yellow-ish light is much less likely to cause glare and is friendlier to wildlife.

b. Use the lowest brightness needed. Today's bulbs are measured in lumens...choose bulbs that are lower on the lumen scale (less bright).

2) **LIGHT FIXTURES:** Choose fully shielded light fixtures that direct light downward.

a. Avoid fixtures that shine light up into the sky.

b. Avoid lights that spill onto neighboring properties or homes.

c. Consider how your outdoor lighting reflects off the water – this can create unintended glare and magnification of the light.

3) **LIGHT CONTROLS:** New technology is available to control outdoor lighting:

a. Dimmers can adjust the level of your outdoor lighting to suit the situation, reducing unnecessary high illumination.

b. *Motion Sensors* are especially useful for areas like walkways and driveways to only activate when movement is detected.

c. *Timers* can be set to turn off outdoor lights during daylight hours, or when light is not needed (especially in the off season).

4) *USE THE OFF SWITCH:* Of course, the longer your outdoor lights are on, the greater the impact on your electric bill.

It is difficult to place an exact number on the potential for electricity savings. What is valid, however, is that if we implement some or all of the changes outlined above, we are guaranteed to save energy and protect our ‘dark skies.’

If you have interest in the topic of DarkSky or have questions on this topic, please contact Town Hall and we will put you in touch with one of the DarkSky Committee leaders.

BUSINESS CONCERNS UPDATE:

The Business Concerns Committee, partnering with the Planning Commission and the FIPD, hosted “Cruzin’ Together in Fenwick” on Saturday, May 31st which involved a bicycle “crawl” around Town with the opportunity to celebrate our wonderful Town, support our businesses, and greet our neighbors. It was a fun event and more will be planned in the future. Thank you goes to the Business Concerns Committee, Kurt Zanelotti and Lucy Wilder for putting this all together.



Figure 4—Cruzin’ Together in Fenwick participants.

The Business Committee also asked the Town to assist businesses with identifying lower cost alternatives for their overflow parking needs for staff, including revisiting the “Business

Helping Business” initiative that asks businesses to share parking spaces with one another.

FENWICK ISLAND POLICE UPDATE:

Residential Parking Permits can be picked up at the Fenwick Island Police Department Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The summer season is in full swing and our police force is out on our streets daily. We have officers patrolling by vehicle and by bicycle with an emphasis on enforcing pedestrian safety. So, please watch out for pedestrians when you are driving and be safe out there. We want every soul to get to and from the beach and their home safely.

Chief Morrissey participated in an educational opportunity to remind drivers to stop at crosswalks for pedestrians. Going forward throughout the summer season, there will be extra patrols throughout Town to ensure compliance with our speeding and pedestrian safety laws.



Figure 5--Chief Morrissey and friend attempting to cross Coastal Highway.

Our parking officer is also now on duty. Please remember that street parking requirements are in effect through September 15th. All residents have hang tags that allow them to park on our streets—please make sure you display them appropriately.

The FIPD donated backpacks for use by J-1 students.

We are also working diligently on getting the police department accredited with a number of important State evaluations occurring in the next month. Chief Morrissey, with the assistance of the entire department, has done a wonderful job in getting us ready.

TOWN ELECTION NEWS:

The Board of Elections certified four candidates that filed for the four open terms on Town Council. Incumbents, Natalie Magdeburger, Jacque Napolitano and Kurt Zanelotti, were certified to be qualified to run for the Town Council positions as well as Lucy Wilder.

Lucy Wilder is a resident of the Town and has served on the Town's IT Committee, Board of Elections and Business Committee. Her most recent contribution to the Town was organizing the "Cruzin' Together In Fenwick" bike event to support our Town's businesses.

As there were four candidates for four seats, no election is necessary and is cancelled this year.

The candidates certified as qualified will be sworn onto Town Council for the start of their two-year terms on August 12th and the Town Council will hold its reorganization meeting at that time to select the Mayor, Treasurer and Secretary.

Janice Bortner, who has served two terms on Town Council, will be stepping away from her position on Town Council at the Reorganizational Meeting on August 12th. We thank her for her service to the Town.

UPDATED ELECTRONIC PLATFORM COMING TO FENWICK:

The Town recently approved the purchase of a document management system, Quick Base, and will be integrating the system into our day-to-day electronic platform. This will allow for easier production, processing and follow-up on Town forms such as building permit requests, voting documents and bonfire permits as well as creating a system internally that will allow for electronic sharing of files among staff members. Our staff is currently building the program with the provider and is undergoing training.

In addition, the Town has completed making digital copies of all paper documents so that our records can be safe, secure and accessible when needed. The digital records will be integrated into the Quick Base platform, making it easier for residents to access their records.

The purchase and integration of the document management system finalizes the Town Council's three-year effort to modernize the technology available in Town Hall which included the purchase and installation of equipment/systems to make Zoom technology more accessible and efficient, upgrading the Town's website with focus on introducing user-friendly features and digitizing the paper records that the Town maintains and utilizes.

BEACH COMMITTEE UPDATE:

The Beach Committee, led by Jacque Napolitano, has been working all winter planning our Summer events, including Fenwick Flicks and the Annual Bonfire. These folks are amazing and their efforts help make our summers even more enjoyable. Thank you Jacque, Odis Braxton, Jody Hayden, Anne Hodges, Melanie Pauley, Pam Pridgeon and Kelly Rymer for all that you do to bring family-friendly fun to our Town.

- **On June 20th, the Fenwick Flicks had a showing of “Monsters, Inc.” which was well attended and a lot of fun.**



- **Annual Town Bonfire to Support FIBP on July 5, 2025, at Bayard Street. It's our big event to benefit the Fenwick Island Beach Patrol. There will be games with the guards for children, light sticks, a DJ and our silent auction items including a beach sign, lifeguard stand, bikes and lots of items from our businesses around**

Town. Thank you all for your contributions. Please come and enjoy the night and support our FIBP.



- **Fenwick Flicks July 18, 2025, at 8 p.m. at Bayard Street (“Moana 2”).**



- **Fenwick Flicks August 15, 2025, at 8 p.m. at Bayard Street (“Up”).**

Please bring your family and friends and join us for these enjoyable events.

DUNE POLES AND ROPE REPLACEMENT BY DNREC:

DNREC has started the replacement of the poles and ropes along the beach crossovers, beginning at Atlantic Avenue and proceeding northward. We are also trying to straighten the crossings as much as possible to make it easier for people to walk over the dunes.

As part of this effort, the Town's Public Works Department will be removing two beach mats per day to accommodate the work. Once DNREC has completed repairs at each location, Public Works will return to place the mats back onto the dunes.

Please note that pedestrian access to the beach will remain available throughout the duration of this project. Each dune crossover is estimated to take one day to complete.

We appreciate your understanding and patience as we work to maintain and enhance the safety and accessibility of our beach areas.

FENWICK ISLAND BEACH PATROL UPDATES:

We are fully staffed and actively providing lifeguard services on the beach. Please remember that the ocean can be dangerous so please listen and adhere to the guards' instructions.

FIBP hours of coverage are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

The Fenwick Island Beach Patrol provides access to the beach with a vehicle used to transport people with disabilities, injuries, the elderly and other special circumstances on to and off the beach. This service is provided between 10:30 AM – 3:00 PM from June – September ONLY.

To utilize this service, you may call the beach patrol phone at **302-462-6942**

§ One person at a time will be transported.

§ Only the person in need of assistance will be transported (no additional family members).

§ The Beach Patrol cannot help you get in or out of the vehicle. A family member can assist you.

Since we are limiting transport service to one vehicle, there may be wait times between transports. Please be patient.

If you prefer, the Beach Patrol also has 3 beach wheelchairs available. To utilize the use of a wheelchair, please contact 302-462-6942 (June – September) or 302-539-3011 (October – May).

All dunes in town are equipped with Mobi-Mats that are designed to provide accessibility to our beaches for pedestrians, wheelchair users, strollers, and individuals with limited abilities.

There are four designated handicap parking spots in town which can be found in the beach end parking lots on E. Bayard St., E. Farmington St., E. Georgetown St., and E. King St.

TOWN SURVEY COMING TO YOU SHORTLY:

We have prepared a Town survey that will be available to you soon. Please take a moment to respond so we can hear what your priorities, interests and concerns are for the Town of Fenwick Island.

Your voice matters.

SUMMER TIME REMINDERS:

Please remember that construction activity is not permitted on Saturday and Sundays during the summer season.

Parking requirements are in effect including the need to use hang tags for street parking (or pay at the Park Mobile station), no parking on unimproved lots and no business related parking on lots in the residential zone.

Please keep your dog on a leash and off the beach.

Try shopping at one of our businesses in Town.

Have a meal at one of our amazing restaurants.

Enjoy your family.

Make friends with your neighbors.

Take a walk on Bunting Avenue and detour into the Pollinator Park and the Faucett Okie Family Nature Preserve (Bayard Street).

Jump in a kayak and paddle around our lagoons or drop a crab trap in the Little Assawoman.

Join us at one of the Town of Fenwick Island events.

Grab a chair and read a good book on the beach.

Witness a spectacular sunset across the bay.

Enjoy all that Fenwick Island has to offer for as one of our founding fathers, R.C. Helfenstein, wrote many years ago “Here is paradise!”

COMING ATTRACTIONS:

- **Residential Parking Passes NOW AVAILABLE for pickup at FIPD.**
- **Annual Town Bonfire to Support FIBP on July 5, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at Bayard Street.**
- **Fenwick Nurtures Nature on Green Infrastructure on July 17, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. at Town Hall (Zoom Available).**
- **Fenwick Flicks presents Moana 2 on July 18, 2025, at 8:00 p.m. at Bayard Street.**
- **Town Council Meeting July 25, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. (Zoom available).**
- **DarkSky Webinar on August 5, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. at Town Hall (Zoom available).**
- **Town Council Swearing In and Reorganizational Meeting on August 12, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. (Zoom available).**
- **Fenwick Flicks presents “Up” on August 15, 2025, at 8:00 p.m. on Bayard Street.**
- **Infrastructure Committee Hosts “Achieving Resiliency” to provide current flood mitigation/resiliency updates on August 21, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. at Town Hall.**
- **Town Council Meeting on August 22, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. at Town Hall (Zoom available).**

Please feel free to reach out to any Town Council member if you have any questions or concerns about things happening around Town and remember to check our website (<https://fenwickisland.delaware.gov/>) and Facebook pages (<https://www.facebook.com/TownofFenwickIsland>) for current information/events. We have things going on all summer!

Have a wonderful Fourth of July and do not forget to attend the Town Bonfire on July 5th— lots of fun activities for the family, music, tug of war and the silent auction that benefits the Fenwick Lifeguards. A big thank you to all the businesses and individuals who donated items toward this event. Hope to see you there!

Regards,

Natalie Magdeburger

Mayor/President of Fenwick Island Town Council

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We need your help to continue to keep you timely informed of Fenwick activities.

If you are getting our email updates, please make sure to “whitelist” our address as some internet providers like to mark the updates as spam and are sending our materials to your spam folder.

If you do not have an email address, please contact Town Hall and let us know to mail you the updates.

If you are not getting email updates and would like them, please contact Town Hall and provide us with your email address.

Also, follow us on Facebook at “Town of Fenwick Island-government” or our Town’s website at <https://fenwickisland.delaware.gov/> . If you want to stay informed, we update the happenings around Town frequently on those sites.