



APRIL 2023

# A WAY OF LIFE

Official Newsletter of The Town of Dewey Beach

## It's the Summer Prep Issue!

Spring has sprung in Dewey Beach! We are ready for some fun in the sun, and we're here to prepare you for another fantastic summer in Dewey! In this Summer Prep Issue of our monthly newsletter, we're covering all the bases for vacation season. Whether you're a property owner, business owner, or visitor to Dewey, we've got the news you need to be ready for the busy season. We're looking forward to welcoming back old friends and new here to Dewey Beach. Cheers to Summer 2023!

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April 8th is the Dewey Egg Scoop on Van Dyke Bay Beach!

[Click here to subscribe!](#)

# Town Manager's Message

April is here and Summer isn't far behind! Before I provide you all an update on the positive projects and hard work our Team is doing in Dewey Beach, I'd like to preface that there have been some false and misleading emails circulated by individuals in town. I believe these emails to be counterproductive, negative in nature, and not good for the Town of Dewey Beach. Things are going well. We have a great Team. We will continue to work collaboratively to make Dewey Beach the best beach on the East Coast.

You'll see our Team out working hard to get everything ready for Summer. This includes keeping all of the Town's common areas clean, grass cut, and reviewing each street to ensure all parking signs, handicap parking signs, moped parking signs, and lifeguard parking signs are posted. We will be installing a temporary 10-foot square mat on the dune at Van Dyke Ave. The purpose of this dune mat is to allow physically challenged individuals an opportunity to view the ocean without having to traverse the entire dune. Installation for the mat is set for May 6th.

We will be designating and marking areas around town for moped and bike parking. Moped parking is free this year in those designated areas. To clarify designated "no-parking" areas, we will be marking the driveway entrances by painting yellow lines on the public street.

Signs will be mounted under the nine public safety cameras on the center islands of Route 1. The signs will state: "Dewey Beach Public Safety Camera". By drawing attention to the cameras, the goal is a reduction of inappropriate actions, as well as increased awareness of safety. Other updates include:

- Beach Replenishment operations will be 24/7 beginning April 24th from Rodney Ave to Swedes Street, then from Rodney to Collins Ave for approximately 12 days until completed. After completion, we've asked DNREC to install "snow fence" on the dune. Dune mats will be installed after the beach replenishment is completed.
- Infrastructure Projects are completed on Bellevue Street, Read Ave Bayside Outfall, as is storm drain mapping from Rodney to Collins Ave. The Bayard Ave Pump Station Wall Repair Project should be started in mid-April.
- New Orleans Street bayside repaving project will start the week of April 17th and should take approximately 2 days. During this work there will be limited access and parking on the street. Property owners will be sent a mailing with further details on the street work.
- 6 vendors answered the town's Beach Trash Collection RFP. Interviews have taken place and a recommendation will be made to the Town Commissioners at the next town meeting, April 21st.
- Our new Police Chief, Constance Speake, has hit the ground running, being proactive leading her Team during the evenings over St Patty's Day Weekend. Captain Fritchman has completed his lifeguard tryouts with over 30 applicants for 10 openings. Looking forward to another great Summer on the beach.

If there are any questions, please don't hesitate to email me at [townmanager@townofdeweybeach.com](mailto:townmanager@townofdeweybeach.com). Have a great April!

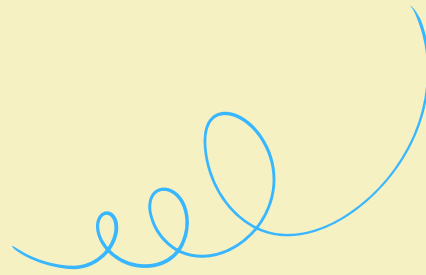
*Bill*

*"Say something positive, and you'll see something positive"*

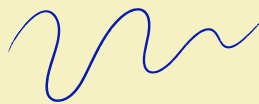
*-Jim Thompson*



# Adopt-a-Dune



Our dunes are outfitted with beach access mats to help visitors of all ages and abilities safely enter the beach. To offset the cost of purchase and maintenance of the mats, we offer the opportunity to "Adopt-a-Dune!" Individuals or organizations can purchase and fully customize their own advertisement panel to be added to a beach access mat.



The process is simple! Complete the [Adopt-a-Dune form](#) online to order your beach access mat. Provide either a simple message for your mat, or, upload a full color logo or design. We even give you the option to select your street entrance of choice. Questions? Give us a call at Town Hall (302) 227-6363.



Your sponsorship guarantees placement of your mat for 3 years from the date of installation. Dune mats make great surprises to unveil during your family vacation to Dewey! Turnaround time for completed mats is currently 4 weeks, so [order your mat today!](#)

# PARKING

*in Dewey Beach*



We admit, learning the parking system in Dewey hasn't always been easy. However, Summer 2023 brings fresh changes to town, and we're making parking easier than ever. Which parking option should you choose?

# 20



Say goodbye to confusing parking zones. Permits are valid everywhere except coin meters.

# 23



Park by the hour everywhere in town. No more searching for hourly parking zones.

Here for the  
Long Haul

If you'll be spending as much time as possible in Dewey, we recommend a Seasonal Parking Permit! Property owners, business owners, and Dewey business employees qualify for discounts on seasonal hangtags. Seasonal permits are transferrable - move them from car to car as you wish.

Not a fan of the hangtag? Try a virtual permit. Purchase online, and connect your permit to up to 8 vehicles. Only 1 registered vehicle may utilize the permit at a time, and discounts do not apply to virtual permits.

More information on page 5!

Here for  
Vacation

Here for the week? Snag a Weekly Permit at the automated kiosk outside of Town Hall. The kiosk is available 24/7. Weekly permits are \$90.

Here for the weekend? A \$45 Weekend Permit will have you covered from Thursday morning to Sunday at 10am, or, Friday morning to Monday at 10am. Stop by the automated kiosk at Town Hall to purchase.

Need some help? Town Hall staff is available Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm with weekend hours during the summer season. Our parking officers are also on patrol to help answer your questions.

Here for  
a Day

Park for a full 24 hours with a Daily Permit for \$25. Grab the daily permit right from your phone with the [Park Mobile app](#), or visit the automated kiosk at Town Hall.

You can also park by the hour anywhere in town! Use the Park Mobile app on your phone, or pay the old-fashioned way at a coin meter in select locations. Hourly parking is \$3/hr.

Need some help? Town Hall staff is available Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm with weekend hours during the summer season. Our parking officers are also on patrol to help answer your questions.

## PRO TIPS

Staying for the day or longer? Your permit enables you to stay in one spot for the duration of your purchase - there is no need to move your vehicle. At 1 mile long and 2 blocks wide, the entire town of Dewey is walkable! You'll notice many locals also get around town by scooter, skateboard, or bike. Bike racks are available throughout town.

Visiting neighboring Rehoboth while you're in town? Park once in Dewey, and enjoy a ride on the open-air Jolly Trolley to the Rehoboth Boardwalk and back again. You'll spend more time enjoying the beach, and less time searching for parking. [Click here](#) for schedules and route map.

Looking to see more of our area? Avoid the hassle of traffic and jump on the [Dart Beach Bus](#)!

Parking is still free Monday - Wednesday from 5:00p to 11:00p! Visitors with handicap placards or plates can also park throughout town at no charge - your placard or plate serves as your parking permit.

# PARKING

*in Dewey Beach*



Are you a frequent visitor to Dewey Beach throughout the summer season? Save on parking fees by purchasing a seasonal parking permit. Choose the option that's best for you - either a virtual permit, or a hangtag.



# SEASONAL PARKING PERMITS

## Virtual Parking Permit

Virtual parking permits are used in lieu of a physical hangtag. These permits are connected to the license plate number on your vehicle. This is a great option for families, groups, or businesses that usually share one transferrable hangtag - never worry about forgetting to move the hangtag to your vehicle! Virtual parking permits are also a great choice for convertibles or motorcycles, where a hangtag isn't ideal. Register up to eight vehicles on your parking portal. Only one of the registered vehicles may park in town at a time - any additional vehicles will be ticketed. Virtual permits are priced at \$250 for the season. Discounts are not applicable for virtual permits at this time. [Click here to purchase your virtual parking permit!](#)

## Hangtag Parking Permit

This is a physical hangtag that is displayed from your rearview mirror. Hangtags are fully transferrable from one vehicle to another. Hangtags are priced at \$250 for the season. The following discounts apply:

Dewey Beach Property Owners: Up to 2 seasonal parking permits priced at \$150 each.

Dewey Beach Business Owners: Up to 2 seasonal parking permits priced at \$150 each.

Dewey Beach Business Employees: 1 seasonal parking permit priced at \$200. Must show proof of employment (employment letter or paystub).

Out-of-Town Business Licensed in Dewey Beach: Up to 2 seasonal parking permits at \$200 each.

Parking hangtags are available for purchase at Town Hall. There is no rush to acquire your permit. Discounts are applicable all season long, and we will not run out of permits. If you wish to prepay for your hangtag and pick it up at a later date, you may do so online [here](#). Discounts are not applicable for prepaid permits at this time.

# WHERE TO PARK

Parking permits, whether they are seasonal, daily, weekly, or weekend, are valid in all spaces throughout town except coin meters. Coin meters are most often located right outside of restaurants and shops. Do not park in front of a coin meter with a permit, or you will be ticketed. These spaces are for hourly parking only.

Can't find a place to park? Certain areas are "high traffic" during specific times. The north end of town is strictly residential, typically with more narrow streets and less parking availability on the ocean side. Parking can be difficult here during peak beach hours in the late morning and early afternoon. The center of town is where most retail shops and restaurants are located, and parking may be more difficult here during lunch rush or evening hours. Consider avoiding parking in busy areas at peak times. Dewey is highly walkable, with pedestrian crosswalks marked throughout town. We encourage you to park a block or two away from your desired location - enjoy the salt air, see the sights, hear the waves - and spend less time circling town in search of ideal parking.

# BUSINESS & RENTAL LICENSING

*New License Year Begins May 1st!*



## BUSINESSES

All entities looking to do business in Dewey Beach must be licensed with the Town by the start of the new license year on May 1st.

In-town eateries, restaurants and taverns must complete an application each year and submit with payment. You can do this quickly and easily on our [website](#).

All other businesses that are renewing their license may do so through our [online payment portal](#).

New businesses looking to operate for the 2023-2024 license year may apply [online](#).

If you have questions or concerns regarding your business license, contact us [online](#), or call us at (302)227-6363.

## RENTALS

All owners of residential properties who wish to rent their home at any time from May 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024 must acquire a rental license from the Town. Rental licenses are required for both short and long-term rental agreements.

For owners utilizing a property management company, please note, the management company will not file your rental license for you! This is the responsibility of the property owner.

We make it easy to file your rental license! Complete the form and payment [online](#). Please submit your forms by April 15th. New property owners who acquire a home after April 15th should submit their rental license application prior to listing their property to rent.



# Beach Bonfires



## A DEWEY TRADITION

Did you know that the first commissioners of the Town of Dewey Beach were sworn in at a beach bonfire? Perhaps this is why it remains a favorite activity in town to this day. Whether you do it yourself, hire some help, or attend one of our weekly community bonfires, this is a Dewey Beach pastime that shouldn't be missed!



## JOIN US

The easiest way to join the fun is to attend a free community beach bonfire! Every Wednesday at 7:00p from June 21st to August 23rd, come down to Dagsworthy Avenue on the beach. Marshmallows and glowsticks are available while supplies last for a \$1 donation.

## HOW TO BOOK

All bonfires must be booked in person at Town Hall. You may book in advance or same-day! We book one fire, per street, per evening. Bonfires are limited to 25 persons in attendance. The fee to hold a fire is \$50 plus a \$100 deposit refunded to you automatically after proper cleanup of the fire. Property owners are entitled to a discounted price of \$30 plus \$100 deposit. Local grocery stores carry small bundles of wood for your fire. If you prefer, you may hire an approved vendor to set up and break down your fire for you. Vendor referrals are available at Town Hall. Bonfire setups on the bay beach require hiring of a vendor due to safety concerns.

## SETUP & CLEANUP

Be sure you're prepared to set up and cleanup your fire.

- Dig a small pit in the sand away from dune fencing and beach shacks.
- Use only wood or coals. Do not burn trash, painted or treated wood, or wood with nails. Never use accelerants.
- Bring a bucket or receptacle with you. Burn the fire down as far as possible, then douse thoroughly with water.
- Scoop up all remnants of the fire and take it back to your home or rental location for disposal. Do not dispose of wood in the ocean or beach trash cans.
- Fill the pit back in with sand.
- Never bury smoldering wood or coals - they will continue to burn for hours under the sand, and pose a serious threat to beachgoers.

# Monday Night Movies

## ON THE BEACH



Every Monday 8:30pm at  
Dagsworthy Avenue from June  
19th to August 21st!

Admission is free, but donations are appreciated!  
Bring your chair or beach blanket and join the fun!



June 19th: Recess, School's Out (G)  
June 26th: Jungle Cruise (PG-13)  
July 3rd: National Treasure (PG)  
July 10th: Lightyear (PG)  
July 17th: Back to the Future (PG)

July 24th **Christmas in July**: Elf (PG)  
July 31st: DC League of Super Pets (PG)  
August 7th: Turning Red (PG)  
August 14th: Minions, The Rise of Gru (PG)  
August 21st: Mary Poppins (G)



# DEWEY BEACH FAQ

*What to Know, Before You Go!*

## **Can I surf fish?**

Fishing is permitted, but you must stay at least 100 feet from bathers. When in doubt, check with a lifeguard.

## **When will the lifeguards be on duty?**

The 2023 DBP will be on duty from May 26th through September 10th.

## **Can I drink alcohol on the beach?**

Alcohol is only permitted in the off-season, September 16th - May 14th.

## **Can I bring my dog?**

Dogs are allowed on the beach anytime in the off-season, and before 9:30am and after 5:30pm in-season, May 15th - September 15th.

## **Is the beach handicap accessible?**

Dune mats are located at each beach entrance to make access easier. Beach wheelchairs are available for rent in-season [here](#).

## **Are canopies permitted on the beach?**

Yes. Be sure your canopy is properly secured behind lifeguard chairs. Guards will need a clear view in front, and to either side of their stands.

## **Are chairs and umbrellas available?**

Our beach concessions provider will have chairs and umbrellas for rent. Check in at one of the blue and white beach shacks for more information.

## **Is it free to access the beach?**

Yes! Anyone may access the beach at no charge. We do not issue "beach tags" or "beach passes."

## **Are there food vendors on the beach?**

Our beach concessionaire will have hotdogs, snacks, and drinks available for purchase. Many restaurants are within walking distance of the beach as well!

## **Is the ocean safe for swimming and recreation?**

For your safety, always swim near a lifeguard. The guards are always available for your questions regarding ocean temperatures and conditions. Also check out our [beach camera](#)!

# News Brief

The Board of Adjustment is seeking a new member!

Residents interested in joining the BOA should reach out to the chairperson [here](#).

The licensing year in Dewey Beach begins May 1st!

Payment and registration period will open April 1st.

2023 Seasonal Parking Permits go on sale Tuesday, April 4th!

Congratulations to Sgt. Cliff Dempsey who was promoted to Lieutenant at the March Town Commissioner Meeting!

Town administrative offices will be closed Friday, April 7th in observance of Good Friday.

Check out the [Rehoboth-Dewey Chamber of Commerce](#) for upcoming events in our area!



## Contact Us

Dewey Beach Town Hall  
105 Rodney Ave  
Dewey Beach, DE 19971  
(302) 227-6363

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Website

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