

As the spring/summer months approach, we would like homeowners to be mindful of the property maintenance violations the Code Enforcement Division of the Department of Fire Marshal and Permit Services (FMPS) typically receives during warmer months. Those violations include, but are not limited to, excessive grass, weeds, trash and debris and having home improvement work done without a permit.

April showers, bring May flowers...and tall grass! Grass in the City of Laurel is deemed excessive in Sec. 18-181 of the Municipal Code when the height of the grass is about 8 inches tall. However, we understand that thin grass can act as a home for lawn bees.



details under the Green Living section of this edition of the Ledger.

## A photograph showing a pile of debris, including a large black plastic bag, a blue tarp, and a window frame, next to a metal fence.

301-725-5300 ext. 2238 and a member of our permitting team will be more than happy to assist you.

Smoke Detectors save lives! Are you aware that Maryland Law requires ALL Maryland residents to have 10-year lithium battery tamper resistant smoke alarms installed inside every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of your home? (When replacing your old smoke detector, don't throw it out. Call Public Works to pick it up for free.) If your smoke detector goes off, remember to get low, get out and meet at your designated meeting place! And test your smoke detectors once a month and keep the dust out of their vents to ensure they remain in good working condition.



Finally, did you know you could apply for City of Laurel permits online? That's right! FMPS has a Permit Portal on our website. To learn more about this process, visit [www.cityoflaurel.org](http://www.cityoflaurel.org). And if you have any questions about permits, code enforcement, inspections or rental licenses, call 301-725-5300 ext. 2238.

Mayor Craig A. Moe has announced that the thirteenth year of the Mayor's Summer Job Program has been scheduled for the summer of 2023, after being on hiatus due to the pandemic.

If you would like to learn more about the program, visit our website at [www.cityoflaurel.org/baps](http://www.cityoflaurel.org/baps).



## ASK YOURSELF HOW CAN YOU HELP?



**Volunteer  
Laurel!**   
Lifting UP  
Community

Volunteer Laurel! is the City's program connecting the community to organizations that are in need of help.

Volunteering is one of the best ways to help your City save money and help lift up your community!

- Sitting on City Boards and Commissions
- Food Banks
- Local Connections
- Cleaning Up City Parks and Waterways
- Senior Volunteer Opportunities
- and More!

**DONATE YOUR TIME!  
SIGN UP TODAY!**

For More Information  
**www.cityoflaurel.org** 





## NO MOW APRIL COMING TO LAUREL!



As part of the City's on-going commitment to environmentally-friendly practices, on February 27th the Mayor and City Council passed Resolution No. 2-2023 declaring April as "No Mow April." During the month of April, the City of Laurel will relax the enforcement of high-grass rules, allowing Laurel residents to delay or reduce lawn cutting as a way to promote a pollinator-friendly habitat early in the growing season. No Mow April is a voluntary program for City residents. Participants are asked to register online or in-person and display their City-issued "No Mow April" yard sign in their front yard for the duration of the program.

### "No Mow" Registration:

No Mow April is a free, voluntary program. Residents wishing to participate must register no later than March 30, 2023. Residents living in an HOA community need to read their HOA by-laws for regulations governing grass height. Any violation of the HOA's by-laws that result in a fine are the responsibility of the resident.

In-person registration and signs will be available at our kick-off meeting held at the City's Laurel Municipal Center located at 8103 Sandy Spring Road on March 20th at 6:30pm and will be available at the Laurel Municipal Center until March 30th. Registration hours and sign pickup hours are 9:00am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday. Residents needing to pick up their signs at one of our community centers may do so by appointment. The registration page and more information about the importance of pollinators and native plants can be found on the Bee City USA webpage at [www.cityoflaurel.org/green](http://www.cityoflaurel.org/green). Questions can be directed to [greenliving@laurel.md.us](mailto:greenliving@laurel.md.us). You can also sign up to be a Bee City volunteer at [beecity@laurel.md.us](mailto:beecity@laurel.md.us). Learn about the importance of protecting our pollinators, native plants and correct planting practices.

### Green Goals:

Invest In Our Planet! Get Inspired! Take Action! Be a part of the green revolution! Sign up for curbside organics recycling and get FREE compost for your garden – e-mail [DPW@laurel.md.us](mailto:DPW@laurel.md.us) or [greenliving@laurel.md.us](mailto:greenliving@laurel.md.us) to get started. Public Works will deliver a kitchen countertop container, a set of starter compostable bags and an outdoor cart with a locking lid. Organics recycling will be collected on the same day as trash and recycling.

### Recycle Right!

Reduce! Reuse! Recycle! Repurpose! Not only can you recycle through the City's recycling program, but mark your calendars for the Public Works' spring E-cycling/Paper Shredding event coming Saturday, April 15, 2023, from 8:00am to Noon. Residents can drop off Entertainment Electronics, Paper for shredding, Styrofoam for recycling, and gently-used clothing and household items for repurposing through GreenDrop. This event is for City residents and businesses only. Official IDs with a city address must be presented to enter the drop off site. Visit [www.CityofLaurel.org](http://www.CityofLaurel.org) for more information.

**We Want to Hear from YOU!** Sign up for Green Living updates at [greenliving@laurel.md.us](mailto:greenliving@laurel.md.us).

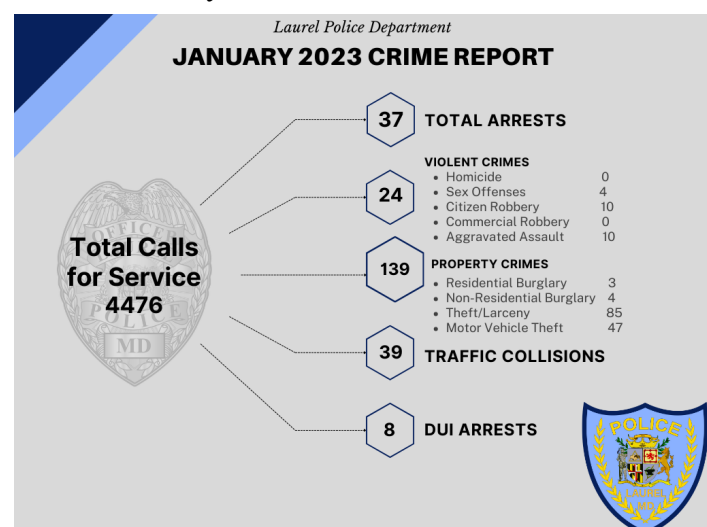
## SERVICIOS DEL OFICIAL DE INCENDIOS Y DE PERMISOS: TODAS LAS COSAS DE PRIMAVERA

A medida que se acercan los meses de primavera/verano, nos gustaría que los propietarios tengan en cuenta las infracciones de mantenimiento de la propiedad que la División de Cumplimiento de Códigos del Departamento del Oficial de Incendios y Servicios de Permisos (FMPS) suele recibir durante los meses. Esas infracciones incluyen, pero no se limitan a, exceso de césped, maleza, basura y escombros y trabajos de mejora del hogar realizados sin un permiso. Para obtener más información sobre los permisos necesarios y las infracciones de mantenimiento de la propiedad, visite [www.cityoflaurel.org/permits](http://www.cityoflaurel.org/permits).



## LAUREL POLICE MONTHLY CRIME REPORT

Welcome the newest addition to the Ledger, the Laurel Police Monthly Crime Report. Check back monthly for stats on Calls for Service.





# Laurel Council Connections

## Legislation

Listed below are recent actions taken by the Laurel City Council during past Mayor and City Council meetings. For further information on any of these actions, please feel free to contact the Office of the City Clerk at **301-725-5300 x2121** or at [clerk@laurel.md.us](mailto:clerk@laurel.md.us). For the full agendas, visit [www.cityoflaurel.org](http://www.cityoflaurel.org).

### Approved Ordinances/Resolutions:

- ◆ **Resolution No. 1-2023** - Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee
- ◆ **Ordinance No. 2004** - M-X-T Concept Approval-Corridor Center
- ◆ **Ordinance No. 2003** - Elderly and Veteran Tax Credit
- ◆ **Ordinance No. 2005** - FY2023 Budget Amendment

### Bid Recommendations:

- ◆ Bid Recommendation - Phase II of the City of Laurel Multiservice Center - \$10,092,663.75
- ◆ Bid Recommendation - Non-Destructive Pavement Evaluation - \$70,760.00
- ◆ Bid Recommendation - Cherry Lane Bikeway Feasibility Study and Preliminary Design - \$75,285.00
- ◆ Bid Recommendation - Compton Avenue Engineering - \$60,180.00
- ◆ Bid Recommendation - Laurel Avenue Engineering - \$87,232.00

### Mayoral Appointments:

- ◆ Appointment of **Douglas Redd**, Emergency Services Commission
- ◆ Appointment of **Ronald Rendle** to the Board of Pension Trustees
- ◆ Appointment of the Honorable **Gayle W. Snyder** to the Historic District Commission
- ◆ Appointment of **Mary-Eileen Leszcz** to the Historic District Commission



**TAKE THE PLEDGE!** The City of Laurel will participate in the Wyland Mayor's Water Challenge this April. Sign up to pledge to conserve our local waterways and help you and your neighbors win prizes!

## COUNCIL OFFICE



**301-725-5300 ext. 2121**



[clerk@laurel.md.us](mailto:clerk@laurel.md.us)

## Government Meetings

(Dates and Times Subject to Change)

### March 2023 Mayor and City Council Meetings

- ◆ March 13th - Virtual Mayor and City Council Meeting (6:00pm)
- ◆ March 27th - In-Person Mayor and City Council Meeting (6:00pm)

### March 2023 Boards and Commissions

- ◆ March 14th - Planning Commission - CANCELLED
- ◆ March 21st - Historic District Commission (6:00pm)
- ◆ March 28th - In-Person Environmental Affairs Committee (6:00pm)
- ◆ March 30th - Board of Appeals - CANCELLED

### April 2023 Mayor and City Council Meetings

- ◆ April 5th - Virtual Mayor and City Council Work Session (6:00pm)
- ◆ April 10th - Virtual Mayor and City Council Meeting (6:00pm)
- ◆ April 24th - In-Person Mayor and City Council Meeting (6:00pm)

### April 2023 Boards and Commissions

- ◆ April 8th - Virtual Emergency Services Commission (7:00pm)
- ◆ April 11th - Planning Commission (6:00pm)
- ◆ April 18th - Historic District Commission (6:00pm)
- ◆ April 28th - Virtual Environmental Affairs Committee (6:00pm)
- ◆ April 27th - Board of Appeals (6:00pm)

## City Announcements & Events

(Dates and Times Subject to Change)

- ◆ **Adult Pickle Ball - Wednesdays, 6-9pm** - Robert J. DiPietro Community Center
- ◆ **Summer Camp Registration Opens** - Register at the Robert J. DiPietro Community Center, 7901 Cypress Street:
  - ◆ **March 6th** for City Residents
  - ◆ **March 13th** for Non-Residents
- ◆ **Teen Trip - "Little Shop of Horrors" - March 23, 2023** at 6:00pm. To register, call 301-725-7800.
- ◆ **Adult Trip - MGM Resort and National Harbor - March 25, 2023** at Noon. To register, call 301-725-7800.
- ◆ **Eggstravaganza - April 1, 2023** starts **12:00pm SHARP** - Granville Gude Park
- ◆ **My Time with the Mayor - April 10, 2023** at 4:00pm at the Anderson-Murphy Community Center (Laurel Armory), 422 Montgomery Street.
- ◆ **City Hall in the Park - April 26, 2023** at 6:30pm - Emancipation Park, 8th and West Streets.
- ◆ **To learn more or register for a Parks and Recreation League**, visit [www.cityoflaurel.org/parks/adult-sports-activities](http://www.cityoflaurel.org/parks/adult-sports-activities) or call 301-725-7800.







# Public Works Monthly Glance



Yard Debris  
Collection



Bulky Item  
Collection

Email DPW@laurel.md.us to schedule a pickup.

Garden Month



## April


SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <div>Celebrate Earth Day on April 22, 2023 – <a href="http://www.earthday.org">www.earthday.org</a> Check out the <b>Green Living Resources</b> page for more information about how the City will be celebrating Earth Day 2023.</div>						April Fool's Day 1
2	3	4	Passover Begins Virtual Work Session - 6p	5	6	Good Friday 7
Easter Sunday 9	My Time with the Mayor - 4p Laurel Armory Virtual Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6p	10	Planning Commission - 6p	11	12	International Plant Appreciation Day
13	National Look Up at the Sky Day	14	15	Electronics & Paper Shredding Event at DPW 8 a.m - 12 p.m.	16	17
18	19	20	21	Earth Day Eid al-Fitr	22	23
NATIONAL PARK WEEK - APRIL 16-23 - NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION WEEK - APRIL 16-23						
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
In-Person Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm	Environmental Affairs Committee - 6pm	City Hall in the Park - 6:30pm Emancipation Park	Board of Appeals - 6pm	Arbor Day Stop Food Waste Day		


PUBLIC WORKS

 301-725-0088

 DPW@laurel.md.us

Laurel Office of Emergency Management: It's Not Luck to be Prepared!





**It's Not Luck.  
It's Being Prepared.**

Ready

Welcome to March and the month of St. Patrick's Day. But be aware, you can't rely on luck to get you through a disaster. You need to plan and be prepared.


How can you do that? Well first, you need to know your risk for the area where you live and work. Know what disasters and hazards could affect your area, how to get emergency alerts, and where you would go if you and your family need to evacuate. Make sure your family has a plan and practices it often.

Second, you need to make a plan. Your family may not be together if a disaster strikes, so it is important to know which types of disasters could affect your area. Know how you'll contact one another and reconnect if separated. Establish a family meeting place that's familiar and easy to find.


The third step is build a kit, so you are ready. After an emergency, you may need to survive on your own for several days. Being prepared means having your own food, water and other supplies to last for several days. A disaster supply kit is a collection of basic items your household may need in the event of an emergency.

And don't leave pet preparedness to chance! Have your pet microchipped and keep your address and phone number up-to-date. And be sure to include your pet when building your Emergency Kit!

Learn more about the "It's Not Luck" campaign by visiting [www.Ready.gov](http://www.Ready.gov)!



**Take care of your little leprechauns with these pet tips!**



**Ready**

CITY CONTACTS	MAYOR'S OFFICE	CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE	LAUREL POLICE	PARKS AND RECREATION	COMMUNICATIONS
	 301-725-5300 ext. 2125	 301-725-5300 ext. 2242	 Non-Emerg: 301-498-0092 Emerg: 301-725-3000	 301-725-7800	 301-725-5300 Ext. 2208
 <a href="http://www.cityoflaurel.org">www.cityoflaurel.org</a>	 laurelmayor@laurel.md.us	 cadmin@laurel.md.us	 lpd@laurel.md.us	 parks@laurel.md.us	 laurelpio@laurel.md.us