



OFFICIAL NEWS FROM THE CITY OF LAUREL

# THE City of Laurel Ledger

VOL. 2, NO. 7

JULY 2023

## PARKS AND RECREATION: CELEBRATE PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH!

The City of Laurel's Department of Parks and Recreation offers recreation programs and services throughout seven facilities and seventeen park sites encompassing over 288 acres of parkland.

The Department is in the business of creating memories. Swimming at one of the City pools with your family, fishing along the Patuxent River, working out at one of our fitness centers, enjoying a family gathering at any of our outdoor pavilions, jogging around Granville Gude Lake, and volunteering to help beautify a park are just a few of the many activities you and your family can enjoy in Laurel.

The individual, community, economic, and environmental benefits of parks and recreation opportunities to the City are innumerable. The Department provides opportunities for living, learning, and leading full and productive lives, as well as avenues to experience purpose, pleasure, health, and well-being.

It is the responsibility of the Recreation staff to utilize all facilities, both indoor and outdoor, at its disposal to meet the recreational and leisure needs of the public. Some programs offered to meet those needs include a comprehensive preschool program, seasonal special events for families, children



and adults, summer camps, senior services and programs, drop-in programs for children, teens and adults, class and workshop programs for children, teens and adults, teen trips program, after-school children's activities, and adult sports leagues.

Our Parks team is responsible for the daily general park maintenance within the City, that includes mowing, weeding, watering, trash pickup and litter control, just to name a few! As Parks and Recreation professionals, we strive to make a positive impact on the lives of our community members every single day.

### Ongoing Projects

Always looking forward, we determine what is in need of repair to better serve our community. Following are current projects being worked on:

- Tennis and Basketball Court replacement
- Riverfront Bridge replacement
- Granville Gude Park Light replacement

### Parks & Recreation Month BINGO!

We want YOU to do all things recreation this month! Get your Laurel Parks & Recreation Bingo Card stamped by participating in the activities listed on the bingo. Get bingo by the end of the month and receive a prize. You can print a copy of your bingo card online or pick one up at either of our community centers.

Check out our Parks & Recreation Monthly Calendar for fun activities, events, and more! Take a photo and post on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter and be sure to tag us and use the hashtag #WhereCommunityGrows to be featured!



### July is NRPA's Parks & Recreation Month!

July is ALWAYS a busy month for Parks and Recreation! Since 1985, July has been celebrated as the Nation's official Parks and Recreation Month. Created by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), July specifically highlights the essential and powerful role local Parks and Recreation professionals - such as our staff within the City of Laurel, Department of Parks & Recreation - play in building stronger, more vibrant and more resilient communities all across the country. This July, we will celebrate the vital role Parks and Recreation professionals play in bringing people together, providing essential services and fostering the growth of our communities. Within the City of Laurel, you can celebrate Parks and Recreation Month by attending any of our scheduled events, visiting a local park, or participating in many of our offered classes or programs.

"July is the perfect time to share how our Parks and Recreation professionals within the City contribute to the overall health, well-being and growth of our community," said Parks and Recreation Director, William Bailey. "We encourage everyone within our community to come celebrate the power of parks and recreation with us this July."

The Department of Parks and Recreation is leading initiatives and providing opportunities for people of all ages, abilities and identities to achieve healthier lifestyles, promote and understand nature and environmental resilience, as well as bring the community closer through a variety of programs and services. Learn about the exciting Parks and Recreation Month activities planned for the City of Laurel and more in our 2023 Spring/Summer Brochure or visit online at [www.CityofLaurel.org/Parks](http://www.CityofLaurel.org/Parks).

The **Mansion at Laurel** is now accepting rentals! This historic Greek Revival-Style Farmhouse has been updated, but retains much of its historic charm, making it a perfect venue for your next intimate gathering. The venue includes a separate Bride & Groom Suite and large catering kitchen. The Mansion's picturesque architecture and outdoor ground is the perfect site for small weddings, banquets, showers, and more! The Mansion at Laurel is located at 13910 Laurel Lakes Ave, Laurel MD 20707 and is the site for the Department of Parks and Recreation Administrative Offices. For rental inquiries, please call (301)725-5300 ext. 2317.

### Upcoming Events:

Friday, July 14th - **Outdoor Movie:** Up

Friday, July 21th - **Outdoor Movie:**

Strange World

Friday, July 8th - **Outdoor Movie:**

Turning Red

(Movies begin at dusk, at Granville Gude Park. Inclement weather: Movies will be moved indoors to Partnership Hall, 811 5th Street)



Wednesday, July 12th - Seniors: **July Tea Social** at Gude Mansion - 1:00pm; \$15.00

Tuesday, July 25 - **Touch-a-Truck** - 6:30-8:00pm - Emancipation Park

### Trips:

Wednesday, July 12th - **Day at the Beach**, Ocean City - Teen Trip (ages 13-18)

Wednesday, July 19th - **King's Dominion Amusement Park** - Teen Trip (ages 13-18)

Friday, July 21- **Friday Night Jazz** to Washington, DC - Seniors Trip

Saturday, July 22th - **Smith Island Ferry** - Seniors Trip

For more information about these and other program, events and classes, call 301-725-7800 or visit our webpage at [www.CityofLaurel.org/parks](http://www.CityofLaurel.org/parks)!



## SNAP/EBT NOW ACCEPTED AT LAUREL FARMER'S MARKET

Farmer's Market Update: Did you know that you can now shop our farmer's market using SNAP/EBT! Stop by the information booth and get your coupons to shop our market – fresh produce, eggs, poultry, microgreens, mushrooms and more! Stop by the Farmer's Market at The Laurel Quill Lot, 378 Main Street. Our next market day is July 6th. If you would like to get your coupons early, call the Environmental Programs Manager for an appointment at 301-725-5300. As an extra treat, bring your reusable bags to our next market day and get a surprise! See you soon. #ShopLocalShopSmall



## MOSQUITOES: Be Proactive!

Mosquito Control Program: Laurel's spray night is Sunday, weather permitting. As the weather starts to heat up, expect the mosquitoes to start biting! To help combat the spread of mosquitoes, the City of Laurel will once again participate in the Maryland Department of Agriculture's Mosquito Control Program. This program consists of two parts Larviciding, happens in public rights-of-way, and Adulticiding, consists of City-wide evening spraying.

If you find that you are experiencing a large mosquito population around your home or if you would like your property to be exempt from the program, visit [https://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/mosquito\\_control.aspx](https://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/mosquito_control.aspx) for more details.

For more ecofriendly, proactive ideas like Tip It or Toss It to reduce the mosquito population, visit the Green Living page at <https://www.cityoflaurel.org/ca/environmental-programs> and while you're there, watch the MDA's video on the lifecycle of the mosquito. To learn more, call the Environmental Program Manager at 301-725-5300.

## Have You Signed Up for RECYCLE COACH?

Do you have questions about what can go into your blue cart? Not sure when the next yard debris or special pick up is? Sign up for Recycle Coach! You can type in your question like what do I do with household batteries, plastic containers, when is my collection day, and download our digital calendar right to your phone. Set up reminders about collections, holiday schedules and special pickup days. It is free and easy! Find the app on the City's website at <https://www.cityoflaurel.org/green> and go to the Recycle Coach tab.

Green Living  
Laurel Farmer's Market  
No Mow April  
Tips to Mow Your Lawn Safely  
Recycle Coach  
Earth Day  
Green Living Updates  
Bee City USA  
Get Informed  
Recycling  
Composting (Organics Recycling)  
Become Energy Efficient  
Get Involved  
Green Living 2023 Calendar  
Informational Videos  
Kids' Corner  
Kids' Question of the Month

**Recycle Coach**  
Green Living / Recycle Coach  
View Edit Reorder the book Revisions Track Convert Outline Devel  
Phone: 301-725-5300 extension 2203 Email: GreenLiving@laurel.md.us  
Email: MBlair@laurel.md.us

 **recycle  
coach** **A new and more efficient way of  
keeping up with your recycling!  
Recycle coach!**  
The City of Laurel Department of  
Public Works has an app & website  
plug-in that contains all of the  
information people need to know, tailored specifically to their neighborhoods, about our  
residential garbage and recycling services.



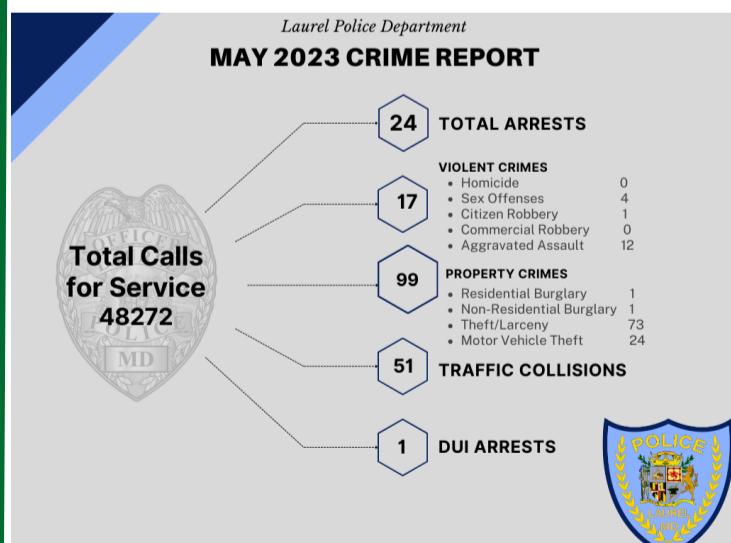
## PARQUES Y RECREACIÓN: ¡CELEBRE EL MES DE PARQUES Y RECREACIÓN!

El Departamento de Parques y Recreación de la Ciudad de Laurel ofrece programas y servicios de recreación en siete instalaciones y diecisiete parques que abarcan más de 288 hectáreas de zonas verdes. El Departamento está en el negocio de crear recuerdos y hacer que valga la pena vivir la vida. Nadar en una de las piscinas de la ciudad con su familia, pescar a lo largo del río Patuxent, hacer ejercicio en uno de nuestros gimnasios, disfrutar de una reunión familiar en cualquiera de nuestros pabellones al aire libre, trotar alrededor del lago Granville Gude y ofrecerse como voluntario para ayudar a embellecer un parque son solo algunas de las muchas actividades que usted y su familia pueden disfrutar en Laurel. ¡Julio SIEMPRE es un mes ocupado para Parques y Recreación! Conozca las emocionantes actividades del Mes de Parques y Recreación planeadas para la Ciudad de Laurel y más en nuestro Folletoto Primavera/Verano 2023 o visite en línea en [www.CityofLaurel.org/Parks](http://www.CityofLaurel.org/Parks).

Page 2

## LAUREL POLICE MONTHLY CRIME REPORT

MAY 2023



# 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:

- **Ordinance No. 2013** - to Amend Laurel City Code Chapter 2, Administration, Article IV Public Ethics Sections, 2-53. "Definitions", 2-54 "Administration", 2-55 "Prohibited Conduct and Interests", 2-56 "Financial Disclosure- Elected Officials, Appointed Officials, Candidates and Employees", 2-59 "Enforcement", and Providing for an Effective Date
- **Resolution No. 8-2023** - an Emergency Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland to Oppose the United States Congress House Resolution 3557 ("H.R. 3557"), Entitled "American Broadband Act of 2023"

### Bid Approvals:

- **Van Dusen Dam Repairs** - \$39,795 - Awarded 6/12/23
- **Multi Function Copier Lease (5 years)** - \$169,020 - Awarded 6/12/23
- **LPD Ammunition Purchase** - \$55,000 (through State Contract) - Awarded 6/12/23
- **LPD Fleet Lease (Enterprise)** - \$274,560 - Awarded 6/12/23

### Mayoral Appointments/Re-Appointments:

- Alex Antunes - Arts Council - Appointed 6/12/23
- Maria Gonzales-Jackson - Youth Services Commission - Appointed 6/12/23
- Karen Lubieniecki - Ethics Commission - Appointed 6/12/23
- Giovanna Williams - Public Safety and Transportation - Appointed 6/12/23
- Maxene Bardwell - Ethics Commission - Appointed 6/12/23
- Eileen Collins - Youth Services Commission - Appointed 6/12/23
- Craig Frederick - Youth Services Commission - Appointed 6/12/23
- Toi Davis - Education Advisory Committee - Appointed 6/12/23
- Maria Gonzales-Jackson - Education Advisory Committee - Appointed 6/12/23
- Allen Grimes - Education Advisory Committee - Appointed 6/12/23
- Carol Nash - Education Advisory Committee - Appointed 6/12/23



**VOLUNTEERS WANTED**  
CALL 301-725-5300 EXT. 2109

## COUNCIL OFFICE

 301-725-5300 ext. 2121  [clerk@laurel.md.us](mailto:clerk@laurel.md.us)

## Government Meetings

(Dates and Times Subject to Change)

### July 2023 Mayor and City Council Meetings

- ◆ July 10th - Virtual Mayor and City Council Meeting (6:00pm)
- ◆ July 24th - In-Person Mayor and City Council Meeting (6:00pm)

### July 2023 Boards and Commissions

- ◆ July 11th - In-Person Planning Commission (6:00pm)
- ◆ July 18th - Historic District Commission (6:00pm)
- ◆ July 27th - In-Person Board of Appeals (6:00pm)

### August 2023 Mayor and City Council Meetings

- ◆ On Hiatus. All Mayor and Council Meetings and Work Sessions are CANCELLED.

### August 2023 Boards and Commissions

- ◆ On Hiatus. All Board and Commission Meetings are CANCELLED.

## City Announcements & Events

(Dates and Times Subject to Change)

- ◆ **July 14, 2023 - Free Outdoor Movie: UP** - starts at Dusk - Gude Park
- ◆ **July 19, 2023 - King's Dominion Amusement Park Teen Trip** (ages 13-18)
- ◆ **July 21, 2023 - Free Outdoor Movie: Strange World** - starts at Dusk - Gude Park
- ◆ **July 21, 2023 - Friday Night Jazz to Washington, DC Seniors Trip**
- ◆ **July 22, 2023 - Smith Island Ferry Seniors Trip**
- ◆ **July 25, 2023 - Touch-a-Truck** - 6:30 - 8pm, Emancipation Park
- ◆ **July 26, 2023 - City Hall in the Park** - 6:30pm, Overlook Park
- ◆ **July 28, 2023 - Free Outdoor Movie: Turning Red** - starts at Dusk - Gude Park
- ◆ **August 4, 2023 - Free Outdoor Movie: Puss 'n Boots: Last Adventure** - starts at Dusk - Gude Park
- ◆ **August 11, 2023 - Free Outdoor Concert: Dupont Brass** - 7pm - Gude Park
- ◆ **August 26, 2023 - Community and Culture Day** - 2 - 5pm, McCullough Field - Celebrate and learn about the different cultures, food, community groups and more!

## HELPING HANDS: Mental Health Awareness

Laurel's Youth Services Bureau, Helping Hands, has a mission to strengthen families and help individuals thrive by equipping everyone – youth and adults – with the skills they need so that they can be their best selves at home, in school, at work and in the community. They provide individual and family counseling, crisis intervention, substance use screening for PGCPS students and special education advocacy. They also provide mental health education by offering presentations on mental health issues and distributing mental health information in the community. To learn more about this much-needed service, call them at 240-294-1304 or visit [www.CityofLaurel.org](http://www.CityofLaurel.org).



# Public Works Monthly Glance



CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE FOR YOUR REFRIGERATOR.

CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE FOR YOUR REFRIGERATOR.



**PUBLIC WORKS**

301-725-0088

DPW@laurel.md.us

| National Picnic Month  |                       |  |                                   |   |        |   |
|--|-----------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---|--------|---|
| August   |                       |  |                                   |   |        |   |
| SUNDAY   | MONDAY                | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY                         | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY | SATURDAY  |
| Yard Debris Collection<br>Email DPW@laurel.md.us to schedule a pickup. | Bulky Item Collection | 1<br>National Night Out - Gude Park - 6-9pm        | 2<br>Work Session - CANCELLED<br> | 3<br>Laurel Farmer's Market: 3-7pm - 378 Main Street  | 4      | 5   |
| National Tree Day  | 6                     | 7<br>Planning Commission - CANCELLED<br>           | 8<br>                             | 9<br>   | 10     | 11  |
| 13<br>Mayor and City Council Meeting - CANCELLED                       | 14                    | 15<br>Historic District Commission - CANCELLED<br> | 16<br>                            | 17<br>Laurel Farmer's Market: 3-7pm - 378 Main Street | 18     | 19<br>National Honey Bee Day                                  |
| 20   | 21                    | 22   | 23<br>                            | 24<br>Board of Appeals - CANCELLED<br>                | 25     | 26<br>Community & Culture Day - 2-5pm - McCullough Field      |
| 27<br>Mayor and City Council Meeting - CANCELLED                       | 28                    | 29   | 30<br>                            | 31<br>Laurel Farmer's Market: 3-7pm - 378 Main Street |        | Mosquito Control Spraying on Sundays - June through September |



As Mother Nature starts to turn up the heat this summer, be prepared! Extreme heat is a period of high heat and humidity with temperatures above 90 degrees for at least two to three days. In extreme heat your body works extra hard to maintain a normal temperature, which can lead to heat illness and death. Older adults and children are at greater risk from extreme heat. When humidity increases, expect to feel the heat more!

Know the signs of heat-related illnesses - dizziness, headache, muscle cramps, fainting, nausea and vomiting, just name a few - and ways to respond - rehydration, cooling, and medications. If you are sick and need immediate medical attention, call 9-1-1.

Ways you can prepare for extreme heat are, if you have an air conditioner, stay indoors! Do not rely on a fan as a primary cooling device. It can give a false sense of cooling and put you at risk for heat illness. Cover your windows with shades, weather-strip doors and windows and most importantly, HYDRATE. If you are unable to cool your home, identify places in your community where you can go to get cool such as libraries and shopping malls or contact your local health department to find a cooling center in your area (Laurel Beltsville Senior Center, 7120 Contee Road, is the closest one in Laurel).

If you are unable to afford cooling costs, weatherization or energy-related home repairs, visit the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) website at <https://www.benefits.gov/benefit/623> for help.

Visit <https://www.ready.gov/heat> for more information on Beating the Heat!

## CITY CONTACTS

Page 4

### MAYOR'S OFFICE

301-725-5300  
ext. 2125

[www.cityoflaurel.org](http://www.cityoflaurel.org)

### CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

301-725-5300  
ext. 2242

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

### LAUREL POLICE

Non-Emerg: 301-498-0092  
Emerg: 301-725-3000

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

### PARKS AND RECREATION

301-725-7800

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

### COMMUNICATIONS

301-725-5300  
Ext. 2208

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