



OFFICIAL NEWS FROM THE CITY OF LAUREL

THE City of Laurel Ledger

VOL. 3, NO. 2

FEBRUARY 2024

WEB SITE REVAMP HAS BEEN LAUNCHED!

The City of Laurel Department of Information Technology continues to work diligently with other City Departments to make sure that the City's web site at www.cityoflaurel.org houses the most accurate and comprehensive information about City programs, resources, and services possible.

In November, we launched a new web site and mobile app with a more comprehensive search, better support for accessibility standards, and newly organized content. While we're proud of this result, there is plenty more work to be done, and we'd love to hear your feedback on the changes!

What You'll Find:

- When important alerts need to be shared with the public, they are visible in an alert bar across the top of every page on the City web site.
- News and Events are shared on the City home page, as well as under the News Center and the Calendar.

- Information about Boards and Committees, including their upcoming meetings, agendas, and past meetings minutes, are available under the Government menu!
- Search is improved with autosuggest, better indexing, and a prominent new location in the page header, allowing you to find your way around the site via keywords or the menus, whatever fits you best!

The new MyLaurel Maryland mobile app for iOS and Android is fully integrated into the web site as well, with news, calendars, and other information that can be pushed right to your fingertips in the app. Get it at cityoflaurel.org/mylaurel! The app still has the ability to report issues and submit requests to the City. Please note that if you were a MyLaurel MD user previously, you will need to download the new app, and you can safely remove the old one.

Get Notified! You can register to receive specific types of notifications, by category, about new press releases, alerts, events, and projects, both in the mobile app and the web site! You can specify whether you'd like to receive your notifications via email, mobile app notification, or both!

No matter how you decide to get your information, whether from the web site or the app, we hope you find what you need and find it easily! Fill out the feedback form that can be found at www.cityoflaurel.org/feedback and let us know what you think today!



READY FOR WINTER? LOOKING FORWARD TO SPRING!

Public Works has already been hard at work this winter, making Laurel's roads safe for travelers. Below are their guidelines for preparing for winter weather and what is coming up this spring!

Brining, Plowing and Salting

Before a winter storm, the Department of Public Works pre-treats priority 1 and 2 roads with a brine solution, a new tool implemented just this season, which helps mitigate snow and ice build up if used to treat within 48 hours. The Brine Operations System, purchased through ARPA funds, was setup and Public Works installed a 6,100-gallon fiberglass tank in the DPW yard to store brine that is produced onsite, and several DPW vehicles were retrofitted to deploy the brine during snow events.



During snow removal, emphasis is placed on Snow Emergency Routes, high-priority streets, and hazardous locations such as hills, sharp curves, and busy intersections. Once these high priority areas have been treated and cleared of snow, side streets are treated.

Snow removal can be a monumental task, so we ask residents for patience. City crews work around the clock to clear streets and maintain regular services. While efforts are made to avoid blocking driveways when plowing, it cannot always be avoided. When clearing driveways, please do not shovel snow back into the street.

When is a Snow Emergency in Effect?

The City's Snow Emergency Plan goes into effect whenever a Snow Emergency is declared for Prince George's County. The Mayor may also proclaim or end a Snow Emergency.

Snow Emergencies are announced on most local radio and television stations, as well as on the City's social media sites. When a snow emergency is in effect, residents cannot park on the even-numbered side of snow emergency routes.

Coming This Spring!

The Department of Public Works will be hosting the April Recycling event on

Saturday, April 20, 2024, from 8:00am to Noon. This event is for City residents only.

Public Works will provide entertainment electronics recycling, paper shredding, Styrofoam recycling, old paint recycling (at a cost), and Green Drop charity drop-off for City residents and City businesses. Official IDs with a City address must be presented to enter the drop off site.

We will also provide extra Yard Debris collections on Mondays in May in addition to regular Wednesday yard debris collections. Yard debris pickups are FREE! But residents must still call, email, or submit an online request for yard debris pickups. For more information about preparing yard debris collection, call 301-725-0088 or email Public Works at dpw@laurel.md.us.

Public Works will also host its **Summer Construction Debris Drop Off** event for residential construction material at their facility on Saturday, June 22, 2024, from 9:00am to 2:00pm for City residents only. Once again, official IDs with a City address must be presented to enter the drop off site. No Commercial debris will be accepted! To learn more about their services, visit www.cityoflaurel.org.



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It's Easy Being Green!

THE CITY OF LAUREL 2024 CALENDAR NOW AVAILABLE

Updates on Green Initiatives

Positive Impact from Laurel's own Ordinance 2008! The Manager at Harris Tetter reported that in the few weeks since the legislation has been in effect, he was already able to order one less pallet of paper bags! Way to go Laurel!!! Answers to the most frequently asked questions can be found at <https://www.cityoflaurel.org/green>. If you have a concern about businesses not complying, please contact greenliving@laurel.md.us. All concerns will remain anonymous.

Green Living 2024 Calendar!! The 2024 Municipal Calendar is here! The calendar is available digitally at www.cityoflaurel.org/green and on the Recycle Coach app. The City has a limited number of printed calendars. If you want a printed copy, please contact 301-725-5300 or send an e-mail to greenliving@laurel.md.us.

The **Sustainability Kick-off meeting** was a great success, and the focus groups are in full-swing. The short overview presentation is available at <https://www.cityoflaurel.org/green>. Residents that are interested in learning more about the plan as we move forward can contact greenliving@laurel.md.us or call Michele Blair, the Environmental Programs Manager, at 301-725-5300 ext. 2203.



The new and improved Recycle Coach is available. 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, such as What do I do with household batteries? When is my collection day?, etc. You can also download our digital calendar right on 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 web site at <https://www.cityoflaurel.org/green>, then click on the Recycle Coach tab.

Learn more about going Green on our Green Living webpage. <https://www.cityoflaurel.org/green>



La Renovación del Sitio Web/¡Está Listo para El Invierno?

El Departamento de Tecnología de la Información de la Ciudad de Laurel continúa trabajando diligentemente con otros Departamentos de la Ciudad para garantizar que el sitio web de la Ciudad en www.cityoflaurel.org contenga la información más precisa y completa posible sobre los programas, recursos y servicios de la Ciudad. ¡Mira nuestra nueva apariencia!

Obras Públicas ya ha estado trabajando arduamente este invierno, haciendo que las carreteras de Laurel sean seguras para los viajeros. Visite nuestro sitio web, www.cityoflaurel.org/public-works para ver cómo se preparan para el clima invernal y lo que se avecina esta primavera.

Programa del Mes de la Historia de la Mujer
Sábado, 9 de Marzo
10 a. m. - 2 p. m.
Laurel Craig A. Moe
Centro Multiservicio
204 Fort Meade
Road



LAUREL POLICE MONTHLY CRIME REPORT

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023

List of Laurel Police Crime Reports can be found at www.cityoflaurel.org/police/community-info/crime-reports.



Laurel Council Connections



Legislation

Listed below are recent actions taken by the Laurel City Council. For further information on any of these actions, please feel free to contact the Office of the City Clerk at **301-725-5300 ext. 2121** or at clerk@laurel.md.us. For the full agendas, visit www.cityoflaurel.org.

Adopted Legislation:

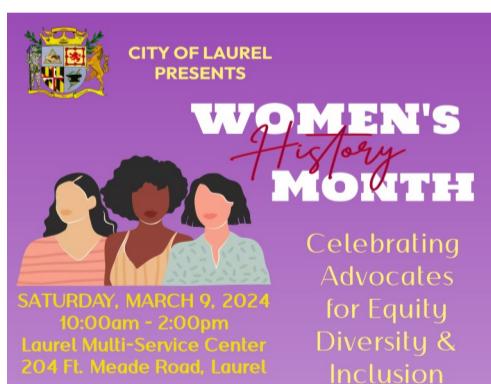
- Resolution No. 1-2024 - Pay Tribute to the Honorable Craig A. Moe by Renaming the City of Laurel Multiservice Center as the Craig A. Moe Laurel Multiservice Center

Bid Recommendations:

- Fleet Acquisition - (2) 2024 Ford Transit Passenger Vans - Public Works
- Van Dusen Road Improvement Corridor Survey - Phase I - Engineering Services - Public Works
- Replacement of Stage Roof - Harrison-Burton Memorial Stage at Granville Gude Park - Parks and Recreation

Appointments/Reappointments:

- Lynne Sport (Appointment) - Ethics Commission: 1/08/24 - 01/08/27
- Stephen Wallace (Appointment) - Board of Appeals: 1/08/24 - 1/08/27
- Stanley Spalding (Appointment) - Planning Commission: 1/08/24 - 1/08/29
- Inka Patel (Reappointment) - Arts Council: 1/08/24 - 1/08/26
- Davonia Bryant (Reappointment) - Education Advisory: 1/08/24 - 1/08/26
- Vicki Rambow (Reappointment) - Public Safety and Transportation Committee: 1/22/24 - 1/22/26
- John Kish (Reappointment) - Planning Commission: 1/22/24 - 1/22/29
- Frederick Smalls (Reappointment) - Board of Appeals: 1/22/24 - 01/22/27
- Christian Pulley (Reappointment) - City Administrator
- Joanne Barr (Reappointment) - Deputy City Administrator
- Bill Bailey (Reappointment) - Director, Parks and Recreation
- Christina Cornwell (Reappointment) - Dir., Comm. Resources/Emerg. Mngmnt.
- Russell Hamill III (Reappointment) - Chief, Laurel Police Department
- Robert Love (Reappointment) - Director, Econ. & Comm. Dev.
- Michele Saylor (Reappointment) - Director, Budget & Personnel Services



For more information, call Council member Johnson at 443-972-0513 or email her at cjohnson@laurel.md.us.

COUNCIL OFFICE

301-725-5300 ext. 2121

clerk@laurel.md.us

Government Meetings

(Dates and Times Subject to Change)

February 2024 Mayor and City Council Meetings

- ◆ February 26th - In-Person Mayor and City Council Meeting (6:00pm)

February 2024 Boards and Commissions

- ◆ February 13th - Virtual Historic District Commission (6:00pm)
- ◆ February 20th - Virtual Planning Commission (6:00pm)
- ◆ February 21st - Virtual Emergency Services Commission (7:00pm)
- ◆ February 22nd - Board of Appeals ***CANCELLED***

March 2024 Mayor and City Council Meetings

- ◆ March 6th - Virtual Mayor and City Council Work Session (6:00pm)
- ◆ March 11th - Virtual Mayor and City Council Meeting (6:00pm)
- ◆ March 25th - In-Person Mayor and City Council Meeting - Chambers - (6:00pm)

March 2024 Boards and Commissions

- ◆ March 12th - Planning Commission (6:00pm)
- ◆ March 12th - Environmental Affairs Committee (6:00pm)
- ◆ March 19th - Historic District Commission (6:00pm)
- ◆ March 28th - Board of Appeals (6:00pm)

City Announcements & Events

(Dates and Times Subject to Change)

- ◆ **Black History Month** - Celebrate with us! Visit www.cityoflaurel.org/203 Laurel-TV and learn about some extraordinary figures in Black History!
- ◆ **Free Friday Movie - February 16, 2024** at 7:00pm at Partnership Activity Center, 811 5th Street, featuring "The Little Mermaid."
- ◆ **Presidents' Day - February 19, 2024** - City/Passport Offices CLOSED. Visit cityoflaurel.org/calendars for adjusted collection details.
- ◆ **Women's History Month Program** - March 9, 2024 - 10a - 2pm at the Craig A. Moe Laurel Multiservice Center, 204 Fort Meade Road.
- ◆ **Eggstravaganza** - March 23, 2024 - 12:00pm SHARP! Granville Gude Park, 8300 Mulberry Street. Free event. Co-sponsored by the Laurel Lions Club.
- ◆ **To learn more or register for Parks and Recreation activities**, visit www.cityoflaurel.org/parks/adult-sports-activities or call 301-725-7800.

CITY OF LAUREL

MAYOR KEITH R. SYDOR'S

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

ESSAY CONTEST



Black History Month Essay Contest for City of Laurel students -
Write an 800-word essay about music, cultural movement, or a person/organization that played a pivotal role in African American History.

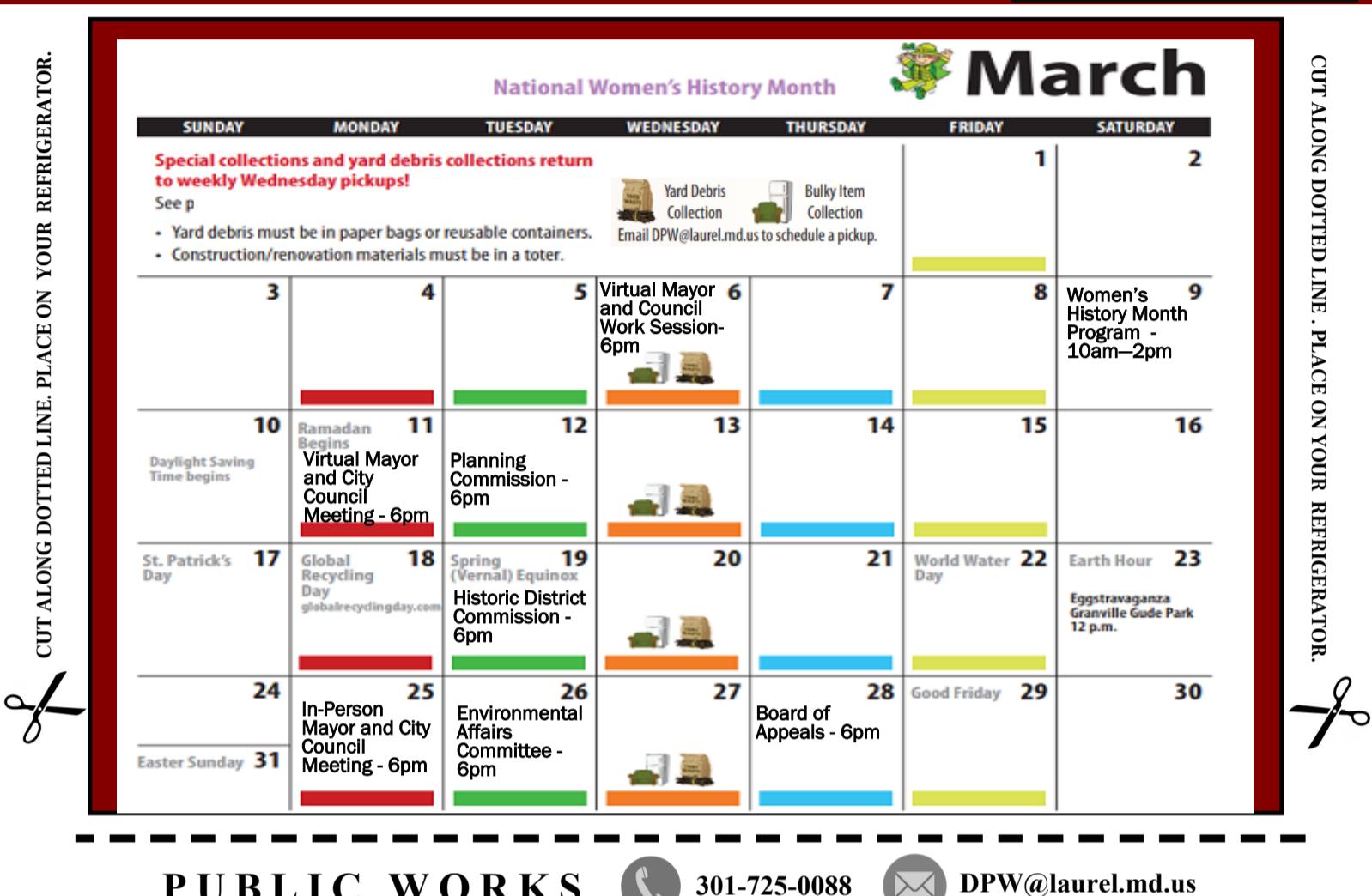
Deadline: February 19, 2024. Details at www.cityoflaurel.org!

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Public Works Monthly Glance



CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE. PLACE ON YOUR REFRIGERATOR.



CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE. PLACE ON YOUR REFRIGERATOR.

Laurel Department of Community Resources and Emergency Management: Heat Your Home Safely this Winter!

Winter can bring extremely cold temperatures resulting in harsh outdoor conditions. Staying indoors as much as possible can help reduce your exposure to such extreme conditions, but staying indoors can also have its own set of hazards. It is important when heating your home to do so safely. Improper or unsupervised heating equipment can quickly lead to fires, gas or carbon monoxide leaks, and smoke inhalation.

Use the following tips to help you and your family prepare:

- Using your stove or oven as a heating source is not safe and can lead to dangerous gas leaks.
- When using a space heater make sure to keep them away from flammable materials like curtains or blankets.
- Use fireplaces, wood stoves, or other combustion heaters **only** if they are properly ventilated.
- Do not leave children or pets unattended near a space heater.
- Avoid using extension cords to plug in your space heater.
- If your space heater electrical cord is damaged or produces sparks, do not use!



Keep you and family safe this winter! For more tips about winter safety, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/duringstorm/indoorsafety.html>

CITY CONTACTS

www.cityoflaurel.org

MAYOR'S OFFICE

301-725-5300 ext. 2125

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

301-725-5300 ext. 2242

LAUREL POLICE

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

PARKS AND RECREATION

301-725-7800

COMMUNICATIONS

301-725-5300 Ext. 2208