



THE LAUREL LEDGER



OFFICIAL NEWS FROM THE CITY OF LAUREL, MARYLAND

LAUREL COMMUNICATIONS: AN OPEN LETTER TO RESIDENTS, COMMUNITY GROUPS, BUSINESSES, STUDENTS AND ENTREPRENEURS

Dear Laurel Community,

I am excited to share an incredible opportunity available right here in our own backyard. Laurel TV, and our newly enhanced podcast studio, are open for YOU, our residents, business owners, entrepreneurs, community organizations, and students.

Our facilities feature **state-of-the-art equipment** and are supported by an **experienced production team** dedicated to helping you bring your ideas to life. Whether you're looking to record a podcast, film a commercial, create engaging content, or host a talk show, our team is here to support your vision every step of the way.

For local businesses and entrepreneurs, this is a chance to strengthen your brand, tell your story, and reach audiences in innovative ways. **Our affordable rates make professional-grade production available to the entire community, from small businesses to individual creators.** We also encourage community groups to use this platform to discuss topics that matter most to Laurel - from neighborhood initiatives to cultural celebrations. Imagine developing your own program that sparks conversations and strengthens community bonds.

For **students**, Laurel TV offers unique opportunities to **gain hands-on experience** through internships or by developing your own podcast. This is a great way to explore your creativity, learn about media production, and build skills that can shape your future.

To learn more, please visit laureltv.org, email us at communications@laureltv.org, or stop by to see the facility for yourself. We welcome you to take advantage of this incredible resource and join us in showcasing the beauty and diversity of our City.

We look forward to seeing (and hearing) what you create!

With excitement,
Natalie Williams
 Director, Department of Communications
 City of Laurel



MAYOR'S SUMMER JOB PROGRAM...FROM THE INTERN'S POV!

The Laurel Mayor's Summer Job Program was an opportunity for City of Laurel teens 14 - 16 to work in different Departments within the City from July 7th - August 8th. Interns learned skills such as scanning, communications, filing, organization and collaboration. It gave them an insight on what it's like working at a government job and helped build great connections with others and prepare students for real world job experience. The Office of the City Administrator had the privilege to work with Taylor Jones this summer and below is her experience with the Program this summer:

"The City of Laurel's Mayor Summer Job Program is one of the best experiences I've had so far for work. As an intern, I work in three departments: the City Administrator's Office, Office of the Mayor, and the City Clerk's Office. Working in these three Departments have built my skills in communication, scanning and working a printer, working on flyers in Canva, and researching. There are amazing supervisors who've helped me throughout my entire time working here. They were able to make things work more smoothly for me, especially in some areas I was not as familiar with. For anyone who is interested in applying, I definitely recommended it because it's not overwhelming and you have amazing people helping you throughout the entire work week and have opportunities on a daily basis." Thank you, Taylor! It was an amazing experience for us as well. Have a great school year!





It's Easy Being Green!



ORGANICS RECYCLING (COMPOSTING)

As of July 28, 2025, it has been 1,575 days since we launched the One and Done initiative...that was a looong learning/grace period! Recently, you may have noticed a sticker on your trash...no need to panic! We are here to help! With the delivery of the City's organics recycling carts, residents now have two ways to reduce their trash, food scraps/organics and recycling. Now it's time to conquer trash overflow! Staff is available to walk you through the easiest ways to eliminate overflow and the possibility of fines: Remove all food waste and other organic materials (paper napkins, pizza boxes, corn husks, etc.) and put all recyclable materials in the blue cart – i.e., cans, bottles (glass and plastic) and newspaper/flyers. Have a question about what goes where? Download the Recycle Coach app or ask for a 2025 Municipal Calendar. Both the app and the calendar show you the best way to recycle, compost and reduce overflow! Need a larger cart or additional recycling or composting carts? E-mail your request to Public Works at DPW@laurel.md.us.

But know this...Organics Recycling (Composting) is the **Number One** way that individuals can reduce the cost of tipping fees, reduce trash overflow, and reduce methane gas emissions at our landfills. During the summer months, our kitchen countertops are very attractive to fruit flies and ants. So how to avoid and conquer? Here are some helpful tips to reduce smells and pests that may be feasting on your kitchen countertop compost containers (Scan QR Code to go to the Organics Recycling web page):

- Keep the kitchen countertop container out of the sun and keep the lid closed!
- Line the bottom of your compost container with a layer of newspaper.
- Sprinkle baking soda on the newspaper lining the bottom of your containers.
- Empty compost every 2 to 3 days and freeze compost directly in the bag any certified compostable bag.
- Use organic essential oils like lavender, lemongrass, eucalyptus, or peppermint help keep the fruit flies at bay.
- Wash your fruit!



Mosquitoes? The Maryland Department of Agriculture will spray on Sunday evenings in Laurel as necessary. 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 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://md-laurel.civicplus.com/1598/Informational-Videos> and while you're there, watch the **MDA's video** on the lifecycle of the mosquito.

For more information and to see what we are up to, follow us on our Sustainable Laurel Facebook page at @SustainableLaurel and on our Green Living web page at www.cityoflaurel.org/greenliving.

COMUNICACIONES: CARTA ABIERTA A LA COMUNIDAD DE LAUREL

Estimada comunidad de Laurel: Me complace compartir una increíble oportunidad disponible aquí mismo, en nuestra propia comunidad. Laurel TV y nuestro estudio de podcast recientemente renovado están abiertos para USTEDES: nuestros residentes, dueños de negocios, emprendedores, organizaciones comunitarias y estudiantes.

Nuestras instalaciones cuentan con equipos de última generación y cuentan con el apoyo de un experimentado equipo de producción dedicado a ayudarles a hacer realidad sus ideas. Ya sea que deseen grabar un podcast, filmar un comercial, crear contenido atractivo o presentar un programa de entrevistas, nuestro equipo está aquí para apoyar su visión en cada paso del camino.

Para obtener más información, visiten laurel.tv.org, envíennos un correo electrónico a communications@laurel.tv.org o pasen a visitarnos para ver las instalaciones.

Con entusiasmo,

Natalie Williams

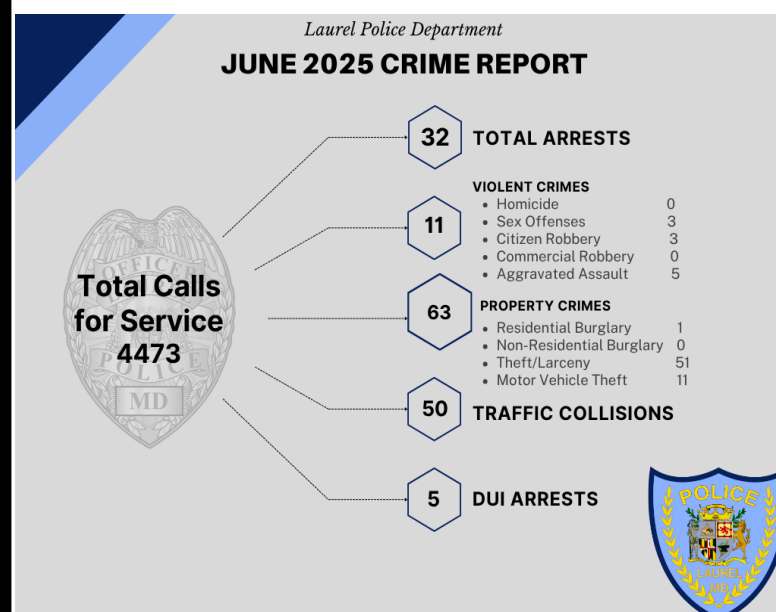
Directora del Departamento de Comunicaciones



LAUREL POLICE MONTHLY CRIME REPORT

JUNE 2025

List of Laurel Police Crime Reports can be found at www.cityoflaurel.org/1896/LPD-Crime-Reports.



Laurel Council Connections

Legislation

Listed below are recent legislative actions taken, if any, by the Laurel City Council during the past month of Mayor and City Council meetings. For further information on any of these legislative actions, please feel free to contact the Office of the City Clerk at **301-725-5300 x2121** or at clerk@laurel.md.us.

For full agendas, visit www.cityoflaurel.org.

Adopted Legislation:

- **Resolution No. 6-2025** - Adoption of the 2025 City of Laurel Sustainability Plan.
- **Resolution No. 7-2025** - Expressing support for Woodland Job Corps.
- **Ordinance No. 2037** - Amend Laurel City Code, Chapter 7, Sects. 7-36, 7-38, 7-37.1 and providing for Effective Date.
- **Ordinance No 2042** - Amending Laurel's General Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Plan for FY2025.

Bid Recommendations:

- **Eighth Street Improvement Project** - LA 25-010-Public Works (\$277,200)
- **Carriage Hill Drive and Lane Improvement Project** - LA 025-011 Public Works (\$158,400)
- **Pipe Repairs - Van Dusen Road Dam** - Public Works (\$216,275)

Appointments/Reappointments:

- ♦ **Eileen Collins (Reappointment)** - Youth Services Commission - 7/14/25 - 7/14/28
- ♦ **Joseph DiGiovanni (Reappointment)** - Tree Board - 7/14/25 - 7/14/27
- ♦ **Ayele Negussie (Reappointment)** - Education Advisory Committee - 7/14/25 - 7/14/27
- ♦ **Toi Davis (Reappointment)** - Education Advisory Committee - 7/14/25 - 7/14/27
- ♦ **Nekesa Matlock (Appointment)** - Deputy City Administrator - 7/14/2025
- ♦ **Adina Reno (Appointment)** - Bicycle/Pedestrian CAC - 7/28/2025 - 7/28/2028

Laurel Citizens University is a FREE 8-week course, starting October 2nd, that helps residents gain a better understanding how your local government functions through participation and interaction with knowledgeable staff. If you are a City of Laurel resident, scan the QR Code to sign up today!





INFORMATIONAL SESSION

Learn about City of Laurel Boards, Commissions, and Committees

 August 20, 2025 | 6pm

 Joseph R. Robison Municipal Center

Open to the Public and Current Members

Ethics Commission does not have to be present.

The City of Laurel has openings on numerous Boards, Commissions and Committees! Join us on August 20th at 6pm and learn more about what these entities do in Laurel and see if you would like to volunteer and be a sitting Commissioner or Member and help Laurel Thrive!

Contact the Council:

If you have questions or concerns, contact your Council member from the list below:

**Council President**
Kyla Clark (Ward 2)
kclark@laurel.md.us

**Ward 2 Council member**
Jeffrey Mills
jmills@laurel.md.us

**Ward 1 Council members**
James Kole
jkole@laurel.md.us
Adrian Simmons
asimmons@laurel.md.us

**At Large Council member**
Christine Johnson
cjohnson@laurel.md.us

**Or call the City Council Office at**
301-725-5300 ext. 2120.

Government Meetings (Dates and Times Subject to Change)

August 2025 Mayor and City Council Meetings

- ♦ All Mayor and City Council Meetings will CANCELLED for the month of August.

August 2025 Boards and Commissions

- ♦ All Board and Commission Meetings will be CANCELLED for the month

September 2025 Mayor and City Council Meetings

- ♦ September 3rd - Virtual Work Session (6:00pm)
- ♦ September 8th - Virtual Mayor and City Council Meeting (6:00pm)
- ♦ September 22nd - Mayor and City Council Meeting (6:00pm)

September 2025 Boards and Commissions

- ♦ September 9th - Planning Commission (6:00pm)
- ♦ September 16th - Historic District Commission (6:00pm)
- ♦ September 25th - Board of Appeals (6:00pm)
- ♦ September 30th - Master Plan Committee (6:00pm)

City Announcements & Events (Dates and Times Subject to Change)

- ♦ **Laurel Citizens University Registration is OPEN** at cityoflaurel.org/lcu. Every Thursday from October 2nd - November 20th. Learn about your local government!
- ♦ **Safe Summer Nights through August 16th** - Saturday nights, 6 - 10pm. Details at www.cityoflaurel.org/1926/Safe-Summer-Nights-Program.
- ♦ **August 17th - Senior Services Garden Party** - The Mansion at Laurel, 13910 Laurel Lakes Ave. - 4pm, Cost: \$20. Food and Fun for Seniors! For more Senior Programs, Trips and Transportation information, visit their web page at www.cityoflaurel.org/seniorservices!
- ♦ **August 20th - Information Session about Boards, Commissions and Committees** - 6pm at 8103 Sandy Spring Road. Great volunteer opportunity!
- ♦ **September 1st - Labor Day** - City/Passport Offices Closed. Adjusted Trash/Recycle/Compost Collections can be found at www.cityoflaurel.org/.
- ♦ **Laurel Farmer's Market - Every Thursday** - 3 - 7pm at 378 Main Street.
- ♦ **September 6th - Doggie Dip Day** - 10am - 12Noon, Greenview Drive Pool. Enjoy a dip with your canines to celebrate the Dog Days of Summer! \$5/dog.
- ♦ **September 19th - City/Passport Offices Close Early** - 1:00pm - Employee Team Building Outing. Plan your business with the City accordingly.
- ♦ **To learn more or register for Parks and Recreation activities**, visit www.cityoflaurel.org/parks or call 301-725-7800.

Scan the QR Code for the online volunteer application!





Public Works Monthly Glance



CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE. PLACE ON YOUR REFRIGERATOR.

September						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 City Pools Close September 1st	 Labor Day Monday Trash/Recycling & Composting collected on Tuesday Community Centers CLOSED	 Tuesday Trash/Recycling & Composting collected on Wednesday	 No change to Wednesday collection Virtual Work Session - 6pm	 Farmers' Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. 378 Main Street Lot		 Doggie Dip Day Greenview Drive Pool 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
7	8 Virtual Mayor and City Council - 6pm	9 Planning Commission - 6pm	10	11 Farmers' Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. 378 Main Street Lot	12	13
14	15	16 Historic District Commission - 6pm	17	18 Farmers' Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. 378 Main Street Lot	19 City Offices Closing at 1pm for Employee Team Building Event	20
21 Autumnal Equinox	22 In-Person Mayor/Council Meeting - 6pm	23 Rosh Hashanah	24	25 Board of Appeals - 6pm Farmers' Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. 378 Main Street Lot	26	27
28	29	30 Master Plan Meeting - 6pm	 Refuse/Recycling/Composting holiday schedule September 1st. Mosquito Control Spraying on Sundays - June through September			

CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE. PLACE ON YOUR REFRIGERATOR.

PUBLIC WORKS 301-725-0088 DPW@laurel.md.us

Emergency Management: Start a Conversation....

National Preparedness Month

SEPTEMBER 2025

September is National Preparedness Month

This annual campaign focuses on the tools needed to build community resilience and ensure our families, friends, and neighbors are prepared when disaster strikes.

Throughout the month, the Department of Emergency Management will be sharing tips and strategies on preparedness. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and X. Help us start a conversation!

For more information on how you and your family can prepare, visit www.ready.gov/be-informed.

#StartAConversation

Talking about disasters and emergencies isn't easy. Starting a conversation today can help you and your family to take action, be prepared, and stay safe.

- Know the Risks
- Create a Plan
- Build a Kit
- Stay Informed
- Practice Drills

CITY CONTACTS



www.cityoflaurel.org

MAYOR'S OFFICE



301-725-5300
ext. 2125



laurelmayor@laurel.md.us

CITY ADMINISTRATOR



301-725-5300
ext. 2242



cadmin@laurel.md.us

LAUREL POLICE



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



lpd@laurel.md.us

PARKS AND RECREATION



301-725-7800



parks@laurel.md.us

COMMUNICATIONS



301-725-5300
Ext. 2208



laurelpio@laurel.md.us