



THE CITY of

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Milford

River Town • Art Town • Home Town

DELAWARE

A Minute from the Mayor

As we welcome the start of Spring, I want to take this opportunity to highlight an exciting program that can have a significant impact on our community: the Downtown Development District (DDD) Program.



The DDD Program is designed to spur private capital investment in commercial business district and surrounding neighborhoods. This initiative provides funding incentives that can help revitalize our downtown area, improve the local economy, and create jobs for our residents. It's a fantastic opportunity to boost the vitality of our city, making it a more attractive place for businesses, residents, and visitors alike.

The program aims to: stimulate job growth and improve the overall commercial activity in Milford. Encourage private investment to enhance our downtown and neighboring districts. Foster the development of a stable community of long-term residents, contributing to the sustainability and vibrancy of our neighborhoods.

If you're a business owner or a potential investor, I encourage you to learn more about the program and consider how it might benefit you. Together, we can make Milford even stronger and more prosperous.

Thank you for your continued support of our community. I can be reached at 302-422-1111 x1309 or via email mayorculotta@milford-de.gov.

Warm Regards,

Todd Culotta
Mayor

City Council Round-up: February

At the February 10th City Council meeting, recognition was given to the Black History Month Proclamation and Police Officer of the Year/Civilian of the Year awards. Council heard department reports along with the monthly finance report. Council appointed members to the Milford Board of Election, appointed an auditor to conduct the 2025 audit, and authorized a land exchange agreement for 111 N Walnut Street LLC. Additionally, two new ordinances were introduced including an amendment to City of Milford Code, Chapter 125 Fiber Optics and an amendment to City of Milford Code, Chapter 174 Property Maintenance, defining a habitual offender and adding a section establishing a habitual offender violation. A habitual offender would be defined as a property owner who receives violation notices from the City on three separate occasions within a twenty-four-month period. The violation would result in a court summons. The ordinance also increased the minimum property maintenance fine to \$250 and increased the maximum property maintenance fine to \$5,000.

At the February 24th City Council meeting, Council passed two ordinances involving amending City of Milford Code including Chapter 174 Property Maintenance/Habitual Offenders and Chapter 125 Fiber Optics. Additionally, new business was addressed involving authorization of DNREC Mosquito Control Service and adoption of Resolution 2025-02 Proposal for Bond Issuance and Establishment of Hearing Date and Resolution of 2025-03 Solid Waste Refuse Rates.

At the February 24th Workshop, Council heard a presentation from Elevated LLC/Armory, a pay study update from Evergreen Solutions, LLC, Customer Service Update presentation, proposed deed restrictions for the Milford Corporate Center, and enterprise permitting and licensing credit card fees.

All public meetings can be viewed live or recorded online via the City of Milford website at www.cityofmilford.com/553/Watch-Public-Meetings.

Report Concerns on MyMilford

MyMilford app is the fastest, easiest way to submit non-emergency requests. Please download the app to your smartphone or submit a request at www.cityofmilford.com/535/MyMilforde.

Understanding Your Electric Bill, Rates, & Energy Savings

As we've experienced colder-than-average temperatures winter, it's important to understand how weather can affect your electric bill. January 2025 saw an average temperature of just 28°F, much lower than the 37°F average in January 2024 and 43°F in January 2023. This difference likely resulted in increased energy usage to power the heating systems in your home. Due to the colder weather this January, average residential usage was 42% higher than the five-year average for all other months and 12% higher than the last five Januarys.

Milford's rates remain among the lowest in Delaware, nearly 21% below Delmarva Power and comparable to the Delaware Electric Co-Op. The table below shows how the City's current rate compares with last January's rate.

	Avg January Usage (kWh)	Usage Change	Avg January Bill	Avg January "All-In" Rate	Avg Rate Change
Jan 2024	1,162		\$ 168.11	\$ 0.14465	
Jan 2025	1,297	12%	\$ 193.55	\$ 0.14921	3.2%

To help manage your energy consumption and reduce your bill, we recommend the following winter energy-saving tips:

- Adjust Your Thermostat: Lower your thermostat by 1-2 degrees to reduce heating time. Heating and air conditioning make up about 50% of your energy usage.
- Use Programmable Thermostat: Automatically adjust the temperature while you're away and before you return home to avoid wasting energy.
- Seal Gaps in Windows & Doorways: Cold air leaks through gaps. Use door sweeps or blankets against doorways, and check for drafts by closing a dollar bill in the door-if it pulls out easily, it's time to seal the gap!
- Utilize Sunlight: Open blinds during the day to let in natural heat, and close them at night to trap warmth inside.

Scan the QR code to see a sample electric bill to assist with locating your current usage, prior month, and prior year usage so you can better track your consumption.



Efficiency Smart Program - A program offering rebates and an electric usage monitor to help track and reduce your energy usage. You can also receive rebates for things like insulating windows, purchasing a water heater jacket, using the City's budget plan, and servicing your HVAC system. Scan the QR for more details.



For questions, please contact the City's Customer Service Department at (302) 422-6616.

City of Milford COMMUNITY SURVEY

Your input is needed!

Milford has launched the 2025 National Community Survey (The NCS) in collaboration with Polco, Milford's online civic engagement platform. Your participation in this survey will help leadership set priorities and develop policies and programs to effectively serve our community. All feedback will be anonymous, and any personal information will be securely stored by Polco.

Take the survey here: polco.us/milford25



If you have already responded to this year's community survey, please don't respond again, but help us spread the word! Please share this link with your neighbors and local networks in Milford.

Thank you for your time and feedback!

Employee Spotlight

Paul Beebe
I.T. Systems & ERP Specialist



1. How long have you worked for the City of Milford? 3 years.
2. Have you always worked in this role? Yes; however, my job description has been playing catch-up.
3. What is your favorite thing about working for the City? I enjoy working with a great team. We have one here. Our I.T. department has completed several projects over the past few years that have transformed how our I.T. services are architected and secured. We are a busy group. We have projects in implementation, scheduling, setup and configuration. I get a lot of satisfaction seeing our efforts move from projected work into production use.
4. What do you enjoy doing in your free time? I enjoy travel, our local beaches, and the many restaurants Lower Delaware has to offer.

I know if I went back to when Paul was in school his teacher would say that Paul was chatty, we tease him about this. What we found out is that Paul is a wealth of knowledge on many subjects and a joy to chat with, even when we disagree. We thank him for his service in the U.S. Navy and rely on his service to Milford, as the sole ERP specialist on the old Naviline system and the new Tyler system Paul's plate is always full, but he always seems to get it all done on time! Truly an asset to Milford and the I.T. team!

-Bill Pettigrew, I.T. Director

MILFORD COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP
We need **YOUR HELP!**

5th Annual Milford Community Clean-Up
Saturday April 12, 2025 | 8:00 - 10:30 a.m.
Bicentennial Park, Downtown Milford | 206-218 NE Front St, Milford DE

Morning refreshments donated by the Milford Church of God!	All supplies provided!	Community service hours and/or volunteer letter provided!	FREE t-shirt for the first 200 registered!
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Register at: <https://signup.com/go/CzyqbXD>

Logos: DMI DOWNTOWN MILFORD INC, MILFORD COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP, Milford PARKS & RECREATION play+connect+grow



Scan here to sign up!

Community Happenings

- Milford-Slaughter Path Feasibility Study Public Workshop 3/19/25, 4-6pm, Public Works
- DelDOT/Milford Improvement Project Public Meeting 3/26/25, 4-6pm, Public Works
- Community EXPO & Affordable Housing Resource Fair 3/27/25, 5-7pm, Milford Boys & Girls Club
- Community 5th Annual Community Clean Up 4/12/25, 8-10:30am, Bicentennial Park
- Bug & Bud Festival 4/26/25, 9am-4pm, Downtown Milford

