



# Milford

River Town • Art Town • Home Town

DELAWARE

## Sign-up Online

Some customers did not receive the August newsletter in their utility bill due to our printer's error. We apologize for the inconvenience. To avoid this in the future, we welcome you to sign-up for e-payment notifications and you'll be auto-enrolled to receive this newsletter on the first of each month directly to your inbox. Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/COMebills>

## Sept. Community Happenings

- Every Saturday, 9am-1pm: Riverwalk Farmers Market
- Thursday, Sept. 2, 5pm: Mispillion River Watershed Paddling Series
- Monday, Sept. 6: City Offices Closed due to Holiday
- Wednesday, Sept. 8: Parks & Rec. Soccer begins
- Sunday, Sept. 12: Parks & Rec. Field Hockey begins
- Monday, Sept. 13, 7pm: City Council Meeting
- Thursday, Sept. 16, 5-8pm: Third Thursday
- Saturday, Sept. 18, 9am: 20th Annual Riverwalk "Freedom" Festival
- Saturday, Sept. 18, 10am: Mispillion River Watershed Paddling Series
- Wednesday, Sept. 22: Parks & Rec. Flag Football
- Thursday, Sept. 23, 5pm: Mispillion River Watershed Paddling Series
- Saturday, Sept. 25, 12pm: Mispillion River Watershed Paddling Series
- Monday, Sept. 27, 7pm: City Council Meeting
- Thursday, Sept. 30, 5pm: Mispillion River Watershed Paddling Series

## Is your right-of-way clear?

Property owners are responsible for the vegetation overhanging and/or within public rights-of-way adjacent to your property. Any vegetation hitting vehicles, pedestrians, etc. needs to be trimmed. Also, due to safety concerns, City ordinances prohibit playing of games such as street hockey, basketball, etc. upon public streets. Basketball hoops, hockey nets, etc. are not to be placed within the right-of-way, and should only be placed in private driveways at least 10' back.

## Tax Payments

The tax year runs Oct. 1 through Sept. 30 of the following year. Annual tax bills were mailed in August and are due Sept. 30. The penalty for delinquent taxes is 1% per month. To pay your bill online <https://egov.milford-de.gov/Click2GovTX/index.html>

## Parks & Rec. Fall Programs

Field Hockey

Sept. 12-Oct. 17

Girls ages 7-12

Flag Football

Sept. 22-Oct. 27

Co-ed ages 7-13

Soccer

Sept. 8-Oct. 30

Co-ed ages 5-12; ages will be separated

Sign up <https://webtrac.milford-de.gov/> or at the Parks & Recreation Office (207 Franklin Street). Please call 302.422.1104 with questions.

## Trash Delays Expected

Due to significant staffing shortages, we're aware customers are experiencing delays in their trash service. When calling to report a delayed or missed collection, speaking with a customer service representative will not accelerate the pickup of your container. If your container has not been picked up by the end of the following business day, please report online at <https://www.cityofmilford.com/87/Solid-Waste>. We greatly appreciate your patience and understanding during these unprecedented times. The City of Milford is hiring! <http://cityofmilford.com/247/Job-Openings>



## Is Your Contact Info Current?

Make sure your contact information is current with our Customer Service Dept. We often find missing or inactive phone numbers and email addresses on our accounts. Keep in mind certain changes may require legal documentation. Changes must be in writing to [customerservice@milford-de.gov](mailto:customerservice@milford-de.gov).

# Public Utility Education



We will highlight a different public utility each month. The goal is to educate our customers on preventative measures to lower their utility bill, as well as create a more flawless system for all users. This month we're featuring our sewer system. Some tips for you,

the public sewer user:

- When these items are flushed down the toilet, they can cause problems in our homes, wastewater treatment network and the environment: cotton swabs, baby wipes, facial wipes, cleansing pads, toilet paper roll tube, medicines, cigarettes, band-aids, diapers, feminine products, rags, paper towels, sweeper cloths, flushable wipes (they're not actually flushable!). The resulting damage, pictured above, is costly and hazardous. Please put these items in the bin and not down the toilet.
- Although things like melted butter and cooking grease are in liquid form when you pour them down the drain, they will harden once cooled and coat the insides of your pipes as well as those through the City. These narrower pipes then make it easier for a blockage to occur. It is best to pour these liquids into a jar/can to let them harden and then dispose of it in the trash.
- Even with a garbage disposal, these items shouldn't go down your drain: coffee grounds (they clump together when wet, causing a blockage), egg shells (they create a granular waste that can stick to the pipes) and bones, such as chicken wings (they may fragment and create a blockage).
- The pipe sticking up in your front yard is your sewer clean-out. The homeowner is responsible for any backups between that pipe and the house. The City is responsible for any backups between that clean-out and the main line in the road. Most standard homeowner insurance does not cover pipe backups outside the house, but supplemental insurance can be purchased. Also be sure the cap on that pipe is tight fitting and void of cracks or defects. If your cap is damaged or missing, call 302.422.1110 to request a replacement.
- If you have a finished basement, be sure you have a backflow preventer on your lowest lying drain pipe.



# Employee Spotlight

**Steve Ellingsworth**

Public Service Superintendent

1. How long have you worked for the City of Milford? **24 years**
2. Have you always worked in this role? **No, in 1997 I started with the treatment plant and sewer station readings for the state. I got my water operator license in 2005 and became the supervisor for Water and Sewer Facilities. In 2019, I moved to Public Service Superintendent.**
3. What is your favorite thing about working for the City? **Listening to the residents and helping them solve their issues. I have met a lot of people while working for the city. I receive phone calls anytime of the night to try and help out.**
4. What do you enjoy doing in your free time? **Traveling and spending time camping**



Steve Ellingsworth is a 24-year employee who demonstrates an extraordinary level of commitment and organizational knowledge, every day – two key elements of successful leadership. He knows the practical, hands-on part of every job in Public Works and serves the resident of Milford well!

- Michael Svaby, Public Works Director

# Council Spotlight

**Jason James**

Ward 4 Councilmember

1. How long have you been a member of the City Council? **2 years, 8 months (Jan. 2019-present)**
2. What previous city roles have you held? **I was a member of the Planning Commission from 2006-2009, 2012-2013 and most recently 2018-2019.**
3. What is your favorite thing about being a Councilmember? **I take great honor in representing the interest of the tax payer and utility users to ensure they receive the quality and quantity of services their dollars are paying for. I am also excited about participating in the growth opportunities the City is pursuing.**
4. What is your full time job? **I am the Corporate Controller for Burris Logistics.**
5. What do you enjoy doing in your free time? **Spending time with family, studying the history of different nationalities and religions, and providing volunteer services**





# Support the 2021 Milford Community Parade! "It's A Retro Halloween"

Milford's longest running family tradition marches on Walnut Street!

Keep the tradition alive. Your sponsorship of \$20, \$40, \$50 or more will help defray the cost associated with the Milford Community Parade. And now you can include your sponsorship in a **separate check** when you mail in your electric bill. We are honored to include all of our 2019 sponsors in our 2021 Sponsor family as well. If you missed out last year, this can be your year to be included. Help us add a Philadelphia String Band for 2021.

Here's how you can help us reach our goal of \$10,000 in sponsorships: Just write a check in the amount of your sponsorship to Milford Community Parades, Inc. and include the check in your electric bill with the bottom portion of this flyer. The City of Milford will forward your contribution to the Milford Parade Committee. Then join us on Walnut Street, Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 6:30pm for "It's A Retro Halloween". We are on Facebook at Milford Parade for fun facts and updates. Download an entry form at [www.milfordparade.com](http://www.milfordparade.com). Thank you for your continued support.

YES! Keep the tradition alive---

Please accept my  \$20  \$40  \$50  \$100 Campaign\*\*

**\*\*RECEIVE A YARD SIGN FOR YOUR YARD OR WINDOW!**

Sponsorship on behalf of

individual name / family name / company name

street address

city/state/zip

check #



Please return this bottom portion and separate check with your electric bill.