



FIRE PREVENTION MONTH WITH FIRE MARSHAL AND PERMIT SERVICES

The City of Laurel takes Life Safety Code very seriously and with October being Fire Prevention Month, the Department of Fire Marshal and Permit Services has some safety tips to assist you this season.



Fire Safety Week: October 8th - 14th

This year's Fire Prevention Week campaign is "Cooking Safety Starts with YOU." Please pay attention! Fire prevention works to educate everyone about simple, but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe when cooking.

The Importance of Fire Safety Prevention

Every day fires devastate homes and businesses across the state and nation. Fires don't just cause property damage, though. Without proper fire safety knowledge, fires can lead to injuries or loss of life. That should not be the case with homes or businesses if we have fire safety prevention plans in place.

Prevent Home Fires: Home fires can be preventable. The following are simple steps that each of us can take to prevent a tragedy -

Protect, Install Smoke Detectors

First and foremost, install smoke detectors in every bedroom and they should also be outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home! Test all smoke detectors at least once a month by pressing the test button to be sure the alarm is working. A smoke detector should be on the ceiling or high on the wall. People who are hard-of-hearing or deaf can use special alarms that have strobe lights and bed shakers. And be sure to replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.

Cooking

Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling or broiling food. Turn off the stove if you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time. Wear short, close-fitting or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking. Position barbecue grills at least 10 feet away from siding and deck railings, and out from under eaves and overhanging branches. And keep a fire extinguisher handy!

Electrical and Appliance Safety

Frayed wires can cause fires! Replace all worn, old or damaged appliance cords immediately and do not run cords under rugs or furniture. If an appliance has a three-prong plug, use it only in a three-slot outlet. Immediately shut off, then professionally replace, light switches that are hot to the touch and lights that flicker.

Holiday Safety

Turn off holiday lights at night or when you leave the house. Replace any string of lights with worn/broken cords or loose bulb connections. Keep candles at least 12 inches

away from flammable materials or use flameless candles. Water your Christmas tree daily and don't let it dry out! Make sure your tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents and not blocking an exit. Don't overload extension cords and outlets.

Portable Space Heaters

Keep combustible objects at least three feet away from portable heating devices. Only buy heaters evaluated by a nationally-recognized laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL). And check to make sure the portable heater will automatically switch off if the heater falls over.

Remember Get Out, Stay Out!

Every room needs two ways out. Make sure your bedroom, or where you sleep, has a smoke detector that will sound an alarm wake you up quickly! You must be able to hear the beep, beep, of the smoke detector wherever you sleep! Have a meeting place outside the home, like a neighbor's home, a special tree, a mailbox, or streetlight. Once you are outside, stay outside! Wait for your family to meet you.

These are just a few tips to keep your family safe. For more information, visit www.cityoflaurel.org/permits or [www.nfpa.org!](http://www.nfpa.org/) Remember..... Fire Safety Starts with YOU!

Department of Communications: New Podcast Studio Unveiled



The Department of Communications works to bring our citizens new and innovative ways to spread the news and information about all things Laurel and they are pleased to let you know **Podcast City Studios**, powered by Laurel TV, is now open for business.

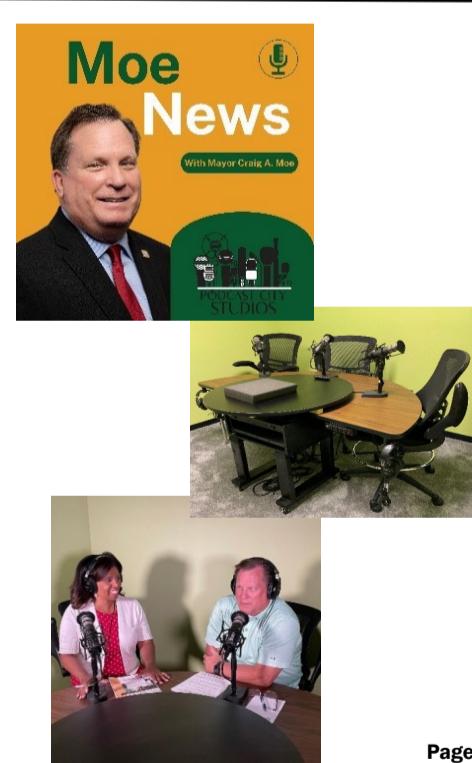
The state-of-the-art podcast recording studio features the latest technology for audio and video shows. Content creators, residents and artists can participate in one of the fastest growing platforms for exchanging ideas, listening to entertaining conversations, and receiving news that impacts you.

Mayor Moe recorded the first episode of Moe News in the Podcast Studio on September 8th

with Communications Director Audrey Barnes as his guest. Catch this inaugural episode by dropping the following address into your favorite podcast player: <https://feeds.buzzsprout.com/2238084.rss>. If you would like to record a podcast, you can purchase a membership that can be tailored to your needs for several episodes, or, if you prefer, just book the space for an episode or two.

To learn more about how to become a member, pricing or to book a space in their podcast studio, visit: www.cityoflaurel.org/comm/podcast-room or email your questions to podcasts@laureltv.org. The Studio is available Monday-Friday 9am-5pm.

You can find Podcast City Studios' content on major platforms like Apple, Amazon, Spotify, or wherever you listen to your favorite podcast.





It's Easy Being Green!



WHAT'S NEW IN GREEN LIVING

Fall is Here....

Temperatures are dropping and the leaves are falling. Public Works will be sending the leaf vacuum around starting in October! Check the City's website, www.cityoflaurel.org, for an exact start date and check out the map in the 2023 Calendar for your scheduled days. When in doubt, you can contact Public Works at dpw@laurel.md.us, or call them at 301-725-0088.

Composting and Loose Leaves! Leaves may be added to your organic food waste! Use your curbside cart and mix and mingle food waste with your leaves, then place your cart at the curb on your normally scheduled day.

Compost your Pumpkins! Schedule a pumpkin pickup for November 1st by contacting Public Works at 301-725-0088 or by email at DPW@laurel.md.us by October 31st. Already a regular composter? Just put your pumpkin in your cart. It's that easy!

Signing Up for Curbside Composting is a Breeze! Send an e-mail to DPW@laurel.md.us or greenliving@laurel.md.us with your name, address, phone number and e-mail address. Your countertop container, a set of bags, and an outdoor cart with a locking lid, will be delivered to your home within 7 business days.

We Need Your Input! The City is undertaking the second phase of the Sustainability Plan – and we need you!

Who: The Laurel Sustainability Document will be written by City citizens with any needed expert input and not the other way around! What do you want in the official document? We are looking for innovators, enthusiasts, planners, and anyone with a sustainability idea!

Why: To succeed, our Sustainability Framework must be by and for all the people of Laurel.

When: Prepare the Document this Fall and early Winter, 2023.

How: We'll form focus groups and contact you later this month regarding meeting dates. Please contact greenliving@laurel.md.us. Check out the graphic for some of the areas we'll be focusing on!

People	Prosperity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No hunger (eg, SNAP benefits at farmers' market) Zero poverty Good health & well-being (eg, walking paths) Quality education Equality (eg, healing of social tissue) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affordable & clean energy (eg, solar panels) Decent work & economic growth Industry, innovation & infrastructure Reduced economic inequalities Sustainable cities & communities
Planet	Peace & Partnership +
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean water/sanitation (eg, recover/reuse waste) Responsible consumption/production (eg, no plastic bags) Climate action (eg, composting, recycling) Life below water (eg, no more plastic bags) Life on land (eg, guard earthworms, help bees) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect, justice & strong institutions Partnerships for these goals (neighborhood, city, state, nation) Other: _____ +Other: _____ +Other: _____ +Other: _____

And last, but not least, thank you all for supporting the City's Farmer's Market at the Laurel Quill Lot! For our first time out, it went well and our farmers/vendors are excited to be part of the Laurel community. If you have any thoughts on how we can improve the market for next year, send us an email at greenliving@laurel.md.us.

Questions about our environmental programs can be sent to Michele Blair at greenliving@laurel.md.us or call 301-725-5300.



Octubre es El Mes de La Prevención de Incendios

La Ciudad de Laurel toma muy en serio el Código de Seguridad Humana y dado que octubre es el Mes de la Prevención de Incendios, el Departamento de Bomberos y Servicios de Permisos tiene algunos consejos de seguridad para ayudarlo en esta temporada. La campaña de la Semana de Prevención de Incendios de este año es "La seguridad en la cocina comienza CONTIGO". ¡Por favor pon atención! La prevención de incendios trabaja para educar a todos sobre acciones simples pero importantes que pueden tomar para mantenerse seguros a sí mismos y a quienes los rodean mientras cocinan. Para obtener más información, visite www.cityoflaurel.org/permits. Recuerde... ¡La seguridad contra incendios comienza con USTED!

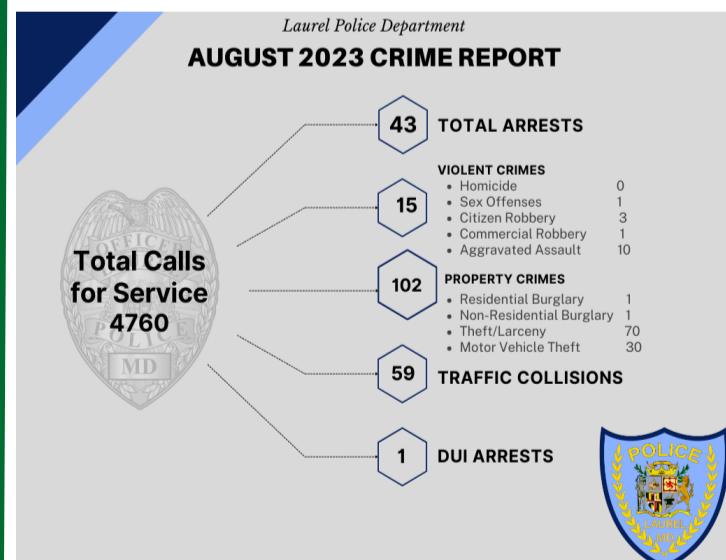
Nueva Sala de Podcasts Revelada

El Departamento de Comunicaciones trabaja para enseñar a nuestros ciudadanos formas nuevas e innovadoras de difundir noticias e información sobre todo lo relacionado con Laurel y se complacer en brindarles que Podcast City Studios, impulsado por Laurel TV, ya está abierto al público. Para obtener más información sobre cómo convertirse en miembro, los precios o reservar un espacio en su estudio de podcasts, visite: www.cityoflaurel.org/comm/podcast-room.

LAUREL POLICE MONTHLY CRIME REPORT

AUGUST 2023

To find out more about what's happening in your neighborhood, visit the Laurel Police Crime Reports at www.cityoflaurel.org/police/community-info/crime-reports.





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. For the full agendas, visit www.cityoflaurel.org.

Approved Ordinances/Resolutions:

- **Ordinance No. 2016** - Text Amendment No. 264 - to Amend Unified Land Development Code, Chapter 20 "Land Development and Subdivision Regulations," to Update the Use Tables in Residential, Commercial, and Industrial Zones, to Update the Schedule of Parking Requirements, to Update the Special Exceptions Section, to Update the Exceptions and Supplements to Zone Regulations, and to Update the Definitions therein and providing an effective date.
- **Ordinance No. 2017** - to Amend the Laurel City Code to Remove Article IV Labor Code from Chapter 12 Police Department and Create a New Labor Code Chapter 13 and Provide for an effective Date.

Bid Approvals:

- Stephen P. Turney Recreation Complex Lighting, Parks and Recreation - \$256,343
- Purchase of Battery-Powered Mowers, Parks and Recreation - \$118,399.96
- Van Dusen Road Improvement Concept Design, Public Works - \$190,653.50

For the full list of approved Bids, visit www.cityoflaurel.org/clerk/meetings.

Mayoral Appointments/Reappointments:

- Marcia Levi, Ummi Modeste, Emily Swain, Stanley Spalding and Lisa Wolfisch - Bicycle and Pedestrian CAC (New Appointments)
- Phyllis Anderson, Brent Debnam, Erin McLaughlin and Michael McLaughlin - CAC for Persons with Disabilities (Reappointments)
- Melissa Holland - Arts Council (Reappointment)
- Maria Gonzalez Jackson, Chair - Education Advisory Committee
- Rian Reed, Vice Chair - Education Advisory Committee
- Denise Walker - Arts Council (New Appointment)



City of Laurel

 Your Vote
 Is Your Voice!

EARLY VOTING
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH
9:00AM - 5:00PM

ELECTION DAY
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH
7:00AM - 8:00PM

Two Voting Locations (By Ward Only):
Ward 1 - Laurel Municipal Center
 8103 Sandy Spring Road
Ward 2 - Robert J. DiPietro Community Center
 7901 Cypress Street

COUNCIL OFFICE



301-725-5300 ext. 2121 **clerk@laurel.md.us**

Government Meetings

(Dates and Times Subject to Change)

October 2023 Mayor and City Council Meetings

- ◆ October 11th (Wed) - In-Person Mayor and City Council Meeting (6:00pm)
- ◆ October 23rd - In-Person Mayor and City Council Meeting (6:00pm)

October 2023 Boards and Commissions

- ◆ October 17th - Virtual Planning Commission (6:00pm)
- ◆ October 24th - Environmental Affairs Committee (6:00pm)
- ◆ October 26th - Virtual Board of Appeals (6:00pm)

November 2023 Mayor and City Council Meetings

- ◆ November 1st - Virtual Mayor & City Council Work Session (6:00pm)
- ◆ November 9th - In-Person Special Mayor & City Council Meeting (6:00pm)
- ◆ November 13th - Virtual Mayor & City Council Meeting (6:00pm)
- ◆ November 27th - In-Person Mayor & City Council Meetings (Swearing-In of New Mayor/Council)(6:00pm)

November 2023 Boards and Commissions

- ◆ November 14th - Planning Commission (6:00pm)
- ◆ November 21st - Historic District Commission (6:00pm)
- ◆ November 30th - Board of Appeals (6:00pm)

City Announcements & Events

(Dates and Times Subject to Change)

- ◆ **October 14, 2023 - Ecycle/Paper Shredding Event** - 8am-Noon - Public Works Facility (City Residents Only). Call 301-725-0088 for details.
- ◆ **October 14, 2023 - Pride Day** - 11am-4pm - Granville Gude Park
- ◆ **October 26, 2023 - Main Street Trick or Treat** - 6-8pm
- ◆ **October 27, 2023 - Take-Away Treat Spooktacular** - 6:30-8:30pm; Robert J. DiPietro Community Center, 7901 Cypress Street.
- ◆ **October 31, 2023 - City of Laurel Halloween Trick or Treat** - 6-8p
- ◆ **November 3, 2023 - Election Voting Machine Demonstration** - 4-6pm, Laurel Municipal Center, 8103 Sandy Spring Road
- ◆ **November 3, 2023 - Harvest Moon Hayride** - 6-9pm - Riverfront Park
- ◆ **November 4, 2023 - Early Voting** - 9am-5pm - Visit www.cityoflaurel.org for details.
- ◆ **November 7, 2023 - Laurel General Election Day** - 7am-8pm - Visit www.cityoflaurel.org for details.
- ◆ **November 10, 2023 - City/Passport Offices Closed In Observance of Veterans' Day**. Visit www.cityoflaurel.org for adjusted collections.
- ◆ **November 23 & 24, 2023 - City/Passport Offices Closed in Observance of Thanksgiving** - Visit www.cityoflaurel.org for adjusted collections.

The City of Laurel General Election will be held on **Tuesday, November 7, 2023**. Polls open from **7:00am - 8:00pm**. The election is for one (1) Mayor and five (5) City Council seats. Voters in the City of Laurel also have the option of Mail-In Voting. All Mail-In Voting Applications MUST be received by the Board of Election Supervisors by Tuesday, October 24, 2023. **Early Voting will be Saturday, November 4, 2023**. Polls open from **9:00am - 5:00pm**. Voters for both early and election day voting must do so at the voting ward that they live in. For details about polling locations and all other election information, visit www.cityoflaurel.org.

Public Works Monthly Glance



CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE. PLACE ON YOUR REFRIGERATOR.



November

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 World Vegan Day Virtual Work Session - 6p	2	3 Harvest Moon Hayride - 6-9pm Riverfront Park	4 Early Voting - 9a-5p Must Vote in Your Ward. Visit cityoflaurel.org for details.
5 Daylight Saving Time Ends	6 Laurel Election Day - 7a-8p Must Vote in Your Ward. Visit cityoflaurel.org for details.	7 Laurel Election Day - 7a-8p Must Vote in Your Ward. Visit cityoflaurel.org for details.	8 In-Person Special Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6p	9 City Offices Closed Friday Trash/Recycling & Composting collected Wednesday November 8th	10 Veterans Day	11
12 Virtual Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6p	13 Planning Commission - 6p	14 America Recycles Day	15	16 National Hiking Day	17	18
19	20 Historic District Commission - 6p	21	22 Thursday & Friday Trash/Recycling & Composting collected Wednesday	23 Thanksgiving City Offices Closed City is CLOSED, all collections are on Wednesday	24 City Offices Closed City is CLOSED, all collections are on Wednesday	25
26 In-Person Mayor and Council Meeting (Swearing In New Mayor/Council) - 6pm	27 Environmental Affairs Committee - 6pm	28	29	30 Board of Appeals - 6pm	November is Maryland Municipal Month	

CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE. PLACE ON YOUR REFRIGERATOR.



PUBLIC WORKS



301-725-0088



DPW@laurel.md.us

Laurel Division of Emergency Management: Be Prepared for Hurricanes



The Atlantic Hurricane Season is well underway. While it may be easy for us as residents of Maryland to feel a sense of security, the residual effects of hurricanes, including heavy rains, flooding, and power outages can disrupt lives more than you expect. Although our region does not often experience the direct impacts of hurricanes, this should not overshadow the importance of proactive preparedness.

Hurricanes can bring with them devastating and dangerous secondary hazards. Hazards, such as storm surge, wind damage, rip currents, and flooding, follow in the path of the hurricane. To prepare for these hazards it's important to understand what risk you may face and take the proper steps to proactively prepare for their impacts. Taking action to prepare you and your family before a storm is making headlines will allow you to take action to keep you and your loved ones safe.

The following are some tips to help you prepare:

- Stay informed:** Hurricanes slowly approach over several days. Follow emergency alerts and warnings to receive the most up-to-date information.
- Make a Kit:** Prepare an Emergency Preparedness Kit for you and your family. Have extra clothes, blankets, flashlights, batteries, and other necessary items prepared in the event you need to evacuate your home.
- Stockpile:** Gather 3-days worth of non-perishable food and water for every member of your family. One gallon of water per person per day is recommended.
- Make Copies:** Make copies of important documents such as personal IDs, birth certificates, social security cards, medical information, and insurance records.

For more information, visit <https://www.ready.gov/hurricanes>.

CITY CONTACTS



www.cityoflaurel.org

MAYOR'S OFFICE

301-725-5300
ext. 2125

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

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



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cadmin@laurel.md.us



lpd@laurel.md.us



parks@laurel.md.us



laurelpio@laurel.md.us