



# Milford

River Town • Art Town • Home Town

DELAWARE

## Sign-up Online

After a few months of printer errors and delays, we're back on track; however, we continue to waive late fees through the end of November. We still welcome customers 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>

## Nov. Community Happenings

- **Every Saturday, 9am-1pm:** The After Market in the Farmers Market area
- **Nov. 6 - Nov. 20, 10am-2pm:** Friends of the Milford Library Holiday Boutique
- **Monday, Nov. 8, 7pm:** City Council Meeting
- **Thursday, Nov. 11:** City Offices Closed due to Holiday
- **Thursday, Nov. 18, 6pm:** 15th Annual Holiday Auction/Tastes of Milford @ Milford Elks Lodge
- **Thursday, Nov. 18, 6pm:** Paint Night "Fun"Raiser @ Carlisle Fire Company
- **Saturday, Nov. 20, 9am:** Fall Market
- **Sunday, Nov. 21, 9am:** Milford in Bloom - Winter Greens, meet @ Santa House
- **Monday, Nov. 22, 7pm:** City Council Meeting
- **Thursday, Nov. 25:** City Offices Closed due to Holiday
- **Friday, Nov. 26:** City Offices Closed due to Holiday
- **Saturday, Nov. 27:** Shop Small Saturday
- **Saturday, Nov. 27, 11am-3pm:** Santa House
- **Sunday, Nov. 28, 9am-2pm:** Carlisle Fire Company Auxiliary Annual Craft Show

## Sussex Rehabilitation Program

Sussex County Community Development & Housing Department has funds for housing repairs and housing rehabilitation needs. Funds are limited and are provided on a first-come first-serve basis.

Contact Sussex County Community Development & Housing Department at 302.855.7777 for more information or to be added to the waiting list.

## Winter Parks & Rec Programs

Parks & Recreation Winter Sports Registration begins on Nov. 1. Basketball tryouts will be in December and practices and games will be held in January and February. Indoor Soccer will be on Sundays during January and February. The Little Bucs wrestling program will return and returning this year is Taekwondo, both in February and March. Developmental programs for soccer (5-6 years old) and basketball (6-7 years old) will also be offered this season. Check the City of Milford Parks & Recreation website for new programming with possible trips and special events for children and adults. Registration and questions can be directed to 302.422.1104.

## National Citizen Survey

The City of Milford is excited to announce the launch of Polco ([www.polco.us](http://www.polco.us)), an innovative online engagement platform that lets residents provide direct input to the local government decision-making process. By using Polco, the city is making public participation easier for residents. Officials will post questions directly to residents on Polco's website, where residents answer and comment on the questions.

The City of Milford will soon be asking residents for their input on quality of life, safety, infrastructure, historic preservation, business variety and several other topics. The results of this survey will guide the city's next strategic plan.

Select residents can expect to receive a mailed postcard with the survey link by late November.

## Commissioners Wanted

The City of Milford is currently seeking volunteers to join the city's Board of Adjustment (BOA) and Planning Commission (PC). The BOA reviews all variance applications as well as certain appeals. The PC reviews all land use applications for compliance with the zoning and subdivision ordinances. Interested residents can apply at <https://bit.ly/COMBoardApp>

# 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**

