

A bi-monthly newsletter published by the Denton Town Council

Denton Town News

March—April 2026
Vol. 35, No. 2

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SAVE THE DATE

Caroline Summerfest
AUG
21 & 22

Booth applications available the first week of April.

National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day January 9th



At the January 8, 2026 Town Council Meeting, members of the Denton Police Dept. received a proclamation for National Law Enforcement Day.

Thank you to our police officers and staff for all they do for the community.

Snow and Ice Storm Hits Close to Home



During the weekend of January 24th, the Town, along with most of the Eastern Shore, received 6-8 inches of snow followed by several inches of ice. This made for a slick situation for everyone.

storm, the temperatures stayed below freezing. This caused even more issues with hardening of the snow and ice. It made it difficult to drive in some areas and harder to walk in parking lots and side walks.

Denton Public Works was out during the storm weekend, and many days after the event, removing snow and ice off roadways and sidewalks.

We want to thank the Public Works staff for all they did during this weather event. They made it possible for residents to get out and around after the weather event.



UTILITY BILL ALERT!

Utility bills will be mailed around April 1, 2026. To avoid having your water turned off, **payment must be received by April 25, 2026.** Payments can be made in person Monday - Friday, from 8:30a.m. to 4:00p.m., online, by mail, at our drive-thru window, or by placing it in the night drop box located to the left of the front door.

Acceptable payment methods include cash, check, money order, or cashier's check. You can also pay by credit card at the office or [online](#). The next utility bill will be mailed around July 1, 2026, and will be due in full by July 25, 2026.

Town Meeting Calendar

Town Council Meetings

6p.m.

March 5

April 2

Town Council Working Session

6p.m.

March 16

April 13 (1p.m.)

April 20

Planning Commission

6p.m.

March 31

April 28

Historic Review

6p.m.

March 18

April 15

Utility Commission

4p.m.

March 18

April 15

Town Holidays

The Town Office will be closed on the following days:

April 3—Good Friday

Trash Pickup

Collection day will be every Wednesday, unless otherwise noted in the Times Record, Town Website, or Town Facebook page. Trash must be outside for pickup by 6a.m.

Web Page Address:

www.dentonmaryland.com

Or

find us on Facebook.

Has Your Water Bill Unexpectedly Increased?

Every billing quarter, the Town Office staff receives calls concerning increased water usage. Sometimes these increases are the result of a known water leak, while others do not know why they have an increase in water usage.

Do I have a leak?

You may decide to contact a local plumber and have them perform a full inspection of your plumbing, however there are a few things you can do yourself.

Check your inside and outside faucets for leaks. Make sure they are turned completely off with no drips evident. A dripping faucet can waste more than 3,000 gallons of water a year.

Check for leaky pipes under the house or basement.

Inspect your yard for wet areas that would nor-

mally be dry. An unusual wet area may indicate a broken water line buried in the ground.

Check your toilets for leaks. Toilet leaks are the most common reason for increased water usage. A toilet leak can waste several gallons of water per day.

Is it my water meter's fault?

It is important to note that residential water meters do not read more water than what passes through them. The common problems found with residential water meters are they do not read all the water passing through them or they stop reading all together.

How do I know if my toilets leak?

If you must jiggle a handle to make it stop running, if you regularly hear sounds coming from a toilet that is not being used, or if it periodically turns

the water on for 15 seconds or so without touching the handle, you can be certain you have a leak. Sometimes, even if your toilet doesn't have any of these symptoms, it's still possible that it is leaking. These "silent leaks" can go undetected, potentially wasting thousands of gallons of water.

How do I know if I have a "Silent leak"?

There are a couple of ways to check for a silent leak. For both methods, carefully remove the cover on the toilet tank and set it aside. Remove any "in-tank" bowl cleaners and flush so that the water in both the bowl and the tank is clear.

Method 1: Add dye to the tank. You can use dye capsules/tablets, food coloring or powdered fruit drink mix also works well. Put enough

Continue to page 5

Town of Denton 2026-2027				
Months of Service	Billing Date	Due Date	1% Interest Added	Shut Off Date
January - March	04/01/2026	04/27/2026	04/28/2026	05/06/2026
April—June	06/28/2026	07/27/2026	07/28/2026	08/06/2026
July - September	10/01/2026	10/25/2026	10/28/2026	11/07/2026
October - December	12/31/2026	01/27/2027	01/28/2027	02/06/2027

Next
Issue
Deadline
April 10, 2026



High Water Bills?

Check your faucets and toilets for leaks!

Denton Public Works
410-479-2050

Calendar of Events

March 2026

March is Endometriosis Awareness Month

5 - Town Council Meeting

6p.m. 4 N. 2nd St.

This meeting is open to the public, and we invite you to attend. Also available to watch online. Get the link at www.dentonmaryland.com/agenda.

7—Beaded Jewelry Workshop

Foundry 401 Market St. Denton, 3:30p.m.-5:30p.m.

\$35 per person, all ages. Create three pairs of earrings, a bracelet, and a necklace. All materials and gift boxes provided. Light refreshments

served. Register for classes at www.carolinearts.org.

8—Daylight Savings

Set your clock ahead one hour

14—Spring Equinox Dried Floral Broom & Half Moon Wreath

Foundry 401 Market St. Denton. 3:30p.m.-5:30p.m.

\$35 per person. All skill levels welcome. Create 2 beautiful nature inspired pieces. Materials provided. Light refreshments provided. Register for classes at www.carolinearts.org.

16 - Working Session

6p.m. 4 N. 2nd St.

This meeting is open to the public, and we invite you to attend. Also available to watch online. Get the link at www.dentonmaryland.com/agenda.

14 - St. Paddy's Day 5K

Choose from a 1-mile fun run to a 5K course through Denton. Register early for an event tee. Visit www.carolinemd.org for more info.

17—Happy St. Patrick's Day!

21—Air Plant Workshop

Foundry 401 Market St. Denton, 12-2p.m. \$22 per person.

Create a beautiful air plant arrangement perfect for someone you love. You will learn how to arrange and care for your air plant at home. Register for classes at www.carolinearts.org.

27—Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt

7:30p.m. Denton Elementary School. \$6 per child. Bring your flashlight and hunt for treat-filled eggs. Bring a basket or bag to gather your eggs and dress for the weather.

April 2026

2—Town Council Meeting

6p.m. 4 N. 2nd St.

This meeting is open to the public, and we invite you to attend. Also available to watch online. Get the link at www.dentonmaryland.com/agenda.

3—Good Friday, *Please note, the Town office will be closed.*

5—Happy Easter!

6—Teen Writers Club (1st Monday of the month) 7-8p.m.

On Zoom. Teens age 13-18 are invited to join the Teen Writer's Club. Offering a creative space for young writers to dive into engaging discussions, explore prompts, and share their work. Free! Register for classes at www.carolinearts.org.

7 & 21—Write On!

6:30-8p.m. on Zoom.

This is an online adult writers group that meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month. Join in to listen, write, and share any piece you're working on. Free! Visit www.carolinearts.org for more details.

13—Working Session

6p.m. 4 N. 2nd St.

This meeting is open to the public, and we invite you to attend. Also available to watch online. Get the link at www.dentonmaryland.com/agenda.

20—Working Session

6p.m. 4 N. 2nd St.

This meeting is open to the public, and we invite you to attend. Also available to watch online. Get the link at

www.dentonmaryland.com/agenda.

25—Harlem Renaissance Riverside Speakeasy

6-9p.m. Market St. Pub.

A lovely evening of music, atmosphere, appetizers, desserts, and drinks. Inspired by the Harlem Renaissance series of events. Visit www.carolinearts.org to register.

28—Harlem Renaissance Annual African American Read-In

11a.m.—1p.m. Caroline County Public Library, 100 Market St., Denton.

Stop by the library and join the local chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Delta Sigma Theta, Zeta Phi Beta, and Sigma Gamma Rho, in partnership with the CC Library

and CC Council of Arts. Special speakers and actors. Not to be missed! For more info. Visit www.carolinearts.org and click on events.

- Adkins Arboretum

410-634-2847

www.adkinsarboretum.org

-Caroline Co. Arts Council

410-479-1009

www.carolinearts.org

-Caroline Co. Public Library

410-479-1343

www.carolib.org

-Caroline Co. Recreation & Parks

410-479-8120

www.carolinerecreation.org

-Fiber Arts Center of the Eastern Shore

(FACES)

443-448-4611

www.fiberartscenter.com

Police Department...

Chief Bacorn Celebrates 35 Years of Service at Denton PD



Councilman Lester Branson presents Chief George Bacorn with a 35 years of service award at the January 8, 2026, Town Council Meeting.

George has been a member of the Denton Police Dept. for 35 years. He has worked his way up from a Patrolman to the Chief of Police. Congratulations!

Jerry Stivers Named Outstanding Service Provider of 2025



Congratulations to Sgt. Jerry Stivers of the Denton Police Department.

In December, he was named Outstanding Service Provider of the year for 2025.

Nominated by his peers, he received the Outstanding Service Award during the January 8, 2026 Town Council Meeting.

Thank you for all you do for the community and Town staff.

New Officer Sworn in January 8th



At the January 8, 2026 Town Council Meeting, Mayor Abby McNinch swore in Officer Toby Hafer.

Toby comes to us from

the Caroline County Sheriff's office. We look forward to having him on the force.

Bike Safety

Bicycle safety is very important. Make sure your child always wears a helmet and that it fits properly.



Check the bike to make sure the brakes, reflectors and tires are working properly. Adjust the seat to your child's height.

Teach your child to check for traffic before entering a street or intersection by looking left and right.

Explain the rules of the road to your child. Bicycles are considered vehicles and must obey the same rules as motorists.

Teach proper hand signals for left and right turns. Never allow your child to wear headphones while riding.



**2025 Federal and State Tax Deadline
April 15th**

Public Works...

Spring Loose Leaf Collection

The Town of Denton will be providing a special spring loose leaf collection service to vacuum up leaves left over from the fall. The Denton Public Works Department is scheduling their loose-leaf removal service to occur on

Monday - March 30,

Monday - April 6,

Friday - April 10,

Monday - April 13,

Friday - April 17,

Monday - April 20, and

Friday - April 24, 2026.

Leaves must be bagged for pick up through the remaining months of the year.

Leaf vacuuming will occur on Friday and/or Monday, pending workload. It will be necessary to call in your loose-leaf vacuum pickup request by 12:00p.m. on Thursday to guarantee pickup by Monday. We ask that you only have one pile of leaves, and have it located at the edge of your property, without obstructing sidewalks or roadways, where it can easily be accessed by Public Works.

Bagged leaf collection will still take place on Wednesdays and must be called in to the Town Office by 12:00p.m. on Tuesdays.

Citizens are encouraged to call the Town Office at (410) 479-2050 to request

pickup. If calling after hours, please leave the requests on the Town Office answering machine under special collections.

Please follow these guidelines for leaf removal:

-Rake leaves to the curbside or alley.

-DO NOT rake leaves into the street.

-DO NOT rake leaves onto the sidewalk.

-Make sure all sticks and limbs are removed from the pile of leaves.

-Make sure there are no other objects or debris mixed in with the leaves

(like bottles,

cans, flow-

erpots,

gloves, ash-

es, pet

waste, or

other trash).

-Piles of leaves

with sticks,

limbs, or other

debris **will not** be picked up.

-Phone in your pickup request to the Town Office at (410) 479-2050 by Thursday to be picked up by Monday.

-All pickups will be done by request/appointment only.

-Loose leaf pickups will occur from March 30 through April 24, on Mondays and Fridays only. Leaves must be bagged any other time.



Water Leak continued from page 2.

in the tank water to give the water a deep color.

Wait 30 minutes and don't use the toilet during that time.

After 30 minutes, if the water in the bowl contains dye, that indicates the toilet is leaking. A properly operating toilet will store the water in the tank indefinitely without any water running into the bowl.

Method 2: Before you go to bed, shut the water off to the toilet that is being tested. In the morning, check the water level in the tank. If there is only an inch of water left at the bottom of the tank, then one or more of your tank parts is bad and is allowing the leak.

My toilet is leaking – now what?

There are two possible culprits when a toilet leaks, the flush valve or the refill valve.

Draw a pencil line on the inside of the tank at the waterline.

Turn the water supply off, either under the tank

or at the main shutoff, and wait 20-30 minutes.

If the water level remains at the pencil mark, the leak occurs at the refill valve, the unit on the left side of the tank.

If the water level falls below the pencil mark, the leak involves the flush valve, the unit located in the center of the tank.

Most homeowners can make their own toilet repairs. If you do not wish to make repairs to your leaking toilet on your own, contact a local plumber to assist you. If you do wish to repair your leaking toilet on your own, remember to turn off the water supply at the shut off in your house, and then make the repair.

By making the necessary repairs, you can save many gallons of water and possibly reduce your water bill.

We encourage you to report to the Town Office all leaks found so we can document the leak information on your account. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact the Town Office at 410-479-2050.

Special Collection Reminder

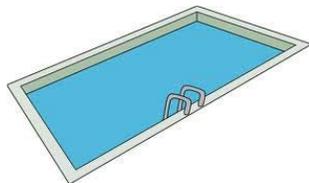
Household Items: All special collection items to be picked up on Wednesdays must be called in by 12p.m. on Tuesday. Effective January 1, 2003, there is a \$5.00 collection fee for each item to be collected. This fee must be paid prior to pick up date. Reminder that all mattresses and box springs must be wrapped in plastic and sealed with tape.

Yard Waste: All bagged leaf and brush pickup requests must be called in by 12p.m. on Tuesday for Wednesday pickup. Call all requests in to the Town Office at **410-479-2050**. Leave a message after normal business hours.

Planning & Codes...

Swimming Pool Permits

The Town of Denton requires property owners to obtain permits for all swimming pools above 24 inches deep. Accessory swimming pools may occupy a rear or side yard provided they are not located closer than 6 feet to a rear lot line or 10 feet to a side lot line.



Pools are required to be protected by a safety fence or barrier of at least 4 feet in height equipped with a self latching closure mechanism. A walk space of at

least 3-feet wide shall be provided between pool walls and fences. Where an aboveground pool structure is used as the protective barrier, the top of the barrier shall be at least 4-feet above grade, and the access gate is required to be secured.

Permits can be obtained at the Town of Denton Office, Department of Planning and Codes, 4 N. Second St.

Boat Ramp Permit Season

Boating season is here. Just a reminder, effective April 1, 2009, a permit is required to launch any vessel, via boat trailer, at all Caroline County boat ramps and public landings.

Permits may be purchased for one day use or annual use and vary in price.

A one day pass is \$10. Annual pass fees are \$25. Annual permits are valid only when displayed on the

driver's side of the boat trailer tongue, within 12 inches of the hitch. Daily permits must be hung on the inside mirror facing the windshield. Fines for a first offense are \$50, and a second offense is \$100.

Permits are available at the Denton Town Office, Caroline County Recreation and Parks Office, Caroline Co. Planning and Codes Office, Bullsheads Deli, and Caroline Co. Tax Office.



Stop. Shop. Explore Downtown Denton

Permits

The following is a list of permits issued by the Town of Denton between January 1, 2026-February 25, 2026.

109 Market Street	Tree Removal
510 Market Street	Tree Removal
101 N 6th St	Turning Commercial Space into Apts/ Dr Office
1021 Gay Street	Roof
1214 Market Street	Accessory - Shed 10 x 16
104 Sunset Dr	Patio Pavillion
12 N 6th St	Used Car Dealer
1199 Industrial Pkwy	7-Eleven Gas/Convenience
207 Sharp Rd	Major Rehab- From fire
209 N 5th	Siding
406 S 2nd St	Tree Removal, to be replaced
608 Gay St	Demo and capping
708 Gay	Fence
1152 Canvasback Lane	Roof
425 N 6th St	Roof
518 Lincoln St	Demo and capping
429 Caroline St	New 200A Backup Gateway for Solar
600 Market St	Roof
1403 Blue Heron	Roof
100 Denton Plaza	Fast Food Restaurant
214 S 1st	Tree Removal (1) / To Be Replaced (1)

Permit Reminder
A reminder from the Housing Department: Before you make improvements to your home, call the Denton Town Office Planning & Codes Department at 410-479-3625 or stop by 4 N. Second Street for permit information. Thank you.

- His Hope Ministries Shelter Needs**
- Coffee
 - Coffee Creamer
 - Canned Goods
 - Spaghetti
 - Spaghetti Sauce
 - Macaroni and Cheese
 - Peanut Butter
 - Potato Chips, Cookies, Snacks
 - Tuna Fish
 - Oodles N' Noodles
 - Frozen Meats
 - Trash Bags
 - Aluminum Foil
 - Laundry Detergent
 - Dryer Sheets
 - Plastic Bowls with Lids
 - Paper Plates
 - Plastic Utensils
 - Paper Towels
 - Saran Wrap
 - Toilet Paper
 - Lysol
 - Toilet Bowl Cleaner
 - Clorox Wipes
 - Bleach
 - Dishwashing Detergent
 - Kitchen Towels
 - Towels, Wash Cloths, Twin Sheets
 - Printer Paper
 - Razors
 - Feminine Hygiene Products
 - Alcohol Free Mouthwash
 - Dental Floss
 - Body Wash
 - Shampoo
 - Conditioner
 - Deodorant
 - Toothpaste
 - Gift Cards (Walmart, Food Lion)
 - 30 Gallon Clear Totes (Guests Belongings)
 - Staples Gift Cards (Ink)

Main Street & The Artsway...

Harlem Renaissance Event Kicks Off at Artsway Feb. 7



On February 7, the Caroline County Council of Arts held a kick-off event as part of their Harlem Renaissance event series in Denton.

The first event was held at the 4th St. Artsway District and included a Harlem Renaissance art exhibit at the Foundry Art Gallery, the public opening of the Richard Potter House at 9 N. 4th St., and a free fiber art fabric silhouette craft project at the Fiber Arts

Center, (as pictured to the left).

Although it was freezing cold that day, it was sunny and many people came out to the event.

The Fiber Arts Center also had an artist's reception for Geri Cohens-Headley. Her quilts are currently on display at the Fiber Arts Center, located at 7 N. 4th St. Denton. (See page 8 for the full article).

The Denton Artsway District is located on N 4th St. between Market St. and Gay St. in Downtown Denton. For hours of operation please visit www.carolinearts.org or fiberartscenter.org.



9 N. 4th Street Conveyed to the Fiber Arts Center



Fiber Art Center Board Members, Cathy Spence and Victoria McConnell, accepting the key to the Richard Potter House.

At the February 5, 2026 Town Council meeting, the Council approved agreements to convey the recently renovated Richard Potter House located at 9 N. 4th Street, to the Fiber Arts Center of the Eastern Shore.

The Fiber Arts Center board of directors have big plans to expand their current location at 7 N. 4th St behind the Richard Potter

House. This will expand their class and display space and allow one person to run both buildings if needed.

The Richard Potter House is a historic landmark in Denton and will be open to the public in the near future. Stay tuned to their website and Facebook page for dates and times the buildings will be open.



**CALLING ALL 4TH GRADE MARYLAND STUDENTS!
SUBMIT YOUR ESSAY FOR THE 2026
"IF I WERE MAYOR, I WOULD..." ESSAY CONTEST**

DATES OF INTEREST

- Essay Submissions Open: January 5, 2026
- Essay Submissions Close: March 5, 2026
- Essay Reading Date: March 12, 2026
- Winners Announced: Week of March 16, 2026
- Essay Ceremony Honoring Winners: April 10 (tentative)

Join the more than 50,000 fourth-grade Maryland students who have participated in the annual "If I Were Mayor, I Would..." essay contest. Now marking its 26th year, this Maryland Mayors Association tradition is one of the state's most exciting civic education programs for young students. The contest encourages fourth graders to think creatively about leadership, local government, and ways they would improve their communities if they were mayor. Through this experience, students learn that their ideas matter and that they can play an important role in shaping the future of their towns and cities.



Yarnstorming at Adkins Arboretum—March 2-31



Yarnstorming is a form of public art that employs the use of yarn and fiber.

Adkins Arboretum's Yarnstorming exhibit invites fiber artists, or teams of artists, to wrap dormant trees in colorful fiber creations. Sponsored in partnership with the [Fiber Arts Center of the Eastern Shore](#) (FACES), the Yarnstorming exhibit will be on display for Arboretum visitors to enjoy in the weeks just before the first buds of Spring appear.

Trees will be judged by FACES members and prizes will be awarded.

A reception for the exhibit will take place on Saturday, March 7, at the Adkins Arboretum [Visitor's Center](#) from 1–3 pm. Artists and the general public are invited to attend this free event. [Please RSVP to the reception here.](#)

Yarnstorming participants are encouraged to register in-person at the Visitor's Center, so they can choose the tree they wish to decorate, take reference photographs, and measure-

ments.

Participants who are unable to register in-person should email Jean Wortman, Visitor's Services Manager, or call the Visitor's Center at 410-634-2847.

1) Artists should follow these guidelines when planning their design:

For the health of our trees and wildlife, refrain from using glitter, wire, mesh, plastics, nails, or tacks.

2) All work must be safely reachable by an 8' ladder.

3) Installations should be in trees only and should not extend to surrounding vegetation.

Please direct Yarnstorming questions to Jean Wortman, Visitor Services Manager.

For additional details, please visit the Fiber Arts Center website at <https://fiberartscenter.com/upcoming/> or https://www.adkinsarboretum.org/programs_events/art-at-adkins/yarnstorming.html.

Fiber Artists Reception February 7

Gerri Cohens-Headley exhibit at the Fiber Arts Center of the Eastern Shore. **January 2 – February 28, 2026.**

The Fiber Arts Center in Denton held an artist reception during the February 7, 2026 Harlem Renaissance event at the 4th Street Arts-way District for Gerri Cohens-Headley.

Gerri's quilt journey began during a season of recovery, when creativity became both a comfort and a source of renewed purpose. Her curiosity quickly grew into a deep love for quilting – exploring fabric, color, texture, and design while honoring both traditional and modern techniques.

We invite you to visit the Fiber Arts Center, Weds. – Saturdays from 12:00p.m. – 4:00pm to experience her quilts up close and to learn more about the stories behind them.



The exhibit is free and open to everyone, located at 7 N. 4th St., Denton, MD. 21629.

The Fiber Arts Center is a non-profit organization and the region's premier resource for fiber artists and fiber art enthusiast. Whether to visit, shop, learn, connect, or find inspiration, we encourage you to check in often. They offer classes monthly. Visit their website for more details at www.fiberartscenter.com



HARLEM RENAISSANCE

Annual African American Read-In

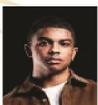
March 28, 2026

11:00-1:00 PM

at the
Caroline County Public Library
100 Market Street,
Denton MD 21629



Speaker, Prof.
Dwight R.B. Cook
of Morgan State
University



Featuring actor
Gregory Trowler
as Langston
Hughes

Please join the local chapters of
Alpha Kappa Alpha, Delta Sigma
Theta, Zeta Phi Beta and Sigma
Gamma Rho, in partnership
with the Caroline County
Library and Caroline County
Council of Arts.



Denton Becomes a Bird City Maryland Community



Feb.16,2026

The Bird City Maryland program was started in 2019 as a way to encourage communities in Maryland to enhance the environment for birds and educate the public about the contributions birds make to a healthy community.

Bird City Maryland is an initiative of the Maryland Bird Conservation Partnership. In 2023 Bird City Maryland joined the National Bird City Network, a joint venture of the **American Bird Conservancy** and **Environment for the Americas**. The Network unites and connects independent Bird City programs throughout the hemisphere who work directly with local communities to envision and complete bird-friendly actions. Together we form a powerful collaborative force – connecting people and helping birds across the hemisphere.

Bird City Maryland is pleased to announce that the Town of Denton has been recognized as Caroline County's first Bird City Maryland community.

Located along the Choptank River in the heart of [Denton](#), the surrounding landscape offers a rich variety of habitats that support an impressive diversity of birdlife throughout the year. Wooded stream corridors, wetlands, open farmland, and neighborhood green spaces all contribute to the area's appeal for both residents and migratory birds. In spring and fall, Denton lies beneath the Atlantic Flyway, making it an excellent place to observe migrating songbirds, shorebirds, and raptors as they pause to rest and refuel. Summer brings breeding birds such as Eastern Bluebirds, Indigo Buntings, and Common Yellowthroats, while winter months often feature Bald Eagles, waterfowl, and mixed flocks of sparrows.

Some of the best birding opportunities near Denton can be found along the Choptank River and its tributaries, as well as in nearby parks, preserves, and wildlife management areas. These places are valued not only by birders, but also by walkers, paddlers, families, and students who enjoy spending time outdoors. Together, they highlight Denton's close connection to the natural world, and the role local landscapes play in supporting birds across the seasons.

Bird Cities are required

to complete at least 10 action points, including committing to an annual celebration of World Migratory Bird Day which will be celebrated at Summerfest. World Migratory Bird Day has an annual conservation action theme and is sponsored by the Environment for the Americas, a Western Hemispheric organization that connects diverse people to birds and nature. This year's theme is "Every Bird Counts: Your Observation Matters".

The application is divided into four categories: Habitat, Threats to Birds, Education and Engagement and Sustainability. Each category has multiple possible actions that cities can complete. Communities must complete 3 actions in the Habitat category and at least 1 action each in the other 3 categories as well as passing a resolution committing to becoming a Bird City. Denton will be recognized at the High Flyer level with over 20 points.

Highlights from the Town of Denton's application include:

An ornamental and edible native plants garden at the Caroline Culinary Arts Center that replaced the lawn. A town newsletter addressing invasive plants, window collisions and how to address them and the importance of keeping cats indoors.

A gazebo at the Wharves of Choptank

J.O.K. Walsh Visitor and Heritage Center displays a permanent set of art panels featuring a variety of native birds.

The Caroline County Bird Club supports the Advanced Manufacturing Program (AMP) at the Caroline County Career and Technology Center at North Caroline High School. As part of the program, the students design, create and build bird boxes to sell to the community. The students will research various species of birds and then design a bird box for their particular species. The class and advisors will vote on which bird box the students will promote each year. The students will then build boxes and present and sell them to various groups in the community.

The Town of Denton entered into an agreement, approximately 15 years ago, with a solar company to build a panel array at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, which offsets the energy demands from the power grid. In addition, the Town has partnered with an additional solar provider to promote solar credits for town residents who are connected to Delmarva Power.

The Town of Denton's full achievements can be found on this webpage:

birdcity.org/Maryland/Denton

18th Annual



ST. PADDY'S 5K
CAROLINE COUNTY RECREATION and PARKS

St. Patrick's Day 5K Run & 1-Mile Fun Run
Saturday, March 14, 2026
General James F. Fretterd Community Center
107 South 4th Street, Denton, MD

DARE TO WEAR YOUR ST. PATRICK'S DAY SPIRIT!

All net proceeds benefit youth registration financial aid fund for programs produced by Caroline County Recreation & Parks.



Save time and register online



EVENT FEATURES
Early registration discounts through Friday, February 20
Chip Course Timing and finish line coordination by Tim Bamforth and Seashore Striders
Tech Performance T's guaranteed for all early registrants.
Awards for Overall and Masters Champions and top three finishers in 15 age groups for 5K

RACE REGISTRATION
Online via [runsignup.com](https://www.runsignup.com) through Friday, March 13 at 3 pm.
Via Mail Same dates and times apply for mail-in or direct delivery of race registration to Fretterd Center/CCRP Office Headquarters 107 S. 4th St., Denton, MD 21629
Registration capped at 250 People.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Flat, gently graded out and back course through scenic residential neighborhoods to local Elementary School.

Event Production Partners:

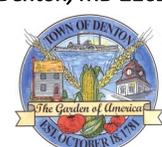


Tax Sale Reminder

The 2025 - 2026 Real Property Tax Sale process will begin soon. If you have not paid your real property taxes, water and sewer billings, or any other miscellaneous service charges to the Town of Denton, please do so immediately to avoid losing your property during the Tax Sale process.

All real property taxes were due in full by December 31, 2025, and are to be paid at the Caroline County Tax Office, located in the Caroline County Courthouse. To verify that your real property taxes have been paid, please call the County Tax office at 410-479-0410. If you want to check to see if you have any other outstanding bills due on your property within the Town of Denton, please contact the Finance Dept. at 410-479-2050.

Town of Denton
4 N. Second St.
Denton, MD 21629



**ATTENTION OWNER OCCUPIED PROPERTY OWNERS:
YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR A FINANCIAL HARDSHIP EXEMPTION FROM
PAYING THE STATE OF MARYLAND'S BAY RESTORATION FEE (BRF)**

Bay Restoration Fund Facts

In 2004, the State of Maryland took a major step to protect our waterways through the enactment of the Bay Restoration Fund (Senate Bill-320). The purpose of the bill was to create a dedicated fund to improve the environment and water quality of the Chesapeake Bay. Through an environmental surcharge fee, this fund is used to upgrade wastewater treatment plants, upgrade septic systems in the critical area, and implement cover crops on agricultural land. Approximate annual fee to the user \$30.00. SB320 also required all Municipalities to bill all properties through their Utility Billing and transmit the funds to the State.

During the 2012 State of Maryland Legislative Session came the adoption of Senate Bill 240, doubling the BRF. Effective July 1, 2012, the BRF was doubled for all property owners. For most the fee is now \$60.00 a year. The Town of Denton began billing the new fees on the Utility Bills issued on Oct. 1, 2012, (for the July 1, 2012 –Sept. 30, 2012 billing cycle).

Single Family Residential Home Owners - saw a quarterly increase from \$7.50 per quarter to \$15.00 per quarter; annual increase from \$30.00 to \$60.00.

Non-Residential/Commercial Owners – the BRF is based on the number of EDU's and the total average daily water consumption. Minimum BRF will be \$15.00 per quarter/\$60.00 for a year.

BRF Exemption Plan – With the implementation of House Bill #446, another bill was adopted during the 2012 legislative session in which Municipalities are now required to establish a BRF Exemption Plan.

As a result, on February 7, 2013, The Denton Town Council took action and adopted Resolution #778, establishing a BRF Exemption Plan and Application.

If you own property within the Denton Town limits and it is your primary place of residence, visit www.dentonmaryland.com to read more about the BRF Exemption Plan to see if you **qualify** for an exemption from paying the State of Maryland's Bay Restoration Fee.

Applications can be found on the Town of Denton Website at www.dentonmaryland.com or stop by the Denton Town Office at 4 N. Second Street to pick up a copy or call 410-479-2050 to request to have a copy mailed to you.

For additional information about the State of Maryland Bay Restoration Fund visit the Maryland Department of the Environment website at: www.mde.state.md.us.

TOWN OF DENTON

BAY RESTORATION FUND EXEMPTION PROCEDURE

The Town of Denton has established a program to exempt certain owner-occupied residential properties from the Bay Restoration Fee based on substantial financial hardship. To qualify for this exemption, the applicant must meet at least **(2) two** of the following criteria:

PROPOSED FINANCIAL HARDSHIP EXEMPTION CRITERIA:

Factors to be considered for exemption are the following:

- Receiving energy assistance subsidy.
- Receiving public assistance – supplemental security income (SSI) or SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)
- Receiving veterans or social security disability benefits.
- Meeting the income criteria below:

Must supply proof of household’s gross income received in the 30 days prior to the date you sign this application – bank statements, pay subs, etc.

**Income Eligibility Limits*
Effective July 1, 2025– June 30, 2026**

<i>Household Size</i>	<i>Monthly Income Is Less than</i>
1	\$2,608
2	\$3,525
3	\$4,441
4	\$5,358
5	\$6,275
6	\$7,191
7	\$8,108
8	\$9,025
9	\$9,942
10	\$10,859

Income limits established by the Maryland Department of Human Resources/Office of Home Energy Programs www.dhs.maryland.gov/office-of-home-energy-programs/how-do-you-apply.

Applications can be found on the Town of Denton website at www.dentonmaryland.com or call the office at 410-479-2050 and ask for Joanna Reedy in Finance.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND FORMS:

- Complete the Bay Restoration Fee hardship exempt application form.
- Check all boxes that apply. You must check at least two (2) boxes to qualify for an exemption.
- Verification of any exemption criteria (proof of assistance, proof of income, etc.) must be presented with the

completed application.

-Sign and date the form and submit it with the verification document to Town of Denton, Attn: Clerk-Treasurer, 4 N. Second St., Denton, MD 21629.

-Renewal applications shall be received by May 30th of each year.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED:

- Copy of tax bill.
- Proof the applicant is the owner and resides at the property – copy of energy bill.
- Copy of other documentation about receiving one of the above benefits.

EXEMPTION TIME-PERIOD:

- Maximum of one year based on fiscal year July 1st through June 30th.
- Applicants must request exemption renewal.



Updates on Ordinances & Resolutions

Ordinance 765— An Ordinance of the Town of Denton authorizing the conveyance of property located at 9 N Fourth Street, Denton, Maryland, and identified in the tax records of Caroline County as Parcel 823 of Tax Map 0103. Introduced 01/08/26, passed 02/05/26, effective 02/12/26.

Complete copies of all Resolutions and Ordinances may be viewed at the office

of the Town of Denton, 4 North Second Street, Denton, Maryland, during normal working hours 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To inquire or obtain additional information regarding these amendments please contact the Clerk-Treasurer at (410) 479-2050.



**A REMINDER FROM THE
DENTON POLICE DEPARTMENT.
LOCK YOUR SHEDS
AND VEHICLES**

Denton Police Dept. would like to remind you to keep your tools and valuables locked up.

There has been an increase in tool thefts recently. Thank you.

Denton Town News

Volume 35, Number 2
March—April 2026

*A community newsletter, published bi-monthly by the
Town of Denton*

Mayor: Abigail W. McNinch

Council: Keith Johnson
Frank Joseph Taylor, III
Lester L. Branson
Dallas Lister

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*Town of Denton
4 N. Second Street,
Denton, Maryland, 21629
410-479-2050
www.DentonMaryland.com*

Service Fees for Utility Calls

All calls for utility service for properties located in the Town of Denton are assessed the following service fee. This fee applies for all water shut off/turned on, and other miscellaneous calls for service. Paying utility bills on time can help the property owner avoid these fees.

Special Attention: Any water that is turned off will be assessed this fee to have the water turned back on. Tenants will need to pay this fee before water service is turned back on. (This may not apply for emergency situations pending the nature of the call.)

\$50.00 fee during normal business hours.

\$100.00 fee after normal business hours.

IT IS UNLAWFUL TO TAMPER WITH THE TOWN OF DENTON UTILITIES. DOING SO CARRIES UP TO A \$1,000 FINE AND POSSIBLE ARREST. PLEASE CONTACT THE DENTON PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. AT 410-479-2050 IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE WITH YOUR SERVICE.

Attention Settlement Attorneys

Reminder to all settlement attorneys and agencies to contact the Denton Town Office for fees due to the Town when handling settlements for properties being sold or transferred within the Town limits. There may be water/sewer fees or miscellaneous charges that need to be collected at the time of settlement. This will keep the Town's records up to date and better serve the residents of the Town of Denton. This will also eliminate problems after settlement of any outstanding balances for the new property owner.

Please note: Any property that transfers ownership, and the utility fees are not collected at settlement and forwarded to the Town that result in the water being turned off for non-payment, the water turn on fee will still be charged. This charge may be passed on to the settlement attorney. Currently, the fee to turn water service back on during regular business hours is \$50.00, and after 3:30 PM, the fee is \$100.00. Forms are available to use when requesting information. Any questions, please call the Town of Denton at 410-479-2050.