

A bi-monthly newsletter published by the Denton Town Council

Denton Town News

July—August 2026
Vol. 35, No. 4

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National Day of Prayer May 7



The National Day of Prayer event was held May 7th in Caroline County.

Chief Bacorn and Councilman Johnson spoke at the National Day of Prayer event.

The event is held annually at the Caroline County Courthouse.

Mayor Citation Celebrates Two Denton Students



June, 2, 2026—Denton Elementary School had a special visit from Mayor Abby McNinch! She presented 4th grade students, Callie Thomas and London Hayes, with Citations for their "If I were Mayor" essays! Congratulations dolphins!

UTILITY BILL ALERT!

Utility bills will be mailed around July 1, 2026. To avoid having your water turned off, **payment must be received by July 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 October 1, 2026, and will be due in full by October 25, 2026.

CAROLINE SUMMERFEST

AUGUST 21 & 22
5P.M.-9P.M.
Friday Car Show
Saturday: Fireworks

And so much more...

Town Meeting Calendar

Town Council Meetings

6p.m.

July 2
August 6

Town Council Working Session

6p.m.

July 20

Planning Commission

6p.m.

July 28
August 25

Historic Review

6p.m.

July 15
August 19

Utility Commission

4p.m.

July 15
August 19

Town Holidays

The Town Office will be closed on the following days:

July 3
August 24

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.

Municipal Clerks Week May 3-9



The Finance Department celebrated Municipal Clerks Week May 3-9. They received a proclamation at the May 7, 2026 Town Council meeting and a treat during the work week. Thank you for all you do for the community and town staff. We appreciate you all!

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.

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.

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
August 10th**



High Water Bills?

Check your faucets and toilets for leaks!

Denton Public Works
410-479-2050

Calendar of Events

July 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—Town Office Closed.

In observance of Independence day.

4—250th Anniversary of Independence Day.

4—250th Monument Dedication

12p.m. Courthouse steps. Denton. This event is open to the public.



10—Cruise-In Car Show

6-8p.m. Downtown Denton. Call 410-479-1414 to

register your vehicle. Hosted by Denton PD.



16—Third Thursday

200 block of Market St. 6-9p.m. Join the monthly cornhole tournament, meet new people, bring a friend to play, enjoy the outdoors in historic downtown Denton.

21—Write On! Online

Adult Writers' Group

The theme "Starry, starry night." The free online session welcomes adults who want to listen, write, or share their work in an encouraging environment. Visit www.carolinearts.org for details.

25—Seven Secrets of Drawing with Petrea

Participants ages 16 and older will learn practical techniques to strengthen observational drawing skills and build confidence in a fun, supportive setting. Visit www.carolinearts.org for details.

August 2026

5-8—Caroline Dorchester County Fair

4-H Park on Detour Rd. Denton.

Bring the family to this annual event where music, food, rides, games, displays, produce, and livestock abound. Visit

www.carolinedorchestercountyfair.com for full details and schedules.

6—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.



13—Third Thursday

200 block of Market St. 6-

9p.m. Join the monthly cornhole tournament, meet new



people, bring a friend to play, enjoy the outdoors in historic downtown Denton.

14—Friday Night Cruise-In Car Show

6-8p.m. Downtown Den-



ton. Call 410-479-1414 to register your vehicle.

Hosted by Denton PD.

21 & 22—Caroline Summerfest . 5-9p.m. Downtown Denton.

Bring the family to the 37th annual Caroline Summerfest. This year's theme is Celebrating 250 years of the USA! Free entertainment, live music, ven-



dors, bounce rides, fire truck rides(\$), food booths (\$), free Rec-Creation activities for the kids, Car Show (Friday), Fireworks 9p.m. (Sat.) Visit www.carolinesummerfest.com for full details.

24—Town Office Closed

- 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...

Police Week May 10-16



May 10-16 was National Police Week. During the May 7, 2026 Town Council meeting, Chief Bacorn accepted a proclamation on behalf of the Denton Police Dept.

The Police Dept. and Public Works shared a joint lunch to celebrate Police Week and Public Works Week. Thank you to the officers and staff of the police department for all you do.

Candlelight Vigil May 11



On May 11, 2026, the Denton Police Department hosted its annual Candlelight Vigil at Calvary Baptist Church, honoring the lives and sacrifices of fallen police officers.

Thank you to everyone who joined us in remembrance, reflection, and support for our law enforcement families and community.

2026 Caliber Award Recipient



Congratulations to Sgt. Jerry Stivers on receiving the 2026 Caliber Award for Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)!

Sgt. Stivers was recognized for his outstanding dedication to our community—both through his work in the field and his commitment to helping

others grow. In addition to using his CIT training to make a positive impact every day, he also partners with the Sante Group to help train and mentor new officers in the program.

Thank you, Sgt. Stivers, for your service and leadership. We're proud to have you on our team.

2026 Friday Night Cruise-In



Join us for the 2026 Event
In Historic Downtown Denton

2nd Friday of the month
6p.m.-8p.m.

200 Block of Market Street, Historic Denton, Maryland

May 8 – June 12 – July 10
August 14 – Sept. 11 – Oct. 9

Bring the family out and enjoy Denton's Friday Night Cruise-In!
There will be a DJ spinning oldie, food vendors, and more!
Dedicated to founder, Dean Danielson.

Have a motorcycle or car you would like to display?
Contact Denton PD at (410)-479-1414



Sponsored by Denton Police Dept.

Each Month collecting
non-perishable food
for the Denton PD
Green the Cruiser
Program.

HOT CARS CAN KILL

Never leave your children or pets unattended in a hot car. The results can be deadly.

Public Works...

Public Works Week May 17-23



May 17-23 was National Public Works Week. At the May 7, 2026 Town Council meeting, Superintendent of Public Works Mark Chandler accepted a proclamation on behalf of the Public Works Department crew.

Thank you for your dedication to the residents of Denton.

Tips for Saving Water Outside



FORTY PERCENT OF TOTAL HOUSEHOLD WATER SUPPLY IS USED OUTSIDE THE HOME!

Maryland's water resources are daily sprinkled, squirted, dripped, gushed, and often wasted outside the home. **Follow these tips to reduce water use outdoors:**

Landscape Irrigation- Install efficient irrigation systems such as drip irrigation, soil soakers, and efficient sprinkler systems.

Set sprinklers for lawn and garden only, don't water the street or sidewalk.

Water the lawn only when the ground is dry and preferably no more than once a week: The amount of water used by a sprinkler in one hour is equal to the daily water needs of a family of four.

Water during the coolest part of the day and never water on windy days: As much as 30% of water used can be lost to evaporation by watering lawn during midday.

Pull weeds to decrease competition for water. Increase mowing height to 2-3 inches and apply mulch to both reduce evaporation and prevent weed growth.

Limit grass areas and use trees, shrubs, and other plants that require less water to landscape your yard: Grass turf requires 30-50% more water than shrubs and other groundcover. Other Outdoor Use- Repair or replace leaking hoses and sprinklers. Always use an automatic shut-off nozzle on hoses.

Use a broom rather than a hose to clean decks, sidewalks, and other paved areas: 5 minutes of running the hose uses 25 gallons of water!

Use a bucket of suds to wash a car or bicycle, then rinse quickly with a hose.

Collect rainwater for reuse in the garden whenever possible.

Cover pools to prevent evaporation. An average uncovered pool loses about an inch of water a week because of evaporation.

<https://dentonpublicworks.com/water/tips-for-saving-water-outside-the-home/>



SUMMER CAMP

@ THE FOUNDRY

Craft a Mosaic, Make a Wind Chime, Decoupage an Oyster Shell, Create Mixed Media Owl Art, & Build a Fairy House

- Cost is \$35 per session
- 2 sessions for \$60
- All Sessions \$150
- Every Wednesdays in July
- Teacher ~ Joanne Gelles

Dates: July 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th
Time: 12:00 to 2:00 pm
Location: 401 Market Street
 Denton MD, 21629

FUN

CREATIVE

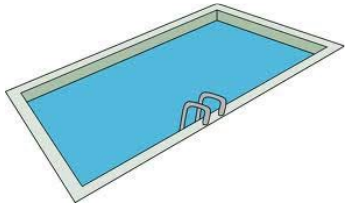
PLAY

Hurry, spaces are limited! Register now www.carolinearts.org

Planning & Codes...

Swimming Pool Permits

The Town of Denton requires property owners to obtain permits for all swimming pools greater than 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.



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.

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

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

Permits

208 S 1st St	Brick Foundation Repair
208 S 1st St	Patio
201 S 6th St	Tree Removal (2) Damaged Trees
107 Butler Dr	Tree Removal (1) Damaged Tree
105 Primrose Ave	Patio
209 S 5th St	Tree Removal (3)
1154 Canvasback Ln	ReRoof
1302 Blue Heron	ReRoof
413 Caroline	Shed - Under 200 Sq Ft
112 Kerr Ave	Deck Rehab - Covered Deck
751 Crystal	Fence
100 Briarwood Cir	ReRoof
1109 Weeping Willow Ct	Deck
216 S 2nd St	Pellet Stove Install
508 Market St	Siding
208 S 3rd St	Addition
1311 Fairfield Ct	ReRoof
1113 Canvasback Ln	Door Replacement
107 Lou Ave	ReRoof
706 S 2nd	Fence
220 S 1st St	Tree Removal / To Be Replaced
430 S 2nd St	Tree Removal / To Be Replaced
203 Sharp Rd	Tree Removal / To Be Replaced
506 High St	Fence
520 N 6th St	Shed - Under 200 Sq Ft
1603 Cattail Commons	Fence
114 Market St, Suite 207	Admin Site Plan
1207 Fairfield Ct	Fence
611 Market St	Tree Removal
10030 Pearson	AG Pool
1217 Painted Fern Rd	Solar
1304 Blue Heron Dr	ReRoof
520 N 6th St	Window Replacements
107 Butler Dr	AG Pool
Crouse Park Ln	Water Main Extension
535 High St	Shed - Under 200 Sq Ft
11 N 6th	ReRoof

CAROLINE - DORCHESTER COUNTY FAIR

AUGUST 5-8, 2026

For a full schedule of events and information on livestock shows, 4-H cake auction, contests, demonstrations, and dinners please visit:

<https://carolinedorchestercountyfair>
or find us on Facebook @ CarolineDorchester County Fair

Entertainment Schedule

Thursday, August 6 @ 7pm
Randy Lee Ashcraft and the Saltwater Cowboys

Friday, August 7 @ 7pm
The Reagan Years

Saturday, August 8 @ 8 pm
Triple V Cattle Company Rodeo

Grass Cutting Season is Upon Us

Please remember to keep your lawn trimmed to 6 inches or shorter.

This reduces rodent and insect infestations.

To avoid clogged drains, keep grass clippings out of the streets.

Thank you
Denton Planning and Codes Dept.

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.

Main Street & The Artsway...

First Cruise-In Car Show of 2026



May 8, 2026, the first Cruise-In Car Show of the season was held in downtown Denton. Mr. Marvin Jenkins was the trophy winner. He brought his 1931 Ford to the event. We also had a motorized picnic table attend. That was a crowd favorite too.



1976 Time Capsule Opening



Did you know that in 1976, during the Bicentennial of the USA, the Senior class of NCHS and CRHS buried a time capsule on the grounds of the Caroline County Courthouse?

Well they did, and on March 25, 2026, members of that class were present to dig it up after 50 years.

A group gathered that day to learn about the story of the burying and what items were picked for the box. It was a fascinating event and the items in the

box were still nice and dry, and fun to take a look at.

There were local newspapers, high school year books, high school sports information, and so much more.

Guests that day had an opportunity to look at the items and reminisce about that time in history.

The time capsule will be on display at Caroline Summerfest, August 21 & 22. Find their booth at 2nd and Gay Street.



Stop, Shop, Explore
Downtown Denton

37th ANNUAL

**AUGUST
21&22
2026**

Caroline Summerfest

**CELEBRATING
250
years
of AMERICA!**



FREE **Friday** **CAR SHOW**
Saturday **FIREWORKS**

Family Festival

5-9 pm **IN HISTORIC DENTON, MARYLAND**

Celebrate America's 250th Anniversary with two days of music, arts & crafts, classic cars, food vendors, and fireworks!



Funded in part by the Maryland State Arts Council & the Caroline County Council of Arts.
Production support by the Town of Denton and Caroline County Recreation & Parks.

Benefiting the non-profit organizations of Caroline County. 410.479.8120

**THANK YOU TO
OUR PARTNERS**



CarolineSummerfest.com

Ordinance No. 768

AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS AND ESTIMATE INCOME IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BUDGET ADOPTED FOR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2026 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2027.

Be it Ordained and Enacted by the Denton Town Council, Denton, Maryland, that the following tax rates and fees, revenue and expenditure estimates are enacted for Fiscal Year 2027:

- Sec. 1 General Fund
- Sec. 2 Rate of Taxation on Real Property
- Sec. 3 Rate of Taxation on Corporation
- Sec. 4 Rate of Taxation on Railroad and Utility Property

Sec. 1 General Fund

- A. That the following amounts shall be and hereby are appropriated for the expenditures designated for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027 for the General Fund:

Activity Title	Approved Budget and Appropriation
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	
General Government	138,800
General Administration	247,955
Town Council	34,250
Election	2,950
Municipal Building	129,824
Financial Administration	487,939
General Government - Total	1,041,718
PUBLIC SAFETY	
Police Department	2,762,610
Misc. Police Grants	7,500
Volunteer Fire Co.	91,500
Planning & Codes	894,199
Public Safety - Total	3,755,809
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	
Community Development	25,000
Main Street	25,000
Tourism	117,260
Summerfest	4,500
Community Development - Total	171,760
PUBLIC WORKS	
Street Lighting	102,000
Street Sanitation	190,373
Waste Collection	343,908

Mosquito Spraying	20,000
Parks	179,825
Tennis Courts	<u>2,000</u>
Public Works Department - Total	838,105
HIGHWAY FUND CONTRIBUTION	62,000
GENERAL FUND DEBT	195,624
GENERAL FUND RESERVE	1,775,565
TOTAL GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION	<u>7,840,580</u>

B. That the following revenues are, in the considered judgment of the Town Council, a fair appraisal and estimate of the revenues available to finance this budget and these appropriations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027.

Source	Estimated Revenues
Taxes	4,178,477
Licenses and Permits	61,700
Revenue from Other Agencies	185,487
Miscellaneous Income	338,450
General Fund Balance Forward	<u>3,076,466</u>
Total FY 2026 Revenues	7,840,581

Balanced

\$0

Sec. 2 Rate of Taxation on Real Property

That the rate of taxation on real property to be taxed within the boundaries of the Town of Denton, Maryland shall be and hereby is established as:

Sixty-six cents (\$0.66)

on each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of the value for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 and including June 30, 2027

Sec. 3 Rate of Taxation on Business Personal Property

That the rate of taxation for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 and including June 30, 2027, on any incorporated personal property to be taxed by the Town of Denton, Maryland, shall be and hereby is established as:

One Dollar and Fifty cents (\$1.50)

on each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessed valuation, unless otherwise provided for by Article 81 of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

Sec. 4 Rate of Taxation on Railroad and Utility Property

That the rate of taxation for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 and including June 30, 2027 on any railroad and utility property to be taxed by the Town of Denton, Maryland, shall be and hereby is established as:

One Dollar and Seventy cents (\$1.70)

on each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessed valuation, unless otherwise provided for by Article 81 of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

Sec. 5 Service and Administration Fee Collected by Caroline County Tax Office

That the rate of service and administrative fees on semi-annual billings assessed and collected by the Caroline County Tax Office for 2026-2027 shall be the rate as adopted annually by the Commissioners of Caroline County.

ATTEST:

Karen L. Monteith
Karen L. Monteith, Clerk-Treasurer

THE TOWN OF DENTON

Abigail McNinch
Abigail McNinch, Mayor

Lester D. Branson
Lester D. Branson, Councilperson

Dallas Lister
Dallas Lister, Councilperson

Walter Keith Johnson
Walter Keith Johnson, Councilperson

Frank Taylor
Frank Taylor, Councilperson

Date Introduced: 4-2-2024
Date Passed: 5-4-2026
Effective Date: 5-11-2026

Approved for Legal Sufficiency, this 4th day of May, 2026

Lyndsey Ryan
Lyndsey Ryan, Attorney

Updates on Ordinances & Resolutions

Ordinance 766– An Ordinance of the Town of Denton to amend the Denton Town Code, Chapter 120 Article X §120-46 Violations and Penalties to adopt civil penalties for citations received by a Speed Monitoring System to comply with Maryland Code Transportation Article §21-809. and to amend §120-47 C. Payment of Civil Penalties. Introduced 06/04/26, to be considered 7/2/26.

Ordinance 767– An Ordinance of the Town of Denton repealing and reenacting with amendments Chapter 73, Land Subdivision of the Town Code. Introduced 04/02/26, passed 05/04/26, effective

05/14/26.

Ordinance 768– An Ordinance to Appropriate Funds and Estimate Income in accordance with the General Fund Budget adopted for Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027. Introduced 04/02/26, passed 05/04/26, effective 05/11/26.

Resolution 906– A Resolution of the Denton Town Council repealing the Town of Denton Personnel Manual and adopting a new Town of Denton Personnel Manual dated April 2026. Adopted 05/09/26.

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 8:30a.m. to 4:00p.m., Monday through

Friday, except holidays. To inquire or obtain additional information regarding these amendments please contact the Clerk-Treasurer at (410) 479-2050.

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.

Denton Town News

Volume 35, Number 4
July—August 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

Production: Lisa Orendorf, Emily Spencer,
Katie Northam, Patti Wood.

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

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.