

NEWARK

NEWS BRIEF



SILVERBLAZE - UTILITY BILLING UPGRADE

We are thrilled to present SilverBlaze, our brand-new utility billing consumer interface!

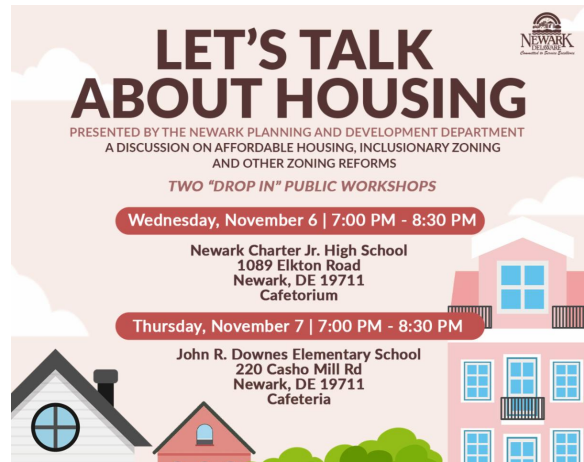
The launch of SilverBlaze took place on October 17. Great new features of the updated portal include the ability to compare water and electricity usage on a daily, monthly, or even annual basis, as well as the ability to set alarms for the detection of water leaks.

The City of Newark sent active account holders an email on the go-live date with existing login information and a link to the new portal. Account information is accessible when the password change is completed. Due to the upgrade, you will need to re-enroll in AutoPay and/or Budget Billing on the new site if you were previously enrolled in those programs.

Should you need help with the updated portal, please contact our Customer Service at (302) 366-7000.



REVENUE SHARING FUNDS: NEWARK BIKE PROJECT



AFFORDABLE HOUSING WORKSHOPS

The City of Newark's Planning and Development Department invite City residents and stakeholders to engage in conversations surrounding the planning efforts for increasing affordable housing opportunities in Newark, with a focus on reforms to the City's Zoning Code. There are two "Drop In" Public Workshops scheduled for the public to attend:

November 6, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Newark Charter Jr. High School
Cafetorium
1089 Elkton Road
Newark, DE 19711
IN-PERSON ONLY

November 7, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
John R. Downes Elementary School
Cafeteria
220 Casho Mill Rd
Newark, DE 19711
IN-PERSON ONLY

Among the zoning reforms being considered is Inclusionary Zoning (IZ), a strategy that aims to provide affordable housing opportunities by utilizing private housing developers who are requesting permission to build new market-rate housing to allocate a predetermined percentage of units at below-market rates that are affordable for low-income homeowners or renters. To ensure that the rent or purchase price is

The Newark Bike Project (NBP) is a volunteer-based nonprofit community bike shop that provides bicycles to individuals in the greater Newark area who need transportation and wish to maintain a healthy, active lifestyle through its Free Bike Program. The program aims to empower the local community by supplying bicycles or the parts needed to repair them at no cost to those who require financial assistance, as supported and referred to by social service organizations. Program participants are typically low-income, with their specific needs identified by partners such as Friendship House, Delaware Health and Human Services, Jewish Family Services, and local schools. NBP also offers a free repair assistance program for those who already have a bicycle but need repairs. In addition to bicycles, participants receive locks, helmets, lights, and free repairs. Half of the program's recipients live in Newark zip codes. In 2024, with funding provided by the City of Newark's revenue-sharing program, NBP served 12 residents, providing 12 gifted bicycles, 11 helmets, 10 bicycle locks, and 10 bike lights.

To apply for a free bike, residents can apply here:

<https://newarkbikeproject.org/events/free-bike-program-and-repair-voucher-program/>.

HVAC CONVERSION FROM GAS/OIL TO ELECTRIC INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Attention Newark Homeowners: The City of Newark is providing up to five (5) grants up to \$4,000 towards the conversion of an oil or gas-powered HVAC systems to an electric HVAC system. Homeowners that make below 120% of the area median income can receive up to \$4,000, paid directly to the contractor, for converting their oil or gas HVAC to electric power.

Converting your HVAC from oil to electric is an environmentally-friendly and cost-effective option for heating and cooling your home. Among the many benefits, electric HVACs can:

- Significantly reduce your carbon footprint by producing fewer greenhouse gas emissions.
- Lower your energy bills due to increased efficiency.
- Provide better indoor air quality by eliminating combustion emissions.

To be eligible, you must be a City of Newark homeowner and have a total household income below 120% of the area median income for New Castle County.

For more information on applying for this program, please contact Michael Fortner, Senior Planner, with the City of Newark's Planning and Development Department, at (302) 366-7000 ex: 2041 or by email at mfortner@newark.de.us.

within the reach of a household earning less than 80% of the local median income, an inclusionary zoning requirement can, for instance, mandate that any new development deed limit 10% of the total units. The workshop's goal is to educate the public, solicit their opinions, and encourage further participation in resolving Newark's affordable housing issues.



SHOP & DINE RAFFLE

To assist the building of a new library, the Newark Partnership, Friends of the Newark Free Library, and area businesses have organized a raffle fundraiser. TNP purchased 30 \$100 gift cards from shops and restaurants in Newark. In October and November, TNP's website will sell raffle tickets for the chance to win the gift cards. Each ticket costs \$10, four cost \$30, eight cost \$50, or twenty cost \$100. In November, a winner will be chosen every day.



52nd ANNUAL TURKEY TROT 5K/10K

Now Delaware's oldest consecutive road race, the Turkey Trot offers both 5K and 10K races with raffles donated by local businesses. The 5K and 10K runs and 5K walk will be held on Saturday, November 23 at Handloff Park on Barksdale Road in Newark. The 10K run will begin at 9 a.m. and the 5K walk/run will begin at 10:30 a.m. Pre-registration fee is \$30 on or before November 20 and \$35 on November 21 & 22. **Register online at Races2Run.com.** Prerace shirt and number pick up at the Parks and Recreation Office will be held on Friday, November 22 from 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. for those registered by noon November 20. This is a rain or shine event. Both courses (5K and 10K) have been certified. There will be 10 men's and 10 women's divisions in each run. Participants registered by Nov. 1 will be guaranteed a long sleeve T-shirt. Prizes will be awarded to overall winners, as well as winners in age group categories for each run. Overall 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards will be given for the 5K Walk. For more information, please contact the Recreation Office at (302) 366-7000.



WINTERFEST & HOLIDAY ARTISAN MARKET

Winterfest and a NEW Holiday Artisan Market promise to be a wonderful addition to the holiday season on Friday, Dec. 6 from 6 - 8 p.m. on Academy Building Lawn. Holiday entertainment, roasting chestnuts, caroling, tree lighting, ice carving demonstrations, and local artisans and small businesses showcasing their holiday treats will fill this wonderful evening of fun for the whole family. The combination of these community activities will celebrate our community's rich cultural heritage and showcase the unique talents of local artisans, small businesses, and nonprofits. Winterfest is a joint effort by the Newark Parks and Recreation Department, the University of Delaware, and The Newark Partnership. The Delaware Special Olympics will be holding their Annual Reindeer Run in conjunction with Winterfest (www.sode.org). Rain date is December 7.

SANTA'S SECRET SHOPPE

Children are invited to participate in Santa's Secret Shoppe at the George Wilson Center on Saturday, December 7 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. This unique and cost-effective holiday event gives children the opportunity to purchase gifts for family and friends with a pint-sized price tag. All items will be priced \$10.00 and under and will be gift wrapped for free. Volunteers will be on hand to assist children with shopping.

SNACK WITH SANTA

The Holidays are coming! Get into the spirit by joining Santa on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. for snacks, crafts, games, and a relaxed visit at the George Wilson Center. We encourage you to bring your camera to capture some special moments. Come and start the season off right! Children must be accompanied by a paying adult. No pre-registration required - pay



THANKSGIVING DAY BREAKFAST

Enjoy Thanksgiving Day morning in the company of Newark neighbors and friends. The Parks and Recreation Department, area merchants, and volunteers celebrate the 39th year of gathering together to offer this special breakfast on Thursday, November 28 from 8 - 10:30 a.m. at the George Wilson Center. Our mission is to create a warm and caring atmosphere among community members, older adults, and area students who are unable to share the holiday with family members or a companion. Join us for a hearty breakfast including pancakes, eggs, sausage, fruit, coffee, juice, and tea. People over the age of 60 may attend at no cost. There will be an optional food drive for the Delaware Food Bank. Please bring a canned item including fruit, vegetables, meat, or tuna. Sponsorship is available for door prizes and breakfast items for the event. Advanced registration is encouraged. Registration fee is \$3 in advance, \$6 at the door. For more information, please contact the Recreation Office at (302) 366-7000 or visit www.newarkde.gov/play to register online.

\$3/person for ages 2 & up at the door.

NEW YORK CITY ON YOUR OWN

Newark Parks & Recreation Department is sponsoring a bus trip to New York City on Saturday, December 7. We'll drop you off near Radio City Music Hall then you are on your own to enjoy the lights, decorations, and holiday atmosphere! The bus departs from and returns to the City Municipal Building at 220 South Main Street. Bus will depart at 7 a.m. and return at 9 p.m. Registration fee is \$79. The Newark resident discount fee is \$69. Trip cost includes motor coach transportation. For more information, please contact the Recreation Office at (302) 366-7000 or visit www.newarkde.gov/play to register online.



WELCOME TO THE CITY!

The City of Newark is welcoming new faces to our workforce. Our new employees includes:

- Beau Callery, Police Officer, Police Department, 10/07/2024
- Lawrence Matic, Police Officer, Police Department, 10/07/2024
- Sameerah Jones, Police Officer, Police Department, 10/14/2024
- Luke Anderson, Maintenance I , Public Works & Water Resources/Water Division, 10/07/2024
- Tyler Esterling, Maintenance I , Public Works & Water Resources/Refuse Division, 10/07/2024
- Adam Carsley, Mechanic II , Public Works & Water Resources/Fleet Maintenance Division, 10/21/2024
- Eric Payne, Mechanic II , Public Works & Water Resources/Fleet Maintenance Division, 10/28/2024
- Maggie Huizinga, Intern, Public Works & Water Resources Department, 10/30/2024





THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY COLLECTION CHANGES

Due to the Thanksgiving Day holiday, recycling normally collected on Thursday, November 28 will be collected on Wednesday, November 27. There will be no changes to Friday's recycling collection. There will be no "Green Wednesday" yard waste collection on Wednesday, November 27. **December 4 is the last day for yard waste collection.** Special yard waste collections can be arranged by calling Public Works at (302) 366-7000.



City Of Newark, Delaware | 220 South Main Street | Newark, DE 19711 US

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