

What's Happening in South Bethany? March 2023

Spring Bulb Donation Brings the Blooms

The latest beautification project from the Community Relations Committee is about to bloom. Hundreds of spring bulbs are emerging below the "Welcome to South Bethany" signs on Coastal Highway at the north and south ends of Town, offering a burst of color and cheer. Much gratitude is extended to the Sandpiper Village HOA for funding the project and to our Public Works team for the planting work.

Earth Day Events: Hold the Dates

Mark your calendars for the evenings of **Thursday**, **April 20**th **and Saturday**, **April 22**nd for (in-person) Earth Day events sponsored by the Community Relations and Canal Water Quality (CWQ) Committees. Details will be provided in the April newsletter.

Do More 24 Delaware Starts TOMORROW!

Do More 24 is a unique 24-hour giving event that showcases the amazing and vital work of nonprofit organizations serving our state. The goal is to inspire Delawareans to come together for 24 hours and contribute as much as they can financially to the causes and organizations that they support. The event will begin at 6pm on Thursday, March 2nd and end at 6pm on Friday, March 3rd. Please consider donating to our local non-profits. You can search for eligible recipients here: https://www.domore24delaware.org/

Join the South Bethany Beach Patrol

The South Bethany Beach Patrol is hiring qualified lifeguards for the summer 2023 season. Tryouts will be held on March 25th and April 22nd. Applicants must be at least 17 years of age. For more information, email beachpatrol@southbethany.org.

The Latest on Algae Management Efforts and Canal Water Quality

Last spring, we experienced an elevated amount of filamentous algae in our canals. Historically, the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) harvests the algae with their own equipment as a free service to the Town. Unfortunately, they had limited ability to provide this service last year due to broken equipment and minimal staff availability. To prevent this happening again, the Town Council asked the Canal Water Quality Committee (CWQ) to investigate alternative algae management options. Late last year, the Council approved an expenditure of funds to hire a private contractor to perform algae harvesting in spring 2023.

The harvest will be conducted in late April and repeated in late May, if needed. Though the work must be scheduled months in advance of the appearance of the algae — forcing the CWQ to make an educated guess as to when it may appear — it appears the timing this spring will be good, as we have already seen early signs of algal growth.

The volunteers who monitor our water quality are working with the University of Delaware to analyze and interpret the data collected. Soon, the CWQ will arrange a meeting with homeowners to share what has been learned.

from the Community Relations Committee

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