



DRBA
DELAWARE RIVER
& BAY AUTHORITY

The Cape May – Lewes Ferry invites applications for
Assistant Port Engineer

Cape May, NJ

Owned and Operated by the Delaware River and Bay Authority (DRBA)

EXECUTIVE SEARCH SERVICES PROVIDED BY ADK CONSULTING & EXECUTIVE SEARCH

Position Overview

The Assistant Port Engineer serves as a key leader for the Cape May–Lewes Ferry (CMLF) Marine Engineers and Maintenance team. The role supports the Port Engineer in setting priorities, allocating resources, and ensuring the ferry fleet is operated, repaired, and maintained to the highest standards. This position oversees critical maintenance activities, manages skilled technicians, and provides clear direction to maintain vessel reliability, operational efficiency, and regulatory compliance. In the absence of the Port Engineer, the Assistant Port Engineer assumes full responsibility for department leadership.

About the Role

The Assistant Port Engineer develops and executes maintenance plans that support vessel availability and lifecycle performance. The role guides project planning efforts, oversees day-to-day work order execution, and supports seasonal maintenance and shipyard repair periods. This position ensures compliance with local, state, and federal regulations, while promoting safe work practices and effective communication with internal staff, contractors, and regulatory partners. The Assistant Port Engineer also plays a key role in budgeting, inventory oversight, and vendor and contractor management.

Key Responsibilities

- Support the development and execution of preventive and predictive maintenance plans.
- Oversee assigned personnel, ensuring productivity, quality, and performance feedback.
- Use the computerized maintenance system to monitor trends, track work orders, and manage records.
- Support year-round vessel operations, vessel outage schedules and participate in financial forecasting/budgeting for major projects.
- Support warehouse procurement processes including parts and critical spare levels.
- Lead on-site shipyard work, ensuring specifications, schedules, and quality standards are met.
- Serve as liaison with regulatory agencies, including the U.S. Coast Guard.
- Participate in safety, environmental, and emergency response planning.



Leadership Qualities and Style

- Skilled at setting expectations, motivating a diverse workforce, and fostering accountability.
- Strong communicator who builds effective working relationships across multiple teams.

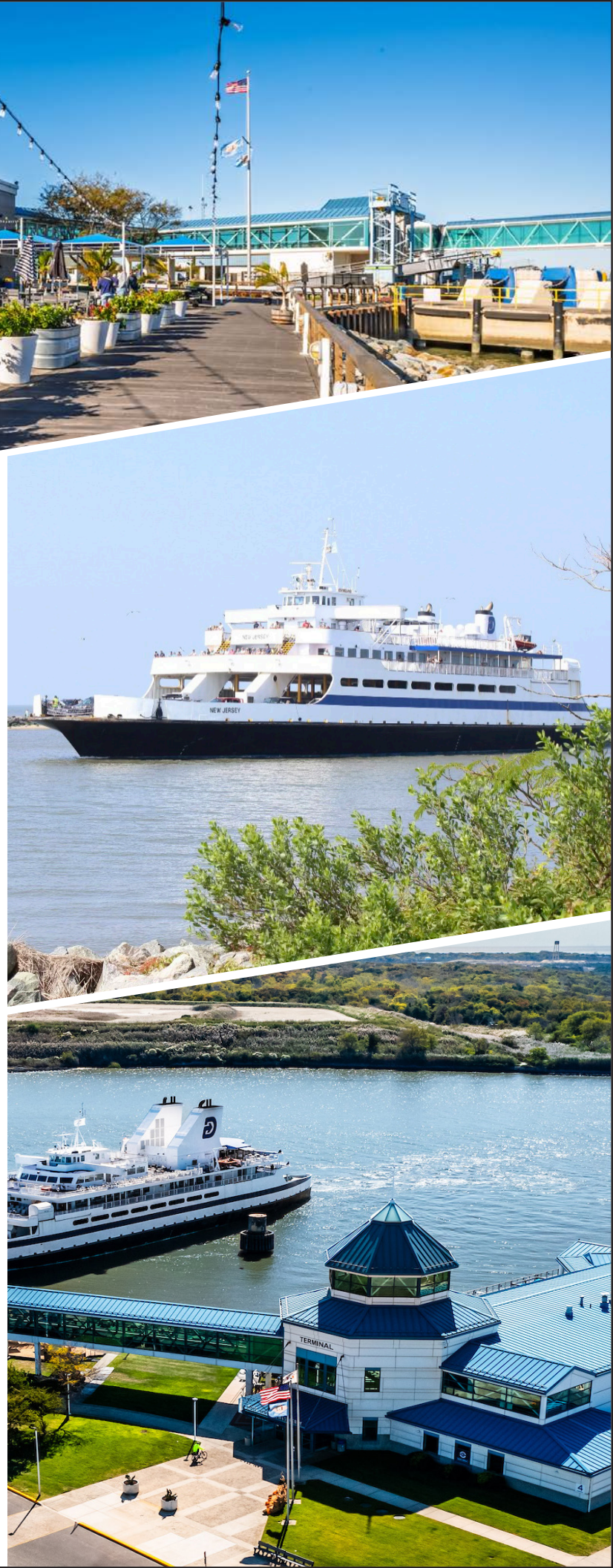
For the full job description, [click here](#).

Preferred Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience, plus supervisory background in marine maintenance or transportation operations.
- USCG Chief Engineer license (or ability to obtain within six months), TWIC, valid driver's license, and experience with major diesel engine systems (Fairbanks Morse, EMD, Caterpillar, Detroit Diesel).
- Valid Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC).

Salary and Benefits

Salary range starting at \$103,100. Salary offer will be commensurate with skills, experience, and expertise of the candidate and is accompanied by an exceptional benefits package. Relocation assistance is available. Benefits include medical, dental, vision, flex care accounts, employee assistance programs, retirement, life insurance, short- and long-term disability, vacation, and much more. For more information on benefits, visit <https://www.drba.net/drba-benefits>.





How To Apply

To apply online, [click here](#).

Deadline for applications: February 2, 2026

The contacts for this search are:

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Please note: After your application is complete, you will receive an important email from us. Please check your inbox and your junk/spam folder, and if you have not received our email, please notify us at: admin@adkexecutivesearch.com.

The Delaware River and Bay Authority is an equal-opportunity employer. We support diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment for employees.





About the Cape May-Lewes Ferry

The Cape May-Lewes Ferry connects the southernmost tip of New Jersey with the southern shores of Delaware -- two of the most iconic northeastern beach areas in the country. The Cape May-Lewes Ferry is open year-round, runs daily and has carried more than 50 million passengers since its inception on July 1, 1964. Currently operating with a fleet of three vessels, the system carries vehicles of all sizes ranging from bicycles to 18-wheeler tractor trailers across the bay and nearly one million passengers annually.

As an integral transportation system connecting the communities and economies on both sides of the Delaware Bay, the Cape May-Lewes Ferry service is a significant catalyst for economic growth and regional tourism activity in New Jersey and Delaware.

About the Delaware River and Bay Authority

The DRBA, a bi-state governmental agency created by Compact in 1962, owns and operates the Delaware Memorial Bridge, the Cape May-Lewes Ferry, and the Fords Ferry Crossing. The DRBA also manages corporate and aviation properties through its economic development powers - two airports in New Jersey (Millville Airport and Cape May Airport) and three in Delaware (Wilmington Airport, Civil Air Terminal and Delaware Airpark). All DRBA operating revenues are generated through the bridge, ferry, airport and related facilities.

DRBA's mission is "Connecting People and Places in the Heart of the Northeast Corridor," under the values of Teamwork, Respect, Accountability, Innovation, Trust, and Service.



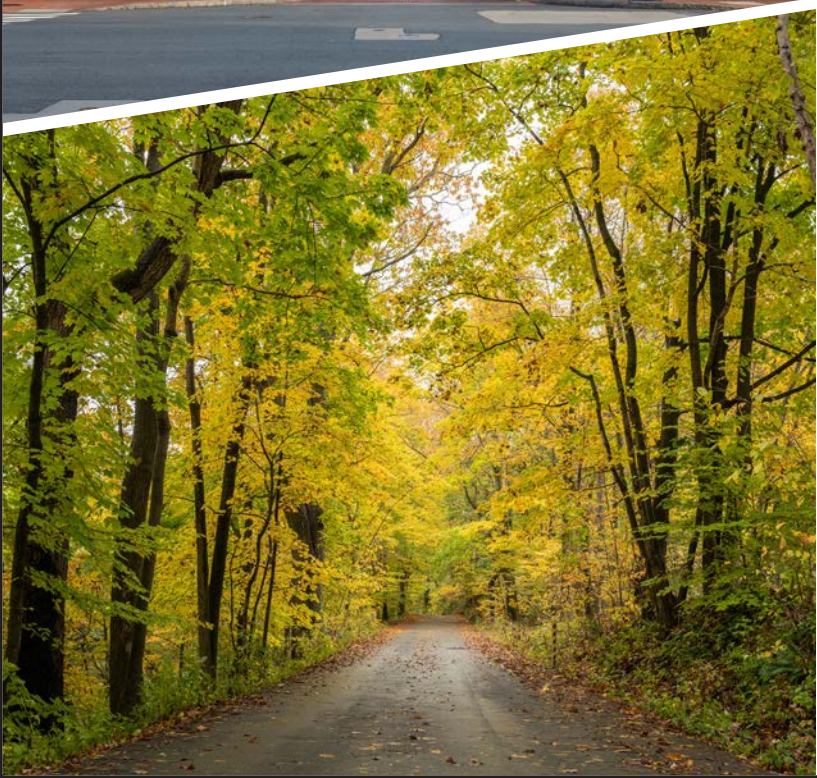
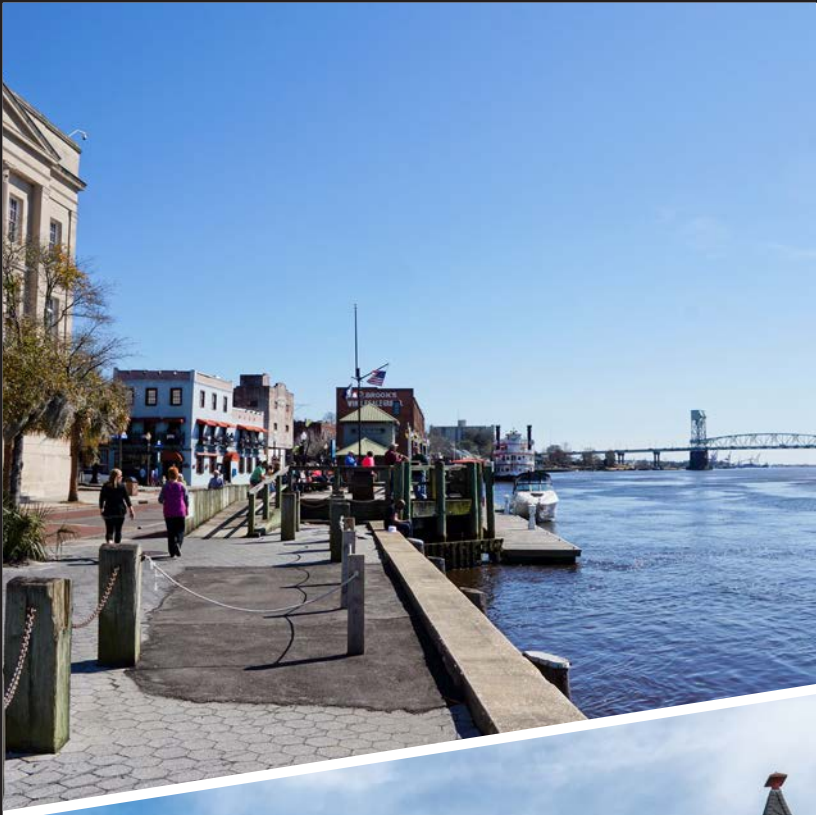
Welcome Home: The Timeless Charm of Cape May, New Jersey

Cape May, New Jersey, is more than simply a sandy beach town; it is a world-renowned, year-round community and a living tribute to American history, known as the “Nation’s Oldest Seashore Resort.” This remarkable city, which is tucked away at the southernmost tip of the Jersey Shore, is an ideal place to live, work, and explore. It offers an outstanding combination of upscale culture, unparalleled natural beauty, and preserved Victorian architecture.

Towns and Attractions: A Victorian Showcase

Cape May is the only entire city in the U.S. designated a National Historic Landmark, boasting the second-largest collection of Victorian houses after San Francisco. The city thrives on its commitment to preservation, ensuring its streets are a picturesque journey into the 19th century.

- **The Victorian District** is the heart of the community, a breathtaking exhibit of late-Victorian architecture featuring ornate gingerbread trim and elaborate styles like Queen Anne and Gothic Revival. Visitors and residents flock to the iconic **Congress Hall**, an elegant hotel, and the **Emlen Physick Estate**, an authentic Victorian house museum. **Cape May MAC (Museum, Arts & Culture)** organizes popular trolley and walking tours to bring this history to life.
- The **Washington Street Mall** serves as the central hub for shopping and dining, filled with unique boutiques, antique shops, and local gourmet food stores.
- Enjoy the area’s many coastal landmarks, including the **Cape May Lighthouse** in Cape May Point State Park, which offers spectacular views from its 199 steps. Nearby, **Sunset Beach** is where guests search for “**Cape May Diamonds**” (clear quartz pebbles) and view the unique remains of the concrete ship **SS *Atlantus***.
- Other major attractions include the neighboring **Historic Cold Spring Village**, an open-air living history museum that recreates a 19th-century farming community, and professional theatre at venues like **Cape May Stage** and the **East Lynne Theater Company**.



Cape May, New Jersey *(continued)*

Nestled along the Delaware Bay, North Cape May and Lower Township offer a quieter, more restorative alternative to the bustle of nearby Cape May—without sacrificing coastal charm. This bayside community is known for its wide beaches, sunset views, and a relaxed neighborhood feel that makes visitors instantly feel at home. Lower Township blends natural beauty with convenience: lush parks, historic sites, family-friendly attractions, bike paths, wineries, and an emerging food scene. With easy access to Cape May’s iconic Victorian architecture and local arts, plus the serenity of bayfront living, North Cape May and Lower Township provide the perfect balance of small-town comfort and coastal escape.

Proximity and Connectivity: The Gateway to the Shore

Cape May’s geography defines it as the ultimate shore destination, a peaceful retreat that nonetheless offers important transportation links and access to the Mid-Atlantic region. While celebrated for its secluded, island feel, the city is surprisingly accessible to several major areas:

- **Regional Transportation Hubs:** Both the Cape May-Lewes Ferry and the Cape May Airport (WWD) are operated by the Delaware River and Bay Authority (DRBA), establishing Cape May as a major transportation nexus. The ferry provides a vital, scenic link across the Delaware Bay to Lewes, Delaware, while the general aviation airport serves corporate and recreational flyers, featuring its own economic and cultural complex, including the Naval Air Station Wildwood Aviation Museum.
- Thanks to major arteries just north of the city, residents enjoy manageable drives to metropolitan areas:
 - **Philadelphia, PA:** Approximately a 1.5 to 2-hour drive north, offering easy access to a major city for arts, sports, and business.
 - **Wilmington, DE:** Approximately a 1.5-hour drive via the ferry (or longer via bridges to the north).
 - **Atlantic City, NJ:** Typically, about a 1-hour drive for those seeking entertainment and large venues.

This unique coastal location ensures that residents enjoy a relaxed, seaside lifestyle while the opportunities and attractions of multiple states are within easy reach. The community also maintains a strong civic connection, particularly with the U.S. Coast Guard Training Center located nearby.



Cape May, New Jersey (continued)

Local Activities, Dining, and Environmental Gems

The community spirit in Cape May shines through its vibrant year-round calendar, which celebrates its local heritage, culinary excellence, and exceptional natural resources.

Popular Areas and Activities

Beyond the beaches and promenades, life in Cape May is centered around culture, the arts, and the outdoors. The city is known as the birding capital of North America, situated on a major migratory path that attracts enthusiasts to spots like **Cape May Point State Park**. Other popular activities include whale and dolphin watching cruises, fishing charters, and enjoying local events like the Exit Zero Jazz Festival and the festive **West Cape May Community Christmas Parade**.

Famous Local Eats

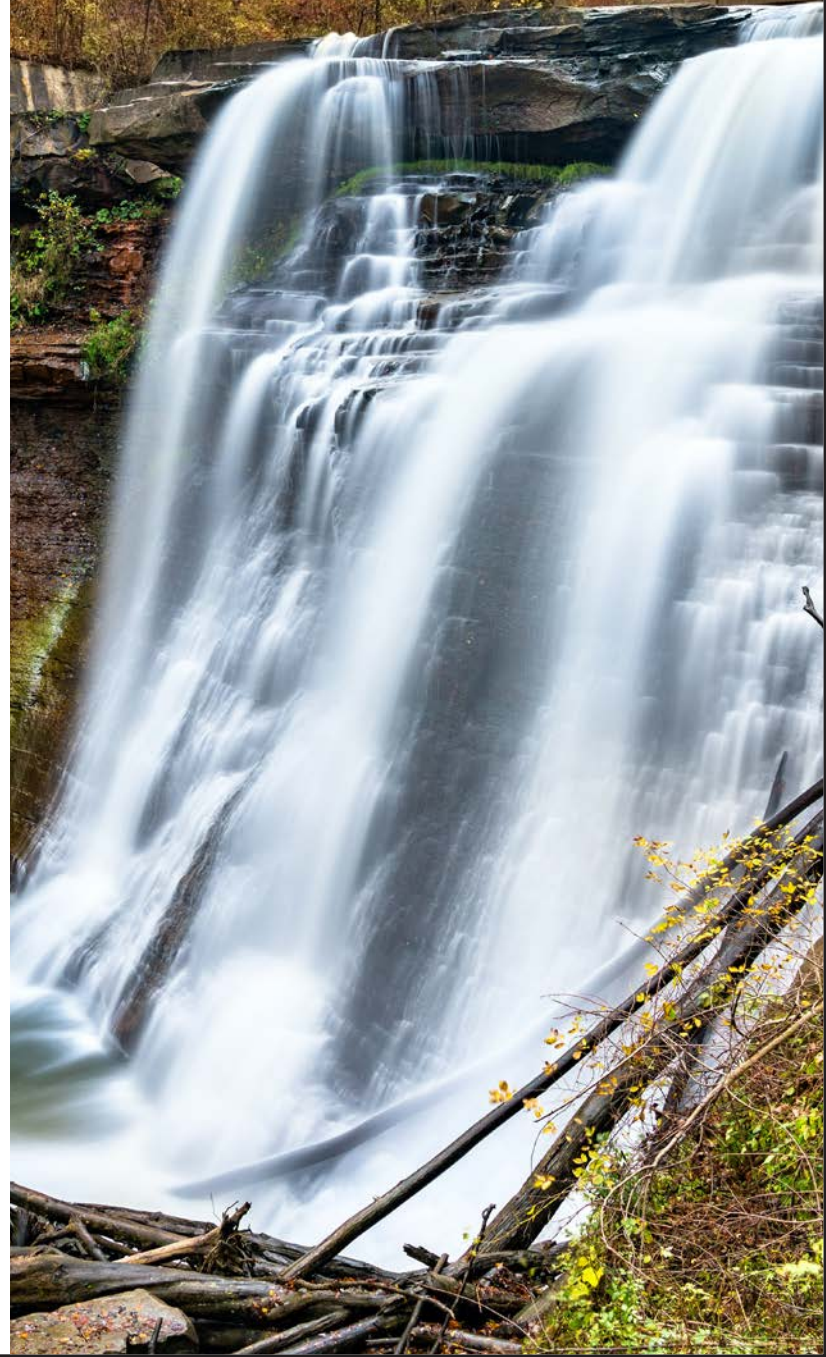
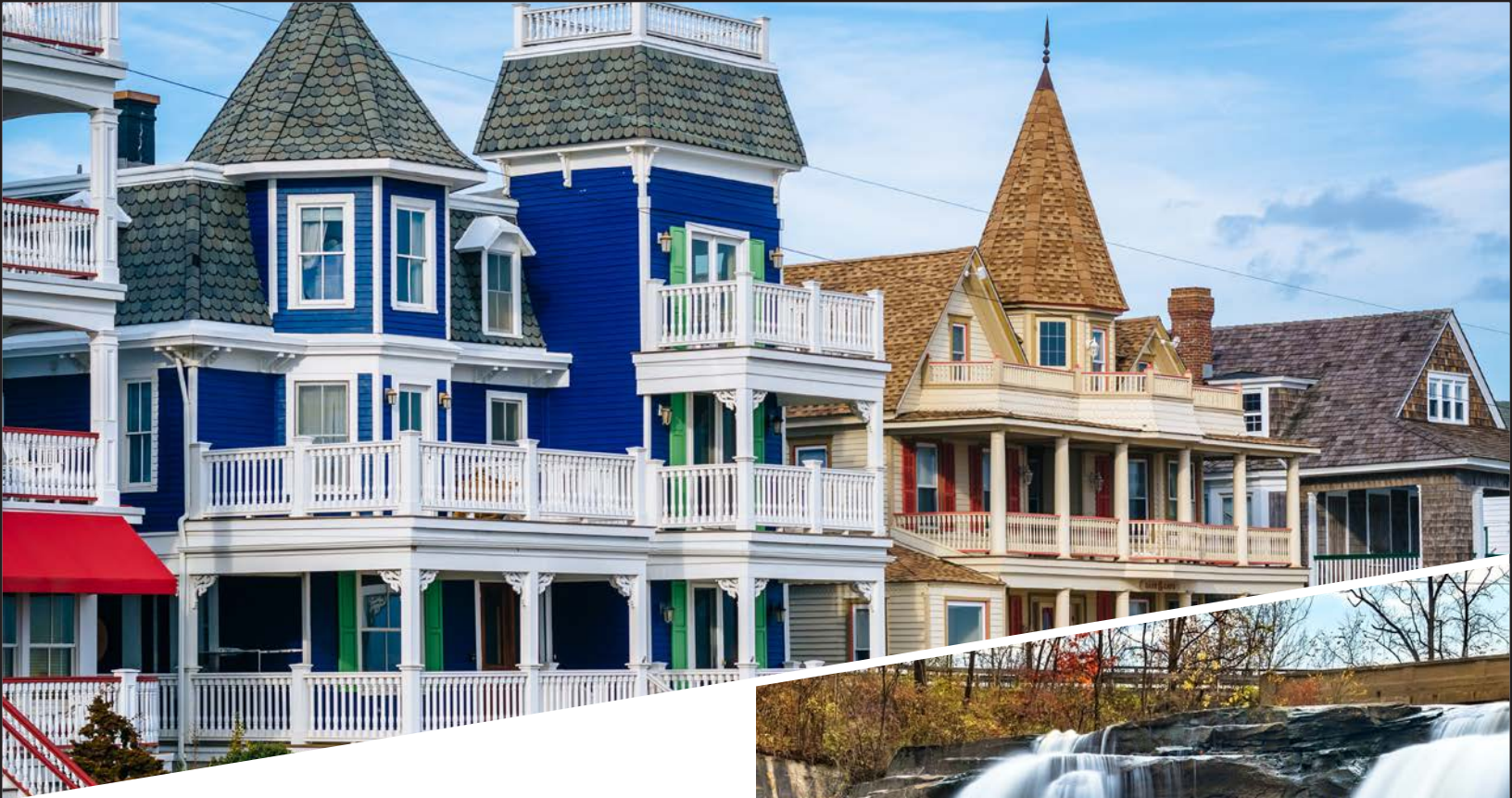
The city's reputation as a fine dining destination is well-earned, supported by its status as the East Coast's second-largest commercial fishing port by tonnage. For a taste of the region, local producers like **Cape May Brewing Company** and numerous vineyards offer tours and tastings. The local culinary scene is defined by fresh, seasonal ingredients and sophisticated options, many housed in beautifully restored historic inns. Unique programs like Murder Mystery Dinners offered by local organizations provide fun, immersive dining experiences.

Environment and Conservation

The Cape May community is fiercely dedicated to environmental stewardship and preserving its unique coastal ecosystem. The **Nature Center of Cape May (New Jersey Audubon)** actively works to encourage stewardship of the harbor area, offering educational programs, aquaria, and an observation tower. The confluence of the Atlantic Ocean and the Delaware Bay creates critical wetlands and preserves that are vital for migrating birds. The commitment is also evident in city governance, with commissions dedicated to the **Environmental Commission** and **Shade Tree Commission** ensuring the natural beauty of the area is protected for future generations.

Cape May is truly a place where you get the best of everything: a rich historical foundation, modern convenience, incredible connectivity to nature, and most importantly, a welcoming, engaged community that preserves the charm of the past while looking forward to a vibrant future.





Lower Township

Lower Township, located at the gateway to the Delaware Bay and just minutes from historic Cape May, offers a rare opportunity to build a meaningful engineering career in a close-knit coastal community where neighbors truly know and support one another. With beautiful beaches, rich maritime history, and strong municipal investment, our community values both professional excellence and quality of life. Residents take pride in their schools, public services, and local traditions, creating a welcoming, family-centered environment. As an Assistant Port Engineer in Lower Township, you will enjoy the unique opportunity to make a direct, visible impact on critical waterfront infrastructure while benefiting from a balanced coastal lifestyle and a community that genuinely values what you do.

Local Businesses & Economy:

- Thriving mix of small businesses, marine trades, tourism, hospitality, and year-round local services
- Strong support for locally-owned shops, restaurants, and service providers
- Proximity to Cape May's tourism economy creates steady seasonal and permanent employment opportunities
- Maritime, transportation, and coastal industries play a vital role in the local economy



Lower Township (*continued*)

Local School System:

- Community-centered public school district with strong family involvement
- Emphasis on student growth, character development, and academic success
- Supportive relationships between staff families, and administration
- Ideal environment for families seeking a close-knit, student-focused educational experience

Health System:

- Access to quality healthcare through nearby Cape May County medical facilities
- Cooper University Health Care Cape Regional provides hospital services, outpatient care, and specialty services
- Local practices and urgent care centers offer convenient everyday healthcare access
- Short distance to larger regional medical systems for advanced care when needed

Community Opportunities & Quality of Life:

- Beautiful beaches, bays, nature preserves, and outdoor recreation year-round
- Family-friendly events, festivals, and community programs throughout the year
- Boating, fishing, kayaking, biking, and walking trails all nearby
- Safe, welcoming neighborhoods with a strong sense of civic pride
- Relaxed coastal lifestyle with easy access to dining, arts, and historic attractions in Cape May

Forts Ferry Crossing

Delaware City, Delaware

Fort Mott, New Jersey

Since 1997, the DRBA has assisted both the state park systems of NJ and DE in bringing people to the historic river forts on both sides of the Delaware River. Running seasonally, this ferry carries foot passengers from Delaware City to Fort Delaware, DE and Fort Mott, NJ. Passengers can board at either Delaware City or Fort Mott. Ticket purchases are handled by the Delaware State Parks system.