

# The Christiansburg Connection

Newsletter for the Town of Christiansburg

May/June 2019

## Community Corner

### Updates on stream restoration projects in Christiansburg



The Town has completed three stream restorations—Blue Leaf, Diamond Hills and Towne Branch—as part of the Town's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) program's effort to meet state-mandated sediment reductions in Crab Creek.

Diamond Hills and Towne Branch are the most accessible restorations for the public to view. At both locations, the Town is allowing native plants, shrubs and trees to grow unimpeded. During heavy rains, stormwater slows down when the small stream, by design, overflows its banks and floods the wetlands. Freely growing native vegetation helps stabilize the soil and provide nutrient-filtering for stormwater.

The stream at Diamond Hills is four years post-construction and is stable. The native plants, shrubs and trees are well-established. Please walk down the mowed path to observe some of the constructed wetlands, as well as a grass and wildflower meadow.

Towne Branch, located at Depot Park, is heading into its second growing season. The Town is monitoring the large stone structures and banks for stability. Visitors should be able to see some of the 700 trees planted last year. While visiting, please try to avoid stepping on small trees. Eventually, they will become a streamside forest.

Follow us!



## In the Know

We are gearing up for an action-packed summer in Christiansburg! Check out the reverse side for a list of events scheduled over the next couple months. Between the Christiansburg Farmers' Market, Goat Yoga, Cruise-In Downtown and Movies in the Park, we like to think there's something for everyone to enjoy. The Town is also hosting two public information sessions about how to apply for a homestay permit on May 13 and June 13 at 6 p.m. at Town Hall. You can find more information on the reverse side.

Please read the article below to learn about significant construction along N. Franklin Street that will begin this summer. And, if you have a few minutes to spare, the New River Valley Regional Commission is seeking responses to a housing survey (more information on the reverse side).

We'll see you out there!

## In the Works: N. Franklin Street Corridor Improvements

### Project to begin in summer 2019



Note: Blue highlighted sections indicate areas where pavement will be removed.

The N. Franklin Street Corridor Improvements Project will introduce a number of enhancements to the roadway in the coming year. The project is designed to improve traffic flow and safety along N. Franklin Street while also increasing accessibility for pedestrians. The project will also add street lighting.

Although final authorization from VDOT is still pending, construction is expected to begin in June. Work will require lane closures, and possible detours, that may cause delays to through-traffic. Most construction is expected to be undertaken during the day, but access to businesses will be maintained.

The project will create a new traffic pattern by realigning the intersection of Cambria Street and N. Franklin Street. As shown in the image above, the exit from US-460 Business will be removed from the existing N. Franklin Street and Cambria Street intersection. A traffic signal will integrate traffic from US-460 Business with traffic exiting the US-460 Bypass prior to reaching the intersection of Cambria

Street and N. Franklin Street.

The project will also replace several entrances onto N. Franklin with a signal-controlled entrance near Patricks Way and Oak Tree Boulevard. This will also provide access to a new, Town-maintained service road that aligns with Oak Tree Boulevard and the Christiansburg Recreation Center.

Sidewalks will be built along both sides of N. Franklin Street. Sidewalks on the east side of N. Franklin will connect to the sidewalks at Independence Boulevard and sidewalks on the west side will connect with the Huckleberry Trail.

In total, the project will cost about \$8.5 million, of which the Town will contribute \$12,968. The balance will be covered by Smart Scale funding (\$7.8 million) and VDOT's Urban Funds program (\$634,414).

Construction is expected to last into the summer of 2020.



Have a question? Let us know!

540-382-6128 ext. 1150

[info@christiansburg.org](mailto:info@christiansburg.org)

[www.christiansburg.org](http://www.christiansburg.org)

## Events Calendar

### Christiansburg Farmers' Market

May 2 - Oct. 31, Thursdays from 3-7 p.m.

Hickok Street

### Goat Yoga

May 6 - Oct. 7, first Mondays of month, 5:30 p.m.

Lawn in front of Town Hall parking lot

### Community Yard Sale

May 4, 7 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Christiansburg Aquatic Center

### Wine & Artisans

May 4, 12-7 p.m.

College Street & Hickok Street

### Cruise-In Downtown

May 11, 3:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Downtown Christiansburg

### Relay for Life

May 31, 6 p.m. - midnight

Christiansburg Middle School

### Mountains of Music Homecoming

June 11, 8 p.m.

Sinkland Farms

### Movies in the Park

June 21, sundown

Downtown Park (off of College Street)

To find out more information on events and programs, visit [www.christiansburg.org/events](http://www.christiansburg.org/events) or our Facebook page.

## Upcoming Meetings & Closures

### Upcoming Town Council Meetings

Held at Town Hall, 100 East Main St.

- Tuesday, May 14, 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 28, 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 11, 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 25, 7 p.m.

Never miss a meeting! Sign up for notifications at [www.christiansburg.org/notifyme](http://www.christiansburg.org/notifyme).

### Upcoming Holiday Closures

Memorial Day - Monday, May 27

- Town Hall will be closed.
- The Aquatic Center will be closed.
- The Recreation Center will be closed.
- Garbage which would have normally been collected Monday, May 27, will be collected Tuesday, May 28, with Tuesday's regular collection.

## Christiansburg Farmers' Market returns May 2

The Christiansburg Farmers' Market's fifth season is upon us! Opening day will be held on Hickok Street NW from 3-7 p.m. May 2. In addition to fresh, local produce, opening day will feature live music by Daniel Davis, ice cream from Homestead Creamery and food trucks. There will also be a bounce castle, facepainting and lawn games.

We are excited to announce that the following vendors will be part of this season's market: Bird and Hopper, Brugh Coffee, Cavalier Farm, Gracie's Garden, Granny Bean's Confections, Grateful Bread, Homestead Creamery, Idyllwood Farms, Many Blue Hills Farm, NRV Hook, Line and Sinker, Stump Ridge Farm, and Weeping Willow Farm.

Come on down to Hickok Street every Thursday through the end of October to stock up on food, sample local wines and enjoy family-friendly event programming!

## NRVRC seeks responses to regional housing survey

The New River Valley Regional Commission (NRVRC) is conducting a regional housing study to collect information about the housing market in communities across the region. The study will provide localities and developers with data and strategies that help to guide their investment in housing production and redevelopment projects.

The study will include results from a resident survey. The survey, which can be found at [www.nrvrc.org/NRvhousingstudy/](http://www.nrvrc.org/NRvhousingstudy/), asks residents to provide information about their home-buying or renting experiences and housing preferences. Input will help the commission prepare a report for local governments that will guide local housing strategies and future development.

The survey takes about five minutes to complete and all responses are anonymous.

## Community Snapshot



Sixth graders at Christiansburg Middle School learn about bank erosion during Stormwater Days, an event where local engineers and stormwater specialists teach students about the water system, water quality and freshwater ecosystems.

## Learn how to apply for a homestay permit

The Town of Christiansburg will be hosting two public information sessions about the homestay ordinance going into effect July 1. The meetings will be held at 6 p.m. on May 13 and June 13 at Town Hall, 100 E. Main St.

During the meetings, Town staff will walk residents through the application process and be available to answer questions.

If you cannot attend one of the sessions but would like to meet with a Town staff member to review the process, please call Assistant Town Manager Andrew Warren at (540) 382-6128, ext. 1130.

For more information, please visit [www.christiansburg.org/homestay](http://www.christiansburg.org/homestay).

## Summer lawncare: keep it mowed!

Summer rain and sunshine will probably cause your lawn to grow at a faster rate than during the rest of the year, but it's worth the extra effort to regularly mow your lawn. According to the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, proper mowing plays an important role in keeping your lawn healthy. Although recommended cutting heights vary by type of grass, you should cut no more than one-third of

the plant at any given time. If you do not mow more than a third of your lawn, you can safely leave those clippings on the lawn and they will quickly decompose, adding essential nutrients back into the soil.

Maintaining your lawn is also the neighborly thing to do, as tall grass can attract pests, such as mosquitos and rats, to a neighborhood. Grass taller than 12 inches is considered a public nuisance.



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