

The Christiansburg Connection

Newsletter for the Town of Christiansburg

March/April 2020



Please note a change in the Town's utility payment policy. In order to avoid water and sewer cut-off, utility payments must be received by 7:30 a.m. on the cut-off date listed on your utility bill.

COMMUNITY CORNER

Census 2020 is Here!

Census Day is observed nationwide on April 1, 2020. Prior to this date, every home will have received an invitation to participate in the Census. Once your invitation arrives, you should respond for your home in one of three ways: online, by phone, or by mail. When you respond, tell the Census Bureau where you live as of April 1, 2020.

The data collected by the Census is used to distribute billions in federal funds to local communities and determine how many seats in Congress each state gets. It's important everyone in Christiansburg is counted because the data will directly affect how much money is allocated for infrastructure, such as neighborhood improvements, emergency preparedness and disaster recovery, public health, education, transportation, senior services and much more.

For individuals who need computer access to complete the Census, the Christiansburg Recreation Center's senior lounge computer lab will be open every Monday and Wednesday throughout the month of April. Visit between 8:30 a.m. and noon, and be sure to bring your Census ID, which will be mailed to your household prior to April 1. Can't make it during those times? You can also visit the Blacksburg Library, Blacksburg Community Center, Christiansburg Library or the Meadowbrook Library. And, of course, you can also complete the Census via mail or phone if you prefer.

Make sure to get counted!

IN THE KNOW

Spring is almost here, and the Town is preparing for the warmer weather! Spring Cleanup will run from April 11-24 (more on the next page). A different type of cleanup will be on April 11 from 10 a.m. to noon if you'd like to help pick up garbage along the Diamond Hills Stream. We've got other events coming up, too! Check out the annual NRV Home Expo at the Christiansburg Recreation Center from March 14-15; admission is \$5. Catch the Easter Bunny at the Great Christiansburg Easter Egg Hunt at Kiwanis Park on April 11 at 10 a.m. Photos with the Easter Bunny will be \$1. The Aquatic Center is offering some new programs, such as MERMADNESS; see more on the following page. See you around Christiansburg!

TOWN RECYCLING DROP-OFF SITES TO CLOSE

Closure Schedule	Feb. 1	Cambria Site (Cambria St./Palmer St. Intersection)
	Mar. 1	Betty Drive Site (Betty Dr./Depot St. Intersection)
	April 1	Food Lion Parking Lot Site (1530 Roanoke St.)
	May 1	Home Depot Site (200 Conston Ave.)
	June 1	Christiansburg High School Site (100 Independence Blvd.)

The Town's five recycling drop-off sites will be closing over the next few months (schedule to the left). The Town has been offering curbside recycling service to its residents since July 1, 2018, and introduced curbside recycling service to businesses on February 1, 2020. Because of these services, there is less need for recycling drop-off sites. There has also been an increase in contamination and trash-dumping at the Town's recycling drop-off sites, causing much of the recycling to be rejected. For those interested in still utilizing drop-off sites, Montgomery County offers locations that are staffed to reduce contamination and trash-dumping; you can view those sites' addresses at www.montva.gov/wastemanagement.

SIMPLE AND ECO-FRIENDLY LAWN CARE



You can avoid bare grass areas in your yard by following the tips below.



You can get a yard that looks like this and be eco-friendly by following the strategies below.

Spring is right around the corner, and with it, comes yard work. But did you know that your bright green grass and gardens can help prevent erosion, too? Porous mulches reduce runoff, and planting native flowers, trees or shrubs helps reduce soil loss. Erosion happens during every rain event, large or small, and it is one of the largest contributors to sediment pollution in streams, which negatively affects the wildlife. You can help reduce the sediment transported to our streams by following the tips above or learn more strategies at <https://tinyurl.com/sdsf8a8>. These practices help Christiansburg meet the goals set in its Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit.



Have a question? Let us know!
540-382-6128 ext. 1150
info@christiansburg.org
www.christiansburg.org

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SPRING CLEANUP: APRIL 11-24



To make it easier on collection crews, please place cleanup items within 10 feet of the street pavement and separate them from your regular trash. Please do not block ditches, gutters, sidewalks, water meters or sewer cleanouts. The Town is not responsible for any items left at or near the street that residents did not intend to have collected. Piles that do not comply with cleanup rules will not be collected. Please also separate materials by type (i.e. pile bagged leaves, tree limbs and trimmings separately).

Loose materials must be placed in bags/containers not exceeding 32 gallons. Leaves must be bagged. There is no charge for items picked up during Spring Cleanup. For a full list of accepted items, please visit www.christiansburg.org/cleanupFAQ. Though special collection trucks follow regular garbage routes, cleanup may run a day or two behind trash collection schedules, depending on volume. If it is nearing the end of the cleanup cycle and your items have not been collected, please call 540-382-1151. Throughout the year, residents may also set out their brush for monthly collection. Please visit www.christiansburg.org/brush to learn about our complimentary monthly brush collection service. Brush collection will not run in April because it will be collected as part of Spring Cleanup.

AQUATIC CENTER UPDATES

The Aquatic Center will be closed on Sunday, April 12.

March 12-15: Virginia Short Course Age Group Champs Swim Meet

March 26-29: Easter Zone Speedo Super Sectionals

Fins Spring Break Camp, April 8-10, for grade levels 1-4, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., \$75 for residents and \$85 for guests, registration begins March 2.

Fins Summer Camp, for grade levels 1-4, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., \$85 per week for residents and \$110 per week for guests, registration begins March 16. Program runs weekdays from June 8 to July 31. For specific dates and themes for each week, visit www.cacpool.com/FinsSummerCamp.

CAC Summer Recruitment Day, March 21 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Interviews will be conducted for the following positions: lifeguards, swim instructors, summer camp staff, facility attendants, coaches, fitness instructors and custodians. Applicants must submit an application online at www.christiansburg.org/jobs before March 20.

MERMADNESS! Tuesdays, April 7-May 12, 7 to 7:45 p.m. This class targets your core while allowing you to temporarily live your dream of being a mermaid or merman. This class will involve the use of "mermaid fins;" if you have your own fin, please note this when registering. Participants must be experienced swimmers and 16 years or older. \$55 for residents and \$65 for guests.

WELLNESS BOOK CLUB

On the fourth Monday of each month, the Wellness Book Club meets at the Christiansburg Library to discuss texts with topics about health, fitness, nutrition and wellness. On March 23, the club will discuss *The Power of Habit* by Charles Duhigg, and on April 27, the club will discuss *Maybe You Should Talk to Someone* by Lori Gottlieb. Some copies of each month's book are available for loan at the Christiansburg Library (125 Shelton Street) and the Recreation Center (1600 North Franklin Street). The club will take a break during the summer months and reconvene in September. Please call 540-382-2349 to register. Participants must be 18 or older.

FRIENDSHIP CAFÉ

The Friendship Café meets Tuesday through Thursday at the Recreation Center from 9 a.m. to noon. Mobile seniors can get out of the house and socialize over a hot meal. Participants are eligible to come to the café if they are 60 years or older; spouses and caregivers are welcome, too. Transportation may be available to those who live in Christiansburg. To learn more or apply for eligibility, please contact Gretchen Lawson at 540-980-7720 or nutrition@nrva.org.

EVENTS CALENDAR

NRV Home Expo

March 14 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and March 15 from noon to 5 p.m. at the Recreation Center; admission is \$5 for adults and children are free.

Guts and Butts: Rectal Cancer Awareness

March 24 from 8 a.m. to noon at the Recreation Center

Veteran's Fair

March 28 from 8 a.m. to noon at the Recreation Center

Virginia Tech's Annual Big Event

April 4 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Residents interested in requesting a job to be completed during Big Event, fill out a form here: <https://registration.vtbigevent.org/jobrequest>.

Great Easter Egg Hunt

April 11 at Kiwanis Park; \$1 pictures with the Easter Bunny.

Ages 3-5 hunt at 10 a.m.

Ages 6-8 hunt at 10:15 a.m.

Ages 9-12 hunt at 10:30 a.m.

Ages under 3 hunt at 10:45 a.m.

Diamond Hills Stream Cleanup

April 11 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Diamond Hills Stream, public access at the end of Scattergood Drive NW.

Spring Cleanup

April 11-24; for FAQs about what items will be accepted during Spring Cleanup, please visit: www.christiansburg.org/cleanupFAQ

Shred-A-Thon

April 21 from 3-6 p.m. at the Recreation Center's Parking Lot

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Town Council Meetings

March 10 at 7 p.m.

in Chambers at Town Hall

March 24 at 7 p.m.

in Chambers at Town Hall

April 14 at 7 p.m.

in Chambers at Town Hall

April 28 at 7 p.m.

in Chambers at Town Hall

Never miss a meeting! Sign up for notifications at www.christiansburg.org/notifyme. All meetings are recorded and posted to the Town's YouTube page the following day.



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