

The Christiansburg Connection

Newsletter for the Town of Christiansburg

September/October 2020



COMMUNITY CORNER Town Staff Receive Awards

Christiansburg Public Works' Waste Water Treatment Facility (WWTF) exemplified an outstanding commitment to safety and became the first public sector facility in the state to achieve the Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program's (SHARP) Worksite status from Virginia Occupational Safety and Health (VOSH). The Public Works Operations Center is soon to follow as it is already in Pre-SHARP standing. SHARP encourages small, high-hazard employers to develop, implement and improve the effectiveness of their workplace safety and health management system and recognizes those who operate an exemplary system. SHARP Worksite status is given only after rounds of thorough site and safety record inspections are completed. Being the first in Virginia, the SHARP Worksite status is an achievement that sets Christiansburg's WWTF as a model for worksite safety and health.



The Town was also named Locality of the Year by the VDOT Salem District. Each year, the district recognizes one of their local government partners for demonstrating hard work, effort and commitment to delivering transportation programs for their constituents. The award is scored by taking into consideration the locality's communication and participation in quarterly conference calls, training opportunities and workshops; proficiency with project applications, agreements, plan submittals and documentation; and performance related to the number of projects completed and project stages completed on schedule. The Town's Engineering Department continues to work extremely hard on applying for grants and administering valuable projects throughout our town.

IN THE KNOW

Fall is here! After a hot summer, we're welcoming the cooler weather. Don't forget to wear a mask in all public spaces. Pick up a FREE "Be Committed. Be Well." face covering at any Town facility. Submit your favorite photo from the year in our annual contest at www.christiansburg.org/photooftheyear. Check out the adaptive classes the Aquatic and Rec Centers are offering residents on the next page. Lastly, Fall Cleanup is from October 3 to October 16. Learn about what items the Town will collect and how to place them properly for pickup at www.christiansburg.org/cleanup. Happy Fall, Christiansburg!

CAPITAL PROJECT: DEPOT PARK TRAIL EXTENSION

On July 28, contractors installed a pedestrian bridge (seen in the cover image above) over Towne Branch at the Aquatic Center. The bridge is part of the Depot Park Trail Extension Project, which is still under construction and is expected to be complete in September. The paved trail extension will connect Mill Lane at the Aquatic Center to the existing loop trail at Depot Park. The project is funded under the Transportation Alternatives Grant by VDOT, which provides 80 percent of project funds with a 20 percent match from the Town. At press time, the bridge was not open yet as crews were still finalizing installation. However, you can now access the extended trail, which was recently paved, from the existing Depot Park loop trail; please avoid any areas that are blocked off for ongoing construction.

MRSWA RECYCLING & SERVICE CHANGES

As of July 1, the Montgomery Regional Solid Waste Authority (MRSWA), located at 555 Authority Drive, has changed some of its services. At this time, the following recycling services will continue:

- Tire disposal (Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.)
- Single Stream Recycling
- Clean brush, wood, and pallets
- Metals Payback Program (includes white goods/appliances)
- Cardboard Payback Program
- Construction waste
- Industrial waste
- Household waste
- Commercial/Business waste
- Sludge
- Leaves
- Mulch for sale

The following items will no longer be accepted as waste by MRSWA as of July 1:

- Shredded paper recycling
- Hardbound/softbound book recycling
- Household hazardous waste disposal
- Electric waste disposal
- Universal waste disposal

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) events will no longer be held by MRSWA. The New River Resource Authority is holding a HHW event on September 12 that residents can partake in by calling 540-674-1677 to make an appointment.

To learn more about alternative recycling opportunities for these items, visit earth911.com. For questions or to learn more about the Montgomery Regional Solid Waste Authority, visit mrswa.com.



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

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FALL CLEANUP

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UTILITY POLICIES

In August, the Finance Department returned to its normal disconnect policy. If your bill is not paid by the 10th of the month after it is due, service will be disconnected. The unpaid balance, including penalty and restoration fee, must be paid for services to be reconnected. Call 540-382-9519 if you have questions or need additional assistance.

BE COMMITTED. BE WELL.



Free "Be Committed. Be Well." face coverings are available at several locations throughout the NRV, including Christiansburg Town Hall, Christiansburg Recreation Center, Christiansburg Aquatic Center and Christiansburg Farmers Market, among others. Pick yours up today!

AQUATIC & REC CLASSES

The Aquatic Center continues to add new and rejuvenating programs to its COVID operation plan by designing fun and beneficial water exercise classes geared toward working your body in a safe and productive manner. A variety of programs are offered, including Mermadness, HydroPower, GlideFit, Splash-N'-Shimmy and Aqua Yoga. Stay committed and stay well by adding a splash of fun to your day. Visit www.cacpool.com for more information or call Aquatics Program Supervisor Jillian at 540-381-POOL, ext. 3105.

The Recreation Center offers limited indoor and outdoor group fitness classes, as well. Learn more about the classes at www.christiansburg.org/recadulthoodprograms or call 540-382-2349.

ELECTION DAY 2020

Election Day is **Tuesday, November 3**. There are three ways to vote in the election: (1) Vote in person on Election Day in the precinct where you are registered. (2) Vote in person at your local Voter Registration and Elections Office between September 18 and October 31, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Saturdays October 24 and October 31, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (3) Concerned about COVID-19? Stay home and vote safely. Apply to vote by mail at <https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation> or request an application from your Voter Registration and Elections Office. A reason code is no longer required to vote early. Learn more in the insert included in your water bill, by calling (540) 382-5741, or visiting the link above.

TRICK OR TREAT

Halloween is on Saturday, October 31. Though the Town does not regulate trick-or-treating, many participate in their neighborhoods until dark on Halloween. Many homes may not be participating in trick-or-treating activities this year, so be cautious of the residences you approach. If you choose to trick-or-treat this year, please adhere to social distancing guidelines and the Governor's orders that are in place at that time. Happy Halloween!

RECYCLE THIN, SINGLE-USE PLASTICS FOR A COMMUNITY BENCH



In conjunction with Trex, an eco-friendly decking company, the Farmers Market is collecting single-use, thin plastics to recycle into an earth-friendly composite decking and railing material. A collection area will be at the Farmers Market on Hickok Street on Thursdays and will be at the Rec Center on other days. Items that can be recycled include: produce and bread bags, grocery bags, cereal box liners and ice bags, as well as resealable bags, and case wraps from bulk items like bottled water. You can also recycle newspaper sleeves, dry cleaning bags, plastic shopping bags and bubble wrap! If the community can collect more than

500 pounds of plastic refuse in a six-month span (about 40,500 plastic bags), the company will donate a high-performance composite bench to Christiansburg!

ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST & TOWN CALENDAR

When you think of Christiansburg, what do you see? Is there a specific place or activity that comes to mind? Share your response with us by entering our third annual Photo of the Year Contest.

Judges will select a photo of the year to hang in Town Hall. The Town plans to possibly feature other submissions from this year and years past in a Town-themed calendar.

To view contest rules, visit www.christiansburg.org/photooftheyear. All photos must be submitted by 5 p.m. Monday, October 5, 2020 to info@christiansburg.org.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Town Council Meetings*

September 8 at 7 p.m.

September 22 at 7 p.m.

October 13 at 7 p.m.

October 27 at 7 p.m.

*Meetings are held in Council Chambers at Town Hall. To adhere to social distancing guidelines, residents may be asked to wait in the hall or watch the meeting from another room. Opportunity to provide public comment in person will be provided; however, contactless comment methods are also available at www.christiansburg.org/publichearings to ensure resident access and safety. Please visit the website for information on each meeting closer to the dates above.

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 at www.christiansburg.org/YouTube.

UPCOMING HOLIDAY

Town facilities will be closed for Labor Day on September 7. Solid waste normally scheduled for Mondays will be collected Friday, September 4, along with Friday's regular collection.



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