

July/August 2015

The Christiansburg Connection



Farmers' Market Ribbon Cutting, May 28

Market Update:

The Christiansburg Farmers' Market held its grand opening on May 28, and community members came out to celebrate!

With more crops coming in each week, be sure to continue stopping by every Thursday to get your fresh produce and other tasty treats from our vendors.

In June, the market hosted its first annual Dog Days of summer fun show, which was a howling good time! A BIG truck event was scheduled on July 2 to help kick off the July 4 festivities. Coming up September 10, the market will host a Military and First Responders Appreciation Day!

Additional events are in the works. Stay tuned for information about these events and more.

See you at the market!

To learn more about the Christiansburg Farmers' Market, please visit www.christiansburg.org/farmersmarket or email market@christiansburg.org.



Upcoming Meetings & Events:

Christiansburg Farmers' Market

Thursdays, from 3 - 7 p.m. on Hickok Street
Runs every Thursday through October

Aquatic Center Closed for Maintenance

August 17-28

Heritage Day

Montgomery Museum & Lewis Miller Regional Art Center, August 22 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Labor Day Holiday - Monday, September 7

Town Hall Closed

Aquatic Center open 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

(administrative office closed)

Recreation Center closed

Town Council Meetings

Tuesday, July 14 at 7 p.m.

Tuesday, July 28 at 7 p.m.

Tuesday, August 11 at 7 p.m.

Tuesday, August 25 at 7 p.m.

Town Council meetings are held in the Council Chambers at Town Hall, 100 East Main Street.

Never miss a meeting! Sign up for meeting notifications at www.christiansburg.org/notifyme.

The dog days of summer have arrived, but we're not slowing down! In July, the Department of Parks & Recreation hosts the Nations Baseball World Series at the Harkrader Sports Complex. The Montgomery Museum and Lewis Miller Regional Art Center hosts their annual Heritage Day on August 22.

Summer camps are still going strong at the Aquatic and Recreation Centers, so don't miss out on all the fun! Plan your next picnic at one of our Town parks, or make use of the great new shelter at the Christiansburg Skate Park, built by Will Rhodes as part of his Eagle Scout Project for Troop #704.

As always, visit www.christiansburg.org for news and information available 24/7.



Budget Report

Town Council approved the F.Y. 2015-16 annual budget on June 9. This year's budget includes capital projects to maintain and improve the Town's services to citizens, including: storm drain facility and water line upgrades, the annual street paving program and the extension of the Huckleberry Trail from Cambria Street to the Food Lion shopping center. Also included in this year's budget are increases to water and sewer fees, real estate property tax and over the phone credit card transactions.

Water & Sewer Increases

Water fees: (inside town limits):

Minimum bill from \$19.00 to \$21.00 for the first 4000 gallons.

The next 96,000 gallons from \$5.50 to \$5.90 per 1000 gallons.

The next 5.9 million gallons from \$3.20 to \$3.50 per 1000 gallons.

Water connection fee: \$2,500.00 to \$3,000.00 (minimum).

Water fees: (outside town limits):

Minimum bill from \$28.50 to \$31.50 for the first 4000 gallons.

The next 96,000 gallons from \$8.25 to \$8.85 per 1000 gallons.

The next 5.9 million gallons from \$4.80 to \$5.25 per 1000 gallons.

Water connection fee: from \$3,750.00 to \$4,500.00 (minimum).

Sewer fees: (inside town limits):

Minimum bill from \$28.00 to \$30.00 for the first 4000 gallons.

Sewer connection fee: from \$2,500.00 to \$3,000.00 (minimum).

Sewer fees: (outside town limits):

Minimum bill from \$42.00 to \$45.00 for the first 4000 gallons.

Sewer connection fee: from \$3,750.00 to \$4,500.00 (minimum).

These water and sewer fee increases are necessary in order to offset the actual cost of providing these services.

Real Estate Property Tax

Town Council voted on May 26 to approve a real estate property tax increase of 3 cents per hundred, which will be in effect with the 2015 tax year.

This brings the real estate tax to \$0.16 per \$100 of assessed value.

The increase in the real estate property tax will help offset costs related to capital projects and maintaining quality services for our citizens.

See BUDGET (on back)

Frequently Asked...

May I Host A Yard Sale?

Yes, you may! After all, what is summer without yard sale season?

However, BEFORE you start pricing your secondhand deals, be sure to follow these requirements:



How many yard sales may I hold a year?

Everyone loves a yard sale, but a person or family may host no more than two garage/yard sales per year.

How long can my yard sale last?

Each yard/garage sale can last no longer than two consecutive days.

What can I sell?

Only secondhand or used items owned by the seller can be sold. Goods purchased for the purpose of resale at a yard sale are not allowed.

Can I post signs about my yard sale?

You may post signs in your own yard. You may also ask business owners for permission to post signs on the inside of their building (i.e. window, bulletin board). Posting signs on the outside of a building would be considered an advertisement and require a sign permit from the Town's Planning Department.

Do NOT post any signs in the street right-of-way. Doing so poses a variety of safety hazards to both motorists and pedestrians. This rule applies to stop signs and electrical poles. Any signs posted in the right-of-way will be removed.

Still have questions? Please call the Planning Department at (540) 382-6120.

Building A Healthier Christiansburg

The Town of Christiansburg and the NRV Health District have teamed up to build a healthier Christiansburg! The goal is to promote healthy lifestyles while improving the Town's infrastructure to encourage active choices.

Soon, residents will enjoy bike racks along the Huckleberry Trail and in areas around town, and new signed pedestrian crosswalks and accessible curbs will improve biking and pedestrian facilities. And don't miss the bike repair station at the Recreation Center, perfect for emergency bike repairs!

The Health District and the Farmers' Market have also partnered to encourage healthy eating choices. Be sure to visit them at the market on Thursdays!

Be on the lookout for more information about related initiatives and events from the Town and Health District on our websites, social media and local news outlets!

BUDGET Continued...

Over the Phone Credit Card Transactions

Beginning July 1, a \$10 charge will be applied when a customer uses a credit card to make a payment over the phone. Please note this charge will not apply to online or in-person credit card transactions.

To view the complete F.Y. 2015-16 annual budget, please visit www.christiansburg.org.

Don't Forget!

The Christiansburg Aquatic Center will be closed from August 17-28 for yearly maintenance. The center will reopen on August 29.

Annual maintenance is needed to keep the aquatic center in tiptop shape. Thank you for your patience as we work to keep providing you with the best possible service!

Update: Water Meter Upgrades

Installation of the new water meters began in June and is expected to be completed in November.

Customers may experience a brief interruption in their water service while crews replace old meters. These interruptions are expected to be minimal and will not impact water safety or quality.

Visit www.christiansburg.org/capitalprojects for the latest updates.

New Recycling Site on Cambria Street

Beginning July 1, residents now have another option for recycling! 2040 Cambria Street (at the intersection with Piedmont Street) will collect all recyclables, including corrugated cardboard.

MRSWA Now Accepting Single Stream Recycling

Also remember- the Montgomery Regional Solid Waste Authority (MRSWA) now accepts single stream recycling. This means - with the exception of corrugated cardboard - you no longer have to sort your recyclables.

For more information about recycling, please visit www.christiansburg.org/recycling.

Snapshot! Town photos & events



Members of Public Works (along with Town Manager Barry Helms) competed in the Public Works Rodeo on April 22, 2015 in Salem, VA. Christiansburg placed in the following categories: Refuse- Side Loader - Dennis Minnick (Third Place), Mini Excavator - Jason Price (Second Place), Front End Loader - Travis Lester (Third Place).

Have questions? Let us know!
(540) 382-6128 ext. 1148 / ext. 1151
info@christiansburg.org
www.christiansburg.org