

# Extra

# Connections

## An interview with *Sara Morgan*

Sara Morgan joined the Town's Planning and Zoning department as an intern in 2014 before coming on as a full-time Planner I later that year. Now a Planner II, Sara handles applications for planning and zoning violations/complaints, takes part in site plan review, assists with public hearings and applies for and helps administer grants.



**"I love how diverse the landscape is in Christiansburg. There are residential areas, shopping districts and rural areas. It's unique to have all of that together. Most people don't realize how pretty it is on the outskirts of Christiansburg."**

- Sara Morgan

### **What project are you most proud of from your time with Christiansburg?**

The Neighborhood Planning project reached a lot of people and those who responded seemed genuinely excited about what we are trying to achieve and that was exciting for me.

### **What do you hope to see happen in the near future for the Town?**

Public input and citizen involvement is such an important part of our department initiatives. I would love to hear from even more members of our community and encourage them to attend public meetings.

### **What are some of your favorite places in Christiansburg?**

One of my favorite places is Huckleberry Trail because I like to be surrounded by nature. I also like anywhere that has a ridge that overlooks a beautiful landscape.

### **What do you like to do in your free time?**

I don't have a lot of free time right now because I'm working to get a Master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from Virginia Tech. When I do have time, I enjoy hiking and traveling. I do a little bit of crafting as well, and would like to learn to crochet. I also want to learn another language when I have more time.

### **If you could travel anywhere in the world where would you go?**

I would like to visit Australia to see the wildlife and go snorkeling, which they get to do year round. I'm also very passionate about environmental issues and I admire the fact that they are very committed to environmental conservation.

### **Who is your biggest influence?**

It might sound cliché but my mom. She is hard working, compassionate, has the ability to gracefully approach any situation without stepping on anyone's toes, and she always gives good advice.

