

# News from Boonsboro Town Hall

Published four times a year by the Town of Boonsboro, Maryland

www.town.boonsboro.md.us

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Town Hall, 21 N. Main Street, Boonsboro, MD 21713

301.432.5141

Open: Monday-Friday, 8 AM to 4:30 PM

## Town Meeting Schedules

All Meetings are held at **7pm** in the Charles F. 'Skip' Kauffman Building, adjacent to Town Hall, at **19 North Main Street**, unless otherwise noted. Please see the **Meeting calendar** on the Town website for any updates and Public Hearings. All Meetings are open to the Public, with the exception of Executive Session Meetings:

- **Mayor and Council Regular Meeting** – 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month
- **Mayor and Council Workshop Meeting** – last Monday of the month (unless there is a holiday, MML Meeting or scheduling conflict)
- **Environmental Commission** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month
- **Boonsboro Utilities Commission** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month
- **Public Safety Commission** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month
- **Planning Commission** – 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month
- **Park Board** – 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month
- **Economic Development Commission** – 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of 'even' months – **9am**
- **Board of Zoning Appeals** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month (as needed)

The **Shafer Park Walking Trail** is now open for you to enjoy. It is located by the restrooms in the new section of Shafer Park, near the Police Department and Town Pond, on Potomac Street. Construction will begin in the Spring for the new Tot Lot, which will also be located in the new Park area. Remember, leashed dogs are allowed in Shafer Park. Please be considerate of other people while walking in the Park ☺  
**Please pick up after your pet!**

## When it snows...

Residents must clear away a 3-foot wide walk-way of snow and ice from their sidewalks within the first 10 hours of daylight on the day the snow, sleet or freezing rain ceases. Town businesses must clear sidewalks within 4 business hours after a snow/ice event ends or by the beginning of business hours of the next business day.

**\*\*Please DO NOT shovel or blow snow onto roadways\*\***

This is a violation of the Town Ordinance. It creates safety issues and could result in a \$50 fine. Please help Town employees by keeping your water meter covers cleaned off and the area around fire hydrants clear of snow and ice.

**Reminder...** Do not park on Main Street during a Snow Emergency Plan event; your vehicle could be towed.

## UTILITY PAYMENT POLICY

Water, Sewer and Trash services are billed quarterly in **January, April, July** and **October**. Payments are due within 30 days from the date of the bill. After 30 days a 5% interest is charged on the balance and services will be terminated if payment is not received within 60 days. Please note: If you are experiencing difficulty paying your bill on time, please call Cindy at Town Hall as soon as you receive your bill to discuss payment plans and options.

**\*\*The full BMUC billing policy is available on the Town's webpage and also posted at Town Hall\*\***

**Reminder!! Pedestrians have the right-of-way in all cross walks. Please stop to allow pedestrians to safely cross the street...it is a Maryland State Law**

**Boonsboro Town Hall will be closed on**

Monday, January 16, 2017  
for Martin Luther King Day

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Friday, April 14, 2017  
for the Easter Holiday

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**Yard Debris Site on Monroe Road Open 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays**

during the winter months:  
January 21 - February 18 - March 18  
**7 AM until 12 noon**

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**Christmas Tree Collection**

Trees will be picked up at curbside **Each Monday during January** (With the exception of January 16 when pick-up will be on **Tuesday, January 17** because of the Martin Luther King Holiday)

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**Bi-Monthly Street Sweeper 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays in 2017**

January 16 - March 20 – May 15 – July 17  
September 18 – November 20

## 2017 Shafer Park Reservations

Shafer Park pavilions and Community Center bookings begin on January 3, 2017. To make reservations call Kim at 301-432-5141 (press 4) or visit Town Hall. For Town residents, fees are \$35 for small pavilions and \$40 for large ones. Non-residents pay \$10 more for each. The Community Center rental fee is \$60, plus a key/cleaning deposit of \$50, which will be refunded to you.

**Shafer Park officially opens for the season on April 3, 2017**

Like us on **Facebook & Twitter!!** Town events, updates and changes are also posted on the Town's Facebook and Twitter pages. A link is provided on the Town website or search "Town of Boonsboro, Maryland" on either site.

### Spring Curbside Bulk Clean-Up

The Spring Curbside Clean-Up day is Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. **Please Note:** You may want to consider dropping off your recyclable/reusable items at Shafer Park for Green Fest on Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>

**Monday Curbside Yard Debris** pick-up will resume, weather permitting, at the beginning of April. During the winter months, the **Yard Debris Site at 6927 Monroe Road** is open on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month from **7AM until 12 noon**. **Open dates are: January 21, February 18 and March 18.** Residents must obtain a 2017 permit at Town Hall. The Site will open for the 2017 Season on Saturday, April 1.

### Town Composting Bin Program

Composting bins are currently available for Boonsboro residents to purchase for \$20. Stop by Town Hall to complete an application with proof of residency. Funds generated from these sales will be used to purchase additional composting bins. **Please limit ONE bin per household**

### GREASE IN OUR SEWER LINES

When you put cooking waste, like grease, oil, and food scraps down the drain, the grease builds up and clings to the pipes, clogging them and eventually interfering with the wastewater treatment process. Grease can cause sewer backups, expensive plumbing bills and increased costs to all residents due to the increased maintenance and treatment costs. Dispose of grease properly by placing in a can, then put it out with the trash!

**Interested in serving on a Town Commission?** Volunteers help make our community as great as it can be. People with all skills and interests are encouraged to volunteer. There are currently vacancies on the Public Safety Commission and the Environmental Commission. Please submit the form online via the Town website or stop in at Town Hall.

### “Love Your Local”

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Specials Program

Local small businesses contribute to our schools, sports teams and community through donations, tax dollars and payroll to locally employed residents. When you have a choice to shop at the big box stores, the internet or with our Boonsboro shopkeepers and service provider, choose to “Love Your Local” businesses first! In return for your support, many Boonsboro businesses will be offering 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Specials for local shoppers on the first Saturday of every month. To keep things simple, when you shop local on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month...just mention that you LOVE our local businesses before checkout. Offers and participation are set by each business and may change at their discretion. Additional information can be found at [loveyourlocal.net](http://loveyourlocal.net).

#### Trash & Recycling Reminders

- Please place your trash and recycling out on **MONDAY night** for Tuesday morning pick-up. Apple Valley Waste comes through Town very early in the morning and many residents are not having their sanitation picked-up because they are waiting until Tuesday morning to place their sanitation at the curb side.
- If you place your trash and recycling out **AFTER** Apple Valley Waste picks-up on your street, they **will not** come back to pick-up your sanitation until the following Tuesday. If AVW misses your sanitation and you honestly placed it out on **Monday night**, please call Town Hall as soon as possible. We cannot guarantee that AVW will come back to pick it up, but we will try our best to contact them.
- The **RED** Apple Valley Waste container that the Town provides to you is for **RECYCLING ONLY**. If you place regular household trash inside the red container, AVW will NOT pick it up at all. (AVW **does not** provide a Town container for regular household trash.)

### Fire Safety Tips for Winter

Keep fire safety in mind when heating your home this winter. December, January and February are the leading months for home heating fires.

#### **Working smoke detectors & carbon monoxide detectors SAVE LIVES Change your batteries regularly!!**

- Space heaters account for 1/3 of home heating fires and four out of five home heating fire deaths.

- The leading factor contributing to home heating fires is the failure to clean creosote from solid-fueled heating equipment and chimneys.

#### **\*\*Please remember to have your chimney cleaned annually\*\***

- Placing things that can burn too close to heating equipment, such as furniture, clothing, mattress or bedding, is the leading factor contributing to ignition in home heating fires and accounted for more than half of all heating fire deaths.

#### **\*\*REMEMBER to turn off portable heaters before you leave home!\*\***

- Keep combustible and flammable materials **at least 3 feet away** from any heat source, portable heaters, wood and pellet stoves or fireplaces.

- **DO NOT use your oven, or stove top burners, to heat your home.**

- **NEVER EVER leave burning candles unattended!!**

- **Carbon Monoxide**, or CO, is a colorless, odorless, poisonous gas. CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home.

Visit [www.usfa.fema.gov](http://www.usfa.fema.gov) to learn more about winter safety tips or contact the First Hose Company of Boonsboro on their non-emergency number at 301-432-2348

Mayor: Howard Long  
Assistant Mayor: Cynthia Kauffman  
Council Members: Rick Byrd, Terry Davis,  
Marilee Kerns, Brigitte Schmidt &  
Janeen Solberg

Boonsboro Police Department  
301-432-6838

Sheriff's Office Dispatch  
240-313-2910 or 911