

NEWS from TOWN HALL

Spring 2013

21 N Main St Boonsboro MD 21713 301-432-5141

Office hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30p.m.

www.town.boonsboro.md.us

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TOWN HALL CLOSINGS

Memorial Day - Monday, May 27th
Independence Day – Thursday, July 4th

YARD DEBRIS SITE TO RE-OPEN WEEKLY PICKUP TO RESUME

The yard debris site at 6927 Monroe Road will re-open to town residents on Saturday, April 6th. Stop at town hall with your driver's license and vehicle tag number to renew your free 2013 permit.

The weekly yard debris pickup starts on Monday, April 8th. Paper lawn bags are to be used for grass, leaves and garden debris. Maximum of 8 bags weighing 30 lbs. each. Brush and branches no more than 4-inches in diameter and 4-feet in length, with a maximum of 10 branches tied in a bundle.

No stones, sod, flower pots or other trash shall be mixed in with the debris.

SPRING CURBSIDE CLEANUP SATURDAY, APRIL 20TH

Collection begins early, make sure to have your items out Friday night. The truck will come by only once. Items collected are: metal appliances; electronics; metal plastic & wood furniture; rugs and carpeting (must be rolled & tied); mattresses; box springs and miscellaneous junk. Fill paint cans with sand or kitty litter and hammer the lids closed.

Items not accepted: car batteries, items containing Freon, construction and toxic materials.

Items that are in reasonably good condition, please consider saving them for Horizon Goodwill at Shafer Park for the Green Fest on May 11th.

LIBRARY'S 5TH ANNIVERSARY SATURDAY, APRIL 13TH

The Boonsboro Free Library will celebrate its 5th anniversary on Potomac Street with a family-friendly event from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Michael T will bring his magic show and read his new book, "Jelly Bean Soup and Grilled Candy Sandwiches". Refreshments and other activities are planned.

QUARTERLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SHAFER PARK

SHAFER PARK REOPENS FOR THE SEASON

Monday, April 1st is the official day the park opens to the public. Please remember **NO PETS** are allowed in the park.

ANNUAL FISHING DERBY SATURDAY, MAY 11TH

The fishing derby will be held at Shafer Park fishing pond behind the library. Use the park road off Potomac Street. Registration for ages 1 to 6 is 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.; their fishing time is 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Ages 7 to 12 register at 10-11 a.m.; fishing from 11 a.m. to 1-p.m. A fishing pole will be provided for any child without one. Prizes will be awarded.

GREEN FEST SATURDAY, MAY 11TH

See the enclosed bookmark flyer for details.

WAGON TRAIN'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY, MAY 19TH

The wagon train will again end its journey in Shafer Park around 2 p.m. There will be pony rides, a blacksmith demonstration and Post 10 Ladies Auxiliary will do the concessions.

BOONSBORO VOLUNTEER RESCUE & AMBULANCE COMPANY CARNIVAL

The annual carnival begins Friday, May 24th and runs through Saturday, June 1st. For special ride nights and entertainment information contact the Rescue Company at 301-432-6979.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE SUNDAY, MAY 26TH

This event begins with a wreath laying ceremony and memorial service at the monument in front of the old library at 1 p.m. Parade starts at 2 p.m., forming at the high school and ending at Reeder's Alley on South Main Street.

2013 INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

The Town's annual Independence Day Celebration will be held the evening of Wednesday, July 3rd – the rain date is Friday, July 5th. Music will be provided by Jeff Talton. Any organization or church group wishing to sell refreshments should stop by or contact Town Hall for an application. Deadline to participate is Monday, May 20, 2013.

FY 13/14 TAX RATE TO INCREASE

Since residential property assessments decreased this year and the Constant Yield Tax Rate increase will mean no additional out of pocket expense for property owners. The town's tax rate will go from .3223 per each \$100 of assessment to .3497.

BOONSBORO'S NEW POLICE OFFICER

Officer Martin Pitsnogle joined our force in mid-March. Marty is a life-long resident of the county, who lives in Hagerstown and recently retired from that city's police department after having served 25 years.

LOCAL BUSINESSES HONORED

Two Boonsboro businesses Cronise Market Place and Inn Boonsboro were finalists honored at the 14th Annual Business Awards banquet of the Washington County EDC and the Hagerstown-Washington County Chamber of Commerce. Cronise Market Place received the Small Business of the Year Award.

CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION GRANT

Boonsboro has received a \$15,000 grant to plant 200 trees a year for the next three years in the Shafer Park addition. The Washington County Forestry Dept. is setting up specifications for selecting the correct type of tree for each locale and for the planting of the trees. A blueprint will be drawn up for the tree planting.

UTILITIES COMMISSION COMMENTS

Water meters are the property of the town and are not to be covered with soil or hidden with decorations such as flower pots. This is because lids can easily be broken, the meter can be damaged and employees have to read the meter quarterly.

REMINDERS FROM OUR TOWN PLANNER

Please be advised a new **Ordinance 2012-03** is now in effect. This ordinance states the following:

The parking of recreational vehicles or trailers on any public street, alley or public property for a period longer than 24 hours is prohibited.

Recreational vehicles and trailers may be parked on Personal property provided they have valid tag and registration.

(The ordinance can be viewed in its entirety on our web page.)

All pools and sheds require permits which are to be obtained from the Town Planner, Megan Clark. Contact her at 301-432-5690 for more information.

Grass and weeds are to be no more than 12 inches in height. Please remove weeds from the sidewalk cracks and continue to show pride in your property.

Brush and debris piles are not allowed to accumulate on your property. These piles along with overgrown grass and weeds invite vermin, fleas and ticks.

Please clean up after your pet! Carry a plastic bag to use as a pooper scooper when strolling around town with your four-legged friend and dispose of the waste properly.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION SURVEY

The Commission's community survey is included in this mailing. Its goal is to determine citizens' needs, interests and activities. Feedback from the survey will be used by the Green Team to draft a plan of action as part of the Town's efforts to obtain certification through Sustainable Maryland Certified. (This is a new initiative of the Environmental Finance Center at the University of Maryland designed to support Maryland's municipalities as they look for cost-effective and strategic ways to protect their natural assets and revitalize their communities. Using the best practices in resource areas like water, energy, planning, health, food, and economy, a municipality can earn points toward sustainability certification and grant money.)

Please return the completed survey to the town hall with your utilities payment or you may also take the survey online by going to the town's website.