

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 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

NEW WATER & SEWER TIERED-RATE STRUCTURE

At the recommendation of the Boonsboro Municipal Utilities Commission, and after a public hearing, the Mayor and Council approved a new Water and Sewer Tiered Rate Structure, effective July 1, 2015. A **tiered-rate structure** provides a small fixed fee and charges based upon the quantity of water used. Different tiers charge different amounts for the quantity used. A tiered-rate structure promotes conservation of water as it charges users for the quantity they are using rather than a lump sum for a specified amount (ie minimum charge for 6000 gallons). **Conserving water preserves our water resources, reduces operating costs, and delays the need for system expansion.**

The following is the approved water and sewer rates, effective July 1:

Water	Rates
Residential Fixed Fee	\$10
1-18,000 gallons	\$5/1,000 gal
18,001+ gallons	\$6/1,000 gal
Commercial Fixed Fee	\$15 per EDU
1-18,000 gallons	\$5/1,000 gal
18,001+ gallons	\$6/1,000 gal
Sewer	Rates
Residential Fixed Fee	\$40
1-18,000 gallons	\$7/1,000 gal
18,001+ gallons	\$10/1,000 gal
Commercial Fixed Fee	\$40 per EDU
1-18,000 gallons	\$7/1,000 gal
18,001+ gallons	\$10/1,000 gal

The rate change will be reflected on the September 2015 billing.

FISCAL YEAR 2016 PROPERTY TAX

There will be no increase in the Constant Yield Tax Rate for FY2016. The tax rate will remain at .3497 per each \$100 of assessment.

Independence Day Celebration Friday, July 3rd

The Town will celebrate our Nation's independence on **Friday, July 3rd** in Shafer Park. The festivities, sponsored by the Park Board, will begin at **5 PM** and end with fireworks around **9:30 PM**. Plan to bring lawn chairs or blankets. Local organizations will be selling delicious food and soft drinks. Entertainment will be provided throughout the evening. (Rain date is Sunday, July 5th)

National Night Out Tuesday, August 4th

The Annual **National Night Out** event will be held in Shafer Park from **5:30 PM** until **8:30 PM**. Free food and drinks will be provided. This event is a joint venture of the Mayor and Council, the Public Safety Commission and the Boonsboro Police, Fire and Rescue Companies.

44th Boonesborough Days September 12th & 13th

The Boonsboro Historical Society's annual juried craft show will be held on **September 12** and **September 13** from **9 AM** until **5 PM**.

For information visit www.boonesboroughdays.com

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.

TRASH PICK UP CHANGE REMINDER

Recycling and trash are now picked up on **Tuesdays**. Place your items at curb-side after **4PM** on **Monday nights**.

Town Hall is closed on...

Independence Day – Friday, July 3rd
&

Labor Day – Monday, September 7th

Recycling and Trash will be picked up on Wednesday, September 9th

9/11 Remembrance Parade

The First Hose Company of Boonsboro hosts their annual Remembrance Parade along Main Street on **Friday, September 11th** at **6:30 PM**. The parade offers a memorial to the Fire, Rescue and Law Enforcement personnel who lost their lives on September 11, 2001 and honors the men and women of the Military.

Shafer Park Summer Concert Series

The Park Board hosts a variety of concerts in Shafer Park during the months of April through September. Please check the '**Event Calendar**' on the Town's website. Lawn chairs and blankets are always welcome!!

***July 11** – *Williamsport Band, 7 PM*

***July 18** – *US Navy Band, 'Country Current Ensemble,' 7 PM*

***August 2** – *South Mountain Jam with Jeff Taulton, 5 PM*

***August 21** – *US Air Force Band 'Max Impact,' 7 PM*

***Sept. 6** – *Barber Shop Singers, 3 PM*

***Sept. 18** – *'Dixieland' Army Field Band, 7 PM*

Reminder...Leashed dogs are allowed in Shafer Park and pet waste stations have been installed.

Please pick up after your pet!

Boonsboro's Farmers Market will be held every **TUESDAY**, now thru September 29th, from 4pm until 7pm in Shafer Park in the area between Pavilions 1 & 2. *Buy fresh & local!*

YARD DEBRIS SITE - It has come to our attention that a few individuals are abusing the Debris Site located on Monroe Road. The Town provides this site for the disposal of grass trimmings, leaves, yard debris and small branches, as well as a motor oil recycling center, for Town residents **ONLY**. Sadly, we have found bags of residential trash, lawn equipment, full-size trees, stone and other unacceptable rubbish. Due to the misuse of the Site, the Town is considering changing the site hours to **ONLY** on Saturdays (8am-noon) & Mondays (7am-2pm) so that it can be closely monitored. If you see a violation, please report it to Town Hall. We appreciate our residents who do follow the Debris Site rules.

YARD SALES: Maryland residents are allowed two (2) yard sales per year. Each day is considered one (1) yard sale. If you surpass this limit, you are required by law to obtain a State Sales Tax License through the Office of the Washington County Clerk of the Circuit Court. For more information call **301-790-7991**.

Please remember to remove your yard sale signs!!

Please keep in mind, the Town's **Property Maintenance Code** states that lawns, sidewalks and lots are to be kept clean and free from weeds exceeding **12 inches** in height.

New Parking Lot at Shafer Park
You may have noticed the new construction at the entrance to Shafer Park on Potomac Street. The Town is constructing a pervious pavement parking lot, as part of our *Sustainable Maryland Certified* initiative, for visitors to use during Park, Town and sporting events.

ONLINE UTILITY BILL PAY

Residents are **now** able to pay their utility bills online with a credit or debit card, processed through PayPal. A fee will be added to the online transactions to cover the processing fees incurred by the Town in order to provide this convenient service to our customers. **Fees are as follows:**

Bills totaling
\$0 to \$300 = \$4.00
Bills totaling
\$300.01 & up = \$7.50

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. If you are experiencing difficulty paying your bill on time, please call 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****

Boonsboro's **Animal Control Ordinance** is enforced by the *Washington County SPCA*. If you have major problems with dogs running loose, damaging or defecating on your property, barking excessively so as to disturb the neighboring area, acting aggressively, or living in unsanitary conditions - contact the **SPCA** immediately at **301-733-2060**.

PERMITS REQUIRED... If you are considering a pool, a deck or other additions on your property, please remember that a building permit is required. More information can be found on the Town website under Planning and Zoning or by contacting the **Town Engineer, Brian Hopkins**, at **301-432-5690**.

Welcome New Town Residents!!

If you recently moved to Boonsboro, please take a moment to call Town Hall. Our staff can answer any questions you may have, update your information in our systems and provide you with a recycling bin 😊

Grilling Safety Tips from the Public Safety Commission...

It's officially the outdoor season which means "good friends and grilled food" come to mind. Make sure you grill safely...propane and charcoal BBQ grills should **only** be used outdoors!!! Grills should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches. Never leave your grill unattended.

Charcoal grills - Charcoal chimney starters allow you to start the charcoal using newspaper as a fuel. If you use a starter fluid, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire. Keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources. When you are finished grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container.

Propane grills - Check the gas tank hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year. Apply a light soap and water solution to the hose. A propane leak will release bubbles. If your grill has a gas leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame, turn off the gas tank and grill. If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again. If the leak does not stop, call the Fire Department. If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the Fire Department. Do not move the grill.

Have a safe and happy summer!

Mayor: Charles 'Skip' Kauffman, Jr.
Assistant Mayor: Howard Long
Council Members: Sean Haardt, Cynthia Kauffman, Brigitte Schmidt, Janeen Solberg, Barbara Wetzel

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Boonsboro Police Department
301-432-6838
Sheriff's Office Dispatch
240-313-2910 or 911