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# TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE

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VOL 2. NO. 3

JULY 2005



## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Summer is finally here and Waynesville remains a very busy place. Our summer residents have returned, a conference is in session at Lake Junaluska at the time of this writing, and many other visitors are visible in our business community. The annual Folkmoot USA Festival is less than three weeks away and we can expect even livelier activity. Other activities of interest are being planned. The Haywood Arts Repertory Theater (HART) already has completed two performances to date, and its premier musical, RAGTIME, will open on July 8<sup>th</sup>. This summer promises to be a banner season for Waynesville with lots of activity and entertainment.

We have a number of important and interesting but less visible projects continually developing for the community. One such project is called a "Rain Garden" or bioretention. A "rain garden" uses plants and soil for removal of pollutants from stormwater runoff and provides landscaping and habitat enhancement benefits. The Town has agreed to assist with construction of a "rain garden" demonstration project by the Haywood County Cooperative Extension Service and Haywood Soil and Water Conservation District with the help from Haywood Waterways, North

Carolina State University and Haywood County Schools.

The Town is required to obtain a permit regulating storm sewer systems and have a stormwater management program. Bioretention is an important practice to control the effects of post-construction runoff on receiving water bodies.

A demonstration project will be valuable public education and outreach to developers, contractors and the community. Look for information on the location and schedule for later this summer.

Henry B. Foy  
Mayor

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- July 4 - Stars & Stripes Celebration  
Main Street
- June thru October - Tailgate Farmers' Market
- July 8 & 22, August 5 - Mtn. Street Dances - Main Street
- July 22 - Folkmoot Parade - Main St.
- July 30 - International Festival Day  
Main Street
- Sept. 2,3 & 5 Sidewalk Street Sales  
Main Street
- Sept. 2 & 3 Smoky Mountain Folk Festival
- Sept. 3 Main St. Block Party 7-10 pm

## ADOPT A STREET SPRING ROADSIDE CLEANUP

Eleven additional streets have been adopted since the April 1 newsletter bringing the total to thirty-one streets through Waynesville's "Adopt A Street Program". Thank you -

citizens do make a difference! This program is open to all Churches, Civic Organizations, businesses and individuals. If interested in participating please contact Freida Rhinehart at 456-2024 or 452-2491.

## THANK YOU PHILAN!

We would like to express a sincere "Thank You" to Philan Medford for the beautiful flowers at the intersection of Church and Haywood Streets. Ms. Medford, a resident of Waynesville planned, prepared the site, planted and maintained the flowers entirely by herself. What a difference one citizen can make!

## FISCAL YEAR 2005-2006 BUDGET

A public hearing was held on June 14, 2005 for the Town of Waynesville fiscal year 2005-2006 budget. The budget was adopted on June 28. Highlights include:

Total budget: \$22,160,980

- \* 10% increase in water and sewer rates effective August 1.
  - \* Implementation of pay study for Town employees effective Oct. 1.
  - \* Changes in health insurance for Town employees and future employees who retire.
  - \* Changes in Recreation Center fees.
  - \* Impact fees for extensions to water and sewer system on lines maintained by Junaluska Sanitary District and Town of Clyde.
  - \* No tax increase - tax rate to remain at .43/\$100.
- The complete budget is available for review at Town Hall.

## What items will the Town's Streets and Sanitation Department pick up?

The Town of Waynesville Streets and Sanitation Department employees work Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Several trucks pick up a variety of items. The residential garbage truck and blue bag truck usually travel the same route on a designated day of the week. Other pickups are considered special pickups and those trucks may not run on the same days. Special pickups require an advance call at (828) 456-3706.

### ITEMS PICKED UP:

**Household Refuse** - household garbage is picked up once per week. Place bagged trash and garbage inside containers with tight fitting lids. 30-gallon maximum please.

**Bulky Household Items** - appliances, furniture and bulky household trash items.



**Yard Waste** - brush, hedge trimmings, tree limbs (size restrictions) grass and vines generated by the homeowner.

**DO NOT** mix residential garbage with bagged yard waste (including discarded flower pots or fertilizer bags). Yard waste generated by the work of a landscaping firm, private tree company or by individuals who are paid to perform this work, including major yard work, **WILL NOT BE PICKED UP.**

**Blue Bag Recyclables** - Items include newspapers, magazines, bulk mail and any other kinds of paper, aluminum beverage cans and empty tin cans (after rinsing)(like soup or vegetable cans), plastic bottles like soda, milk and water bottles, shampoo, detergent and bleach bottles. Sorry, the County is not currently accepting glass.

**Leaves** - must be bagged between mid-January until mid-October.

### ITEMS NOT PICKED UP:



Carpet, tires, stumps or root balls, building material, shingles, land clearing, machine piled or contract tree trimming or yard waste materials. Property owners are responsible for disposal of these items. Please call the Haywood County Material Recovery Facility at 627-8042 for more information on disposal of these items.

For more information on the Town's Sanitation Policy please call the Town's Public Works Department at 456-3706.

### COMPOSTING

Are you interested in recycling your yard and kitchen wastes and reducing the volume of garbage sent to landfills for disposal? You may want to consider composting.



Composting is the decomposition of plant remains to make an earthy, dark, crumbly substance that is excellent for adding to houseplants or enriching garden soil.

Composting is not a new idea. In the natural world, composting is what happens as leaves pile up on the forest floor and begin to decay. Eventually, the rotting leaves are returned to the soil, where living roots can finish the recycling process by reclaiming the nutrients from the decomposed leaves.

The Haywood County Extension Office offers composting demonstrations. Informational material is available by calling Tim Mathews at the Extension Office at

456-3575. Information is also available on the web at [www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/hort/hil/bulletin.html](http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/hort/hil/bulletin.html) and click on "composting".

### RECYCLE GRASS CLIPPINGS



When lawns are properly mowed, the grass clippings filter down to the soil and decompose rapidly, usually within a few weeks. During the breakdown process, the clippings feed soil organisms, recycle plant nutrients, and contribute organic matter to the soil. As a result, water is conserved and less fertilizer is needed.

You will need to avoid mowing when the grass is wet as this produces clumps that smother the lawn and clog the mower. Your mower should be set to a height of 1 to 3 inches depending on what type grass you have. Make sure your mower is in good working condition and has a sharp blade. Mulching mowers for those who cannot mow on a regular basis. For more information try [www.turffiles.ncsu.edu/pubs/managementgs592.html](http://www.turffiles.ncsu.edu/pubs/managementgs592.html)

### FREE MULCH AVAILABLE

The Town of Waynesville will deliver free mulch/chips to your home (depending on your location) or you can pick up smaller amounts in the East Street Park on Happy Hollow Access. For more information call 456-3706.

Beginning this Fall leaves will be available for pick up at the East Street Park. You may want to add these to your compost pile. More information will be available in the October 1 Newsletter.

## **TOWN PROJECTS**

### **COLUMBARIUM UNITS AND CEMETERY RULES**

- Greenhill Cemetery will soon have a new addition. Contracts have been let for preparation of a columbarium area for cremations. The goal is to have this work completed and four columbarium units in place by June 30. Those interested in purchasing spaces in this area may do so beginning in July. The price per unit is \$700 each which will allow two urns per niche. There will also be an opening fee which is yet to be set. Rules and regulations will still need to be approved by the Town Board of Aldermen.

### **BUILDING DESIGN FOR TOWN FACILITIES**

- ADW Architects of Charlotte conducted a study of the town facilities and several recommendations were made. The first recommendation is that the main fire station should be relocated off of Main Street and to a spot where traffic congestion does not present so many challenges to a timely response to fire calls. Another recommendation was that the existing downtown building where police and fire are located should be gutted and renovated for sole use by the police department. Renovations are also recommended for the Town Hall buildings and Public Works.

**GREENWAYS** - Several meetings have been held during the past few months on the potential location for the greenway connecting Lake Junaluska with the Waynesville Recreation Park area. This project was funded several years ago, but there have been a number of challenges and problems with bringing this project to the point of actual construction. Bids on this work will be opened on July 7.

**PAVING** - Several streets are scheduled for paving this Summer/Fall. Wall Street @ Carolyn's Point, Brown Avenue between Boyd Avenue and

Hazelview, Skyline Drive and Westwood Circle.

**PERSONNEL ITEMS** - Land Use Manager John Swift plans to retire September 1. Purchasing Agent Ron Gillett plans to retire July 1. Congratulations on upcoming retirement to both employees!

### **UPDATE REGARDING ELECTRICAL RATES**

In our last report, we explained the situation that the Town is facing regarding the charges for electricity that we must pay Progress Energy. As noted then, Waynesville purchases electricity from Progress Energy and resells the electricity to its Waynesville customers. When Progress Energy experiences increases in the natural gas and coal they use to generate electricity, these increases must be passed along to Waynesville. During the first several months of the year, the Town attempted to absorb these increases rather than pass them along to our customers. We had hoped the increases were only temporary, but as the year progressed, the fuel adjustment charges from Progress Energy increased. By March, 2005, the Town had absorbed \$401,000, and we realized that we simply could not go any deeper in that hole. Beginning on April 1, 2005, we had to raise the rates to electric customers on the Town's system, and this was the first increase since 1988.

In deciding to implement a fuel adjustment charge, the Town established a schedule under which the charge would be based upon whatever increase we received from Progress Energy for the previous quarter. In other words, the fuel adjustment charge that went into effect on April 1 was based upon the increase in Progress Energy charges for the October-December quarter of 2004. The fuel adjustment charge to take effect on July 1 will be based upon the increase in Progress

Energy charges for the January-March, 2005 quarter.

We are not trying to go back and recover the costs that the Town absorbed during the first several months of the year – we are simply trying to break even and not go any further in the hole. During April and May, the rate increase which was implemented resulted in a net profit for the town of \$8,993. That is essentially “break even” when you are talking about a charge of \$638,165 from Progress Energy for those two months. We are pleased that we are no longer losing over \$40,000 per month that we absorbed the first nine months of the year.

In January, 2005, rates from Progress Energy were up 22.38% over January, 2004. In February, 2005, the rates were up 19.76% over February, 2004. In March, 2005, the rates were up 4.9% over March, 2004. On April 1, 2005, we raised rates by .00549 cents per kilowatt hour used to cover increases for the October-December period. On July 1, 2005, with these additional increases in January-March, 2005, we must add another .00058 cents per kilowatt hour. That is an increase of 58/100ths of a cent per kilowatt hour. A typical residential customer who is now using 800 kilowatts per month is paying \$71.73 per month. With the new rates to take effect July 1, 2005, that customer will pay \$72.19, an increase of 46 cents per month.

We regret that we must increase our charge for electricity to our customers, but we really have no other choice. As indicated, the Town absorbed \$400,000 of increases before we began passing along the higher fuel adjustment charges. Perhaps in time, we will see a decrease in fuel prices whether for natural gas and coal which will in turn lead to lower electric costs.

MAYOR Henry B. Foy

ALDERMEN: Gavin Brown  
Gary Caldwell  
Elizabeth Feichter  
Kenneth Moore

MANAGER A. Lee Galloway

**TELEPHONE REFERENCE**

Police Administration 456-5363  
 Fire Administration 456-6151  
 Building Inspections 456-8647  
 Code Enforcement 456-2010  
 Utilities 456-3515 or 456-5057  
 Tax Collections 452-3588  
 Town Manager 452-2491  
 Town Clerk 452-2491  
 Human Resources 456-2028  
 Planning 456-2004  
 Zoning 452-0401  
 Public Works Director 456-4410  
 Streets/Sanitation/Water/  
 Sewer/Electric 456-3706  
 After Hours/Emergency 456-5363  
 Water Treatment Plant 456-8497  
 Waste Treatment Plant 456-4685  
 Parks and Recreation 456-2030  
 Armory 456-9207

**DOWNTOWN WAYNESVILLE  
 ASSOCIATION 456-3517**  
[www.downtownwaynesville.com](http://www.downtownwaynesville.com)

**MEETING SCHEDULES**

**Board of Aldermen**  
 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 7 pm - Town Hall

**ABC Board**  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 11 am - 373 Walnut St.

**Board of Adjustment**  
 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesdays at 5:30 pm - Town Hall

**Community Appearance Commission**  
 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesdays at 9 am - Town Hall

**Firemen's Relief Fund Board**  
 On Call

**Historic Preservation Commission**  
 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesdays at 2 pm - Town Hall

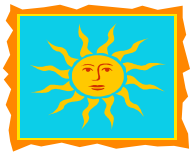
**Planning Board**  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays at 5:30 pm - Town Hall

**Recreation & Parks Advisory Comm**  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays 6:30 pm - 550 Vance St

**Waynesville Housing Authority**  
 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesdays 5:30 pm-65 Church St.

**Holiday Schedule** - Town offices will be closed. Garbage pickup will be on a regular schedule.

July 4 Independence Day  
 September 5 - Labor Day



Have a safe and happy summer!

**TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE  
 P. O. BOX 100  
 WAYNESVILLE, NC 28786**