



# Around the Rock

Town of Blowing Rock  
Bi-Monthly Newsletter

Highlights of What's Happening Around Town

Volume 11, Issue 3

July, 2017

[www.townofblowingrock.com](http://www.townofblowingrock.com)

## Important Numbers

Town Hall.....295-5200  
Planning & Inspection.....295-5240  
Water/Sewer/Garbage.....295-5200  
Parks & Recreation.....295-5222

## Non-Emergency

Police Administration.....295-5212  
Fire Administration.....295-5220

## After Hours/Weekend Water or Sewer

Emergency.....295-5210

## Upcoming Meetings

### Town Council

07/11/2017 6:00 p.m.  
08/08/2017 6:00 p.m.

### Planning Board

07/20/2017 5:30 p.m.  
08/17/2017 5:30 p.m.

### ABC Board

07/20/2017 3:00 p.m.  
08/17/2017 3:00 p.m.

### BRAAC

07/06/2017 5:30 p.m.  
08/03/2017 5:30 p.m.

## Upcoming Events

### Art in the Park:

July 15th & August 12th

### Concert in the Park

### BRAHM Summer Concert

Memorial Park 4:00 p.m.

July 16th & August 13th

### Monday Night Concert Series:

Broyhill Park Gazebo 7:00 p.m.

July 10th - August 7th

### Aerobics at Annie Cannon Gardens

Every Friday Morning 8:00 a.m.

### Yoga at Annie Cannon Gardens

Every Saturday Morning 8:00 a.m.

### Town Offices Closed

Independence Day - July 4th

### Pool Schedule Available at:

<http://>

[www.townofblowingrocknc.gov/government/parks-and-recreation-and-landscaping/town-parks](http://www.townofblowingrocknc.gov/government/parks-and-recreation-and-landscaping/town-parks)



## Blowing Rock 4th of July Festival

### 2017 Schedule of Events

All events take place in/around Memorial Park.

### Saturday, July 1:

9:00 a.m. - Until      Horseshoe Tournament , 18 & older, Prizes Awarded  
9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.      Park Games-Prizes Awarded, Water Balloon Toss, Face Painting  
Watermelon Eating Contest and much more!  
11:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.      Bounce, Obstacle Course & Climbing Wall  
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.      Fire By Night (Country/Rock Music)  
2:00 p.m.      Independence Day Parade  
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.      The Cockman Family (Bluegrass/Gospel Music)  
9:30 p.m.      Fireworks-Located at the Blowing Rock Country Club

### Sunday, July 2:

12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.      Maybe Maybe Not (Bluegrass Music )



## Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Adopted Budget

Following budget work sessions and a public hearing, the Town of Blowing Rock Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Budget was adopted at the June 13, 2017 Town Council meeting. The Recommended and now adopted Budget is available on the Town's website [www.townofblowingrocknc.gov](http://www.townofblowingrocknc.gov).

The Fiscal Year 2017-2018 adopted budget totals \$14.52 million and includes \$8.0 million in the general fund, \$2.5 million for water and sewer operations, \$25 thousand for the BRAAC fund and \$4.0 million for capital projects. Included in the operating budget is debt service requirements for payment of principal and interest on borrowed funds such as lease-purchase payments and the general obligation bond. The FY2017-2018 Budget for debt service expenses, for both the General Fund and Water/Sewer Fund, total \$1.4 million or 13% of the total operating budget. The FY2016-2017 Adopted Budget for debt service expenses, for the General Fund and Water/Sewer Fund, totaled \$1.3 million or 15% of the total budget.

The adopted tax rate includes an increase of 3.0 cent, resulting in a tax rate of 37.0 cents per \$100, an increase of 9.0%. This increase will result in an additional annual tax amount owed of \$150 per year for a home valued at \$500,000, or \$30 annually for each \$100,000 of assessed taxable value.

To help ensure the system is able to recover its costs and not be subsidized by tax revenues when absorbing debt service costs associated with the water and sewer capital improvements planned, as well as current and a portion of future water/sewer fund associated general obligations debt service, a \$1.00 base-increase for both water and sewer along with a \$0.25 increase in the per thousand gallon rate for gallons consumed greater than 5,000 per two month billing period, are scheduled. These impacts are expected to increase a typical customer's bill by 4.0% beginning with July 2017 usage, billed in August 2017.

## Town Services Payments

### Reminders

When making payments using the online bill-pay feature with your bank or by check, please be sure to include in the memo field your account number and what type of payment you are making. The Town receives payments for Utilities, Taxes, Parking Tickets, Golf cart fees, occupancy taxes, building permits, etc.. Town staff will be better able to correctly apply your payment with this information. Also, **please remember to use Post Office Box 47 for all mailing purposes.** (There is no delivery to street addresses in this area of Blowing Rock. Items will be returned to sender by the Post Office if using 1036 Main Street).

For more information or if you have questions please contact Town Hall at (828)295-5200.

## New Meter Reading Technology to be installed in Blowing Rock:

Information Presentation will be

July 11, 2017 6:00 p.m.

Town Hall, 1036 Main St., Blowing Rock

Public Welcome and Encouraged to Attend!

As part of its newly adopted budget for fiscal year 2017-2018, which begins on July 1, 2017, the Town of Blowing Rock has included a funding and implementation plan for a new meter reading, tracking and reporting program with Automatic Meter Infrastructure (AMI) technology that will offer water/sewer customers a number of benefits including a considerably higher degree of water consumption tracking and more timely leak detection capabilities. With a bi-monthly billing cycle, currently water/sewer customers are only able to detect a leak if it is to the degree that they notice an abundance of water on their property or in their home or when the next billing comes to them, which could mean the leak has been going on for up to two months. With the AMI technology (a meter head that would be installed on each account holder's meter), customers and Town staff will be able to track their daily water use and receive custom alerts when high usage is reported. The meter heads will cost \$260.00 each and the Town will be offering three payment options for the meter head. A customer may 1) purchase the meter outright via a one time payment of \$260.00, 2) make 6 bi-monthly payments over one year of \$44.28 bimonthly, or 3) make 12 bi-monthly payments over two years of \$22.14 bimonthly. Installation of the AMI meter heads throughout town is planned to begin in August 2017. There will be a full presentation of the technology at the regular July Town Council meeting to be held at Town Hall, 1036 Main St., Blowing Rock on Tuesday July 11<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:00 p.m. You are invited and encouraged to attend this meeting to learn more about the initiative. See you there!

## FREE Outdoor Movies

In Memorial Park on Main Street! Bring a chair or a blanket. All movies start at 8:30 p.m. and are rated PG.

- June 29th - Back to the Future
- July 6th - Beauty and the Beast
- July 13th - Miracles from Heaven
- July 20th - Matilda
- July 27th - Heavyweights

Sponsors



## Ditch Debris

Please remember when piling debris at the curbside not to block any ditches, culverts, drains or roadways. Blockage of this type can lead to flooding of your property or that of your neighbors. Anytime that you have yard debris it should be separated into three piles: limbs, plants, or loose leaves and should be piled out of the water drainage area. For debris pick-up, please refer to your zone pick-up schedule.

If you have any questions you can call Town Hall at (828)295-5200.

## Drinking Water Quality & Wastewater Annual Report - Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)



The Town of Blowing Rock has released the 2016 Drinking Water Quality Report and the 2016 System Performance Annual Report for the Collection System and Wastewater Treatment Plant. These reports are available online at <http://www.townofblowingrocknc.gov/home/showdocument?id=3131> under announcements or may be obtained at Town Hall, 1036 Main Street.

If you have any questions about the reports, please contact the Water Plant at (828) 295-5225