



The Mayor's Corner

BY MAYOR BETH A. TAYLOR

December 2021

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I welcome the opportunity to talk to you regarding your ideas and concerns. I can be reached by phone, mail or email.

Happy Holidays

I wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. As we all prepare for the holidays, I would like to remind you that the Town of Wytheville offices will be closed on December 23 & 24 for Christmas and December 31 for New Year's.



Important Information from the Treasurer's Office

Water & Sewer Bills:

Because of Mastercard and VISA regulations, for the foreseeable future, the Town of Wytheville will no longer be able to accept credit/debit cards as a payment method for water and sewer bills. You may still pay your water or sewer bill with a credit/debit card through a third-party company. You can access this company by using the following link, (the company charges a fee):

www.wytheville.org/online-payments

The Town of Wytheville accepts credit/debit cards for the payment of some municipal fees throughout Town of Wytheville facilities. Because of recent changes in the banking industry, effective January 1, 2022, there will be a 3% convenience fee charged for any transactions made to credit/debit cards at Town of Wytheville municipal facilities. We apologize for any inconvenience, but this is beyond the Town of Wytheville's control.

Cold Weather Tips for Pets

Cold Weather Tips For our Furry Friends, Remember IT'S THE LAW!

1. Provide Shelter: At 32 degrees or less, no owned animal should be left outdoors unless they have access to a well-insulated structure that is large enough to curl up in and has a wind block at the door, has a heated water bowl or has access to an unfrozen water supply, has a floor that is elevated from the ground, has cedar shavings, dry straw or the equivalent and has some type of heating.
2. Walking your dog: Consider shortening your walks if the temperature is too frigid and increase inside activity, they may benefit from additional clothing (ask your vet) and watch for signs of injury to their paws.
3. Warning Signs of getting too cold are trembling, sleepiness, slowed breathing, mobility issues, dry skin, numbness, and illness.

Tree Advisory Committee

The Tree Advisory Committee has recently developed a program to recognize specimen trees in Wytheville and the surrounding area displaying proper care, local history, extraordinary qualities, significance or unique species, right tree/right place, personal connection, or other qualities. Trees selected for The Specimen Tree Program will be added into a master database and appropriately located trees will be developed into a Tree Walking Guide. Residents can make nominations for a tree by completing the Specimen Tree Nomination Form. This form is available online at Wytheville.org under Document Central, Tree Advisory Committee link. They can be picked up at the Municipal Building or by calling 276-223-3354.



Important Information from the Police Department

Did You Know? Car break-ins and “smash and grabs” increase during the holiday season. Here are five ways to keep your car secure while holiday shopping and parking lot safety tips to keep you and your gifts safe:

1. **WATCH WHERE YOU PARK:** Find a parking space as close as you can to the store and avoid parking near larger vehicles that can give a thief privacy.
2. **LOCK IT UP:** Double check to make sure you close the windows including sunroof and lock all the doors.
3. **HIDE THE GOODS:** Do not leave packages, phones, music players or other valuables on the seat, floor, dash, or anywhere in site. Lock them in the trunk or stash them out of site. Even a cell phone cord is an invitation for trouble.
4. **KEEP MOVING:** If you come out of a store to drop off a load of packages, move your car to another space before going back in for more shopping.
5. **STAY FOCUSED:** Pay attention to your surroundings while walking to and from your car. Have your keys ready as you approach, get yourself and your packages inside quickly and LOCK the doors.



Important Information from the Fire Chief

Cooking a Turkey in an oil-based fryer is EXTREMELY dangerous. Hot oil spilling or splashing over can easily ignite a fire. A pot tipping over, kids and pets burning themselves, poses a huge safety risk. Many of these accidents have resulted in death, major burns, and residential structure fires. Consider another means of cooking the holiday turkey. DO NOT ATTEMPT TO EXTINGUISH WITH WATER! Call 911!

Did You Know?

Did you know that Town Deputy Clerk Donna Stroupe will be retiring from the Town of Wytheville? For the last 42 plus years she has kept us all straight on permits, zoning and more. We wish her the best on her retirement and thank her for her dedicated service to the Town of Wytheville.

APEX Center Events

December 4-5: Team Roping and Barrel Race Benefit
December 9-12: Cow Creek Stockdog Cattle & Sheep Trials
January 7-8: Victory Motorsports



Council Actions

November 8, 2021:

- Approved consent agenda which included closure of Main Street between 1st and 4th Streets on Friday, December 3, 2021, from 3:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. for a Christmas Festival with our local businesses. Council also approved street closure for the Christmas Parade starting at Wither's Lane to 4th Street up to West Spiller Street and up to Tazewell Street from 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. The request for Open Door Café to conduct a Stuffed Strut 5K Run on Thursday, November 25, 2021, was also approved.
- Council approved reinstating the different Economic Development Incentives that existed throughout the Town.

November 22, 2021:

- Approved consent agenda which included a request to close Main Street, from 7th Street to 4th Street; 4th Street to Spiller Street; and Spiller Street to WITHERS PARK on Sunday, January 16, 2022, from 2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., to conduct the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day March.
- Council also set a public hearing for Monday, December 13, 2021, to consider renewing the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity during 2022 for 276 Express, LLC.
- Council also set a joint public hearing with the Wytheville Planning Commission for Monday, December 13, 2021, to consider the request of James E. Crockett, III, to rezone property located on the south side of West Ridge Road, and adjacent to West Lee Highway, from A-1 Agriculture to R-3 Residential.

BRUSH/LEAF COLLECTION GUIDELINES FOR 2022

TOWN OF WYTHEVILLE, VIRGINIA

ATTENTION: Brush must be placed on your property; not in alleyways or on neighboring properties.

BRUSH PICKUP DATES FOR 2022

January 24 — 28
 February 21 — 25
 March 28 — April 1
 April 25 — 29
 May 23 — 27
 June 27 — July 1
 July 25 — 29
 August 29 — September 2
 September 26 — 30
 October 24 — 28
 November 28 — December 2
 December 26 — 30

DATES TO REMEMBER

BRUSH/LEAF COLLECTION GUIDELINES

- Leaves will be picked up in the fall as announced.
- In order to avoid getting a citation, please do not have brush out earlier than 6:00 PM on the Friday before collection week.
- Do not place brush/leaves on water meters or sewer cleanouts.
- Do not place branches, grass clippings or leaves in the travel lane or block sidewalks.
- Any brush placed out after the scheduled collection time may not get picked up in a timely manner or may result in a fine/charge.
- Tree and leaf removals by a contractor for a homeowner are to be disposed of by the contractor.
- Vehicles should not be parked near the brush as this blocks accessing the piles.
- The Town does NOT pick up old furniture, lumber, tires, or similar items. Disposal of these items are the responsibility of the owner or tenant.
- The brush disposal site located at **602 Atkins Mill Road** is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 AM to 3 PM. A fee of \$3 per cubic yard must be paid at the Treasurer's Office prior to disposal or a **\$5 minimum fee**. The receipt must be presented to the attendant on duty. Unless brush permits are sold, there will not be an attendant on duty.
- The site will be open on the first and third Saturdays of each month from 8 AM to 1 PM for Town residents to take brush without a fee. There are no restrictions on the number of loads brought to the brush disposal site.
- During the week of the monthly pickups, the site will be open Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 3 PM.

Few localities offer this type of free service. Your assistance in following the guidelines will ensure the service continues. Please contact Chris Peeples, Director of Public Works, at 276-223-3357 with additional questions.

