

The Mayor's Corner

By Mayor Beth A. Taylor



Yard Sales

With the warm weather approaching, everyone is anxious to begin their spring cleaning, and this also results in everyone wanting to have yard sales. I thought that it may be helpful to alert everyone about the Town's regulations regarding advertisements for yard sales. The Town Code is very specific. It is illegal to attach, in any fashion, any type of advertisement on utility poles, directional signs or any other structures within the Town's rights of way. Usually, these signs are not removed and then make the community look unattractive. The signs for a yard sale can be placed in the yard of the person conducting the yard sale event. While I mention advertisements, the Town Code prohibits attaching any type of advertisement to any vehicle. The Town Code also permits any person and/or family to hold two yard sales per calendar year. Those sales cannot last longer than two consecutive days. Yard sales are only intended for the sale of used items of the property owner, and not as an activity for reselling second hand material. Again, these regulations were created to assure that unsafe and unsightly situations do not occur in residential neighborhoods. Please do your best to comply with these regulations.

Mowing

Speaking of yards, springtime also brings with it the beginning of grass mowing season. Keeping our neighborhoods looking neat and beautiful is every resident's responsibility. It's a good time to remind everyone about the Town's ordinance regarding mowing. All properties must be mowed (grass, weeds, vegetation, or other foreign growth) at least three times per year—once before May 15, once before July 15, and once before September 15. Failure to do so can result in the property being mowed by the Town or its agents with the cost being charged to the owner as well as other fines. Let's all work together on the beautification of our community.

Brush Burning

Yard clean-up can also involve disposing of piles of brush. As you are aware, at the end of each month, we have a week designated for trash crews to pick up brush and lawn clippings. This is a great way to gradually clean up such debris. In the event that a property owner would need to burn a quantity of brush, please remember that open burning is permitted for the disposal of leaves, tree, yard, and garden trimmings provided that the burning takes place on the premises of private property that is at least 100 feet from any occupied building. Open burning for the disposal of household refuse by homeowners or tenants is prohibited. If you have any questions regarding this process, please call Fire Chief Marc Brade at 276-223-3312.

Fire Safety at Home

Fire drills aren't just for schools and public buildings. The Wytheville Fire Department encourages citizens to have an evacuation plan for your home. Talk with your family or other members of your household about ways to exit from different locations in your residence in the event of an emergency. Ensure that you develop a SAFE location outside of the home where everyone would meet. This will help you locate loved ones if a fire emergency occurs in your home.

Should an occupant be trapped and unable to evacuate, go to an available room as far from the fire/smoke as possible and close the door. Stay as close to the window as possible and attempt to gain the attention of a firefighter or person outside of the house.

Test your smoke detectors on a regular basis! Ensure that all detectors are in good working condition. Most detectors only have a life expectancy of 10 years. After 10 years, the detectors should be replaced. Wytheville Fire Department's Smoke Detector Program can assist those that are unable to fix or replace smoke detectors. Don't hesitate to call the department at 276-223-3300 for any assistance.

Coming Soon: AquaHawk Alerting

AquaHawk Alerting is a customer web-based portal for municipal utilities. It allows utility customers to create an online account and then view information about their consumption, see an estimate of their bill, and receive notifications when their water usage indicates a potential leak. The system is still under construction and should be available to customers in the fall of 2019.

Water/Sewer Utilities Emergencies

If you need assistance with a water or sewer utility, the Town of Wytheville Water/Sewer Utilities Department can be reached during normal working hours at 276-223-3428 Monday – Friday between the hours of 7:00AM to 3:30PM for help with any water or sewer utility problems. After hours contact for water and sewer emergencies is 276-223-3333 or 276-223-3300. The caller will be given several options and the caller can dial option 1 to reach the Water/Sewer Utilities Department on-call phone.

I welcome the opportunity to talk to you regarding your ideas and concerns. My office, at the Wytheville Municipal Building, is open prior to Council meetings on the second and fourth Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m., and other times by appointment. I can also be reached by phone at 223-3356 or via email at beth.taylor@wytheville.org.



May 22 & 23, 2019

The traditional "Welcome Home Ceremony" will begin at the group's approximate arrival of **4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 22** in Withers Park. Citizens are encouraged to attend as the group arrives via Exit 70 and Fourth Street.

On **Thursday (May 23)** morning, students from Spiller Elementary School will provide a musical welcome program beginning at **9 a.m.** in Withers Park. Run For The Wall will depart with a Main Street parade at approximately 9:30 a.m.

Wall of Honor Memorial Day Ceremony

Sunday, May 26
1:30 pm

Wytheville Meeting Center

Guest Speaker
Colonel James B. "Jim" Stone IV



WATER TREATMENT PLANT WYTHEVILLE, VIRGINIA

2018 - Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

The Town of Wytheville 2018 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report is now available online by accessing the following link:

<https://www.wytheville.org/townoffice/pdf/Wytheville2018CCR.pdf>

A paper copy of the report may be obtained by calling Bret Cockram, Water Plant Superintendent at 276-223-3322 or Trevor Hackler, Town Engineer at 276-223-3342.