



# Around the Rock

Highlights of What's Happening Around Town

Town of Blowing Rock  
Bi-Monthly Newsletter

Volume 12, Issue 6

[www.townofblowingrocknc.gov](http://www.townofblowingrocknc.gov)

### Important Numbers

Town Hall.....295-5200  
Planning & Inspections.....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  
Emergency Police & Fire.....911

### Upcoming Meetings

#### Town Council

01/09/2018 6:00 p.m.  
02/13/2018 6:00 p.m.

#### Planning Board

01/18/2018 5:30 p.m.  
02/15/2018 5:30 p.m.

#### ABC Board

01/18/2018 3:00 p.m.  
02/15/2018 3:00 p.m.

#### BRAAC

02/01/2018 3:00 p.m.

### Upcoming Events

#### Town Offices Closed:

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**  
January 15th

**Winterfest:**  
January 25th- 28th



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

## Thank You to Mayor Lawrence and Council Member Pickett



At the December Town Council meeting, Town Manager Ed Evans thanked exiting Mayor JB Lawrence and Council Member Ray Pickett for all their hard work and dedication during their many years of service. Mr. Pickett was unable to attend.

## Blowing Rock Inducts New Mayor



Blowing Rock's newly elected Mayor, Charles Sellers, took his oath of office during the Town Council meeting Tuesday, December 12, 2017. Mr. Sellers will serve a 2 year term.

## Matheson and Sweeting Re-elected,

## Powell Newly Elected to Town Council

Blowing Rock voters re-elected Council Members Doug Matheson and Sue Sweeting to serve another term of office and newly elected Virginia Powell. They each took their oath of office Tuesday, December 12, 2017 during the Town Council Meeting.



## 2018 Town Calendars are Here!

The 2018 Town calendars are available at Town Hall located at 1036 Main Street. Calendars are also available at the Visitor Center located at 132 Park Avenue (at the Chamber of Commerce building). Calendars are free of charge.

Stop by today and pick up your calendar!



Celebrate the fun side of winter at the 20th Annual WinterFest, January 25th - 28th. There's something for all ages!

**Events Include:**

- WinterFeast & After Party
- Little Miss Winterfest
- Shop Til You Drop
- Hayrides
- Polar Plunge
- Beer Garden & Chili Cookoff
- Ice Carving Demonstrations
- WinterPaws Dog Show
- Kids Activities
- Silent Auction & Raffle
- WinterFashion Show
- Ice Skating in Memorial Park

And More!

For more information about Winterfest Events or Sponsorships, call: (877) 295-7801 or (828) 295-7851.

Tickets can be purchased at the Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce (132 Park Ave.) and online at: [www.blowingrockwinterfest.com](http://www.blowingrockwinterfest.com).

### *Kinder Basketball Registration*

Kinder Basketball registration for 3-5 year olds will begin on January 17th for Blowing Rock taxpayers and open registration will begin on January 23rd. To receive the taxpayer rate, a copy of your Blowing Rock tax bill (not Watauga/Caldwell County) must be attached. The taxpayer rate is \$30 and the non-taxpayer rate is \$40. Kinder Basketball will meet twice a week for four weeks at the Blowing Rock Elementary School Gym, beginning late February . If you have questions regarding Kinder Basketball please contact Autumn at Parks and Recreation (828) 295-5222.

## **Could a Leaking Toilet Be Running Up Your Water Bill?**

One of the most common causes of higher than usual water bills is a leaking toilet. You may believe that if you don't see or hear the water, that it could not possibly be leaking but, as detailed below, there are several things that can contribute to a costly situation with a toilet leak:

**Stuck/Open Flapper:** chain that connects the flush handle to the flapper can get stuck in the down position causing usage up to 4800 gallons per day or roughly 200 gallons per hour!!!

**Worn/Warped Flapper:** (silent leak): normal wear and/or mineral buildup on flapper over time caused by accumulated levels of chemicals that purify the water, in-tank cleaners (these will destroy flappers quickly)

**Fill Valve's Float:** a cracked/misaligned float will take on water and cause the fill valve to run slowly and continuously

**Failed Fill Valve:** normal wear and mineral deposit buildup prevents the valve's ability to shut off completely

**Fractured/Broken Toilet Tank:** caused by stress/impact, will cause the fill valve to continuously replenish the tank, leading to total collapse and massive flooding to your property.

**Ruptured/Leaking Supply Line:** rubber lining or fitting joint can break down

**Important Note:** Toilet leaks **DO NOT** qualify for leak adjustments per Town Ordinance Section 14-15.1.

### **What Should You Do If You Suspect a Toilet is Leaking?**

Add a packet of Kool-Aid or 5-10 drops of food coloring to the tank. If that color shows up in your bowl after a few minutes, you have a leaking toilet and should contact a plumber.