

Memo

To: Mayor JB Lawrence & Town Council
CC: Scott Fogleman
From: Parks & Recreation Director Jennifer Brown
Date: April 2, 2015
Re: Blue Ridge Relay – Friday, September 11, 2015

Attached please find a request from the Blue Ridge Relay, to use our pool parking lot on Friday, September 11, 2015 from 3:00pm to 9:15pm as one of their exchange zones along the race route. This is their 11th annual road race that begins at Grayson Highlands Park in Virginia and ends in downtown Asheville. In years past they have used Tanger Outlets in Blowing Rock as an exchange point for the relay however; with the construction of the drive into Tanger they were unable to use the parking lot last year. Town Council approved them using the pool lot instead. The pool parking lot is adjacent to the race route which runs from 321 to 221 and past Grandfather Mountain.

With the road construction of 321 and the closure of the sidewalk from Tanger Outlets past Chetola dam they have planned an alternative route to address safety concerns from Town staff as well. They would also like to have directional signage for the runners along this new route which would be set up Friday morning and taken down Friday evening. The new route and signage proposal is attached.

They have also referenced the possibility of using the restrooms at the pool again this year. There would not be a scheduling conflict because the pool will close for the season on Monday, September 7, 2015. If using the pool restrooms is not approved then they would like to set up approximately 6 port-a-johns for the runners during the exchange time only.

The Blue Ridge Relay had a very low impact on the pool parking lot and restrooms last year. The entire area was clean and well taken care of. It is my recommendation to allow them to use this space again this year.

Blue Ridge Relay

208 Miles of Endurance

2385 Big Flatts Church Road
Fleetwood, NC 28626
336-877-8888
info@BlueRidgeRelay.com
www.BlueRidgeRelay.com

March 27, 2015

Ms. Jennifer Brown
Blowing Rock Parks and Rec
145 Park Ave, PO Box 47
Blowing Rock, NC 28605

Dear Jennifer,

Thank you for allowing the 2014 Blue Ridge Relay use of the Blowing Rock pool parking lot as a runner exchange zone. Your permission is greatly appreciated and is vital to the success of the Blue Ridge Relay. Thank you.

We are planning for this year's race and I hope that you will once again allow us the privilege of using your parking lot.

1. The date of the Relay is Friday, September 11 and time of access is 3:00pm – 9:15pm.
2. Your permission will allow support vehicles (most likely vans) to park in your parking lot.
3. Total number of people on site: 900 spread over an approximate 6 hour period.
4. Total number of vehicles: 160 spread over an approximate 6 hour period.
5. I would be thrilled to have access to the pool restroom facilities once again. However, if these are not available, I request permission to allow port-a-johns to be set at a location determined by you. Port-a-johns will be set no earlier than Thursday, September 10 and will be removed no later than Saturday, September 12.
6. The Blue Ridge Relay will ensure that the parking lot and adjacent area is left clean and in the condition it was received.
7. As a participating organization you will be covered under the Blue Ridge Relay's Liability Insurance Policy, which is received through USA Track & Field.

In 2014, ZAP Fitness and Boone Running Club staffed this location and I will inquire with them again.

Thank you again for being a vital part of the Blue Ridge Relay. Please complete the information below if any contact information has changed.

Kind regards,

Kenneth S. Sevensky
Director, Blue Ridge Rela

Jennifer,

With the construction on 321 and closure of the sidewalk from Tanger to Chetola, I know that I need to re-route the course, which is outlined below and attached.

2015 Blue Ridge Relay
Proposed route through Blowing Rock

Turn	Road	Road Distance	Total Distance
	Blue Ridge Parkway South		
L	Green Hill Rd	0.4	0.4
R	Wonderland Dr	0.9	1.3
L	Goforth Rd	0.1	1.4
R	Sunset Dr	0.7	2.1
S	Cross 321 at traffic light	0.2	2.3
R	Ransom St	0.1	2.4
L	221/Blowing Rock Hwy	0.3	2.7
R	221 South	0.2	2.9
L	Blowing Rock Pool		

I would ask permission to set 18x24 yellow, temporary directional signs at every intersection. Signs would be set the day of the race in advance of the first runner, and removed by our sag vehicle within 30 minutes after the last runner. Our team vehicles are not permitted on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Therefore, we would not have any team vehicles driving these roads (runners only). Team vehicles would follow this route to Blowing Rock... 321 from Boone, 221 South to Blowing Rock Pool. Of course, I expect many vehicles to stop in Blowing Rock to eat.

Thank you very much for your guidance, time and support.

Kind regards,
Ken