



# Around the Rock

Highlights of What's Happening Around Town

Town of Blowing Rock  
Bi-Monthly Newsletter

Volume 13 Issue 1

www.townofblowingrocknc.gov

### 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.....548-2800

### After Hours/Weekend Water or Sewer

Emergency.....295-5210  
Emergency Police & Fire.....911

### Upcoming Meetings

#### Town Council

03/12/2019 6:00 p.m.  
04/09/2019 6:00 p.m.

#### Planning Board

03/21/2019 5:30 p.m.  
04/18/2019 5:30 p.m.

#### ABC Board

03/21/2019 3:00 p.m.  
04/18/2019 3:00 p.m.

#### BRAAC

03/07/2019 9:00 a.m.  
04/04/2019 9:00 a.m.

### Upcoming Events

#### Summer Day Camp Registration

BR Taxpayers – March 1st  
Open Registration – March 18th

#### Town's Birthday Celebration

\*March 11th @ 3:30 p.m.  
Town Hall

#### Annual Easter Egg Hunt

April 13th  
Games @ 10:00 am  
Egg Hunt @ 11:00 am

#### Town Offices Closed

Good Friday  
April 19th

#### Trout Derby

April 6th  
7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

#### Savor Blowing Rock

May 2nd–May 5th  
www.savorblowingrock.com

## ATTENTION!!

Your Recycle Pick up Day is Moving to THURSDAY!

Beginning Thursday March 7th,

Your recycle will be picked up every other week on Thursday.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact

Republic Services @ 828-719-3257 or 3250

OR

The Town of Blowing Rock @ 828-295-5200



## Sunset Drive Streetscape Revitalization To Begin Soon

It is exciting to note the Sunset Drive Streetscape project is beginning. Please find the proposed activity schedule below:

- Contractor – Iron Mountain Construction
- Contract Amount - \$2,327,932
- Contract Time – 240 Calendar Days to Final Completion
- Contract Execution - Through March 8
- Preconstruction Meeting – Week of March 11
- Construction Start – approximate week of March 25 – Final Completion mid-November



Approximate Construction Sequence:

1. Water and Sewer – Main St to Valley Blvd
2. Storm drainage – small sections along the route
3. Sidewalks and Curb/Gutter – Main St to Valley Blvd work
4. Paving – Main St to Valley Blvd work
5. Landscaping



**During Construction, one lane to remain open at all times. Both lanes open during non-working hours.**

### Swim Lessons

Registration for Swim Lessons begins March 4th for Tax Payers and Open Enrollment begins March 11th, 2019. Lessons are in two week sessions. Dates are subject to change depending on the Watauga County School Calendar.

### Kinder T-Ball

Kinder T-Ball registration begins March 18th for Tax payers and open enrollment begins April 1st, 2019. Practices will start April 30th and run through the end of the month.

For more information or if you have questions please contact Blowing Rock Parks and Recreation at (828) 295-5222.

### 2019 Board Appointments

**Planning Board:** Sam Glover and Mike Page

**Board of Adjustment:** Eli (EB) Springs and Tom Dixon

**ABC Board:** Jerry Starnes

**TDA Board:** Kevin Walker and Greg Tarbutton

**BRAAC:** Bo Henderson

### Volunteer Board Reception

The Blowing Rock Town Council will honor all board members with a Volunteer Board Reception prior to the March 12th Council meeting. The Reception will be from 5:30 to 6:00 p.m.



### Summer Day Camp

Camp registration begins March 1st, 2019 for Blowing Rock Taxpayers and Open Enrollment begins March 18th, 2019. The camp is open to boys and girls, from rising Kindergarten (must be five years old and have recently attended daycare) to sixth grade, for eight weeks beginning June 17th and running through August 9th. Summer Day Camp is Monday - Friday 7:30 to 5:30 at the Blowing Rock Elementary School gym. Applications are available online at [www.townofblowingrocknc.gov](http://www.townofblowingrocknc.gov) under Parks and Recreation and Landscaping Tab and then Forms. For more information call Blowing Rock Parks & Recreation at (828) 295-5222. **\*Tentative due to Watauga County Schools Calendar.**

### Middle Fork Greenway Update

Substantial progress is underway for the Middle Fork Greenway, a 6.5-mile paved path connecting Blowing Rock to Boone, naturally. This project is directed under the leadership of Blue Ridge Conservancy, a local land trust dedicated to conserving Northwest North Carolina's natural resources and expanding recreational opportunities for its residents and visitors.

The Middle Fork Greenway has achieved great momentum with fundraising efforts and community support. In 2017 the Eastern Federal Lands Access Program (EFLAP) awarded \$1.8 million to the Town of Blowing Rock for construction of 1.2 miles of Greenway - from the trailhead near Shoppes on the Parkway through the Foley Center at Chestnut Ridge.

Blue Ridge Conservancy secured \$450,000 in required matching funds for the EFLAP grant from Blowing Rock Tourism Development Authority, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), the State of North Carolina, Watauga County Tourism Development Authority, PeopleForBikes, the Dillon Family Foundation, private donors and local businesses that participated in the 2018 Round Up for the Greenway.

Withers Ravenel, an Asheville based engineering firm, was hired to develop the alignment, engineering plans and permits for this section. This work will be finished in the Fall of 2019, with construction to complete no later than year-end 2021.

Enthusiasm for this project has broadened beyond the towns' limits. In July of 2018, 111 local Watauga County businesses raised \$113,000 for the project during the month-long Round Up for the Greenway. These funds were used to leverage over \$1,000,000 in grant funding. With these funds in hand, BRC is preparing to construct the next 0.75 miles of greenway, including a pocket park, in 2019. This section will run from Tweetsie Railroad north to Niley Cook Road.

As NCDOT completes the Highway 321 widening project, the Middle Fork Greenway trailhead will be incorporated into the final plans. The trailhead will include a pavilion overlooking the headwaters of the Middle Fork New River, bike racks, an information kiosk, signage and landscaping. Charleston Forge is donating customized hand-forged benches for the trailhead. The pavilion is currently under construction, and opportunities for naming the pavilion are still available. There are also naming opportunities available along the trail. Please contact Wendy Patoprsty at Blue Ridge Conservancy (828)264-2511 or [wendy@blueridgeconservancy.org](mailto:wendy@blueridgeconservancy.org) for information.

### Golden Easter Egg Hunt

The Town of Blowing Rock will hold its annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 13th, 2019. The games will begin at 10:00 a.m. and the Easter egg hunt will begin at 11:00 a.m. in Memorial Park. For more information please contact Parks and Recreation at (828) 295-5222.

### Semi-Annual Water Line Flushing

The Town of Blowing Rock is planning the first of its two semi-annual "flushing" of the water lines to take place on **Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, May 7th, 8th, and 9th, 2019.** This important preventive maintenance routine helps ensure our system customers have sustained levels of high water quality by removing sediment and deposits from the less used areas of the system. Some customers may briefly experience a temporary slight discoloration of water in the immediate vicinity of the flushing activity. If this happens in your area, please run your cold-water faucet to flush out the service line to your property. For rare but occasional extended discoloration, please contact Town Hall at (828) 295-5200 with your location and we will work to clear up any issues.