

The Mayor's Corner

BY MAYOR BETH A. TAYLOR

January 2022

(276) 223-3356

150 East Monroe Street
beth.taylor@wytheville.org



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

I hope GRATITUDE welcomes us in the New Year of 2022

Snow Removal

It's that time to talk about snow again. Here are the Town of Wytheville's procedures for clearing our streets.

Did you know that there are over 180 miles of streets that require snow removal? The Town of Wytheville gives priority to clearing the main arterial streets first and then the collector and local streets. The Town also has an emergency snow route plan if Interstates 77 or 81 are closed due to an accident. Parking spaces in the downtown area are cleared as soon as possible and access roads to school parking lots are cleared to allow for early dismissals.

During snowstorms, the Public Works Department works 24 hours a day to keep the main arteries clear within the corporate limits. Lesser connector roads are cleared after the main arteries are sufficiently maintained. Anti-icing product is applied to arterial roadways when temperatures are appropriate to minimize bonding of snow to pavement. Abrasive materials are applied to roadways when required to provide traction. Curves, hills, and intersections normally receive a salt and pea gravel mixture. Roadways are widened to completely remove snow from driving surfaces. Several passes are sometimes necessary to completely remove snow. Ice removal and cleanup operations may take place several days after a snowstorm.

Citizens are encouraged to, if possible, wait until after the second plowing before digging out of their driveways. Please also park off the street, if possible, so that crews can plow the entire width of the street. We appreciate our citizens patience as our Public Works crews do their jobs.

Special Museum Exhibit

The Town of Wytheville Department of Museums' special exhibition, "Journey Stories," is now open to the public at the Heritage Preservation Center on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. during the regular Museum tour hours. The exhibition can be viewed on its own or as part of the total Museum visit that includes the Thomas J. Boyd and Haller/Gibboney Rock House Museums. Admission to the "Journey Stories" exhibition is free and donations are appreciated. "Journey Stories" explores the history of how and why our ancestors first traveled to America, migration westward, and the evolution of transportation and travel. It was created by the Museum on Main Street program of the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Services and donated to the Department of Museums by the Rural Retreat Depot Foundation. For more information and to schedule tours, contact the Department of Museums at 276-223-3330.



Important Information from the Treasurer's Office

The following notice is regarding payment options for the Town of Wytheville. As you have been hearing, the Town (and County) are now required to charge credit card processing fees. The fee that the Town of Wytheville must charge is three (3) percent. This fee will be applied when

a credit card is used to pay any of the following: water/wastewater bills, permits of any kind, business licenses, meals and lodging taxes paid by a restaurant or lodging business, parking fines, taxes, and fees at the Wellness & Recreation Center, Town of Wytheville Museums, and the Meeting Center. How can you avoid these processing fees that will be assessed? You can write a check and either bring it inside, drop it in the night box, or mail it. You can pay cash in person at the Treasurer's Office (150 East Monroe Street) or use your online banking. To pay without coming in the office, you can pay online, with a processing fee added, using our online provider, Official Payments. Official Payments can be reached at www.wytheville.org/online-payments or by calling 1-800-272-9829. The Town of Wytheville Jurisdiction Code is 9002.

Delinquent Personal Property Taxes: Personal property taxes are due by December 5 of each year. On February 1 of the following year, a file of delinquent taxes is sent to the Virginia Department of Taxation to offset Virginia state tax refunds and is also sent to the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), for the vehicle registration withholding program to collect personal property taxes.

Important Information from the Police Department

Options for Animal Control are available 24 / 7 to the citizens of Wytheville. If you have an animal emergency, animal in distress, or nuisance animal, like a barking dog in the middle of the night, call 911 and a police officer will respond. If you have a non-emergency animal issue call (276) 223-3300. During regular business hours you will be transferred to the Animal Control Officer if he is not busy on a service call. After hours, weekends and holidays, call (276) 223-3300, and you will be given the following options to choose from. If you are seeking advice on an animal control issue, Press 1. You will speak to a dispatcher that can connect you to a police officer. If you have an ongoing issue and would like for the Animal Control Officer to return your call during regular business hours, Press 2.

The Animal Control office can also be called directly at (276) 223-3397. When the Animal Control Officer is away from his desk, on service calls, after hours, weekends, and holidays, you can leave a message and the Animal Control Officer will return your call when he is back in the office.



The Town of Wytheville has developed an Animal Care & Information Brochure. You can view this brochure on the Town's website at www.wytheville.org/animal-control.

Recently, I had the distinct honor of swearing in six new police officers: John Khachane, Joshua Thomas, Clarence Doyle, Bradley Hurley, Aaron Williams, and Ernest Williams. We welcome these new officers to the Wytheville Police Department!



Council Actions

December 13, 2021:

- Conducted a public hearing to consider renewing the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity during 2022 for 276 Express, LLC, for operation of taxicabs. It was renewed by Council later in that same meeting.
- Conducted a joint public hearing with the Wytheville Planning Commission to consider the request of Mr. James E. Crockett, III, for the rezoning of property located on the south side of West Ridge Road, and adjacent to West Lee Highway, from A-1 Agricultural to R-3 Residential. Later in the meeting, the Council adopted on first and final reading Ordinance No. 1403, and amended and reenacted Ordinance No. 640, generally known as the Zoning Ordinance, to rezone from A1 to R3 Residential parcels of property owned by Paul Morin, Tax map #040A-001-0000-001, which was located on the south side of West Ridge Road, and adjacent to West Lee Highway. Later in the meeting, Council gave preliminary approval to a planned unit development on property located on the South side of West Ridge Road, and adjacent to West Lee Highway at the request of Mr. James E. Crockett, III.
- Presented a proclamation to Mr. John M. Johnson to commend him for his research and work in preserving the history of Wytheville and Wythe County.
- Adopted a resolution supporting an application to the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development for potential funding for the Lots Gap Water Tank Project.
- Set a public hearing for the January 10, 2022, Town Council Meeting to consider amending Chapter 2, Administration, Article II. Council, Division 1. Generally, Section 2-21. When and Where Regular Meeting Are Held, of the Code of the Town of Wytheville, Virginia.

Walk & Talk with Mayor Taylor

Join us on Wednesdays & Thursdays at 10:00am in January & February for a leisurely stroll & lively conversation on the indoor walking track at the Wytheville Recreation Center.

Upcoming Events

- Martin Luther King Annual March is on Sunday, January 16, 2022.

Cold Weather Tips

PROVIDE SHELTER

At 32°F 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
- Includes a heated water bowl so they have access to an unfrozen water source
- Has a floor, is elevated from the ground, has cedar shavings, dry straw or the equivalent and has heating or an outdoor heating pad

WALKING YOUR DOG

- Consider shortening your walks if the temperature is too frigid & increase indoor exercise.
- Ask your vet if your pet may benefit from additional clothing beyond their "fur coat" in chilly weather.
- Watch for any signs of injury or extreme cold to their paws, especially in snow or ice.

WARNING SIGNS

Signs that an animal may be getting too cold include:

- Trembling
- Sleepiness
- Slowed Breathing
- Mobility Issues
- Dry Skin
- Numbness
- Illness

Hot Weather Tips

PROTECT YOUR PETS

- Keep your pets indoors when possible
- Limit outdoor exercise to early morning/evening
- Provide pets with extra, cool water sources
- Consider dog booties for hot pavement, (*hold your bare foot on the ground for 7 seconds, if it is too hot for bare feet, it is too hot for bare paws*)
- Never chain your pet
- Never leave your pet in a vehicle unattended
- Keep long-haired animal coats trimmed down
- Take EXTRA precautions if your animal is older, obese or short-nosed
- Look out for signs of heatstroke, including panting, vomiting, warm/dry skin & collapsing

GOT OUTDOOR PETS?

- ALWAYS provide a well-shaded & ventilated shelter
- ALWAYS provide non-metal, spill-proof water bowls
- Baby pools & sunscreen can also help keep pets safe

HELP!

How to perform the Heimlich Maneuver on your Dog in 9 steps..

1. Open your dog's mouth and check for what they may be choking on. Grab it with your fingers if you can. You can also pull your dog's tongue to attempt to dislodge the object. Use a flashlight if handy. (Be careful to not get bit!)
2. If you can't reach the object, hold your dog like the image to the right. Make sure your hands are under his ribs. Quickly push up and in 5 times.
 - If your dog is too big to do that then stand over him (like you're riding a horse), put your hands under his ribs and pull up and in 5 times.
3. Check again to see if you can remove the object with your hands. Use a flashlight if handy.
4. If you still can't get to the object then lay your dog on the ground and lift his hips higher than his head.
5. Check again for the object. Use a flashlight if handy.
6. If you still can't find the object use your palm to hit your dog between his shoulder blades. You may need to use some force.
7. Open your dog's mouth and check for the object again. Use a flashlight if handy.
8. Keep repeating steps 1 through 7 above until the foreign object comes out.
9. If your dog is unconscious give him 5 breaths and then 5 thrusts to its abdomen. Keep doing these steps until the object is out.

Get your dog to a Veterinarian as soon as possible!

Town of Wytheville Animal Care & Information

Brochure

Town of Wytheville Animal Control



Phone:

276-223-3300

Email:

wpdac@wytheville.org



Wythe County Veterinarians

(Alphabetical Order)

ANIMAL CARE CLINIC, LLC

3649 Stoney Fork Road, Wytheville, VA 24382

(276) 228-2727 • www.WythevilleAnimalCare.com

Tues, Wed, Thur, Fri: 8a-5p • Sat: 8a-12p • Sun, Mon: Closed

COMMUNITY ANIMAL CLINIC, INC

995 South 3rd Street, Wytheville, VA 24382

(276) 223-1234 • www.CommunityAnimalClinic.net

Mon-Fri: 8a-5:30p • Sat: 8a-12p • Sun: Closed

WYTHE CARE VETERINARY SERVICE, INC

Mobile Vet

(276) 617-0500 • www.WytheCare.com

Mon-Fri: 9a-5p • Sat: Cat Neuter Clinics by Appointment

Sun: Closed

WYTHE COUNTY ANIMAL CLINIC

210 Grayson Road, Wytheville, VA 24382

(276) 228-2322

Mon, Tues, Thur, Fri: 8a-10a; 2p-5p • Sat: 9a-11:30a

Wed, Sun: Closed

Exotic Pet Veterinarian

TIPTON RIDGE VETERINARY

MEDICAL CENTER

1858 Bob White Blvd, Pulaski, VA 24301

(540) 980-0186 • info@tiptonridge.com

www.TiptonRidge.com

Mon-Fri: 7:30a-6p • Sat: 8a-6p • Sun: 8a-10a; 4p-6p

24 Hour Emergency Veterinarian

TOWN & COUNTRY VETERINARY CLINIC

200 Central Ave NE, Christiansburg, VA 24073

(540) 382-5042 • www.TCVCCares.com

Local Rescue Groups

(Alphabetical Order)

BRISTOL HUMANE SOCIETY: "MARGARET B. MITCHELL SPAY/NEUTER CLINIC"

Provides reduced cost spay & neuter services.

16222 Lee Highway, Bristol, VA 24202

(276) 591-5790 • www.MBMSpayNeuterClinic.org

Mon-Fri: 8a-4p • Sat, Sun: Closed

LOST FANTASY RESCUE

Spay & neuter cost assistance to qualifying individuals.

Assistance offered for other vetting based on need.

Provides food for owned pets/feral colonies as needed.

Provides shelters & bedding for dogs in need.

LostFantasyStables@yahoo.com

www.LostFantasyStables.com

MOUNTAIN VIEW HUMANE SPAY/NEUTER CLINIC

Limited service clinic with high quality care at a low-cost, with a focus on spay/neuter efforts. Provides transportation for pets located outside immediate service area. Hosts vaccination clinics for spayed/neutered pets. Provides financial assistance for qualifying clients.

225 Industrial Drive, Christiansburg, VA 24073

(540) 382-0222 • (855) 447-7647 • info@MVHClinc.org

www.MVHClinc.org

WBAWL "THE WYTHE-BLAND ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE"

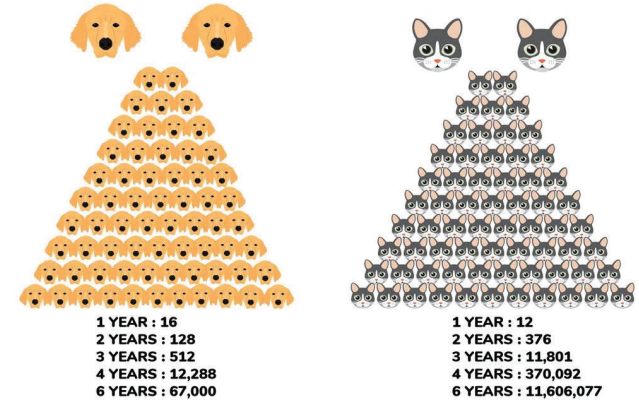
Free scheduled transport to low cost spay/neuter clinic, along with financial assistance for qualifying individuals.

(276) 613-3695 • www.WBAWL.com



Did You Know?

If a female dog or cat remains unspayed and is allowed to reproduce unchecked, look what can happen in six short years! Population explosion!!!



The benefits of spaying & neutering far outweigh the cost!

REDUCE Spraying & Marking

REDUCE Roaming

REDUCE Aggression

LOWER Risk of Cancers

DECREASE Overpopulation

INCREASE Lifespan by 3-5 Years

State Law Companion Animal Requirements

Each owner shall provide for each of his companion animals:

- Adequate feed & water;
- Adequate shelter that is properly cleaned with adequate space in the primary enclosure for the particular type of animal depending upon its age, size, species, and weight;
- Adequate exercise;
- Adequate care, treatment, and transportation; and Veterinary care when needed to prevent suffering or disease transmission.