



Stephens City Newsletter

Volume 39 Issue 5

July and August 2020

**TOWN OFFICES
ARE NOW OPEN
AND ARE BEING
SANITIZED DAILY!**

The Town Newsletter is published by the Town Government of Stephens City for its citizens; to inform and to clarify the issues and undertakings before the Town Government. Citizen feedback is encouraged. Contact the Town Office at 1033 Locust Street weekdays between the hours of 8:30 am and 5:00 pm or by mail:

PO Box 250
Stephens City, VA 22655

Phone: 869-3087

Fax: 869-6166

Police: 868-1012

Website: www.stephenscity.org



Changes to Trash Service Beginning July 1, 2020



Starting Wednesday, July 1st Stephens City will begin its new trash service with Waste Management. Everyone in town will receive a 95 gallon can delivered directly to their properties. Additional cans may be rented through the town office. Should the 95 gallon can prove to be too large for your needs you may request a smaller 65 gallon can. It is important that all trash be placed in one of these newly provided containers as the cans will now be lifted by the hydraulic arm of the truck rather than by hand.

Unfortunately due to increased costs resulting from changes in the global recycled materials market the Town of Stephens City is no longer able to provide recycling services but we encourage citizens to make use of the convenience center located just south of town off of Route 11.

- TAX NOTICE -

You may have noticed some changes on your taxes this year. The Town of Stephens City has eliminated personal property taxes for its residents. You will only receive a bill for decals on your vehicles once a year. This will come due along with real estate tax on July 5th.

Water and Sewer Billing

Water and sewer bills are due on **Monday, August 3, 2020 by 5:00 pm**. After 5:00 pm, a 10% penalty will be applied to late accounts. On **Tuesday, August 11**, service will be discontinued for delinquency. An administrative fee of \$50 is applied to the account on **Monday, August 10 at 5:00 pm**. The \$50 fee plus the full amount of the bill must be paid before service can be restored.

A drop box is available at the Town Office for check or money order payments only. **Please do not put cash in the drop box.** Online payments can be made at the Town's website with Discover, Visa or MasterCard.

Please allow 2 business days for online payments to post to your account. If you pay a bill online after the due date, you are still responsible for the 10% penalty and if the bill is paid after the shut off date, the \$50 administrative fee will need to be paid as well, prior to reconnection.

**WE DO NOT ACCEPT
PAYMENTS
OVER THE PHONE.**

Please keep your lawns mowed. It's the law!

This is a friendly reminder to keep your property maintained. We try to keep our town looking presentable while also preventing snakes and rodents from taking up residence. Below is the town ordinance for lawn maintenance.

Sec 16-2. Duty of owners, etc., of premises – to cut and remove tall grass and weeds.

(A) It shall be unlawful for any person owning, occupying or having charge of any real estate or an interest therein, located within the corporate limits of the town, to allow grass or weeds to grow on the property to a height of more than 8 inches

(B) If any owner, occupant or person in charge of such land or interest therein shall fail to have such illegal growth of grass or weeds on his land cut or otherwise removed within 7 days after written notice of violation of this section, the Town shall have the right to cut or remove such unlawful growth at the expense of the landowner, and such expense may be collected by the town as taxes are levied and collected. In addition, the owner shall pay a penalty of 10 percent of such expense in addition to any fine which may be imposed for violation of this section.

SEWER INSPECTIONS

The town of Stephens City is currently conducting a detailed study of its entire sewer system. Please be aware that throughout this process you will see town staff along with engineering contractors inspecting manholes in the roadways and in some cases along sanitary easements through private property. There is no need to be alarmed or concerned if you see them walking across or conducting an inspection on your property. These individuals will either be wearing clothing indicating that they are town staff or wearing high visibility vests and are working to help improve our utilities.

- Town Calendar of Events -

July 2020

- July 3 Town Offices Closed for Independence Day**
- July 7 Town Council 6:00 pm**
- July 14 Personnel Committee 4:30 pm
- July 15 Public works 4:30 pm
Ordinance 5:00 pm
- July 16 Festival Committee 7:15 pm
- July 21 Historic Preservation Commission 5:00 pm
Beautification Board 5:30 pm
- July 22 Finance Committee 4:00 pm
- July 23 Public Safety 5:00 pm
- July 27 Parks & Recreation 5:30 pm
- July 28 Planning Commission 7:30 pm

August 2020

- Aug 1 Public Safety 5:00 pm
- Aug 3 Water/Sewer Bills Due**
- Aug 4 Town Council Meeting 6:00 pm**
- Aug 11 Personnel Committee 4:30 pm
- Aug 11 Water Shut Off Date**
- Aug 18 Historic Preservation Commission 5:00 pm
Beautification Board 5:30 pm
- Aug 19 Public Works Committee 4:30 pm
Ordinance Committee 5:00 pm
- Aug 20 Festival Committee 7:15 pm
- Aug 20 Public Safety 5:00 pm
- Aug 25 Planning Commission 7:30 pm
- Aug 26 Finance Committee 4:00 pm
- Aug 31 Parks & Recreation 5:30 pm

** All meetings subject to change without notice with the exception of the Town Council meeting.*