



# The Strasburg Signal



www.strasburgva.com

Official Newsletter of the Town of Strasburg, Virginia

February 2016

The Strasburg Signal is published monthly by Town staff to inform citizens about town programs, services, and events. Your feedback is welcome. Please fill out the comment section below and return to the Town Office at 174 East King Street, PO Box 351, Strasburg, VA 22657, or call (540) 465-9197, or email info@strasburgva.com

## TOWN ELECTIONS

Strasburg will be holding town elections for four Council seats on Tuesday, May 3, 2016. Any citizen interested in running for an open seat must complete and turn in all necessary paperwork and be certified by Lisa McDonald, Shenandoah County Voter Registrar, by Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. It is recommended to have petitions turned in at least 10 days in advance of the March 1<sup>st</sup> deadline to be sure all signatures are certified. Candidates must have at least 125 certified signatures. Also, be sure to have all required notarizations before returning packets to the Voter Registrar Office. To request a candidate packet, please call Ms. McDonald at (540) 459-6195.

## WINTER WEATHER UPDATE

Winter is here and along with winter comes snow and ice. When storms hit the area, please remember to clear the sidewalk in front of your home or business within six (6) daylight hours of snowfall ending; doing this will help keep pedestrians safe and make it easier for school children to board a bus. Also, if you are a business owner or resident on King Street where the streetscape project has been completed, please remember to use your sand bucket and apply ONLY sand to the new sidewalks. This will help ensure our sidewalks last for many years.



## DMV2Go

Do you have business you need to take care of with the Department of Motor Vehicles, but can't find the time to go to the DMV or don't want to wait in a long line? We have the answer for you! **The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) mobile unit will be visiting the Town Hall on Tuesday, February 9.** This is a good time to report vehicles that have been sold, renew registrations, or renew your driver's license. It's basically a DMV office on wheels, offering all the same services as a regular DMV office.



## DID YOU KNOW.....

About the "Little Free Library" in Town? These two book houses can be found in two locations --- Hometown Park and the Strasburg Park.

### *Take Books*

If you see something you would like to read, take it. When finished, you can leave your own special note in it for the next borrower.

### *Share Books*

Pass the books on to a friend or return them to any "Little Free Library".

### *Give Books*

Continue to be a friend of the "Little Free Library" and others by helping anyway you can. Pay it forward.

Please, when returning books, be sure to return to a "Little Free Library" and not to the Strasburg Community Library. The Town and the Strasburg Community Library both encourage reading by our residents, but it is confusing if a book is returned to the "Little Free Library" and is a regular library book and vice-versa.

**Strasburg DOG Park  
Westminster Dog Show Raffle**

Tickets: \$3.00

Buy your numbered ticket. Each ticket is keyed to a dog shown at the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, February 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Additional information can be found by visiting the group's Facebook page: Facebook/Strasburg-DOG

All proceeds go towards the  
DOG Park Building Fund

Call 540-325-6749 to purchase tickets

**STRASBURG FARMERS MARKET**

Have you ever been interested in participating in a Farmers Market? Pot Town Organics has graciously extended their facilities for a second year as home to the Strasburg Farmers Market, located at 181 West King Street. The first year was wonderful with many local vendors and volunteers to make this a “must do” activity for Saturday mornings. Plans are being made for a second year. More vendors and volunteers are needed to help take this market to the next level and provide even more local entrepreneurs with the ability to showcase their market wares and ideas. An organizational meeting will be held on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. Mark your calendar and plan to attend this meeting at Pot Town Organics. For additional information, email: [strasburgfarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:strasburgfarmersmarket@gmail.com) or call: 540-465-4444.

**MASSANUTTEN GARDEN CLUB SEMINAR**

Please join Massanutten Garden Club for the first in a series of FREE Helpful Garden Seminars.

***Raised Bed Gardening – From Start to Finish***

**Date:** Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
**Time:** 1:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Pot Town Organics, 181 W. King St.

Both beginner and experienced gardeners will benefit from this seminar.

Please, come and join us. Light refreshments will be served and reservations are not required, but appreciated.

For additional information, please call: 465-4444  
 Thanks to Pot Town Organics for providing the space for the seminar series.

**FY2016-17 BUDGET PREPARATION**

The Finance Department is beginning to work on the FY 2016-17 Budget. Department Directors have submitted their estimated expenditures for the coming year and revenue projections are being calculated. Listed below is the tentative calendar for the budget process.

**FISCAL YEAR 2016-17 BUDGET CALENDAR**

**February 16, 2016, 7 p.m.** – Work Session: Discuss major budget factors  
**March 14, 2016, 7 p.m.** – Work Session: Review scenarios with Council

**April 4, 2016, 7 p.m.** – Work Session; Review draft budget

**May 2, 2016, 7 p.m.** – Work Session, if needed

**May 10, 2016, 7 p.m.** – Public Hearing on FY2016-17 Proposed Budget

**June 14, 2016, 7 p.m.** – Council meeting; adopt FY2016-17 Budget

**BLIZZARD 2016 WORD SEARCH**

W O N S Q M G S A T A P N O E  
 R X A B C B Q O H B D A S T S  
 H T J K N Q C B F O M W A Y L  
 S N O W S T O R M W V L M I E  
 P Y B C C E D Y O T O E S T D  
 S N T M G N Q N R C I N L H D  
 E B V L U L S S O E O A M C I  
 I I L S K W Y H Q W P L L K N  
 R C A I G F C N B M P P H D G  
 R I W M Z T O A T Y L W I M V  
 U C D O O Z L S G N I S O L C  
 L L N H L L A J A N U A R Y S  
 F E I M Y P F R T G N E P X L  
 Y B W U M I R R D Y G G G E R  
 W Z L Y J Y Y S Y W B K U X N

BLIZZARD	SLEDDING
CLOSINGS	SLIPPERY
FLURRIES	SNOW
HOT CHOCOLATE	SNOWBALL
ICICLE	SNOWMAN
JANUARY	SNOWSTORM
PLOW	WIND
SHOVEL	WINTRY

**TRASH & RECYCLING SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY:**

- Wednesday, Feb. 3: **Trash Collection ONLY**
- Wednesday, Feb. 10: **Trash & Recycling Collection**
- Wednesday, Feb. 17: **Trash Collection ONLY**
- Wednesday, Feb. 24: **Trash & Recycling Collection**

**FEBRUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

1 – Council Work Session, 7 p.m.	16 - Council Work Session, 7 p.m.
9 – DMV2Go, 9 a.m. –4 p.m. Town Council, <b>7 p.m.</b>	23 – Planning Commission, 7 p.m.
15 – Presidents’ Day, Town Office will be OPEN!	25 – ARB, 7 p.m.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

### TOWN OF STRASBURG WATER SYSTEM HAS TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANE LEVELS ABOVE DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customer, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct the situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results received for November 11 and December 3, 2015 showed that our system exceeded the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for total trihalomethanes (TTHM) for calendar year 2015. The maximum contaminant level for total trihalomethanes is 0.080 mg/l or 80 parts per billion (ppb). The average TTHM level for the calendar year 2015 compliance period was 0.0836 mg/l or 84 ppb.

#### **What should I do?**

There is nothing you need do at this time.

You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

#### **What does this mean?**

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

#### **What happened?**

We are required to collect one distribution system sample each calendar quarter from two sampling locations and have them analyzed to determine the level of total trihalomethanes present in the water. These sample results are averaged with the previous three calendar quarter averages to determine that location's running annual average TTHM level. Should the locational running annual average exceed the MCL, we are then deemed out of compliance with TTHM standards.

The Virginia Department of Health advised that we had exceeded the MCL for total trihalomethanes because our 19 Signal Knob Drive sampling station calendar year 2015 locational running annual average TTHM level was 0.0836 mg/l or 84 ppb.

#### **What is being done?**

Quarterly trihalomethane sampling of our drinking water will be performed as required to determine the quality of water being served to you.

We are examining the town's water treatment processes to eliminate and/or minimize the precursor materials that cause the formation of trihalomethanes in your drinking water. As part of this examination, consideration is being given to the adjustment of chemical feed rates, relocation of some chemical feed points, use of alternative treatment chemicals, installing supplemental aeration/mixing systems in storage tanks, and/or modifying operational procedures to reduce system water age.

We anticipate resolving the trihalomethane exceedance within the next several months.

For more information, please contact Jay McKinley, Assistant Town Manager, Town of Strasburg, at 540-465-9197 or P.O. Box 351, Strasburg, VA 22657.

*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*

This notice is being sent to you by the Town of Strasburg.