

September 2023

MIDDLEBURG MEMO

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WATER CONSERVATION ENCOURAGED

The Town of Middleburg encourages all residents and customers to consider water conservation measures. Currently, our area is in a Drought Watch as determined by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), and water levels are being monitored closely. While the Town is not imposing any mandatory restrictions at this time, and we do not have any concerns about water production from our wells, there are best practices that residents can follow to help conserve water. These include:

- o Only wash full loads of clothes and only run the dishwasher when fully loaded
- o Water plants from hand-held containers, as opposed to the garden hose
- o Use a broom to clean sidewalks and driveways, as opposed to using the garden hose
- o Don't wash your cars
- o Take showers as opposed to baths and limit your time in the shower
- o Turn the faucet off when brushing your teeth
- o Don't fill swimming pools or outdoor fountains



With recent heavy rains, DEQ may revise the current drought status for Loudoun County. Nonetheless, the Town always encourages water conservation methods in order to protect one of our most valuable resources - safe drinking water.

In addition, if you notice any unauthorized use of fire hydrants in Middleburg, please contact the Town Office or Police Department immediately. Unauthorized use of a fire hydrant is a violation of the Town Code, is theft, and can risk damage to our water supply.

MICKIE GORDON MEMORIAL PARK

The Middleburg community once again came out in strong numbers to provide constructive, positive input to Loudoun County on the community's preferred amenities and activities at Mickie Gordon Memorial Park. Over 140 people showed up for this community input meeting, sharing input and ideas in a roundtable manner. Most of the input focused heavily on the following items:

- Improve the existing fields and facilities by bringing them up to current standards;
- Continue to maintain the park properly in accordance with County standards;
- Add additional passive uses, such as trails, benches, and gathering spots;
- Dawn to Dusk use of the park and elimination of the lighting.

The County Dept. of Parks and Recreation committed to another community input meeting in the coming weeks. The Town will share the information when it is available.

Additional input can be provided to Parks/Rec at prcs@loudoun.gov or by calling 703-777-0343.



FARMERS MARKET CONTINUES THRU OCT. 28

Don't forget! The Middleburg Farmers Market continues each Saturday, 9am-12pm, through Oct. 28th at the Charter School (101 N. Madison).

UPCOMING TOWN EVENTS

- 3rd Annual Middleburg OKTOBERFEST:

September 16, 2023 - 11am-7pm:

S. Madison/Federal St.

- Middleburg Fall Races:

October 14, 2023

- Middleburg Film Festival:

October 19-22, 2023

- 1000 Miglia Warm-Up USA:

November 2-4, 2023



TOWN OF MIDDLEBURG

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MAYOR & TOWN COUNCIL

Trowbridge M. Littleton, Mayor

Peter Leonard-Morgan, Vice Mayor

Chris W. Bernard
Darlene Kirk

J. Kevin Daly
Philip M. Miller

Morris "Bud" Jacobs
Cindy C. Pearson

NEW BUSINESSES IN TOWN

We continue to celebrate our new businesses in Middleburg. Recently, CDMX Bar & Grill opened at 16 E. Washington Street. The Town also held a ribbon cutting for Bluewater Cocina on August 31st. Get your fill of tacos and other Mexican fare at both of these locations!

The Town is hosting a back-to-back-to-back ribbon cutting ceremony for new businesses on South Madison Street. Join us on **Thursday, September 28, from 4-5pm** to celebrate our newest businesses!

LOOKING FOR FOOD ASSISTANCE OR OTHER SUPPORT?

The Middleburg community has many resources available to help those in need. Are you facing food insecurity or need support services?

Our local food pantry, Seven Loaves, is available for those in need of food assistance.

Middleburg FISH supports those in the community with financial needs, including utility payment assistance.

Other resources to help those with food insecurity in Loudoun County can be found at www.loudounfeeds.org



Loudoun County also provides numerous social services for those in need. The Loudoun County Rent and Utility Assistance Program is available at 703-777-0420.

The Mental Health Crisis Intervention Services line is available 24/7 at 703-777-0320 and the national Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is available at all times at 988.

Perhaps you would like to support those in need? Check out our local non-profit organizations and see how you can volunteer, give, or support their work.

NOVEMBER ELECTIONS - EARLY VOTING BEGINS SEPT. 22

Remember to vote on November 7, 2023. Early voting begins Sept. 22 at the Office of Elections in Leesburg. The Town of Middleburg does NOT host early voting. **Election day is Tues, Nov. 7th, from 6am-7pm** and will be held at the Town Hall at 10 West Marshall Street. Visit www.loudoun.gov/vote for more info!

WHAT ARE PFAS? AND WHAT IS THE TOWN DOING?

"PFAS" are "per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances" that are widely used, long lasting chemicals. These PFAS break down very slowly over time. Because of their widespread use and their persistence in the environment, many PFAS are found in the blood of people and animals all over the world and are present at low levels in a variety of food products and in the environment.

The Environmental Protection Agency has proposed establishing legal limits for the presence of PFAS in drinking water. The Town continues to work with its utility operator to ensure ongoing and complete compliance with the EPA rules. Read more at: <https://www.epa.gov/pfas/pfas-explained>

The Town does not believe that its drinking water contains PFAS. Typically, PFAS are introduced into the environment through chemical and industrial production facilities, fire extinguishing foam, or other significant industrial-type uses. The Town will continue to test its water to ensure it complies with all current and future standards established by the EPA and the Virginia Dept. of Health Office of Drinking Water.

WHAT CAN YOU DO? The Town reminds residents to always properly dispose of chemical substances. DO NOT pour hazardous materials or chemicals down the sanitary drain or in a stormwater drain. These can lead to contamination of the ground and drinking water sources. Residents are also reminded not to flush prescription medicines down the drain.

The Town will continue to provide information to residents as it becomes available.

REMINDER OF RATE CHANGES - Effective July 1, 2023



During each budget cycle, the Town Council takes a comprehensive look at its Utility System revenues and expenditures. The Utility System is run as an "enterprise fund," meaning it must be self-sustaining and not reliant upon tax dollars for revenues.

In addition, the Town Council uses a detailed and extensive financial model to anticipate future costs based on operations, repairs, and infrastructure needs. This model guides the Council's review of rates and fees.

Beginning this billing cycle, water and sewer rates will increase 3% to ensure the long-term fiscal stability of our system.

TOWN NOTES:

WATER TOWER WORK COMPLETE:

All of the water tower blasting and painting has been completed. Contractors are making minor enhancements to the tower to accommodate new antennas and to ensure structural integrity. We appreciate your patience!

SEPTIC CONVERSION PROJECT APPROVED:

The Town will be working on a project to convert existing septic systems in the Town limits to our sanitary sewer system. This will enhance public health and safety and will eliminate sources of potential contamination of the Town's drinking water.

WELL 4 REPAIRS AND CONSTRUCTION:

The Town Council will be reviewing opportunities to repair the Well 4 Treatment Plant and to proceed with construction of a much needed component of the Plant to ensure its long-term longevity as a source of drinking water for the Town. We hope to begin repairs within 3-4 weeks and construction within a few months.

TOWN HALL UPDATE:

The Town continues to press the contractor to complete all outstanding items on the Town Hall. Major items remaining include: completing/commissioning the HVAC system; securing the cupola to the structure; finishing critical interior work; and obtaining an occupancy permit.