



# Stephens City Newsletter

Volume 33 Issue 4

July and August 2014

## this issue

The Town Newsletter is published by the Town Government of Stephens City for its citizens; to inform, to apprise, 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 8:30a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or by mail: P.O. Box 250, Stephens City, VA 22655

**Phone:** 869-3087  
**Fax:** 869-6166  
**Police:** 868-1012  
**Website:**  
[www.stephenscity.vi.virginia.gov](http://www.stephenscity.vi.virginia.gov)



Newtown Heritage Festival	P.1 & 3
2013 Yard Crawl	P.2
Water and Sewer Billing	P.2
From the Town Manager's Desk	P.2
2012 Water Quality Report	P.4-6
Town Calendar	P.6

## NEWTOWN LOCAL MARKET

The Newtown Local Market is up and running again this year. It is located across Fairfax St. from Trinity Lutheran Church every Saturday from 8 am until 11 am from now until October. Featured vendors have locally grown produce, farm fresh eggs, jams and jellies, plants, hand crafted baked goods, and so much more!! See you Saturday!!!



## Newtown Heritage Festival Wrap-Up

Perfection is an evasive and, most always, an unreachable goal. But our recent Newtown Heritage Festival, at least in the collective mind of the Festival Committee, flirted with achieving that elusive end. From our Friday "premiere" of the Civil War sesquicentennial video produced by Sherando High senior Meagan Arnold to the spectacular fireworks display Saturday night, our 22nd festival came off with relatively few hitches, but with many highlights – a wonderful parade, excellent entertainment, outstanding exhibits (quilt show and transportation display), a bracing 5-K run, even an "inflatable" slide for the kids. The common denominator here: weather was truly PERFECT.

*Continued on page 3*

In accordance with the Virginia Department of Health, the Town is required to print and provide the Annual Water Quality Report. The annual water quality report is on pages 4-6. Should you have any questions or would like a hard copy of the Water Quality Report, please contact me as soon as possible.

*Michael K. Kehoe*  
 Town Manager



## Yard Waste Reminder

Our trash contractor **cannot** pick up any yard debris, clippings, limbs, flower stalks or anything of this nature. They are not permitted to include these items with household trash under landfill regulations and penalties. Anything of this nature, even bagged, will be left at the curb. Please do not call the town office to report trash missed if it was yard waste.

The Town provides a site for disposal of yard waste for residents at no cost. Citizens can come to the Town Office and pick up the key to the site during business hours: 8:30 am - 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. The site remains locked on weekends and holidays.

# Shenandoah County "Route 11 Yard Crawl" August 9, 2014

7:00 am until

Clean out your attics, your closets and your basements! Have a sidewalk sale! Call your civic organizations and plan the day as a fundraiser!



## Our 10th Annual

Event along scenic Route 11, the "Old Valley Pike." NOW 43 MILES AND NINE TOWNS!

For more information about spaces in Stephens City, please contact the

Stephens City Lions Club

540-869-5580



From the Town Manager's Desk...

## Budget Update

The Town Council adopted the 2014-15 fiscal year budget on June 25, 2014. The total operating budget for the upcoming year is \$2,106,000.00. The budget included a real estate tax rate increase from \$0.076 cents to \$0.106 cents (3 cent increase) per \$100.00 valuation for land and structures within the Town. This increase is anticipated to generate an additional \$39,000.00 This was the first real estate increase since 2006 and was necessary to balance the general fund as expenses have increased each year.

Water and sewer rates will remain the same but may necessarily increase at a later date and after public hearings pending rate increases imposed by the Frederick County Sanitation Authority for water and sewer treatment.

Town Manager,  
Mike Kehoe

## YARD SALE PERMITS

This is a reminder that you are required to obtain a Yard Sale permit prior to holding a Yard Sale within the Town.

A permit is free and each resident is allowed up to two (2) yard sales in a calendar year (not including the special "Yard Crawl" Saturday) and providing each sale does not last longer than three (3) consecutive days. There is a charge for yard sales after the initial two. You may download a Yard Sale Permit application at the Town website.

If you have any questions, please contact the Town Office.

## Veteran's Memorial Brick Sponsorship

Groundbreaking for the Veterans' Memorial was held on June 6th at the old school complex. The ceremony was well attended and inspirational. As a result, the Brick Sponsorship program is well underway and response has been growing. The Committee also welcomes general sponsorships from groups that want to honor veterans from all branches of the armed forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and US Coast Guard).

Forms for Brick Sponsorships and general donations are available on the Town's website - [stephenscity.vi.virginia.gov](http://stephenscity.vi.virginia.gov)

## Water and Sewer Billing

Water and sewer bills for the bi-monthly billing ends **Monday, August 4, 2014** and are due upon receipt. After **August 5, 2014** a **10% penalty** will be added. On **Monday, August 11, 2014** service will be discontinued for delinquency. A reconnect fee of **\$25** plus the full amount of the bill must be paid before service can be restored. Just a reminder that for your convenience a night drop is available at the Town Office for dropping off check or money order payments and

payments can now be made online at the Town's website. Water/Sewer bills can be paid using a Visa, Discover, or MasterCard. If you pay a bill online after the due date, you will still be responsible for the 10% penalty and if the bill is paid after the shut off date, the \$25 administrative fee will need to be paid as well, prior to reconnection.

**DO NOT PUT CASH IN THE DROP BOX!**

# Newtown Heritage Festival

*Continued:*

The best part about all this, though, is the opportunity, fulfilled every year, to pass the time with you, our friends, neighbors, and visitors. It has been our privilege over the past two decades to avail ourselves of this opportunity, and we hope, in coming years to continue to do so. We're already in planning mode for the 2015 Newtown Heritage Festival.

Of course, none of this can be accomplished without the help of our willing donors. On this page you'll find a list of those businesses and individuals who contributed to this year's festival. To them, we issue our sincerest gratitude; to everyone else, we hope to see you on the Commons next Memorial Day weekend for our 23rd annual rite of spring.

The Newtown Heritage Festival Committee

**Adrian O'Connor**  
President



Special Thanks to  
**Five Alarm Fun**  
for supplying the  
inflatable at the  
Newtown Commons

**OTHER CONTRIBUTORS**

Commercial Press; Chick Fitness, LLC; Carlyle & Anderson; Apple Land; Graphics North; Sherando High School; VA State Police; Winchester Police Department; Frederick County Sheriffs Department; Middletown, Strasburg and Haymarket Police Departments

**Local Police Officer Recognized for Help in Fighting Car Theft**

Officer Scott Baber of the Stephens City Police Department was recognized by the Virginia State Police in the 2013 LEO Award competition at a ceremony during the annual meeting of the Virginia Chapter of the International Association of Special Investigation Units in Richmond on May 15, 2014.

Officer Baber won First Place in the LEO Award competition and also won the Mark D. DeHart Memorial Award for Exceptional Dedication to Auto Theft Reduction. The LEO Awards are part of a cooperative program between Virginia State Police, the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, and local law enforcement agencies. LEO Award Winners are selected for their exemplary actions related to Intelligence, Prevention, Enforcement and Recoveries in fighting the crime of vehicle theft. Their skills and attention toward these areas help to increase public awareness of the HEAT program—Help Eliminate Auto Theft. HEAT operates in a manner similar to Crime Solvers, Crime Stoppers and the Drug Hotline. Citizens call the statewide toll-free hotline at **1-800-947-HEAT** to report information about suspected carjackings, auto theft or chop-shop operations. Callers remain anonymous through the process, and those who supply tips leading to arrests are eligible for rewards of up to \$25,000. For more information about H.E.A.T. and the Program's rewards, visit [www.HeatReward.com](http://www.HeatReward.com).

**Special Thanks to our Sponsors**

**WAGON MASTERS**

- Hollis Family Trust
- Bowman Shoemaker Co
- Valley Health
- Jim Stutzman Chevrolet
- Bank of Clarke County
- Woodgate Petroleum

**TRAIL BLAZERS**

- Capon Valley Bank
- Classic Transit
- Gore Meats
- Dr. Thomas Gromling
- Denny's Auto Sales
- Lantz Pharmacy
- Rappahannock Electric

**WAGONEERS**

- Cloth Peddler
- Sandy Pallet
- Kern Toyota
- Clem's Garage
- Animal Medical Center
- First Bank
- Dawn Welch LCSW LLC
- Edward Jones
- Enders & Shirley
- Valley Furniture & Interiors
- Stephens City Insurance-Agency Corp.
- City National Bank
- Stephens City Family Dentistry
- Newtown Veterinary Clinic
- Robert Mowery CPA
- Ed's Heads Salon
- Head of Class Dog Training Center

# Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

## Town of Stephens City

### INTRODUCTION:

This Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for calendar year 2013 is designed to provide you with valuable information about your drinking water quality. We are committed to providing you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water, and we want you to understand the efforts we make to protect your water supply. The quality of your drinking water meets all state and federal requirements administered by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH).

If you have questions about this report, want additional information about any aspect of your drinking water, or want to know how to participate in decisions that may affect the quality of your drinking water, please contact:

Mr. Michael Keiser, Town Manager at 540-869-3087

You can obtain additional information by attending Town Council meetings held at 7:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month in the Town Council Chambers.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances (referred to as contaminants) in source water may come from septic systems, discharges from domestic or industrial wastewater treatment facilities, agricultural and farming activities, urban storm water runoff, residential uses, and many other types of activities. Water from surface sources is treated to make it drinkable while groundwater may or may not have any treatment.

All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer, undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

### SOURCES AND TREATMENT OF YOUR DRINKING WATER

Your drinking water is surface water purchased from the Frederick County Sanitation Authority (FCSA) and obtained from the quarries located on the west side Stephens City. Water is distributed to the Town from master meter connections to the FCSA system through variously sized distribution pipes. Storage for the Town is provided by the FCSA.

All water supplied to the Town undergoes treatment. This treatment is accomplished at the James H. Diehl Water Treatment Plant and the James T. Anderson Water Treatment Plant. The water is treated prior to entering the distribution system and consists of chemical addition, flocculation, sedimentation and filtration to remove turbidity, chlorination to disinfect the water and fluoridation to aid in reducing tooth decay.

### SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

A source water assessment for the Frederick County Service Authority was completed by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) on April 10, 2002. This assessment determined that the Authority's Stephens City water source may be susceptible to contamination because it is surface water exposed to a wide array of contaminants at varying concentrations. Changing hydrologic, hydraulic and atmospheric conditions promote migration of contaminants from land use activities of concern within the assessment area. More specific information may be obtained by the Frederick County Sanitation Authority at 540-868-1061.

### QUALITY OF YOUR DRINKING WATER

Your drinking water is routinely monitored according to Federal and State Regulations for a variety of contaminants. The table on the next page shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013.

Most of the results in the table are from testing done in 2013. However, the state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though accurate, is more than one year old.

### DEFINITIONS

In the table and elsewhere in this report you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. The following definitions are provided to help you better understand these terms:

*Non-detects (ND)* - Lab analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present

*Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)* - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

*Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter* - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

*Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l)* - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

*Picograms per liter (pCGL)* - Picograms per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

*Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)* - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

*Action Level* - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

*Treatment Technique (TT)* - a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

*Maximum Contaminant Level, or MCL* - the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

*Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, or MCLG* - the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

*Variance and exemption* - state or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

*Water Point (WP)* - place where water from the source or sources after the application of any treatment is delivered to the distribution system.

**WATER QUALITY RESULTS**

We constantly monitor for various contaminants in the water supply to meet all regulatory requirements. The tables list only those contaminants that had some level of detection. Many other contaminants have been analyzed but were not present or were below the detection limits of the lab equipment.

Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL's) are set at very stringent levels by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. In developing the standards EPA assumes that the average adult drinks 2 liters of water each day throughout a 70-year life span. EPA generally sets MCL's at levels that will result in no adverse health effects for some contaminants or a one-in-ten-thousand to one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect for other contaminants.

**REGULATED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM:**

**Microbiological**

Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Unit Measurement	Violation	Date of Sample	Typical Source of Contamination
<b>Total Coliform Bacteria</b> Town of Stephens City	--	0	0	Presence or Absence	--	Monthly	Naturally present in the environment
Frederick Co. Sanitary Authority	0	0	1	Presence of coliform bacteria in >5% of samples per month	09/2013		

**Disinfection Byproduct Contaminants**

Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Unit Measurement	Violation	Date of Sample	Typical Source of Contamination
<b>Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)</b> Town of Stephens City	0	80	20.3 (avg.) Range 16 - 26	ppb	--	12/2012	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Frederick County Sanitation Authority	0	60	21.8 (avg.) Range 13 - 35	ppb	NO	10/2012	
<b>Halacetic Acid (HAA5)</b> Town of Stephens City	0	60	13.4 (avg.) Range 7.7 - 18	ppb	--	12/2012	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Frederick County Sanitation Authority	0	60	13.8 (avg.) Range 8.9 - 21	ppb	NO	10/2012	

**Disinfection Residual Contaminants**

Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Unit Measurement	Violation	Date of Sample	Typical Source of Contamination
<b>Chlorine</b> Town of Stephens City	4	4	2.13 (avg.) Range 1.4 - 2.6	mg/l	--	Monthly	Water additive used to control microbes
Frederick County Sanitation Authority	4	4	2.47 (avg.) Range 1.8 - 3.2	mg/l	NO	Monthly	

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**WATER QUALITY RESULTS**

We constantly monitor for various contaminants in the water supply to meet all regulatory requirements. The tables list only those contaminants that had some level of detection. Many other contaminants have been analyzed but were not present or were below the detection limits of the lab equipment.

Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL's) are set at very stringent levels by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. In developing the standards EPA assumes that the average adult drinks 2 liters of water each day throughout a 70-year life span. EPA generally sets MCL's at levels that will result in no adverse health effects for some contaminants or a one-in-ten-thousand to one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect for other contaminants.

**REGULATED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM:**

**Microbiological**

Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Unit Measurement	Violation	Date of Sample	Typical Source of Contamination
<b>Total Coliform Bacteria</b> Town of Stephens City	--	0	0	Presence or Absence	--	Monthly	Naturally present in the environment
Frederick Co. Sanitary Authority	0	0	0	Presence of coliform bacteria in >5% of samples per month	NO		

**Disinfection Byproduct Contaminants**

Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Unit Measurement	Violation	Date of Sample	Typical Source of Contamination
<b>Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)</b> Town of Stephens City	0	80	20.5 (avg.) Range 12 - 28	ppb	--	12/2012	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Frederick County Sanitation Authority	0	60	18.2 (avg.) Range 12 - 30	ppb	NO	10/2012	
<b>Halacetic Acid (HAA5)</b> Town of Stephens City	0	60	12.3 (avg.) Range 7.2 - 17	ppb	--	12/2012	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Frederick County Sanitation Authority	0	60	11.6 (avg.) Range 7.7 - 21	ppb	NO	10/2012	

**Disinfection Residual Contaminants**

Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Unit Measurement	Violation	Date of Sample	Typical Source of Contamination
<b>Chlorine</b> Town of Stephens City	4	4	1.99 (avg.) Range 1.5 - 2.3	mg/l	--	Monthly	Water additive used to control microbes
Frederick County Sanitation Authority	4	4	2.46 (avg.) Range 1.7 - 3.2	mg/l	NO	Monthly	

**Radiological Contaminants**

Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Level found	Unit Measurement	Violation	Date of Sample	Typical Source of Contamination
Gross Alpha James Diehl WTP James T. Anderson WTP	0	15	-- 1.9 ND	pCi/l	-- NO NO	-- 07/2008 04/2013	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta Emitters James Diehl WTP James T. Anderson WTP	0	50	-- 3.1 2.9	pCi/l	-- NO NO	-- 07/2008 04/2013	Decay of natural or manmade deposits
Combined Radium James Diehl WTP James T. Anderson WTP	0	5	-- 2.1 ND	pCi/l	-- NO NO	-- 07/2008 04/2013	Erosion of natural deposits

**Inorganic Contaminants**

Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Found	Unit Measurement	Violation	Date of Sample	Typical Source of Contamination
Barium James Diehl WTP James Anderson WTP	2	2	-- 0.047 0.061	mg/l	-- NO NO	-- 10/2013 07/2013	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate James Diehl WTP James Anderson WTP	10	10	-- 1.83 2.77	mg/l	-- NO NO	-- 10/2013 07/2013	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride James Diehl WTP James Anderson WTP	4	4	-- 1.07 0.95	mg/l	-- NO NO	-- 10/2013 07/2013	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories; Water additive which promotes strong teeth

**VIOLATION INFORMATION**

The Town of Stephens City was in full compliance with all water quality, monitoring, and reporting requirements and no violations occurred during the calendar year 2013.

The Frederick County Sanitation Authority was in full compliance with all water quality, monitoring, and reporting requirements and no violations occurred during the calendar year 2013.

The waterworks owners prepared this Drinking Water Quality Report with the assistance and approval of the Virginia Department of Health (VDH). Please call if you have questions.

Signature: Michael Kehoe  
Date: 6/4/14

## Town Calendar of Events

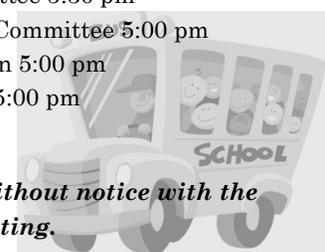
**July 2014**

- July 1 **Town Council**  
7:30 pm
- July 4 **Happy 4th of July -**  
**Town Offices**  
**Closed**
- July 8 Personnel Committee 6:00 pm
- July 15 Historic Preservation 5:00 pm
- July 17 Public Works Committee 4:30 pm  
Water/Sewer Committee 5:00 pm
- July 18 Newtown Heritage Festival Committee 7:00 pm
- July 22 Finance Committee 5:00 pm
- July 24 Public Safety Committee 5:00 pm
- July 28 Parks & Recreation Commission 5:00 pm
- July 29 Planning Commission 7:30 pm



**August 2014**

- August 4 **Water/Sewer Bills Due without penalty.**
- August 5 **Town Council Meeting 7:30 pm.**
- August 5 **Penalties added to Water/Sewer Bills**
- August 11 **Water Shut Off Date**
- August 12 Personnel Committee 5:00 pm
- August 14 Newtown Heritage Festival Committee 7:00 pm
- August 14 **Back to School for Frederick Co. Students**
- August 19 Historic Preservation Commission 5:00 pm
- August 21 Public Works Committee 4:30 pm  
Water/Sewer Committee 5:30 pm
- August 25 Parks & Recreation Committee 5:00 pm
- August 26 Planning Commission 5:00 pm
- August 27 Finance Committee 5:00 pm
- August 28 Public Safety



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