

## “From the Duck Blind...” Manager’s Memo



August is our unofficial end of summer, as school starts back. This will severely impact the Town of Troutman as we have had numerous weeks of reprieve from the horrendous three-hour traffic congestion. Having four county schools and one charter school in our town limits, and them hustling over 5000 students and adults on and off campus twice a day, the congestion will return. The congestion of traffic is one of the areas, Town Council and especially staff look at when deciding growth for the future. If a developer offers a significant age targeted portion in a development project for example, that certainly cuts down on the future traffic counts. The demands of high traffic to load and unload 5 or 6 schools twice a day is no longer as pressing. The pressing need for more schools dissipates. Also, it brings in the question are new schools needed. Would it not make more sense to build them in areas where the population is greater instead of continuing to build them in Troutman and busing kids here? Straight to the point, if Statesville is growing and already has 30,000 in population, why build more new schools in Troutman and continue to bus Statesville children to Troutman which has a population of 3800?

The record of above 90-degree temperature days for the summer is surely to be broken for this area according to the weather experts. Some hate to see the long days and the high temperatures leave. I know there have been plenty of children at the splash pad in Troutman ESC Park enjoying lots of play time there. But the grassy areas at the ball fields, soccer fields and some of the newly planted areas suffered honestly. Other people are ready for the temperatures to decline. We are hoping for an opportunity to get a chance to seed and plant lots of areas in the park soon and with appropriate rainfall to get those areas right with grass. I am ready to say goodbye to the “dog days” of summer 2022. “To plant a Garden is to believe in tomorrow” ~ Audrey Hepburn, she later added “but don’t forget, it has to be tended too for true potential and get the weeds out”

## Upcoming Events:

### SANDLOT BASESBALL



The officers of the Troutman Police Department will be hosting a second baseball event on Saturday August 13<sup>th</sup> for youth from elementary to high school age. The purpose of the event is to bring back the fun of classic pickup games of baseball from the past. Officers will be helping oversee the event, umpire games, and act as coaches for the players. We hope this event will allow youth and parents to develop a sense of community, make new friends, and bring back the fun of playing just to play the game. There is no registration required and the event will last from 6pm until dark at Troutman ESC Park. Players will need to bring their own bat, glove, and helmet for batting. If there are any question please call the Police Department at (704)528-7610 or email

[jwatson@troutmannnc.gov](mailto:jwatson@troutmannnc.gov).

## Town Schedules

### August 2022

No collection : Leaf Collection

August 1 & 2 : Limb Collection

8/2: Blue Recycling Day (if your trash is picked up on Tuesday; Weathers Creek, Sanders Ridge and Tradesmen Trail)

8/4: Design Review Board: 3pm

8/3.: Blue Recycling Day (if your trash is picked up Mon/Wed/Thurs. except Parkwood, Falls Park, Twinn Coves, & Falls Cove at Lake Norman)

8/8: Agenda Briefing Meeting: 4pm

8/9: Green Recycling Day (if your trash is picked up on Tuesday)

8/10: Green Recycling Day for Parkwood, Falls Park, Twinn Coves, and Falls Cove at Lake Norman

8/11: Town Council Meeting: 7pm

8/15: Parks & Rec. Committee: 3:30pm

8/16: Blue Recycling Day (if your trash is picked up on Tuesday; Weathers Creek, Sanders Ridge & Tradesmen Trail)

8/17: Blue Recycling Day for Parkwood, Falls Park, Twinn Coves, Falls Cove at Lake Norman

8/18: Board of Adjustment: 3pm

8/22: Planning & Zoning Board: 7pm

8/23: Green Recycling Day (if your trash is picked up on Tuesday)

8/24: Green Recycling Day for Parkwood, Falls Park, Twinn Coves, and Falls Cove at Lake Norman

8/30: Blue Recycling Day (if your trash is picked up on Tuesday; Weathers Creek, Sanders Ridge & Tradesmen Trail)

8/31: Blue Recycling Day for Parkwood, Falls Park, Twinn Coves, Falls Cove at Lake Norman

All town meetings are open to the public and are held at Troutman Town Hall, 400 N. Eastway Dr. Troutman, NC



## Volume 11—Issue 8 The Whistle Stop Monthly Newsletter August 2022

### Council Briefs—A Summary of Significant Council Actions

#### Consent Agenda Items Approved:

- Approved Resolution 28-22 Titled: “Resolution Ratifying The Updated Charter Of Centralina Regional Council”
- Approved to Accept Fee in Lieu of Sidewalk –Weathers Creek Dewitt
- Approved to Amend the Town of Troutman Schedule of Fees
- Approved to Amend Policy # 29 Titled: “Town of Troutman Water and Sewer Service Policy”
- \*\*6a. Approved a Rural Economic Development Grant Agreement (Building Re-use Program)

#### Standing Reports:

- ABC Store Quarterly Report presented by Evelyn Walls, General Manager

#### New Business

- Approved Annexation Request AX-22-02 (Contiguous) Applicant: Steven & Emily Geyer; 0.42(+/-) acres; PIN 4741067406 (126 Gilchrist Lane)
- Approved a 1 month deferral for Annexation Request AX-22-03 (Contiguous) Applicant: Touché, LLC/Troutman Townes; 1.19(+/-) acres; PIN 4741327896 (681 South Eastway Drive)

#### Consider Appointments to Town of Troutman Boards and Committees

- Approved appointment of Mark Michel to the Planning and Zoning Board as Inside Voting member for a 2 year term.
- Approved appointment of Tonya Barlett to the Planning and Zoning Board as an inside Alternate member for a 3 year term.
- Approved Re-appointment of Inside Voting Member Darryl Hall for 3 year term.
- Approved Re-appointment of Inside Voting Member Michelle Peck for 3 year term.

### In This Issue:

- Council Briefs: A Summary of Significant Council Actions
- Town Meetings Schedule, Leaf & Limb Schedules
- Troutman Police Sandlot and School Traffic Reminder
- Troutman Planning Department: Effects of Erosion Control
- New Utility Payment System
- Parks & Recreation Events
- Upcoming Events

### WATER RATE INCREASE

Water rate Increase went into effect July 1st, 2022.

Trash and recycling fees increased to \$7.75 per month for Town residents.

Please see the Town’s website for additional information concerning the FY22-23 budget or contact the Finance department at Town Hall– 704-528-7600. [www.troutmannnc.gov](http://www.troutmannnc.gov)

## Town of Troutman Governing Body

### Mayor:

Teross W. Young, Jr.

### Councilmembers:

- W. Paul Henkel- Mayor Pro Tem
- Felina L. Harris
- Edward R. Nau
- George W. Harris
- Jerry R. Oxsher



Troutman is governed by a Mayor and a five member Town Council. All elected positions are non-partisan. The Town Council has regularly scheduled meetings on the second Thursday of each month at Town Hall. All meetings are open to the public.

## New Utility Payment System

The Town of Troutman has a new online utility payment system. You can view your account and make payments online through "MyGovHub". You will have to register and set up your new account on the portal. The easiest way to access the portal is by going to our website ([www.troutmannnc.gov](http://www.troutmannnc.gov)) and clicking "Pay Online" on the scrolling bar in the middle of the page. Instructions on setting up your online account can be found under the "Utility Billing" section on the Town's website.

We are also excited to have a new automated phone payment system. You can call 704-946-5612 to make a credit card payment by phone. You will need to have your account number ready that is listed on your monthly paper bill. The convenience fee for this transaction is \$3.00.

Please call Town Hall at 704-528-7600 with any questions.

## Planning & Zoning Department: Effects of Erosion Control

What is Erosion Control? The easy answer is that it is the action of water flow or wind, removing soil, rock and other debris from property and depositing it into streams, on adjacent properties, as well as onto streets and sidewalks. Erosion also takes place as a result of construction projects. Development sites remove vegetation from land and create situations during the construction phase of a project where rainfall and wind can create negative impacts to neighboring properties if erosion control measures are not put into place.

To mitigate these impacts, Iredell County requires all construction projects over 1-acre in size (1/2-acre in water supply watershed areas) to acquire an erosion control permit. This permit requires developers maintain all run off on-site, and it is the responsibility of Iredell County Erosion Control to ensure all requirements of an issued permit are being adhered to.

While the responsibility of erosion control falls to the County, in an effort to ensure safe streets, the Town of Troutman has adopted an ordinance requiring developers' clean mud and debris from roadways and sidewalks, and to apply civil penalties when this does not occur within an established timeframe.

If you are experiencing the effects of soil erosion you can contact Iredell Erosion Control at 704-878-3118 ext.3144. If you see mud and debris on the streets near a construction site you can contact the Troutman Planning Department at 704-528-7600.

## Park & Recreation: Events coming up



### Trails and Treats is coming

**October 31, 2022!**

If your business or organization is interested in participating as a vendor in **Trails & Treats**, please contact [ewatson@troutmannnc.gov](mailto:ewatson@troutmannnc.gov). This event takes place on Halloween day, from 4pm-6pm on the paved trail within Troutman ESC Park. This offers a safe, family-friendly holiday option for our community. Mark your calendars!

## Welcome!

Welcome Erica Sympson to the Town of Troutman staff as our new Customer Service Representative/Utility Billing Specialist. You will see her friendly smile in the drive-thru and in the front office of Town Hall. She joins us with many years of customer service experience, and we are excited to have her on the team.



## Pool Adjustments

If you have a swimming pool and need to fill it with water, please contact Town Hall. We will send a Public Works employee out to your home to get a meter reading prior to filling, and then again after completion. The Billing Clerk will then adjust the sewer charge for the water used to fill the pool. This procedure will apply to permanent swimming pools, which can be defined as either above or below ground– but must have a filtration system.

## Troutman PD: School Traffic Reminder



With school starting back on August 29<sup>th</sup> it is important for drivers to be aware that school buses will be back out and that there will be students who walk to and from school each day. State law requires drivers to stop for a stopped school bus and drivers must yield the right of way to pedestrians in marked crosswalks. Officers will be out helping with traffic control and ensuring motorists are obeying these laws to ensure that students are safe while traveling.

Another important issue with school starting back is the traffic pattern for Troutman Elementary and Troutman Middle School during drop off in the mornings. All traffic must travel from Era Street to Rumble Street to gain access to the school. Leon Street is closed to thru traffic between the hours of 7 am and 7:30 am on school days. We hope that everyone has a safe start to the school year.



## Troutman Public Works Department

### Wet Well Cleaning

#### Overview

July is another busy month for Public Works. This month, multiple tasks are due for completion, such as street herbicide application, mowing, grounds maintenance, and sewer pump station wet well cleaning. We'll highlight wet well cleaning this time.

#### What is a wet well?

Wet wells are underground holding tanks that store wastewater until it reaches a set level which then triggers pump activation to empty the well and send it to the treatment plant.

**Why do they need to be cleaned?** Wet wells are pumped out and cleaned at least annually, or more often if necessary, to prevent solids and grease build-up. The build-up of solids such as grease and other debris can create odors and cause damage to the pumps. They are cleaned using high-volume hydro vacs. Larger debris that can't be removed by machinery requires confined space entry into the well to remove items manually. As always, do not hesitate to contact us with any issues related to water, sewer, streets, & grounds. If you encounter a water or sewer emergency after hours, we are available 24/7 with our emergency call back program (704-682-3835).

The Town of Troutman Public Works Department