



# AROUND THE ROCK

June 2025

## 2026 APPROVED BUDGET

Approved at the June 10th Council Meeting

### KEY POINTS

- There is **no** property tax rate increase this year
- There is a 7% increase on the water/sewer rate due to ongoing increased costs in materials, supplies and debt service requirements. This equates to a \$4 increase per 3,000 gallons.
  - The bimonthly rate for up to 3,000 water gallons is now \$63.00.
  - The bimonthly rate for up to 3,000 gallons of sewer process is now also \$63.00. So, the new bimonthly water and sewer minimum (usage of 0-3,000 gallons) is \$126.00.
  - For water consumption over 3,000 gallons: \$63.00 + \$7.88 per 1,000 gallons (after the initial 3,000).
  - For sewer usage over 3,000 gallons: \$63.00 + \$7.88 per 1,000 gallons (after the initial 3,000).
  - The rate increase will take effect July 1, 2025.
- The Republic recycling rate has increase by \$2.00 bimonthly.
- Capital Outlay Requests: Capital Outlay proposed in the General Fund is \$415,554.00, which is a slight increase from last year.
  - The Town placed emphasis on funding items that were deemed critical to life safety, infrastructure maintenance, or continuity of operations for the Town.
  - Capital items includes IT upgrades, a new Financial Software package, one new police car, a new chipper truck, dump truck, and snow plows, along with a new mini truck and gator for landscaping.
- The Approved 2026 Fiscal Year Budget can be found on the Town website at [townofblowingrocknc.gov](http://townofblowingrocknc.gov).

*To see the budget discussions in their entirety, visit our YouTube channel by searching "Town of Blowing Rock". Be sure to hit "subscribe" to be notified when there's a live stream or new recording.*

### Important Numbers

#### Town Administrative Offices

Town Hall..... (828) 295-5200  
Planning & Inspections.. (828) 295-5240  
Parks & Recreation..... (828) 295-5222

#### Non-Emergency

Police Administration.... (828) 295-5212  
Fire Administration..... (828) 548-2800

#### After Hours (Water & Sewer)

Emergency..... (828) 295-5210  
Emergency Police & Fire..... 911

#### Local Area Services

BR Post Office..... (800) 275-8777  
Aho Road Landfill..... (828) 264-5305  
Landfill Hours: M,W,F: 6:30am-7:00pm,  
Sat: 8:00am-7:00pm

### Upcoming Meetings

(All Meetings Are in Town Hall)

#### Town Council

(Second Tuesday of the month)  
July 8th at 6:00pm

#### Planning Board

(Third Thursday of the month)  
July 17th at 5:30pm

#### Town Council

(Second Tuesday of the month)  
August 12th at 6:00pm

### Upcoming Events

Office Closure: 4th of July  
July 4th

4th of July Parade & Festival  
July 5th

Art in the Park & Concert in the Park  
July 12th & July 13th

Grandfather Mountain  
Highland Games  
July 10-12th

Blowing Rock Charity Horse Show  
Begins July 22nd

Blowing Rock Tour of Homes  
July 25th

Symphony by the Lake at Chetola  
July 25th

Stay up to date on events, meetings, and Town notices through our Facebook or by joining our email list. You can join the email list by emailing [admin@tobr.us](mailto:admin@tobr.us).

# Blowing Rock Updates

## Memorial Park: Phase 2

Progress continues to make great strides on the Memorial Park: Phase 2 Improvements. The new climbing equipment portion and volleyball court of the playground is now open! Additional concrete work continues to take place. All the park additions are on schedule for completion in the fall.



Now in Progress  
With Completion  
**Fall 2025**

### Additions Include

- Ⓐ Sidewalk on Wallingford
- Ⓑ Tennis Courts
- Ⓒ Volleyball Court
- Ⓓ Climbing Wall
- Ⓔ Pickleball Courts
- Ⓕ Shuffleboard
- Ⓖ Picnic Shelter



## Main Street Paving

The paving of Main Street is already underway! Main Street, 221 to Green Street, and the top of Globe Road to Wallingford will be paved. **Paving will be Sundays to Thursdays from 7:00pm-7:00am. No daytime or weekend work.** There will also be no work completed the week of July 3rd-7th.



## Childcare Case Study

After the Blowing Rock Academy was recognized as part of the Watauga Childcare Legislative Day in January, folks across the state have been taking notice. One of those that reached out early on was Duke University and the Center for Child and Family Policy. After a meeting and visit, the Town participated in a case study regarding the childcare center as a part of research being performed at Duke with regards to solving the childcare crisis. We have some exciting news! The study has been officially published (the entire case study can be found on the Town website).

Here's a final thought from the Duke Center for Child & Family Policy Case Study:

*The case of Blowing Rock Academy is an extraordinary testament to a community wide commitment to employee well-being. Throughout the process, Fox and others have embraced learning from and responding to challenges in an effort to transform an informal phenomenon to a high-quality benefit. Tackling childcare as a benefit ultimately requires a commitment to innovation and flexibility. Today, Blowing Rock Academy is one of the many reasons the town functions more smoothly and reliably than ever.*

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to the remarkable citizens, staff, and Council of Blowing Rock for your innovative thinking, generous support, and investment to our dedicated team. Thank you for being an essential part of our professional and personal growths.



## Fats, Oils and Grease

*Avoid disposing of these items down your sink:*

**Meat - Food Scraps - Butter - Baking Goods - Lard Sauces - Dairy Products - Cooking Oil - Fats**

- Never pour grease down sink drains or into toilets.
- Scrape grease and food scraps from kitchen items, grills, and cooking surfaces into a can or the trash.
- Do not put grease down garbage disposals.
- Put strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps, and empty the drain strainers for disposal.