



Town of Mars Hill
PO Box 368
280 N. Main Street
Mars Hill, NC 28754

MARS HILL LETTER

A Publication of the Town of Mars Hill, N.C.

SUMMER 2025

Phone: (828) 689-2301

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www.townofmarshill.org

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

DAVID RICE RETIRES FROM TOWN SERVICE

David Rice is a familiar face to residents of the Town of Mars Hill. David has worked as the sanitation truck driver for over 10 years. David has a spotless safe driving record, logging thousands of miles over the years.

At the end of June, David is retiring from his employment with the Town. We are all going to miss David's smiling face and know Town residents will too!

Please join us in thanking David for his hard work and tireless service to the Town of Mars Hill. Congratulations, David, and best wishes on your future adventures!



TOWN RECEIVES NCDEQ GRANTS TO CONDUCT WATER & SEWER SYSTEM STUDY

The Town of Mars Hill has been awarded two Asset Inventory and Assessment grants from the NC Department of Environmental Quality. The grants, one for the water system and one for the wastewater system, are \$150,000 each and will provide funding to facilitate the Town's ability to conduct thorough study and analysis of the water and sewer system assets and operations. The Town will develop an Asset Management Plan (AMP) which will help create a systematic process for assessing, repairing, and replacing critical assets for the Town's water and sewer utility. The project will include a full asset inventory and assessment of the condition of the Town's water and sewer systems, update system maps on GIS, a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), an Operation and Maintenance Plan, and a financial model to schedule annual expenditures required to fund proposed capital improvements, including a rate study to reflect the potential for necessary changes to the Town's rates or rate structure to fund projects identified in the CIP. These major financial awards will position the Town to continue providing superior service to the residents of the Town of Mars Hill.

ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT AVAILABLE

The Town of Mars Hill has released the "Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2024." This report contains details about our water source, what the water contains, and how it compares to standards set by state and federal regulators. The report can be viewed on the Town website at: <http://www.townofmarshill.org/ccr.php>. A paper copy can be obtained upon request at Town Hall.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION JULY 4TH

The Town of Mars Hill Independence Day Festival and Fireworks Celebration will be held Friday, July 4th on Athletic Street and in MHU's Meares Football Stadium. Festivities begin at 5:00 p.m., and will culminate with a fabulous fireworks display at approximately 9:30 p.m. by the Mars Hill Fire Department.

There will be inflatables, games, and other entertainment. A professional DJ will be providing music throughout the evening. Food trucks will line Athletic Street providing a range of delicious offerings, from pizza and BBQ to icy treats and specialty donuts. Food vendors include: Diggy Donuts, The Sweet Retreat, Pelican's Sno Balls, Hog Hollow Pizza, Hit the Pit BBQ, Madison Youth Softball Lemonade Stand, and MHU Refreshments.

The Town is thankful for our valuable partners in this festival, Mars Hill University and Mars Hill VFW Post 5483. We are grateful for our friends at Mars Hill University, particularly President Tony Floyd, and his great team, for their support of this event. In addition, members of Mars Hill VFW Post 5483, under the leadership of commander Chris Ledford, go above the call of duty to help us honor our nation and the freedoms we celebrate each July. We hope to see everyone in Mars Hill this July 4th!

POOL OPEN FOR SUMMER FUN; CHILD SWIM LESSONS AVAILABLE

The Town of Mars Hill Recreation Park Pool is open for the summer and will operate through early August. Hours of operation are Monday-Saturday, noon to 5:00 p.m., and Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Town offers beginner swimming

lessons this season. See the ad in this newsletter for details. To register for swim lessons, obtain a seasonal pool pass, or schedule a pool party, please visit Town Hall at 280 N. Main Street or call (828) 689-2301 for more information. Have a happy and safe summer! We'll see you at the pool!



TOWN OF MARS HILL PARKS & RECREATION

SWIMMING LESSONS FOR YOUR KIDS

2 WEEKS, BEGINNER AND YOUTH AGES 5-12

SESSION 1: JUNE 23 - 27
SESSION 2: JUNE 30 - JULY 4
SESSION 3: JULY 14 - 18
SPACE IS LIMITED

\$100
FIVE LESSONS IN 4 WEEKS

YOUTH @ 10 AM BEGINNER @ 11 AM

RECREATION PARK POOL
650 PARK DRIVE, MARS HILL
FOR MORE INFO, CALL OR VISIT:
MARS HILL TOWN HALL
280 N. MAIN STREET
(828) 689-2301

WWW.TOWNOFMARSHILL.ORG

MAYOR & ALDERMEN APPROVE BUDGET

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen received the budget presentation and held a public hearing on the FY 2025-26 budget at the June 2nd meeting. The budget was approved and is effective July 1st setting the Town's financial operations plan through June 30, 2026. The general fund budget is \$3,425,450 and the water and sewer fund is \$1,436,437.

It is the priority of elected officials and management to operate Town government in a professional, efficient, business-like manner. The budget provides a priority spending plan that attempts to minimize the tax burden on the Town taxpayer. The Town's primary general fund sources of revenue are property, sales, and utility franchise taxes.

There is no change to the property tax rate for Fiscal Year 2025-26. The property tax rate is set at \$0.34 (thirty-four) cents per \$100 (one-hundred dollars) of valuation.

The water and sewer fund is an enterprise function which is required by the State of North Carolina to be supported only by the revenue generated from the service provided. In keeping with established Town policy, there will be a 2.5% increase in water and sewer usage fees. This increase is necessary to keep the water and sewer fund solvent while providing safe drinking water, processing wastewater, and making necessary capital improvements to the water and sewer system.

The budget message and ordinance are available on the Town website: <https://townofmarshill.org/agenda.php>.

DATES OF INTEREST

July 4....Independence Day Holiday

Town Offices Closed

July 4....First Friday Event – Main and College Street – 4:00 p.m.

July 4....Mars Hill Fourth of July Festival Celebration – 5-10 p.m.

FIREWORKS @ 9:30 p.m.

Athletic Street and MHU Stadium

August 1....First Friday Event – Main and College Street

September 1....Labor Day Holiday

Town Offices Closed

Trash Pickup on Tuesday, September 2nd



TO REGISTER: TEXT **ALERTMARSHILL** to 24639.

SART SEASON 51: A SEASON OF ARTISTRY

A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE

BY TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

June
13-22

NOISES OFF

BY MICHAEL FRAYN

July
11-20

SMOKE ON THE MOUNTAIN

BOOK BY CONNIE RAY
CONCEIVED BY ALAN BAILEY
MUSICAL ARRANGEMENTS BY MIKE CRAVER & MARK HARDWICK

July 25
to
August
3

TAIL OF THE BELL

BY GABRIEL NEUSTADT

August
7-10

SARTPLAYS.COM

MARS HILL
Fourth Of July
Celebration Festival

Food Trucks ★ Games & Inflatables ★ Music

FIREWORKS
Sponsored by:
TOWN OF MARS HILL
in partnership with
MHU & Mars Hill VFW POST 5483

July 4, 2025
5 - 10 PM

FREE ENTRY

ATHLETIC ST.
MHU STADIUM

www.townofmarshill.org