



# THE CURRENT

Bridgewater's Monthly Newsletter

July 2026 • Volume 48, Number 7

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## Municipal Calendar

July 3

Eve of Independence

July 4

Recycle Center & Sipe Center  
Closed

July 6

Large Item Pickup Begins

July 14, 7:00 pm

Town Council Meeting

July 15-18

Lawn Party

July 27-31

Summer Camp

## B-Town Opportunities

**Sandy Bottom Mini-Golf** is open daily, 12:00 - 9:00 pm, and **Par-3** is open daily 6:00 am - dusk. Both are free for residents with a B-Rec Card.

**Give the gift of life** by donating blood on August 11. Register at [bridgewater.town/blooddrive](http://bridgewater.town/blooddrive).



Thanks to a recently awarded AARP Community Challenge grant, two water fountains similar to this will be installed in Oakdale Park later this fall.

## B-Hydrated: Town Receives AARP Grant

We are thrilled to announce that Bridgewater has been selected to receive a 2026 AARP Community Challenge grant. This year, only 750 grantees were chosen from 5,100 applications from across all 50 states, Washington D.C., Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

With this quick-action grant, we will purchase and install two new outdoor water bottle fillers with ADA drinking fountains and pet bowls at Oakdale Park. These will replace the existing, aging water fountains. This upgrade will continue to make Oakdale a go-to recreational space for playground visitors, ballplayers, picnickers, and dog walkers alike.

The goal of this "B-Hydrated" project is to encourage an active, healthy

lifestyle by providing park visitors with accessible, clean, quality drinking water. The upgrade will also advance our efforts to make Bridgewater a place where people of all ages can thrive.

"We are incredibly proud that AARP selected the Town for this investment to help make Bridgewater more livable for residents of all ages," stated Katie Newman, Recreation Coordinator. "AARP is a national leader in supporting communities to become more livable, and we are honored they recognize the value and impact this project will bring to our area."

The AARP grant of \$12,950 will cover the costs of materials and supplies. We expect the new water fountains to be installed by Town staff in the fall.

## Summer Fitness Series: Zumba

Join us for Zumba on Mondays in July from 5:30 to 6:15 pm at Arey Hall (the basement at 201 Green Street) for an energizing cardio workout! Each week, an enthusiastic and experienced instructor from the RMH Wellness Center will lead participants through a fun, high-energy dance fitness class designed for all fitness levels. No dance experience is needed—just come ready to move and enjoy a mix of Latin-inspired rhythms like salsa, merengue, and cumbia, along with today’s popular hits. This fitness series is open exclusively to Bridgewater residents. Please remember to bring your B-Rec membership card to each class.



### Summer Cinema Series

Take a break from the heat and join us at Sipe Center for Free Kids Movies this summer!

Wednesdays 10:30 am & 1:30 pm	Thursdays 12:30 pm & 3:30 pm
<b>The Angry Birds Movie</b> July 1	<b>The Flintstones</b> July 2
<b>The Angry Birds Movie 2</b> July 8	<b>The Little Rascals</b> July 9
<b>Hotel Transylvania</b> July 15	<b>The Great Muppet Caper</b> July 16
<b>Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs</b> - July 22	<b>How to Train Your Dragon (2025)</b> - July 23
<b>Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2</b> - July 29	<b>Babe</b> July 30

Free popcorn coupons are not redeemable for these movies.

Visit [www.sipecenter.com/summermovies](http://www.sipecenter.com/summermovies) for the rest of the summer schedule.

Tickets are available starting thirty minutes before showtime. Don't forget to pick up your Kid's Combo for just \$4.90 + tax on your way in.



## After Dark at Gen Park

### Free Summer Concert Series

Saturdays, 7:30 - 9:30 pm  
Generations Park

Join us for two great evenings in our After Dark at Gen Park outdoor summer concert series this month!

#### Jessi Pugh July 11

Indie pop country artist in Bridgewater

#### Chris Sacks Band July 25

Summertime beach music vibe

Visit [bridgewater.town/afterdark](http://bridgewater.town/afterdark) for the rest of the summer schedule.

Bring your lawn chair and blankets, or you can dance the night away! Outside food and non-alcoholic drinks permitted.

## Weathering the Drought

As you have likely heard, Bridgewater—along with the rest of Virginia—is currently experiencing drought conditions. As a Town, we have implemented some precautions to conserve groundwater including limiting the watering of annuals and grass and washing vehicles less frequently. If you notice thirsty plants and a dry pond at Mini-Golf or a dusty car, please know that it is not neglect on our part but an effort to conserve water. To find out more about what we are doing and what you can do to help, read our Buzz article at [bridgewater.town/drought](http://bridgewater.town/drought).

## Junior Ranger Ice Cream Social



Calling all past, current, and future Junior Rangers! Join us for a summer celebration of park exploration at our newest park, Shiverwood Park (on Don Litten Parkway beside Smiley's Ice Cream), on Thursday, July 9 from 7:00 to 8:00 pm.

Enjoy complimentary ice cream from Smiley's Ice Cream at the Shiverwood shelter, spend time with fellow Junior Rangers, and have fun on the playground. Don't forget to bring your Junior Ranger booklet. If you haven't explored Shiverwood yet, you'll have the chance to earn your park sticker, as well as receive stickers for any other parks you've recently visited.

Have you completed your booklet? We'll administer the Junior Ranger oath and officially welcome you as a Junior Ranger during the social!

Haven't signed your child up yet? This is the perfect opportunity to join the program and kick off a summer of outdoor adventure and exploration.

Learn more about the program at [bridgewater.town/ranger](http://bridgewater.town/ranger).



## Change in Trash Collection Days

We recently solicited bids for the Town's trash collection contract, and we are pleased to report that

Waste Management will continue serving as our waste service provider. We have been pleased with their reliable and professional service since we first contracted them.

While we trust that they will continue to provide that same level of service we are accustomed to, Waste Management has informed us that they will be changing one of our collection days. Beginning the week of July 13, Waste Management customers who are currently scheduled for Monday collection will instead be moved to Wednesdays. Tuesday collection will not be changed.

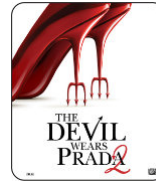
Trash collection for **Monday customers** will move to **Wednesdays** beginning the week of **July 13**. **Tuesday customers and BRC residents** will be unaffected.

## This Month at Sipe Center

### Movies Coming Soon...



Animal Farm



The Devil Wears Prada 2



The Mandalorian & Grogu



The Breadwinner

See [www.sipecenter.com/movies](http://www.sipecenter.com/movies) for showtimes and tickets!

### The Lord of the Rings Free Movie Series



Relive the epic trilogy on the big screen!  
 July 2, 6:00 pm - *The Fellowship of the Ring*  
 July 3, 6:00 pm - *The Two Towers*  
 July 5, 2:00 pm - *The Return of the King*  
 All showings are theatrical release versions.  
 Tickets available one hour before show.

### Live Performances

**The Nashville Nights Band**  
 Saturday, July 18, 7:30 pm  
 Tickets \$35

Ultimate '90s Country Experience



Visit [www.sipecenter.com/liveperformances](http://www.sipecenter.com/liveperformances) for tickets!

### Harris Concert Series

Sundays, 7:00-8:00 pm

Solid Ground - July 12

Gospel music with a country sound

Cantore - July 19

A cappella men's group

Boogie Kings - July 26

A mix of ragtime, rock, and boogie woogie

Free & open to the public. Seating is general admission on a first-come, first-served basis.



**Sipe Center Box Office**

Open Thursday – Sunday

3:00 – 8:00 pm

(540) 908-4208

[www.sipecenter.com](http://www.sipecenter.com)



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## Local Postal Customer

### Project Status Updates

#### Riverwalk III

Received authorization to solicit bids; bids are due July 30.

#### Gen Oak II

Awaiting authorization from VDOT to solicit bids.

#### Crosswalk Signals

VDOT has authorized us to award the bid for construction.

#### Wellness Quarter

Building is just about fully enclosed; work continues on interior. Bricklaying continues outside.

#### Fountainhead Subdivision

Finalizing grant application for water and sewer improvements for submission July 1.

For more information and a full description of these projects, visit [bridgewater.town/projects](http://bridgewater.town/projects).

## Eve of Independence Celebration Set for July 3

Join us on Friday, July 3 for our Eve of Independence Celebration. Enjoy live music at Generations Park beginning at 7:30 pm performed by Everyday People, an 8-piece band that plays '60s and '70s soul, funk, and R&B. We'll have food trucks on site. Fireworks will light up the sky behind the Town Office starting at 9:25 pm. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets, and celebrate the spirit of Independence Day with family, friends, and neighbors!



Generations Park is the place to enjoy live music and to watch the fireworks in celebration of the Eve of Independence.

## Register for the Race to the Bottom 5K



Start your Labor Day celebration with the Race to the Bottom 5K!

Register now for the Race to the Bottom 5K on Labor Day, September 7, starting at 8:00 am. Sign up by August 16 for the reduced rates of \$25 for adults and \$15 for children, and your t-shirt will be guaranteed. Proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society. We welcome participants of all ages and fitness levels. Walkers, strollers, and dogs are all welcome on the course.

Register at [bridgewater.town/5k](http://bridgewater.town/5k), and start preparing for the race!