



City recreation offers tons of fun!



The Beanstalk Adventure Playground at Catawba Meadows Park is a big hit!

Spring is right around the corner and the City of Morganton Parks and Recreation Department has plenty of opportunities for you to get outside, get active, and enjoy the wonderful natural beauty of Morganton!

The City's Parks and Recreation Department maintains more than 400 acres of land inside the city limits developed for recreational use; that includes 10 public parks and the Morganton Greenway

System, all of which are free to the public. The department also provides two recreation centers, an outdoor pool, an indoor pool, and a skeet and trap range. But wait. There's more!

You can sign up to play in one of the youth and adult sports leagues; you can get your exercise on in one of the various fitness programs; you can sign up to learn how to dance,

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Water reports available online

The City's water quality report, also known as the Consumer Confidence Report, is available on the City website at <http://www.morgantonnc.gov/water>. The wastewater system report also is available online at <http://www.morgantonnc.gov/wastewater>.

Submit your nominations for Citizen of the Year by March 18!

The City of Morganton Human Relations Commission is accepting nominations for the Citizen of the Year awards.

The Citizen of the Year awards recognize adult and youth citizens for outstanding volunteer

service to the community, school, or neighborhood. Nominees must be a current resident of Burke County.

Submit nominations to the City of



Morganton Human Resources Dept. or to an HRC member by 5:00 pm Friday, March 18, 2016.

Download a nomination form at <http://bit.ly/1nEoxdV>.

Smith ready to run the show at CoMMA

Dr. W. Jim Smith is looking forward to running the show at CoMMA, and continuing the legacy built by Director Bill Wilson. Smith took over as Director of the City of Morganton Municipal Auditorium Feb. 15, 2016.

City Manager Sally Sandy said that she received many great applications for the director's position, but Smith stood out as the best choice for CoMMA.

"We chose Jim because we think he is the best fit for CoMMA and for the City," Sandy said. "He knows the theater business; he knows CoMMA; he

knows the community; and I think he is the most qualified to continue and build on CoMMA's successes."

Smith certainly does know CoMMA. For the last eight years, Smith has produced Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church's (PRBC) singing Christmas tree show at CoMMA, which has grown to a standing-room-only Christmas season spectacular. (Smith serves as the Music and Programming



Dr. W. Jim Smith
CoMMA Director

Pastor at PRBC.)

In addition to directing PRBC's Christmas show, Smith worked the past five years as an on-call technical assistant at CoMMA, and he and his wife Margaret were instrumental in getting Burke County elementary school students on stage to sing along with one of CoMMA's MainStage season Christmas acts!

Full story at <http://bit.ly/1SdYOX3>.



TGIF starts May 6!

Downtown Morganton's free, Friday-night summer concert series kicks off May 6 with a cruise-in and music by Sol Driven Train! TGIF runs Friday, May 6, through Friday, July 29, and offers **12 free concerts** located on the beautiful Historic Burke County Courthouse square right in the middle of downtown Morganton. Bring your friends, family, and a few lawn chairs or blankets and come have a good time (6pm - 10pm)! Check out the full line up online at <http://bit.ly/1TvbmjM>

Farmers Markets open late April

The Morganton Farmers Market will open Saturday April 30, 2016!

Head to the Saturday Market located at 300 Beach St. behind Morganton Station to pick up lots of fresh produce, local honey, baked goods, handcrafted soaps and sundries, and much more!

The Saturday Market is open 8:00 am to noon from April 30 to Oct. 29, 2016.

www.downtownmorganton.com/farmersmarket



The Wednesday Mini-Market, located at 111 N. Green St., is open 1:00 pm to 5:30 pm May 4 through Oct. 26, 2016.



Holiday Garbage Collection Schedule

Good Friday • Friday, March 25

Garbage collection will be on regular schedule.

Memorial Day • Monday, May 30

No pick up Monday. Collection will be on a one-day delay all week.

Independence Day • Monday, July 4

No pick up Monday. Collection will be on a one-day delay all week.

Labor Day • Monday, Sept. 5

No pick up Monday. Collection will be on a one-day delay all week.

Veteran's Day • Friday, Nov. 11

Garbage collection will be on regular schedule.

Thanksgiving Holiday • Observed

Thursday and Friday, Nov. 24 and 25

Collection will be on schedule Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Thursday's route will be collected a day early on Wednesday.

Christmas Holiday • Observed

Friday Dec. 23 and Monday Dec. 26

Garbage collection will be on regular schedule Dec. 19 - 23. No pick up Monday, Dec. 26. Collection will be on a one-day delay Dec. 26 - 30.

New Year's Day 2017

Observed Monday, Jan. 2, 2017

No pick up Monday. Collection will be on a one-day delay all week.

FUN

From the front

play keyboard or drums, or learn martial arts; or you can just go play at one of the City's awesome playgrounds!

Whether you like to run, walk, or cycle on the greenway, play tennis or shoot hoops at the Collett Street Rec, or swim laps at the Morganton Aquatics Center, there is plenty for you to enjoy in the City of Morganton!

Find out more at <http://www.morgantonnc.gov/recreation>.