



UNION BRIDGE NEWSLETTER

JULY/AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2024

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Council Meeting

Jul 22, Aug 26 & Sep 23 – 7 p.m.

Planning & Zoning Meeting

Jul 18, Aug 15 & Sep 19 - 6:30 p.m.

Council Work Session

Jul 8 (cancelled), Aug 12 & Sep 9 - 6:30 p.m.

Heritage Committee info, contact:

Jim Rowe - President: 410-775-2901 or
email: jimandfrank@verizon.net

Web Page

www.townofub.org

E-mail

unionbr@carr.org

ARTICLES FOR THE
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER/DECEMBER
NEWSLETTER
ARE DUE IN THE TOWN OFFICE BY
September 15, 2024

OFFICE CLOSED

**July 4th & 5th, 2024
Independence Day
&
September 2nd, 2024
Labor Day**

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

The town has been doing a lot of mowing along the park and trail. We coordinate our mowing with the help of Mrs. Keys, and we call her the "Butterfly Lady". The Town has worked with her for the past six to seven years regarding our mowing.

Residents must get a permit for the town to put up fencing around their yards unless replacing new fence in the same spot as the old one taken out. Cost is \$25 and you will find an application on the Town website. You must submit a sketch of your fence layout on your property and inform the zoning administrator the dimensions of the fence along with the type of materials being used.

We must explain our water and sewer billing. When the bills are mailed out you have 30 days to pay. Then the next 15 days you pay a late fee. After that, the Town will post a notice on your door, which states service will be cut off in 5 days. Once services are cut off, you must pay bill in full plus reconnection fee (\$30). At that time, you must pay all in cash, certified check or money order. If you submit a personal check or credit card, service will not be restored until it clears the bank. You wonder why the wait, because not just us, but other towns have had people cancel the checks or card payment once they left the office. So, that is why the wait. Stop and think, the bill goes out, 30 days to pay, then 15 days for late payment, and last resort, 5 days before turn off. 50 days. So

please don't blame the town. This has been the procedure for many years. For those who give the office staff a hard time, you should see yourself on the video. Once you come in the breeze way, you are on camera.

Remember to check for emergency supplies in preparation for bad weather.

The port-a-pots in the park have been knocked over a few times. We have you on camera also. The police cannot be there all the time. Towns that have a staff of 10-12 police, still have times when they do not have coverage. Please take photos of people or tag numbers to help us identify people. Remember this is your town and homes and property. We all love this place or we would be going somewhere else.

Have a great rest of your summer!

*Perry L. Jones, Jr.
Mayor*

GRANTS & PROJECTS UPDATE

Community Center Tot Lot

The Town has been granted funding from Carroll County Recreation and Parks and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources to make improvements to the Community Center tot lot for some new equipment/safety surface. As the original funding is less than the total amount required, we have been awarded the remaining funds through the Maryland DNR's Community Parks and Playground grant. We will be

preparing the RFP and proceeding with this project this year.

Town Waste Water Treatment Plant and I&I Efforts

The Town is currently working to assess efforts and requirements for updating our wastewater treatment. Several options will be considered as we work with the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) to discover our needs and develop a plan to address any findings. The Town has applied for and received a grant to fund the study. The Town has been granted \$5,000,000.00 from the State of Maryland to assist with the improvements once a project plan has been determined. The Town's engineering firm has completed the draft of the study and are working with MDE to complete and move forward with the next phase.

We are also working on a separate workstream to investigate and remediate any inflow & infiltration (I&I) concerns that may be found within our sewerage flows. We have engaged our engineering firm to move forward with the investigations with the CCTV screening and smoke testing is completed.

More information will be provided on both workstreams as they develop.

2022 Federal Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF) – Via Carroll County Thomas Street Water Line Repairs & Valve Bolt Replacement

The County approved funding of a project to replace the water main on Thomas Street and bonnet valve bolt replacements. Carroll County is contributing \$157,606.00 towards the project, which will end up costing approximately \$515,000.00 when completed. Both projects have been awarded and are currently being scheduled.

Track Loader with Mowing Attachment

We have applied for a grant through the USDA to purchase a track loader with mowing attachment to be able to mow areas around town where access is currently an issue for our existing equipment. The grant will cover \$50,000.00 of the expected total cost of \$80,000.00. It is worth noting that we have applied for this grant previously and have been awarded funds to purchase our dump truck and work truck. We have been awarded this funding, purchased the equipment and are working with the USDA to finalize the grant closeout.

For questions on these or any other Town projects, call the Town Office at 410-775-2711.

*Mike Reynolds
Circuit Rider & Zoning
Administrator*

DREAM BIG UNION BRIDGE

Our 6th Annual Rubber Duck Derby and Jeep Show & Shine Festival was held on June 1, 2024. We would like to give a special thanks to our many sponsors, who made this event possible. We had over 1,000 spectators at this year's event and it was a huge success! This year we partnered up with the Maryland's Jeep Club and had over 80 Jeeps participate in the show. We had 12 food trucks with a variety of delicious food and 28 craft vendors. It was a beautiful day, and everyone in attendance had a great time. We would like to thank all of the volunteers who helped. All of the vendors were very happy and want to return next year. If you missed the event, you really missed a great day! Mark your calendar for next year's event which will be held on the first Saturday of June.

The Union Bridge Gift Shop, (owned and operated by Dream Big Union Bridge) will be celebrating its 4th anniversary on

July 11th. July will offer 4th of July décor and Christmas in July, so be sure to stop in and check out the new merchandise. Hours are Wednesday-Saturday 11-7 and Sunday, 10-4.

We have more events coming up later this year. For updates, please visit our website dreambigunionbridge.com, for dates and more information. As always, we are looking for new and additional volunteers. We have a lot of fun preparing for and holding our events.

We are bringing people to our great town and they love it!

*"Dream Big Union Bridge,
bringing the community and
businesses together"*

HUGHES TRASH REMOVAL

For the weeks of Independence Day and Labor Day, trash pickup will be one day behind, so please place your trash out Wednesday evening instead of Tuesday.

2024 CELEBRATING AMERICA SUMMER ADVENTURE

Celebrating America is a history initiative created by the Carroll County Board of Commissioners to promote a greater understanding of American history and historically significant people, events and places, particularly those within Carroll County. Kids in grades 1-9 are eligible to participate until September 15th, 2024.

To learn more about the program and for more information, visit:

<https://www.carrollcountymd.gov/visitors/celebrating-america-in-carroll-county-md/>.

WATER/SEWER BILLING SCHEDULE

For your convenience, we are providing the quarterly billing schedule for residents who are connected to the Town systems.

Usage Months	Month Billed	Due Date
Jan/Feb/Mar	April	May 15
Apr/May/June	July	Aug 15
Jul/Aug/Sep	Oct	Nov 15
Oct/Nov/Dec	Jan	Feb 15

Note that if you do not receive a bill before the end of the billing month, please contact the Town Office at 410-775-2711 to request a copy prior to the due date.

Also note that if your payment is mailed and it is not received by the Town Office by the due date, you will be assessed a late fee. Please ensure you allow sufficient time in the event of delays with mail delivery.

EYE ON WATER

EyeOnWater (EOW) services gives Union Bridge water/sewer customers direct access to your water consumption data and provides tools to help you manage your water use. EyeOnWater can be downloaded free at Google Android Play or Apple IOS App Store. Customers can also access EOW on a computer by going to the following web address: <https://eyeonwater.com/signin>.

Customers can quickly view recent water usage with a two-week comparison, and view detailed water usage history by the hour, day, week, month and year!

Please have a copy of a recent water bill available as you will need your account number in order to access.

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

The annual Water Quality Report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water.

You can view the report at <https://unionbridgewaterqualityreport.com/> or you can pick up a copy up at the Town Office.

WATER CONSERVATION OUTDOOR TIPS

1. Water your yard and outdoor plants early or late in the day to reduce evaporation.
2. Mulch around plants to hold water in the soil.
3. Use a shut-off nozzle on your hose.
4. Use plants that require less water.
5. Use a broom, not a hose to clean driveways and walkways.
6. Avoid leaving sprinklers or hoses unattended. A garden hose can pour out 600 gallons or more in only a few hours.
7. Collect rainwater to reuse in the garden whenever possible.
8. Use leftover water from cooking pasta or vegetables to water indoor/outdoor plants.
9. Limit car washing or visit a commercial car wash that recycles water.
10. Keep outside faucets in good repair.
11. Fix leaks promptly.
12. Insulate pipes to reduce the time it takes for hot water to reach the faucet.
13. Install water-efficient filters.
14. Install on-demand hot water systems.
15. Upgrade to high efficiency appliances.
16. Compost food waste instead of running the disposal.
17. Be mindful of running water.

PROTECTING CARROLL COUNTY WATERS

Stormwater in Union Bridge is regulated by law under Phase 1 Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) permits under EPA's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) administered through the Maryland Department of the Environment. For more information go to:

<http://ccgovernment.carr.org/ccg/npdes/>.

TOWN CURFEW

Please keep in mind that curfews for children under the age of 18 years are as follows:

10:00 p.m. on any Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday until 6:00 a.m. of the following day; and

12:01 a.m. through 6:00 a.m. on any Saturday or Sunday.

YARD WASTE PICKUP

Bags for yard waste must be purchased at Town Hall for \$1.25 each. This charge helps to defray the cost of the pickup.

BRUSH REMOVAL SERVICE

The Town will provide hauling services for brush removal (limbs/branches) by appointment. Note that you will need to load the brush onto the truck. Call 410-775-2711 to schedule a pickup.

GRASS & WEEDS

Owners and occupants of occupied premises and owners and persons in charge of unoccupied premises, including vacant lots, are hereby charged with the duty of maintaining any grass on such premises at a height of not more than six (6) inches; and further duty of maintaining, such premises free of noxious weeds and dense under brush.

PET OWNERS

The Town is getting calls about residents not picking up after their pets. Please consider those who come after you on your walk. Put yourself in their shoes – literally. Please be a good neighbor and pick up your animal droppings. Union Bridge Code, Chapter 10, the owner of every animal shall be responsible for the removal of any excreta deposited by his animal(s) on public property, including sidewalks, recreation areas.

IMPORTANT

If anyone notices anyone stealing water from hydrants or any unauthorized appropriation of water, please call the Town Hall at 410-775-2711.

SEWER LINE BLOCKAGES

RESIDENTS: If your sewer line becomes blocked, please contact the Town Hall at 410-775-2711 before calling a plumber.

FOR WATER AND SEWER EMERGENCIES PLEASE CALL Bret Grossnickle 410-274-2860

THE COMMUNITY CENTER
IS AVAILABLE FOR WEDDINGS, PARTIES AND REUNIONS. CALL THE TOWN OFFICE AT 410-775-2711 TO INQUIRE ABOUT RENTING THE CENTER FOR YOUR FUNCTION.

SNOW CONES!!!

Free snow cones at the square [the corner of Main Street and East Broadway, Union Bridge].

**Friday, July 12, 2024
12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Hosted by The Town of Union Bridge

Also, save the date:

National Night Out on Tuesday, August 6th from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Snow Cones at the Square on Friday, August 30, 2024 from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

FOUND BICYCLES

If you have lost a bicycle, please check with the Town Office. We receive found/abandoned bicycles and store them in our storeroom. If not claimed within 90 days from the date it was found, it will be donated or disposed of.

Please Recycle Plastic Bags at Supermarkets, not in your Household Recycling Bin.

We no longer collect plastic bags for recycling. Retail locations across the county – such as large grocery chains, home improvement stores, Walmart, Target, etc. – provide collection bins for these plastic bags/wraps/film, usually in the storefront close to the main entrance. Since you picked up your grocery or shopping bags at these stores, why not just return them on your next trip? They will be recycled into products without going through the processing equipment.

Recycle if Clean & Dry
Store Drop-off
PLASTIC
 BAGS / FILM / WRAP
how2recycle.info

Recycle clean, dry plastic bags and film packaging

Air Pillows
Grocery & Retail Bags (labeled #2 (HDPE) or #4 (LDPE)
For more plastic bag info, go to www2recycle.info)
Case Wrap
Newspaper Bags

Bread Bags
(with no other materials)
Produce Bags
Food Storage Bags
Napkin, Paper Towel, Bathroom Tissue and Diaper Wrap Packaging

Look for this label on film products like these:

plasticfilmrecycling.org

Plastic Bags clog up recycling processing equipment just like hair clogs up the rollers of a vacuum cleaner



CARROLL COUNTY RECYCLES



Mix Your Recyclables Loose in the Bin:








Cardboard, Aseptic & Gable Top Containers, Cereal & Other Paperboard Boxes, Paper Bags, Books
 Newspaper, Inserts, Office Paper, Junk Mail, Magazines & Catalogs, Paperback Books—NO Hardback Books






Aluminum, Tin & Steel Cans, Containers & Foil, Glass Jars & Bottles.
 Plastic Bottles (#1-#7), Plastic Tub, Wide-Mouth Containers (NO #6)

PLEASE:

- NO Batteries**
- NO Styrofoam**
- NO Electronics**
- NO Food Waste**
- NO Ceramics or Dishes**
- NO Trash or Yard Waste**
- NO Motor Oil Containers**
- NO #6 Clamshell Containers**
- NO Household Hazardous Waste**
- NO Light Bulbs, Window Glass or Mirrors**

Plastic Bags MUST now be returned to the Grocery Store, no longer accepted for recycling





Drop off CFL bulbs at any Home Depot or Lowe's, or ask about CFL recycling at your local Ace Hardware. They are also accepted at Carroll County's Household Hazardous Waste Events.

For more information about **Single Stream Recycling** visit www.recyclecarroll.org or call the Bureau of Solid Waste at 410-386-2510.

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

MD0060013

TOWN OF UNION BRIDGE

Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2023

For more information regarding this report contact:

Dawn Metcalf 410.775.2711

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water.

Public participation is encouraged at the regularly scheduled Town Hall meetings occurring on the Fourth Monday of every month at the Town Hall

104 West Locust St.

TOWN OF UNION BRIDGE is Ground Water Under Direct Influence of Surface water

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted. bebe. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien

A source water assessment has been performed by the Maryland Department of the Environment and is accessible on their website at:

https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/water_Supply/Source_Water_Assessment_Program/Pages/by_county.aspx

-Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population.

Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Town of Union Bridge is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, and removing Lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the Lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing Lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your tap for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce Lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water, and wish to have your water tested, contact The Town of Union Bridge. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

"PFAS – short for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances – refers to a large group of more than 4,000 human-made chemicals that have been used since the 1940s in a range of products, including stain- and water-resistant fabrics and carpeting, cleaning products, paints, cookware, food packaging and fire-fighting foams. These uses of PFAS have led to PFAS entering our environment, where they have been measured by several states in soil, surface water, groundwater and seafood. Some PFAS can last a long time in the environment and in the human body and can accumulate in the food chain.

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) conducted a PFAS monitoring program for Community Water Systems from 2020 to 2022. The results are available on MDES's website: mde.maryland.gov/PublicHealth/PFAS-Landing-Page.aspx"

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed regulations for 6 PFAS compounds in drinking water in March 2023. The MCL's for PFOA and PFOS are proposed to be 4.0 parts per trillion (ppt) The proposal for HFPO-DA (GenX), PFBS, PFNA and PFHxS is to use a Hazard Index of 1.0 (unitless) to determine if the combined levels of these PFAS pose a risk and require action.

The 5th Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) began testing for 29 PFAS compounds and Lithium in 2023, and testing will run through 2025. The UCMR5 should test all community water systems with populations of at least 3300 people. Three randomly selected systems in Maryland with populations less than 3300 people will also be tested under the UCMR5. Detections greater than the minimum reporting levels for each constituent should be reported in the CCR

Source Water Information

SWA = Source Water Assessment

Source Water Name	Type of Water	Report Status	Location
UNION BRIDGE TOWN HALL NOPERMIT GU	GU	Y	
WHYTE ST WELL (FIRE DEPT) CL940608 GUCL940608	GU	Y	T OF UNION BRIDGE APPROX. 50 FT S OF LOCUST

2023 Regulated Contaminants Detected

Lead and Copper

Definitions:

Action Level Goal (ALG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety. Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Lead and Copper	Likely Source of contamination
Copper	09/24/2021	1.3	1.3	0.42	0	ppm	Copper	Erosion of natural deposits Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	09/24/2021	0	15	<5	0	ppb	Lead	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of

natural deposits.

Disinfectants and

Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level	Range of Levels	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of contamination
		Detected	Detected					
Chlorine	2023	1.7	1.6 - 1.8	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2023	12	7.4 – 19.1	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2023	50	15.2 – 60.8	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

Inorganic Contaminants

Barium	08/14/2021	0.033	0.033 - 0.033	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
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Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] 2023	6	5.2 – 5.68	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer Leaching of septic tanks Erosion of natural deposits
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- Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

Turbidity

	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Level Detected	Violation	Likely source of contamination
Highest single measurement	1 NTU	0.17 NTU	N	Soil runoff.

Information Statement: Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of the water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration

95PT

Lowest monthly % meeting limit	0.3 NTU	100%	N	Soil runoff.
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Unregulated Contaminants

PFAS

		Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of contamination
PFAS	Quarterly	2023	27	17.7-27	NA	NA	ppt	N	Anthropogenic activity
PFOS	Quarterly	2023	12	9.9-12	NA	NA	ppt	N	Anthropogenic activity
PFOA	Quarterly	2023	3.3	2.6-3.3	NA	NA	ppt	N	Anthropogenic activity
PFHxS	Quarterly	2023	6.2	1.8-6.2	NA	NA	ppt	N	Anthropogenic activity
PFBS	Quarterly	2023	3.2	2.3-3.2	NA	NA	ppt	N	Anthropogenic activity

Water Quality Test Results

Definitions: The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

Avg: Regulatory compliance with some MCLs is based on running annual average of monthly samples.

Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total Coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG:

The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Level 2 Assessment:	A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.
Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL:	The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG:	The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
na:	not applicable.
ppt:	nanograms per liter or parts per trillion – or one ounce in 7,350,000,000 gallons of water
ppb:	micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.
ppm:	milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.
Treatment Technique or TT:	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
