

2009

**Facts
For
Voters**

...and others

Compiled by the League of Women Voters of
Montgomery County, Virginia
<http://civic.bev.net/lwvmc/>

UNITED STATES

President: Barack Obama (D)

Vice President: Joseph Biden (D)

The White House

1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, DC 20500

Phone: (202) 456-1414

E-mail: comments@whitehouse.gov • www.whitehouse.gov

First term expires January 2013

United States Senators from Virginia:

James H. Webb (D)

144 Russell Senate Office Building

Washington DC 20510, (202) 224-4024, FAX: (202) 228-6363

Roanoke Office: 3140 Chaparral Dr., Bldg. C Suite 101, Roanoke, VA 24018

Roanoke Phone: (540) 772-6870, FAX: (540) 772-4236

To e-mail visit www.webb.senate.gov

Six-year term expires January 2013

Mark R. Warner (D) Temporary address and phone (until March 2009)

Senate Dirksen Bldg. B40C, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 224-2023

After March 2009, check website: U.S.Senate: Senators

Home>Senator Mark Warner. To e-mail visit info@warner.senate.gov

Six year term expires January 2015

Representative from Virginia's Ninth District:

Frederick C. Boucher (D)

2187 Rayburn House Office Building, FAX (202) 225-0442

Washington DC 20515 (202)225-3861

188 E. Main Street, P.O. Box 2000, Abingdon, VA 24210, (276) 628-1145

To e-mail visit www.house.gov/boucher/

Two year term expires January 2011

How have your U.S. Representatives voted? Check [Project Vote Smart](http://ProjectVoteSmart.org)

www.vote-smart.org

National

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

Governor: Timothy M. Kaine (D) - Commonwealth of Virginia
1111 E. Broad St., 3rd floor, Richmond, VA 23219
(804) 786-2211, FAX (804) 371-6351,
to e-mail visit www.governor.virginia.gov
Four-year term expires January 2010

Lieutenant Governor: William T. Bolling (R)
102 Governor St., Richmond, VA 23219
(804) 786-2078, FAX (804) 786-7514 • To e-mail visit www.ltgov.virginia.gov
Four-year term expires January 2010

Attorney General: Robert F. McDonnell (R)
900 E. Main St., Richmond, VA 23219
(804) 786-2071 • To e-mail visit www.oag.state.va.us
Four-year term expires January 2010

Virginia General Assembly: Convenes second Wednesday in January.
Annual sessions: In even-numbered years, 60 days; in odd-numbered years, 30 days, with an option to extend either for not more than 30 days.
Bicameral legislature: Senate, 40 members; House of Delegates, 100 members.

21st Senatorial District: (Includes Montgomery County precincts A-1, A-2, A-3, B-1, E-1, E-2, F-1, F-2, G-1, G-2) **John S. Edwards** (D), P.O. Box 1179, Roanoke, VA 24006 (540) 985-8690, FAX (540) 345-9950, (804) 698-7521, P.O. Box 396, Richmond, VA 23218, E-mail: district21@sov.state.va.us, www.johnedwardsva.com. Four year term expires January 2012.

22nd Senatorial District: (Includes Montgomery County precincts B-2, B-3, B-4, C-1, C-2, C-3, C-4, D-1, D-2, D-3 part 1, D-4, D-5) **Ralph Smith**, P.O. Box 91, Roanoke, VA 24002, Phone & FAX (540) 206-3597, P.O. Box 396, Richmond, VA 23218, (804) 698-7522, E-mail: district22@sov.state.va.us, www.ralphsmithsenate.com. Four year term expires January 2012.

12th House of Delegates District: (Includes Montgomery County precincts A-1, A-2, A-3, B-1, F-1, F-2, G-1, G-2)

James Shuler (D)
P.O. Box 406, Richmond, VA 23218 (804) 698-1012
FAX (540) 961-9595
Leg. Office: Colony Park, 1999 S. Main St, Suite 304-A,
Blacksburg, VA 24060 (540) 953-1103
To e-mail visit www.delegateshuler.com • 1-800-308-6160 (entire district)

7th House of Delegates District: (Montgomery County precincts B-2, B-3, B-4, C-1, C-2, C-3, C-4, D-1, D-2, D-3, D-4, D-5, E-1, E-2)

David A. Nutter (R)

P.O. Box 406, Richmond, VA 23218 (804) 698-1007

E-mail deldnutter@house.state.va.us

FAX (540) 382-6803

Leg. office: P.O. Box 1344, Christiansburg, VA 24068 • 7 N. Franklin St., Suite 102, Christiansburg, 382-7731

All delegates' two-year terms expire January 2010.

Commonwealth of VA: www.state.va.us/ • Information: 1-800-422-2319

Fax: All State Senators 804-698-7651 • All State Delegates 804-786-6310

STATE TAXES & LICENSES

State Income Tax is imposed on residents and nonresidents with Virginia income and is figured much like the federal income tax with similar exemptions. Employers withhold state tax as they do federal tax. Rates applied to the taxable income as 2% on the first \$3,000, 3% on the next \$5,000, 5% on the next \$17,000 and 5.75% on all over \$17,000. Balance due checks are made payable to the Treasurer. Forms are mailed from the Virginia Department of Taxation in Richmond. Income not subject to state withholding tax is subject to quarterly estimated tax. If the taxpayer does not receive appropriate forms, they are available at the Commissioner of Revenue Office, Christiansburg. The tax filing deadline is May 1 and returns are filed with the Commissioner of the Revenue, 755 Roanoke St., Suite 1A, Christiansburg 24073.

Sales Tax: A general sales tax of 5 percent is collected by the State on all retail purchases with one percent returned to the localities based on the number of school-age children. Virginia levies a 3% Motor Vehicle Sales and Use Tax based on the vehicle's gross sales price or \$35, whichever is greater.

Gasoline tax: Fuels tax is imposed as the fuels leave the terminal rack. The terminal rack is the point at which fuels physically leave a terminal and are delivered into a tank truck, rail car, or other means of transfer. As of November 2008, the fuel tax rates in Virginia are 17.5 cents per gallon for gasoline, diesel, blended fuels and alternative fuels. The rate for aviation fuel is 5 cents per gallon.

Automobile Fees: New Virginia residents may apply for a driver's license at the Christiansburg DMV Customer Service Center at 385 Arbor Drive on Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday 8 a.m. to noon.

continued

Virginia

Automobile Fees *continued*

A knowledge exam and road skills test is required. You will be required to show documents proving identity, legal presence, Virginia residency and social security number. Normally, your Virginia driver's license is valid for eight years and expires on your birthday. The licensing fee is \$4 per year; so, your fee will range from \$12 to \$32. Before you can get on the road with your motor vehicle, you're required to title and register it at DMV customer service center or a DMV Select office. The closest offices are the Christiansburg, Pulaski and Roanoke customer service centers, or the Radford DMV Select at 619 2nd Street, Room 164 in Radford. Your vehicle must be titled in Virginia prior to registration. Your registration fee is determined by the empty weight or gross weight of your vehicle, the type of license plate you purchase and if you register for one or two years. For passenger vehicles 4,000 pounds or less, the one-year registration fee is \$38.75. It's \$43.75 for vehicles weighing 4,001 pounds or more. As part of your vehicle registration, DMV will issue you two license plates, decals showing the expiration date and a registration card. To purchase license plates or decals, you must certify that the vehicle is covered by the minimum insurance requirements and your insurance carrier must be authorized to conduct business in Virginia; or you must pay the \$500 uninsured motor vehicle fee. The fee does not provide any insurance; it only allows you to drive an uninsured vehicle at your own risk. It expires with your registration and must be paid at renewal. Insurance requirements also apply to antique motor vehicles. (Virginia State Police handles safety inspections; <http://www.vsp.state.va.us/Safety.shtml>). If you are enrolled as a full-time student in an accredited school in Virginia and not employed, you may drive in Virginia with a valid out-of-state (or another country) driver's license and valid out-of-state license plates on your vehicle. If you are a full-time student and employed, you are considered a resident of Virginia for the purposes of motor vehicle laws only. Therefore, you must apply for a Virginia driver's license and register your vehicle in Virginia. You must register the vehicle in Virginia even if it is owned by someone else. Other than applying for an original driver's license or registering a vehicle for the first time, most DMV transactions can be conducted at www.dmvNOW.com, through DMV's automated phone service at 1-888-337-4782, at a DMV Select office or through the mail. Customers are encouraged to renew their vehicle registrations (decals) through preferred services since a law effective July 1, 2008 charges a \$5 fee for in-person renewals at DMV customer service centers.

COURTS

All judges in Virginia are appointed by the General Assembly. Montgomery County is in the 27th Judicial Circuit. Circuit Court is held in the Montgomery County Courthouse, Christiansburg. In addition, Montgomery County has a District Court and a Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. These courts are held in Christiansburg and Blacksburg.

Term Expires**Circuit Court Judge:** Ray W. Grubbs

Robert M. D. Turk

General District Court Judge: Randal Duncan

Gino W. Williams

Juvenile/Domestic Relations Judge: Marcus H. Long, Jr.**Chief Magistrate:** Jill M. Long

6/4/10

Magistrates: Elinor Williams, M. Terry Williams, Karen S. Garnard,

Caroline Jones, Barry Gordon, Jodie Barker-exp.8/25/10 12/31/09

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Montgomery County has a total population of 84,000. This includes the residents of its two towns, Blacksburg and Christiansburg.

Board of Supervisors: Members are elected from seven districts. Yearly in January, they elect from their membership a chairman and vice chairman. The Board meets the second and fourth Monday at 7:15 p.m. at the County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St. in Christiansburg. Agendas and minutes are online at MontVa.com (click "Board of Supervisors"). Regular meetings of the Board of Supervisors air on WTOB, Blacksburg cable 2, Tuesdays at 1 p.m., Thursdays at 8 p.m. and Saturdays at 3 p.m. For E-news visit MontVa.com.

District Supervisors**Term Expires**

- | | | |
|---|--|----------|
| A | Annette S. Perkins , chair (aperkins@naxs.net)
H: 552-4706 • 1407 Valley View Dr., Blacksburg, 24060 | 12/31/09 |
| B | Doug Marrs (marrsdw@ntelos.net) 12/31/11
H: 382-1844 • 205 Gibson Dr., Christiansburg, 24073 | |
| C | Gary Creed (garycreed@naxs.net)
H: 268-5203 • Box 206, Shawsville 24162 | 12/31/09 |
| D | James D. Politis , vice-chair (bcbuffalo@aol.com)
H: 381-2778 • 5629 Brush Creek Rd., Riner, 24149 | 12/31/09 |
| E | William H. Brown (brownwh@montgomerycountyva.gov)
H: 951-3391 • 1766 Daisy Rd., Blacksburg 24060 | 12/31/11 |
| F | Mary W. Biggs (mbiggs@naxs.com)
H: 951-2906, W: 951-5732 • 701 Hutcheson Dr., Blacksburg, 24060 | 12/31/11 |
| G | John A. Muffo (jmuffo@yahoo.com)
H: 953-0563 • 227 Craig Dr., Blacksburg, 24060 | 12/31/11 |

*continued***Montgomery County**

Constitutional Officers (elected)

Term Expires

Clerk of the Circuit Court: **Erica Williams** (ewwilliams@courts.state.us) 382-5760 12/31/15
Commissioner of the Revenue: **Sharon Gilbert** (gilbertse@montgomerycountyva.gov) 382-5710 12/31/11
Commonwealth's Atty: **Brad Finch** (finchbw@montgomerycountyva.gov) 382-5705 12/31/11
Sheriff: **J.T. "Tommy" Whitt** (whittjt@montgomerycountyva.gov) 382-6906 12/31/11
Treasurer: **W. Richard Shelton** (sheltonwr@montgomerycountyva.gov) 382-5723 12/31/11

Montgomery County Administration: Most offices are in the Montgomery County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Christiansburg, 24073

Administrator: **Vacant** 382-6954
Animal Control: **Charles "Ray" Helmick** (helmickcr@verizon.net) 382-5795
Assistant Administrator: **L. Carol Edmonds** (edmondslc@montgomerycountyva.gov) 382-6954
Attorney: **Martin McMahon** (mcmahonmm@montgomerycountyva.gov) 382-5730
Economic Development: **Bob Isner** (isnermr@montgomerycountyva.gov) 382-5732
Engineer: **Ron Bonnema** (bonnemare@montgomerycountyva.gov) 394-2090
Financial and Management Services: **Angela Hill** (Hillam@montgomerycountyva.gov) 382-6960
General Services: **Ron Bonnema** (bonnemare@montgomerycountyva.gov) 394-2090
Health Dept: **J. Henry Hershey, M.D., M.P.H.** (jody.hershey@vdh.virginia.gov) 381-7100
Human Resources: **Karen Edmonds** (edmondska@montgomerycountyva.gov) 394-2007
Human Services: **Mary Critzer** (critzermb@montgomerycountyva.gov) 382-5776, 382-5781
Information Technology: **Jeff Mersch** (merschja@montgomerycountyva.gov) 382-5742
Libraries: **Paula Alston** (palston@mfrl.org) 382-6965
Metropolitan Planning Organization: **Dan Brugh** (brughjd@montgomerycountyva.gov) 394-2145
Office On Youth: **Lori Walden** (waldenlm@montgomerycountyva.gov) 382-5776
Planning: **Steve Sandy** (sandysm@montgomerycountyva.gov) 394-2148
Public Facilities: **Stephen H. Phillips** (phillipssn@montgomerycountyva.gov) 382-5793
Public Information: **Ruth Richey** (richeyrl@montgomerycountyva.gov) 381-6887
Public Service Authority: **Robert Fronk** 381-1997 394-6930
Parks and Recreation: **Mitchell Haugh** (haughmb@montgomerycountyva.gov) 382-6975
Registrar of Elections: **E. Randall Wertz** (wertzer@montgomerycountyva.gov) 382-5741
Retired & Senior Vol. Program: **Angela Little** (litleam@montgomerycountyva.gov) 382-5775
Social Services Director: **Larry Lindsey** (lwl121@western.dss.state.va.us) 382-6990
Virginia Cooperative Extension: **Michelle Adcock** (aadcock@vt.edu) 382-5790

Recycling: Montgomery County operates 10 staffed recycling and household waste collection sites, at which all County citizens (including residents of Blacksburg and Christiansburg) may deposit household waste and recyclables (including aluminum, steel and bi-metal cans, glass, #1 and #2 plastic, newspaper and glossy magazines and catalogs, corrugated cardboard, and used motor oil at no charge. Large, bulky items, such as appliances, refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, and dehumidifiers also may be deposited at no charge, as well as car and light truck tires. Sites are open every day except Thanksgiving and Christmas; Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m.-7 p.m. (6 p.m. in winter), Sat. 8 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sun. noon-6 p.m. For recycling information call Alan Cummings, Montgomery Regional Solid Waste Authority 381-2820. For collection site information, call Dave Breeden at 382-5793.

County Taxes and Licenses

(Payable at County Treasurer's Office, 755 Roanoke St., Suite 1-B, Christiansburg, VA 24073.)

Real Property Tax: Land and improvements on it are taxed at \$0.71 per \$100 of the assessed value (100% of Fair Market Value). Tax tickets are mailed in May and October and are payable on or before June 5 and December 5. The next scheduled general reassessment is 2010. For information on land values call the Real Estate Assessment Office, 382-5717.

Personal Property Tax: Tangible personal property (including all motor vehicles, camping trailers, and boats and excluding household furnishings) is taxed and must be reported to the Commissioner of the Revenue by May 1. The 2008 rate for vehicles is \$2.45 per \$100 (100% of loan value as listed in NADA Book). Under the Personal Property Tax Relief Act a portion of the tax due on each qualifying vehicle is relieved from the taxpayer's bill. Personal property tax forms are mailed in February from the Commissioner of the Revenue and are due to be filed by May 1, 2009. Forms may also be picked up from the Commissioner of Revenue, 755 Roanoke St., Suite 1-A, Christiansburg, VA 24073. Telephone 382-5710.

Dog Tax: A fee of \$5.00 for both male and female and \$3.00 for spayed and neutered dogs is levied by the County for all dogs four months and older. Payable at the Treasurer's Office or at the Blacksburg Finance Department. Proof of a valid rabies vaccination required.

Motor Vehicles Decal: A county license is required for all vehicles in the county outside the boundaries for the two towns. By ordinance dated August 13, 2007 the Board of Supervisors amended their Vehicle License Ordinance and eliminated vehicle decals and applied a motor vehicle fee billed with the personal property tax bill. There is a license fee of \$23.50 per annum. The license fee shall be for one calendar year, January 1 to December 31.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SCHOOLS

The District extends county wide and includes the two towns. The District serves approximately 9,400 students in 22 schools. Full-day kindergarten is provided.

Beginning with the November 1995 general election, school board members were elected. In 1997, the phasing in of elected school boards was complete. It meets the first and third Tuesdays each month at 7:30 p.m. at the School Board Office, 200 Junkin Street, Christiansburg.

District Board Members

		Term Expires
A	Phyllis T. Albritton 1003 Highland Circle, Blacksburg, 24060 • phyllisa@usit.net	12/31/09
B	Penny Franklin , vice-chair 857 Woodrow Rd., Christiansburg, 24073 • pfranklin@mcps.org	12/31/11
C	David Dunkenberger 4289 North Fork Rd., Elliston, 24087 • ddunk@mcps.org	12/31/09
D	Jamie M. Bond 2263 Pilot Rd., Christiansburg, 24073 • jbond@mcps.org	12/31/09
E	Wendell Jones , chair 2730 Old Fort Rd., Blacksburg, 24060 • BJones@moog.com	12/31/11
F	Joe Ivers 1905 Forest Lane, Blacksburg, 24060 • jtivers@comcast.net	12/31/11
G	W. Wat Hopkins 224 Craig Dr., Blacksburg, 24060 • whopkins@vt.edu	12/31/11
	Superintendent of Schools: Dr. Tiffany Anderson tanderson@mcps.org	382-5104

Schools

TOWN OF BLACKSBURG

Blacksburg has an area of 19.4 square miles and a population of approximately 39,600. Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University located in Blacksburg has an enrollment of about 26,000; approximately 9,000 students live on campus. Web Site: www.blacksburg.gov

Town council meetings are held the second and fourth Tuesdays each month at 7:30 p.m. and are open to the public.

Mayor	Term Expires
Ron Rordam, 803 Draper Rd., 552-0698 rrordam@blacksburg.gov	12/31/09

Vice Mayor: Leslie Hager-Smith, 906 Allendale Ct., 961-0698 lhagersmith@blacksburg.gov	12/31/11
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Council Members:	
Susan Anderson, 700 Preston Ave., 951-2013 sanderson@blacksburg.gov	12/31/11
Derek Myers, 312 Cherokee Dr., 552-2021 dmyers@blacksburg.gov	12/31/11
Donald B. Langrehr, 1705 Ginger Ln., 553-0595 dlangrehr@blacksburg.gov	12/31/11
A.T. Leighton, Jr., 711 Broce Dr., 552-4591 aleighton@blacksburg.gov	12/31/09
Thomas Sherman, 1005 East Roanoke St., 951-2550 tsherman@blacksburg.gov	12/31/09

Administration:

Municipal Building	961-1100
P.O. Box 90003, 300 S. Main Street, Blacksburg, VA 24062-9003	
FAX 951-2180 • E-mail: www.blacksburg.gov	
Town Manager	Marc Verniel, 1130
Deputy Town Manager	Steven Ross, 1130
Town Clerk	Donna Boone-Caldwell, 1147
Town Attorney	Lawrence Spencer, 1146
Director of Finance	Susan Kaiser, 1109
Director of Engineering & GIS	Adele Schirmer, 1126
Director of Planning & Building	Anne McClung, 1126
Chief of Police	Kimberley Crannis, 1152
Director of Public Works	Kelly Mattingly, 1141
Director of Parks & Recreation	Dean Crane, 1135
Fire Department Chief	B. Keith Bolte, 1175
Rescue Squad Chief	E. Sid Bingley, 1189
Transit Manager	Rebecca Martin, 1185
Technology Director	Steve Jones, 558-0726
Planning Commission, Chair	Lesley Howard
Recreation Advisory Board, Chair	Reginald Travis
Board of Zoning Appeals, Chair	Don Garst

Blacksburg Taxes & Licenses

Real Property Tax. Assessments for property within the Town boundaries are supplied by the County Commissioner of Revenue. The tax is applied to real property only and not personal property. The tax rate for FY 2009 is \$0.22 per \$100 of assessed value (100 percent Fair Market Value). Taxes are due and payable on June 5 and December 5.

Motor Vehicle License Fee. The automobile license fee for Town residents is \$37.50 thru 12-31-09, there after \$25 annually due December 5.

Consumer Utility Tax. A 15 percent tax is levied on utilities with a maximum of \$2.25 tax per month on electric and gas consumption. These taxes are collected in the payment of the monthly bill by the respective utility companies.

Water and Sewer Rates. Fixed charge: water \$2.47 (inside limits) \$4.32 (outside), Sewer \$2.50 (inside) \$4.38(outside). Charges per 1,000 gallons: Water \$3.51/\$6.14. Sewer \$4.47/\$7.82.

Refuse and Recycling. \$20.76 monthly. The Town provides weekly curbside refuse collection in carts; all refuse must be placed in cart for pickup. Newspapers, magazines, mixed paper and commingled containers can be recycled at curbside in addition to corrugated cardboard 3' by 3' or smaller. Collection sites are currently also available at Kipp's Elementary School, Gables Shopping Center and the Blacksburg Community Center. The Town provides refuse and recycling customers with Spring and Fall Cleanup, Christmas Tree Collection, Leaf Collection and monthly Brush Collection. Each spring, the Town participates in a Household Hazardous Waste Day for proper disposal of household chemicals.

Meal Tax. A 6 percent meals tax (in addition to the State sales tax of 5 percent) is applied to the purchase of any prepared food and drink, whether bought in a restaurant, fast food establishment, convenience store, deli or other place of business.

Transient Lodging Tax. A 7 percent lodging tax (in addition to the state sales tax of 5 percent) is applied to the total amount paid for lodging.

Cigarette Tax. \$.30 per pack of 20 cig.

TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG

Christiansburg has an area of 13.693 square miles and a population of approximately 17,300.

Town Council meetings are held the first and third Tuesdays each month, 7:30 p.m., and are open to the public.

Mayor: Richard G. Ballengee, 325 Maple Dr., 382-4385 **Term Expires** 9/1/10

Vice Mayor: Bradford J. "Brad" Stipes, 130 Cedar Bluff, 381-0784 9/1/10

Council Members:

D. Michael Barber, 365 Tomahawk Dr., 381-0060	9/1/08
Henry Showalter, 455 Overhill Rd., 381-1204	9/1/12
Ann Carter, 110 Highview St., 382-8752	9/1/10
H. Earnest "Ernie" Wade, 220 Emerald Blvd., 382-0684	9/1/10
James W. Jim Vanhoozier, 75 Greenway Dr., 382-3969	9/1/12

Administration:

Municipal Building, 100 East Main Street, 24073	382-6128
Town Manager	R. Lance Terpenney, 6128
Assistant Town Manager	Barry D. Helms, 6128
Director of Engineering & Public Works	Wayne O. Nelson, 6120
Clerk of Council	Michele Stipes, 6128
Attorney	Guynn, Memmer & Dillon
Treasurer	Marie Howard, 9519
Building Official	James Bowman, 6120
Building Inspector	Jerry Heinline, Bill Aldridge, 6120
Chief of Police	Mark Sisson, 3131
Chief, Fire Department/Marshall	James W. Epperly, 4388
Parks and Recreation Director	Arthur (Art) G. Price, 2349
Public Works Superintendent	Ricky Bourne, 6120 or 4581
Waste Treatment Plant, Supt.	Dennis Fisher, 6128
Rescue Squad Captain	Kelly Walters, 9131
Planning Director	Randy S. Wingfield, 6120
Planning Commission, Chair	Steve Simmons
Recreation Commission, Chair	Mary B. Critzer
Board of Zoning Appeals, Chair	James Stewart

FAX Numbers: Municipal Building-Town Manager (540) 382-7338
Treasurer (540) 382-3762
Engineer, Planning, Building Inspectors (540) 381-7238

Web Page Address: www.christiansburg.org

Christiansburg Taxes & Licenses

Real Property Tax. Assessments for property within the town boundaries are supplied by the County Commissioner of Revenue. The rate for FY 08-09 is \$0.1126 per \$100 of assessed value (100% Fair Market Value). Taxes are due and payable December 5.

Personal Property Tax. Assessments for personal property taxes for Christiansburg residents are supplied by the County Commissioner of Revenue. The tax rate for FY 08-09 is \$0.45 per \$100 of assessed value (100% Loan Value). This tax is due December 5.

Motor Vehicle License. The fee for automobiles is \$27.50 for residents of the town, payable annually by December 31.

Public Utility Tax. A maximum tax monthly payment of \$2.00 for a residential user and \$20.00 for a commercial user on electric, telephone and gas consumption. It is collected by the utilities when the bill is paid.

Water and Sewer Rates. Billing is bi-monthly with a minimum rate of \$13.00 per 4,000 gallons or less, \$3.55 per thousand for the next 96,000 gallons, \$2.20 per thousand for the next 5,900,000 gallons. The base sewer rate is a minimum charge of \$22 for the first 4,000 gallons of water used, plus \$5.65 for each additional 1,000 gallons. Trash collection charges are added to the bill and are \$15.00 per month for the once a week service for residential users. Outside rates are 50% higher.

Meals Tax. A six percent meals tax (in addition to the State sales tax of 5 percent) is applied to the purchase of any prepared food and drink, or alcoholic beverages, whether bought in a restaurant, fast food establishment, convenience store, deli or other place of business.

Transient Lodging Tax. A seven percent lodging tax (in addition to the state sales tax of 5 percent) is applied to the total amount paid for lodging.

Recycling. The Town of Christiansburg accepts glass, plastic, steel, newspapers, mixed papers and aluminum containers at Home Depot, the Gateway Shopping Plaza, and the Betty Drive drop-off point.

The semi-annual Spring and Fall Cleanup weeks are set by Council to be the first Saturday through the third Saturday of April and October. The Town will pick up most trash and junk with the exception of construction materials and heavy machinery. There is a limit of four tires and two appliances per household.

Leaf collection is provided within corporate limits twice per year: March through Spring Cleanup weeks, and October through December.

Each spring the Town participates in a Household Hazardous Waste Day for the proper disposal of household chemicals (in the early spring).

Cigarette Tax. \$.40 per pack of 20 cig.

Please call 382-6128 for further information.

VOTING INFORMATION

VOTING

In order to vote in any election in Virginia a person must be:

- a U.S. citizen
- a resident of Virginia
- 18 years old by General Election day
- registered in the precinct in which you reside

VOTER REGISTRATION

When:

- Year round except during:
29 days prior to a general or primary election
13 days prior to any special election

Where:

- at the Voter Registration office.
County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Suite 1F,
Christiansburg, VA 24073
Office Telephone 382-5741;
- Regular Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
- At the DMV when applying for motor vehicle driver's licenses.
- by mail (location of applications listed below)

--by application in person at all offices in the state that provide public assistance or are primarily engaged in serving persons with disabilities.

--Special registrations: Last day to register or make changes in name or address is the 29th day prior to the general or primary election between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Failure to make changes may result in loss of vote on election day. Additional special registration times and places are provided by the registrar. Call the registrar's office, watch the newspapers, or listen to the radio for additional sites and information.

How to Register:

Appear in person at the office of the registrar of the resident locality or any locality or at one of the above mentioned agencies or by mail. Mail-in applications can be found at the Blacksburg Area Library, 400 Draper Road, the Blacksburg Post Office at 909 University City Boulevard, the Department of Motor Vehicles, 385 Arbor Dr., Christiansburg and the Christiansburg Library located at 125 Shelman Street. Registrants must provide under oath: full name, including maiden and any other prior legal name; age; date and place of birth; social security number, if any; whether a citizen of the United States; address and place of abode and date of residence in the precinct; place of any previous registrations to vote, whether ever adjudicated to be mentally incompetent or convicted of a felony, and if so, under what circumstances the right to vote has been restored. This information may be given orally to the registrar, if necessary. It is not necessary to declare a political party. No fee is charged. There is no durational residency requirement, but registration must be completed before the books are closed prior to any election. If a voter registration card is not received within a few weeks, always check with the Voter Registration Office to verify your application was received, and that you are properly registered.

How Often:

In order to keep your registration active, you must inform your Registrar of any changes to your address or name in writing. Mail to: Voter Registration Office, 755 Roanoke St., Suite 1F, Christiansburg, VA 24073-3175. Additional questions may be directed to: E. Randall Wertz, General Registrar, phone 382-5741.

Moving from the jurisdiction but within Virginia:

Request a mail registration from any registrar, complete it and mail to your new locality, register in person in the new locality, or at one of the above mentioned agencies.

County web site address for additional voting information: www.montva.com/departments/vote. Applications for voter registration and for absentee voting can be down loaded from the following web address: www.sbe.virginia.gov and click on "Voting in Virginia." State web site address for additional information on registration, elections, absentee voting, etc. Applications can be down loaded also: www.sbe.virginia.gov and click on "Voting in Virginia." State Board of Elections 1-800-552-9745.

GENERAL ELECTIONS

General elections are held on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November.

In even-numbered years voters elect:

- President and Vice President of the United States (4-year term)
- United States Senators (6-year term)
- U.S. Representative, 9th Congressional District (2-year term)

In odd numbered years, voters elect:

- Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General of Virginia (4-year terms)
- 1 Senator 21st VA Senatorial District (Montgomery County precincts A-1, A-2, A-3, B-1, E-1, E-2, F-1, F-2, G-1, G-2) 4 yr. terms
- 1 Senator 22nd VA Senatorial District (Montgomery County precincts B-2, B-3, B-4, C-1, C-2, C-3, C-4, D-1, D-2, D-3, D-4, D-5) 4 yr. terms
- 1 Delegate 12th Virginia House of Delegates District (Montgomery County precincts A-1, A-2, A-3, B-1, F-1, F-2, G-1, G-2)
- 1 Delegate 7th Virginia House of Delegates District (Montgomery County precincts B-2, B-3, B-4, C-1, C-2, C-3, C-4, D-1, D-2, D-3, D-4, D-5, E-1, E-2)
2-year terms
- County Constitutional Officers
 - Treasurer (4-year term)
 - Commissioner of Revenue (4-year term)
 - Sheriff (4-year term)
 - Commonwealth's Attorney (4-year term)
 - Clerk of the Circuit Court (8-year term)

County Board of Supervisors and School Board Members. Supervisors and School Board Members are elected by districts of which there are seven. Terms are staggered, and are for four years.

TOWN ELECTIONS

Blacksburg Town elections are held in November of odd numbered years.

Christiansburg Town elections are held in May of even numbered years.

In even-numbered years, voters elect:

- Mayor (4-year term)
- Council Members, Blacksburg and Christiansburg each have six council members: three are elected in each even numbered year, for 4-year terms.

ABSENTEE VOTING

A registered voter who expects to be out of the county on election day, who is confined (other than a convicted felon) to a penal institution, or who is unable to go to the polls because of a physical illness or disability may vote by absentee ballot.

Absentee ballot applications may be requested from any registrar's office. They can be requested by mail from 12 months prior to an election up to 7 days prior to the election.

In person absentee ballots can be voted at the registrar's office as soon as the ballots are ready during regular office hours and between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. the last two Saturdays prior to the general election. To vote an absentee ballot, follow the instructions enclosed with the ballot and return it by mail or in person. **IT MUST BE RECEIVED IN TIME TO BE DELIVERED BY THE ELECTORAL BOARD TO THE POLLING PLACE BY 7:00 P.M. ON ELECTION DAY.**

over

Local County Electoral Board:

Chair-Cynthia S. Chappelka

552-1251

Vice-Chair-John S. Nowlin

382-0606

Secretary - M. Dean Dowdy

953-2281

THE POLLS ARE OPEN FROM 6:00 A.M. UNTIL 7:00 P.M.

ANYONE WHO IS IN LINE WHEN THE POLLS CLOSE MAY VOTE

This publication was prepared as a public service by the **League of Women Voters of Montgomery County, Virginia** for the use of citizens of Montgomery County.

The **League of Women Voters** is a non-partisan organization of women and men whose purpose is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. The league is financed by members' dues and by contributions from interested citizens. For more information, contact the League of Women Voters, P.O. Box 10133, Blacksburg, VA 24062-0133/(540) 951-0644.

Help make Democracy work!

Join the Montgomery County LWV.

Call (540) 951-0644 for membership information.

<http://civic.bev.net/lwvmc/>

The Montgomery County League of Women Voters wishes to thank the following businesses and governments for their generous contributions and encouragement. Without it this 2008 FACTS FOR VOTERS would not be a reality.

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Town of Christiansburg

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