



# MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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# today

Spring 2021

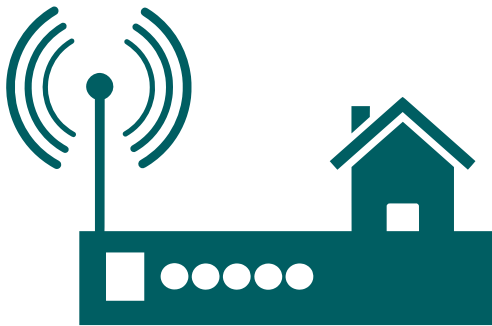
## FY 2021-22 county budget and tax rate approved

On April 19th, the Board of Supervisors approved its FY 2022 budget of \$211.3 million, effective as of July 1. The real estate tax rate remains 89 cents per \$100 assessed value, and personal property taxes remain at \$2.55.

The current fiscal year ends June 30. For more details, see [www.montva.com/budget](http://www.montva.com/budget)



## County addresses broadband infrastructure and service



In the summer of 2020, Montgomery County partnered with Gigabeam and Thompson & Litton to address areas in the county that

are underserved and unserved by broadband. On Mar. 18, 2021, Montgomery County was awarded a Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) grant to improve broadband infrastructure. Montgomery County is adding \$140,763 and Gigabeam is also adding \$140,763 to the \$919,569 VATI grant to extend our broadband network, bringing the total investment to \$1,201,095. In addition, Gigabeam has pledged to match \$206,540 as in-kind matching funds for resources to include labor

and equipment use, design, and fiber connections/routers.

The extended broadband network will bring fixed wireless broadband access to 1,292 serviceable units, including 44 businesses in Allegheny Springs, Elliston, Lafayette, and Shawsville. Construction will begin this summer, with anticipated completion by the summer of 2022. To stay informed on broadband updates in the county, visit [www.montva.com/broadband](http://www.montva.com/broadband)

## New recreation, workspace, and storage areas under construction



Construction on Creed Fields Park (pictured) in the Elliston/Shawsville area will be completed by this summer. The park will include four fields for football, lacrosse, soccer, baseball, softball, coach pitch and t-ball; bathrooms; a playground; a shelter; and a walking path.

Creed Fields Park was named after long-time Board of Supervisor member Gary Creed, who

represented Eastern Montgomery from 2002-2018. The estimated cost for this project is \$2.5 million.

In February, construction began on four buildings behind the Montgomery County Government Center. The purpose of these buildings is to provide workspace and storage for the county's field crews within buildings and  
*(Continued on next page)*

# Residents 16+ eligible for COVID-19 vaccine

All residents, ages 16+, are eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. In addition, anyone 65+ can walk in at any VDH clinic without an appointment to receive a vaccine. If you are under the age of 65 and would like to schedule an appointment, visit [www.NRVRoadToWellness.com](http://www.NRVRoadToWellness.com). You can also check the CDC's Vaccine Finder at [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV), or call 540-

838-8222 for local vaccines. We hope you will continue to do your part for our community by practicing the 3 W's: Wear a mask, Watch your distance, and Wash your hands.

**Be committed.**

**Be well.**

## New areas under construction - continued.

grounds, the garage, and the Public Service Authority (PSA). The General Services building is 13,439 square feet and will house a garage for vehicle repairs; buildings and grounds office area and workshop; office and repair areas for lawns and landscaping and Parks and Recreation field crews; and a solid waste collections equipment storage area. The PSA building is slated to be 4,324 square feet and

will include office space for field crews; a repair shop; and a materials storage area. The other two facilities, salt shed and equipment storage shed, 875 and 7,000 square feet, respectively, will be used for storage.

The estimated construction cost for these facilities is \$5 million, with an anticipated completion date of summer 2022.

## Public encouraged to track MS4 efforts

To prevent the discharge of pollutants such as pet waste, sediment, nutrients, trash, engine oil, and fertilizers into waterways, Montgomery County is required to have a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit.

Public participation is a significant measurement of the success of our stormwater management plan! Do you pick up your pet's waste, pick up trash in your community, or plant pollinators or native plants?



Log your efforts on our MS4 Public Participation App. Doing this shows our community is involved with our

program's success. (Scan the code with your smart phone or visit <http://arccg.is/1iC0aL0>)

Learn more about the county's MS4 permit and efforts to support an environmentally healthy community at [www.montva.com/stormwater](http://www.montva.com/stormwater)

## Lifetime dog licenses available

As of Nov. 2020, Montgomery County began issuing lifetime animal licenses for individual dogs four months or older. To purchase this \$25 lifetime dog license, present your dog's original valid rabies vaccination certificate at either the Montgomery County Treasurer's Office; the Montgomery County Animal Care and Adoption Center; or the Blacksburg Municipal Building. Or, you can purchase by mail through the Montgomery County Treasurer's Office. An individual lifetime tag will be valid as long as the rabies vaccination is up-to-date. To learn more, visit [montva.com/treasurer](http://montva.com/treasurer)



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