

## Gas Going Down; Boone Prices Stuck

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Wednesday, 24 October 2012 06:15

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AAA Carolinas says the average gas price in North Carolina today is 11 cents less than seven days ago, marking the greatest price decline in one week since 2008. The average price for a gallon of gas in North Carolina today is \$3.58, compared to \$3.69 one week ago. Gas prices have dropped 27 cents since Sept. 14, when it was \$3.85. Motorists are still paying 15 cents more than they did on this date one year ago and have been paying more in 2012 than in 2011 since Aug. 15 of this year. So gas has dropped a bit for us here in the High Country. The further out of Boone, the faster gas prices are dropping, meaning, yes; our Gas Gap is still gaining on us. I bought gas in West Jefferson yesterday for \$3.52.9 at a station that offered even \$3.42.9 if you bought with a brand gift card—and the card was free. The same station had been at \$3.58.9 earlier in the week. First prices posted upon returning to Boone—\$3.77.9. Yes, there are some Blowing Rock Road prices that are \$3.69.9, but with the majority of High Country traffic passing through Boone, it would appear there is a bit of profiteering from the tourism trade. The lowest Wilkesboro price has dropped to \$3.39.9. And prices in Tennessee as reported by a GoBlueRidge.net reader are in a price war, dropping as low as \$3.02 in the Kingsport area, with another reporting that border areas have prices Sunday in Elizabethton for \$3.39 a gallon, and gas this morning in Mountain City at Parson's Quick Shop on Highway 421 was \$3.54.9.