



# RIVER BEND NEWS

FROM TOWN HALL

[www.riverbendnc.org](http://www.riverbendnc.org)



## THE TOWN OF RIVER BEND'S CHARTER AND COMPLIANCE

BY MAYOR JOHN KIRKLAND

The Towns and Cities in North Carolina are charted by Act of the General Assembly. A Google search for “municipal government in North Carolina” results in the following: “In North Carolina, cities, towns and villages are incorporated municipalities which means that the North Carolina General Assembly (or, in a few cases, a former state agency known as the Municipal Board of Control) has granted a charter authorizing the establishment of a municipal corporation (government)

and outlining the powers, authority and responsibilities of the municipal government. Some of these are specified in the charter and some are authorized by state statutes.” (NCLM, How NC Cities Work)

The Town Charter is printed on the Town’s web page and runs for nine pages. The charter is complete with the January 14, 1981, charter and the several amendments that the General Assembly has authorized in the years since 1981. (Rather than print the document here it is requested that citizens read the Charter on the web page.)

The Town Council, Manager and staff must comply with the direction of the Town’s Charter, the laws of the State of North Carolina and the laws of the Federal Government. It is apparent that the day-to-day operation of municipal government in North Carolina does not operate by whim, but by direction from the General Assembly and the Federal Congress.

The River Bend Town Council, Manager and Staff has done very well in complying with these mandates.

Source:

How NC Cities Work. How NC cities work. (n.d.). <https://www.nclm.org/advocacy/how-nc-cities-work>

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## **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

BY TOWN MANAGER DELANE JACKSON

The Atlantic Hurricane season runs from June 1 through November 30 each year. However, a hurricane can form outside of those dates. Historically, fall is the most active part of hurricane season. September is the busiest month for hurricanes. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

(NOAA), from 1851 to 2022, there were 709 tropical storms in the Atlantic. 63 of those became U.S. land falling hurricanes. The next busiest month was August with 439 and 44 respectively. During that same time frame, there were 122 tropical storms in November, with 2 becoming U.S. land falling hurricanes. We are in the heart of Hurricane Season.

Our proximity to the Atlantic coast, combined with the low elevation above sea level for large parts of our town, make River Bend vulnerable to impacts from Hurricanes. A tropical system does not need to develop into a hurricane to cause damage in River Bend, particularly in the special flood hazard area (SFHA), commonly called the "flood zone."

Because of these facts, if you live in River Bend, you should consider purchasing flood insurance. You can obtain a policy from a local agent, through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The Town of River Bend is a participant in the Community Rating System (CRS) of the NFIP. In short, that means that the town maintains records and files on flood zone properties, has and enforces a local flood damage prevention ordinance and meets other annual minimums to be a CRS town. Our CRS status means that River Bend residents who live in the SFHA are eligible for a 10% discount on annual flood insurance policy premiums.

Our records indicate that 503 homes in River Bend were flooded during Hurricane Florence, which made landfall on September 14, 2018. According to data from the NFIP, just before Hurricane Florence made landfall, there were 443 flood insurance policies in effect in River Bend. That means there were at least 60 flooded homes that did not have flood insurance.

Today, there are 448 flood insurance policies in effect in River Bend. That is an increase of 5 policies in 5 years since 2018. Today, there are 488 homes located in the SFHA in River Bend. That is a 92% coverage rate, which is very good. But there are still 40 homes that are not covered. It is important to note that being located

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outside of a SFHA on the map does not mean that your home is safe from flooding. It just means that the risk of flooding is lower. On a personal note, my home is not located in a SFHA, but it is close. I can see the SFHA from my front porch. Just to be safe, I maintain flood insurance.

Of the currently insured homes in River Bend, cumulatively, those polices have total annual premiums of \$374,480 and are insured for a total \$118,274,000. On average, each policy owner pays \$835 in annual premium and is insured for \$264,000. Typically, regular home owners insurance does not cover damages from rising waters (flooding). If you are uncertain about your insurance coverage, you should contact your agent now. Do not wait until after the storm to learn that you are not covered.

It is true that flood insurance is like most other types of insurance, in that there may be many years that you pay the premium and never have a claim. Based on the figures above, a \$264,000 claim in River Bend would pay for 316 years' worth of the \$835 annual premium. I strongly encourage every River Bend resident who is in or close to the SFHA to consider purchasing flood insurance. Flood insurance typically does not go into effect until 30 days after it is purchased. If you wait until a tropical storm or hurricane is projected to impact River Bend, like Idalia recently was, it may be too late.

Updated 9-5-2023



## **WRD/PW REPORT**

BY BRANDON MILLS  
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Our Public Works staff worked diligently through the month to continue their ongoing task of trimming limbs at intersections. This effort aims to enhance visibility, and safety for all road users. Public works also cleaned out several stormwater catch basins. We do this regularly to ensure effective drainage throughout the stormwater system. This proactive approach keeps the storm drainage system working properly during heavy rain events.

We had one water main break on Norbury Drive this month. A Metronet contractor caused this break during the installation of their cable piping. Our dedicated staff promptly got the water shut off to prevent damage to the roadway, and the pipe repaired. Notices were given to those affected, and the required bacteriological sample was taken. This sample came back negative for contamination. I would like to thank all of the staff for a job well done. We did have one lift station pump to burn up. It was also quickly identified, and a backup pump installed. The original pump has been rebuilt by our staff and reinstalled back into the lift station.

If you have any questions concerning the Water Resources/Public Works Department, please call us at 638-3540, Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm. After-Hours water and sewer emergencies can be reported by dialing the Town Hall at 638-3870. You will be instructed to dial “9” and follow the directions to contact the on-call duty operator. You will then be asked to enter your phone number at the sound of the tone. After entering your phone number, the automated system will inform you that your page has been sent. Please be patient and our utility systems operator will return your call. If you do not receive a call back within ten minutes, please notify the Police Department at 638-1108, and they will get in contact with the on-call utility systems operator.

### **REPORTING AFTER HOURS WATER-SEWER EMERGENCIES**

- ◆ Dial Town Hall at 638-3870.
- ◆ Dial “9” and follow the directions to contact the on-call duty operator.
- ◆ Enter your phone number at the sound of the tone.
- ◆ The automated system will inform you that your page has been sent.
- ◆ Our utility operator will return your call.
- ◆ If you do not receive a call back within ten minutes, please notify the Police Department at 638-1108. They will get in touch with the on-call utility system operator.

# COMING EVENTS

\*Canceled\*  
RBCOG Meeting  
September 4  
1:30 p.m.  
Municipal Building

\*Canceled\*  
EWAB Meeting  
September 4  
7:00 p.m.  
Municipal Building

RBCOG  
Special Meeting  
September 5  
1:30 p.m.  
Municipal Building

Parks & Rec Meeting  
September 6  
7:00 p.m.  
Municipal Building

Planning Board Meeting  
September 7  
6:00 p.m.  
Municipal Building

Council Work Session  
September 14  
7 p.m.  
Town Hall

Book/Tech Mobile @  
Municipal Building  
September 15  
2:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Council Meeting &  
Public Hearing  
September 21  
7 p.m.  
Town Hall

Yoga & Zumba  
Schedules  
can be found  
[HERE](#).

Community Yardsale Sponsored By Parks & Rec  
Saturday, September 30, 2023  
7 AM- 1 PM



## RIVER BEND NEWS

FROM TOWN HALL  
is published monthly by the  
River Bend Town Council for  
the residents of the Town of  
River Bend.

MAYOR  
John Kirkland

TOWN COUNCIL  
Brian Leonard  
Barbara Maurer  
Buddy Sheffield  
Jeff Weaver

TOWN MANAGER  
Delane Jackson

TOWN CLERK  
Kristie Nobles

FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR  
Mandy Gilbert

POLICE CHIEF  
Sean Joll

DIRECTOR OF  
PUBLIC WORKS  
Brandon Mills

ASSISTANT  
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR  
Allison McCollum

GRAPHIC DESIGN &  
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Jennifer Barrow

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45 Shoreline Drive  
River Bend, NC 28562  
252.638.3870  
[www.riverbendnc.org](http://www.riverbendnc.org)

## Leaf & Limb Collection Schedule for 2023-2024

Residents may begin placing their yard debris street side on the dates indicated in parentheses

### Zone 1 Pick Up Begins

July 10, 2023  
*(July 5, 2023)*  
September 11, 2023  
*(September 6, 2023)*  
November 13, 2023  
*(November 8, 2023)*  
December 11, 2023  
*(December 6, 2023)*  
January 15, 2024  
(includes Christmas trees)  
*(January 10, 2024)*  
March 11, 2024  
*(March 8, 2024)*  
May 13, 2024  
*(May 8, 2024 )*

### Zone 2 Pick Up Begins

July 17, 2023  
*(July 12, 2023)*  
September 18, 2023  
*(September 13, 2023)*  
November 20, 2023  
*(November 15, 2023)*  
December 18, 2023  
*(December 13, 2023)*  
January 22, 2024  
(includes Christmas trees)  
*(January 17, 2024)*  
March 18, 2024  
*(March 13, 2024)*  
May 20, 2024  
*(May 15, 2024)*

Pinecones, pine straw and leaves must NOT be bagged. For additional important information about River Bend's Leaf & Limb collection program, please see our updated Ordinance online at  
[www.riverbendnc.org](http://www.riverbendnc.org).

*\*Green type indicates a completed leaf & limb collection*

## Town Council 2023 Meeting Dates

Work Session .....	January 12
Regular Meeting .....	January 19
Work Session .....	February 9
Regular Meeting .....	February 16
Work Session .....	March 9
Regular Meeting .....	March 16
Work Session .....	April 13
Regular Meeting .....	April 20
Work Session .....	May 11
Regular Meeting .....	May 18
Work Session .....	June 8
Regular Meeting .....	June 15
Work Session .....	July 13 <b>Canceled</b>
Regular Meeting .....	July 20
Work Session .....	August 10
Regular Meeting .....	August 17
Work Session .....	September 14
Regular Meeting .....	September 21
Work Session .....	October 12
Regular Meeting .....	October 19
Work Session .....	November 9
Regular Meeting .....	November 16
Work Session .....	December 7
Regular Meeting .....	December 14

All Council Work Sessions will be held in the River Bend Town Hall beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Regular Council Meetings will be held in the River Bend Town Hall beginning at 7:00 p.m.

## Budget Meetings

All Budget Meetings have been completed.

# etc.



## Golf Cart Registration

Town ordinances allow for residents to drive their properly equipped golf carts on River Bend streets provided that they are inspected by and registered with our Police Department. If you plan to drive your golf cart on the roadways, you must display the current year registration decal. Decals for 2023 are available now.

Inspection and registration are required annually. The registration fee for each golf cart is \$10.

For additional information and to make your inspection reservation, please call the River Bend Police Department at 638-1108. Click [HERE](#) for more information



## Registration is Required for all Dogs and Cats

River Bend Animal Registrations for 2023 were due by March 31, 2023. All River Bend dogs and cats must be registered annually.

Office hours are Monday-Friday, 8 AM-4 PM.

Owners must present proof of rabies vaccination at the time of registration. Click [HERE](#) for more information.



## Pet I. D. Photos Now Available

The Town of River Bend is now offering residents the opportunity to link a digital photo of their registered pets to our Animal Registration database. When you register your pet this year, you may submit a photo by e-mail, or staff can scan a photo for you if you prefer. This photo database will help reunite lost pets with their owners more quickly in the event a pet becomes lost.

The service is voluntary and free of charge.

## DOG PARK AT RIVER BEND



River Bend dogs have their own exercise area where they can play with other canines. Situated between the Town Park and Ritter Field, the dog park gives dogs a chance to run while their owners socialize.

The park is open from sunrise to sunset for dogs with proof of current vaccinations. Separate exercise areas accommodate large and small dogs.

For complete list of rules applicable to dog park use, please visit our web site at [www.riverbendnc.org](http://www.riverbendnc.org). Dog park rules are also posted at the entrance to the park.

**etc.**  
continued

Sign up for our  
**Emergency Notification System**  
and receive timely notifications by phone, e-mail, text messages and more.

**SIGN UP NOW**  
at [www.riverbendnc.org](http://www.riverbendnc.org)

*this service provided by the Town of River Bend through  
**Blackboard**  
connect*

## Special Needs Registry

If you have a medical condition for which you require any type of special medical care during a disaster or if your medical condition requires assistance to evacuate during a disaster, you may wish to apply to Craven County for their Special Needs Registry. The River Bend Police Department can provide you with the appropriate form and provide some basic information about the County's program.

THIS AREA  
OBSERVED BY  
COMMUNITY WATCH  
CITIZENS  
RIVER BEND POLICE DEPARTMENT  
638-1108

River Bend has a very active Community Watch program supported by our Police Department. If you are interested in volunteering, call the River Bend Police Department at 638-1108.



River Bend has a skateboard park to meet the needs of some of our more athletic residents.

A signed parental approval [form](#) is required and helmet use is strictly enforced. For more information about the skateboard park, visit our web site or call the River Bend Police Department at 638-1108.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.