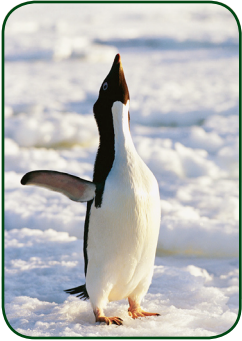


RIVER BEND NEWS

FROM TOWN HALL

www.riverbendnc.org



HAPPY
NEW YEAR



This is River Bend
BY MAYOR JOHN KIRKLAND

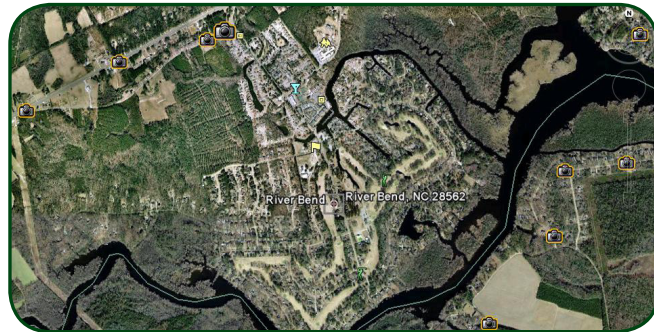
The picture below is a high-quality satellite image of River Bend displayed by Google Earth if you query “River Bend NC” in their search engine. It’s even possible to view Town streets and many residences from street level using this program. This photograph is but one example of twenty-first century technology and illustrates the positive features available to computer users today.

It also illustrates how easy it is for anyone to print a map of any location worldwide. Like many aspects of modern computer technology, there are very positive aspects and at the same time the same technology can be used by persons whose intent is to engage in destructive behavior. Technology is here to stay! Everyone needs

to accept that we are not going to be able to go back to an age without computers. It is up to every individual to understand the technology and use the positive elements and reject the postings

that are destructive to civil conduct of our day-by-day lives. Not everything you see or read on the postings is “the truth.”

The Town has an excellent web site that is maintained by the staff and will provide answers to many questions about River Bend. Our web site includes the following information: the Council meeting schedule, scheduled budget work sessions, Town ordinances, departmental contact information, the leaf and limb pickup schedule, dates that Town Hall will be closed for holidays, information about our



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Advisory Boards and special Town events. These are just a few of the postings that citizens can review and print. The web site is also a positive source of information available for out-of-town individuals who may be thinking of relocating to this area. The Council is considering extending the use of this technology by joining the “social media” sites as a cross reference that will lead the person making the contact back to our web page.

We live in an exciting era. Computer technology is not the only element of change we have witnessed, but it may be the most important indicator of change. Modern technology has allowed us to live in a nation that enjoys a standard of living that could hardly have been a dream only a few years ago. The modern era also places demands on each of us to act in a way that provides a path to future generations. That path must build on a former time when individual citizens

“We live in an exciting era. Computer technology is not the only element of change we have witnessed, but it may be the most important indicator of change.”

took much greater responsibility for their own future and their own actions. The nation can continue on the path that brought us to the present age, but it will require our individual and collective actions to arrive at that result. We need to unite and adhere to positive goals and not constantly look for others to blame for real or perceived problems. In short, we must adhere to a high sense of personal integrity as we use modern technology. There seems to be a tendency to post electronic messages that we would not utter in face-to-face conversation. Someone once said that in using the internet, one should never post something that you don’t want your mother to read. That is wise advice.

Modern technology is neither good nor bad. Rather, its value depends on how we choose to use it. ●



**TOWN MANAGER'S
REPORT**

BY TOWN MANAGER DREW HAVENS

Will Rogers is quoted as saying that “Even if you’re on the right track, you’ll get run over if you just sit there.” I think we are on the right track, but I do not think we run the risk of being run over! We continue to look for ways to improve the service we provide to our residents while being mindful that all services require resources. Over the past year we made improvements in the way we communicate with our residents by expanding the information available on our web site, we

prepared an award-winning budget document that provides details of our operations in an easy-to-read format, and we maintain easy-to-understand financial dashboards on-line for all to monitor the financial health of this community. We continue to work hard to look for even more ways to make your town government as transparent and easy to access as possible.

This town is blessed with a small, but hard working staff. From the men and woman of your police department, to the folks who work in administrative capacities in the Town Hall, to those who work in public works and water resources, our goal is to provide efficient, equitable, and responsive services. As an example of this type of dedication, Superintendent Chris Massengill supervises a crew of five who are well trained and focused on providing efficient quality service to the town. Three of these men are assigned to water/wastewater operations, and two to public works. In spite of their job titles, they are more interested in getting a job done than whose “job” it is. To be sure, there are technical aspects of each department that require special training and certifications, but there are other aspects that need a spirit of teamwork, and that is what Chris has developed. We see this type of teamwork in other areas of our operations as well and feel the town is well served by this approach.

“In spite of their job titles, they are more interested in getting a job done than whose “job” it is. We see this type of teamwork in other areas of our operations as well and feel the town is well served by this approach.”

We continue to work on completing projects funded in the 2010–11 fiscal year and are working on plans for the year to come. I encourage you to read the superintendent’s report for more specific information on our current projects. Department

“We will mail out information in the next water bill regarding the budget workshops and invite all interested parties to attend and participate.”

heads and advisory boards have been given the schedule of budget workshops and forms to complete so proposed projects and/or purchases can be given appropriate consideration during these sessions. As discussed in our budget sessions last year, ours is truly a year-

round process. We will mail out information in the next water bill regarding the budget workshops and invite all interested parties to attend and participate.

River Bend, once again, looks very festive at Christmas time. The Community Appearance Commission, and willing volunteers supported by our Public Works crew did an outstanding job of decorating around Town Hall, Town Commons, and

the front entrance. If you are interested in volunteering for an advisory board, or just want to participate in some activities like decorating the Town, you are encouraged to visit our web site (riverbendnc.org) to see what opportunities are available.

Calvin Coolidge, a fellow Vermonter, wrote, "Christmas is not a time nor a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas". It is my sincere wish that each of you will find this spirit this holiday season and keep it with you all year long. ●

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ZONING REPORT

BY CHRIS SANTOS
ASSISTANT ZONING ADMINISTRATOR
AND FLOOD PLAIN MANAGER

My position as Assistant Zoning Administrator and Flood Plain Administrator for River Bend involves several duties. One of my primary responsibilities includes issuing zoning permits for our residents. For the month of December, 4 permits were issued in the zoning and floodplain development department. These permits include permits for a roof extension, improvements and/or additions to existing structures, and a fence. Permit fees totaled \$340.00.

Even though hurricane season has finally passed, this does not mean that flooding events won't happen. Should you have concerns about flooding, or if you would like information on techniques to make your home more resistant to flooding, please contact me immediately to schedule an appointment. Flooding causes enormous amounts of damage each year and, while we can't always prevent floods from happening, there are many things we can do to help alleviate and mitigate damages should such an event occur. Should you not have flood insurance on your home and personal belongings, please feel free to contact me to discuss flood insurance and your options. Please know that the sooner you do, the better as there is a 30-day waiting period after the purchase of flood insurance for it to become effective. I strongly urge everyone in our community to get flood insurance; even if you don't live in the 100-year flood zone. As we all know, flooding can happen anywhere.

For all of our residents, please know that residents or contractors must secure a permit before beginning any construction project. Our most typical projects include new construction, garages, driveways, utility buildings, porches, decks, pools, fences, and drainage structures, but these are not the only items that require a permit.

Please call Town Hall before starting work on any project. The Town of River Bend works closely with the Craven County Planning and Inspections Department on all construction projects; Craven County will not issue a building permit until a contractor or resident provides a River Bend Permit. They also will not issue a Certificate of Occupancy until you present a Certificate of Zoning Compliance from River Bend for your completed project. All areas of River Bend, including our extraterritorial jurisdictions, must comply with our Land Use Ordinance. If you, or someone you know, are thinking about doing any work to your property, please contact me at 638-3870 ext. 216 so that all necessary paperwork can be completed. Please, also, share this information with your neighbors and, most especially, new residents if you should learn that they are about to begin any type of construction project.

“Craven County will not issue a building permit until a contractor or resident provides a River Bend Permit. They also will not issue a Certificate of Occupancy until you present a Certificate of Zoning Compliance from River Bend for your completed project.”

Enforcement of the Town Code and Land Use Ordinances are essential to the well being of the Town and its residents. If you are aware of a violation, please contact me immediately at 638-3870 ext. 216. If I am unavailable to help you, the Police Department is an essential tool in helping to enforce Town Ordinances; feel free to contact them at 638-1108. ●



WRD/PW JULY REPORT
BY CHRISTINA M. MASSENGILL
SUPERINTENDENT
WATER RESOURCES/PUBLIC WORKS

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. November has been another busy month for stormwater maintenance and repair. Along with their regular duties, Public Works and Water Resources have been working together to complete several work orders concerning stormwater maintenance and repair.

Public Works hosted a crew of inmates from the Newport Correctional Facility early this month. The inmates worked with Mike to complete several large stormwater maintenance/repair issues. First, the inmates cleared a sewer easement along Pirates Road. Second, Mike had them clean the ditch behind the Wildwood offices to allow for better stormwater flow. This is a very long and deep ditch and because of its location, parts of it can be difficult to get to, which made this project very labor intensive. The inmates were very handy at getting limbs and debris loaded on the trailer for disposal. Last, Mike and the inmate crew completed a very

large stormwater project in Lakemere. During the rain event in late September rock and geo-tech fabric was severely washed out between Lakemere and Lochbridge. The inmates placed the fabric back down and replaced several ton of rip rap rock. They did a great job. If you haven't seen it, ride by and take a look. The area looks very nice. We hope to get the inmate crew back sometime in March. Public Works is in the process of organizing the list of duties for that time.

While Mike was busy with the inmate crew, Allen continued working on the smaller work orders. He filled in several sinkholes along Plantation Drive near the bulkhead before you get to Knotline Road and also some on Channel Run near Raft Road. After the inmates left, Mike and Allen continued the clean up by replacing some rock and cutting down some dead tress in Lochbridge.

Water Resources staff assisted Public Works staff in their stormwater clean up while continuing to keep up with regular departmental duties. When the inmate crew was clearing the sewer easement on Pirates Road, they found a sewer leak which – because of the depth – required W.O. White's assistance. W.O. White had a crew on site within two hours. They spent the remaining two hours of daylight unloading their digging equipment and coning off the area preparing for an early morning repair. At 7:00 a.m. the next morning, the digging began. The repair was completed by lunch. To insure proper notification, a call was made to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) at the Washington Regional Office. A report was generated

“Water Resources staff assisted Public Works staff in their stormwater clean up while continuing to keep up with regular departmental duties.”

and is on file at the Water Resources Office on Wildwood Drive. Brandon assisted Alex from Elster/Amco Water Co. on updating the radio read system. Brandon and his crew are working with Alex to replace the sensor holders with updated holders that are thinner and flatter than the old ones that mushroom up. The new updated ones allow for better clearance if run over by a lawn mower.

If you have any questions concerning the Water Resources and Public Works Departments, please call us at 638-3540, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. After-hours water and sewer emergencies should be reported by calling our pager number 672-6309. You will be asked to enter in your telephone number after the message. A Utility Operator will return your call. Please be aware that dial pulse telephones and some cordless phones do not always register your number. If you do not receive a call back within ten minutes, please notify the Police Department at 638-1108. ●

COMING EVENTS

*Work Session
January 13, 2011
7:00 p.m.
Town Hall*

*Council Meeting
January 20, 2011
7:00 p.m.
Town Hall*

*Christmas Decorations Removal
Monday, January 3
9:00 a.m.
CAC Members and volunteers
will meet at Town Hall*

*Golf Cart Registration
continues
Please make an appointment
with the Police Department for
inspection & registration
638-1108*

*Zone 1
Leaf & Limb Pick Up
Begins
January 10, 2011
begin placing debris at street on
January 5
Christmas Trees Included*

*Zone 2
Leaf & Limb Pick Up
Begins
January 17, 2011
begin placing debris at street on
January 12
Christmas Trees Included*



**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
Bert Linkonis
Phil Seymour
Charlie Sharpe
Irving "Bud" Van Slyke, Jr.
Karl Wolfer

TOWN MANAGER
Drew Havens

TOWN CLERK
Ann Katsuyoshi

FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR
Margaret Marshburn

POLICE CHIEF
Earl "Duke" Pratt

**WATER RESOURCES/
PUBLIC WORKS
SUPERINTENDENT**
Christina Massengill

**ASSISTANT
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR**
Chris Santos

**GRAPHIC DESIGN &
TYPOGRAPHY**
Kathleen De Young

Contact Us:
45 Shoreline Drive
River Bend, NC 28562
252.638-3870
www.riverbendnc.org

**Leaf & Limb
Collection
Schedule for
2010-2011**

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

Zone 1 Pick Up Begins

January 10, 2011
(January 5)
also Christmas Trees
March 21, 2011
(March 16)
May 16, 2011
(May 11)

Zone 2 Pick Up Begins

January 17, 2011
(January 12)
also Christmas Trees
March 28, 2011
(March 22)
May 23, 2011
(May 18)

Pinecones, pine straw and
leaves must be bagged. For
additional important infor-
mation about River Bend's
Leaf & Limb collection
program, please see our
Ordinance online at www.riverbendnc.org. ●

**Town Council
2011 Meeting Dates**

Work Session January 13
Regular Meeting January 20

Council Retreat February 1
Work Session February 10
Regular Meeting February 17

Budget Meeting March 8
Work Session March 10
Budget Meeting March 15
Regular Meeting March 17
Budget Meeting March 22
Budget Meeting March 29

Budget Meeting April 5
Budget Meeting April 12
Work Session April 14
Budget Meeting April 19
Regular Meeting April 21

Council Retreat May 3
Work Session May 12
Regular Meeting May 19

Work Session June 9
Regular Meeting June 16

Work Session July 14
Regular Meeting July 21

Council Retreat August 2
Work Session August 11
Regular Meeting August 18

Work Session September 8
Regular Meeting September 15

Work Session October 13
Regular Meeting October 20

Council Retreat November 1
Work Session November 10
Regular Meeting November 17

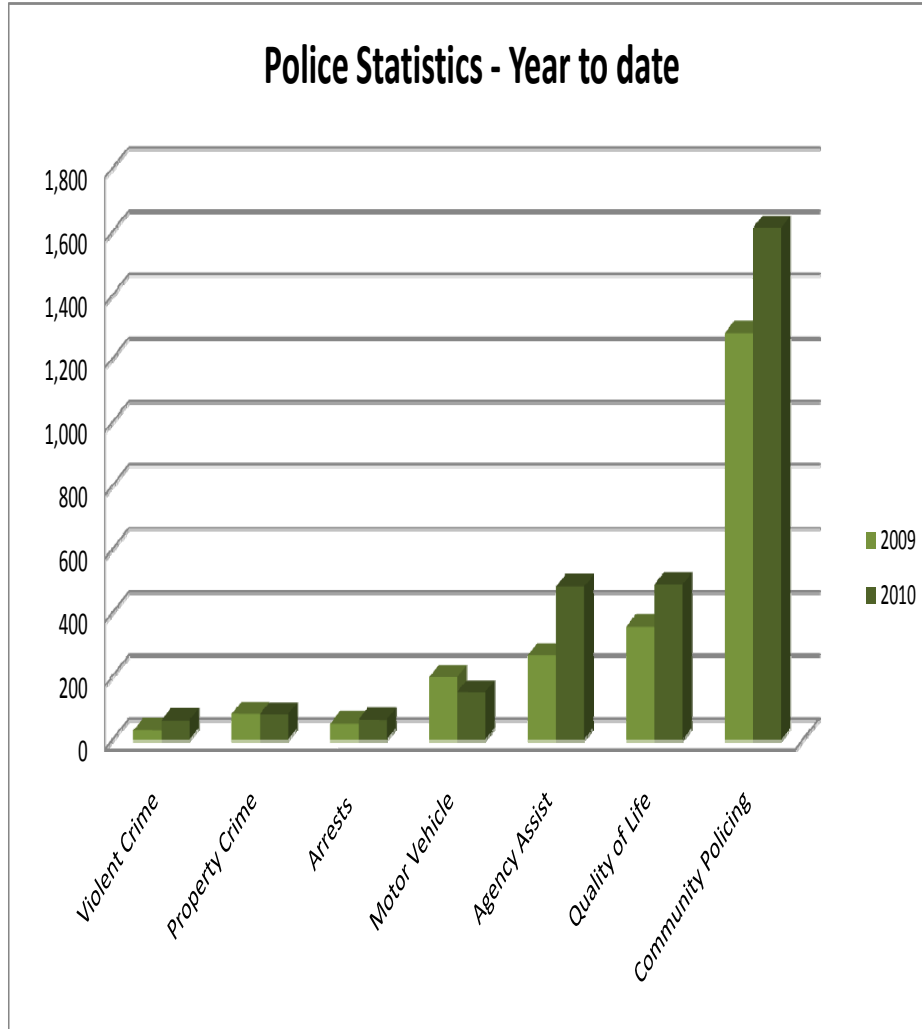
Work Session December 8
Regular Meeting December 15



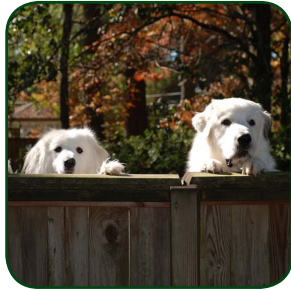
POLICE REPORT

EARL "DUKE" PRATT
CHIEF OF POLICE

	2009	2010
Violent Crime	30	62
Property Crime	83	81
Arrests	53	64
Motor Vehicle	197	151
Agency Assist	266	483
Quality of Life	358	491
Community Policing	1,282	1,613
Total Activity	2,269	2,945



- Violent Crime: Includes Assault, Robbery, and Domestic
- Property Crime: Includes B&E, Identity Theft, Larcenies, Property Damage
- Arrests: Includes Summonses, Subpoena, and Involuntary Commitments
- Motor Vehicle: Includes Crashes, Warnings, Citations, and Complaints
- Agency Assist: Includes other Law Enforcement, EMS/First Responders, and Fire
- Quality of Life: Animal Complaints, Littering, Loud Music/Noise, Soliciting, Town Ordinance Citations and Warnings
- Community Policing: Includes Alarms, Assist Citizens, Assist Motorists, Juvenile Complaints, Missing Persons, Residential Checks, Roadway Debris, Suspicious Persons, Trespassing, Weapons & Hunting Violations, Welfare Checks



Animal Registration Begins in January

River Bend Animal Registrations for 2011 are due by March 31, 2011. All River Bend dogs and cats must be registered annually.

You may register your pets at Town Hall beginning Tuesday, January 4, 2011.

Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. Registration is \$6.00 per pet. Owners are required to present a current rabies vaccination certificate at the time of registration.



2011 Golf Cart Registration Begins in December

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.

Inspection and registration are required annually. Registration for 2011 will begin in December. 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.



River Ben to Arrive in Bear Park in January

River Ben will be moved to his permanent location in River Bend early on January 10th.

Watch for an announcement about Ben's relocation to his permanent location in Bear Park.



River Bend has a functional Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). For more information about this group, or to volunteer, please contact the CERT liaison, Sgt. Riegelsperger and/or visit our web site.



Our Wildwood Storage Facility offers a variety of indoor and outdoor storage areas to meet all of your storage needs, including parking spaces for RVs and boats. For more information, call 638-3870, ext 216.

Morning Call in River Bend

an important new service for our residents



Morning Call is an automated telephone calling service provided by the River Bend Police Department in its mission to ensure the safety and well being of all town residents. Please call 638-3870 for details.



Mason Bee House Workshop

The Parks & Recreation Department will hold a workshop to build a Mason Bee House on Saturday, January 22, 2011. The workshop will take place at Town Hall from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

Please bring your own drill with a 5/16 inch drill bit. The instructor will have a few extra drills on hand for participants who don't own a drill.

Please call Mary Iorio at 535-3040 if you plan to attend. Pre-registration is required.

**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 638-3870.

Sign up for our Emergency Notification System

and receive timely emergency notifications by telephone, cell phone and e-mail.

SIGN UP NOW
at riverbendnc.org

*this service provided by the Town of River Bend through
Connect-CTY*