



HAPPY
HOLIDAYS



**RIVER BEND
CHRISTMAS 2018**
BY MAYOR JOHN KIRKLAND

The year 2018 will forever be etched in the minds of all of us who call River Bend home because of Hurricane Florence. The mid-September hurricane caused greater property damage in River Bend than all previous hurricanes. More than 400 dwellings in town were impacted by flood water.

The response of the Town staff has been outstanding, and I attempted to credit them in last month's River Bender. Our Town was fortunate to have many volunteer organizations assist residents who experienced

storm damage. The Red Cross, the Salvation Army, local Church members, Faith Groups and other organizations from many states and even Canada volunteered here for more than two weeks. Six North Carolina municipalities responded to Manager Jackson's request for mutual aid support by sending trucks and crews to assist in the removal of debris to the landfill. This response represents what is great about our nation.

"Our Town was fortunate to have many volunteer organizations assist residents who experienced storm damage."

In early November the staff announced the beginning of the annual food drive in support of RCS and the beginning of the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots campaign. In a matter of only three days, River Benders had filled two of the extra-large food bins and one of the toy boxes. All of this generosity since the hurricane in September should reinforce the Spirit of Christmas in all of us.

Now we look forward to Christmas and a new year and the hurricane recovery.

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The recovery will take time. It is not possible to know how long it will take, but with a unified effort by all River Benders, the proper solution and a pleasant Town will be restored.

So, as we approach the Christmas season, let us all remember the words of Tiny Tim in the Charles Dickens' novel, A Christmas Carol, "God bless us everyone." Those words were his Christmas Blessing. May we experience and express such a feeling toward others this Christmas Season. Merry Christmas. ■



**WRD/PW
SEPTEMBER REPORT**

BY BRANDON MILLS
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

This September is one we would all like to forget. Hurricane Florence brought pure devastation to many areas of the Town of River Bend as well as to a lot of areas in eastern North Carolina. Hurricane Florence will be talked about for a long time to come. The flooding was unparalleled in North Carolina. Even with all the damage the flooding caused, there was still a light that shined through during this very tough time. I saw a community

stand together and start the rebuilding process. Neighbors helping neighbors, and many volunteers helping people in need. There is a long road ahead for many, but as long as we stand together, we can and will rebuild!

I like to think of our Water Resources/

Public Works as a team. I've worked with them all for many years, and know that we can adapt and overcome most obstacles/problems thrown our way. We had a couple

"The team had to manually operate these stations for over a week before new panels could be installed. This was done day and night to keep us from having any sanitary sewer overflows."

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lift station panels go underwater, and short out during the flood. As soon as it was safe, we were able to quickly make a temporary repair to be able to get the pumps back going again. The team had to manually operate these stations for over a week before new panels could be installed. This was done day and night

to keep us from having any sanitary sewer overflows. I also think we did a great job of clearing downed trees out of the roadway to give emergency vehicles access to

**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.

anyone in need. We also helped remove trees off downed power lines to help get power restored to town as quickly as possible. Once again, I would like to thank my team for a job well done.

If you have any questions concerning the Water Resources/Public Works Department, please call us at 638-3540, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. 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 your call is not returned within ten minutes, please notify the Police Department at 638-1108, and they will get in contact with the on-call utility systems operator. ■



It's Time to Register Your Pets for 2019

All River Bend dogs and cats must be registered annually. The annual registration period will begin January 2 and will continue through March 31.

Town Hall office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. Registration is \$10.00 per pet.

Owners must present proof of rabies vaccination at the time of registration.

COMING EVENTS

Meetings and Activities at Town Hall have resumed on a limited basis. Please check the online calendar to see if your meeting remains on the schedule. If it does not appear on the calendar, please call Town Hall to reschedule a new meeting date and time.

Work Session
December 6
7:00 p.m.
Town Hall

Council Meeting
December 13
7:00 p.m.
Town Hall

FOOD DRIVE
to benefit
RCS
donations accepted
through
December 14
Town Hall

TOYS FOR TOTS
donations accepted
through
December 14
Town Hall
sponsored by
U.S. Marine Corps Reserve



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
Gene Bauer
Bill Camp
Buddy Sheffield
Irving "Bud" Van Slyke, Jr.
Bill Wanamaker

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

Leaf & Limb Collection Schedule for 2018-2019

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

Zone 1 Pick Up Begins

July 9, 2018

July 4, 2018

September 10, 2018

September 5, 2018

November 12, 2018

November 7, 2018

January 7, 2019

(includes Christmas trees)

January 2, 2019

March 11, 2019

March 6, 2019

May 13, 2019

May 8, 2019

Zone 2 Pick Up Begins

July 16, 2018

July 11, 2018

September 17, 2018

September 12, 2018

November 5, 2018

October 31, 2018

January 14, 2019

(includes Christmas trees)

January 9, 2019

March 18, 2019

March 13, 2019

May 20, 2019

May 15, 2019

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

Town Council 2018 Meeting Dates

Work Session January 11
Regular Meeting January 18

Work Session February 8
Regular Meeting February 15
Work Session March 8
Regular Meeting March 15

Work Session April 12
Regular Meeting April 19

Work Session May 10
Regular Meeting May 17

Work Session June 14
Regular Meeting June 21

Work Session July 12
Regular Meeting July 19

Work Session August 9
Regular Meeting August 16

Work Session **Canceled** September 13
Regular Meeting **Canceled** September 20

Work Session **Canceled** October 11
Regular Meeting October 18

Work Session **Canceled** November 8
Regular Meeting November 15

Work Session December 13
Regular Meeting December 20

Budget Meetings

Budget Session March 20
Budget Session March 27
Budget Session April 3
Budget Session April 10
Budget Session April 17
Budget Session **CANCELED** April 24

*All Council Work Sessions and Regular Council Meetings
will be held in the River Bend Town Hall beginning at
7:00 p.m. All Council Budget Sessions will be held in the
River Bend Town Hall beginning at 4:00 p.m.*

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

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 2018 registration decal.

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.



Registration is Required for all Dogs and Cats

All River Bend dogs and cats must be registered annually. The annual registration period begins January 2 and continues through March 31.

Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. Registration is \$10.00 per pet.

Owners must present proof of rabies vaccination at the time of registration.



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 Town Hall for a brochure or view details on our web site at www.riverbendnc.org. Dog park rules are also posted at the entrance to the park.



Sign up for our

Emergency Notification System

and receive timely notifications by phone, e-mail, text messages and more.

SIGN UP NOW
at riverbendnc.org

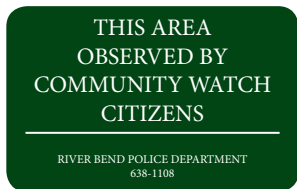
this service provided by the Town of River Bend through
**Blackboard
connect**



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



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.



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.