



**THE RIVER BEND POLICE  
DEPARTMENT**  
BY MAYOR JOHN KIRKLAND

The River Bend Celebration of National Night Out was a wonderful event and provided our citizens an opportunity to meet our police officers in a personal and one on one setting. Police officers across the nation have a difficult mission to perform. While each municipality will present different challenges to the individual department there are common demands placed on the individual officers while on patrol. The officer will encounter situations where they must rely on their training as they make a judgment and act. In most cases that call will be most appropriate. In those rare cases where action was flawed, the current day rapid media response will present these cases as the norm and leave most citizens to believe all officers are taking action inappropriate to the emergency encountered.

I believe that the River Bend Police Department has developed over the years and that every River Bender should be proud and comfortable in knowing that we have well trained officers protecting us 24-7. The four police chiefs that the Town has employed since incorporation have all contributed to the professional growth of the department to the level that we enjoy today. I also credit each of the four Town Managers that the Town has employed in positive support of expanding the training and other resources for the Police Department. In a critical supporting role the Town Council has consistently voted budget support recommended by the Manager in the growth,

**"I believe that the River Bend Police Department has developed over the years and that every River Bender should be proud and comfortable in knowing that we have well trained officers protecting us 24-7. "**

#### INSIDE THIS EDITION

MAYOR'S REPORT  
PAGE 1

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT  
PAGE 3

WRD/PW REPORT  
PAGE 6

COMING EVENTS  
PAGE 7

COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE  
PAGE 8

LEAF & LIMB SCHEDULE  
PAGE 8

ETCETERA  
PAGE 9-10

---

training and other resources leading to the police department the citizens interfaced with on “National Night Out 2021.”

One element that was new this year was an opportunity to tour the new building that houses the Police Department. In 1997 I joined the Council, and the much smaller police department had an office space in the Town Hall building occupying the room that the Town’s Finance Assistant now occupies. That space was so small that a visitor had to walk sideways to move between desks. The Council voted to acquire the land and the building known as the barn and the Police and Public Works moved into that building. Both functions now had more floor space but the overall conditions were not appropriate for the proper conduct of police activities. The Town Manager and Council worked through the Building Utilization Strategy project (BUS) to demolish the old and dilapidated barn and relocate the basketball court then build a new building giving the Police Department a dedicated space appropriate to the conduct of their mission.

I believe that all of us who call River Bend home can be proud of the growth that has taken place in all aspects of supporting a police department. The current department is the result of the contribution of all police officers who have served from the time of the Town’s incorporation to the present. Also the Town Managers and the members of the Town Council serving during the period have all made contributions that we recognize in 2021.



## TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

BY TOWN MANAGER DELANE JACKSON

The recent cool mornings signal that we are on the cusp of the prime leaf raking season. While we provide year-round leaf and limb collection, the next few months will be the primary season for leaf collection. Now is a good time to re-visit the rules so residents know their responsibility in this process. The Town provides leaf and limb collection through a contractor. As shown [here](#), Chapter 9.02.030 of the Town Code of Ordinances governs leaf and limb collection. This service is only provided six times per year in accordance with the Town's schedule. That schedule was distributed with utility bills in July. Click [here](#) to see the schedule and map. The map is very important. The schedule only works if you know your zone and the dates for it. The schedule and map are also available at Town Hall.

The following is not an all-inclusive list but it addresses some of the most common issues. Please follow the dates on the schedule for your zone. The schedule has two important dates for each zone. First is the "Debris Placement" date. It is the date when you may begin placing your debris by the road. Debris **CANNOT** be placed by the roadside **BEFORE** the "Debris Placement" date. Next is the "Pick-Up Begins" date. It is the date when pick-up is scheduled to begin in your zone. Debris **MUST** be placed by the road for collection **BEFORE** the "Pick-Up Begins" date. There is a 5-day period between the Placement Date and the Pick-Up date. Typically, the placement date is on a Wednesday and the Pick-Up date is the following Monday. This allows residents Wednesday and Thursday plus the whole weekend to get their debris to the roadside **BEFORE** the pick-up begins on Monday. Monday is too late to place debris by the road.

Leaf and limb is defined as: leaves, pine cones and small tree and shrub limbs. The definition does **NOT** include construction material of any kind, household trash, tree trunks, lot clearing debris or debris left from commercial contractors. Leaves and pine cones must be bagged in either a clear bag or in a bag with a label that clearly shows the name and address of the producer of the debris. Limbs are not to be placed in bags. You cannot place household garbage in the bag. Pet waste, plastic bottles, newspapers, food scraps, or any manmade items cannot be placed in the bag. We do not offer collection of any white goods (i.e. appliances)

---

**"This service is only provided six times per year in accordance with the Town's schedule. That schedule was distributed with utility bills in July."**

---

---

or any brown goods (i.e. furniture).

When you do place debris by the roadside, limbs cannot be more than 3 inches in diameter or 6 feet in length and the butt end must be street side. If they are larger than the limit, they will not be collected by our contractor or by town staff. If your debris is larger than the maximum diameter or length, it is your responsibility to dispose of them. When there is a violation, the contractor places a yellow flag, as shown [here](#), by the pile to let the owner know why it was not collected.

Finally, you cannot place your debris on the property of another person without their permission. That includes town owned property and vacant lots. If you do not own it or have specific permission to use it, do not place your debris there.

Why the need for these rules? Every bag of yard debris and every limb that we collect is delivered to the local landfill. They are carried to a specific area and go through a grinding process where they are turned into either mulch or compost. Obviously, household trash is not allowed in this process. Before grinding, every bag that is collected from the town is opened and emptied by our contractor. Once opened, any illegal debris is easily noticed by the contractor. If the contractor places illegal debris in the grinding area, he can be fined. The illegal debris such as household trash, slows down the process because it must be separated and removed.

If a violation is found in your debris pile, it will not be collected from the roadside. It then becomes your responsibility to remove the pile. The contractor is not required to make a second trip to pick up your debris even if you remedy the violation after the flag is placed. It must be right the first time. If a violation is found in your bag, the bag will be returned to you and you will be warned of the violation. The next violation will result in you being fined. The fine for violations of any part of this ordinance is \$500. The town certainly does not want to fine anyone \$500 for violation of these rules. That can easily be avoided by simply following all of the rules.

Currently, the town does not charge an individual or additional user fee for this service. The cost is included in the services that you receive for payment of taxes. The price that our contractor charges us is largely based on his expectation that residents will follow the rules. We spend about \$40,000 per year on leaf and limb collection. Violations of the rules, can slow down the process and increase his costs. If his costs increase, ours may also. As the saying goes, "time is money." It is not the responsibility of the contractor to separate your trash. It

---

is yours. Speaking of timing, due to all of the piles by the road, our town looks worse than normal during the entire leaf and limb collection process. If all residents follow the rules and schedule, the process will go faster and the debris will sit by the roadside for a shorter time. That is the ideal scenario. The quicker the debris is picked up, the better it is for everyone.



### **WRD / PW REPORT**

BY BRANDON MILLS  
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

In August, Public Works cleaned out several storm water pipes around town. This work was minor, and only required shovels and a wheelbarrow. We often find minor cleaning out storm water pipes helps with drainage. Two new planter boxes were built and installed near the sunflower garden near the dog park. We still have to fill them up with compost where they will be ready for planting. I cannot wait to see how beautiful these planters

will turn out after our Town Manager plants them. He definitely has an eye for beautifying our parks, and town facilities.

Water Resources repaired two water leaks this month. Both were on a water service line feeding the water meter. Our staff quickly repaired these leaks. We also repaired two sewer service lines. Both of these lines were found by customers calling about a hole in their yard. Upon inspection, we determined that they were indeed service lines. Our team also repaired these. Mike Steffa of the water resource team also repaired one lift station pump. I would like to thank Mike for a job well done.

**"Water Resources repaired two water leaks this month. Both were on a water service line feeding the water meter."**

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

National Night Out  
October 2  
5:30-8:30 p.m.  
click [HERE](#) for more  
information

RBCOG Meeting  
October 4  
1:30 p.m.  
Municipal Building

EWAB Meeting  
October 4  
7 p.m.  
Municipal Building

Parks & Rec Meeting  
October 6  
7 p.m.  
Municipal Building

Library Board Meeting  
October 7  
2 p.m.  
Municipal Building

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

Council Work Session  
October 14  
5 p.m.  
Municipal Building

Household Hazardous  
Waste Collection  
October 16  
8 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Click [HERE](#) for more  
information

Community Watch  
Meeting  
October 20  
7 p.m.  
Municipal Building  
[Accepting New Volunteers](#)

Council Meeting  
October 21  
7 p.m.  
Municipal Building

River Bend Community  
Yardsale  
October 23  
Click [HERE](#) for more  
information

CERT Meeting  
October 27  
7 p.m.  
Municipal Building





## 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  
Don Fogle  
Brian Leonard  
Barbara Maurer  
Buddy Sheffield  
Irving "Bud" Van Slyke, Jr.

TOWN MANAGER  
Delane Jackson

TOWN CLERK  
Kristie Nobles

FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR  
Margaret Theis

POLICE CHIEF  
Sean Joll

DIRECTOR OF  
PUBLIC WORKS  
Brandon Mills

ASSISTANT  
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR  
Allison McCollum

GRAPHIC DESIGN &  
TYPOGRAPHY  
Jennifer Barrow

Contact Us:  
45 Shoreline Drive  
River Bend, NC 28562  
252.638-3870  
[www.riverbendnc.org](http://www.riverbendnc.org)

## Leaf & Limb Collection Schedule for 2021-2022

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

### Zone 1 Pick Up Begins

July 5, 2021

*(June 30, 2021)*

September 6, 2021

*(September 1, 2021)*

November 1, 2021

*(October 27, 2021)*

January 10, 2022

(includes Christmas trees)

*(January 5, 2022)*

March 7, 2022

*(March 2, 2022)*

May 9, 2022

*(May 4, 2022 )*

### Zone 2 Pick Up Begins

July 12, 2021

*(July 7, 2021)*

September 13, 2021

*(September 8, 2021)*

November 8, 2021

*(November 3, 2021)*

January 17, 2022

(includes Christmas trees)

*(January 12, 2022)*

March 14, 2022

*(March 9, 2022)*

May 16, 2022

*(May 11, 2022)*

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](http://www.riverbendnc.org). ■

## Town Council 2021 Meeting Dates

Work Session ..... January 14

Regular Meeting ..... January 21

Work Session ..... February 11

Regular Meeting ..... February 18

Work Session ..... March 11

Regular Meeting ..... March 18

Work Session ..... April 8

Regular Meeting ..... April 15

Work Session ..... May 13

Regular Meeting ..... May 20

Work Session ..... June 10

Regular Meeting ..... June 17

Work Session ..... July 8

Regular Meeting ..... July 15

Work Session ..... August 12

Regular Meeting ..... August 19

Work Session ..... September 10

Regular Meeting ..... September 16

Work Session ..... October 14

Regular Meeting ..... October 21

Work Session ..... November 10

Regular Meeting ..... November 18

Work Session ..... December 9

Regular Meeting ..... December 16

All Council Work Sessions will be held in the  
River Bend Town Hall beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Regular Council Meetings will be held in the  
River Bend Town Hall beginning at 7:00 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 2021 registration decal. Decals for 2021 were available beginning December 2, 2020.

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**

All River Bend dogs and cats must be registered annually.

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

Registration is \$10.00 per pet. 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.



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**



River Bend has a functional Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). For more information about this group, or to volunteer, please contact the CERT Liaison, Corporal Brandon Rhors and/or visit our web site at [www.riverbendnc.org](http://www.riverbendnc.org).



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.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.