



TOWN of
BEAUFORT
NORTH CAROLINA



Town of Beaufort Newsletter

www.beaufortnc.org

August 2020

A Busy Summer in Beaufort

More accolades. In last month's newsletter, I announced that Beaufort was named one of the "Most Romantic Small Towns in the U.S.", representing North Carolina. Recently, we were named USA Today's "Best Small Town for Adventure". I greatly appreciate our business community, citizens, and friends who continue to promote our wonderful town. We have so much to be proud of, but we also recognize there are significant challenges ahead.

COVID-19. July was not a good month as the number of positive cases increased significantly across the United States. In North Carolina, we are still in Phase 2 "Safer at Home" order with a mask requirement across the state. I'll be blunt...as a nation, we should be on the back side of this virus but we're not. There are those who are not taking COVID-19 measures seriously and they are unnecessarily infecting others. With schools opening in various forms, COVID-19 continues to be a dangerous threat and we must work together to reduce the positive cases in our county. These measures are good for public health and good for the economy.

Infrastructure. There is a lot of infrastructure work across our community. Here are some of the paving projects underway: Professional Park Drive (Live Oak St to Calhoun St), Mashburn Drive, Eastern Avenue, Stanton Road, Hedrick Street (Cedar St to Pine St), Hedrick Street (Pine St to Lennoxville Road), and Jefferson Street. There will be much more work in August. As you can see...our street, sidewalk, and park projects are designed to support the entire community.

Storm season. This has already been an active storm season. We must prepare as individual households and as a community for the next potential storm. The spread of COVID-19 makes this preparation an even greater challenge.

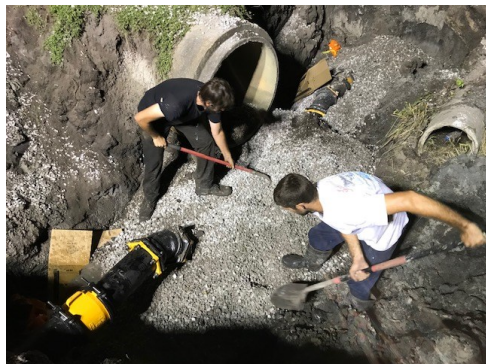
We're all in this together...defending against COVID-19, fixing infrastructure, and preparing for storm season. I am extraordinarily proud of our Beaufort community and honored to be your Mayor.

- Mayor Everett S. (Rett) Newton

The Very Best of Beaufort

Our Town Staff has continued their extraordinary support of our community throughout the pandemic. There are functions that you may not think about on a daily basis, but they are vital to the health and prosperity of Beaufort. A great example is our Public Utilities staff that provides sewer and water across our community. Donovan Willis is our Public Utilities Director and he leads this team of experts as they maintain these complex systems. Just imagine how additionally miserable we all would have been without sewer or water after Hurricane Florence. Our Public Utilities team may not always be visible, but they are working hard for our community, and they represent the very best of Beaufort.

Note: Each month, we will highlight individuals or organizations that represent The Very Best of Beaufort.



Town Hall

701 Front Street
P.O. Box 390
Beaufort, NC 28516
(252) 728-2141

Office Hours

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Monday-Friday

Please note offices are closed to the public due to Covid-19.

Mayor

Everette S. (Rett) Newton
e.newton@beaufortnc.org

Commissioners

Ann Carter

a.carter@beaufortnc.org

John Hagle

j.hagle@beaufortnc.org

Sharon Harker

s.harker@beaufortnc.org

Marianna Hollinshed

m.hollinshed@beaufortnc.org

Charles McDonald

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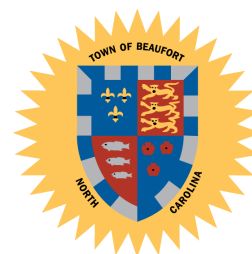
Town Manager

John Day

j.day@beaufortnc.org

Newsletter Submissions:

Due Aug. 20, 2020 at 5 p.m.
Send to
r.johnson@beaufortnc.org



Board of Commissioners

During the July 13, 2020 regular monthly meeting, the Board of Commissioners took the following actions:

- Held a Public Hearing on the Micro Distillery/Restaurant at 513 Front Street. A final decision was to be made at the July 27, 2020 worksession.
- Held a Public Hearing on the Modification/Revised PUD for Beau Coast Subdivision. A final decision was to be made at the July 27, 2020 worksession.
- Approved the Final Plat Beau Coast Phase 2B.
- Approved minutes of the May 26, 2020 Work Session and the June 25, 2020 Work Session.
- Approved the Dark Skies at Night Resolution.

Historic Preservation Commission

The Town of Beaufort Historic Preservation Commission met July and discussed the following six items using Zoom technology:

- Case # 20-08 429 Front Street: Stucco Exterior: Request to cover east and west facing brick walls on the 2nd floor with stucco to reinforce and seal old and crumbling bricks (Clawson's Restaurant).—Approved
- Case # 20-05 308 Moore Street: Demolition of Single Family Structure - Request to demolish the existing house and out building due to termite infestation and rot. - Approved.
- Case # 20-09 105 Gallants Lane: Enclosure & Exterior Paint—Request to enclose the bottom floor are of 105 Gallants Lane and change the exterior color.—Approved.
- Case # 20-13 600 Front Street: Signage—Request to install two 12.8 sq. ft. signs and one 6.25 sq. ft. sign for a total of 31.85 sq. ft. for Beaufort Pirates Revenge LLC on the front, back and side of the ticket booth.—Approved.
- Case # 20-14 214 Broad Street: Signage - Request to construct a new 2,368 sq. ft. New single-family dwelling with a storage shed, parking, fencing and landscaping. - Approved.
- Historic Standards Update: Our consultant was in Town on July 7-9 to take photos and meet with members of the Historic Commission and staff in preparation of developing the new standards document and format.

If you have any questions about Beaufort's Historic District, please contact Kyle Garner, Planning Director, at 252-728-2142 or at k.garner@beaufortnc.org.

New Payment Option for Utility Bills and Permits: Web Inquiry and Payment Portal (WIPP)

There is a new way to check your balance and pay your bill online. From the town website www.beaufortnc.org, select Residents, Pay My Utility Bill, then scroll down and click the link for WIPP. Using your account number and PIN (printed on your bill, you can check your balance, see your last three bills, and pay by debit or credit card, or by e-check. There is a convenience fee of 2.95% for debit/credit, and \$1.05 for e-check. There is not a transaction amount limit. To pay an invoice, go to the WIPP page using the instructions above. You will need to have your customer ID and PIN, which is printed on your invoice. If you are used to paying through Official Payments, we think you will find WIPP to be a more enhanced service. Please start using WIPP for your online payments, as we will be transitioning away from Official Payments over the next few months. Official Payments will still be the method to use for IVR (over-the-phone) payments. If you have any questions, please email billing@beaufortnc.org.

Beaufort Town Flags: Beaufort 3' x 5' flag (\$70) and 12" x 18" garden flags (\$25) are for sale at Ace Hardware, 1511 Live Oak; Cousins Bed & Breakfast, 305 Turner; and First Citizens Bank, 1501 Live Oak. All proceeds benefit the community through the Beaufort Woman's Club.

August Meetings

All meetings will be conducted virtually via Zoom. Please visit the calendar item for the meeting at www.beaufortnc.org/calendar for meeting login information.

- 6 p.m. Aug. 4—Historic Preservation Commission
- 6 p.m. Aug. 6—Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
- 6 p.m. Aug. 10—Board of Commissioners
- 6 p.m. Aug. 17—Planning Board
- 4 p.m. Aug. 24—Board of Commissioners Work Session
- 6 p.m. Aug. 24—Board of Adjustment

Planning Board

The Planning Board met on July 20 via Zoom and discussed the following item:

- Case 20-07 - LDO Text Amendment Building Height: Request to modify the definition of building height. Proposed amendment would change the way building height is measured in Special Flood Hazard Areas. After careful consideration the Planning Board voted 6 to 1 to not recommend the zoning text amendment to the Board of Commissioners.

In other news: A request for proposals has been submitted to interested parties to update the Town's CAMA Land Use Plan and to develop a Unified Development Ordinance. Proposals are due in mid-August with a selection date of early September.

Consumer Confidence Report

The Consumer Confidence Report for the Town of Beaufort (PWS ID 04-16-010) & Eastmans Creek SD (PWS ID 70-16-013) is available for the public. These Consumer Confidence Reports can be obtained by requesting a copy at Town Hall or by visiting the following website (www.beaufortnc.org/publicutilities). If you have any questions, comment, or concerns, feel free to contact Wade Keeler at (252) 728-2130.

Fats, Oils & Greases

Many overflows, or SSO's, are caused by the accumulations of fats, oils, and greases (FOG) in the wastewater collection system. While the collection system is designed to handle and safely transport sanitary waste to the wastewater treatment plant, too much FOG placed into the system can cause clogs and result in an overflow, especially after high flow events such as heavy rains. Dumping fats and oils derived from animal and vegetable sources, including meats, nuts, cereals, and beans, down any drain, in either a home or business, can cause a stoppage that forces raw, untreated waste to spill into our yards, streets, and streams. The Town has adopted a sanitary sewer ordinance in an attempt to reduce the frequency of grease-related overflows.



Bulk Item Pick-up

Please call Town Hall at (252) 728-2141 to schedule a bulk item pickup by 5 p.m. on Monday the week you would like pickup. Bulk item pickup is on Wednesday. **Pickups must be scheduled** and items must be placed at the curb by 7 a.m. on Wednesday. There is a 75-lb weight limit. Contractor debris is not accepted.

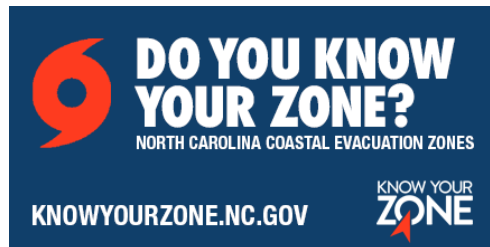
Know Your Zone: Evacuating North Carolina's coastal counties

Know Your Zone, North Carolina's new system of coastal evacuation zones, launched in June 2020. It's a tiered evacuation system that focuses on areas most vulnerable to impacts from hurricanes, tropical storms and other hazards. The campaign was implemented to simplify the evacuation process by assigning lettered evacuation zones in each county, based on areas of higher and lower risk of flooding.

How Does it Work?

Local governments in 20 North Carolina coastal counties have drawn pre-determined evacuation zones. As storms approach, local officials will determine which zones need to be evacuated and will order evacuations using the lettered zones.

North Carolinians should visit knowyourzone.nc.gov and learn their zone by entering their address into the interactive map. Don't forget to find the zone for your workplace, children's school or your loved ones too.



During an Emergency

Local officials will determine which zones should be evacuated. Areas in Zone A will typically be evacuated first, followed by areas in Zone B, etc. While all zones won't be evacuated in every event, emergency managers will work with local media and use other outreach tools to notify residents and visitors of impacted

zones and evacuation instructions. Residents should look and listen for their county name and zone when evacuations are ordered.

Tell Your Neighbors

Once you learn your zone, the website has plenty of resources to share with your community. Social media graphics, posters and even a children's activity packet are available to download. Use them to help spread the word about Know Your Zone. The more people who know their zone, the smoother the evacuation process becomes.

Hurricane Guides

North Carolina Hurricane Guides are available online at the Know Your Zone and Ready NC websites.

Preparing for Hurricanes During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Understand that your planning may be different this year because of the need to protect yourself and others from COVID-19. Give yourself more



time than usual to prepare your emergency food, water, and medicine supplies. Home delivery is the safest choice for buying disaster supplies; however, that may not be an option for everyone. If in-person shopping is your only choice, take steps to protect your and others' health when running essential errands. Protect yourself and others when filling prescriptions by limiting in-person visits to the pharmacy. Sign up for mail order delivery or call in your prescription ahead of time and use drive-through windows or curbside pickup, if available. Pay attention to local guidance about updated plans for evacuations and shelters, including shelters for your pets. When you check on neighbors and friends, be sure to follow social distancing recommendations (staying at least 6 feet from others) and other CDC recommendations to protect yourself and others.

Prepare to evacuate

If you may need to evacuate, prepare a "go kit" with personal items you cannot do without during an emergency. Include items that can help protect you and others from COVID-19, such as hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, bar or liquid soap, disinfectant wipes (if available) and two cloth face coverings for each person. Face covers should not be used by children under the age of 2. They also should not be used by people having trouble breathing, or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or unable to remove the mask

without assistance.

Know a safe place to shelter and have several ways to receive weather alerts, such as National Weather Service cell phone, NOAA Weather Radio, or (@NWS) Twitter alerts.

Find out if your local public shelter is open, in case you need to evacuate your home and go there. Your shelter location may be different this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

If you need to go to a disaster shelter, follow CDC recommendations for staying safe and healthy in a public disaster shelter during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Follow guidance from your local public health or emergency management officials on when and where to shelter.

Make a plan and prepare a disaster kit for your pets. Find out if your disaster shelter will accept pets. Typically, when shelters accommodate pets, the pets are housed in a separate area from people.

Follow safety precautions when using transportation to evacuate. If you have to travel away from your community to evacuate, follow safety precautions for travelers to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

Staying with friends or family

If you will be staying with friends or family outside your household to evacuate from the storm:

Talk to the people you plan to stay with about how you can all best protect yourselves from COVID-19.

Consider if either of your households has someone who is at higher risk of developing severe illness from COVID-19, including older adults or people of any age who have underlying medical conditions. Make sure everyone knows what they can do to keep them safe from COVID-19.

Follow everyday preventive actions, including covering coughs and sneezes, washing your hands often, and avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands. Consider taking ex-

tra precautions for people living in close quarters.

Know what to do if someone in your family or in the household you are staying with becomes sick with COVID-19. Take steps to keep your pets safe.

Stay safe after a hurricane

In addition to following guidance for staying safe and healthy after a hurricane, note that:

You should continue to follow preventive actions to protect yourself and others from COVID-19, like washing your hands and wearing a cloth face covering during cleanup or when returning home.

It may take longer than usual to restore power and water if they are out.

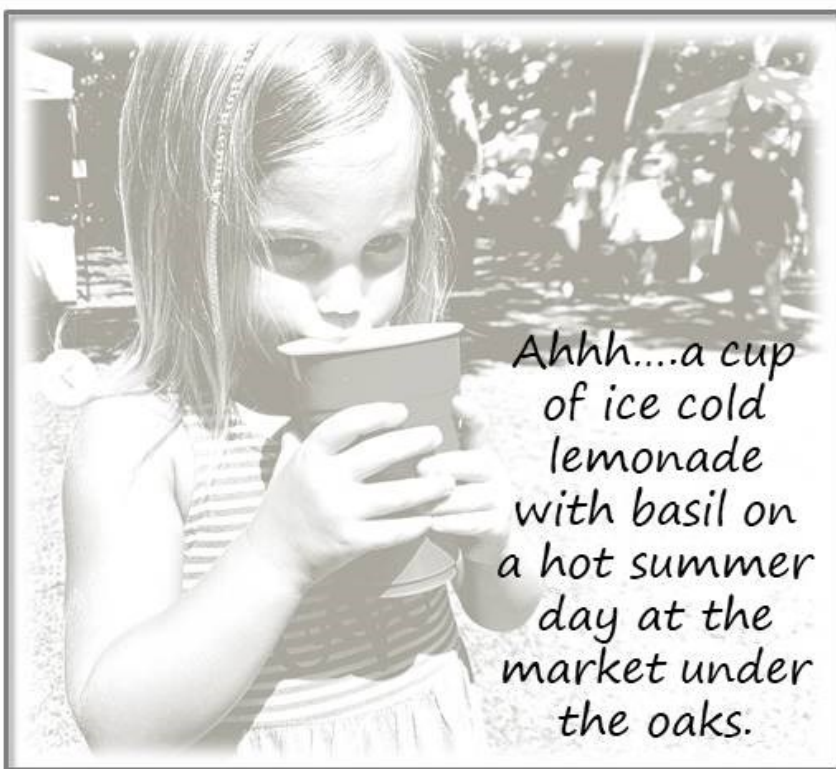
Take steps to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning if you use a generator.

If you are injured or ill, contact your medical provider for treatment recommendations. Keep wounds clean to prevent infection. Remember, accessing medical care may be more difficult than usual during the pandemic.

Dealing with disasters can cause stress and strong emotions, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is natural to feel anxiety, grief, and worry. Coping with these feelings and getting help when you need it will help you, your family, and your community recover.

People with preexisting mental health conditions should continue with their treatment and be aware of new or worsening symptoms. Additional information can be found at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

After a hurricane, it's not unusual for rats, mice, and other pests to try to get into your home or building. Be aware that with restaurant and commercial closures related to COVID-19, there are already reports of increased rodent activity as they try to seek other sources of food. Follow recommendations for keeping pests out of your home. (Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/hurricanes/covid-19/prepare-for-hurricane.html>)



*Ahhh....a cup
of ice cold
lemonade
with basil on
a hot summer
day at the
market under
the oaks.*

Stroll through the grounds of the courthouse to be surprised and delighted by the fresh, abundant veggies, food, and other farm products, along with beautiful, well-made treasures from the market artisans.

*Every Saturday morning
9:00 - 1:00 on the courthouse
grounds*

There's no better way to experience the friendliness of local folks doing what they love or to fill your soul with peace and joy.

Come see for yourself !



Beaufort Pirate Invasion 2020: The Year of the Plague has been postponed. Organizers are hopeful the event can be rescheduled in the fall or winter months.

The Year of the Plague facemasks and T-shirts are available for sale by Beaufort Pirate Invasion. All proceeds are applied directly to the event. Order online at www.facebook.com/BeaufortPirateInvasion/ or catch a pirate roaming around Town.



BEAUFORT *Historical Association*

Beaufort Historic Site August Events

Please be advised the Beaufort Historic Site is following state and federal mandated guidelines regarding COVID19, events are also subject to change. Sign up for a class/tour by calling 252-728-5225 or in the Beaufort Historic Site Welcome Center, 130 Turner St.

Beginning Rug Hooking:
10 a.m. Aug. 14 \$25
Sign up by calling 252-728-5225 or in the Beaufort Historic Site Welcome Center, 130 Turner St.

Janet Jaworski Art Opening: 5-7 p.m. Aug. 15 Free
Join the Mattie King Davis Art Gallery in welcoming Janet Jaworski for an art opening. Jaworski paints many coastal scenes such as wildlife, boats, and vibrant landscapes. Light refreshments will be served.

Barn Quilt Workshop: 10 a.m. Aug. 20 \$60

A barn quilt is a large piece of painted wood that looks like a single quilt block and decorates the side of a barn or building. Our barn quilts will be 24"x24" and you will be able to take your quilt home with you! Please

Double-Decker Bus Tours:
1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday Tickets: \$12 for adults | \$6 for children (age 6-12) | Free for ages 1-5

Hop aboard and see Beaufort's historic district from atop our 1967 English double-decker bus! Local narrators tell tales of Beaufort's rich past of pirates, star-crossed lovers, and Confederate spies. All other tour hours are still the same. Bus tours are subject to change. Visit:

<https://beauforthistoricsite.org/tour/>

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BEAUFORT

NORTH CAROLINA

Wear A Mask or Walk the Plank!

We are all in this
together, please
protect yourself and
others by wearing a
mask!

THE BEAUFORT
Pirate Invasion, Inc.

Town of Beaufort