Planning to fill your pool soon?

Contact us prior to filling your pool so that we get an accurate meter reading before and after the pool fill. An adjustment can be made to your sewer portion of your utility bill if accurate readings are on file.

Call us first! 910-663-3445

Warm weather is just around the corner!

A Message from Your Town Manager

Governor Roy Cooper has issued Executive Order 135 extending the “Stay-at-Home” order until 5:00 PM on May 8, 2020. During a press conference on Thursday, April 23, 2020, Governor Cooper laid out a three (3) phase plan on how to “re-open” North Carolina. More information about the Governor’s Executive Order and his phased approach can be found by visiting https://ncdhhs.gov/coronavirus.

With all the news about the COVID-19 pandemic, many people have forgotten that this year is a census year. It is extremely important to our community that everyone participate in the census. As of Friday, April 24, 2020, only 39.7% of Burgaw residents have responded. It’s simple and only takes a few minutes to complete, just visit https://2020census.gov/ or call (844) 330-2020.

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

- THANK YOU to our health care workers. To show the community’s appreciation, a parade was organized to safely recognize as many health care workers as possible.
- We would like to welcome Daisy back. She was missed during the couple of months away from the PD.
- The Police Department would also like to congratulate Officer Daisy Ramirez on being sworn in as our newest officer. In 2019, Daisy spent the day working as the PD Administrative Assistant while also attending night classes for Basic Law Enforcement Training. Officer Ramirez will continue to perform the duties of the Administrative Assistant while she picked up duties of a police officer. Congratulations Officer Ramirez on your accomplishments.
- The application process for our vacant patrol officer position is going well. We received some really good applications during the two week acceptance period. We are progressing with the background investigations and are preparing to move to the next phase.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- The Burgaw Fire Department participated in two birthday parades Wednesday afternoon and the Hometown Heroes parade in Burgaw Friday.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

- The entire crew was considered green team this week as we continue to juggle our limited schedule while keeping Burgaw beautiful. Ben and Ben focused on downtown shoulder mowing Monday as well as the canal along Fremont Street. They also mowed the lift station on Penderlea Highway, Timbeley triangle and around town signs.
- John and Robert fixed the historic banner at the Train Depot and then planted the last two holly trees in the cemetery, adding mulch around the ones that still needed it.
- Roland and Mark jetted a driveway culvert pipe along East Bridgers to help with standing water issues and cleared debris from the larger pipes along the Osgood Canal.
- Willis, Lucas, Brian and Jeremy were busy this week putting edging around the tennis courts.
- Other locations that received some attention this week include the lift station at Chubb Road, the museum, the well at Ashe Street, the blueberry along the walking trail, and the guardrails on Campbell and Cowan.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

- Stephanie Moore has completed part II of her Community Development Class. She is looking forward to applying the knowledge she gained in this class to help the Town of Burgaw continue to grow and thrive.
- The Planning Director has been working with the management team and other department heads to apply for grants.
- The rewrite of the Unified Development Ordinance is underway. To date, six chapters have been drafted and are under review by the Town attorney. There is still a great deal of work to be done. Authoring an estimated fifteen chapters is very time consuming. The purpose of the rewrite is to bring the Town into compliance with new State legislation that has changed planning and development law across the state. This legislation is known as NC G.S. 160D. The mandated changes are required to be adopted by January 1, 2021.

Monitor your water usage by signing up for Eye On Water!

Eye on Water is a free service that comes with your water bill! It can help you track your water usage and alert you when a potential leak starts. Signing up is simple, use the link below and it will walk you through step by step on how to set up this service.

https://eyeonwater.com/signup
This week the Parks & Recreation Department held the 2nd Virtual Trivia Night for residents to participate in. Congratulations to our winners listed below! The Parks & Recreation will be holding more virtual events as we continue to follow the stay at home orders.

- 1st: Team Smith
- 2nd: Sara & Darrell Dodgens
- 2nd: Trisha Newton & Ruth Glaser
- 3rd: Amy Millis, Amanda English, & Joy Hodge

Join us for Virtual Bingo on Thursday April 30th at 6:30pm. Details regarding how to play and login will be released on Monday April 27th. Residents will be able to win prizes and enjoy some wholesome fun while spending quality time with family. Contact the Parks & Recreation Department for further details.

Are you looking to get moving while in quarantine? Make sure to check out some exercises we included in order to keep you moving while at home. You can also visit darebee.com to find more at home workouts that fit you best. If you have further questions please contact the Parks & Recreation Department.

**WILD CARD**

**DAREBEE WORKOUT © darebee.com**

**LEVEL I** 3 sets  **LEVEL II** 5 sets  **LEVEL III** 7 sets  **REST** up to 2 minutes

- 10 knee strikes
- 10 punches
- 10 knee strikes
- 10 punches
- 10 lunge punches
- 10 punches
- 10 front kicks
- 10 punches
- 10 front kicks

**VIRTUAL BINGO**

**Thursday, April 30 | 6:30 PM**

**Tips for Coping with Social Distancing**

Social distancing reduces close contact between people and helps prevent the spread of infection. While social distancing is important to keep everyone healthy, it can sometimes be stressful and impact our mental health.

- Be prepared at home
- Have a plan for work and childcare
- Make time for self-care
- Limit time with media coverage
- Stay connected with others
- Pay attention to your mental health
April is National Safe Digging Month

With many of us at home and the weather absolutely perfect for outdoor landscaping we’d like to remind all residents to call NC811 if you plan on digging. NC811 is a free service that transmits information about where you are planning on digging to local facilities, not just Public Works, and the facilities then mark where their lines are prior to you digging.

Did you know every nine minutes an underground utility line is damaged because someone decided to dig without first calling 811. Beyond the devastating risks of death or injury, consider the costs of repair, fines and even inconvenience. From putting in a fence, planting a tree or building a deck, knowing where the power and water lines are before you dig will save a lot of time, money and pain later.

Don’t forget to press the button

Safety is a top priority for the town. The Rapid Flashing Beacons were installed to assist our residents with crossing our streets safely.

We would like to remind our pedestrians and bikers to press the button before crossing the street. As always, please remember to look for traffic before crossing.

The Birth of a Town

The land that the residents of Burgaw live on today is full of history. The Town was incorporated in 1879, but began prior to that time due to the existence of the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad that was completed in 1840 to connect the port of Wilmington to the Town of Weldon. In March of 1875, Captain W. H. James, a civil engineer with the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad, noted that the land at Burgaw Station, lying between the railroad and Burgaw Creek was suitable for a town. He surveyed off 73 acres of land and divided it into lots and streets. Wilmington & Weldon Railroad would donate these acres if the Pender County Courthouse would be placed in Burgaw. It was decided that one-half of the lots would be given to the County, one-fourth of the proceeds to be given for improvements to the streets, and the remaining fourth for a ticket office and other depot conveniences. Lots for churches would be given outside of the platted 73 acres. All materials for county buildings were required to be shipped by rail. The land that Captain James plotted was deeded to the Pender County Board of Commissioners on February 6, 1876, and the courthouse was constructed in 1885 on the southwest corner of Fremont and Wright Streets.

Old and New Courthouse of Pender County
Courtesy of the Pender County Public Library Digital Archive
Reminders from town staff

With the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, we would like to continue reminding everyone that our Customer Service window remains closed to limit face-to-face interactions with the public. The lobby is open to access our indoor drop box, utility service applications, etc.

Our Finance Department strongly encourages utility payments to be made online or over the phone via credit card when possible. However, cash, checks and money orders are still being accepted by mail or drop box. Please note there will not be any change issued from cash payments. Any excess paid will be applied towards the account as a credit on the following month’s bill. Late fees and disconnects are suspended until further notice.

Under the continuation of the Governor’s “Stay at Home” order, the playgrounds at Harrell Park and Rotary Park remain closed. Our walking trail and green spaces are open. We encourage everyone to enjoy the outdoors while practicing the social distancing guidelines.

We appreciate your cooperation as we all work together during this time. Be sure to follow us on Facebook and our website for updates in response to COVID-19. For questions or concerns, please contact us at 910-259-2151 or by email at mail@burgawnc.gov.

Remember Social Distancing Saves Lives!

Is handwashing drying your skin?

TIPS TO KEEP YOUR SKIN HEALTHY AND HYDRATED

Washing your hands is critical to help stop the spread of COVID-19, especially after using the restroom, visiting a public place, and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.

However, frequent handwashing can cause dry skin that can flake, itch, crack, and even bleed without proper precautions. This can cause open wounds in the skin that can allow in bacteria and other germs and increase your risk for infection.

To reduce your risk of dry, cracked skin from handwashing, follow these tips from board-certified dermatologists:

- **Use lukewarm water.** Wash your hands with soap and lukewarm water for at least 20 seconds.
- **Moisturize immediately after washing your hands.** Pat your hands dry, then rub a pea-sized amount of moisturizer over your hands.
- **Use moisturizers with mineral oil or petrolatum.** Look for ointments and creams — the ones you squeeze out of a tube — as these are more effective than products you pump out of a bottle.
- **Choose fragrance- and dye-free moisturizers.** These are less irritating for your skin.
- **When soap and water aren’t available, use hand sanitizer.** The CDC recommends using hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Since these can be drying, apply moisturizer after your hands dry.
- **Continue washing your hands, even if they feel dry.** Washing your hands can remove harmful bacteria and viruses.
Upcoming Recycling Pick-up Schedule

April 29
West Side

May 6
East Side

May 13
West Side

May 20
East Side

May 27
West Side

June 3
East Side

June 10
West Side

June 17
East Side

June 24
West Side

ADA Americans with Disabilities Act

The Town of Burgaw does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its programs, services, activities and employment practices. If you need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication (such as a sign language interpreter, an assistive listening device or print material in digital format) or a reasonable modification in programs, services or activities contact the ADA Coordinator as soon as possible, preferably 2 days before the activity or event. A grievance procedure is available to resolve complaints. Upon request, this notice is available in alternative formats such as large print. Please contact Kimberly Rivenbark, HR Technician – (910) 663-3444 or krivenbark@burgawnc.gov.

OPEN BURNING NOTICE

Reminder

Open burning of trash and yard debris is prohibited in town. Trash collection and yard debris pickup is available to all town residents.

If you have any questions regarding open burning, please contact the Burgaw Fire Department (910) 259-7494.

REMINDER TO ALL RESIDENTS OF THE TOWN OF BURGAW REGARDING CURBSIDE VEGETATIVE DEBRIS COLLECTION

Please be advised of these requirements prior to placing vegetative debris at the street for pickup:

- The Town does not pick up vegetative debris generated by contractors for non-residential and multi-family development customers.
- Do not mix vegetative debris with other materials.
- Do not place vegetative debris in the street. All debris must be a minimum of two feet from the edge of pavement.
- Do not place vegetative debris in front of a fire hydrant.
- Do not place vegetative debris within twenty feet of an intersection or in a manner that will impair the ability of the traveling public to see oncoming traffic.
- Residents should place all debris on their property. Please do not place vegetative debris on town parks, the railroad right of way, or undeveloped/unceded property.

Failure to adhere to these rules may result in the debris not being collected and/or fines assessed by the Town of Burgaw.