

Hurricane Preparedness

Atlantic hurricane season started on June 1st and is predicted to be a busy one! Prepare yourself, your family, and your home with the following tips.

Basic Preparedness Tips

- Know where to go. If you are ordered to evacuate, know the local hurricane evacuation route(s) to take and have a plan for where you can stay. Contact your local emergency management agency for more information.
- Put together a disaster supply kit, including a flashlight, batteries, cash, first aid supplies, and copies of your critical information.
- If you decide to stay in your home, plan for adequate supplies in case you lose power and water for several days and you are not able to leave due to flooding or blocked roads.
- Make a family emergency communication plan.
- Many communities have text or email alerting systems for emergency notifications. To find out what alerts are available in your area, search the Internet with your town, city, or county name and the word "alerts."

Preparing Your Home

- Hurricane winds can cause trees and branches to fall, so before hurricane season trim or remove damaged trees and limbs to keep you and your property safe.
- Secure loose rain gutters and downspouts and clear any clogged areas or debris to prevent water damage to your property.
- Reduce property damage by retrofitting to secure and reinforce the roof, windows and doors, including the garage doors.
- Purchase a portable generator or install a generator for use during power outages. Remember to keep generators and other alternate power/heat sources outside, at least 20 feet away from windows and doors and protected from moisture; and NEVER try to power the house wiring by plugging a generator into a wall outlet.
- Consider building a FEMA safe room or ICC 500 storm shelter designed for protection from high-winds and in locations above flooding levels.

Hurricane Watch = conditions possible within the next 48 hrs.

- Review your evacuation route(s) & listen to local officials.
- Review the items in your disaster supply kit; and add items to meet the household needs for children, parents, individuals with disabilities or other access and functional needs or pets.

Hurricane Warning = conditions are expected within 36 hrs.

- Follow evacuation orders from local officials, if given.
- Check-in with family and friends by texting or using social media.
- Follow the hurricane timeline preparedness checklist, depending on when the storm is anticipated to hit and the impact that is projected for your location.

What to do when a hurricane is 6 hours from arriving

- If you're not in an area that is recommended for evacuation, plan to stay at home or where you are and let friends and family know where you are.
- Close storm shutters, and stay away from windows. Flying glass from broken windows could injure you.
- Turn your refrigerator or freezer to the coldest setting and open only when necessary. If you lose power, food will last longer. Keep a thermometer in the refrigerator to be able to check the food temperature when the power is restored.
- Turn on your TV/radio, or check your city/county website every 30 minutes in order to get the latest weather updates and emergency instructions.

What to do when a hurricane is 6-18 hours from arriving

- Turn on your TV/radio, or check your city/county website every 30 minutes in order to get the latest weather updates and emergency instructions.
- Charge your cell phone now so you will have a full battery in case you lose power.

What to do when a hurricane is 18-36 hours from arriving

- Bookmark your city or county website for quick access to storm updates and emergency instructions.
- Bring loose, lightweight objects inside that could become projectiles in high winds (e.g., patio furniture, garbage cans); anchor objects that would be unsafe to bring inside (e.g., propane tanks); and trim or remove trees close enough to fall on the building.
- Cover all of your home's windows. Permanent storm shutters offer the best protection for windows. A second option is to board up windows with 5/8" exterior grade or marine plywood, cut to fit and ready to install.

What to do when a hurricane is 36 hours from arriving

- Turn on your TV or radio in order to get the latest weather updates and emergency instructions.
- Build or restock your emergency preparedness kit. Include a flashlight, batteries, cash, and first aid supplies.
- Plan how to communicate with family members if you lose power. For example, you can call, text, email or use social media. Remember that during disasters, sending text messages is usually reliable and faster than making phone calls because phone lines are often overloaded.
- Review your evacuation plan with your family. You may have to leave quickly so plan ahead.
- Keep your car in good working condition, and keep the gas tank full; stock your vehicle with emergency supplies and a change of clothes.

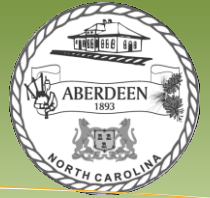
After a Hurricane

- Listen to local officials for updates and instructions
- Check-in with family and friends by texting or using social media.
- Return home only when authorities indicate it is safe.
- Watch out for debris and downed power line
- Avoid walking or driving through flood waters. Just 6 inches of moving water can knock you down, and fast-moving water can sweep your vehicle away.
- Avoid flood water as it may be electrically charged from underground or downed power lines and may hide dangerous debris or places where the ground is washed away.
- Photograph the damage to your property in order to assist in filing an insurance claim.
- Do what you can to prevent further damage to your property, (e.g., putting a tarp on a damaged roof), as insurance may not cover additional damage that occurs after the storm.



Bon Accord

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Photo by: Clarence Burke

Water & Sewer Rates to Increase July 1, 2017

There will be an increase for water and sewer rates effective on the September 2017 water bill. Below are the new rates.

In-Town Water Rates (per billing cycle)

Base Charge (includes no usage):	
Residential	\$14.00
Commercial & Institutional	\$17.00
Industrial	\$52.00
1,000 – 5,000 gal.	\$3.25 per thousand
5,001 – 10,000 gal.	\$3.48 per thousand
10,001 – 15,000 gal.	\$3.70 per thousand
15,001 – 20,000 gal.	\$3.92 per thousand
20,001 – 25,000 gal.	\$4.37 per thousand
Over 25,000 gal.	\$4.78 per thousand

In-Town Sewer Rates (per billing cycle)

Base Charge (includes no usage):	
Residential	\$14.00
Commercial & Institutional	\$17.00
Industrial	\$52.00
1,000 – 5,000 gal.	\$3.65 per thousand
5,001 – 10,000 gal.	\$4.37 per thousand
10,001 – 15,000 gal.	\$5.07 per thousand
15,001 – 20,000 gal.	\$5.81 per thousand
20,001 – 25,000 gal.	\$6.54 per thousand
Over 25,000 gal.	\$7.26 per thousand

Out of Town Water Rates (per billing cycle)

Base Charge (includes no usage):	
Residential	\$22.00
Commercial & Institutional	\$32.00
Industrial	\$102.00
1,000 – 5,000 gal.	\$6.53 per thousand
5,001 – 10,000 gal.	\$7.16 per thousand
10,001 – 15,000 gal.	\$7.78 per thousand
15,001 – 20,000 gal.	\$8.42 per thousand
20,001 – 25,000 gal.	\$9.03 per thousand
Over 25,000 gal.	\$9.67 per thousand

Out of Town Sewer Rates (per billing cycle)

Base Charge (includes no usage):	
Residential	\$22.00
Commercial & Institutional	\$32.00
Industrial	\$102.00
1,000 – 5,000 gal.	\$7.28 per thousand
5,001 – 10,000 gal.	\$7.92 per thousand
10,001 – 15,000 gal.	\$8.53 per thousand
15,001 – 20,000 gal.	\$9.16 per thousand
20,001 – 25,000 gal.	\$9.77 per thousand
Over 25,000 gal.	\$10.41 per thousand

Residential Garbage - \$20.00 (per billing cycle)
Business Garbage - \$25.50 (per billing cycle)

Message from Town Manager, Paul Sabiston

The Aberdeen Town Board of Commissioners ("BOC") recently approved its annual budget for the new fiscal year which began on July 1, 2017. The budget review process started in early February and concluded on May 22nd with the final adoption of the budget for both the general fund expenditures, like administration, planning, police, fire, public works and parks departments, and also for the separate water and sewer enterprise fund expenditures. The entire budget process includes an initial budget retreat with the BOC and the department heads to discuss goals and objectives, followed by several staff and BOC review meetings to achieve those objectives, the manager then recommends a budget to the BOC, and it culminates with the public hearing and final adoption by the BOC of the budget.

As part of its overall planning effort, the BOC and the Town's Department Heads approved in 2015 a Town Mission Statement, Strategic Plan and Departmental Goals that seek to implement the Strategic Plan. Starting with last year's budget, the Strategic Plan is now part of the budget document as well as an independent document to help guide town operations. The goals from this document are as follows:

1. Create An Engaged Economic Development Program;
2. Maintain County, Regional, and Intergovernmental Cooperation & Participation;
3. Encourage Citizen Communication & Participation in Town Events, Celebrations & Volunteerism;
4. Strengthen Business & Residential Partnerships;
5. Enhance Town Departmental Core Services; and,
6. Provide A Balanced Capital Improvement Plan & Effort.

As referenced above, the budget is organized into two groups of funds: the **General Fund** (general and traditional government service departments such as administration, finance, police, fire, public works, parks and recreation, etc.) and the **Enterprise Funds** (water production, water/sewer system, and billing and collections). Expenditures in the Enterprise Funds are directed toward the operation, repair, maintenance, and extension of the Town's water and sewer systems and the payment of interest and loans where needed. The separation of revenues and expenditures into these funds allows the town to be more accountable to its citizens as to how money is spent.

As an overview, the FY17-18 budget totals \$12,079,298 for all town operations, capital improvements, water/sewer operations, and debt service requirements. The budget is

balanced with no increase in the town's tax rate, no increase in the monthly garbage collection rate, a 3% increase in water and sewer fees, and no use of reserves or fund balance. The increase in this year's total budget expenditures is focused on planned capital improvements, including a new fire pumper truck (\$550,000), 4 new police vehicles (\$155,000), a new sanitation truck (\$165,000), and substantial improvements to our downtown area (\$259,000) and parks facilities (\$239,000).

The BOC has taken an aggressive approach to improving both our downtown/planning development efforts and our parks facilities. Here is a brief project-by-project outline for those departments:

Planning/Downtown Development:

- South Street Improvements (Ped Plan Priority Project #11) - \$35,000-\$50,000
- US 1 Crossing (Ped Plan Priority Project #1) - \$4,000
- Master Sign Plan Phases 4 and 5 - \$35,000
- Railroad Crossing Improvements (Ped Plan Priority Project #12) - \$15,000
- Downtown Master Plan Project #2 - \$27,000
- Downtown Master Plan Project #3B (Non-Powell Bill items) Talbooth St. - \$22,000
- Downtown Master Plan Project #4 - Poplar St. - \$55,000
- Johnson Street Sidewalks (Ped Plan Priority Project #4) - \$8,000
- US 1 Crossing (Ped Plan Priority Project #1) - \$20,000
- Johnson Street Sidewalks (Ped Plan Priority Project #4) - \$38,000

Projects Not Funded But May Be Substituted For An Existing Project:

- Downtown Master Plan Traffic Study - \$6,000
- Magnolia/(Mike's Place) Sidewalks - \$13,000
- Pedestrian Plan Update - \$35,000
- Railroad Crossing Improvements at Maple Street and Midway Road - \$15,000

Parks & Recreation:

- Sharpe Park playground equipment - \$15,000
- New storage facility at Colonial Heights Park - \$30,000
- Demolition of the Boy Scout and JC Huts - \$24,000
- New playground equipment at Berkley Park - \$12,000
- Swing set at Lake Park - \$8,000
- Complete the walking trail at Lake Park - \$150,000

The Town of Aberdeen remains in a healthy financial state with continued growth and reasonable development. We will face some challenges in the coming year, such as road improvements to US1/15-501, repairing the lake spillway, and the need for improved schools that serve our town.

Fun Family 4th of July

Celebrate America's Birthday at Aberdeen Lake Park with an evening of live entertainment, food vendors, and activities for all ages. Admission to the park is free and children can purchase a \$5.00 wristband, which allows them unlimited access to the Rock Climbing wall, inflatable slide, bounce houses, obstacle course, and much more.

Grab your blankets and lawn chairs and bring family and friends to enjoy one of the largest and most exciting fireworks displays in the area! **Please no pets, alcoholic beverages, personal fireworks, or coolers.**

Admission is free

Date: Tuesday, July 4

Time:

5:00 p.m. - Kids activities start

6:00 p.m. - Live entertainment starts

9:15 p.m. - Fireworks begin

Electrical Safety is Critical In and Around Swimming Pools

Pools provide a refreshing break from the summer heat, but have you made sure your pool is safe for you and your family? Any electrical device in and around swimming pools such as pumps and lighting require GFCI protection and proper bonding and grounding systems are important safeguards against current traveling to the pool from outside its immediate area. Existing GFCIs require periodic testing per manufacturer specifications to insure they will function properly when needed. If you are uncertain if your pool is safe from electric malfunction that can result in injury or even death we urge you to contact a licensed electrician for evaluation of your systems. We want you to have a fun and safe summer.



Beach Volleyball Court at Colonial Heights Park

T-Ball

This league introduces your little one, ages 4-5, to the game of baseball and focuses on the very basic fundamentals. Practices and games will be held Tuesday & Thursday evenings, beginning September 5th. Volunteer coaches and sponsors are needed. For more information contact Kacey Blackmon, Athletic Coordinator, at (910) 944-7275.

Registration deadline is August 18th. Fees are \$12 for residents and \$25 for non-residents.

Flag Football

Flag football is one of our newest athletic leagues and it promises to be exciting. Flag Football is a co-ed sport, for ages 9-12. Practices & some games will be held at Colonial Heights Park, with other games being played in Pinehurst & Southern Pines. Practices begin September 11th.

Registration deadline is August 25th. Fees are \$12 for residents and \$25 for non-residents.

Open Play Beach Volleyball

Looking for something fun to do on Saturday afternoons? Grab your friends and join others for beach volleyball pick-up games at Colonial Heights Park. The newly renovated beach volleyball court is maintained by the Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department. Open play games are every Saturday June through September from 12:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. Let's have some fun in

the sun! These games are FREE.

Zumba

Enjoy Zumba classes at the Aberdeen Recreation Center Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Registration is \$30 for residents and \$45 for non-residents. Registration is open for all classes with the deadline for each month being the day before the first class.

Tai Chi

Join Master Lee Holbrook as he teaches the fundamentals of tai chi and helps alleviate stress & anxiety and improves mood & joint pain. Classes are held on Tuesdays from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Registration per session:
\$21 Residents
\$32 Non-Residents

Sessions:
July 25 – August 15
August 22 – September 12

Puppy Basics & Manners Class

Puppy Basics is a 4 week class focused training you and your pup on sit, stay down, & focus along with basic manners. New classes start the 1st Thursday of each month. Open to dogs 12 weeks – 12 months of age and must be up to date on vaccinations. Fee is \$100 for one month of classes. Contact Bellona Canine Training at 910-263-0588 for registration information.

What is being offered by Parks & Rec this summer?

Athletics and programs for every age.

Stroller Strong Moms

Each class is 60 mins. and includes: 5 min. warm-up, run or walk route with fitness stations throughout the park, and 10-15 min. core strengthening & stretching to finish. Classes begin in August. Contact Parks & Rec for more information.

Movies by the Lake

Join us the third Friday in July through October at Aberdeen Lake Park to enjoy family movies on the big screen. Admission is free and concessions will be available for purchase.

The Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department, along with our various sponsors present the following movies:

- **July 21** at 8:30 p.m. – The Jungle Book
- **August 18** at 8:15 p.m. – Sing
- **September 15** at 7:45 p.m. – Moana

• **October 20** at 7:15 p.m. – The Lego Batman Movie
*Rain dates will be the same time, the following day.

Drafts & a Laugh

Join us for a night out at Aberdeen Lake Park sponsored by Railhouse Brewery! Watch Happy Gilmore on the big screen and enjoy some cold beer. Food trucks will also be there for all your hunger needs.

• **August 25** at 8:15 p.m.
*Rain dates will be same time, the next day.

Exciting, New Events in Downtown Aberdeen

The Sunday Exchange Concert Series 2017

Looking for something new and fun to do over your summer weekends? Check out one or all of our Sunday Exchange concerts! The Town of Aberdeen and the Rooster's Wife have joined forces to support the creative economy with an outdoor listening experience. The next two events will be held on July 9th and August 13th at 6:46 p.m.

The concert series kicked off June 11th, with a performance by Ranky Tanky, a Charleston-based band that specializes in performing Gullah music. We were excited to see over 400 community members in attendance and hope to see even more at the next two concerts. On July 9th, the venue will host I Draw Slow, a band originally from Dublin that incorporates components of bluegrass and Celtic music; and on August 13th, a performance by the Paul Thorn Band, a singer-songwriter who specializes in Americana and "roots-rock" music.

All Sunday Exchange events are free to the public and will be held next to the Artists' League at 129 Exchange Place in downtown

Aberdeen. In the case of rain, shows will relocate to the Poplar Knight Spot, home of The Rooster's Wife in Aberdeen, with limited capacity.

Community members can expect to see food trucks selling refreshments at the events. Options will include local favorites such as One Nine Drive, The Market Place, The Goodie Jar, Southern Pines Brewing Co. and Swank Coffee Shoppe.

The organizers of The Sunday Exchange hope to make the concert series as environmentally friendly as they can by promoting



#BringYourOwn to encourage community members to bring their own chairs and refillable containers to minimize waste.

Downtown and Economic Development

In the past few months you may have heard the buzz about exciting new projects to come to the Downtown Aberdeen community. Our most recent budget was adopted for the 2017-2018 fiscal year and provides \$258,000 in capital improvements for substantial renovations in our downtown area. Downtown Aberdeen will also be designated as a NC Main Street Community on July 1st creating the opportunity for even more economic development through innovation in our area. In May, the planning department hired Jen Gallimore as the new Downtown & Economic Development Planner. Jen will be administering the Main Street Program and overseeing a majority of the projects soon to be underway downtown. If you have any questions regarding historic preservation or projects in Downtown Aberdeen, contact Jen at jgallimore@townofaberdeen.net or 910-944-4506.

Your Government

Board of Commissioners
Work Session

2nd Monday | 6:00 p.m.

Town Hall Conference Room

August 14th

Board of Commissioners
Meeting

4th Monday | 6:00 p.m.

J. Curtis McInnis Board Room

August 28th

Planning Board Meeting

3rd Thursday | 6:00 p.m.

J. Curtis McInnis Board Room

August 17th

Have agendas delivered directly to your inbox. Sign up for E-news at: www.townofaberdeen.net.

Town Hall Closing

In observation of Independence Day, Town Hall and other administrative offices will be closed Tuesday, July 4, 2016.

There will be no garbage pick-up on July 4th; the make-up day will be Wednesday, July 5th.

Water Bills Due

Bills that are on bank draft will be drafted on July 10. 5% or \$5 late fee added for those bills not paid by July 20. \$25 penalty added for those bills not paid by August 7 and disconnected August 8.

Want to Serve Your Community?

Aberdeen Citizens Are Willing To Serve

The Planning Department would like to thank the many Aberdeen residents who have been willing to serve on Town commissions and advisory boards. The Board of Commissioners has recently made new reappointments of the following citizens: Three members of the Aberdeen Planning Board were reappointed in May: Raymond Lee, who serves as Chairperson, Janet Peele, and Jonathan Rivenbark. These terms will last for three years. The Planning Board meets on the third Thursday of each month except July at 6:00 pm at Town Hall and is tasked with making recommendations on various land use planning decisions such as zoning ordinance text

amendments, rezoning requests and conditional use permits, as well as issuing special use permits.

Opportunities to Serve Your Community

The Town is currently seeking applicants for positions on our Historic Preservation Commission and our Appearance & Beautification Commission. These boards meet once per month and are essential in assisting the Planning Department with advancing its citizen-based planning mission to serve our community.

For more information please contact the Planning Director, Pamela Graham at 115 N. Poplar Street or 944-7024.