

BON ACCORD

MESSAGE FROM TOWN MANAGER, BILL ZELL

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Do you recycle? That is the question, and if you don't, why don't you? That is the bigger question.

The Town has been in the recycling business for more than a year and a half now and our best monthly percentage to date is only 29%. That means up to 71% of all our trash is still going into the landfill in our best month. We need to remember that the space for our trash in the landfill isn't infinite. I don't know if there is a perfect percentage of trash to recyclables or if it could ever be determined with all the variables, but I do believe that it's more than 29%, a lot more.

The Town provides every Aberdeen resident and most offices with a 95 gallon rollout container to use and all you have to do is take a few seconds of your time each time you throw something away to decide if this particular item can be recycled or not. If you are not sure what can be recycled go to page two of this Bon Accord and you'll find the list

of acceptable and non-acceptable recyclable items.

There are several reasons to make the decision to recycle and you'll find that the more you recycle the easier it'll get. It's one of those habits where after you've done it awhile you couldn't imagine not doing it. It's also important to get your children involved so that the cycle will continue into their adulthood.

Some of the reasons to recycle are the following: it lessens the huge waste stream into our landfills, it saves money for all of us, and it's easy to do.

To give you an idea of what the 29% means in tons of waste, last month the Town picked up 175.54 total tons of waste. That means over 50 tons of the 175.54 tons didn't go into the landfill. Just to give you an idea of the space saved in this example, if one square foot of waste weighs five pounds we saved over 20,000 square feet of space at the landfill. That would be an

area of 100 feet wide and 200 feet deep.

The cost to deposit one ton of waste at our landfill is \$42 and it costs the Town \$42 per ton to transfer it to the recycling facility in Fayetteville. The only difference is that the Town is paid \$30 per ton for the recyclables. That means that instead of spending over \$2100 taking the waste to the landfill we paid approximately \$600 to have it delivered to Fayetteville for a savings of over \$1500 in the disposal of this waste.



Most, if not all, of the items we buy that come in packages state on the package whether it can be recycled or not. Take those few seconds we spoke of above, check it out and save all of us environmentally with less landfill use and more dollars in our pockets.

2012 BI-MONTHLY BILLING SCHEDULE

| BILL DATE | BILLING PERIOD | LATE FEE | RECONNECT FEE |
|-----------|----------------------|------------|---------------|
| 1/1/2012 | 10/15/11 to 12/15/11 | 1/20/2012 | 2/5/2012 |
| 3/1/2012 | 12/15/11 to 2/15/12 | 3/20/2012 | 4/5/2012 |
| 5/1/2012 | 2/15/12 to 4/15/12 | 5/20/2012 | 6/5/2012 |
| 7/1/2012 | 4/15/12 to 6/15/12 | 7/20/2012 | 8/5/2012 |
| 9/1/2012 | 6/15/12 to 8/15/12 | 9/20/2012 | 10/5/2012 |
| 11/1/2012 | 8/15/12 to 10/15/12 | 11/20/2012 | 12/5/2012 |
| 1/1/2013 | 10/15/12 to 12/15/12 | 1/20/2013 | 2/5/2013 |

SENIOR ACTIVITIES

Chair Exercises

Days: Tuesday and Thursday
 Time: 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
 Cost: \$2/month Residents &
 \$5/month Non-Residents
 Location: Aberdeen Recreation Station

Art Classes

Day: Wednesday
 Time: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
 Cost: \$2/month Residents &
 \$5/month Non-Residents
 Location: Aberdeen Recreation Station

This is a great opportunity to meet and share creative ideas with others. Participants must supply own materials.

Bingo

Dates: January 5th and February 2nd
 Time: 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
 Cost: \$1 Residents &
 \$2 Non-Residents
 Location: Aberdeen Recreation Station

This is a great opportunity for seniors in the community to gather and have some fun. Refreshments will be provided. Participants should bring a wrapped prize or prizes of \$5.00 or less to each session.

Master Gardener Series

Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department and Master Gardeners of Moore County have partnered for an informative series on gardening in Moore County. Snacks will be provided. Pre-registration is required by the listed deadlines.

Day: Tuesdays
 Time: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 Cost: \$5 Residents/class
 \$7 Non-Residents/class
 \$12 Residents/3 classes
 \$18 Non-Residents/3 classes
 \$27 Residents/6 classes
 \$39 Non-Residents/6 classes
 Location: Aberdeen Recreation Station

Sessions

Propagation of House Plants
 Date: January 17, 2012
 Registration Deadline: January 10, 2012

Back Yard Vegetable Gardening
 Date: February 21, 2012
 Registration Deadline: February 14, 2012

Organic Gardening
 Date: March 20, 2012
 Registration Deadline: March 13, 2012

Summer Annuals for Containers and the Garden
 Date: April 17, 2012
 Registration Deadline: April 10, 2012

TOWN ADOPTS GUIDING PLANS

2011 has been a very busy year for planning in Aberdeen. A new Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) was adopted. The UDO combines all of the planning regulatory requirements such as zoning, floodplain management, and subdivision standards. In addition to the UDO, the Board of Commissioners adopted a Pedestrian Transportation Plan. The companion Bicycle Plan is under development and anticipated for completion in January. Both the UDO and the Pedestrian Plan are on the Town's website. The draft Bicycle Plan may be viewed at www.greenways.com/aberdeen_download.html. Both the Bicycle Plan and the Pedestrian Plan must be considered by the state when making road and other transportation improvements.

CHRISTMAS TREE PICK-UP

Place all Christmas trees at the curb for pick-up. All ornaments and stands must be removed prior to pick-up. Businesses, please do not leave discarded Christmas trees behind your business.



CURBSIDE ACCEPTABLE/NON-ACCEPTABLE RECYCLE MATERIALS

Acceptable for Non-Sorting Recycling (do not put items in bags):

- Plastics numbered 1 through 7 including black plastic, soft drink and water bottles, detergent bottles, and milk jugs
- Glass of any color: brown, green, clear, blue, etc., whole or broken
- Aluminum cans (*drink cans*)
- Tin or metal cans (*food cans rinsed out*)
- Un-waxed chipboard cardboard like cereal or cracker boxes, whole or flattened, delivery pizza boxes
- Newspaper including advertising inserts
- Magazines, catalogues, pamphlets, brochures, annual reports, etc., whether shiny or not
- Telephone books
- Office paper, stationary, post-it notes, of any color
- Shredded paper (*only item accepted in*

bags)

- Junk mail and advertisements
- Envelopes
- Posters, greeting cards, art paper
- Cash register, adding machine, fax and computer paper
- Aluminum foil

Non-Acceptable for Recycling:

- Tissues, paper towels, toilet paper, paper napkins
- Biological material or items contaminated with biological material or food
- Food, food wrapping, and food contaminated packaging and meat trays
- Styrofoam in any form such as packing peanuts, meat trays, etc.
- Plastic coated report covers, notebooks, and spiral bound items
- Paint cans unless the paint is completely

dried up

- Ink cartridges
- Batteries
- Photographic paper or film including negatives, x-rays, MRI films etc.
- Hanging files
- Rubber items including rubber bands
- Clothing, rags, cloth items
- Appliances, furniture, wood or wooden items
- Plastic items not marked with a recycle logo (triangle surrounding a number)
- Wax coated paper cartons including milk cartons, orange juice, etc.
- Saran wrap and cellophane
- VCR tapes, cassette tapes, CD cases
- Oil filters and wooden pallets
- Cardboard that has wax applied

REMINDERS FROM THE WATER DEPARTMENT

REMINDER FOR UTILITY PAYMENTS

Please remember that there is a \$5.00 or 5% late fee added to all bills not paid by 5:00 p.m. on the 20th of January. Those bills not paid by 5:00 p.m. on the 5th of February will be disconnected on Monday, February 6th and a \$25.00 fee added.



UPDATE YOUR CUSTOMER INFORMATION

With the beginning of the New Year, please check with the Water Department to make sure that your phone numbers are up to date. It is important that the correct contact information is on file in case there is a water leak or any other issue that requires the Water Department to call.

LANDLORDS:

If you are a property owner for a rental in the Town of Aberdeen, please confirm that your landlord information for each of your rental properties is correct.

BANK DRAFT

The Water Dept. offers and encourages bank draft for utility payments. This option for payment requires a customer's voided check and a signed release for the funds to be withdrawn. The utility payment is drafted from the customer's bank account on the 10th day of the billing month. This method is a wonderful option for those who travel often or just need one less worry about getting their payment in on time.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

According to the Town of Aberdeen's Water Billing Policy:

- Failure to receive your bill in the mail does not excuse responsibility for timely payment or prevent service discontinuance.
- The Town of Aberdeen will not be responsible for late or delayed deliveries by the US Postal Service.

TO DISCONTINUE SERVICE

The person whose name is on the account must come into the Water Dept.'s office and fill out a Cut-Off Request Form and present a photo ID such as driver's license, military ID or passport. We will not take requests from anyone whose name is not on the account.

NATIONAL SQUIRREL APPRECIATION DAY

Join the Aberdeen Parks & Recreation Department and Squirrel Central for National Squirrel Appreciation Day on January 21, 2012 from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the Aberdeen Recreation Station. This event is free and open to all ages. There will be crafts for everyone, useful tips and tricks for deterring nuisance wildlife, and information on what to do if you find injured or abandoned wildlife. There will be a special guest appearance by Mortisha, the Madagascar boa and Pugsley, the yellow anaconda.



WINTERIZE YOUR IRRIGATION SYSTEM

If you have an RPZ valve installed on your water line, it is your responsibility to make sure that it is properly insulated for extreme low temperatures.

If your valve is tied off of your water line to your house to serve an irrigation system, swimming pool, or other non-sewered service then you should cut the valve off and properly drain it for the winter. A new law became effective July 1, 2010 that all homes are required to have a separate water meter if you have an in-ground irrigation, swimming pool, etc.



YOUTH KICKBALL

Come join Aberdeen's Spring Kickball league. This activity is available for boys and girls ages 4-14 who are looking to participate in a fun, safe, exciting sport. Practices will begin in late March. Registration forms can be picked up at the Aberdeen Recreation Station starting on February 20th. Copy of a birth certificate and payment are due at registration. Fees are \$12 for residents and \$25 for non-residents. The registration deadline is March 9th.



If anyone is interested in coaching or sponsoring a team please contact Joseph Keel, Athletic Coordinator, at 944-7275.

Volunteer Coaches and Sponsors are needed for all athletic leagues! If interested please call Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department (910) 944-7275.

FIREPLACE SAFETY FROM THE FIRE DEPT.

The holiday season is winding down and we hope that you and your family had a safe and wonderful holiday season. We, as a department strive to do our best to keep you and your family safe, the best way we can achieve this is to help you prepare before a disaster or emergency. Preparing before an emergency occurs ensures that there will be less property damage and/or personal injuries, and there is no better time than right now to prepare you and your family. With the cool air settling in, and heaters and fireplaces in use we thought this was a good time to include in this month's newsletter reminders about heater and fireplace safety. To learn more please visit our website which is full of different links and information. We also conduct Home Safety Inspections; feel free to call the Fire Department to arrange an appointment. Prevention truly is the best way to prepare for an emergency, please start looking at ways to prepare you and your family now. Also, a reminder to everyone; there is still a state wide burn ban in effect. This means that there is no burning allowed outside, it is too dry and even a small fire can quickly get out of control.

Keep Fireplaces and Wood Stoves Clean

- Have your chimney or wood stove inspected and cleaned annually by a certified chimney specialist.
- Clear the area around the hearth of debris, decorations and flammable materials.
- Always use a metal mesh screen with fireplaces. Leave glass doors open while burning a fire.
- Install stovepipe thermometers to help monitor flue temperatures.
- Keep air inlets on wood stoves open, and never restrict air supply to fireplaces. Otherwise you may cause creosote buildup that could lead to a chimney fire.
- Use fire-resistant materials on walls around wood stove

Safely Burn Fuels

- Never use flammable liquids to start a fire.
- Use only seasoned hardwood. Soft, moist wood accelerates creosote buildup.
- Build small fires that burn completely and produce less smoke.
- Never burn cardboard boxes, trash or debris in your fireplace or wood stove.
- When building a fire, place logs at the rear of the fireplace on an adequate supporting grate.
- Never leave a fire in the fireplace unattended. Extinguish the fire before going to bed or leaving the house.
- Soak hot ashes in water and place them in a metal container outside your home.



SAFE WINTER DRIVING TIPS FROM THE POLICE DEPT.

During the winter months, keep aware of weather reports in your area. If snow or ice is predicted, make plans to leave early or arrive later. An alarm clock set to an earlier time can be a good friend in helping you avoid difficulties.

If you can move a night trip to daylight hours, do so. Not only is visibility better, but if your vehicle is stalled, you are more likely to receive prompt assistance during the daytime.

Prepare your vehicle for winter driving; use this checklist:

1. Check windshield wiper blades to make sure they work properly. In some areas, snow blades are an effective alternative to conventional wiper blades.
2. Have your mechanic test the anti-freeze/coolant to provide the correct level of protection required in your driving area.
3. Make sure your tires are properly inflated. Underinflated and Overinflated tires can reduce the gripping action of tires because the tread will not meet the road surface.
4. Keep your gas tank at least half-full. The extra volume can help reduce moisture problems within your fuel system. It also adds helpful weight to your vehicle.
5. In rear-wheel drive vehicles, extra weight in the trunk may be helpful.
6. Before you leave your driveway, scrape the ice and snow from every window and the exterior rear view mirrors, not just a small patch on the windshield. Don't forget to remove snow from headlights and brake lights.
7. Try to remove ice and snow from your shoes before getting in your vehicle. As they melt, they create moisture build-up, causing windows to fog on the inside. You can reduce this fogging by turning the air recirculation switch to the OFF position. This brings in drier, fresh air. Also, run your air conditioner which becomes a dehumidifier for a few minutes.
8. You and your passengers should all use safety belts, both lap and shoulder straps.
9. Adjust head rests. Rear-end collisions are common in winter driving and a properly-adjusted head rest can prevent or reduce neck injuries.
10. Before you shift into gear, plan the best route to your destination. Try to avoid hills, congestion areas and bridges.
11. Don't use a cellular phone when driving on ice or snow. Even if you have a hands-free model, you need to concentrate on driving, not on a telephone conversation.
12. Drive slowly and remember posted speed limits identify the maximum speed allowed in ideal weather conditions. Law enforcement agencies can write citations to motorists driving the posted speed limit if weather conditions warrant a slower speed. Be alert to the actions of other drivers.
13. Anticipate cars coming from side streets and put extra distance between your vehicle and the one in front of you. If someone is too close behind you, don't speed up; slow down or let them go around you.
14. To make sure other drivers see you, always drive with your lights on. At night, in fog and heavy snow conditions, low beams may be more effective than high beams.
15. Keep a light touch on the brakes. Even with anti-lock braking systems, apply light pressure to avoid locking the brakes and causing a skid. Pumping the brake pedal should be smooth action, going from light to firm.
16. Keep both hands on the wheel and keep the wheel pointed where you want your car to go. While it may sound simple, it could help you in a skid. While manual transmissions may provide greater control to assist with braking, be careful when using downshifting as a way to slow the vehicle. Gear changes, particularly abrupt ones, can upset a vehicle's balance and cause a skid to occur, especially in turns.
17. If you do have trouble, run the engine only briefly to run the heater, not continuously. Carbon monoxide can accumulate more easily in a non-moving vehicle.
18. Severe engine damage may occur if the motor runs for long periods when the vehicle is not in motion. Warming up a car prior to travel is a common practice, but most engines don't need more than a minute at most to circulate oil to all internal parts. Check your vehicle's owner's manual for information about your engine.

TOWN CLOSING

The Aberdeen Town Hall will be closed in observance of the following holiday:

- **Monday, January 16, 2012** in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Town Board Work Session
Tuesday, January 3rd at 5:30 p.m.
- Regular Town Board Meeting
Monday, January 9th at 6:00 p.m.
- Planning Board Meeting
Thursday, January 19th at 6:00 p.m.
- Town Board Work Session
Thursday, February 2nd at 5:30 p.m.
- Regular Town Board Meeting
Monday, February 13th at 6:00 p.m.
- Planning Board Meeting
Thursday, February 16th at 6:00 p.m.

RECYCLE DATES

| <u>Monday Recycle Dates:</u> | <u>Friday Recycle Dates:</u> |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| January 9 | January 6 |
| January 23 | January 20 |
| February 6 | February 3 |
| February 20 | February 17 |

HEATER SAFETY

Electric Space Heater

Buy only heaters with the Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) safety listing. Check to make sure it has a thermostat control mechanism, and will switch off automatically if the heater falls over. Heaters are not dryers or tables; don't dry clothes or store objects on top of your heater. Space heaters need space; keep combustibles at least three feet away from each heater. Always unplug your electric space heater when not in use.

Kerosene Heater

Buy only UL-listed heaters. Never fill your heater with gasoline or camp stove fuel; both flare-up easily. Always refuel outside, and only if the unit is cooled, then bring your heater back inside. Only use crystal clear K-1 kerosene. Never overfill any portable heater. Use the kerosene heater in a well ventilated room.