

Christmas Tree Disposal

Place all Christmas trees at the curb for pick-up. All ornaments and stands must be removed prior to pick-up.

All business owners need to make sure to not leave discarded Christmas trees behind their business.

Ways for Citizens to Receive Town Information

Be sure to check out the Town of Aberdeen's website that includes many popular features such as "report a concern", e-notifications, a document center, uploaded agendas and minutes, a calendar of events, newsfeeds to Facebook and Twitter, and much more. The Town also has the capability to post surveys and obtain feedback from the public on various issues. Citizens are encouraged to visit www.townofaberdeen.net and take advantage of the options available through the site.

Information Channel 99

Channel 99, for Time Warner Cable customers, is a great source for those who don't have a computer or internet access. Those citizens residing within the Aberdeen Town limits can view Aberdeen's Channel 99, and those residing outside of Aberdeen's Town limits can view Moore County's Channel 99. The information listed on the Town website is also listed on Aberdeen's Channel 99. The channel has up-to-date information available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

On the Calendar

January & February

• Bingo

Thursday, January 3 at 2:00 p.m. at Aberdeen Recreation Station. The cost is \$1 for residents and \$2 for non-residents. Refreshments provided and participants are asked to bring a wrapped prize of \$5 or less. (910) 944-4574.

• Parks Comprehensive Plan Public Workshop

Monday, January 28 at 5:30 p.m. at Aberdeen Recreation Station. All citizens are encouraged to attend.

• Bingo

Thursday, February 7 at 2:00 p.m. at Aberdeen Recreation Station. The cost is \$1 for residents and \$2 for non-residents. Refreshments provided and participants are asked to bring a wrapped prize of \$5 or less. (910) 944-4574.

• An Evening with the Langley Winds

Monday, February 18 at 7:00 p.m. at Aberdeen Recreation Station. The event is free, but a ticket is required to attend. Tickets can be picked up at the Aberdeen Recreation Station or Arts Council starting January 4.

• Youth Kickball

Registration will begin late February. The league is for boys and girls ages 4 -14. Cost is \$12 for residents and \$25 for non-residents. Practices will begin in late March. (910) 944-4572.

• Senior Chair Exercises

Every Tuesday and Thursday at 10:30 a.m. at Aberdeen Recreation Station. Cost is \$2 per month for residents and \$5 per month for non-residents. Classes are on-going. (910) 944-4574.

• Senior Art Classes

Every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. at Aberdeen Recreation Station. Cost is \$2 per month for residents and \$5 per month for non-residents. Participants must supply own materials. Classes are on-going. (910) 944-4574.

• Water Bills

\$5 or 5% late fee added for those bills not paid by 5:00 p.m. on January 22. \$25 penalty added for those bills not paid by 5:00 p.m. on February 5 and disconnected February 6.

For a full listing of community events, visit www.townofaberdeen.net/calendar.aspx.

Recycle Dates

Monday Dates: Friday Dates:

x January 7	x January 4
x January 23 (Wednesday)	x January 18
x February 4	x February 1
x February 18	x March 1

Night Driving Safety Tips

"Night time driving, between 6:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., accounts for only 23% of all vehicle miles traveled yet it accounts for more than 50% of all fatalities for vehicle occupants age 16 and older," according to the U.S. National Safety Commission. This is due, in part, to the eye's ability to adjust to darkness. Sleepiness and drunk driving also play major roles in night time driving fatalities. You can take actions to protect yourself when driving at night.

Let Your Eyes Adjust

The human eye naturally adjusts to darkness. The pupil dilates, allowing better peripheral vision and allowing you to focus on images through the dark. This process starts as soon as you walk into a dark room or outside at night. It can take up to 30 minutes for your eyes to fully adapt to darkness. When you walk outside and get into your car at night, wait 30 minutes before driving, if possible. If you use your interior light to read a map or make a call when you are pulled off to the side or stopped somewhere, allow for adjustment before driving.

Reduce Your Speed

Reaction time while driving is typically 1.5 seconds. This means that if you notice a car suddenly stopping in front of you, it will take you an average of 1.5 seconds to react. Speed affects the situation because, during that 1.5 seconds, the higher your speed, the further you travel. Slowing your speed from 60 mph to 50 mph will reduce the distance traveled from 132 feet to 110 feet. Slowing your speed is one of the best ways to avoid head-on collisions, especially at night when your vision distance is limited by your headlights.

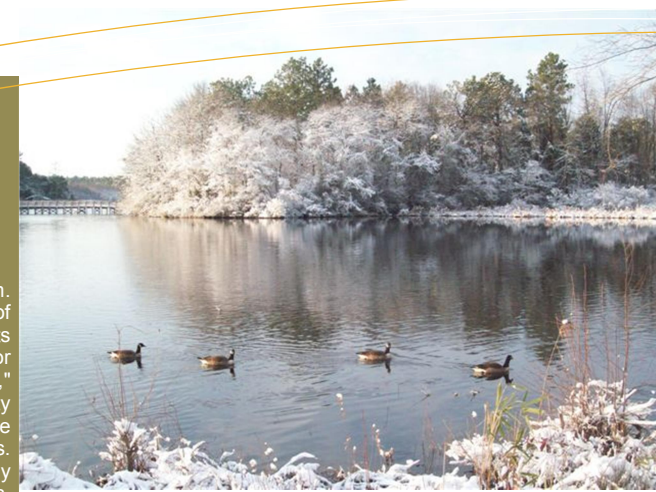
Don't Drive When Tired

If you do not normally drive in the late evening, your sleep schedule may be thrown off. If you are tired, do not drive. Exhaustion severely affects focus and reaction time.

Avoid Distractions

Pay attention to all driving safety laws, such as wearing your seat belt, no matter how empty the roads may seem. Minimize your distractions so that you can focus on the road completely. Turn off your cell phone and ask passengers to avoid pointing at things outside of the car or socializing in a way that requires your visual attention.

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Message from Town Manager, Bill Zell

The US 1 landscape in Aberdeen is set for several changes from the south end all the way to the north end. The landscape changes will be resulting from individual and private operations and also from the State of North Carolina in a couple of NCDOT projects.

New Convenience Store with Fuel Sales

Starting on the south end of Aberdeen along US 1, property that is just north of the NC Driver's License Office, there will be a transition from the hodgepodge of several small businesses to a new convenience store with fuel sales. The Town Board of Commissioners had many concerns about this project but in the end all their concerns were taken care of satisfactorily and the project was approved by a unanimous vote. The property owner agreed to additional conditions for the project including additional landscaping along the US 1 frontage, the gas tanks will be underground, and the gas pumps will be on the north side of the building rather than directly in front.

Hwy. 15-501 Bridge Project

Then just about 150' feet north of the above property, NCDOT has a bridge project in the works. I'm sure you've seen all the land clearing going on in this area. The purpose of this project is to construct a new Hwy. 15-501 bridge and this time instead of connecting to US 1 by a merging lane, the bridge will directly tee into US 1. The new bridge will be built right next to the current bridge so as to cause as few traffic issues as possible. The current intersection will be moved accordingly to its new position upon the completion of the project.

New Retail Development

The next change will take place at the US 1 intersection where Hwy 15-501 breaks off headed north (where the

old Steak or Eggs restaurant was located). The property to change runs from the old Steak or Eggs and Sandhills Lock and Key property to the south end of the old Best Western Motel property. On the north end of the property a new CVS Pharmacy is coming and with it several changes to the landscape will be noticed. As you head north on US 1 you'll notice a right hand turn lane will be available into the property, and there will also be a left turn into the property for vehicles headed south on US 1 at this intersection. The CVS Pharmacy is estimated to be operational by June 1, 2013. The current Best Western property will become another small retail operation. The new building will be approximately 16,500 square feet of retail space.

Morganton Rd. Project

Finally, at the north end of Aberdeen at Saunders Blvd., there will be some major changes made in the near future. As you are aware, there are two traffic lights at this location with one at Saunders Blvd. and the other at Murray Hill Rd. several hundred feet south. NCDOT will be creating the following changes to this area:

- x Properties just off US 1 and Murray Hill Rd. up to Saunders Blvd. are currently being removed. The reason for the removal is so that the connection from Murray Hill Rd. to Saunders Blvd. can become a direct line.
- x Then the traffic signal at Saunders Blvd. and US 1 will be removed.
- x Southbound traffic that currently has to merge into one lane as they approach the Saunders Blvd. traffic signal will no longer have to merge, but for those wanting to turn left onto Saunders Blvd., they will make that turn then from Murray Hill Rd.

Youth Kickball

Come join Aberdeen's Spring Youth 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 will begin at the end of February. Registration forms can be picked up at the Aberdeen Recreation Station. A copy of the child's birth certificate and payment are due at registration. Fees are \$12 for residents and \$25 for non-residents.

Individuals must reside within the city limits of Aberdeen to qualify for resident rates.

Volunteer Coaches and sponsors are needed for all athletic leagues! If interested, please call Joseph Keel at (910) 944-4572

An Evening with the Langleys Winds Ensemble

Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department and the Arts Council of Moore County will host "An Evening with the Langleys Winds" on Monday, February 18th. This will be a free concert performed by an ensemble from the Langleys Air Force Base.

The concert will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Aberdeen Recreation Station.

Although this is a free concert, tickets will be required as seating is limited. Tickets will be available starting Friday, January 4th. Tickets may be picked up at the Aberdeen Recreation Station or the Arts Council during normal business hours.

For additional information, contact Leigh Baggs at (910) 944-4573 or lbaggst@townofaberdeen.net.

What can Cause a High Water Bill?

Tips and information from the Public Works Department.

Prevent High Water Bills

The following are leaks to look for that can cause several gallons to several hundred gallons a day to run through your meter:

- x The "silent leak" and most common source of leaks is a toilet. Make sure the rubber flapper in your toilet is always closing and making a good seal. To check the seal, put food coloring in the toilet tank. If the food coloring seeps into your toilet bowl then the flapper is not making a good seal. This is the "silent leak" that you will not hear because it will not cause your toilet to run. The repair is simple with parts that can be purchased at a hardware store.

- x Make sure water hoses are never left unattended. Water hoses that are left on can waste several hundred or thousand gallons of water.

- x If you have a 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 system, swimming pool, etc.

If your RPZ is not properly winterized it could cause water lines or sprinkler heads to burst and cause a major water leak.

- x Check your water heater for leaks "An average of more than 8% of residential water use is lost through leaking pipes & fixtures "

- x Repair any leaking faucets and outside spigots as needed. A slow drip or leak can waste from 50 to 2,500 gallons of water or more a month.

- x Turn off all water fixtures both inside and outside the home, and check the reading on your water meter. Wait one hour, making sure no one

uses water, then check the meter again. If the meter dial has moved, you have a leak.

Sewer Odor in Your Home

If you suspect you have sewer odor in your home, check the bath tubs, sinks, and toilets that are not used a lot. Water can evaporate from traps and this will let sewer odor in your home or business. If this happens, turn the water on for a minute to refill the traps and the problem should be corrected.

When to Boil Your Water

If you arrive home and know your water service has been off, you are automatically on a required boil water notice. According to the time of water disruption, it may take 24 to 72 hours before the water can be tested and have results back to lift the boil water notice. To check the status of a boil water notice you can call (910) 944-7799 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, check www.townofaberdeen.net, or Channel 99 on Time Warner Cable.

Once your water is back on, after a town water leak, turn the cold water on in the bath tub and let it run for a few minutes to make sure any air or sediment has been flushed from your system.

Public Workshop on Parks Comprehensive Plan

The Town of Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department will conduct a public workshop on the Comprehensive Plan for parks, recreation programs, special events, greenways, and open space on Monday, January 28th at 5:30 p.m. in the Aberdeen Recreation Station.

The purposes of the workshop are to receive additional comments from citizens about their needs and wishes for parks and recreational opportunities in Aberdeen and to review the draft plan that includes previous comments and findings.

The master plan defines the vision and mission of the Parks and Recreation Department and sets priorities for at least the next decade. The policies set forth in the master plan help guide the stewardship and development of current and future parks; to maintain a careful balance between the need to protect and conserve natural resources while offering recreational use of parklands for all to enjoy.

This workshop is part of the process utilized by Site Solutions, who has been hired by the Town of Aberdeen to prepare this

document. Site Solutions has completed an inventory of existing facilities and analysis of community standards, received public comments and desires for future facilities, and prepared a draft plan of these findings. Derek Williams, of Site Solutions, will discuss the process and the document during this workshop.

The Aberdeen Recreation Station is located at 301 Lake Park Crossing in Aberdeen Lake Park.

For additional information or to express your comments, contact Leigh Baggs, Parks and Recreation Director, at lbaggst@townofaberdeen.net or (910) 944-4573.

Your Government

Board of Commissioners Work Session

2nd Thursday before Board

Meeting | 5:30 p.m.

Town Hall Conference Room

January 3rd, January 31st &

February 28th

Board of Commissioners Meeting

2nd Monday | 6:00 p.m.

J. Curtis McInnis Board Room

January 14th & February 11th

Planning Board Meeting

3rd Thursday | 6:00 p.m.

J. Curtis McInnis Board Room

January 17th & February 21st

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

www.townofaberdeen.net.

Town Hall Closing

x In observation of New Year's Day, Town Hall and other administrative offices will be closed January 1, 2013.

There will be no garbage pick-up on January 1st; the make-up day will be Wednesday, January 2, 2013.

x In observation of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Town Hall and other administrative offices will be closed January 21, 2013.

There will be no recycle pick-up on January 21st; the make-up day will be Wednesday, January 23, 2013.

Remembering Aberdeen

The Aberdeen Historic Preservation Commission is undertaking a living history project entitled "Remembering Aberdeen" and asks for your participation. We are collecting old photographs for scanning (which will be returned to you), stories about Aberdeen's past, or any other items (we even have a 1946 telephone book!).

If you would like to contribute items or to see items already collected, contact Pam Graham at (910) 944-4517 or pgraham@townofaberdeen.net.