

BON ACCORD

MESSAGE FROM TOWN MANAGER, BILL ZELL

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The Town of Aberdeen has owned a public water system for a long time, we believe for 70 years or so. The cost to maintain our system continues to escalate as more and more is expected from our system by the State of North Carolina through the NC Division of Water Quality Department a division of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources or as we affectionately call them DENR (deener). I'm hoping this article will give you an idea of our ever expanding costs to maintain the system and still give you, our customers, the lowest possible rate.

There are two types of water systems and they're either surface water (lakes, rivers, ponds, etc.) or ground water (aquifer). Aberdeen's system is a ground water or well-based water system. Currently, the town has 19 performing wells that produce up to 2,000,000 gallons per day (gpd). There are many aspects to the operation of a water system and we'll cover a few of them for this article.

The town currently treats the raw water from the municipal wells with four (4) water chemical additives that adjust the water and provide safe drinking water for all residents. With the constant changes of fuel prices in the shipping industry our annual budget has increased to \$90,000 for these chemical additives. Our goal for the water is to have a ph factor of 7.2 to 7.4, which is neutral on the ph scale, which measures acidity and base levels in the water. The raw well water is usually at 5 to 5.6 on the ph scale, which is on the acidic side of the scale.

To ensure the safety of our drinking water supply the Town has to meet stringent guidelines that are set and regulated by the NCDENR.

The state regulators are constantly changing their requirements for testing and sampling of municipal water systems. As a result of these regulations we have to test at every well site on a quarterly basis to ensure safe usage of our water supply. The cost associated with the testing of the water system and wells are an annual budget of \$30,000.

The following will give you an idea of the process and cost for developing a new well and bringing it online. To have a NCDENR approved well site the property has to be at least an acre in size so that it has a minimum of 100 feet away from the well in every direction on the piece of property, which is placed in the middle of the tract of land. The first step for developing a new well is to identify such a piece of property where the owner is willing to sell to the Town. Second, we have a test well dug, which will let us know if the site will produce water in the quantity that we need for our system. Our lowest well output in gallons per minute (gpm) is 80, but we have several wells that produce up to 230 gpm. Third, the water is tested and if it is found to meet the State of NC standards, the main well is authorized to be built. Fourth, a survey is done of the property and a deed for the property will be created. Fifth, we have to connect the new well to the system by putting in the necessary lines to transport the water. Then we usually build a well house and put a chain link fence around the entire property. The cost of bringing a well online can range from \$150,000 to \$175,000, mostly depending on the cost of the land that has to be acquired.

Finally, another major part of our water system, not only in terms of money but also in size, are our

elevated water tanks. We have five (5) elevated water tanks in our system today, but when tank #5 (Hwy 15-501 near Legacy Lakes subdivision) came on line it made tank #1 (US 1 at Aberdeen Elementary School) obsolete, so tank #1 currently only serves the Town as an antenna carrier. The total capacity of the four tanks is 1.6 million gallons, with tanks #2 (US 1 by KFC) and #4 (at the end of Devonshire Trail) each containing 300,000 gallons of storage, and tanks #3 (Hwy 5 at the Bowling Alley) and #5 each containing 500,000 gallons of storage. Tank #5 is our newest tank and the cost to bring it online was more than three quarters of a million dollars. Maintenance cost on the four tanks, (which includes the inside and outside), over the next five years will be in the neighborhood of two million dollars.

Our water transmission lines range in size from 2 inches to 14 inches and are made up of several different types of materials. We have approximately 35 miles of lines for our water system currently. It costs \$10 to \$15 dollars per linear foot for installation of water lines.

In conclusion you can see that the operation of a small public water system can still be quite costly and we have only scratched the surface in this article of our total cost, yet in comparison our water rates are very inexpensive to our citizens. The cost to you for 1,000 gallons of delicious Town of Aberdeen water at our current In-Town rates would be \$12.48, compare that to the cost of say five gallons of bottled water from your favorite grocery store. Oh yeah, there's no comparison.

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: March 1st and April 5th
 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

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

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS

Don't forget to set your clock forward on Sunday, March 11th!



OPERATION MEDICINE DROP

The time is here....Operation Medicine Drop will be held at various locations throughout Moore County during the week of March 18 - 24, 2012. This event will coincide with the 50th anniversary of National Poison Prevention Week. This will be the third year of the Operation Medicine Drop and Moore County residents have become more informed and actually look for the event. There are 3 permanent sites in Moore County that have Medicine Drop Boxes year round: the Aberdeen Police Department, the Pinehurst Police Department and the Moore County Sheriff's Department.

Operation Medicine Drop is a partnership of Safe Kids North Carolina, North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, Riverkeepers of North Carolina, Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of North Carolina and state, county and local law enforcement agencies that work together to encourage the public to safely dispose of unused and unwanted medication. Operation Medicine Drop helps prevent accidental poisonings and drug abuse while also protecting our waters.



The Aberdeen Police Department in cooperation with the Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department will be providing a safe and secure way for residents to get rid of unwanted prescription and over-the-counter medications with the following take back sites:

- March 19th - March 23rd from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Aberdeen Police Department, 804 N. Sandhills Blvd
- March 21st from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Aberdeen Recreation Station, 301 Lake Park Crossing
- March 24th from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the Aberdeen Recreation Station, 301 Lake Park Crossing

HISTORY OF BEACH MUSIC & SHAG

Remember the old days under the boardwalk, down by the sea? Then you are familiar with the sandy shores of the Carolinas, with people dancing to the sounds of beach music, but do you know the history of beach music? Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department in conjunction with the Palustris Festival will present the history of beach music and how this popular sound led to shag becoming the state dance of North Carolina. Ticket price includes the presentation, demonstration of shag, and refreshments. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

For additional information, please call Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department at (910) 944-PARK (7275).

Date: Thursday, March 22, 2012
 Time: 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
 Cost: \$10.00 per person
 Location: Aberdeen Recreation Station

PACK IN THE PARK

Palustris activities for children and kids (PACK) in the Park will be held on Saturday, March 31st from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. at Aberdeen Lake Park and is for children ages 10 & under. This free event is part of the 3rd Annual Palustris Festival. Activities include clowns, live entertainment, a bouncy castle sponsored by Dog Nation Grill, make and take craft projects, kid's ID's, Easter Egg Hunt and many more fun activities.

Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department is a proud event sponsor of the Palustris Festival and would like to commend the Arts Council of Moore County and the Convention and Visitors Bureau for their efforts on establishing and promoting the Palustris Festival. For additional information, please call the Parks & Recreation Department at 944-PARK.

SPRING LITTER SWEEP

Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department is conducting a Spring Litter Sweep of Aberdeen parks, Poplar Street, and the downtown area on Saturday, April 21st from 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Mayor Betsy Mofield proclaimed April 21st as Spring Litter Sweep Day in Aberdeen and Governor Bev Perdue has proclaimed April 14-28, 2012 as Spring Litter Sweep in North Carolina.

All citizens, Church Groups, Civic Clubs, Youth Organizations, and Neighborhoods are invited to volunteer in the Litter Sweep through a variety of methods. Citizens of all ages are encouraged to participate by meeting at the Aberdeen Recreation Station in Aberdeen Lake Park with pickers and gloves to pick up trash and beautify Aberdeen. If you cannot meet during the specified time, another option is to clean up streets in your neighborhood. We need everyone's participation to clean up and preserve the beauty of Aberdeen!

For additional information or to participate, please contact Leigh Baggs at 944-PARK or lbaggs@townofaberdeen.net.

ARBOR DAY

All citizens are invited to Aberdeen's annual "Arbor Day Celebration" in Aberdeen Lake Park on Friday, March 16th. The ceremony and activities will begin at 11:00 a.m. and will last approximately one hour.

Mayor Betsy Mofield has proclaimed March 16, 2012 as Arbor Day in Aberdeen. Activities during this Special Event will include: a ceremony, the history of Arbor Day, reading of the Proclamation, the Pledge of Allegiance, and planting of a Red Bud tree donated by Town Commissioner Pat Ann McMurray.



Refreshments will be served. Hope your schedule permits you to participate in this special event! For additional information, contact Leigh Baggs, at 944-PARK or lbaggs@townofaberdeen.net.

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 March. Those bills not paid by 5:00 p.m. on the 5th of April will be disconnected on Monday, April 9th 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.

WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department wants to invite all women, ages 16 and up, to participate in the Women's Softball League. There will be an organizational meeting at Colonial Heights Park in Aberdeen on March 27th at 6:00 p.m. to discuss rules, regulations, dates and fees. Games will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting at 6:30 p.m. The first game is scheduled for May 8th. You may contact Joseph Keel, Athletic Coordinator, at 944-PARK or jkeel@townofaberdeen.net for any questions concerning this league.



MLB PITCH, HIT, & RUN

The Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department, along with the Southern Pines and Pinehurst Recreation Departments, is sponsoring the 2012 local qualifying Major League Pitch, Hit and Run competition to be held on Saturday, May 5th. This event is for children ages 7 - 14, as of July 17, 2012. The event will take place at Memorial Park Field C in Southern Pines at 10:00 a.m. This is a FREE event and winners will qualify to compete at the regional, state, and possibly national level in Atlanta at the Braves stadium. Registration is Saturday, May 5th from 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

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 March 19th. Registration forms can be picked up at the Aberdeen Recreation Station. Copy of a birth certificate and payment are due when registering. 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-PARK.

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

ABERDEEN RECEIVES PARK GRANT

The Town of Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department was recently chosen to receive a grant from the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund. The Town of Aberdeen was awarded a grant in the amount of \$252,000 for the acquisition and development of Ray's Mill Pond Park.

It is the desire of the Town of Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department to leave this property in its natural state with the addition of trails, a picnic area, water access for fishing and non-motorized boats, and to use one of the existing houses as an Environmental Education Center with restrooms. The grant funds will assist in the purchase price, renovate the large house into an Environmental Education Center; drain and dredge the pond to remove sediments that prohibit wildlife from surviving in the shallow part of the pond, construct a portion of the trail, and add picnic tables. All of these items will increase recreation opportunities in this part of Aberdeen, and southern Moore County, as it is the first type of this kind of facility in Aberdeen. The principals, teachers, and students of the Primary, Elementary, and Middle School are excited about using the facility and park as a learning lab. Ninety-four species of birds have been identified on this property and wildlife ranging from beavers, turkeys, turtles, fish, deer, bears, and a mountain lion have all been spotted on the site.

Ray's Mill Pond Park will be ADA accessible and in compliance with all federal, state, and local codes.

This is the second PARTF grant the Town of Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department has received in recent years. A PARTF grant in the amount of \$500,000 was received to construct the Aberdeen Recreation Station in Aberdeen Lake Park.

For additional information about the PARFT grant or Ray's Mill Pond Park, please contact Parks and Recreation Director Leigh Baggs at 944-PARK or lbaggs@townofaberdeen.net.

LUNCH WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

March 30, 2012 is a special day for children in Aberdeen! Children, ages 2-5 can eat lunch with the Easter Bunny at Aberdeen Lake Park. This event sponsored by Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department will include a visit and lunch with the Easter Bunny, a picture with the Easter Bunny, and an Easter egg hunt (weather permitting). Tickets must be purchased by March 23rd. Tickets are \$4.00 for Residents and \$6.00 for Non-Residents.



Tickets may be purchased at the Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department. For additional information, call Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department at 944-PARK.

INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water containments. Testing results for samples taken from entry point E05 during the time period of April 1, 2011 through March 21, 2012 show that our system exceeds the standard, or maximum containment level (MCL), for Trichloroethylene. The standard for Trichloroethylene is 0.005 milligrams per liter (mg/L). The average level of Trichloroethylene over the referenced compliance period was 0.0055 mg/L (level).

What should I do?

You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

What does this mean?

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, some people who drink water containing Trichloroethylene in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

What happened? What is being done? When will the problem be corrected?

Well 5 has exceeded the limits for Trichloroethylene. We are currently working with the EPA for a solution to this problem. If the results are high again in April this well will be closed down until an appropriate filter system can be installed.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

For more information, please contact:

William R. Monroe
Town of Aberdeen
PO Box 785
121 Purnell Circle
910-944-7012
System PWSID# 03-63-020
Aberdeen, NC 28315

Violation Awareness Date: February 3, 2012
Date Notice Distributed: March 1, 2012
Method of Distribution: Bon Accord Newsletter

MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE DEPT.

Spring is in the air! We recently changed our clocks back, and just a reminder – if you haven't already, everyone needs to change the batteries in their smoke detectors. Every home should have at least one working smoke detector. Working alarms can double your chance of survival. If you need a detector, the Aberdeen Fire Rescue Department has a detector program to help your family, call us, and we'll be happy to come to your home and install one.

With the warmer weather inspiring many to roll up their sleeves and get spring cleaning done inside and out, it's also a perfect opportunity to get your family together to discuss your emergency plans. Now would be a great time to rehearse an emergency escape, perhaps try it in the dark. Go through your house during your spring cleaning, examine and test your smoke detectors and replace the batteries, check your outlets, make sure no plugs are overloaded with too many cords, and clean your dryer vent or have a technician come do it for you. This would also be a perfect time to make sure you have the proper extinguishers in your home. Consider taking a first aid class together as a family.

There are many resources available on the web to help you prepare for a disaster or emergency. We are constantly updating and offering many tips on our website www.townofaberdeen.net. You can also check out www.fema.gov/plan.

Taking the time to plan ahead for an emergency or disaster is something that all families can do to help protect each other and reduce the risk of injuries. The members of the Aberdeen Fire Rescue Department strongly encourage families to plan and prepare before there is an emergency or disaster. Be Safe!!

PARKS COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Town of Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department is conducting a Public Hearing on the Comprehensive Plan for parks, recreation programs, special events, greenways, and open space on Thursday, March 15th at 5:30 p.m. at the Aberdeen Recreation Station. The purpose of the Public Meeting is to receive comments from citizens about their needs and wishes for parks and recreational opportunities in Aberdeen.

This public comment meeting is part of the process utilized by Site Solutions, who has been hired by the Town of Aberdeen to prepare this document.

If you cannot attend this meeting but would like to express comments or for additional information, contact Leigh Baggs at 944-PARK or lbaggst@townofaberdeen.net.

TOWN CLOSING

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

- **Friday, April 6, 2012** in observance of Good Friday and Easter.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Town Board Work Session
Thursday, March 1st at 5:30 p.m.
- Regular Town Board Meeting
Monday, March 12th at 6:00 p.m.
- Planning Board Meeting
Thursday, March 15th at 6:00 p.m.
- Town Board Work Session
Thursday, March 29th at 5:30 p.m.
- Regular Town Board Meeting
Monday, April 9th at 6:00 p.m.
- Planning Board Meeting
Thursday, April 19th at 6:00 p.m.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

The Aberdeen Historic Preservation Commission invites all Historic District property owners, business operators, or otherwise interested parties to attend their regular meetings held the third Monday of each month at 5:00 pm. Meetings are held at Aberdeen Town Hall and include reviews of projects within the District and discussions of other activities impacting our District and Downtown.

RECYCLE DATES



| <u>Monday Recycle</u> | <u>Friday Recycle</u> |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <u>Dates:</u> | <u>Dates:</u> |
| March 5 | March 2 |
| March 19 | March 16 |
| April 2 | March 30 |
| April 16 | April 13 |
| April 30 | April 27 |