

The Biltmore Forest Chronicle

March 2018

The Commissioner's Corner

Town Welcomes New Police Chief

The Town announced the appointment of Chris Beddingfield as its new Chief of Police on February 22nd. Beddingfield was a finalist for the position when previously open, and worked with outgoing Chief T.J. Bates to ensure a smooth transition for the Town, Department, and its officers. Chief Bates left the department for an opportunity with another law enforcement agency. During his tenure, Chief Bates accomplished a great deal, including leading the Department to become the first National Missing and Exploited Child Readiness Program certified law enforcement agency in North Carolina. Chief Bates created a new inventory system for the Department, dramatically increased the training opportunities and requirements for officers, and revised and updated all



policies and procedures. The Town is appreciative of his hard work and dedication and wishes him continued success in the future.

Beddingfield served as the Chief of Police in Columbus, N.C. since 2011, and joined the Columbus Police Department in 2007. Prior to 2007, Beddingfield served in various capacities for the Polk County Sheriff's Department, including Captain of Investigations, training instructor, and Emergency Response Team leader. Beddingfield began his career in law enforcement as a Public Safety Officer at the Asheville Regional Airport in 1990.

Beddingfield has a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of North Carolina-Pembroke, a Bachelor of Science degree from Gardner-Webb University, and received his Basic Law Enforcement Training from Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College. In addition, Beddingfield has also completed the West Point Leadership College, North Carolina State Law Enforcement Executive Program, FBI Command College, and holds an Advanced Law Enforcement Certificate from the State of North Carolina, among other certifications. He received the Region C Law Enforcement Executive of the Year Award in 2012.

The Town is thankful for the work and improvements made under Chief Bates and excited to welcome Chief Beddingfield to Biltmore Forest.

TAX PAYMENT REMINDER

Delinquent taxes will continue to accrue interest on the 1st of each month. Property taxes that were not paid by January 5, 2018 incur 2% interest for January and 3/4% interest for every month thereafter.

<u>Mayor:</u> George F. Goosmann, III

Commissioners:

Fran Cogburn

E. Glenn Kelly

Doris P.Loomis

Town Manager:

Jonathan Kanipe

jkanipe@ biltmoreforest.org

Director of Public Works: Terry Crouch

tcrouch@ biltmoreforest.org

<u>Police Chief:</u> Chris Beddingfield

cbeddingfield@ biltmoreforest.org

FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Recycling and Solid Waste Collection



In the event of a sewer problem or see a manhole cover overflowing, please call the Metropolitan Sewerage District at 828-255-0061. Recycling increased in Biltmore Forest during 2017 by 29.79 tons. The Town collected 251.03 tons through its backyard recycling program, and Curbside Management collected 29.69 tons of cardboard at the Town Hall location. In order to help protect your solid waste collectors, please bag all trash before placing in the container. This helps with loading and reduces litter at the same time. Our workers collect over 500 tons of trash each year, so please help make each bag as light as possible. The Town thanks you for your assistance. The Town also provides two dumpsters at the Town Hall complex for residential use. Please remember that only bagged household trash is allowed in the dumpsters. A sign adjacent to the dumpster lists all unauthorized materials.

Brush Collection

Brush and limb pick up increases heavily during the spring and summer periods. Please remember to assist us by following <u>ALL</u> Town ordinances related to brush pick up. These ordinances require that limbs and brush may not exceed 6 inches in diameter or 6 feet in length, brush may not be placed out more than 7 days before the collection date, and the brush should only be placed in front of your property, and NEVER across the street or on a neighbor's property. Please also take care to avoid plac ing the brush in front of fire hydrants or on top of water meters. The Town respectfully asks your assistance in communicating these rules to land scape companies in order to avoid any fines or delays in brush collection.

If you have any concerns or questions about trash, recycling, white goods collection, brush collection, or leaf pickup please feel free to contact us at (828) 274-3919.

FROM THE SKYLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT

Pet Fire Safety

Pets give us comfort, friendship, and unconditional love. Our connection with them can be among the strongest relationships in our lives but pets can cause fires.

Safety Tips:

~Pets are curious. They may bump into, turn on, or knock over cooking equipment. Keep pets away from stoves and countertops.

~Keep pets away from candles, lamps, and space heaters.

~Some pets like to chew. Watch them to make sure they don't chew through electrical cords.



Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives!

Change your Clock, Change Your Battery

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FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

TOWN OF BILTMORE FOREST RECOGNIZED AS MEMBER OF MISSING KIDS READINESS PROGRAM

The Biltmore Forest Police Department was recently recognized by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) as a member of the Missing Kids Readiness Program. The Biltmore Forest Police Department is the forty-sixth law enforcement agency in the nation to achieve this status and the first in the State of North Carolina.

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) developed the Missing Kids Readiness Program to promote best practices for responding to calls of missing, abducted and sexually exploited children. 911 call centers and law enforcement agencies are recognized for meeting essential training and policy elements demonstrating preparedness for responding to a missing child incident. Police Chief T.J. Bates ensured that all officers received mandated training from NCMEC and worked collaboratively with NCMEC staff to develop a model policy for law enforcement agencies. The Town of Biltmore Forest Police Department is now positioned to respond more quickly, comprehensively, and effectively when a child's life may be at stake.

To learn more about NCMEC and the Missing Kids Readiness Project, go to: <u>http://www.missingkids.org/MKRP</u>.

Employee Anniversaries

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to the Town!



Officer Kim Rhinehart 17 Years



Officer Ian Grant 2 Years



Chad Gantt 2 Years



Officer Keith Kutchman 3 Years



David

Arrington

34 Years

Sgt. John Driver 11 Years



Sgt. Kenny Merritt 7 Years



Godleski



Officer Samantha Bombace 21 Years

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North Carolina Law:

- Wear a bicycle helmet on public roads if under 16 years old.
- Use hand signals to communicate intended movements.
- Ride on the right in the same direction as other traffic
- Please make sure to wear light colored or reflective clothing to increase visibility so others can see you.
- According to NC Pedestrian Laws, pedestrians should always walk facing traffic.



Please remember to be a considerate neighbor and keep your dog on a leash and pick up waste after your dog while walking in the streets and parks throughout Town. Waste bags are available in the parks for your convenience.

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Town of Biltmore Forest P.O. Box 5352 Biltmore Forest, NC 28813

SAVE THE DATE!

The Community Committee is having a Fall Lecture with Robert Griffin presenting the cabins of Biltmore Forest, Sunday, September 30th, at the Biltmore Forest Country Club.

WE NOW ACCEPT PAYMENTS ONLINE!

Payments for water , taxes, and permit fees can also be made online via www.officialpayments.com

(A small fee is charged for this service)

Town Hall: 274-0824 Jonathan Kanipe, Town Manager

Public Works: 274-3919 Terry Crouch, Director

Police Dept: 274-0822 Chris Beddingfield, Police Chief

Visit our website at www.biltmoreforest.org