

October 2021



Town of Biltmore Forest

The Biltmore Forest Chronicle

Upcoming Town Projects and Request for Public Participation

The Town will soon begin two important projects and we want your feedback during these processes. The first is a new Comprehensive Plan for the Town. This Comprehensive Plan is being led and developed by the Town's Planning Commission and is required by state law. The Planning Commission will meet monthly over the course of the next several months to chart this course, and ultimately, provide a comprehensive plan to the Board of Commissioners for review and

adoption. There will be multiple opportunities for public feedback, including a survey and public meetings. Your input and participation are vital to making this an effective and meaningful tool for the Town.

The second undertaking is a Town wide traffic study. This traffic study will focus on the Town's residential nature and consider traffic concerns raised by residents. One important feature is an analysis of development and transportation plans adjacent to the Town – these often

have direct impacts on traffic concerns and issues within Biltmore Forest. A public survey will be provided for all residents to provide feedback and recommendations for traffic within the Town. Please be on the lookout for these surveys and requests for public participation in the coming months.



100th Anniversary Celebration

The Town of Biltmore Forest will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2023! The Town and Friends of Biltmore Forest are making plans already for events and celebrations surrounding this milestone. We need your

help in making this yearlong celebration meaningful and memorable for everyone! Do you have any mementos, keepsakes, or archival items that you would like to be displayed during the year? Are you interested in

volunteering to plan and organize events for the yearlong celebration? If so, please visit the Town's website and let us know you're out there! We would love for this to be a community led celebration and focus on the Town's rich history and exciting future.

Please visit the Town's website at biltmoreforest.org/anniversary for more details, information, and to let us know how you want to help!



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT NEWS

Harry B. Buckner, PE, Director (hbuckner@biltmoreforest.org)

Greetings from the Town of Biltmore Forest Public Works Department! I hope everyone has had a safe and enjoyable summer, and is gearing up for what is arguably the most beautiful time of year here in the Forest – fall. It's common for the change in seasons to prompt clean-up and maintenance activities around the home, especially in preparation for colder weather, and our Department is here to help.

Irrigation Systems: Now is the time to schedule the winterization of your irrigation systems, including removing backflow preventers and safely storing them until next year. Just a heads up - we are planning some changes to the way we administer our Cross Connection Control program for irrigation systems next spring, so stay tuned for those changes.

Brush and Leaf Collection: The annual transition from brush pick-up to leaf pick-up will occur on November 1st. The last brush pick-up for the North Route begins October 15th, and the last South Route pick-up begins October 30th. Please do not mix brush in with leaves as it damages our collection equipment. Long, skinny, un-bagged rows of leaves at the edge of the roadway are preferred, with plenty of clearance above the piles for our equipment to operate. Leaf pick-up runs continuously through January 15th.

Public Dumpster Usage: The town provides two (2) dumpsters located at the Town Hall Complex free of charge for residents use. We continue to struggle, however, with misuse of these facilities including overloading and overflowing the dumpsters, as well as improper materials being placed in them. To assist us with compliance efforts, we have recently added video surveillance to the dumpster area. Before you use the dumpsters please consider the following rules:

The dumpsters are for HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE ONLY. Do not send your contractor here to dispose of construction or remodeling debris.

COLLAPSE ALL BOXES FLAT; AND CUT OR FOLD CARDBOARD AS NEEDED TO FIT INSIDE. This allows the dumpsters to hold more and prevents overflows. If it does not fit through the door, it should not be left outside or otherwise forced into the dumpster.

DO NOT PLACE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS IN THE DUMPSTERS: furniture, carpet/rugs, mattresses/box springs, appliances/electronics, or construction debris. We have found all of these items in or around the dumpsters within the last month! A list of prohibited materials is posted near the dumpsters.

NEVER PLACE ANY TRASH OR OTHER MATERIALS ON THE GROUND OUTSIDE THE DUMPSTERS. THIS IS LITTERING. If the dumpsters are blocked or overloaded, the Town is charged a surcharge, and/or the pick-up is skipped until they can be safely accessed,

A good rule of thumb is that if you cannot fit the item you want to dispose of in a trash bag and fit it through the door, it probably doesn't belong in the dumpster. We appreciate your help in complying with these rules, and please share them with your neighbors and friends! These dumpsters are emptied in the early mornings on Monday, Wednesday and Friday of each week.

Your Public Works Department takes a great deal of pride in providing these critical services, and many more, to all residents. If you ever have questions regarding the services we provide, or if you have any feedback, please do not hesitate to reach out to me, Harry Buckner, PE, Director (hbuckner@biltmoreforest.org), or Mike Dale, ASLA, Supervisor (mdale@biltmoreforest.org), at 828-274-3919 any time. It is our pleasure to be of service to you.



GREENWOOD PARK STREAM STABILIZATION PROJECT UPDATE

The Town of Biltmore Forest has recently received approval from the State to proceed with the Greenwood Park stream restoration project. The Town will be proceeding with inviting several specialized contractors to bid on the construction project. These bids will be opened on Tuesday, October 5th. It is anticipated that a recommendation of

award will be made to the Board of Commissioners at the October 12th meeting, allowing construction to proceed in late winter or early spring. The improvements to the stream will include the removal of the wire gabion baskets and rip rap from the stream bed, and replacement with larger, more natural boulders and other stream

stabilization techniques. There will be substantial plantings installed along the creek banks to beautify and to protect the stream channel from erosion.



The Friends of Biltmore Forest

Greetings from the Friends of Biltmore Forest!

We hope you were able to attend one of the Food Truck Fridays over the past few months. Turnout was high, and we received lots of positive feedback. Thank you for supporting our first foray into the food truck scene. We will pause in the coming months as the weather cools down, and we will resume in late spring with more good food and good company. Thank you to Shana Lopez for wrangling all the details and bringing these fun evenings to our neighborhood.

Looking for a volunteer opportunity or your next great book? Volunteers are needed to help with a new neighborhood project: adding Little Free Libraries to Rosebank and Greenwood Parks. You may have noticed the Little Free Library on White Oak, graciously built and shared by the Ryan family. Little Free Libraries are small, permanent structures that allow neighbors to exchange books. If you would like to help with this project, please contact Lauren Karlsson at Laurenkarlsson1@gmail.com. Thank you to Lauren for spearheading this project.



Unfortunately, due to Covid safety concerns, we will not be hosting our annual potluck or October history talk. Stay tuned for re-scheduled dates when we can all gather safely.

We are also looking for volunteers to help plan the Town's One Hundredth anniversary celebration in 2023 (see article on the front page). If you are interested in helping out in any way, please fill out the online form or contact Katie Valeika at valeikak@gmail.com.

Wishing you a beautiful fall,
Your Friends of Biltmore Forest

POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Fall is one of our most beautiful times of year here in the forest. The changing colors and cooler weather tends to relax us from the hustle and bustle of summer. Don't let this relaxed state bring your guard down in terms of self-awareness and safety.

We have again had several issues with subjects going through unlocked cars parked both in driveways and near the roadway. We cannot stress enough to secure your valuables and lock all of your doors, including vehicle doors. Leaving things like electronic devices in plain view of an unlocked vehicle is asking for problems. It is always a good idea to record and keep serial numbers for all of your valuable property and electronics. This allows us to enter the items into a national database of stolen property and greatly increases the chance of getting property back and bringing those who took it to justice. As always, if you see suspicious activity or have any questions please contact us at the police department.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT MAKE-UP DATE IS ALMOST HERE!

The Police Department would like to invite you to our National Night Out event. The event was originally scheduled for August but was canceled due to weather. The event will take place at Rosebank Park on Tuesday October 5th, 4PM-7PM. There will be live music provided by the Asheville Rock Academy, equipment displays, cotton candy, snow cones and popcorn. We will also have bouncy houses, and Chase and Marshall from Paw Patrol making appearances. Mountain View Barbeque will be serving up their outstanding food as well. Please join us for an evening of fellowship and community celebration.



Town of Biltmore Forest

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2021 property taxes were recently mailed out. The due date is January 5th, 2022 without interest.

Please remember to contact the Town Hall prior to beginning ANY exterior project. This includes, but is not limited to, landscape design changes, additions to your home, installation of accessory structures, and many other property improvements. Town staff is eager to help you navigate the permitting process. Please allow us to help work with you to ensure compliance with the Town’s ordinances before beginning a project.

HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

Halloween is coming soon so here are some safety tip reminders to keep everyone safe while trick or treating:

Cross the street at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks. Look left, right, and then left again when crossing and keep looking as you cross.

Put electronic devices down, keep heads up and walk (don’t run) across the street.

Teach children to make eye contact with drivers before crossing in front of them.

Watch for cars that are turning or backing up. Teach children to never dart out into the street or cross between parked cars.

Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers and, if possible, choose light colors.

Have kids carry glow sticks or flashlights to help them see and be seen by drivers.

When selecting a costume, make sure it is the right size to prevent trips and falls.

Turn your headlights on earlier in the day to spot children from greater distances.

Popular trick-or-treating hours are 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Please be alert for kids during those hours.

