

News From Southern Shores Town Hall Friday, September 25, 2009

Congratulations

Town Council at their September 22nd meeting honored two of our dedicated employees; our Town Clerk, Carrie Gordin for her 15 years of service and Jennifer Couture, Police Department Administrative Assistant for 10 years of service. Go to [Congrats](#) for pictures.

SSVFD Hydrant Testing

The Southern Shores Volunteer Fire Department has begun their annual fire hydrant testing. This will last several weeks until all 350 hydrants have been tested.

During this process it is normal to experience discoloration of your water. The water should clear up within a couple of hours. You may direct questions to the Fire Department at 261-2272.

From the Canal Dredge Manager-Update

The best news this week is that we finally received our permit from the Army Corps of Engineers. While this permit does not guarantee our success, it does allow us to move forward.

The low turnout for the Public Information Meeting on Tuesday morning was very disappointing. Many citizens missed out on the opportunity to hear our Town Engineer give a good overview of our project, explain the bid documents in some detail and once again, define the specific canals to be dredged. He also explained the new methodology we are hoping to use, and outlined many potential cost and time savings.

Our bid opening is on Monday, Sept. 28. We should have much better information on the method and costs after that date, assuming we have the number of bidders required to open the bids. If we do not, it does not stop the process, but simply delays it by 7 to 10 days.

On a totally different topic, a few canal front owners have expressed concerns recently about boaters on the canals not maintaining a low "No Wake" speed. To protect our shorelines as well as boats and property from damage, it is important to slow down. Your help will be appreciated!

As before, you can reach me with any questions or comments at (252) 619-5996 or jwbobx@embarqmail.com

Off Season Trash Schedule

Trash is back to the once a week pickup. Trash is picked up every Monday as we are now in the winter schedule. Recycling will be picked up September 28, and then we go to “off-season”, first and third Mondays till June. Remember roll out Sunday night and roll in within 24 hours of pickup.

Remember: Roll Out/Roll In – 24!!

Coexisting with the Wildlife in Southern Shores

The wildlife in town adds to the charm of the area and many people enjoy them. We recently received two complaints regarding foxes and one about deer. We have done extensive research and made referrals to the NC Dept. of Wildlife and Dare County Animal Control on this matter. These animals are protected and the state has a host of applicable regulations pertaining to this matter. Unless they are sick or considered dangerous you should do nothing. However one thing people are doing that does not help Mother Nature is feeding them. **DO NOT FEED wild animals.** For more information go to [Wildlife](#) or go to [Foxes](#) for information on how foxes behave when they have a den close by.

Vaccinate Your Pets and Use Caution When Around Wild Animals

The Town of Duck has recently had two reported cases of a rabid fox in their town. Rabies in wildlife is common in the southeastern part of the United States. The majority of rabies cases occur in such wild mammals as raccoons, skunks, bats, and foxes. Domestic animals account for less than 10% of all reported rabies cases. The viral disease is transmitted through the bite of a rabid animal.

The Dare County Department of Public Health offers the following public health guidelines to keep all Dare County residents and their domestic animals free of rabies:

- Be a responsible pet owner. Keep vaccinations up-to-date for all dogs, cats, and ferrets. This requirement is important not only to keep pets from getting rabies, but also to provide a barrier of protection for owners, in case the animal is bitten by a rabid wild animal.
- Keep pets under direct supervision so they do not come in contact with wild animals. Puppies and kittens must be protected until they are old enough to be vaccinated. They should be supervised when outdoors. If a pet is bitten by a wild animal, seek veterinary assistance for the animal immediately.
- Anyone scratched or bitten by a wild or domestic animal should seek medical attention immediately and report the incident to local animal control.
- Prevent exposure to rabies by avoiding direct contact with unfamiliar or stray animals. Never adopt wild animals or bring them into your home. Do not try to nurse sick animals to health. Call animal control or an animal rescue agency for assistance.
- Know the signs of an animal that may have rabies. A wild animal would normally avoid contact with humans but often becomes more aggressive and may approach humans it is infected.

- Enjoy wild animals (raccoons, skunks, foxes) from afar. Do not handle, feed, or unintentionally attract wild animals with open garbage cans or litter.
- Teach children never to handle or try to pet unfamiliar or stray animals, wild or domestic, even if they appear friendly.
- Spay or neuter pets to help reduce the number of unwanted pets that may not be properly cared for or regularly vaccinated.
- Call animal control to remove any stray animals from the neighborhood. They may be unvaccinated and could be infected by rabies.
- Prevent bats from entering living quarters or occupied spaces in homes, churches, schools, and other similar areas, where they might come in contact with people and pets.

If an animal has bitten you, thoroughly wash the wound with a soap and water and call a doctor immediately. If there is a chance you may have been exposed to rabies, or if the animal is caught and it tests positive for rabies, you will need rabies post exposure treatment (PET). You cannot wait to see if you get sick, because there is no known cure once the disease develops.

For more information about protecting yourself, your family, and your pets from rabies, contact the Dare County Department of Public Health at (252) 475-5003 or North Carolina Division of Public Health's rabies website at www.epi.state.nc.us/epi/rabies.html.

Chipping

The Chipper will be NOT be working the week of September 28th as this is the fifth week of the month. Section #1 can start putting their brush out for chipping the following week of October 5th. Visit the [Town website](#) for more information on the Town Chipping Program. Chips are available, please contact [Sheila](#) with your address and place a sign off the rights-of-way where to put the chips.

Dates To Remember:

- Recycling Pickups changes in October to first and third Mondays until June 1.
- Municipal Elections 2009 Candidate Forum, Wednesday, October 7, 7-9 PM, Pitts Center – early voting at the Baum Center begins on Thursday, October 15th please contact Dare County Board of Elections with any questions 475-5630.

If you need a police officer, anytime day or night, please call Central Communications at 252-473-3444. Write that number down or pick up a free sticker at Town Hall. Keep this number by your home phone and put it on your cell phone.

For more information, contact the Southern Shores Town Hall, 252-261-2394, 252-255-0876 (fax), info@southernshores-nc.gov , www.southernshores-nc.gov .

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