

BILTMORE FOREST CHRONICLE

RESIDENTS REMINDER—BRUSH & LIMB COLLECTION REGULATIONS

There have been numerous occasions when tree limbs and brush were placed for pick-up a day after Public Works had made their regular brush pickup. Tree limbs and brush shall not be placed at roadside more than five days prior to the collection date. (Pick-up schedule is on Page 4.) Town regulations were established over ten years ago and state that tree limbs for pick-up shall be cut up to lengths no more than six (6) feet in length, and no more than six (6) inches in diameter (distance through the limb).

All limbs shall be cut from the main body of any limb or trunk. All such materials shall be neatly piled with the length of such items substantially parallel to the street. One dump truck load of limbs and brush shall be allowed each resident per two months without additional charges. Should the volume exceed one dump truck load, a fee will be charged for each two (2) cubic yards or any portion thereof. A fee of \$50.00 per two (2) cubic yards will be charged when limbs and brush have exceeded one dump truck load in a two month period.

Removal of limbs, brush, and debris of all types resulting from work of commercial tree services shall

be the responsibility of the property owner, and not the Town. Limbs and brush shall be placed by occupant upon that portion of residents' property immediately adjacent to the street right-of-way normally used by vehicles but at least three feet off of the pavement.

The Solid Waste Ordinance has been amended to state that - the Town strongly discourages the deposit of grass clippings within the street rights of way adjacent to residences. However, should an occupant of a residence place grass clippings within the street rights of way, the Town may remove said grass clippings and, if so removed, shall bill the owner of said residence a flat fee of \$150.00. (The complete solid waste fee schedule is on page 4.)

Garbage receptacles shall be cans made substantially of metal, plastic, or plastic bags. Cans shall have tight fitting covers and strong handles and the covers shall be kept on at all times except when cans are being filled or emptied. Plastic bags shall be properly secured at the bag opening with a twist tie or other means to eliminate any spillage of contents. Contain-

(Continued on page 3)

Calendar of Events

- Board of Adjustment**
April 20, 2009, 4:00pm
- Board of Commissioners**
April 14, 2009, 4:30 pm
- Design Review Board**
April 23, 2009, 5:30 p.m.

***** Request for those who use online bank services to pay their Water Bills *****

If you pay your water bills on line, please ensure that your payment shows the correct account number. This is a three or four digit number and is shown on the top center of the water bill you receive in the mail. Thanks!

CENSUS 2010

Beginning on April 6, 2009, census workers will be in the Town assigning Geographic Information System or GIS coordinates to each and every address within the Town.

Census workers will be carrying handheld computers and Census Department ID. Please be aware that all Census information is completely confidential.

This part of the preparation process for the 2010 Census is expected to last a few weeks.

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FROM THE POLICE CHIEF'S DESK

KEEPING YOUR HOUSE AND COMMUNITY SAFE

Make it difficult, time consuming, visible and noisy for an intruder to enter your house. Here are some prevention tips you can follow as a guide to reducing the risks of your home being the next target:

1. Adequate lighting—All entrances, driveways, etc. Motion detector lights are good deterrents (keep extra bulbs, flashlights and batteries).
2. Leave lights on when going out at night; use timer lights when away for an extended period.
3. Maintain good locks on all exterior doors (including basement/garage door). Deadbolt with at least 1 inch throw. Thumb latches and keys in deadbolts should not be accessible from the outside through glass next to door. (Use the 40" rule).
4. Good locks are useless on weak doors. Need solid core or metal door (use long screws-3-4 inches into frame).
5. Don't hide keys in mailboxes and planters or under doormats. Instead, leave an extra set of keys with a neighbor or friend.
6. Sliding windows and doors: rod in tracks; special locks; pins through frame.
7. Chain locks are for privacy not security.
8. Peepholes – 190 degree-angle. USE Peephole to see who is at the door. Be careful about children answering door.
9. Keep doors/windows locked. Windows should have secure locks or pins for both closed and partially opened positions. Curtains and blinds should be used for privacy.
10. Keep garage doors shut and locked. Door from garage to interior of house should be locked also. Consider changing the code on your garage door remote or turning the power off on the garage door at night and when you are away.
11. Trim shrubbery to maintain visibility. Landscaping should not allow easy access to windows, doors or upper levels. Secure ladders and other devices that allow for upper level access from outside.
12. ALARM Systems are good deterrents. Use warning stickers/signs that come with the alarm. Consider a home alarm system that provides monitoring for burglary, fire, and medical emergencies. Over-the-counter alarms are good deterrents also. Research what is best for your home. Dogs are also considered good warning devices.
13. Give the impression that someone is home and that there is more than one of you.
14. When you find something unusual at your house upon returning home, go to the nearest and most secure phone, call the police and wait for them there.
15. Don't imply you live alone by answering machine, name in phone book, mailbox, door, etc.
16. Always respond to doorbells/telephone. Don't open door until you know who is there - use the peephole.
17. Don't leave notes on the door when going out.
18. Vary your daily routine. At night, draw your blinds or draperies.
19. Be careful about giving out information over the phone, the mail, or Internet.
20. Verify the identity of repairmen; if you are the least bit worried call the company-"if it doesn't feel right it probably isn't."
21. Don't let strangers use your phone, call for them.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

1. Keep names/phone numbers of neighbors by the phone.
2. Learn your neighbor's schedule and vehicles.
3. Call the Police Department for anything suspicious.
4. Keep an updated list of valuables (photos or videotape) including serial numbers and keep in a secure location.

Police Report January-March 2009

Incident/Investigations		Assist FD	3
Total Incidents	5	Assist Other Officer or Agency	12
Arrests		Breaking & Entering	1
Total Charges	15	Dog Complaints	13
Total Arrests	6	Domestic	3
Accidents	6	Investigations	22
Citations		Suspicious Persons	22
Total Charges	17	Suspicious Vehicles	68
Total Citations	13	Vandalism	2
Alarms	88	Vehicle Stops	82
Ambulance needed	3		

Commodes—the usual suspect for water leaks

Here is a simple way to check for leaks.

- Put a couple of drops of food coloring in the tank of your toilet.
- Go back a couple of hours later and check to see if there is color in the bowl.
- If there is no color in the bowl and the color is still in the tank you DO NOT have a leak.
- If there is color in the bowl or if there is no color in the bowl OR the tank then ...

CALL A PLUMBER!!

**RESIDENTS' REMINDER—
BRUSH & LIMB COLLECTION REGULATIONS**

(Continued from page 1)

ers shall not exceed thirty-two (32) gallons or exceed fifty pounds in weight. Each household may have up to five (5) garbage receptacles. Garbage can shall not be located behind closed fences, inside closed buildings, or in any other inaccessible place. Garbage from dumpsters shall not be collected by the Town.

In addition amendments have been made regarding recycling including the following: It shall be unlawful for any person to place or deposit in the Town's recycling containers any recyclable material of any type that was generated outside the corporate limits of the Town and it is unlawful for any person to place or deposit at the Town's recycling containers any recyclable material unless all such material can fit entirely within the appropriate container.

The complete Solid Waste Ordinance is available at www.townofbiltmoreforest.com

**Its Spring Again - Pedestrians,
Please Protect Yourself**

According to the Federal Highway Administration each year about 7,000 pedestrians die and 100,000 are injured in traffic accidents in the United States. A pedestrian or bicyclist is killed in the U.S. every 3 1/2 minutes. Pedestrian injuries and fatalities result in \$20 billion in societal costs. Young children and the elderly are more likely to be killed or injured in a pedestrian accident.

While it is easy to blame drivers, they are not always responsible for these accidents. All too often, pedestrians are the cause of accidents.

While driving through Biltmore Forest we often observe pedestrians (sometimes pushing baby strollers!) walking on the right side of the street and sometimes two or three abreast. This practice is wrong and very dangerous. North Carolina pedestrian statutes require that pedestrians

WALK ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE STREET facing oncoming traffic.

Please protect yourself.
Always walk on the left side of the road and carefully observe oncoming vehicles.



Tree Removal

Approval is needed by the Town Administrator prior to removal of ANY tree. The Tree Protection Ordinance has been amended to state that :

A tree that is dead, produces no foliage during normal growing season, or a tree that is diseased or storm damaged to the extent that it is structurally compromised and, thus, poses a safety hazard, or a tree that, for any other reason, poses a safety hazard can only be removed by the property owner after notifying the Town Administrator, of the plans to remove said tree (s) and being given approval to remove said tree (s).

**For more information,
call the Town Administrator - 274-0824**

DOG RESTRAINT

We want to remind everyone of the Ordinance regarding the restraint of dogs. Article III, Section 4-33 requires dogs to be restricted to their owners' property except when under control of a competent person by means of adequate physical control.

Spring is a good time to check the batteries on your dog's invisible electric fences to ensure continuous service; as birds, squirrels and rabbits create plentiful distractions to pets this time of year. Please remember to keep your dogs on a leash when walking them. Also ensure that your pet is properly identified in case your dog should get loose.

The fine for impounded dogs is \$25 and is due at the time the dog is picked up from the Police Department.



Directory Update by Email

If your Biltmore Forest Town directory is out of date, you can get a current directory sent by email. Just send your request to:

biltmoreforest@charter.net

Please put new directory & your street address in the subject line and the most current version will be sent directly to your computer.

ZONING COMPLIANCE

The Town Zoning Ordinance requires design review of all residential and commercial buildings and additions to buildings as well as accessory buildings. The redesign of driveways are also reviewed. Prior to issuance of a Certificate of Zoning Compliance, plans must be reviewed by the Design Review Board.

The construction of accessory structures such as sheds, fences, walls, curbs, wells, playground equipment, etc. require the approval of the Board of Adjustment. If you are not sure what constitutes an accessory structure, please call the Zoning Administrator, at 274-0824. Any land-disturbing activity such as

grading of a lot or removal of natural vegetation that involves twenty percent or more of the land areas of a lot must be done only after a plan has been submitted to, and approved by, the Board of Adjustment. The controls in our community are very tight in order to preserve and protect the natural beauty of the community.

TOWN OF BILTMORE FOREST

Town of Biltmore Forest

PO Box 5352, Asheville, NC 28813

APRIL 2009





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Mayor George F. Goosmann, III
Commissioners
Charles W. Grimes
E. Glenn Kelly
Doris Loomis

Town Administrator – Nelson E. Smith
Chief of Police – Eric Tinsley
Public Works Director – Terry Crouch

**Water's not Free,
Please Don't Waste it**

A continuous leak from a hole this size, over a two month billing period, would waste water in the amounts shown :

<u>Diameter of Stream</u>	<u>Gallons Wasted</u>
 1/4"	787,666
 3/16"	444,000
 1/8"	197,330
 1/16"	49,333

Brush Pick Up

Brush should not be put out earlier than the 8th for the NORTH, scheduled to be picked up on the **15th**.

Brush should not be put out earlier than the 23rd for the SOUTH, scheduled to be picked up on the **30th**.

NORTH

Pick up date: **15th of each month**

- Amherst
- Arboretum
- Browntown
- Buena Vista
- Busbee
- Cedarcliff
- Deerfield
- East Forest
- Fairway Place
- Forest
- Lone Pine
- Park
- Stuyvesant from Browntown N
- Vanderbilt
- White Oak

SOUTH

Pickup date: **30th of each month**

- Brookside
- Brooklawn Chase
- Cedar Chine
- Cedar Hill Drive
- Chauncey Circle
- Eastwood
- Fir Tree Lane
- Frith Drive
- Greenwood Road and Place
- Hendersonville Rd.
- Hemlock
- Hilltop
- Holly Hill
- Niagara Drive
- Ridgefield Place
- Southwood
- Stuyvesant Crescent
- Stuyvesant Rd.—Country Club S
- Westwood

Fees for putting your limbs and brush out in non-compliance with regulations.

Recent changes to the Solid Waste Ordinance include fines of \$25 for those who repeatedly put their brush out too early.

FEE SCHEDULE

1. Collection of limbs and brush in excess of one dump truck per two months, \$50.00 fee per two (2) cubic yards.
2. \$100.00 fee per dump truck load.
3. \$25.00 fee for limbs and brush placed at road-side five days prior to scheduled pick-up.
4. \$150.00 flat fee for disposal of grass clippings
5. \$25.00 fee for placement of limbs, brush, and leaves in a location other than immediately adjacent to that portion of the residents' property adjacent to the street right-of-way.
6. \$100.00 fee for collection of construction debris or other items not collected by the Town in addition to \$10.00 fee per each two (2) cubic yards or any portion thereof collected.