

TOWN OF
Belville



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Welcome to our monthly
update!

HELLO
MAY



Message from Mayor Allen

Hello and Welcome, Friends!

"The world's favorite season is the spring. All things seem possible in May." The late Edwin Way Teale, a noted American naturalist, photographer and Pulitzer Prize-winning author wrote this in his novel, *North With the Spring*. I agree with this sentiment and it is my hope that this newsletter brings you a renewed sense of vigor and excitement about our Town.

Last month, the Town held two public input meetings for our Vision 2030 Plan that will include information about the redevelopment of our Brunswick Riverwalk Park and the potential development of downtown Belville. We have gained excellent input from both citizens of our Town, as well as others from the area that utilize the Park. Thank you to those that attended these meetings in person, and to everyone that participated in the process by completing the online survey. Read through this newsletter for an update on our Vision 2030 Planning process, in addition to other exciting updates about our Town.

Take care of each other!

Sincerely,

Mike Allen, Mayor

Town of Belville

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Town Updates

COVID-19

Brunswick County's New COVID-19 Online Appointment Scheduler

Brunswick County Health Services has launched a new online COVID-19 Vaccine Appointment scheduling system. You can schedule a vaccination appointment at brunswickcountync.gov/vaccines. The appointment system is operated through novelHealth and all adults aged 16 and older in Groups 1 through 5 are now eligible to schedule an appointment. You may also call the Public Health Line at **910.253.2339** and select option 2 to schedule an appointment.

Brunswick County COVID-19 Case Counts

As of April 29, 2021, the Brunswick County Covid-19 Case counts are:

9,047 Total Positives (confirmed and probable)

191 Active (includes isolating at home and hospitalizations)

152 Deaths

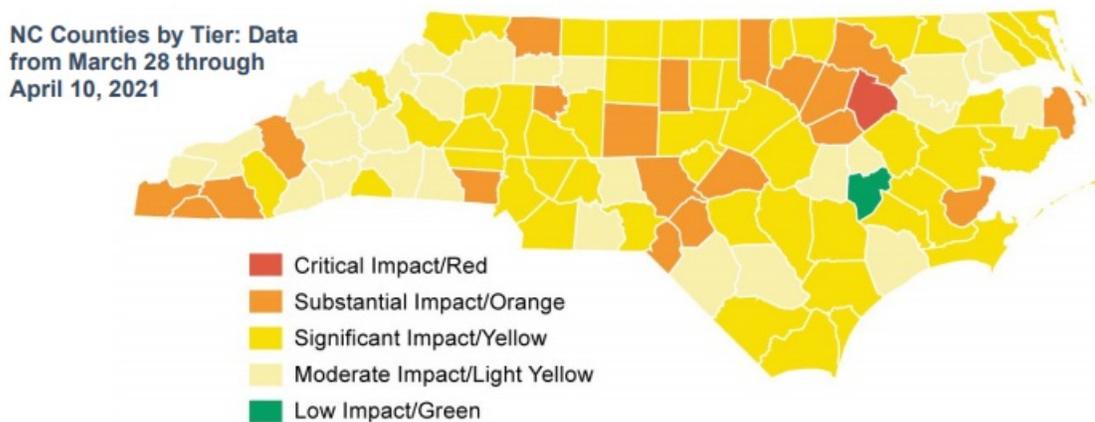
8,704 Resolved

CDC COVID-19 Symptom Checker

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has provided a great resource to review whether or not your symptoms may be COVID-19. Click [here](#) to check your symptoms and for further guidance.

County Alert System Map

Please continue to practice the 3-W's: Wear a Mask - Wash your Hands - Wait: Practice Social Distancing. To see the latest COVID updates from Brunswick County, [click here](#). The graphic shown below is provided by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. For a more in-depth look at COVID-19 numbers by NC County, [click here](#).



As of the update on April 15, 2021, North Carolina's key metrics show a leveling off of COVID-19 trends after several weeks of decline. Although the levels are far below the post holiday peak in January, most of North Carolina continues to see substantial community spread. The COVID-19 County Alert system (pictured above) uses metrics informed by North Carolina's key metrics to categorize counties into five tiers:

1. **Green:** Low Community Spread
2. **Light Yellow:** Moderate Community Spread
3. **Yellow:** Significant Community Spread
4. **Orange:** Substantial Community Spread
5. **Red:** Critical Community Spread

Currently, Brunswick County is in the **Yellow** category of Significant Impact.

Additional information and updates can be found [here](#) and at the following links:

[CDC COVID-19 Website](#)

[NCDHHS COVID-19 Website](#)

[Brunswick County Health Services COVID-19 Website](#)

[News from Brunswick County Government](#)

[Brunswick County Email Updates on Emergency Situations](#)

[Brunswick County Social Media](#)

[Code Red - Emergency Alert Notifications \(phone calls, text and/or emails\)](#)

Vision 2030 Plan

The Town of Belville held two public input meetings last month to gain a better understanding of how the citizens of Belville and other users of Town amenities would like to see the Riverwalk Park expanded and the future downtown Belville developed. The meetings were held on March 14th and March 15th. The town received **751** responses to our public input survey about the park expansion and future downtown development! We are still analyzing the survey results, but are happy to share some preliminary findings. Please visit our [Vision 2030 Plan](#) website to learn more.

Town of Belville



Vision 2030 Plan

Public Input Survey Results

751 responses

- 46% live in Belville; 50% do not; 4% don't know
- 97% have visited the Brunswick Riverwalk Park
- 98% support extending the Brunswick Riverwalk trail
- Most popular amenities:
 - 75% - extend the Riverwalk
 - 70% - outdoor restaurant seating space
 - 67% - amphitheater
 - 64% - food truck options
 - 54% - social plaza/pavilion
 - 51% - botanical gardens/rain gardens
- 91% support the development of a downtown Belville



Hurricane Preparedness week: May 9th - 15th

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WEEK
MAY 9-15, 2021

weather.gov/hurricane

Determine Your Risk.
Develop An Evacuation Plan.
Assemble Disaster Supplies.
Get An Insurance Check.
Strengthen Your Home.
Help Your Neighbor.
Complete A Written Plan.

Hurricane Preparedness
DETERMINE YOUR RISK

Hurricanes bring many hazards to U.S. coastlines and inland areas, including storm surge along the coast, inland flooding due to heavy rainfall, tornadoes, strong wind, rip currents and large waves.

- Storm surge
- Strong winds
- Tornadoes
- Inland flooding
- Rip currents

weather.gov/hurricane

Be ready for hurricane season. Today you can determine your personal hurricane risk, find out if you live in a hurricane evacuation zone, and review/update insurance policies. You can also make a list of items to replenish hurricane emergency supplies and start thinking about how you will prepare your home for the coming hurricane season. We encourage you to complete these simple preparations before hurricane season begins on June 1st. Keep in mind, you may need to adjust any preparedness actions based on the latest [health and safety guidelines from the CDC](#) regarding COVID-19, and your local officials. For more information, visit NOAA's website by clicking [here](#).

Road Repairs

Various street, drainage and lighting repairs are ongoing throughout the Town. Town Staff would like to extend special thanks to the North Carolina Department of Transportation, Brunswick Regional Water & Sewer, Duke Energy and Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation for being outstanding municipal partners.

Board of Commissioners Meeting



On Monday April 26th, at our monthly Belville Board of Commissioners Meeting, the Board received a financial update from Kemmy Goodson, CPA about its revenue, expenditures and budget balance for primary Town funds for the fiscal year 2020-2021. The Board also received updates about the Riverwalk Park and Street Maintenance, as well as code enforcement updates. The Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution honoring the late Brunswick County Sheriff's Deputy, Brandon Gore. Greg Adams, CPA presented the

results of the Town's 2019 Fiscal Year Audit and Kandall Hart, President of the UNCW Rowing Club, presented a request to partner with the Town. An update of the Belville Vision 2030 Plan Public Input period was also presented by Adrienne Harrington of Smart Moves Consulting. Next, the Board received an update on the Rules of Procedure for the Planning Board and adopted a resolution amending the Personnel Policy and Procedure Manual. The remainder of the meeting covered current COVID-19 actions, a staff request for the selection of a primary and secondary debris removal contractor for Fiscal Year 2021/2022 and an update on relevant transportation issues. Check our website soon for complete meeting minutes.

Monthly Meetings Schedule



Monthly Meetings Schedule

1. Planning Board Meeting - May 4th at 6:30 PM
2. Parks and Recreation Board Meeting - May 13th at 6:00 PM
3. ABC Board Meeting - May 18th at 6:30 PM
4. Board of Commissioners Meeting - May 24th at 6:30 PM

Please check with the Town or follow press releases and notifications for meeting cancellations and changes.

Other Updates

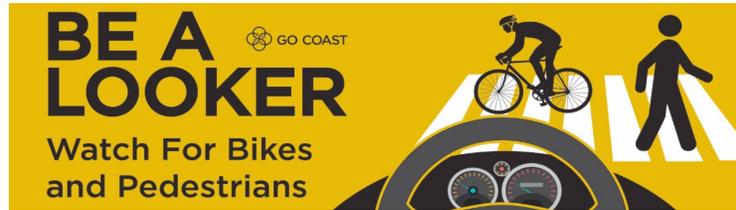


- (1) **The Month of May is National Bike Month** – Did you know that the month of May is

National Bike Month? Established in 1956, National Bike Month is a chance to showcase the many benefits of bicycling and to encourage more folks to giving biking a try. Additionally, May 17th- May 23rd is National Bike to Work Week and, Friday, May 21st is National Bike to Work Day, as designated by the League of American Bicyclists. The Town is dedicated to promoting the health of its citizens, so get out there and enjoy the weather while taking a nice bike ride this month! For more information, visit the [League of American Bicyclists](#) website.

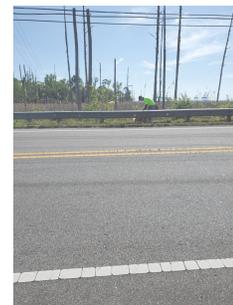
(2) **Be A Looker - Watch For Bikes and Pedestrians**

– Each year there are an average of 176 pedestrian and 22 bicyclist fatalities in



North Carolina. The greater Wilmington area is consistently ranked among one of the most dangerous regions in North Carolina for bike/ pedestrian safety based on collisions with motor vehicles. All of us - drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians- must be vigilant and on the lookout for one another. Please consider taking the BE A LOOKER PLEDGE; the pledge is a commitment to embrace bicycling and walking as legitimate modes of transportation, to educate oneself on rules of the road, and to prioritize safety. To take the pledge, [click here](#) to visit the Go Coast site. On the Go Coast website, you can find information about alternative and sustainable transportation options for those who live, work and play in the Cape Fear Region. For more information about the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, visit their website at [wmpo.org](#).

(3) **Route 133 Beautification** – On Tuesday, April 13th, residents of the WestPort neighborhood participated in the NC Department of Transportation's Roadside Litter Removal Initiative. The residents volunteered their time to help beautify Route 133. In addition to volunteers, NCDOT maintenance crews devote one week of their time to pick up litter and collect orange bags placed on roadsides by volunteer pickups. Thank you to all that participated in this effort and for helping keep Belville clean!



(4) **Riverwalk Pier Fishing** – People love catching fish at the Riverwalk Pier! If you would like to purchase a card key for the park's gate, please visit our website homepage and click on the button underneath "Let's Go Fishing," for more information. Pictured at right is a local resident who caught this catfish on April 15th at the park. Picture by Dana Fisher, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce.



(5) **New Street Signs** – The Town is replacing street signs throughout Belville. These are signs that were faded/ damaged from the hurricane/ tornado.



Brunswick Riverwalk Park at Belville



For updates and information about our Park, please visit our [Riverwalk Facebook Page!](#)

Duke Energy Educational Pavilion

The Town is in the process of upgrading the restrooms at the Pavilion. This facility will offer educational events and lessons to our local schools, capitalizing on the natural beauty and resources of our riverfront area. The Duke Energy Educational Pavilion is located along the Park's boardwalk. Use of the pavilion may be restricted due to construction and COVID-19. Please contact **Town Hall at (910) 371-2456** for information and reservations.



Riverwalk Farmers' Market

[Little Boys Produce](#) will be back at the Farmer's Market starting May 1st! Additionally, [Seaview Crab Company](#) will have a variety of fresh seafood as usual from 10-6 Fridays and Saturdays and 10-4 Sundays.



Riverwalk Veterans' Memorial

Visit our Veteran's Memorial located in the back of our Town Park. For more information about adding a name to the memorial, please contact Jim Bucher or go directly to [Polar Engraving](#) to place your order online.



Visit our Website