

BILTMORE FOREST CHRONICLE

2009 Property Tax Notices

Property tax notices will be mailed by September 1, 2009 . If you have not received your notice by September 15, 2009 and you do not escrow your taxes, please notify the Tax Collector at 274-0824. We will be pleased to send you a duplicate.

It is the current owner's responsibility to ensure that property taxes are paid.

LIVING WITH BEARS



Black Bears are very common in western North Carolina. Our bears are seldom aggressive towards people and are generally not dangerous as long as they are left alone. Bears are sometimes seen around residential areas looking for food. They can become a nuisance by getting into garbage cans, tearing down bird feeders, and eating pet foods left outside. They are also attracted to yards that have natural foods such as apple trees, blackberry bushes, blueberries, or other trees and shrubs that produce nuts and berries. Most bear problems can be resolved by removing all food sources. The bears will leave when they can't find anything else to eat. For more info visit <http://www.ncwildlife.org> and look under "coexisting with wildlife". If you see a bear in your neighborhood take the following precautions:

Calendar of Events

Elections

Tuesday, November 3, 2009
Polls open 6:30 am until 7:30 pm

Commissioners Meeting

Tuesday, September 8th at 4:30 pm

Board of Adjustment

Monday, September 21, at 4:00 pm

Design Review Board

Thursday, September 24, at 5:30pm

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- NEVER FEED BEARS!!** Bears can become dangerous if they become accustomed to human foods and lose their fear of people. Bears that lose their fear of people sometimes lose their lives to vehicle collisions or frightened homeowners.
- STORE ALL GARBAGE** in secure areas such as closed garages, basements, secure sheds, or bear-proof garbage cans or dumpsters. Do not leave trash or food near open or screen windows or on screen porches. Do not leave trash or food in the passenger area of a car.
- TAKE DOWN ALL BIRD FEEDERS** at the first report of bear activity. Bears love bird seed and will tear down bird feeders (including hummingbird feeders). Do not store birdseed on porches or decks. Wash decks or porches under bird feeders with cleansers to remove the smell of seed that has fallen from the feeders. If there is continued bear activity in the neighborhood the feeders may have to be removed permanently.
- PET FOOD** should not be left outside for bears to find. Feed pets in the house or, if outside, only enough food for them to eat and clean up any leftovers. Do not store pet foods on porches or decks.
- BEAR ENCOUNTERS!** If you should encounter a bear in your yard or when you are walking in your neighborhood, stop and wait for the bear to leave or back up and walk the other way. Do not run away or play dead. Most bears will leave when they are aware of the presence of humans. Some bears have become so accustomed to people that they won't leave right away. It is OK to yell at a bear or even throw rocks at a bear if it approaches. If the bear has already acquired some type of food source, like trash or bird feeders, let it finish and leave on its own. Never try to force a bear to leave some type of food that it has already claimed as its own.
- DOGS!** Always keep dogs on a leash if there has been bear activity in your neighborhood. Dogs are sometimes injured or killed when they approach a bear, especially a female with small cubs.

Living with bears is a part of life in western North Carolina. They come with the territory!

From the Police Chief's desk...

Police Report for July 2009

Breaking & Entering	1
Breaking & Entering vehicle	14
Burglar Alarms	20
Fire Alarms	1
Ambulance needed	1
Assist Residents	10
Animal Complaints	2
Civil Disturbance	4
Investigations Conducted	18
Gunshots	1
Larceny	4
Suspicious Persons	29
Well Being Checks	2
Out of town house checks	2
Traffic Enforcement:	
Vehicles stopped & checked	41
Suspicious parked vehicles	64
Assist motorist broken down	4
Vehicle accidents	2
Citations	4

Car Break-ins How to avoid being a victim.



Recently Biltmore Forest, as well as South Asheville, has had a major increase in B&E's of motor vehicles. The thief's have been consistent in their methods of selection of targets. In Biltmore Forest the cars that were entered were all unlocked, and the crimes take place at any time of day or night. Biltmore Forest officers have increased patrol, on foot, in unmarked vehicles, and in marked patrol cars. Biltmore Forest has not had any break-ins for the past two weeks, but we continue vigilant patrols.

These are a few things you can do to help:

- Do not leave any valuables in your car. The main things that are stolen are cash, phones, I-Pods, and guns. Many residents choose to leave their car unlocked with no valuables inside, to prevent damage to the car. Often the goal of the thief is to steal enough to buy or trade for a rock of crack, which is available at many convenient locations across the street for \$20.00 to \$30.00. A handgun will fetch much more dope than a new car.
- Keep a lookout for people who look out of place, such as driving very slowly, avoiding eye contact, turning around in driveway, etc. One suspect vehicle we are looking for is a white mini van driven by a white man in his 40's.
- If you hear something unusual call us, there have been thieves coming very close to houses.
- When you are out in public, keep your head up and be aware of who is around you, thieves choose the easiest prey. If you look like food, someone may eat you.

Chief Eric Tinsley

Signs and Posters

The Town has signs and poster regulations that provide permission for one, real estate, construction or political sign. One sign is permitted per property and these signs are to not exceed six (6) square feet in area, be no more than four (4) feet in height and be located at least thirty (30) feet from the edge of the pavement.

There are separate regulations for Political signs for primary elections, general elections and referendum which are as follows: Political signs are allowed on any residential lot prior to a primary election, general election or referendum provided the signs are erected as follows:

- Signs may be posted thirty (30) days prior to **the day of** an election, and **shall be** removed within five (5) days after **the day of** the election.
- Four (4) signs are permitted per lot, with each sign representing one candidate, or one issue if a referendum.
- Each sign shall not exceed four (4) square feet in size, and not contain any electrical component or lighted in any way.
- Wording shall be the same on both sides of the sign if both sides are exposed to the roadway.

- The sign shall be set back at least twenty (20) feet from the nearest edge of the pavement of all public roads on which the house borders, and in no way shall signs be located within the public right-of-way.

- No portion of the sign is to extend more than four (4) feet above the ground.

- A sign located on private property requires the owner's approval.

- The property owner shall be fined if the signs are not removed within five (5) days of an election or referendum.

There are exception for larger signs in the R-4 and R-5 Zoning Districts, which are to be approved by the Board of Commissioners before being installed.

Signs that do not meet the ordinance maybe removed by the Police Department.

Questions regarding signs and posters can be directed to the Police Department 274-0822 or The Town Hall 274-0824 complete Town Code of Ordinances, Section 15-Signs and Posters is available at www.townofbiltmoreforest.com

Dead Trees in the Forest

Several year of drought, followed by last year's 17-year Cicada invasion both contributed to the fact that there are many more dead trees around the Town than usual. Heavy rains and storms this Spring and Summer have helped alleviate the drought but have also played a part in the high number of oak trees that have fallen this year.

Apart from being unsightly, dead trees can be a potential safety hazard to individuals, personal property and to passing vehicles if a tree falls into the street.

Residents are asked to be extra diligent in maintaining trees on their property, especially if there is a potential hazard to power lines from a falling tree. Progress Energy is only responsible for maintaining 5-feet of clearance around a power line. Progress Energy has advised us that fallen trees are responsible for over 60% of the power outages within the Town.

Once an owner is made aware of a potentially hazardous tree, any damage caused by that tree falling, is the responsibility of the owner.

Tree Removal

Approval is needed from the Town Administrator prior to the removal of ANY trees. Call Town Hall 274-0824 for more information or to advise of removing a dead tree.



A list of tree professionals that have worked in the Town is available at the website www.townofbiltmoreforest.com



The Dumpster

beside the Public Works building is for your convenience if you need trash removal before your scheduled trash day. The dumpster is meant for the use of Town residents and for:

HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE ONLY

For more information on what is allowed please check the web site www.Townofbiltmoreforest.com/publicworks

ZONING COMPLIANCE

The Town Zoning Ordinance requires review of all residential and commercial buildings, additions to buildings, accessory structures, such as sheds, fences, walls, curbs, wells, playground equipment and redesign of driveways by the Board of Adjustment. Prior to issuance of a Certificate of Zoning Compliance, plans must also be reviewed by the Design Review Board.

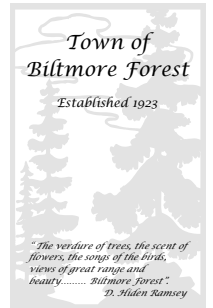
If you are not sure what constitutes an accessory structure, please call the Zoning Administrator, at 274-0824.

Town Directory 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

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



Leash Law - Dogs Must Be Kept Under Control At All Times



The Town of Biltmore Forest has an ordinance that requires everyone, while walking his/her dog (s), to keep it on a leash and under control. A good example of why this is necessary is that a few weeks ago, a resident was walking his dog without a leash, when the dog ran into another resident who was riding his bike. The bicyclist was thrown to the ground, and was severely injured and spent several days in the hospital.

Help us avoid further accidents like this from happening in our Town.

Please keep your dog on a leash, it is required by our ordinance for the safety of everyone and it is a citable offence.

For the sake of your neighbors ~ Please pick up after your pets ~ Thank you!

TOWN OF BILTMORE FOREST

Town of Biltmore Forest

PO Box 5352, Asheville, NC 28813

August 2009

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ASHEVILLE, NC
PERMIT # 335

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

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

Check out our website at: www.Townofbiltmoreforest.com

Brush Pick Up

Brush should not be put out earlier than the:
1st for the **NORTH** **16th** for the **SOUTH**,

NORTH Pick up dates:
8th & 15th of each month

SOUTH Pickup dates:
23rd & 30th of each month

- | | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Amherst •Arboretum •Browntown •Buena Vista •Busbee •Cedarcliff •Deerfield •East Forest •Fairway Place •Forest •Hendersonville Rd -
(Browntown Rd N) •Lone Pine •Park Rd •Stuyvesant Road (Country Club N) •Vanderbilt Road •White Oak Road | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Brookside •Brooklawn Chase •Cedar Chine •Cedar Hill Drive •Chauncey Circle •Eastwood •Fir Tree Lane •Frith Drive •Greenwood Road and Place •Hendersonville Rd.
(Browntown South) Hemlock Hilltop Holly Hill Niagara Drive Ridgefield Place Southwood •Stuyvesant Crescent •Stuyvesant Rd.—Country Club S |
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REMINDER

Brush for collection is to be placed in front of YOUR PROPERTY no earlier than one week before the scheduled pick-up shown to the left.

Do not place brush in Town Parks, across the street from your property or on neighboring property.

There is a \$25 fine for non-compliance.