

The Biltmore Forest Chronicle

December 2023



Changes Coming to CodeRED Phone Numbers

Beginning on December 15th, the phone numbers associated with the Town of Biltmore Forest's notification system, CodeRED, will change. You will no longer see the Town Hall phone number as the caller ID – rather, you will see the CodeRED specific numbers listed below. We encourage all residents to enter these numbers as contacts into your cell phones as follows:

TOBF Emergency Notifications: 866-419-5000

TOBF General Notifications: 855-969-4636

We are making this change because the Town Hall phone number is being displayed as “Likely Spam” or “Potential Spam” for many people. This is a general issue with many alert or notification systems, and we do not want to jeopardize someone missing a call from the Town because the cell phone or home phone provider is showing it may be spam. Also, by saving these numbers as contacts into your phone, you will ensure that you are aware anytime the Town is calling with an important notification.



If you are not signed up for CodeRED, we encourage you to do so – this is the most sure-fire method to ensure you are up to date on events, alerts, and notices within the Town. We also encourage you to set up an account with CodeRED in order to better define *how* you like to receive messages. If you do not want to receive phone calls, but prefer text or email communication, you can make those adjustments simply by setting up an account. For more information and to check your account, or create one, please visit the Town's CodeRED website or by scanning the QR code below:

<https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/en-US/BFA81F5CE852>

Mayor

George F. Goosmann, III

Commissioners

Doris P. Loomis – Mayor Pro-Tem
 Fran Cogburn
 E. Glenn Kelly

Town Manager

Jonathan Kanipe
 (828)274-0824
 jkanipe@biltmoreforest.org

Director of Public Works

Harry Buckner
 (828)274-3919
 hbuckner@biltmoreforest.org

Police Chief

Chris Beddingfield
 (828)274-0822
 cbeddingfield@biltmoreforest.org

Friends of Biltmore Forest

Thank you for joining in a wonderful Centennial Celebration!

Thank you for your support this year of activities from the Friends of Biltmore Forest. The Friends appointed a Town 100th Anniversary Committee as a special project for 2023, our 100th year. The Centennial Committee is chaired by Cindy Holman, with events conceived and executed through these subcommittees: Arts, chaired by Sara Lavelle; Event Support, chaired by Lauren Karlsson; Family Sports and Fitness, chaired by Scott Pritchard; & Business and Marketing, chaired by Katherine Morosani. Each of these chairs acquired the generous help of numerous residents as volunteers to put on events throughout the year. The Centennial Committee had a goal of holding a variety of events from which every resident could find at least one that they wanted to attend – “something for everyone”. It was such fun providing you with the following:

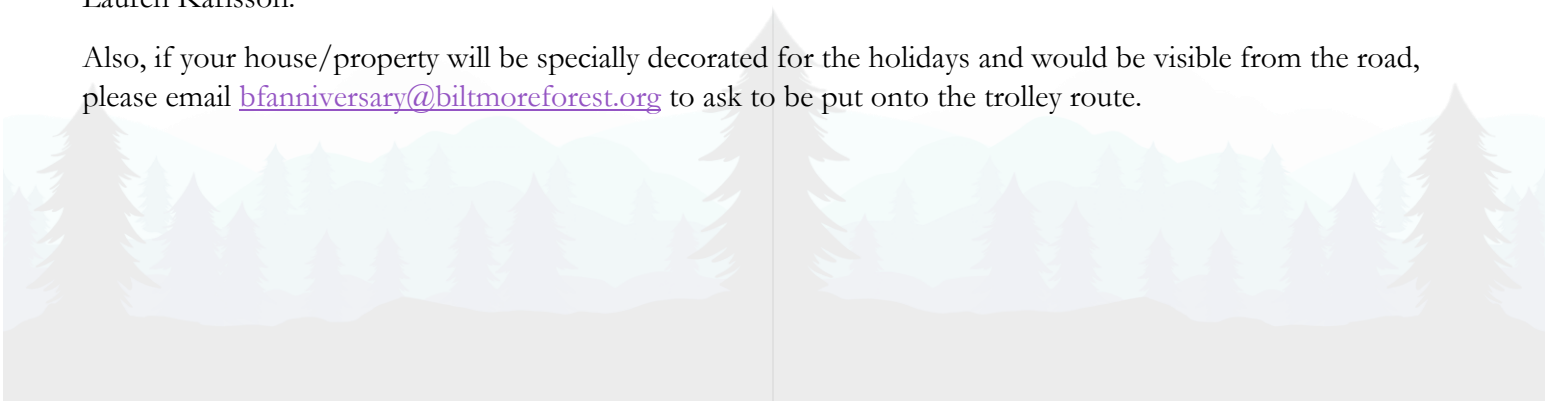
- Centennial Kickoff and 5K Fun Run/Walk
- New Town logo and related branding, donated by Oby Morgan of Brand Standards
- Two Speaking Engagements on the history of Biltmore Forest, by Diane Zimmerman
- Founders’ Day Commemoration and Art Show
- Trolley Tour showcasing Town people, places and events significant to our history
- Bird Watching Expedition viewing the vast array of bird species migrating through our town
- Residents’ Self-Guided Garden Tour
- Fourth of July, featuring Tim Gillespie’s SophistiCats band and parade led by 1923 Ford Model T
- Children’s Field Day in Rosebank Park
- The Fall Hootenanny, featuring old time jugband dance music from Moonshine, Stills and Mash as well as award winning dance caller Rodney Sutton
- Sunday Stretch led monthly by Leslie Brazil, and Running Club led by Blair Holl
- And coming up, the Children’s Holiday Trolley Tour on December 14**

**You can request your preferred Trolley Ride time by filling out the form linked on this page:
<https://www.biltmoreforest.org/event/childrens-holiday-trolley-rides>.

Children’s Holiday Trolley Tour

It’s the kids’ turn to ride through the neighborhood in an historic GrayLine Trolley! During this final event of the Town Centennial year, on Thursday, December 14, you and your children or grandchildren can enjoy holiday lights throughout the neighborhood from the unique and warm, historic trolley. Come dressed in your favorite festive attire. Holiday treats will be available. We are offering several non-stop runs of the tour, starting and ending at Town Hall. Please request your preferred trolley time on the Town’s website under **Upcoming Events**. Please keep in mind, your trolley spot is not confirmed until you receive your confirmation email from Lauren Karlsson.

Also, if your house/property will be specially decorated for the holidays and would be visible from the road, please email bfanniversary@biltmoreforest.org to ask to be put onto the trolley route.



Time to Treat for Ticks – 4x INCREASE in Lyme Disease

Interviews with a local veterinarian as well as a local dermatologist confirm that cases are on the rise, particularly in South Asheville. The vet reported that cases are up 4x over last year alone. Buncombe County is now endemic for Lyme Disease and our neighborhood now has over 50 cases among people and pets.

Yes, the ticks are still active on 50 + degree days through the winter. Cleaning your yard and spraying now is the single best way to treat your yard and kill the ticks before they lay their winter eggs. Our testing has resulted in a high percentage of ticks carrying Lyme Disease - as high as 75% in one sample. More test results are on the way so keep collecting your ticks and leave them at Town Hall. We must reduce the tick population in Biltmore Forest to reverse this alarming trend.

Anecdotal evidence from yards that have been sprayed one or more times is strong - fewer ticks on people and fewer ticks on pets. The spray kills ticks on contact and lasts 3-4 weeks. Schedule your spray on a day over 50 degrees when rain is not in the forecast. The Town of Biltmore Forest will also be spraying the parks and roadsides in December. Any licensed pest company (Terminix, Bugout, etc.) can do the spray and should cost roughly \$150 per acre. The spray should cover all naturalized areas, shrubs, plants up to 4 foot off the ground. Grass spraying is not necessary.

"After leaves in the fall and before bees in the spring", tick spraying is a twice a year endeavor. The more yards that spray, the better protected our neighborhood will become. Last year over 40 yards were sprayed. Please help us at Town Hall by letting us know if you have sprayed - we have a goal of 100 yards this fall.

Contact Angela Newnam at AngelaNewnam@gmail.com for more information.

26 – Year BFPD Officer, Samantha Bombace, to Retire

Officer Samantha Bombace will be retiring from the Biltmore Forest Police Department on December 31st, 2023. We will be hosting a retirement party for Officer Bombace on Wednesday, December 20th, 2023, from 5pm-7pm at Town Hall. Officer Bombace has worked 26 years with the Town of Biltmore Forest Police Department! Town residents are welcome to join in the celebration of Officer Bombace's retirement and achievements. Refreshments will be available.

2023 Property Tax Reminder

As we near the end of the year, we want to remind everyone that taxes are due by January 5, 2024. While many home and landowners are in escrow, we want to reiterate that it is important to check on tax payments with the Town Hall to verify those have been paid. Interest will begin accruing at 2% on January 6, 2024, and 0.75% subsequently each month until the taxes have been paid in full.

Payment plans are available upon request as needed, Thank you for your continuous support and due diligence. As always, please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Krystal Curtis
Finance Director

Public Works Updates

LEAF COLLECTION TIPS

The Public Works Department wishes everyone a Happy Holiday Season! As most are aware, we are working diligently on leaf collection, which is one of our most labor-intensive tasks that we undertake all year. This is a continuous effort that began November 1st and continues through January 15. We appreciate your patience as we work continually along our normal brush collection routes.

We also want to take this opportunity to remind residents of the following guidelines that will make leaf collection quicker and easier for everyone:

- Please place your leaves in **LONG, NARROW ROWS** parallel to the street pavement, no more than 5-feet wide. If we cannot reach the pile with the suction hose, we cannot pick up the leaves.
- **DO NOT** mix brush, sticks, limbs, dead plant material, or anything other than leaves in the leaf piles. Our machine does **NOT** chip or mulch the leaves, and anything **BUT** leaves can jam or damage our equipment delaying pick-up.
- **ONLY** place leaves on your own property. Do not place any leaves on Town property (ie: in an adjacent park or other public space) or your neighbor's property.
- Be mindful to **AVOID** objects that block access to your leaves, such as fire hydrants, posts, poles, signs, trees, meter boxes, and transformers. Having clear access to the leaf piles is critical for rapid pick-up.

Thank you for your attention to these tips!

<p>PLASTIC Bottles, tubs, jugs and jars</p>  <p>No pumps Empty and rinse</p>	<p>METAL Cans</p>  <p>Empty and rinse</p>																		
<p>GLASS Bottles and jars</p>  <p>Empty and rinse</p>	<p>PAPER Paper, cartons and cardboard</p>  <p>Flatten cardboard</p>																		
<p>PLEASE DON'T BAG YOUR RECYCLABLES!</p>  <p>KEEP THESE OUT!</p> <table border="0"> <tbody> <tr> <td>⊗ All batteries (car, lithium, etc.)</td> <td>⊗ Food-tainted items</td> <td>⊗ Scrap metal/wood</td> </tr> <tr> <td>⊗ Ceramic items</td> <td>⊗ Hazardous waste</td> <td>⊗ Shredded paper</td> </tr> <tr> <td>⊗ Clothing or textiles</td> <td>⊗ Household glass</td> <td>⊗ Styrofoam/peanuts</td> </tr> <tr> <td>⊗ Diapers</td> <td>⊗ Medical waste</td> <td>⊗ Tanglers (cords, hoses, wires, etc.)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>⊗ Disposable cups (plastic and paper)</td> <td>⊗ Plastic bags/wrap</td> <td>⊗ Tires</td> </tr> <tr> <td>⊗ Electronics</td> <td>⊗ Plastic clamshell packaging</td> <td>⊗ Toys</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		⊗ All batteries (car, lithium, etc.)	⊗ Food-tainted items	⊗ Scrap metal/wood	⊗ Ceramic items	⊗ Hazardous waste	⊗ Shredded paper	⊗ Clothing or textiles	⊗ Household glass	⊗ Styrofoam/peanuts	⊗ Diapers	⊗ Medical waste	⊗ Tanglers (cords, hoses, wires, etc.)	⊗ Disposable cups (plastic and paper)	⊗ Plastic bags/wrap	⊗ Tires	⊗ Electronics	⊗ Plastic clamshell packaging	⊗ Toys
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RECYCLING PROGRAM REMINDERS

We experience a significant increase in recycling (and garbage) volumes during the holiday season. Curbside Management is the company that takes and processes the mixed recyclables we collect. They have created the very helpful graphic below so we can keep non-recyclable (and sometimes dangerous) material out of the processing facility. We encourage everyone to visit www.curbie.com for lots of great information on recycling.

Sincerely,

Harry Buckner

Director of Public Works

828-274-3919

publicworks@biltmoreforest.org

Chief's Corner

The holiday season is upon us. This is a time of family and fellowship but this is also a prime time for criminal opportunity. Burglaries and thefts increase during the holidays for many reasons. Everyone is in a hurry and our self-awareness is low. Criminals know that we carry lots of cash and that we are making large purchases. All of this adds up to a recipe for criminal activity. The Biltmore Forest Police Department would like to give you a few holiday safety tips. As always do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns.

At Home

- Make sure all doors and windows have secondary locks (window pins, deadbolts, dowels, etc.) and use them!
- Don't hide spare keys in mailboxes or planters, or under doormats.
- Ensure that dark areas and entrances have outdoor lights that are turned on after dark or are activated by sensors.
- Keep trees and shrubbery trimmed so they do not conceal doors and windows. Remember, overgrown foliage can provide a hiding place for criminals.
- Place gifts where they can't be seen from the outside.
- Consider safe deposit boxes for coin and stamp collections, seldom-worn jewelry, stock bonds, etc.
- Be sure to mail cards, checks or gift certificates from the Post Office or at a blue U.S. Postal Service collection box.
- Lock your vehicle and remove all the valuables. Yes, even in your driveway.

If You Are Shopping

- Stay alert and be aware of what's going on around you.
- Park in a well-lighted space, and be sure to lock the car, close the windows, and hide shopping bags and gifts in the trunk.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash; pay with a debit or credit card whenever possible.
- Deter pickpockets and purse-snatchers. Don't overburden yourself with packages. Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Carry a purse close to your body, not dangling by the straps. Put a wallet in an inside coat or front pants pocket.
- Shopping with kids? Teach them to go to a store clerk or security guard if you get separated.
- Always lock your vehicle and store all items out of sight. Breaking into an empty car isn't worth a thief's time. However, anything left in plain view—from your holiday gifts to spare change, sunglasses, CDs, cell phones or briefcases—may tempt a thief.



Chief Chris Beddingfield
828-274-0822

Employee Anniversaries

Chris Beddingfield – 6 Years

Shane Burrell – 18 Years

Mike Dale – 3 Years

Matt Kelly – 14 Years

Daniel Rice – 3 Years

Lucius Riley – 5 Years

Aslyne Tate – 5 Years

Shelby Tate-Frady – 5 Years

Joe Zub – 2 Years

Employee Birthdays

December

Hunter Graham

Tony Williams

January

Krystal Curtis

Jonathan Kanipe

Brooklyn Martin-Gigi

February

Eric Anderson

Friendly Reminder:

When walking within the Town, always walk facing oncoming traffic. This is so the drivers can see pedestrians better. Wearing bright colored clothing is also recommended for everyone's safety as well. Thank you to everyone for their efforts to keep the Town safe!

Town of Biltmore Forest
P.O. Box 5352
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