



BRUNSWICK SPOTLIGHT

Our Mission

The government of Brunswick County, North Carolina exists to promote and sustain a superior quality of life. In partnership with our communities, we pledge to deliver cost-effective services in a personal, responsive, respectful and innovative manner, to our residents and visitors alike.

Basic things you need to do in the event of a hurricane:

- Know your risk. There is risk from both high winds and flooding.
- Check your area's flood maps and be aware of the possibility of storm surge and flooding.
- Review your insurance coverage.
- Prepare an emergency kit with supplies for every family member for 3-7 days.
- Make sure you have a full tank of gas and all valuable and important papers are in plastic containers—ready to go.
- Secure any loose items outside or put them inside. Cover windows.
- Listen closely to local weather forecasters and directives from your local Emergency Management Department.
- Be prepared to evacuate if necessary and have a plan in place as to where you are going. Leave earlier rather than later.
- If you have pets, be prepared to take them with you.
- Inform a family member where you will be in case of evacuation.
- After a storm, use caution before reentering your home and check for power lines, gas leaks, structural damage and wet electrical lines. Prepare loss information and take pictures before clean-up.
- Remain calm, don't panic and remember that you are really responsible for your own safety and to heed warnings from local officials. Being cautious and evacuating when told to may save your life.

Hurricane Season In Brunswick County

What you need to know

It's that time of year again! When the beach umbrellas go up; when the tourists arrive in our county; when schools are out for the summer and when your local emergency management department goes into hurricane preparedness mode. June 1st is the official opening of the hurricane season and officially ends November 1st. A hurricane can happen before June 1st and after November 1st, but for all practical purposes the height of the season will run from August through October.



Everyone should take some simple steps to be prepared and everyone should be ready to evacuate if necessary. The fact that the last few years have seen only mild activity in Brunswick County does not mean that we will not have a major storm and 2009 could be the year. The lesson learned from the Gulf Coast means that EVERYONE must be ready. Remember that Hurricane Katrina was a category 3 when it came ashore and we all saw the damage and loss of life that it caused.

The "good news" in Brunswick County is that your local Emergency Management Department is prepared to handle before, during and after a major hurricane and they will advise you what to do during every phase of a storm with your safety and best interests in mind. So please listen to their advice.

If you want more information about how to best survive a hurricane and keep your family, pets and property safe, call Brunswick County Emergency Management at 910-253-5383.

In Brunswick County, The Volunteer Center is a part of the Emergency Management Department and is responsible for volunteers during a natural disaster or other emergency. There are many ways in which you can become involved and volunteer before, during or after a storm. If you are interested in volunteering call Jayne Mathews at 910-253-2574.

Board of Elections Announces Municipal Elections

This year is a municipal election year in North Carolina. Brunswick County, at 19, has the most municipalities of any county in North Carolina. With two sanitary districts and a hospital trustee board also holding elections this fall, the total number of open seats for the November 3, 2009, municipal election is 70. In Brunswick County all municipal, sanitary district, and trustee board candidates run as non-partisan candidates, meaning party affiliations are not involved.



Only individuals who have established their legal domicile within a municipality, the North Brunswick or the Southeast Brunswick sanitary districts, or the Doshier Hospital jurisdiction for at least 30 days prior to Election Day may vote in the municipal election.

Extensive information is available at our web site: www.brunswickcountync.gov and choose Board of Elections under the departmental menu.

We invite you to also contact us at boel@brunsc.net or at 910-253-2620.

Board of Elections Key Dates:

Municipal Candidate Filing
Monday, July 6th at 8:30 a.m. -
Friday, July 17th at 12 noon

Municipal Election Day 2009
Tuesday, November 3rd

Absentee Voting by Mail
Friday, October 2nd - Monday,
November 2nd

One-stop Voting
Thursday, October 15th - Saturday,
October 31st

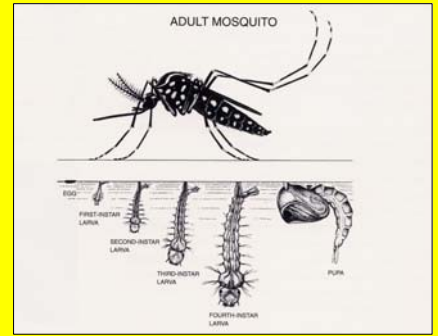
Household Mosquito Control - The Asian Tiger Mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*) is most commonly found within 300 feet of a home. You can reduce your risk by eliminating mosquito breeding sites and protecting yourself from mosquito bites.

What you can do:

- Empty or recycle containers in your yard that can collect water, such as tires, buckets, bottles and plastic tarps.
- Change water in pet bowls and bird baths at least twice a week.
- Cover unused swimming pools.
- Clean clogged rain gutters.
- Repair leaky outdoor faucets.

Protect yourself from mosquito bites:

- Wear long-sleeved shirts and pants.
- Avoid being outdoors when there are a lot of mosquitoes, such as at dawn and dusk.
- Avoid areas where there are lots of mosquitoes.
- Use repellents with DEET (25 % or less for adults, 10% or less for children) to prevent mosquito bites, following label instructions.



The life cycle of a mosquito. The larval stages are always found in water.

For more information contact Brunswick County Mosquito Control at (910) 253- 2515.

You may also email us at: op-svcs@brunswickcountync.gov

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS - Code Enforcement Dept

The hot, humid days of summer have finally arrived! Kids are thrilled to be out of school, and water sports enthusiasts, gardeners, golfers, sunbathers, porch worshippers and tourists delight together in summer glory. However, it's also "growing" season! As you know, grass and weeds grow very fast during hot temperatures and can provide a breeding ground for uninvited guests such as rodents, snakes, mosquitoes and fire ants! With this in mind, real properties need routine maintenance. Unfortunately, to somewhat hinder our summer pleasures, we must ensure that our lawns are mowed regularly, trash-debris-garbage are properly disposed of, outside clutter properly stored, and junked vehicles removed (including old boats, campers and trailers). We all must do our part.

Helpful tips to remember:

- It is the joint responsibility of both the occupant and the property owner to maintain properties in a safe, healthy and sanitary manner;
- It is everybody's obligation to preserve and protect the environment and scenic beauty of Brunswick County;
- Residents, government and businesses alike should strive to unify in community partnerships to make our county more eye-appealing and livable.



LET'S TAKE PRIDE IN BRUNSWICK COUNTY. TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE.



In The Spotlight...

The Emergency Services Department is comprised of 3 divisions; Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Management/Fire Marshal's Office and 911 Communications.

The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Division provides Paramedic level service to all of Brunswick County. EMS operates 8 ambulances 24 hours a day and 2 additional ambulances during peak call hours of the day. Patients receive the most advanced care available in the pre-hospital setting and are transported to the nearest hospital that can provide the appropriate treatment for the condition which is affecting them.



The Emergency Management (EM) Division provides planning and response to both manmade and natural disasters such as hurricanes, tornados and hazardous materials events. The EM Division is also the home of the Brunswick County Volunteer Center. The Fire Marshal's Office conducts plan reviews and inspections on all new commercial buildings as well as conducting regular inspections of all existing commercial buildings in accordance with the North Carolina Fire Code. The Fire Marshal's Office also partners with Brunswick Community College to provide the training coordinator for fire and rescues courses taught throughout the county.

The 911 Communications Division provides call taking and dispatching to the majority of the county's public safety departments including EMS, law enforcement and fire departments. Telecommunicators are trained to provide life saving instructions to callers over the phone while they are awaiting the arrival of first responders. Staff also maintains the emergency communications radio systems that are used in the 911 Center and by all emergency responders throughout the county.

For more information, visit our website at www.brunswickcountync.gov.

