



# Town of Fletcher

PRIDE IN OUR PAST ~ FAITH IN OUR FUTURE

300 Old Cane Creek Road  
Fletcher, NC 28732  
Telephone: 828-687-3985  
Email: [info@fletchernc.org](mailto:info@fletchernc.org)  
Website: [www.fletchernc.org](http://www.fletchernc.org)

## April 2020

### Town Council

Rod Whiteside, Mayor  
Phone: (828)545-8913

Sheila Franklin, Councilwoman  
District #1 (828)684-5676

Preston Blakely, Councilman  
District #2 (828)230-2838

Bob Davy, Mayor Pro-Tem  
District #3 (828)687-0313

Eddie Henderson, Councilman  
District #4 (828)231-4811

### Town Phone Numbers

Town Manager: (828)687-3985

Town Fax: (828)687-7133

Police/Fire Emergency: 911

Police Dispatch: (828)697-4911

Police Non-emerg.: (828)687-7922

Parks & Rec.: (828)687-0751

Public Works: (828)654-9208

### Town Meetings

#### **Town Council Agenda Meeting**

1st Monday of month at 6:00 pm

#### **Town Council Regular Meeting**

2nd Monday of month at 7:00 pm

#### **Planning Board Meeting**

3rd Tuesday of month at 6:00 pm

All meetings are held at the Town Hall located at 300 Old Cane Creek Road in Fletcher.

The Town of Fletcher Newsletter is published for residents of the Town and reports on issues and events that affect our community. Past issues of our newsletter can be found on our website at <https://www.fletchernc.org/about-us/newsletter/>.

You are encouraged to contact us with your questions and comments by e-mailing [info@fletchernc.org](mailto:info@fletchernc.org). Also, please visit our web site at [www.fletchernc.org](http://www.fletchernc.org) for additional Town information.

If you would prefer to receive an online version of our newsletter rather than a hard copy, please contact us at [info@fletchernc.org](mailto:info@fletchernc.org).

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

### **News from the March Town Council Meeting**

- The Town Council took action on the following matters:
  - \* Approved the property tax releases from the Henderson County Tax Office
  - \* Approved Proclamation P-20-01 in support of 2020 Spring Litter Sweep during April 11<sup>th</sup> - April 25<sup>th</sup> and set April 25<sup>th</sup> as our Town of Fletcher litter pick-up day.
  - \* Approved Larry Waldrop to serve another 3-year term on the ABC Board, ending 4/2023
  - \* Approved Lucas Armeña to serve another 3-year term on the Planning Board, ending 4/2023
  - \* Approved a one-year warranty on the parking lot associated with the economic development land swap
  - \* A Public Hearing was held regarding CD Application # 2020-01. Mr. Josh Youngblood had requested to conditionally rezone pin# 9652-69-7958 from C-1 (commercial) to R-1 or R-2 (residential). The application was ultimately withdrawn so the property will remain C-1.
- Mark Biberdorf, Town Manager, presented a proposal to utilize the services of Rose Associates, at a cost of \$10,500, to assist in the development and distribution of the request for proposals (RFP) and review and negotiations with a selected developer for parcels associated with the Town Center project. Town Council approved the proposal.
- Mayor Rod Whiteside discussed a proposal to change the start time of the Regular Council Meetings to 6:00 pm instead of 7:00 pm. Town Council approved the proposal effective with the April meeting.
- Mayor Whiteside lead a discussion on Fletcher ETJ (extraterritorial jurisdiction) and House Bill 215. It was agreed by consensus that the Fletcher Town Council does not support the issue nor support eliminating ETJ's as proposed by Henderson County.
- Jabbo Pressley, Public Works Director, provided an update on the Town's completed transition to 95 gallon recycling carts in November 2019. He shared the results from 3 months of 2019 data as compared to the same timeframe in 2018. Our overall municipal solid waste (MSW) tonnage for the 2019 3-month period decreased 1.8% as compared to 2018. There was also a 16.8% increase in the recycling collection volume with 74% of our households now participating in our recycling program, thereby indicating the new carts have made it easier for our residents to participate in recycling at a higher level. It was also mentioned that analyzing a longer period of time might provide a better picture and would help level out holiday peak periods.
- Mark Biberdorf addressed the issue of ongoing concerns and questions from residents and Council members about our existing Town Burning ordinance which was revised in October 2019. Mr. Biberdorf will contact the UNC School of Government to determine if there are any recent updates which would now allow local governments to permit their residents to burn. NC Administrative Code restricts burning if a municipality provides brush pick up for its residents.



### **Holiday Closing**

Town Hall will be closed April 10<sup>th</sup> in observance of Easter. The trash and recycling routes scheduled for Friday April 10<sup>th</sup> will be changed to Monday April 13<sup>th</sup>.

## Town of Fletcher Changes due to COVID-19

The Town Hall and Public Works buildings were closed to the public on March 26<sup>th</sup> but we are striving to maintain Town services at a normal level. You may still reach us at 828-687-3985, via our general e-mail address of [info@fletchernc.org](mailto:info@fletchernc.org), or through our website at <https://www.fletchernc.org/>. Our website "Home" page, at the bottom, provides a Staff directory if you need to contact a particular person. Appointments will be made on a case-by-case basis, so please call first to discuss your issue since we may be able to handle most matters via electronic means. Tax payments may be made online at [www.fletchernc.org/departments/finance/property-taxes/](https://www.fletchernc.org/departments/finance/property-taxes/) or deposited in our outside drop box in our south side parking lot.

Since this is a fluid situation, we continue to monitor and make decisions regarding planned Town events. **Before attending any event/activity**, please visit our website at <https://www.fletchernc.org/>, our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/FletcherParksandRecreation/>, or call us at 828-687-3985 for schedule updates.

**\*\* See the back page of this newsletter for changes in our parks and recreation events.**

## Is the 2020 Census really important? In a word, YES !

The U.S. Constitution mandates a census of the population every 10 years. The 2020 Census will count everyone who lives in the United States as of April 1, 2020 (Census Day). The results of the Census are used for 3 main purposes: **(1)** to determine the number of seats each state holds in the U.S. House of Representatives; **(2)** informs how billions of dollars in federal funds will be allocated by state, local and federal lawmakers annually for the next 10 years (so your participation helps our County get its fair share of funds for schools, hospitals, roads, public works and other vital programs); and **(3)** to provide data to help businesses decide where to locate factories, shopping centers, banks, new housing developments, etc. which often leads to new jobs.

Here's the Census timeline:

**March 12 - 20:** Households began receiving official Census Bureau mail with detailed information on how to respond to the 2020 Census online, by phone, or by mail.

**April 1 :** Census Day. You help create a census snapshot by indicating where you live as of this day and count everyone else also living at your address on 4/1/20 and provide the sex, age and race of each person.

**May - July:** Census takers will begin visiting homes that have not responded to the 2020 Census.

The goal is to count everyone only once, and in the right place. Federal law protects the confidentiality of all individual responses the Census Bureau collects. Visit <https://2020census.gov/en/census-data.html> for more information.

## PUBLIC WORKS (828) 654-9208

### Spring Leaf Pickup

Public Works will pick up **bagged** leaves on April 6th and 13th. Call (828) 654-9208 to request a leaf pickup or visit our website at [www.fletchernc.org/leaf-brush-pickup/](https://www.fletchernc.org/leaf-brush-pickup/) to complete an online request. The next leaf pickup will be in the fall.

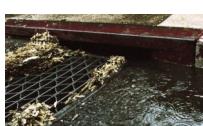
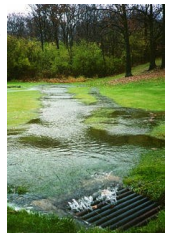
### Document Shred Event

This FREE event offers Fletcher residents a safe way to help reduce their chances of becoming a victim of identity theft while also helping the environment. Bring your items April 25<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am to 12:00pm to the Town Hall Southside parking lot. **NOTE: This event is subject to cancellation or date rescheduling.**



The Town of Fletcher will host a second community engagement meeting regarding the Bike/Ped plan on Wednesday, May 13, 2020 from 5:30 - 7:30 pm in the Multi-Purpose room on the 3rd floor of Town Hall. Our consultants from Traffic Planning & Design will be on hand to present draft project recommendations based on community input that has been gathered to date. There will be a short presentation at 5:30, followed by an opportunity to provide feedback. They will repeat the presentation at 6:30. Plan to come for either session! **PLEASE NOTE:** the situation with the COVID-19 Coronavirus is changing daily. Please visit our website at <https://www.fletchernc.org/>, for possible cancellation updates and rescheduling. If you have questions, please call Eric Rufa, Planning Director, at (828) 687-3985.

**Stormwater runoff** is water from rain or melting snow that "runs off" across the land instead of seeping into the ground. This runoff usually flows into the nearest stream, creek, river, or lake. On its way, runoff can pick up and carry many substances that pollute water which include pesticides, fertilizers, oil, pet waste, leaves, and grass clippings. The runoff may also include sediment from construction, bare soil, dirt roads, or agricultural lands. Water runoff is also created by watering outdoor plants, car-washing, hosing down decks or pavement, or any other activity that puts a lot of water on the ground.



In addition to picking up pollutants from the land, stormwater runoff also gets polluted from dumping in storm drains, and from illegal (illicit) hook-ups to the pipes that carry rainwater to the streams. The Town of Fletcher has an ordinance to prevent these "illicit discharges". To learn more about ways you can prevent stormwater pollution and our ordinance, please visit the Town's website at [www.fletchernc.org](https://www.fletchernc.org) and go to the "Planning and Zoning Department" tab and click on "Storm Water Management" from the drop-down menu.



# EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA!

~~Saturday, April 4th 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.~~

**FREE fun for  
Walkers - 11 years**

**Photos with the Easter Bunny!** **Face Painting**  
**Inflatables**  
**Easter Egg Hunt** **Spring Crafts**

## Egg Hunt Schedule

**Ages 2 & under - 12:15 p.m.**  
**Ages 3-4 - 12:30 p.m.**  
**Ages 5-6 - 12:45 p.m.**  
**Ages 7-8 - 1:00 p.m.**  
**Ages 9-11 - 1:15 p.m.**



**Bill Moore Community Park**  
85 Howard Gap Rd.  
Fletcher, NC 28732  
[www.FletcherParks.org](http://www.FletcherParks.org)  
828.687.0751

**Hunter**  
Subaru

**FIRST BANK**

**State Farm**  
Tabatha W. Hamlin

## Easter Egg-Stravaganza

**NOTE:** We are attempting to reschedule or replace this event due to the COVID-19 situation. Please watch our website at [www.fletchernc.org/](http://www.fletchernc.org/) for information and updates.

Join the Fletcher Parks & Rec Dept at Bill Moore Community Park ~~on Saturday, April 4th, from 12 - 2 pm~~ for the Town of Fletcher's Easter Egg-Stravaganza!

This free event will feature children inflatables, face painting, crafts, photos with the Easter Bunny and more! The Concession Stand will be open for purchasing food and drinks.

Our annual egg hunt, for children ages 11 & under, will feature over 10,000 eggs! To participate, all children must be able to walk on their own. All egg hunts will take place on the soccer field, according to the child's age:

## Egg Hunt Schedule

**Ages 2 & under @ 12:15 p.m.**  
**Ages 3-4 @ 12:30 p.m.**  
**Ages 5-6 @ 12:45 p.m.**  
**Ages 7-8 @ 1:00 p.m.**  
**Ages 9-11 @ 1:15 p.m.**

This event is sponsored by:  
State Farm Agent, Tabatha Hamlin  
First Bank  
Hunter Subaru, and  
the Fletcher Library.

## **We have been notified of the following team sports changes:**

Fletcher Youth Baseball/Softball is suspending its season until April 20<sup>th</sup> -- no practices or games at Bill Moore Community Park.

Empire Lacrosse will be suspending its lacrosse season indefinitely -- no practices or matches at Bill Moore Community Park.

## **Fletcher Summer Day Camp**

For rising 1st - 5th graders  
There are a few slots left in 4 different weeks. Register your child today. You may also include your name on the waiting list in case someone cancels.

## **Fletcher Middle School Adventure Camp**

For rising 6th - 8th graders  
Middle School Camp is **full**. You may add your name to the waiting list to be contacted if someone cancels.

If you are at least age 16 and like working with kids and need a summer job, consider working as a summer camp staff member. Visit [www.fletchernc.org](http://www.fletchernc.org) to learn more about our seasonal job opportunity and to access our online job application.

## **Current guidelines for using Bill Moore Park:**

- Observe 6' social distancing on the trails and green space
- All groups are to be less than 10 people
- Wash your hands before/after coming to the park
- Please stay home if you feel sick or have cold symptoms

TOWN OF FLETCHER  
300 OLD CANE CREEK ROAD  
FLETCHER, NC 28732

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### **Town of Fletcher Parks & Recreation Updates**

As of 3/27/20...

- The walking trails & green space at Bill Moore Community Park are still open until 7:30pm. All park users should observe 6' social distancing. The dog parks, the playground, the Steelcase shelter, and the recreation fields are closed.
- We are not accepting shelter rentals at this time.
- Kate's Park is closed.
- All scheduled Spring Yoga classes are currently postponed.
- We are attempting to plan another event to replace the cancelled Easter Egg-Stravaganza.

### **Stay up-to-date with changes in Events**

Remember, the Town of Fletcher utilizes an automatic call program to notify citizens of changes in schedules and/or programs. If you wish to sign up for this "robo call", contact us at 828-687-3985 or by e-mail at [info@fletchernc.org](mailto:info@fletchernc.org) and provide your name, address, and phone number.



The Fletcher Library is currently closed to the public due to the COVID-19 virus. For more information, please visit their website at [www.hendersoncountync.gov/library](http://www.hendersoncountync.gov/library) or call 828-687-1218.

### **Some good news...**

The Fletcher Fire District was recently involved in a survey by the NC Department of Insurance to gather information needed to determine a fire insurance classification, which may be used in the calculations of property insurance premiums. Fletcher Fire Department received a Class 3 rating (formerly class 4), which should result in a decrease in the property insurance calculation for many insured commercial properties. The NC Rate Bureau, which establishes rates on residential dwellings, will also be notified of this new improved rating effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

Thanks Fletcher Fire District for your hard work!