



BRUNSWICK SPOTLIGHT

Our Mission

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

Did You Know...

- That the Town of Brunswick was founded by Maurice Moore and named in honor of King George I, of England, a member of the German family of Brunswick?
- That on March 9, 1764, the Governor of North Carolina signed the legislative act that created Brunswick County?
- That Brunswick County was created out of parts of New Hanover and Bladen Counties?

Brunswick County Sheriff's Office Inmate Work Crew

The Brunswick County Sheriff's Office and the Brunswick County Commissioners have initiated a brand new approach to roadside cleanup. The Sheriff's Office Inmate Work Crew has picked up over 42,000 pounds of trash, averaging almost 1,600 pounds per day. Brunswick County Solid Waste Control Officer John Rogers has been helpful in our united effort to make our county a more beautiful place to call home. For more information on the Inmate Work Crew Program, or to identify an area for cleanup, please call the Brunswick County Sheriff's Office at 253-2777 or the Solid Waste Division at 253-2520.



Sunset Beach Wastewater Collection System Construction

Brunswick County and the Town of Sunset Beach have entered into an agreement that will result in the construction of a wastewater collection system for those areas within the Town of Sunset Beach that do not presently have wastewater collection service available. The areas that will receive service under this agreement include the island and mainland sections of the town.

The County will be responsible for the design and construction of the wastewater collection system. Work on the design of the collection system will begin in March 2007 and should be completed by July 2008. Construction is expected to begin by January 2009.

Upon completion of the construction of the collection system and sewer service being available, the cost of constructing the wastewater collection system will be assessed to the property owners who can receive service. The amount of the assessment cannot be determined until the project is completed and all project costs are known. At that time, the County will notify all of the property owners who will be assessed and allow them up to three years to pay the assessment.

Effective July 1, 2007, Brunswick County will also assume operational responsibilities for the Town of Sunset Beach water system. All existing Sunset Beach water customers will become Brunswick County Public Utilities customers. The Sunset Beach customers will be charged the same rate as all of the current Brunswick County Public Utilities customers.

Detention Center Expansion

The County contracted with Hemphill Associates and Bordeaux Construction Company, Inc. for the design and construction of the 40,868 sq. ft. detention center expansion. This expansion will consist of four (4) additional male dayrooms, 72 new male cells, 1 male dorm, two (2) female dayrooms, 36 new female cells, an additional laundry, male and female control rooms, four (4) holding cells, inmate storage, booking area and visitation room. Some of the existing space will be renovated or modified to optimize utilization by converting the female cells to male isolation cells. The current detention facility has a total of 196 beds and an average daily inmate population of 305. When completed, the expansion will add an additional 248 beds, bringing the total number of beds to 444. The facility is expected to be completed in September 2007.



Administration Building

In December 2005, the County engaged Hemphill and Associates to design a new Administration building. After extensive project planning, the proposed three story, 34,000 sq. ft. building will be located just south of the Central Services Building (Building I).

The first floor of the building will house the Tax Administration, Revenue, Clerk to the Board and a new Commissioners' Chambers with approximately 65% more seating than the current Chambers. The second floor will house Finance and a central work session/training room, while the third floor will house Administration, Human Resources and Legal.

A bid opening was held on February 13th and construction is expected to be completed approximately one year from the notice to proceed.



New Elevated Water Storage Tank

In 2004, the County Commissioners entered into an interlocal agreement with the City of Southport to erect a 1,000,000 gallon elevated water storage tank. The County received a grant in the amount of \$400,000 to supplement the cost of constructing the \$1.2 million water tank. The County and the City have agreed to jointly fund the local matching funds to finance the total engineering and construction costs for the tower. The storage tank is located at the Smithville Park at the intersection of River Road (NC Hwy. 87) and Doshier Cut Off Road (NC Hwy. 133) and is expected to be completed before summer. Once operational, the tank will not only supply water to the rapidly growing population along NC 211 and Oak Island; it will also supplement Southport's water system by providing adequate pressure for both household and commercial use and fire suppression.



New Parks and Expansion for the Brunswick County Parks & Recreation

Brunswick County Parks and Recreation is growing with the addition of new parks and expansion of existing parks. These additions and expansions will provide additional land and recreational opportunities for our residents. Currently, Parks and Recreation is beginning the design phase for two new parks; Whitlock Landing, a new water access site located in Winnabow and Brunswick Nature Park, a 911 acre tract located near Leland that was acquired from the North Carolina Land Trust. A Request for Proposals for Whitlock Landing and the Brunswick Nature Park has concluded with the selection of a design firm. Public meetings will begin in early 2007 for input on amenities to be included.

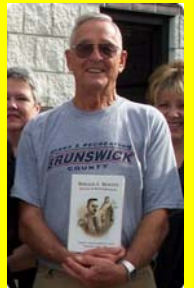
Expansion of Waccamaw Park in Ash and The Brunswick River Park in Belville will begin in early 2007 with the selection of a design firm, which will include public meetings throughout the county seeking resident input on desired amenities. Ocean Isle Beach Park, a 60 acre tract of land that was generously donated by the Town of Ocean Isle Beach, will also begin the design phase in early 2007.

Public meetings will be held in 2007 seeking input on all future parks and existing park expansions. This is an exciting time for all Brunswick County residents.

Brunswick County Employees Set New Record with United Way Campaign



A Ceremony was held on Friday, January 5, 2007, to present a check to The Cape Fear Area United Way for \$33,303; the total amount donated by Brunswick County employees during their United Way Campaign. As part of the County's campaign celebration, a raffle was held for all employees who had contributed. One of the items raffled was the last available copy of a cookbook written by Sheriff Ron Hewett, "Recipes and Remembrances". The raffle winner for the cookbook was Arch Wilson, an employee of the County's Parks and Recreation Department.



Joining Sheriff Hewett and Mr. Wilson for the ceremony were: Eileen Gardner, Chairperson of this year's County campaign, Pam Wyatt, President of the Cape Fear Area United Way, Amy Broadfoot, of The United Way, Rebecca Long, of The Lower Cape Fear Hospice and several County employees who had helped to make this year's campaign a success.

All proceeds from the sale of the cookbook "Recipes and Remembrances" have been donated to The Lower Cape Fear Hospice. Plans are being made for a second edition of the cookbook. For more information on the release of this edition, call Becky Long of The Lower Cape Fear Hospice at 910-754-5356, ext. 304.



In The Spotlight...

Need fast internet service? A recorded book on a long drive? A Disney DVD for the kids, a 1900 census record, investment information, a Googling lesson, an e-mail address, or just a good old-fashioned mystery novel for a cold evening?

Your Brunswick County Library is The Very Best Place to Start!

Five full-service branches offer the latest in information technology, as well as 110,000 books for all levels of learning, from infants to scholars.

Library staff members, some with over 20 years of experience and training, are on duty to help customers find just the right book, website, or CD. "If we don't have it, we can probably get it for you," they say. The Library's interlibrary loan agreement gives Brunswick County borrowing privileges from institutions all over the country.

NC-LIVE, a specialized database, provides access to hundreds of newspaper articles, business and medical journals, historical and genealogical records, online study guides, maps, electronic books, and a vast array of literature. County residents can search NC-LIVE free, from their home computers, just by picking up the current password from their nearest library. No home computer? All five branches have free public internet access.



Story-time for preschoolers, after-school crafts, programs for adults, and school tours are scheduled at all branches.

All libraries are open on Sunday afternoons 2-6; on Saturdays from 9-1; and Monday through Friday from 9 until 6. Library cards are free to county property owners and permanent residents with proper identification. Call the nearest library for more information. A real person will answer the phone!

Harper Library (Southport)..... 457-6237 Leland Library..... 371-9442
Barbee Library (Oak Island) 278-4283 Rourk Library (Shalotte) 754-6578
Hickmans Crossroads Library 575-0173