



FOCUS ON CURRITUCK

A REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

AUGUST 2006



Increased Demand for Water Leads to Restrictions on New Mainland Connections

An increase in water consumption has resulted in Currituck County imposing a restriction on new water connections to the Mainland Water System. This action is necessary to ensure the system is able to continue providing an adequate amount of water to existing customers. It is not a complete moratorium on water connections, but is instead a temporary limitation on the number of new connections.

The water connection restriction became effective on June 30, 2006, and will remain in effect for a period of nine (9) months. (Please note: This restriction is only for connections to the Mainland Water System and not the Southern Outer Banks Water System.) During this time, the County will explore new water sources (additional wells) and continue to work toward expanding the Mainland water plant.

The restriction should not affect those with active building permits; however, those who have applied but not yet received a building permit will not be eligible for water connection at this time.

As an alternative, an individual well may be an option until a connection to the water system is available. Wells could continue to be used for irrigation and other purposes even after customers connect to the County system.

Applicants for residential and/or commercial building permits will be required to sign a release acknowledging their understanding of the provision in the Code of Ordinances that allows the Water Superintendent to deny applications for connections to the County water system. If the applicant is able to provide proof of the ability to install a well, he or she will obtain a building permit. If the

applicant is not able to provide such proof, no building permit will be issued in order to protect the health and welfare of citizens.

Since 2003, Currituck has been pursuing the necessary permits to build a Reverse-Osmosis (R-O) water plant on the mainland. However, the lengthy permitting process has forced a later completion date for the plant. After permits are approved by the State, the new R-O Plant should take two years to build.

Over the past three years, the existing Mainland Water System has been undergoing extensive upgrades to boost performance. The System is currently only permitted to produce 1 million gallons of water per day (mgpd), but could produce up to 1.5 mgpd after approval is given. Ultimately, the Mainland System could reach 2 mgpd capacity after additional upgrades are complete and increased capacity numbers are approved.

In addition, the County has taken measures in recent months to address a water shortage by implementing a Water Conservation and Restriction Plan. Last month, a Water Advisory Alert was issued and remains in effect. Unfortunately, this voluntary conservation measure has made little difference in reducing customer consumption, contributing to the County's delay in approving new connections. Should this water shortage continue, a mandatory water restriction could be issued. It is the County's goal to see this issue resolved as quickly as possible.

Please call the Currituck Water Department at 232-2769 for additional information. For construction inquiries, contact Spence Castello, Chief Building Inspector, at 232-3378.

FACTS CONCERNING THE WATER RESTRICTION



- Currituck County is currently imposing restrictions on new water connections to the Mainland Water System. This action is necessary to ensure the system is able to continue providing an adequate amount of water to customers.

- Currituck County's ongoing efforts to evaluate, regulate, and establish the necessary policies and water system infrastructure is essential in protecting the health, safety and welfare of its citizens. County policies – including the Land Use Plan and recently adopted Water Conservation and Restriction Plan – include aggressive water conservation measures.

- The County is continuing to work towards expanding the Mainland water plant and has applied for the necessary permits. The permitting process, which includes the State requirement of intensive water quality studies, is taking longer than expected. Officials say it could be at least two years before the plant expansion is complete. In the meantime, the County is exploring new water sources and working with the State to seek a prompt resolution so that additional new connections can be obtained as soon as possible.

- This restriction is not a complete moratorium on water connections, but is instead a temporary limitation on the number of new connections.

Continued on Page 2.

Did You Know



Currituck County's
population grew by nearly
25% from 2000 to 2005?

Focus On Currituck: A Report to the Community is an award-winning publication of the Currituck County Public Information Department. It received a 2005 State award from the N.C. Association of Government Information Officers.

Diane C. Sawyer, *Director*

John R. Nixon, *Information & Communications Officer*

Daniel F. Scanlon, II, *County Manager*

Post Office Box 39, Currituck, NC 27929

Phone: (252) 232-0719

Website: www.currituckgovernment.com

E-mail: contactus@co.currituck.nc.us

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were printed at a cost of \$0.385 per copy**

Public Hearings: Information & FAQs

What are Public Hearings? Why Are They Important to Me?

Have you ever passed one of those large yellow signs along the roadway that announces a public hearing and wondered what it meant? Have you watched a televised meeting of the Board of Commissioners and wondered when a public hearing is required and what procedures must be followed? The Board of Commissioners holds public hearings for two types of zoning decisions: legislative and evidentiary.

Legislative zoning decisions are far-reaching policy decisions that affect the County as a whole. Such decisions would include the Board's adoption, amendment, or repeal of any provision of the Currituck County Unified Development Ordinance.

Evidentiary decisions, however, apply the Board's policies regarding the ordinance to individual situations. Such decisions by the Board of Commissioners would include the granting or denial of a special use permit. There are different rules of procedure for each type of decision, as outlined below:

- **Notice of Hearings:** For legislative hearings, the County is required by ordinance to advertise the hearing once a week for two consecutive weeks between ten and twenty-five days before the hearing. For a hearing on the rezoning of a particular piece of property, the County must mail notices to property owners within one hundred and fifty feet of the property and post the site itself. For evidentiary hearings, the County is required to advertise in the newspaper as it does for legislative hearings. In addition, the County must mail notices to property owners within two hundred feet of the property and post the property itself.
- **Speakers:** At legislative hearings, the Board of Commissioners may reasonably limit the number of and time for speakers. At evidentiary hearings, the Board of Commissioners can limit witnesses to relevant, not repetitious, evidence.
- **Evidence:** At legislative hearings, no evidence is required. In addition, the members of the Board of Commissioners may talk freely with anyone outside the hearing. It is at this type of hearing that emotional appeals can be heard *and considered* by the Board.

At evidentiary hearings, witnesses must present substantial, competent, and material evidence into the record. For example, Mr. Smith's property is adjacent to Company A's property. Mr. Smith feels that Company A's use of its property will devalue his. Mr. Smith can not go to an evidentiary hearing for Company A and declare Company A's actions will devalue his property and have his testimony considered. In this case, Mr. Smith must present testimony from a licensed appraiser for it to be considered by the Board. The licensed appraiser is an expert in the field of land value; therefore, his or her testimony is admissible in the proceeding.

All witnesses must be sworn in and are subject to cross-examination. Unlike legislative hearings, the members of the Board may not discuss the issues of an evidentiary hearing outside the hearing.

- **Findings:** After a legislative hearing, the Board of Commissioners is required to prepare a written statement that addresses consistency with an adopted comprehensive plan, reasonableness, and that public interests will be furthered. After an evidentiary hearing, written findings of fact are required to be adopted by the Board.
- **Records:** It is sufficient for the Board to maintain regular minutes of a legislative hearing. For an evidentiary hearing, however, the Board must maintain a detailed record of testimony. The Clerk to the Board must retain all exhibits while there is time for a party to appeal the decision.

If you should have any questions, please contact the County Attorney's office at 232-2075 ext. 276.



Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is an expert and when is an expert's testimony necessary?

An expert is a person who is qualified by reason of knowledge, skill, experience, training, or education to render a credible opinion about a matter requiring scientific, technical, or other specialized knowledge. An expert may be necessary in an evidentiary hearing. The expert will be required to state his or her qualifications for the record.

2. What does "substantial, competent, and material evidence" mean?

Competent evidence is simply evidence that is admissible before a local board, according to the Rules of Evidence in the North Carolina General Statutes. Substantial evidence is simply enough evidence for a reasonable person to reach a certain conclusion.

3. What is "burden of proof?"

The burden of proof includes both the burden of producing evidence and the burden of persuasion. The burden of producing evidence is the requirement of a party to bring sufficient evidence before the Board so that it may find in that party's favor on the issue before the Board. This burden falls on the party who will lose if no evidence is introduced. The burden of persuasion falls on the applicant. If both parties present equally persuasive evidence, the party that has the burden of persuasion loses.



CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE...

WHY IS THE COUNTY IMPOSING WATER CONNECTION RESTRICTIONS?

- The Mainland Water System is permitted to produce 1 million gallons of water each day. In recent weeks, water consumption has spiked to a record high, forcing the system to produce as much as 1.5 millions gallons per day.
- Annual new installations on water connections have increased from 79 connections in 1997-98 to 216 connections in 2005-06. This may be attributed to a sharp rise in population and new construction.
- The average daily usage per connection has risen from 174 gallons in 1997-98 to 200 gallons in 2005-06.
- Concerned about the increase in water usage, coupled with a lack of rain, the County issued a Water Advisory Alert effective June 6, 2006. This alert is the second level in the Water Conservation and Restriction Plan. Under the restriction plan, five levels of restrictive measures are in place to address a water shortage. These levels – which include Normal, Advisory, Watch, Warning, and Emergency – range from no water use restrictions to mandatory restrictions under a state of emergency. Despite issuing a Water Advisory Alert, there has been only a slight decrease in daily consumption. Water customers are being strongly encouraged to step up their efforts to conserve water.

Did You Know ?

The public may speak at every Board of Commissioners meeting. Simply sign up at the podium prior to the start of the meeting.

Currituck County Board of Commissioners
S. Paul O'Neal, *Chairman, Poplar Branch Township*
Paul R. Martin, *Vice-Chairman, At-Large*
Eldon L. Miller, Jr., *Moyock Township*
Ernie Bowden, *Fruitville Township*
J. Owen Etheridge, *Crawford Township*



Send an e-mail to the Commissioners at commissioners@co.currituck.nc.us.

Board of Commissioner meetings are aired on Mediacom Channel 18 every Monday and Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

Your Health...Your Family...Your Vote

NEED HELP WITH HEATING OR COOLING COSTS?

The Crisis Intervention Program (CIP) helps low-income households that are in a **heating or cooling** related emergency. At the beginning of each State Fiscal Year (July through June), the Currituck County Department of Social Services receives an allocation to fund the CIP program. The funding, however, is limited.

The maximum payment amount is up to \$300 per household – per State Fiscal Year. The funds can possibly be used for:

- Paying heating/cooling related deposits;
- Paying heating bills. This may include electric or gas bills, fuel oil, etc. when in an emergency situation;
- Bulk-buying (air conditioners, heating units, etc.);
- Utility payments (related to heating or cooling) which include, but are not limited to: Bills (**when in shut-off status**), connection or reconnection fees, or security deposits;
- Home repairs, which include, but are not limited, to: Heating or cooling appliance replacement or repair, insulation replacement, necessary wiring/circuit board replacements to be able to heat or cool home, replacement/repair of windows, roofs, walls or any repair/replacement completed that would allow households the ability to heat or cool their homes;
- In-kind services, such as blankets, space heaters, and warm clothing.

One of the eligibility criteria is income. The household meets income eligibility if the total household's members' countable income is equal to or less than 150% of the current poverty level. Other eligibility factors include, but are not limited to, the following: Age of household members, medications being taken by a household member, or extreme weather conditions.

An elderly or disabled person who wishes to apply may call the social services office for assistance or send a representative in to apply for him or her.

Please note that there is no specific application period for CIP. Call the Currituck County Department of Social Services at 232-3083 to check on the availability of CIP funds or receive additional information.



Eat Smart, Move More Health Tip



This Year's #1 Baby Gift

Breast milk! It's the best gift you can give your baby. Breastfeeding fights disease and obesity and helps babies' brains develop—making baby healthier, happier and smarter. Mommy feels better too. She loses pregnancy weight faster and lowers her risks for cancer. And best of all, she's giving baby something that no one else can.

Doctors recommend exclusive breast-feeding for the first six months. After that, breastfeed and give your baby iron-rich foods until baby's first birthday.

For more tips on healthy nutrition where you live, learn, earn, play and pray, visit

www.EatSmartMoveMoreNC.com



This message brought to you by



Eat Smart, Move More Health Tip



Choose to Move More Every Day

Physical activity is essential for all of us. Children, adults and seniors can benefit from moderate activity every day. Take a walk with a friend, take the stairs instead of the elevator, or work in your yard. Dancing works too and is great fun! Thirty minutes or more of motion for adults and 60 minutes for children on most days can help keep you in shape and feeling good. Can't find a 30 minute chunk of time? Break it up throughout the day.

For more tips on how to move more every day where you live, learn, earn, play and pray, visit

www.EatSmartMoveMoreNC.com



This message brought to you by



Don't Forget Your "DATE" With the Election Board!



- The next General Election will be held Tuesday, November 7, 2006. Polls will open at 6:30am and close at 7:30pm.
- October 13 is the last day to register to vote in the General Election. To check your voter registration status, visit www.sboe.state.nc.us.
- September 18 through October 31, you may request an absentee ballot in writing.
- Thursday, October 19 through Saturday, November 4, one-stop voting will be held in the Board of Elections office, 2826 Caratoke Hwy.

Remember to make any changes to your address, name, or party affiliation by October 13. Making changes now will save you time on Election Day, November 7. The Board of Elections office will be open daily Monday through Friday, 8am-5pm, except for one Saturday, November 4, when it will be open from 8am to 1pm.

Local offices on the November 7 General Election ballot:

- Clerk of Court
- Sheriff
- Board of Commissioners- At Large
- Board of Commissioners- Moyock
- Board of Commissioners- Poplar Branch
- Board of Education- At Large
- Board of Education- Crawford
- Board of Education- Poplar Branch
- Soil and Water Conservation District

The new AutoMark voter assist terminal is a ballot-marking system designed to provide complete privacy and accessibility to those who are vision-impaired or have a disability or condition that would make it difficult or impossible to mark a ballot in the usual way. We encourage voters to attend a demonstration at the Currituck Library on September 11-15.

If anyone would like to volunteer to work as an assistant at a polling place on Election Day, please call the Board of Elections office at 232-2525.

Food Stamps = Good Nutrition



10 Myths and Facts About Food Stamp Benefits and the Elderly



1. **MYTH: Food stamps are welfare.**

FACT: The Food Stamp Program is a nutrition assistance program. It helps low income people buy nutritious foods. It is NOT welfare.

2. **MYTH: Elderly people only receive \$10 a month in food stamp benefits.**

FACT: Fiscal year 2003 statistics showed:

- Elderly people who lived alone received an average of \$53 a month; and,
- Elderly people not living alone received an average benefit of \$123 a month.

3. **MYTH: Elderly people cannot own or purchase a home. If so, the government will take it.**

FACT: Individuals can own or buy a home and still get food stamps. The home and its lot are not counted as a resource in the Food Stamp Program. The Food Stamp Program does not require a person to sign away their home.

4. **MYTH: Elderly people must go to the food stamp office for an interview.**

FACT: If an elderly person is not able to go to the food stamp office, he or she may request a telephone interview. The person may also ask a relative, pastor, neighbor, etc., to attend the interview as an authorized representative. Applicants for and recipients of SSI may also apply for food stamp benefits at the Social Security Office.

5. **MYTH: You have to go to the food stamp office every few months to continue receiving benefits.**

FACT: Elderly people can get benefits for up to two years at a time. You don't have to go back to the office unless there are specific changes to your case. You can also ask for a telephone interview. Or a friend or family member can go for you.

6. **MYTH: Elderly people are only allowed \$2,000 in resources.**

FACT: The resources limit for elderly households or households containing one elderly person is up to \$3,000.

7. **MYTH: Elderly people do not receive credit for medical and prescription drug bills.**

FACT: Medical expenses that exceed \$35 a month may be deducted unless an insurance company or someone who is not a household member pays for them. Only the amount over \$35 can be deducted.

8. **MYTH: Food stamps are only for families with children.**

FACT: Food stamps are for eligible individuals and families, including the elderly.

9. **MYTH: Other people need food stamps more than elderly individuals. If an elderly person is certified for food stamps, he or she will take benefits away from others who are in more need.**

FACT: The Food Stamp Program is an entitlement program. In other words, everyone who applies and who is determined to be eligible will get food stamp benefits.

10. **MYTH: Elderly households who receive food stamps will not be able to receive Meals-on-Wheels.**

FACT: Households can receive food stamps and still get Meals-on-Wheels. In fact, households that are currently paying cash for meals can save money because food stamps can be used to purchase the meals.

U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service - March 2006
/ Food Stamps Make America Stronger.
For more information, call 1-800-221-5689.

Please contact Social Services at 232-3083 for more information.

VIAL OF LIFE OFFERED TO CURRITUCK SENIOR ADULTS

In a health emergency situation, quick and proper diagnosis is vital. Without knowledge of a patient's medical history - including pre-existing health concerns and/or their current medications - responders may use a treatment that might not offer the maximum benefit to the patient.

As a person's medical needs increase, response times become a greater concern. That's why the Currituck County Senior Center, along with the Coinjock Ruritan, Currituck Volunteer Fire Departments, Currituck EMS and the Currituck Sheriff's Department, are implementing a new program to help save lives.

Vial of Life is a program that gives medical personnel instant access to a patient's medical history, next of kin, doctor information, prescribed drugs and much more.

A simple plastic vial, marked with a yellow sticker showing the Coinjock Ruritan Club emblem and reading "Vial of Life," contains a form of all pertinent medical information on an individual. Participants in the program will receive a package with two vials, two information forms, and three Vial of Life stickers.

One vial should go into the senior's refrigerator and the other into their car's glove compartment. One sticker should be placed on their refrigerator door, one on their home's storm door, with the other sticker placed on the lower, right-hand corner of their car's windshield.

Local EMS and Fire Departments have been trained to look for these stickers and vials.

The program kicked off on Wednesday, May 31 at the Currituck Senior Center in correlation with the National Senior Health and Fitness Day.

Vial of Life packages can be picked up from the Currituck senior centers, the Sheriff's Office, or a Currituck Fire/EMS station. All sites will provide assistance with completing the forms.

For additional information on the Vial of Life program, contact Diane Bray, Senior Center Coordinator, at the Currituck Senior Center, 232-3505.



The Moving Wall: October 25-29 at Veteran's Park

The Moving Wall Comes to Currituck

A black sheen reflects the image of a worn hand reaching out to touch one name. This name stands among over 58,284 others - all with the same fate - either listed as a casualty or missing in action during service in the Vietnam War.

The Vietnam Memorial stands as a reminder of the dedication and sacrifice that 2.7 million Americans gave to their country.

Inspired by this honor, a group of Vietnam Veterans wanted to share this important memorial with all the people of the United States. As a result, a mobile version of the Vietnam Memorial, known as *The Moving Wall*, came into creation and has been traveling the country to pay tribute to Vietnam Veterans since 1984.

The concept and actual building of *The Moving Wall* grew out of the hard work and effort by John Devitt, Gerry Haver and Norris Shears, Vietnam veterans from California. They wanted to share the power of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial that is in Washington, D.C.

Construction of *The Moving Wall* began in February 1983 and was completed in October 1984.

Since then, *The Moving Wall* has visited over 1,000 communities throughout the United States of America.

For additional information on *The Moving Wall*, visit its Internet website at www.themovingwall.org.



From Wednesday, October 25, to Sunday, October 29, *The Moving Wall* will be at the Currituck County Veterans Memorial Park in Coinjock.

The arrival of *The Wall* will be marked with a special Opening Ceremony on October 25, 6:00 p.m.

A Closing Ceremony will occur on October 29, 2:00 p.m.

Parking will be available at specified locations. Visit www.visitcurrituck.com or call Currituck Public Information at 232-0719 for complete details.

The Moving Wall is being brought to Currituck County by the American Legion Post 288 in Coinjock and the County of Currituck, with special contributions from: Naval Station Annex Northwest and VFW Post 6060.

Facts About the Vietnam War

- The average age of those killed in Vietnam was just over 23 years.
- One out of every 10 Americans who served in Vietnam was a casualty.
- During the Vietnam War, the national debt increased by \$146 billion (1967-1973).
- The average infantryman in the South Pacific during World War II saw about 40 days of combat in four years. The average infantryman in Vietnam saw about 240 days of combat in one year.
- 240 men were awarded the Medal of Honor during the Vietnam era.
- Peak troop strength in Vietnam: 543,482 (April 30, 1969)
- Total draftees (1965-1973): 1,728,344
- 97% of Vietnam veterans were honorably discharged.



Currituck: Rich in Heritage...

CURRITUCK COUNTY VISITOR'S GUIDE WINS STATE AWARD

The Currituck County Travel & Tourism Department was recognized by the N.C. Association of Convention and Visitors Bureaus. They received the top award in the "medium budget" category for the Currituck Outer Banks Visitor's Guide.

The department was presented the award at the association's annual meeting, held June 8th in Southern Pines.

There were nearly 100 award entries from 20 tourism departments/visitors bureaus across North Carolina.

The judges were tourism professionals from all over the country, including advertising agency representatives and marketing specialists.

This is the department's first visitor's guide. One hundred thousand copies were printed; over half of the guides have already been distributed to potential visitors.

The guide includes tourism-related businesses from all of Currituck County: beach, mainland, and Knotts Island.

It took several months to compile the information and prepare it for printing.

Tourism staff members who developed the guide were:

- Diane Sawyer, Director
- Veronica Brown, Marketing Coordinator (Project Manager)
- John Nixon, Information & Communications Officer
- Deb Embrey, Website Administrator
- Diana Pittman, Visitor Relations Associate



Now Open: The Outer Banks Center for Wildlife Education

On Friday, June 16, the Outer Banks Center for Wildlife Education (OBCWE) officially opened its door to the public. Several County and State officials, as well as other guests, were on hand for the ribbon cutting ceremony, led by State Senator Marc Basnight.



Ushering a new age in the history of the Currituck Outer Banks, the Wildlife Education Center teaches both young and old about the rich heritage of Currituck County's waters.



From the fishermen who navigated the Currituck Sound to the waterfowl hunters of Knotts Island and Corolla, the Center dives into the rich, cultural tapestry of various communities whose daily lives intertwined with the unsympathetic environment.

Inside the 22,000 square-foot facility, visitors can see exhibits featuring various local artifacts such as photographs, fishing equipment, vintage boats and motors, sink boxes, hunting memorabilia, and a 250-piece decoy collection with an estimated worth of over \$1.5 million.

In addition to exhibits, the Center provides a classroom setting for a variety of coastal education programs and seminars. Participants gain insight into the inner-workings of the Currituck Sound, including its rich marine and terrestrial animal life, along with its prosperous fishing and hunting heritage. Students can travel on a "Herp Hunt," learn how to fish, or even carve their own duck decoy.

For additional information or to register for programs at the Outer Banks Center for Wildlife Education, call 453-0221.

NEW ATV SAFETY LAWS

Last year, Governor Easley signed an ATV safety bill (HB 189) into law. This new law becomes effective October 1, 2006 and applies regulations to the use and operation of All-Terrain Vehicles in the State.



Photo Courtesy of ATVSafety.org

As of October 1, all ATV operators born on or after January 1, 1990 must possess a safety certificate indicating successful completion of an ATV safety course sponsored or approved by the All-Terrain Vehicle Safety Institute.

Major provisions of the new law include:

- Prohibits parent or guardian from knowingly permitting a person:
 - Under age 8 to operate an ATV;
 - Under age 12 to operate an ATV of 70 cc or greater;
 - Under age 16 to operate an ATV over 90 cc;
 - Under age 16 to operate an ATV unless under continuous visual supervision of a person at least age 18.
- The prohibitions on persons under age 12 operating an ATV of 70 cc or greater and under age 16 operating an ATV over 90 cc do not apply to any parent or guardian of a person born on or before August 15, 1997, who permits that person to operate an ATV and who establishes proof that the parent or guardian owned the ATV prior to August 15, 2005.

- Prohibits the carrying of passengers unless the ATV was specifically designed by the manufacturer to carry passengers.
- Prohibits a person from knowingly selling or offering to sell an ATV:
 - For use by a person under age 8.
 - 70 cc or more for use by a person under age 12.
 - Greater than 90 cc for use by a person under age 16.
- Requires every ATV operator to wear eye protection and a helmet meeting U.S. DOT standards.
- Prohibits ATV operation:
 - While under the influence of alcohol, any controlled substance, or a drug that impairs vision or motor coordination.
 - On any public street, road, or highway except to cross or at any time on an interstate or limited-access highway.
 - During the hours of darkness, without displaying a lighted headlamp and taillamp.
- Requires all ATVs sold or operated in the state to be equipped with a brake system, an effective muffler system and a U.S. Forest Service qualified spark arrester, all maintained in good working condition.
- Sets penalties for violation.
- Persons using ATVs for farming, hunting or trapping are exempt from the law's provisions.

With the enactment of this legislation, North Carolina goes from being one of only six states in the nation to have no ATV laws in place, to having extremely comprehensive safety laws.

When operating an ATV, use proper safety precautions and be courteous and considerate to both your neighbors and surroundings. Also, be aware of property boundaries and be sure to only ride in permitted areas.

For additional information on ATV Safety including information on All-Terrain Vehicle safety courses, go to www.ATVsafety.org.

LOOKING AHEAD... CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Groundbreaking Ceremony -
New NC Cooperative Extension Building**
Friday, August 11 at 10:00 a.m.
Shortcut Road, Barco, NC

**Currituck County Public Schools -
First Day of School**
Monday, August 28

**MAPP Class
(Model Approach to Partnership in Parenting)**
September TBA
Currituck Department of Social Services
This class is required to be licensed as a foster parent.
Call 232-3083 for details.

Labor Day Holiday
Monday, September 4
County Government Offices, Public Library Closed

Stress Management for Day Care Providers
Tuesday, September 12, 6-8:00 p.m.
NC Cooperative Extension - Currituck County Center
Call 232-2262 to register.

Library Story Time
Begins Tuesday, September 12
Currituck County Library - Barco
Open to Children Ages 3 to 5 Years Old
Call 453-8345 for details.

Aging with Gusto Extravaganza
Thursday, September 14
Elizabeth City State University
Call 232-2262 to register.

Library Toddler Time
Begins Thursday, September 14 at 10:00 a.m.
Currituck County Library - Barco
Open to Children Ages 1 and 2 Years Old
Call 453-8345 for details.

**Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Training
for Day Care Providers & Parents**
Thursday, September 21
NC Cooperative Extension - Currituck County Center
Call 232-2262 to register.

Advisory Leadership Council Meeting
Thursday, September 28
NC Cooperative Extension - Currituck County Center
Call 232-2262 to register.

Fire Safety Training for Day Care Providers
Thursday, October 5
NC Cooperative Extension - Currituck County Center
Call 232-2262 to register.

Extension & Community Association District Training
Thursday, October 12
NC Cooperative Extension - Currituck County Center
Call 232-2262 to register.

ServSafe Food Managers Certification Training
Tuesday & Wednesday, October 24 & 25
NC Cooperative Extension - Currituck County Center
Call 232-2262 to register.

Volunteering Today Can Save a Life Tomorrow



It takes hard work, dedication and sacrifice to ensure that Currituck County is prepared for emergencies.

Volunteers at the County's fire stations play an important role in helping the County preserve the life and property of citizens.

Currituck County fire departments are currently seeking adults who are interested in serving as volunteers. There is a wide range of ways volunteers can get involved, including serving as a firefighter or fundraisers; providing community service; teaching children and adults about fire prevention; and more.

Call the Currituck County Fire Service Department at 232-6641 for more information.

Library Forum

The Library Forum, a series of speakers on a variety of interesting topics, will be held at the Currituck County Public Library in Barco on Saturdays at 2:00 p.m. and at the Corolla Branch at 7:30 p.m. beginning in November.

Call the Currituck Library at 453-8345 for additional information, including topics and speakers.



The Moyock Fire Academy's class of 2006 graduated on June 26, 2006 at a ceremony at Moyock Elementary School. The six-month intensive

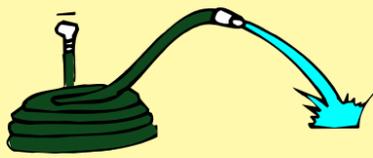
program produced 17 graduates. From high school grads to military veterans, citizens from all walks of life participated in the curriculum.

Moyock Fire Chief, Richard Lane, expressed his admiration of the graduates stating, "They developed themselves into a strong, respectful group of ladies and gentlemen."

The Moyock Fire Academy is an annual program that helps train and reinforce fire fighting and safety techniques for area firefighters.

Currituck ... Community Update

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS



Water conservation measures are an important first step in protecting our water supply. Such measures not only save the supply of our source water, but can also save you money by reducing your water bill.

Here are a few suggestions:

Conservation measures you can use inside your home...

- Fix leaking faucets, pipes, toilets, etc.
- Replace old fixtures; install water-saving devices in faucets, toilets and appliances.
- Wash only full loads of laundry.
- Do not use the toilet for trash disposal.
- Take shorter showers.
- Do not let the water run while shaving or brushing teeth.
- Soak dishes before washing.
- Run the dishwasher only when full.

You can conserve outdoors as well...

- Water the lawn and garden in the early morning or evening.
- Use mulch around plants and shrubs.
- Repair leaks in faucets and hoses.
- Use water-saving nozzles.
- Use water from a bucket to wash your car, and save the hose for rinsing.

Information on other ways that you can help conserve water can be found at www.epa.gov/safewater/publicoutreach/index.html.



Volunteer of the Year Awards went to: Roberta Ratti, Catherine Ansell & Vance Herbert.

Home Delivered Meal Awards went to: Pat Johnson, Gaye Hammer, Bill Twiford, Lorraine Perry & Sam McCarthy.

Commissioner Eldon Miller received special recognition for his long time commitment and service to the County's senior centers.

On June 13, Senior Center volunteers were honored at the annual Senior Center Volunteer Banquet. This year's celebration featured a *Beach Blast Party* theme. Attendees dressed up in "tacky tourist" beach attire to participate in a costume contest.

In addition to food, fun and festivities, several volunteers were honored for their outstanding volunteer work and dedication and to the County's three senior centers.



Excursion Day At the Whalehead Club

Sunday, Oct. 1 from 12 noon to 4 p.m..

Each year, the Whalehead Preservation Trust says "Thank You" to the entire Currituck community by holding Excursion Day. This event includes food, children's activities, Currituck High School band performances, free tours of the Whalehead Club, and more.

Come for an afternoon of fun. Call 453-9040 for details.

Upcoming Holidays

Currituck County Government Offices will be closed on the following days:

Labor Day: September 4, 2006

Veterans' Day: November 10, 2006

Computer Classes

The following computer classes are offered each month at the Public Library in Barco:

Computer Basics for Beginners; Intro. to E-Mail; Intro. to the Internet; Intro. to Windows; Microsoft Word I, II, III and IV; Publisher and Excel.

The classes are free and open to the public.
Call the library at 453-8345 for more information.

Now Online:

Mediacom Cable Channel 18 Program Schedule

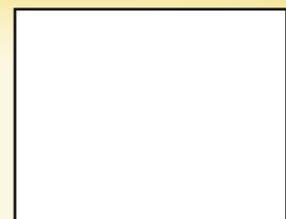
The Currituck County Public Information Department is now posting a complete program schedule for Mediacom Channel 18 at www.currituckgovernment.com.

Scroll over "Citizens" on the landing page and click "Access Channels." From there, you can select the weekly Channel 18 program schedule.

Cox Channel 46 on Knotts Island and Charter Channel 19 for the Currituck Outer Banks will be added in the coming months.



County of Currituck
P.O. Box 39
Currituck, NC 27929



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