



BUTNER BUGLE

A look on what's happening in the Town of Butner

Fall 2023 • VOLUME XX



FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Greetings,

Autumn has arrived, and with it many fascinating activities will be occurring. Butner Public Safety's National Night Out will be a fun packed event as citizens intermingle with first responders. The SGAA will conduct fall ball leagues at the BAP. The Lord Granville Agricultural Heritage Association will return with its Harvest Show, an enjoyable way to discover the County's past. There will be a movie in the park with a campfire and something more, better known as s'mores. The local churches will be sponsoring trunk or treat festivals. Also, on Veterans Day, Butner will hold its annual ceremony honoring all those who wore this nation's military uniform.

As the weather cools, people can take advantage of our new sidewalks from Central, down D, across 12th, and up E back to Central. It allows the pleasure of walking without exposure to vehicular traffic. We are looking forward to generating even more projects to enhance the quality of life for our residents. Among them is a new performance stage at Gazebo Park and possibly more improvements to the park itself.

This is a local non-partisan municipal election year. So, please participate by voting for the candidates of your choice. Do it for yourself and for the countless men and women who fought and sacrificed so much for that precious freedom.

— Mayor Terry Turner

Planning Department

Streets and Safety

When vehicles move at or below 25 mph, conflicts take place at lower speeds, dramatically increasing the chance of survival in the case of a crash, especially for pedestrians and bicyclists. But posting speed limit signs isn't enough when streets are engineered for high speeds. Imagine a drive to the beach along a state highway, where the posted speed limit between towns typically reaches 65 mph. As the road enters a town, the posted speed limit drops: 45, then 35, and sometimes 25. But the road is still as wide as it was when we were driving between towns, and the speed limit was 65 mph. Driving through town can feel like you're hardly moving, and most people, despite their best intentions, rarely drive at the posted limit. Many traffic injuries are directly related to design. Conditions become more dangerous with the addition of speed. Common causes of traffic fatalities include the following:



- ◆ **Lack of Sidewalks.** When the sidewalk is blocked, narrow, or nonexistent, pedestrians are forced into the roadbed. This presents a particular threat when the street is designed for fast-moving vehicles.
- ◆ **Lack of Accessible Crossings.** Pedestrians are at risk of being struck when accessible crossings are not provided or are inaccessible. Mid-block pedestrian crashes are very common on large streets where vehicle volume and speeds are prioritized over sufficient opportunities for safe crossing.
- ◆ **Lack of Protection.** Wide, multi-lane streets without refuge space expose pedestrians to moving vehicles for longer distances as they cross the street.
- ◆ **Lack of Predictability.** When signals and countdown clocks are not provided, or when signal cycle lengths result in a long wait time, pedestrians are unable to safely judge the time they have.
- ◆ **Lack of Cycle Facilities.** Cyclists are at risk of rear-end and overtaking crashes when mixing with motor vehicles at moderately high speeds, especially on multi-lane streets.
- ◆ **Poor Intersection Design.** Large intersections are often designed for dangerous, high-speed turning. Lack of visibility results in poor navigation and assessment of different users' movements.

Stormwater Requirements for New Development

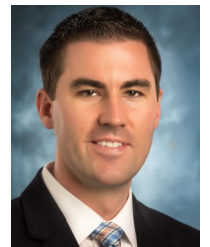
The Town of Butner is in an area with multiple layers of stormwater regulations. New developments must keep the following in mind:



- ◆ **Water Supply Watershed.** Across the state, areas near water supplies are broken down into categories that have different requirements for built-upon area. The Granville County GIS website has a layer which shows the different categories of watershed. Article 15 of the Butner LDO breaks down how much built-upon area is allowed for each category.
- ◆ **Falls Lake Rules.** Falls Lake has a separate set of regulations that must be met to ensure nutrient loads will not interfere with the quality of the water which residents of Raleigh utilize for drinking. These regulations require calculations to be submitted for new developments to show that required nutrient loads will be met.
- ◆ **The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Program is mandated under the Clean Water Act.** This program requires Municipalities to track inspections of stormwater devices throughout their jurisdiction, maintain records of any illicit discharges into storm drains or streams, provide best management practices for Municipal facilities, and educate and involve the public on the importance of stormwater. For more information, visit the Town of Butner Planning Website or contact the Planning Department at planning@butnernc.org.

Meet The Town Manager

Allow us to re-introduce Butner's Town Manager, **Jordan McMillen**! Jordan began his position as Town Manager on Monday, June 12, 2023. He brings over 15 years of experience in various governmental capacities and a wealth of knowledge and expertise to our community.



Prior to joining the Town staff, Jordan served as Vance County Manager from 2016-2023 and Deputy County Manager from 2013-2016. He also served as Director of Planning and Development from 2008 to 2013.

Jordan holds a Master of Science in City and Regional Planning from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill and a Bachelor of Science in Geography from Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania. He was awarded the Kerr-Tar Council of Governments Outstanding County Manager of the Year in 2020, and the Egan Award for Application of Information Technology in 2008.

"I am honored to have the opportunity to work with the team in Butner to serve our great citizens," Jordan said. "I have always heard wonderful things about the people who live and work here and was drawn to the Town by its family-friendly, welcoming, and small-town feel. I believe the Town is on the move, and the future is bright, and I look forward to meeting and working with you in the future."

Butner Connect Update



After careful consideration, the Town has decided to discontinue the Butner Connect app. Unfortunately, we have not received the desired level of engagement and usage to justify its continued operation. As a result, we have explored other means of communication

and have decided to introduce email subscriptions. By subscribing to our email service, you will continue to receive essential information and stay up-to-date with all that is happening in our Town. To sign up for email subscriptions, please follow these steps:

- (1) Visit our official website at www.butnernc.org.
- (2) Locate the subscription section in the top right-hand corner of the homepage.
- (3) Enter your email address in the designated field.
- (4) Click the "Subscribe" button

If you encounter any difficulties during the subscription process or have any questions, please feel free to reach out to us. If you would like to submit a service request, you can contact Town Hall directly at 919-575-3032, or come see us in person.

Quarterly Development Data

The Town of Butner has issued 22 permits from March 1, 2023, to June 30, 2023, for a total value of **\$319,626.00**.

Terry Turner, Mayor

Jordan McMillen, Town Manager

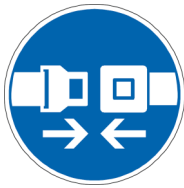
Bill McKellar, Mayor Pro Tem

Butner Town Hall • 415 Central Avenue, Suite A • www.butnernc.org • 919.575.3032

Butner Public Safety

Seat Belts Save Lives

According to the National Safety Council (2023), From 1975 to 2017, seat belts are estimated to have saved 374,276 lives. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) estimates that using lap and shoulder seat belts reduces the risk of:



- Front seat passenger car occupant deaths by 45%
- Front seat passenger car occupants moderate to critical injuries by 50%
- Front seat light truck occupant deaths by 60%
- Front seat light truck occupants moderate to critical injuries by 65%

North Carolina State Law requires all occupants to wear their seat belts both in the front and back seats. Children less than the age of 16 are covered by the NC Child Passenger Safety Law. The NC Child Passenger Safety Law states that all children younger than 8, and who weigh less than 80 pounds must be properly secured in a child restraint or booster seat. Also, children less than age 5 and less than 40 pounds must be in the rear seat if the vehicle has an active passenger-side front airbag and rear seat.

The following exemptions to the law exist:

- Vehicles are not required to have belts. In general, these are cars made before 1968 and light trucks, vans, and SUVs made before 1972
- Drivers of noncommercial motor vehicles with a professionally certified medical condition or mental phobia preventing use
- Rural letter carriers and newspaper carriers while performing duties
- Frequently stopping delivery vehicles if the speed between stops does not exceed 20 mph
- Vehicles with "Farm" license plates while being used for agricultural purposes in intrastate commerce
- Any occupant of a motor home, as defined in G.S. 20-4.01 (27)d2, other than the driver and front seat passengers
- Backseat occupants of law enforcement vehicles while in custody
- Passengers of residential garbage or recycling trucks during collection rounds

Butner Public Safety is a Child Safety Seat permanent checking station. Please call **919-575-6561** to schedule a free child safety seat check today!

BE YOUR OWN HERO!

BECOME A PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER



Public Safety Officers perform specialized law enforcement AND fire service work. This is a unique opportunity to provide dual police and fire services to our community. Applicants must be at least 20 years of age and have a high school education or equivalent. Law enforcement and/or fire certification preferred. Start the application process at www.butnernc.org.

TOWN HALL WILL BE CLOSED

Labor Day: September 4th, 2023

Veterans Day: November 10th, 2023

All Meetings Held At Town Hall Unless Otherwise Noted

Town Council meets monthly on the 1st Thursday.

Contact the Town Clerk for more information at 919.575.3109

Planning Board meets monthly on the 2nd Thursday, as needed.

Board of Adjustment meets monthly on the 4th Thursday, as needed.

Contact the Planning Department for more information at 919.283.6983

South Granville Water and Sewer Authority (SGWASA) meets monthly on the 2nd Tuesday. Contact SGWASA for info at 919.575.3367

HEALTH BEAT



Many of us, especially through the pandemic and after, have had to care for our elderly parents and loved ones. This is a labor of love, but it also places a high physical and mental demand on those who perform that care. This can lead to unnoticed health issues for the caregiver:

- ◆ Emotional Mood Swings
- ◆ Depression
- ◆ Reduced life expectancy

However, the benefits of taking care of your elderly loved ones, in most cases, outweigh many of these negative effects. It is important that your elderly loved ones are healthy, but the caregiver's health is equally important. So coordinate resources to give yourself a mental/physical break from this effort when possible.

For more information:

<https://www.aarp.org/caregiving/local/info-2019/national-resources-for-caregivers.html>

— Your Public Health Guru,
Michel Branch

Community Events

GROOVIN AT THE GAZEBO

Friday, August 18th • 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Join us for an exciting evening of fun and entertainment at Groovin at the Gazebo! This family-friendly event sponsored by the Town of Butner will take place on **Friday, August 18th, 2023, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** at Gazebo Park. There will be several food vendors, music, face painting for children, and lawn games. Whether you're looking to enjoy tasty food, entertain the kids, or simply relax and soak up the vibrant atmosphere, Groovin at the Gazebo has something for everyone. If inclement weather occurs, the event will be rescheduled for the following Friday, August 25th, 2023. Please check the Town of Butner's social media channels and website for future updates.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Tuesday, October 3rd • 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Butner Public Safety would like to invite you to attend the 2023 National Night Out event. National Night Out is a nationwide event that promotes law enforcement and community partnership, crime prevention, and neighborhood camaraderie. National Night Out strengthens the bonds between neighbors and law enforcement while restoring a true sense of community. The event will be held on **October 3rd, 2023, at the Butner Athletic Park from 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.** If inclement weather occurs, the event will be canceled.



16TH ANNUAL HARVEST SHOW

Friday, October 6th & Saturday, October 7th

The annual Harvest Show is making its return this year on **October 6th and 7th!** This two-day event, presented by the Lord Granville Agricultural Heritage Association, will be located on the corner of 12th and G Street in Butner. There will be antique tractors on display, live equipment demonstrations, local vendors, food trucks, a petting zoo for the kids, a kid's pedal tractor pull, and much more. Visit the Lord Granville Agricultural Heritage Association's Facebook page for more information.

SMORES + MOVIE NIGHT

Friday, October 27th • 6:00 p.m.

The Town of Butner in conjunction with the Butner Community Association is hosting the annual Community S'mores + Movie Night this October. Details are still forthcoming. Please check the Town of Butner's social media channels and website for future updates.



VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

Saturday, November 11th • 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

The annual Veterans Day Ceremony will be held on **Saturday, November 11th, 2023,** at the Soldiers Memorial Sports Arena in Butner. The ceremony will begin at 11:00 a.m. The Town of Butner and the Military Holiday Committee invites you to attend this special event to honor our nation's veterans. Please check the Town of Butner's social media channels and website for future updates.



TOWN OF BUTNER
P.O. Box 20
Butner, NC 277509

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