



# TOWN OF KITTY HAWK

101 Veterans Memorial Drive  
 PO Box 549, Kitty Hawk, NC 27949 ~ 252-261-3552  
 Fax 252-261-7900  
[www.kittyhawknc.gov](http://www.kittyhawknc.gov)



## Town Manager Message

Things are progressing smoothly in Kitty Hawk as we prepare for the summer season. The staff is getting the beach accesses ready, and the Bath House is expected to open in mid-April. We have also recently installed crosswalk lighting for 12 of our beach accesses, thanks to a grant from the Dare County Tourism Board.

This time of year also marks the budget season for the Town staff. Department heads are working diligently to submit budget requests that are efficient, maintain expected services, and ensure the Town's future sustainability.

A significant consideration in this year's budget process is the property revaluation recently conducted by Dare County. Property owners should start receiving notifications of their new property values this week. On average, property values in the Town have increased by 74%. The purpose of this revaluation is to align property assessments with fair market value, which reflects the most likely selling price in a competitive and open market. Dare County conducts these revaluations every five years. By performing periodic revaluations, Dare County ensures that all property owners contribute their fair share to the community's well-being and infrastructure, thereby maintaining fairness and equity in the property tax system. Property taxes account for 37.7% of the Town's total revenue, so the revaluation impacts the Town's tax rate necessary to maintain services.

For more information on the property revaluation, please visit: [Dare County Revaluation](#)

In defining our pathway forward, Town Staff and the Council remain dedicated to serving our community in the most effective manner possible. We sincerely value your input and engagement in this process.  
 Have a great Spring!

Sincerely,

*Melody E. Clapton*

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# Town Calendar

**Town Council Meeting**

Monday, April 7, 2025 at 6:00 pm

**Planning Board Meeting**

Thursday, April 17, 2025 at 6:00 pm

**Kitty Hawk Town Anniversary**

Sunday, April 13, 2025

**Good Friday- Admin Offices Closed**

Friday, April 18, 2025 at 6:00 pm

**Planning Board Meeting (if needed)**

Thursday, April 24, 2025 at 6:00 pm

**Kitty Hawk Skate Camp**

Sunday, April 27, 2025 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

**Recreation Committee Meeting**

Tuesday, April 29, 2025 at 6:00 pm

**Harbor Bay HOA Meeting**

Saturday, May 3, 2025 at 8:30 am

**Town Council Meeting**

Monday, May 5, 2025 at 6:00 am

**Household Hazardous Waste Collection**

Thursday, May 8, 2025 from 9 am - 3 pm

**Planning Board Meeting**

Thursday, May 15, 2025 at 6:00 am

**Memorial Day- Admin Offices Closed**

Monday, May 26, 2025 at 6:00 pm

**Town Council Meeting**

Monday, June 2, 2025 at 6:00pm

**Ice Cream Social**

Friday, June 6, 2025 at 3:00pm

**Planning Board Meeting**

Thursday, June 12, 2025 at 6:00 pm

**Juneteenth- Admin Offices Closed**

Thursday, June 19, 2025

**Youth Fishing Tournament**

Date TBD Summer 2025

**Planning Board Meeting (if needed)**

Thursday, June 26, 2025 at 6:00 pm

# Town News

## Seeking Applications for Board and Committee Vacancies

The Town of Kitty Hawk is seeking applications from residents interested in serving on the Board of Adjustment and Recreation Committee.

To be eligible, applicants must be residents within the town. Applications will be kept on record with the Town Clerk for two years for future consideration. The Town of Kitty Hawk Board and Committee application is available here:

<https://bit.ly/4gxeUZu>

If you're passionate about making a difference in our community, we encourage you to apply! For more information, please contact Lauren Garrett at [lauren.garrett@kittyhawknc.gov](mailto:lauren.garrett@kittyhawknc.gov).

Be sure to check out our latest Destination Dare video linked below about boards and committees!



# Town News

## Beach Crosswalk Lighting Installation

New solar lighting has been installed at 12 beach crosswalks in Kitty Hawk (Byrd, Maynard, Bennett, Luke, E. Eckner, Wilkins, Bleriot, Hawks, Balchen, Starfish, Lillian, Kitty Hawk Road, Bath House) to enhance safety and visibility along the beach road. This project was made possible with a Tourism Impact Grant from the Dare County Tourism Board.



# Town News

## **Friday, April 4th is Wear Blue Day in support of Child Abuse Prevention Month**

In partnership with the Children & Youth Partnership of Dare County, the Town of Kitty Hawk staff will be participating in Wear Blue Day Friday, April 4th.

April marks Child Abuse Prevention Month, a time when our community comes together to raise awareness about the importance of protecting our children. In honor of this critical cause, Wear Blue Day encourages everyone to wear blue- a color symbolizing unity, support, and a commitment to nurturing safe environments for all children.

By wearing blue, we not only show solidarity with survivors and families affected by abuse but also promote preventive education and open dialogue about child safety. The simple act of wearing a single color helps spark broader community conversations, connect individuals with essential resources, and reinforces our shared dedication to ensuring every child can grow up in a secure and caring environment.

Visit <https://www.positivechildhoodalliancenc.org/> for more information and resources



# Town News



## Ice Cream

## SOCIAL



**JUNE  
6TH**

**3  
PM**

**KITTY HAWK TOWN HALL  
101 VETERANS MEMORIAL DRIVE**

What kicks off summer better than a delicious ice cream sundae with all the yummy toppings? Join us at Town Hall for our first ever Ice Cream Social filled with laughter, delicious flavors, and a sprinkle of joy!

# From the Finance Department 2025-26 Budget Calendar

## Understanding the Budget Calendar

6B



### TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET CALENDAR Fiscal Year 2025-2026

<b>February 21, 2025</b>	<b>Departments Budget and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) first draft due to the Finance Department</b>
<b>February 24-28, 2025</b>	<b>Town Manager meeting with department heads to review their proposed budgets</b>
<b>March 25, 2025</b>	<b>First Operating Budget Work Session</b> Location: Fire Department Time: 9:00 am
<b>April 1, 2025</b>	<b>Second Operating Budget Work Session</b> Location: Kitty Hawk Town Hall Time: 9:00 am
<b>May 5, 2025</b>	<b>Proposed Budget Presentation to Council</b> Kitty Hawk Town Council Meeting Location: Kitty Hawk Town Hall Time: 6:00 pm
<b>June 2, 2025</b>	<b>Public Hearing and adoption of FY 2025-2026 Budget Ordinance</b> Location: Kitty Hawk Town Hall Time: 6:00 pm
<b>July 1, 2025</b>	<b>Approved FY 2025-2026 Budget becomes effective</b>

The budget calendar outlines the key dates and milestones in the Town’s annual budgeting process. It serves as a guide to ensure transparency, and community involvement.

The calendar typically includes deadlines for departmental budget submissions, public hearings, and Council meetings where financials decisions are discussed and finalized.

By following this schedule, the Town ensures ample time for careful planning, public input, and necessary adjustments before adopting the final budget.

Residents are encouraged to participate in these sessions to stay informed and provide feedback on how tax dollars are allocated to support community priorities.

# Kitty Hawk Public Works Department

## Town-Wide Spring Chipping Begins Monday, April 7th

Please have your brush/ limbs by the road for collection before Monday, April 7th. Once our contractor comes through your neighborhood, they will not return.

Guidelines for collection: The Limb/Branch Removal Service is only available for brush cut by homeowners. This service is not for contractors, landscapers or anyone doing major lot clearing. Any pile exceeding 20 feet long and 4 feet high will be considered major lot clearing.

Contractors and landscapers are responsible for their own brush removal! Piles of brush should be placed within 10 feet of the roadside in front of your property only. Do not stack near utilities or fire hydrants. Individual limbs can be up to 6 feet long with a maximum limb diameter of 4 inches. The width across the branches of a single limb cannot exceed 3 feet.

Acceptable brush consists of limbs, branches, and vines. Non-Acceptable Brush: stumps, leaves, pine straw, pine needles, grass clippings, lumber, roots, metal, trash, glass, string, concrete, rocks, etc.

**Acceptable**



**Unacceptable**



# Kitty Hawk Public Works Department

## Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days



Dare County will host a Household Hazardous Waste Collection at the following three locations:\*

**NORTHERN BEACH COLLECTION** Thursday, May 8, 2025 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Location: Kitty Hawk Town Hall at 101 Veterans Memorial Drive, Kitty Hawk

**BUXTON COLLECTION** Friday, May 9, 2025 from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Location: Buxton Transfer Station at 47015 Buxton Back Road, Buxton

**MANTEO COLLECTION** Saturday, May 10, 2025 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Location: Dare County Public Works at 1018 Driftwood Drive, Manteo

\*This collection is for Dare County residents and agricultural community ONLY. Residents may use any of the three locations noted above.

### ACCEPTABLE MATERIALS\*:

- Paint, polishes & varnishes
- Paint related materials
- Turpentine
- Aerosol cans
- Adhesives
- Motor oil
- Antifreeze
- Fuel additives
- Household cleaners
- Herbicides, insecticides, etc.
- Gasoline
- Batteries
- Mercury
- Pesticides
- Pool chemicals
- Fluorescent lightbulbs
- Automotive batteries
- Small batteries
- Automotive fluids (brake, transmission, etc.)

### CO-SPONSORED BY:



NC Department of  
Agriculture &  
Consumer Services  
Pesticide Division



N.C. A&T  
STATE UNIVERSITY

NC STATE  
UNIVERSITY

### ITEMS THAT ARE TYPICALLY NOT ACCEPTED:

- Commercial, business and industrial waste
- Explosives
- Bullets
- Radioactive material
- 55 gallon drums of material
- Cylinders (other than propane & fire extinguishers)

\*Mark all unlabeled containers.

**For more information, please call 252-475-5843.**

# Kitty Hawk Public Works Department

Large item trash pick up service will end Tuesday, May 20th. This service will resume September 20, 2025. If you are in need of large item pick up, please visit <https://www.kittyhawknc.gov/departments-and-services/public-works/garbage-collection/>

For large item pick up guidelines, please visit this link: <https://www.kittyhawknc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Bulk-Collection3-Guidelines.pdf>

Be sure to check out the video below for more details on the large item pick up program!



# KITTY HAWK POLICE DEPARTMENT

*Policing in Paradise!*

## Officer Aaron Nelson name Officer of the Quarter

Kitty Hawk Police Department is proud to recognize Officer Aaron Nelson for earning Officer of the Quarter for Q1 of 2025! We thank him for his exemplary service to our community and the Town of Kitty Hawk. Criteria for consideration includes productivity, leadership, community engagement, customer service and involvement. The leadership team collectively agreed that Officer Nelson demonstrated excellence in all five criteria.



# Kitty Hawk Police Department

*Policing in Paradise!*

**KITTY HAWK  
SKATE CAMP**  
APRIL 27TH  
12PM - 2PM

**FREE EVENT**  
AGES 6 - 13

HELMETS REQUIRED  
PRIZES AWARDED  
PIZZA & DRINKS

KITTY HAWK SKATE PARK  
988 W. KITTY HAWK RD

 



To register email [james.helms@kittyhawknc.gov](mailto:james.helms@kittyhawknc.gov)

# KITTY HAWK FIRE RESCUE

## Our Firefighters in Action!

We're proud to share that Kitty Hawk Fire Rescue was recently featured in the Spring 2025 North Beach Sun for their impressive extrication exercise using a donated vehicle.

This hands-on training is vital for ensuring our firefighters are prepared to respond quickly and effectively in emergency situations. By practicing with real-life scenarios, they sharpen their skills in safely removing individuals from vehicles after accidents – a critical part of their life-saving work.

A big thank you to our vehicle donors and to our dedicated firefighters for their commitment to keeping our community safe!

**To the Rescue**

**Destroying old cars isn't just fun. It keeps the Kitty Hawk Fire Department ready to respond to emergencies on our roads.**

Photos by Cory Codwin  
Story by Steve Harf

**As** firefighters converge on the crumpled car, fog on the windshield obscures the view. As the firefighters pull out all the stops, there are some "noisy" moments to the scene, however – no flashing lights or sirens, no calls for help. And there are also some unusual additions, like people to talk about, but practices and plenty of friendly banter.

That's because this isn't your typical accident scene. It's a practice session for Kitty Hawk Fire & Rescue at its maintenance training yard just down the road from Fire Station 15. The car in question was donated as a result of a local incident and the "person" stuck inside is actually the department's adult steel "Rescue Randy" dummy.

While fire department crews across the Outer Banks are perhaps best known for putting out fires and racing to disaster emergencies, they also respond to all of the other car accidents. Though fender-bender accidents are perhaps the most common incidents, some of the more serious crashes can lead to drivers and passengers either being trapped or pinned inside, which is why Kitty Hawk makes sure its firefighters are trained in extrication methods.

"It's all have to be great at extrication," Kitty Hawk Deputy Chief Jesse Rogers says. "If you're going to ride on the firetruck and be an ace at it, you have to know how to get about it. We have a firefighter out here today, it's his first year, and he's doing great."

That would be Elnora Armitage, who maintains a giant hydraulic rescue tool known as the "jaws of life" also positioned under the watchful eyes of Chief Joe Case. For this training exercise, the tool vehicle Ruppel and the hydraulic claw is being used to bend the side frame back in order to make prying the door off a bit easier.

Extrication comes with plenty of perks for the rescuers themselves. Vehicles are either lifted or upside down (just for the equipment, for example, to ensure they don't tip over on the crew members) as they work. The powerful hydraulic jaw and the 5000-pound force of pressure it packs a square-inch against a firefighter's hand, arm or body against a vehicle's angle with great force, and there's always the possibility that falling fuel tanks, batteries and other items can be a crash scene.

The tool gives us, and that's why they train, both locally and at other locations where they can practice more advanced scenarios with old buses or other over-engineered vehicles. When it comes to emergencies, no department responds to, Chief Case classifies extrication as a "frequency" – but high-risk.

"When we have stuff that we don't do all the time, more can go wrong, which is why training is important," Case says. "It's important to practice for when it does happen."

Deputy Chief Rogers explains that when crews respond to an accident scene, the first thing they figure out is the condition of the people trapped inside the vehicle.

"If you're in a pinch, and you need help right away, we're going to get quick moves to get you out," he says. "But if you're okay, and you just

Kitty Hawk firefighters maneuver a hydraulic rescue tool known as the "jaws of life" into position during a scheduled extrication training session.

NORTH BEACH SUN | 3

# KITTY HAWK OCEAN RESCUE

## The 2025 Ocean Rescue Crew is gearing up for the season

Kitty Hawk's beaches are protected by our Ocean Rescue personnel, a division of the Fire Department. Ocean Rescue performs lifeguard and ocean safety duties from Memorial Day until Labor Day, and works to inform the public on ocean safety year round.

Recruitment is complete for our 2025 Ocean Rescue season! This year we look forward to welcoming back 6 returning lifeguards as well as 5 new faces.

- Citrus Triplett - Returning
- Emory Norred - Returning
- Marley Lumpkin - Returning
- Callie Basnett - Returning
- George Basnett - Returning
- Mike Minis - Returning
- Norah Koch
- Griffin Broyles
- Zane Covington
- Gavin Davis
- Charlie Potts

There are fixed lifeguard stands at the Byrd Street access, Eckner Street access, Lillian Street access and the Kitty Hawk Bath House access, as well as roving lifeguards on ATVs. Between Memorial Day and Labor Day, the Ocean Rescue personnel are on duty from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.



# IMPORTANT REMINDERS

## Follow us on Facebook!

The Town of Kitty Hawk has launched its official Facebook page! Follow us to stay connected to the latest community news, events and meeting announcements.

*Click Here*



Receiving warnings for dangerous weather events can save your life. OBXAlerts is a platform through which you can register for alerts and notifications from Dare County and the towns of Duck, Southern Shores, Kitty Hawk, Kill Devil Hills, Nags Head and Manteo.



**LOVE THE BEACH  
RESPECT THE OCEAN**

**To receive beach-related weather alerts from the National Weather Service and text alerts from Outer Banks ocean rescue services...**

**Text "OBXBeachConditions" to 77295**

# Kitty Hawk Town Council & Leadership

Mayor, Craig Garriss	252-261-4922	cgarriss@kittyhawknc.gov
Mayor Pro Tempore, Jeff Pruitt	252-207-9055	jpruitt@kittyhawknc.gov
Councilman, Dylan Tillett	252-202-3802	dylan.tillett@kittyhawknc.gov
Councilman, David Hines	252-573-9547	david.hines@kittyhawknc.gov
Councilwoman, Charlotte Walker	321-446-3744	charlotte.walker@kittyhawknc.gov
Town Attorney, Casey C Varnell	252-261-2126	varnell@ncobxlaw.com
Town Manager, Melody C Clopton	252-261-3552	mclopton@kittyhawknc.gov
PIO/Town Clerk, Lauren Garrett	252-261-3552	lauren.garrett@kittyhawk.gov

*The Town of Kitty Hawk's newsletter is sent via email to anyone who would like to receive it. Hard copies are available at Town Hall. The newsletter does not present or represent opinions of the Town Council.*

**For the Town's current Trash Schedule and latest updates, click here:**  
<https://bit.ly/4fMLfus>

**Don't forget about our Recycling Center located at  
 4190 Bob Perry Road!**

