

# City Works



## City of Burlington, NC - "Connecting the Triad & Triangle"

**City Works** is a publication of the City of Burlington Office of Public Information.

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Visit the City of Burlington on the web:  
**BurlingtonNC.gov**

Follow us on Instagram at  
**Instagram.com/BurlingtonNC**



On Facebook at:  
**Facebook.com/BurlingtonNC**

### Dates to Remember:

**BPD Strategic Plan Presentation**  
*June 8: 6pm*  
Paramount Theater  
229-3546

**Musical Chairs**  
*June 12: 7pm*  
City Park  
222-5030

**Night Bank Fishing Tourney**  
*June 13: 8pm*  
Guilford -Mack Marina  
449-2078

## Pay Any Way



**P**ay any way: in person or online. The convenience fees that were once applied to online credit and debit card payments of City of Burlington utility bills have been eliminated. In addition to the removal of convenience fees for online utility bill payment, the City is now accepting credit, debit, and Apple Pay for in-person payments. Cash and checks are still accepted for in-person payments and bank drafts are still an available method of payment.

Visit [www.BurlingtonNC.gov/Payments](http://www.BurlingtonNC.gov/Payments) for links to pay utility and tax bills online.

## Water Quality Report

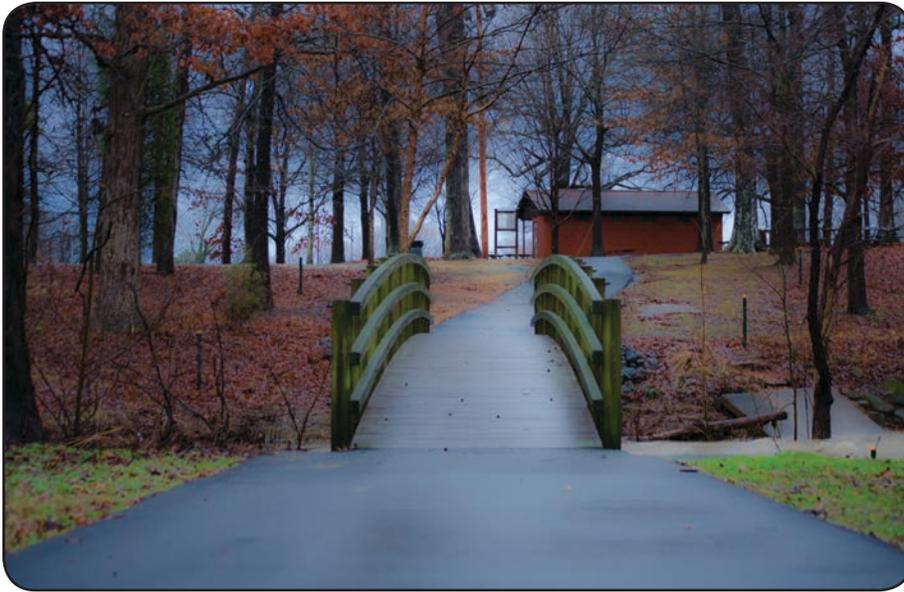
**T**he 2014 Water Treatment Annual Operations Report has been compiled and is available for the public to view. Copies are available to view in person at the Burlington Municipal Building (425 S. Lexington Ave.) or online at [www.BurlingtonNC.gov/WaterQuality](http://www.BurlingtonNC.gov/WaterQuality).



The City of Burlington treated over 3,930,112,000 gallons of drinking water in 2014. City water is treated at the Ed Thomas and J.D. Mackintosh water treatment plants and is pulled from the Stoney Creek and Lake Mackintosh reservoirs. The City provides 10.5 million gallons of drinking water per day to customers located along more than 415 miles of pipe.

# Join the City on Social Media

You can stay connected with the City of Burlington all the time through social media. The City has numerous Facebook Pages and Twitter handles and can also be found on Youtube, Pintrest, and Instagram. The City strives to not only inform residents through social media but also to engage them in two-way conversations.



For the City's 122nd birthday on February 14, 2015, the City held a Facebook photo contest called "I Heart Burlington." Participants were asked to share their favorite images of Burlington and then the public voted on those photos. Robert Bennett received the most votes for his photo of a bridge in City Park. Mr. Bennett, a Cummings High School graduate, took this photo on a rainy day in the park. He says that he first became interested in photography when he was deployed to Egypt in 2012-2013. "What better place to get into

photography than a tourist spot in Egypt," said Mr. Bennett.

Following the City of Burlington on social media means that you'll be the first to know about city news and you'll have the opportunity to participate in fun contests and engaging conversations. You may even discover some things you didn't know about your hometown.



Find links to all of the City of Burlington's social media accounts at [www.BurlingtonNC.gov/SocialMedia](http://www.BurlingtonNC.gov/SocialMedia).

# 4th Fridays & Public Works News

## Don't Miss a Single 4th Friday



Mark your calendars now and don't miss a single 4th Friday in downtown Burlington. 4th Fridays happen in downtown Burlington the 4th Friday of each month from May through September. The events take place at the Historic Depot on Front Street in the heart of downtown Burlington. Bring your family and friends to enjoy musical acts, children's activities, food trucks, beer and wine, crafts, and more. 4th Friday is a great opportunity to wind down the work-week, gear up for the weekend, and share fellowship with family and friends.

### Save the dates:

May 22

June 26

July 24

August 28

September 25

Learn more about each month's event online at [www.4thfridaysdowntown.com](http://www.4thfridaysdowntown.com).

## Public Works News: E-Waste & Holiday Modifications

Did spring cleaning leave you with old, outdated, and broken electronics? The City of Burlington will host a free electronic waste recycling event on June 6th from 9:00am - 2:00pm at the Public Works Parking Lot, located at 234 East Summit Avenue.

**Accepted e-waste includes:** TVs, VCRs, DVD and CD players, fax machines, telephones, computers, copy machines, electronic games, phones, routers, circuit boards, etc.

**Waste Not Accepted:** batteries, white goods, air conditioning units, non-electronic items



This event is open to residents only. No business waste will be accepted. Please remove all alkaline batteries from electronic devices before they are recycled.

For more information, call 222-5095 or visit [www.BurlingtonNC.gov/ewaste](http://www.BurlingtonNC.gov/ewaste).



### Independence Day Sanitation & Recycling Reminder

The Friday, July 3rd garbage and (red week) recycling route will be collected on Thursday, July 2nd.

# Protecting Riparian Buffer Zones

Riparian buffers are an important part of water quality protection and stream buffer enhancement. By preserving these areas in a natural state, pollutants are filtered from runoff, ecosystems are allowed to thrive, stream bank erosion is reduced and downstream impacts are minimized. We all play a part in protecting our natural resources and riparian buffer protection is just one way that residents can help.

A riparian buffer is a strip of forested or vegetated land bordering a body of water. The vegetation and root systems in a riparian buffer stabilize the streambank preventing soil from eroding into the water. Riparian buffers also act as a filter to remove pollutants. Some of the many benefits that these buffers have are:

- Filtering stormwater runoff
- Stabilizing stream banks
- Adding scenic value to communities
- Preventing erosion
- Moderating water temperature
- Providing flood control
- Protecting property
- Absorbing excess nutrients
- Providing fish and wildlife habitat

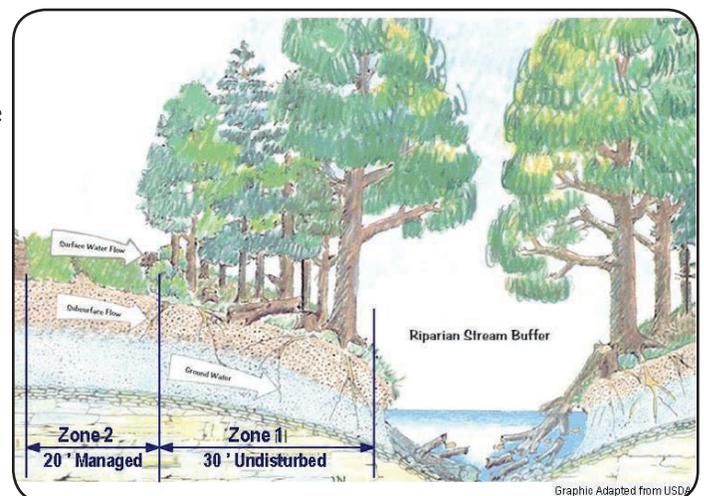
All of the City of Burlington's creeks, streams and lakes eventually drain to the Jordan Lake Reservoir, which has been identified as having excess algae. In an effort to reduce the algae, the North Carolina General Assembly, in cooperation with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, developed the Jordan Lakes Rules (which can be reviewed at <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/jordanlake>). The Rules required the City to adopt a Riparian Buffer Protection Ordinance (which can be viewed at [www.BurlingtonNC.gov/BufferOrdinance](http://www.BurlingtonNC.gov/BufferOrdinance)) with the purpose of protecting and preserving existing riparian buffers throughout the Jordan Lake Watershed.

The ordinance gives the City the authority to identify riparian buffers and enforce measures for their protection. The buffers have been defined as a 50' wide protected area for all land that is directly adjacent to surface waters in the City. These surface waters can be summarized as pretty much any channel, pond or lake that has water in it when it's not raining. Within the 50' protected buffer there are two critical zones:

**Zone 1** – An undisturbed or natural area that is 30' wide and runs parallel to the water's edge. Trees and vegetation located in this Zone are not allowed to be cut or removed without approval from the City. In addition, buildings, parking lots, driveways, or other impervious surfaces (surfaces that water cannot penetrate) are prohibited in Zone 1.

**Zone 2** – A 20' wide strip that is adjacent to Zone 1 but with a few more maintenance allowances. For example, Zone 2 allows lawns to be maintained and trees to be removed. However, similar to Zone 1, buildings, parking lots, driveways, or other impervious surfaces are prohibited in Zone 2.

Provisions are included in the ordinance allowing activities to continue if they were existing or ongoing prior to its adoption. Please contact the Stormwater Division with questions regarding these provisions prior to any land disturbance in these areas or if you have questions about which surface waters are regulated.



If you would like more information about maintaining, enhancing or restoring a riparian buffer, please contact the Stormwater Division of Water Resources at (336) 222-5140 or [stormwater@ci.burlington.nc.us](mailto:stormwater@ci.burlington.nc.us).