





# HOPE MILLS HAPPENINGS

A Proud Past, A Bright Future



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## MANAGER'S CORNER

Hello, I'd like to take this time to thank everyone for their continued support of our staff as we progress to move our beloved town forward in a positive direction. Over the past few months we have facilitated several initiatives and events geared towards providing our residents with an increased quality of life here in Hope Mills. From our recent ribbon cutting of our Public Safety Center to National Night Out and back to school events partnering with veteran agencies, we will continue to engage our citizens in a manner that enriches their experience within our municipality. So please stay tuned as there is much much more on our horizon with new projects, new developments, and most importantly, a new vision for our Town that will place us in a position to set the standard for growth and development in this region.

I thank you for your support,

Chancer F McLaughlin  
Interim Town Manager



## MAYOR'S CORNER

*Jackie Warner*



Welcome to Hope Mills Back to School—supporting our schools, our teachers, principals, parents and most importantly our students— “the future leaders of Hope Mills”!

We have been busy as a town partnering with different groups in our community to get our local schools off to a great start. We appreciate everyone who came out to support the events and those that donated school supplies and book bags.

We encourage everyone to be mindful of our many school zones in Hope Mills as with school openings -- children will be walking, buses will be making stops, and parents will be in lines at most schools dropping off or picking up children. Be alert and follow the speed limits and school bus stop arms and flashing lights to ensure safety.

Our Hope Mills Kiwanis Club is another group that supports our schools. If you would like to join or sponsor the group your support will go a long way to help our students. The Kiwanis support the Key Clubs in our High Schools and the K-Kids in elementary schools. The Terrific Kid program is sponsored by the Hope Mills Kiwanis Club. On September 29th a barbeque dinner is being sponsored by the club. Plates are \$12 each and with the purchase of 10 plates we will deliver. The proceeds will be split to benefit the Kids Backpack program sponsored by the ALMS House that provides food for the weekend for our students in need and VFW Post 10630.

Be sure to check our marquees at the lake and the Public Safety Building for upcoming events. We have a busy fall and holiday season planned for our community with the help of our Town committees and Parks and Recreation staff.

If you did not get an opportunity to “Walk with A Cop” or “Hop with a Cop” during these events, the Police Department will be hosting future opportunities to meet and learn more about what it means to be a police officer in Hope Mills. We also have a new organization the Police Foundation that was created by members of our community to support our Police Department. Please learn about this group and become a member. Our policemen are involved in all aspects of our town.

Finally, the Hope Mills Ministerial Association is made up of all denominations of churches in Hope Mills. The Pastors meet regularly and schedule our invocations at our Town Boards meetings and plan events such our special concerts, our community Thanksgiving service, Easter Sunrise Service and National Day of Prayer. We appreciate all they do for their church families but also as a team for our town.

As your Mayor I am proud of the many ways our town is keeping the small-town events centered around families and community. We are “better together” working with our partners to build a better Hope Mills.

Moving Forward Together,

Mayor Jackie Warner



# JOHN W. HODGES PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER

*Dedication & Ribbon Cutting*

On August 4, 2023, the Town held the long awaited Dedication and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the John W. Hodges Public Safety Center.



The dedication honored the Hodge's family as the facility is named after the late John W. Hodges who served twenty-three years as Chief of Police for the Town of Hope Mills. His son, former Hope Mills Fire Chief Charles Hodges, was present for the dedication alongside his family.

The Town initially broke ground on January 19, 2021, and the construction process for the state-of-the-art combined Police and Fire facility was a long road. The Town of Hope Mills anticipates the larger footprint of the facilities and advances in technology will not only aid our Police and Fire Departments in providing critical services to our residents, but sustain the continued and future growth of our Town and surrounding areas.



# MUNICIPAL PARK

## *Inclusive Playground*

The playground contractor is currently installing the poured-in-place safety surfacing for the new playground area. This phase of the project is critical as it is the sole element that makes the entire playground ADA compliant. It is a three-tiered process that has to be done systematically and with precision which is why this process is so time consuming and critical to the playground installation.

- Step One: Once the surface area of the playground has been graded and leveled, the contractor installs a 3" layer of gravel as the sub-base for the rubber.
- Step Two: After the base of the playground has been properly graded and all the subsurface drainage structures have been installed, the contractor then installs a series of Styrofoam sheets on top of the sub-base as the padding layer.
- Step Three: The contractor mixes recycled shredded rubber, mixed with an epoxy adhesive to form the wearing layer of the playground surface. This layer is approximately 2 ½" thick.
- Step Four: The final step is the ½" top layer of the poured-in-place safety surfacing. This is the stage of the project where the contractor is able to mix different colors of rubber to create custom designs into the surface.

This entire process takes approximately three days to complete and must be allowed to cure for three days without any foot traffic or equipment. Below is a cut section of what the poured-in-place layers look like.





# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## United Way Meal Packing Event



On August 24, 2023, members of the Hope Mills Board of Commissioners, our Interim Town Manager, and numerous Town staff participated in the United Way Campaign Kickoff Meal Packing event held at the Crown Expo Center. For the second year in a row, the Town of Hope Mills proudly joined over 500 volunteers from various local agencies during their lunch hour to pack 70,000 meals for those in need in our community.



# UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars

## Walk with a Cop

- Recurring, see dates below
- Hope Mills Municipal Park Walking Trail, 5770 Rockfish Road

Care for some company during your daily walk? Members of the Hope Mills Police Department will be staggered along the walking trail and available for your questions/concerns or a simple chat!

The goal is to promote Hope Mills Police Department's Community Policing Program and help build trusting relationships with our community members.

Upcoming dates:

- Wednesday, August 30, 2023
  - 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.
- Thursday, August 31, 2023
  - 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, September 11, 2023,
  - 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, September 12, 2023
  - 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.
- Wednesday, September 27, 2023
  - 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Thursday, September 28, 2023
  - 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.



**WALK WITH A COP**

Care for some company during your daily walk?! Members of the HMPD will be staggered along the walking trail and available for your questions/concerns or a simple chat!

**JOIN US ON HOPE MILLS MUNICIPAL PARK WALKING TRAIL**

5770 Rockfish Road  
Hope Mills, NC 28348

**BUILD**

- Community Relations
- Trusting Relationships
- Increased Awareness of Community-wide Issues

**AUGUST 7, 2023**  
7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

**AUGUST 8, 2023**  
3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**AUGUST 30, 2023**  
7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

**AUGUST 31, 2023**  
3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**HOPE MILLS**  
NORTH CAROLINA

# UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars

## September 11th Tribute

- Monday, September 11, 2023
- John W. Hodges Public Safety Center Monument Garden, 5788 Rockfish Road (Corner of Rockfish and Golfview Road)
  - 8:30 a.m. - 9:03 a.m.

This tribute to our first responders will begin with a welcome and include two moments of silence to recognize the points in time that each of the World Trade Center Towers were hit. This event is open to the general public.



## Trunk or Treat

- Friday, October 27, 2023
- Rockfish Elementary School, 5763 Rockfish Road
  - 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

In partnership with Rockfish Elementary School. Participants decorating their trunks will be required to provide their own candy. The Town will have a limited refresh supply. Advanced registration required. Registration opens on September 1, 2023.



# MUNICIPAL ELECTION

## Schedule

DATES	DESCRIPTION
October 9	1st Day to Request Absentee by Mail for Municipal Election
October 13	Registration Books Close for Municipal Election
October 19	One Stop Voting Begins for Municipal Election
October 31	Last Day to apply for Absentee by mail for Municipal Election
November 1	Sick & Disabled Request begins 8:00 am for Municipal
November 4	One Stop Voting Ends @ 3:00pm for Municipal Election
November 6	Last Day for Sick & Disabled 5:00pm for Municipal Election
November 7	Hand Delivered - Last day for Board of Elections to receive Absentee Ballots @ 5:00pm for Municipal Election. By Mail - Absentee ballot must be postmarked and received no later than the 3rd day following the election.
November 7	MUNICIPAL ELECTION
November 17	CANVASS for MUNICIPAL ELECTION

To view this information and determine your polling site, visit Cumberland County Board of Elections website: <https://www.cumberlandcountync.gov/departments/election-group/elections>



# PARKS & RECREATION

## Fall Cleanup Events

### Fall Litter Sweep

- Saturday, September 16, 2023
  - 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- Meet at Hope Mills Recreation Center at 9:00 a.m.
- Town-Wide
- No cost. Volunteers needed
- Vests, gloves, pickers and trash bags provided.
- All supplies (except trash bags) must be returned to Recreation Center by 1:00 p.m.
- Groups and/or individuals welcome!
- Must be 18 years old to register a minor



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### Community Yard Sale

- Saturday, September 23, 2023
- Town-wide
- Your own yard
- Cost: \$5 (includes Yard Sale Permit fee)
  - 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- A virtual Yard Sale map will be provided

When you register, the advertising for your sale is DONE. Parks & Rec. staff will take care of everything through their social media sites, add your address on our Virtual Yard Sale Map and provide a 18" x 24" yard sign!

As a special thank you, the first 30 yard sale registrants in the TOHM corporate limits that register will receive a FREE 18' X 24' Yard Sale sign. Online advanced registration required.



**Registration is open until September 13th for both events. For more information and to register visit our website.**

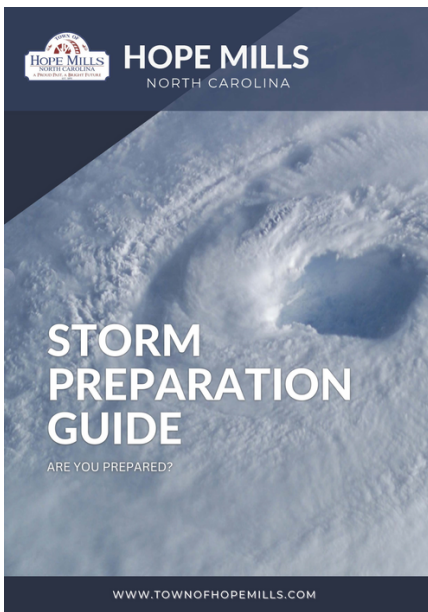


# HURRICANE SEASON

Are You Prepared?

## Atlantic Hurricane Season is most active August through October

The Atlantic Hurricane Season is the period in a year, from June 1st through November 30th, when tropical or subtropical cyclones are most likely to form in the North Atlantic Ocean. Historically, the peak timeframe for hurricanes is mid-August through late October each year.



With Cumberland County approximately 100 miles from the coast, expect some type of impact from a hurricane depending on the size and strength.

Prepare your family for a potential disaster. Check out *Helpful Links* on our website to view our newly updated Storm Preparation Guide.

### IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Please refer to the following important numbers you may need in an outage/emergency. Keep this list handy and take it with you if you have to evacuate. Be sure to write down important numbers from your cell phone if you have to evacuate.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS



**Cumberland Alerts through Cumberland County Emergency Management Emergency Notification System.** Cumberland Alerts notifies residents about severe weather, fires, floods, and other emergency situations in our area.

- Sign up to receive text messages, emails and pre-recorded phone messages about emergency situations. Stay alert, stay safe. Sign up today!
- [co.cumberland.nc.us/alerts](http://co.cumberland.nc.us/alerts)



**Dial 2-1-1, Help Starts Here. Get Connected, Get Help.** NC211 is a free information and referral service that connects you with human service resources in Cumberland County including disaster services.

- [www.nc211.org](http://www.nc211.org)



**ReadyNC Plan. Prepare. Stay Informed.** ReadyNC is offered through North Carolina Emergency Management and offers emergency information on current weather alerts, hurricane guide, evacuation orders, evacuation routes, road conditions, power outages, shelters, flood gauges, FEMA, disaster assistance, re-entry registration, and nuclear emergencies.

- For more information on how to ensure your family is disaster-ready, go to [ReadyNC.org](http://ReadyNC.org)
- Download the free ReadyNC app. The app is available for both iPhone and Android devices and features real-time weather, traffic and shelter information.



**FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency)**

- Download the free FEMA app and receive alerts from the National Weather Service. Receive severe weather alerts for up to five locations across the U.S. and see information about how to stay safe.
- [DisasterAssistance.gov](http://DisasterAssistance.gov)
- Call: 800-421-FEMA (800-421-3362)



**American Red Cross Disaster Distress Helpline and Emergency App**

You can contact the American Red Cross Disaster Distress Helpline for free if you need to talk to someone at 1-800-HELP-NOW (800-435-7669) or 866-438-6436. The American Red Cross also offers an emergency app. Download it for free today!

**Local Utility Providers:**

- PWC: 24 Hour Emergency Number 877-OUR-PWC1 (877-687-7921)
- Duke Energy: Text Out to 57803, report online, or call 800-419-6356
- Lumber River EMC: 800-683-5571 or 910-843-4131
- South River EMC: 800-330-5530 or 910-992-8071
- Piedmont Natural Gas: 800-752-7904



**KNOW THE DIFFERENCE**

WARNING	WATCH	ADVISORY	OUTLOOK
Weather hazard is occurring, imminent or likely.	Risk of weather hazard in the near future.	Weather hazard is occurring, imminent or likely.	Risk of weather hazard in the next 7 days.
Poses a threat to life/property.	Could pose a threat to life/property.	Could cause significant inconvenience.	Could pose a threat to life/property.
Take protective action.	Have a plan of action.	Use caution.	Prepare a plan of action.

**THE SAFFIR-SIMPSON HURRICANE SCALE**

WIND SPEED	TYPE OF DAMAGE
<b>1</b> 74-95 mph (4-62 kt) 119-153 km/h	Very dangerous winds will produce some damage. Well-constructed frame houses could lose gable ends to roof, shutters and gutters. Large branches of trees will snap and possibly be rooted from the ground. Extensive damage to power lines and poles likely will result in power outages that could last a few to several days.
<b>2</b> 96-110 mph 83-95 kt 134-177 km/h	Extremely dangerous winds will cause extensive damage. Well-constructed frame houses could sustain major roof and siding damage. Many shallowly rooted trees will be snapped or uprooted and blown over onto roads. Heavy power loss is expected with outages that could last from several days to weeks.
<b>3</b> 111-129 mph 96-112 kt 172-208 km/h	Devastating damage will occur. Well-built framed homes may incur major damage or removal of roof decking and gable ends. Many trees will be snapped or uprooted, blocking numerous roads. Electricity and water will be unavailable for several days to weeks after the storm passes.
<b>4</b> 130-156 mph 113-136 kt 209-251 km/h	Catastrophic damage will occur. Well-built homes can sustain severe damage with loss of most of the roof structure and/or some exterior walls. Most trees will be snapped and power poles downed. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last weeks to possibly months. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for months.
<b>5</b> 157 mph (or higher) 137 kt (or higher) 252 km/h (or higher)	Catastrophic damage will occur. A high percentage of framed homes will be destroyed, with total roof failure and wall collapse. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last for weeks to possibly months. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or months.



The Town of Hope Mills has achieved Partner in Prevention status, a designation awarded by the nonprofit Darkness to Light to organizations which take extra steps to protect the children they serve by training staff to understand the issue of child sexual abuse, identify unsafe situations and practices, and react responsibly in the best interest of the children they serve.

One in 10 children will be sexually abused before the age of 18. The Town of Hope Mills earned the Partner in Prevention designation by providing Stewards of Children training to over 90% of its management and staff. This evidence-based program is scientifically proven to help participants prevent and respond to child sexual abuse. Partner in Prevention was created as a national standard to implementing policy and training staff to prevent child sexual abuse.

Darkness to Light is an international organization that leads the movement to end child sexual abuse by educating and empowering adults in education, youth serving organizations, and communities to protect children. Darkness to Light has affiliates in all 50 states and 17 international locations.

The Town of Hope Mills strives to be a safe and desirable community for families, taking the health and safety of children very seriously. We take any additional measures to provide the proper training to staff to be able to identify sensitive situations and are proud to have been awarded the designation as a Partner in Prevention.

To learn more about child sexual abuse prevention training or to enroll your organization in Darkness to Light's "Partner in Prevention" program, please visit [www.D2L.org/education/partner-in-prevention](http://www.D2L.org/education/partner-in-prevention)

### *About Darkness to Light:*

*Darkness to Light is a nonprofit organization with the mission to empower adults to prevent child sexual abuse. Through education and awareness, the organization seeks to create a safer world for children to grow and thrive. Darkness to Light's flagship program, Stewards of Children, is a one-of-a-kind, award-winning training that teaches adults to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. More than 1.4 million adults have been trained using the program. For more information, visit [www.D2L.org](http://www.D2L.org)*

Thank you to the Child Advocacy Center of Fayetteville for facilitating this training for Town of Hope Mills staff.





# UPCOMING BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE & HOLIDAY CLOSURES

*Mark Your Calendars*

## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE

\*\*Unless otherwise noted, all Board of Commissioners Regular Meetings take place at 7:00 p.m. in the Luther Board Meeting Room #120, located at Hope Mills Town Hall, 5770, Rockfish Road, Hope Mills, NC. please refer to our website, [www.townofhopemills.com](http://www.townofhopemills.com) for additional meeting notices.

- Monday, September 18, 2023 (First September meeting canceled due to holiday).
- Monday, October 2, 2023
- Monday, October 16, 2023
- Monday, November 6, 2023
- Monday, December 4, 2023 (Swearing in of newly elect)
- Monday, December 19, 2023

## HOLIDAY CLOSURES - ALL TOWN GOVERNMENT OFFICES CLOSED

\*\*To include Police Administration/Records offices. If you have an emergency, dial 911.

*Labor Day, Monday, September 4, 2023*

Yard Waste collection will be on a one-day delay. Waste Management solid waste collection will not be delayed.

*Veterans Day, Friday, November 10, 2023*

Waste Management solid waste collection will not be delayed.

*Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 23, 2023*

Yard Waste will not be collected.

Waste Management solid waste collection will be on a one-day delay.

*Friday after Thanksgiving, Friday, November 24, 2023.*

Yard Waste will not be collected.

Waste Management solid waste collection will be on a one-day delay.

