



# City News



## Keeping Our Community Powered

As we were putting away our holiday lights and thinking back on how beautiful Laurinburg is during the holidays, I found myself thinking about how having reliable electric service is such a big part of the holidays and of our everyday lives. And how it's something we sometimes take for granted. Often, we don't think about electricity until a storm or a car accident or some other disaster knocks out the power.

Our electricity in Laurinburg is so incredibly reliable, it's easy to not notice and to not think about the work that goes into that reliability.

Let me throw some data at you: In Laurinburg, based on 2022 numbers, we averaged less than one power outage a year per customer. And when our power does go out, it's only for an average of about 20 minutes. That's better than the averages of all the public power communities across the state, and it's much better than North Carolina's investor-owned utilities and co-ops.

That reliability is one of the benefits of us living in a public power community—that is, a City that owns and operates its electric system.

Another benefit is that our electric utility's employees—the lineworkers, customer service representatives, and other specialists—they're all employees of the City. They work hard to keep our lights on because they live here too.

If we have a storm or other disaster that knocks out our power in the middle of the night, the lineworkers who live here in Laurinburg are the ones getting out of their beds and heading out in the bucket trucks to fix what's wrong and get our lights and heat back on and our lives back to normal.

And if our system has extensive damage, lineworkers in public power communities around the state and the country are standing by to lend a hand to be sure our power gets restored as quickly and safely as possible.

Public power really is local people working together to meet local needs. I'm so proud and grateful that Laurinburg is a public power community. And I can't thank the people enough who work so hard to keep Laurinburg powered.

Charles D. Nichols III  
City Manager

## Christmas Tree Bonfire

The City of Laurinburg Fire Department will host a Christmas Tree Bonfire at Legion Park on Friday, **January 5, 2024 at 6:00PM**. The City of Laurinburg Sanitation Department will collect live Christmas Trees that are placed by the curb January 2nd thru January 4th. Please remove all Christmas ornaments and lights from the tree before you place it at your curb.

Residents are encouraged to come out and park around the bonfire. We hope that you come out and enjoy this wonderful experience. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Calendar of Events

**City Council Regular Monthly Meetings**  
**City Council Chambers**  
**January 16, February 20, March 19**  
**6:00 pm**

**Christmas Tree Bonfire**  
**Legion Park**  
**January 5, 2024**  
**6:00pm**

**City Offices Closed**  
**Martin Luther King Day**  
**January 15**  
**Good Friday**  
**March 29**

**Pet License Renewal Deadline**  
**February 15**

## Holiday Schedule



The City of Laurinburg offices will be closed Monday, January 15, 2024 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. All solid waste and recycling routes for that Monday will be picked up on Tuesday, January 16, 2024.

The City of Laurinburg offices will be closed Friday, March 29, 2024 in observance of Good Friday. All solid waste routes for that Friday will be picked up on Thursday, March 28, 2024.



## Leaves and Limbs...

The Sanitation Department has begun their peak season for collecting leaves and limbs within the City of Laurinburg. As a reminder, leaves are collected loose at the curb by city vacuum trucks. Therefore, it is very important to keep leaves separated from all other types of debris. Please do not rake your leaves into the street, do not put leaves in any type of container (must be loose), and always place leaves in an easily accessible area away from vehicles or other obstructions. Please place your limbs and other debris in a separate pile. They will be picked up by a different type of city truck. The timeliness of collection will depend on the volume of leaves set out for collection. During peak times, collection intervals could be longer than usual. Thank you for your cooperation and patience.



**CORRECT**



**INCORRECT**

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## Garbage and Recycle Cart Policy

The City of Laurinburg provides all residential customers with a green garbage cart and a blue recycle cart. Each cart has a serial number and is assigned to a specific address. We ask that you do not move the cart from its assigned address. The customer will be held responsible if the cart is lost or damaged. Below are a few reminders about the carts assigned to your address:

- Place only household garbage in the green cart and only acceptable recyclable items in the blue cart.
- All carts must be at the curb no earlier than 7 PM the day before scheduled collection, but no later than 6 AM the day of collection.
- All carts must be removed by 7 PM the same day of collection and placed back behind the residence.
  - Carts must be positioned at the curb with the handle side to the house.
    - Do not place carts in the street.
- Place the carts behind the curb and at least 3 feet from other carts, mailboxes, poles, trees, and other obstructions.
  - Do not place volatile liquids, gas, paint or hazardous items in the carts.
    - Do not place rocks, dirt, building materials, or hot ashes in carts.
      - Do not place yard waste in carts.
- Ensure sharp objects are put in a plastic container with a lid to secure the sharps and place in the green garbage cart.

If you are unsure of what can be placed in a specific cart, or are unsure of your schedule please call the public works office at 910-276-2364.

### **The following items will not be collected without an additional charge:**

- |   |                              |                                     |
|---|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| * Cut Trees including any Cut Tree Debris | * Bricks or Concrete         | * Sand                              |
| * Building Materials                      | * Plywood                    | * Boards                            |
| * Drywall                                 | * Roofing Material           | * Plumbing Material (toilets, etc.) |
| * Electrical Material                     | * Carpet/Padding/Nail Strips | * Hazardous Waste                   |
- \* Any other waste from construction or demolition