

Bald
Head
Island

Village's Voice

A NEWSLETTER FOR BALD HEAD ISLAND PROPERTY OWNERS



Island Residents,

I wanted to provide you with an update in regards to the Village's on-going efforts after having conducted an assessment of the island today along with Public Safety Director Carl Pearson, Assistant Village Manager Jeff Griffin, and several of our other Department Heads.

Village essential personnel were able to arrive on island coming off the 11:00 a.m. ferry late this morning to get underway as Public Safety shift personnel rotated out from B-Shift to C-Shift making sure Shift Lieutenants de-briefed one another on actions to date. I will tell you after having made my way down North Bald Head Wynd, I was taken back at the amount of vegetative debris Public Safety personnel managed to cut and push in the minimum distance to Stede Bonnet, and getting it off the road. The efforts of A & B Shift should be commended as they gave it their best effort to keep the Wynds open as best they could.

In addition to the rotation of Public Safety shift personnel, Public Works staff were able to get over and pick up where Public Safety left off making good progress down North Bald Head Wynd and Federal Road. The focus of their efforts continued in getting debris cut and pushed to the side of the road to ensure at minimum emergency access for Public Safety.

Given the abbreviated ferry schedule of BHI Transportation, the Village was able to secure overnight lodging for our Public Works personnel so they could remain on island after the last ferry run this afternoon to continue working until sundown..., and I'd like to thank BHI Limited for working with the Village on that effort. This in effect will allow our staff to get back to work first thing tomorrow morning.

ROAD CLOSURE INFORMATION:

Federal Road, both east & westbound lanes, have been temporarily closed until further notice. Specifically, the west end closure located at the entrance of Palmetto Cove, but still allowing for ingress & egress to that neighborhood, and extending through the Maritime Forest down to the intersection of South Bald Head Wynd ending just before the BHI Conservancy campus. This was due to the amount of fallen trees and large hanging branches still frozen heavy with the potential to snap at any given moment. We have in effect isolated the Maritime Forest knowing that we have continued access around the forest via South Bald Head Wynd to Cape Fear Station and Middle Island. As such, it has allowed Public Works to divert to other higher priorities of getting the remainder of North

Bald Head Wynd back toward the Marina cleared and then focusing on West Bald Head Wynd, Muscadine Wynd, Stede Bonnet, and Edward Teach Wynd.

In working with BHI Transportation and the Maritime Market late this afternoon, Public Safety & Public Works personnel cleared overhanging branches along West Bald Head Wynd and Muscadine Wynd in order to transport needed food provisions down to the Market.

Other road closures at this point include the Timber Bridge from North Bald Head Wynd to Keelson Row.

Middle Island private roads are reported to have been cleared per their contractor who was on island today as well.

POST OFFICE & IPC:

With the abbreviated ferry schedule planned for tomorrow, Village Post Office/IPC staff will be on island with the priority of getting the 1st class mail & newspapers placed in residents post office boxes. Also, with the single barge delivery this afternoon we were able to bring over those UPS & Fed Ex packages that had been delivered to the Deep Point warehouse prior to our unplanned closure. Per the ferry schedule, hours of operation for the Post Office/IPC will be 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., but please be mindful of their efforts to get mail put up as well as handling of packages..., and make sure your route to & from the Post Office/IPC location takes into consideration Public Works efforts in clearing of roads and those that are presently closed.

VILLAGE UTILITIES & POTENTIAL FOR WATER LEAKS:

As a reminder, Utilities Director Ken Bowling emphasizes that as we begin to see a warming trend with temperatures warming up late Sunday and into Monday morning that property owners should make preparations to have their homes checked out for any leaks due to the extreme cold weather, particularly if they have not winterized the home. This would be the time that an increased potential threat for leaks might occur.

BHI TRANSPORTATION FERRY SCHEDULE:

Due to continued hazardous driving conditions Bald Head Island Transportation, Inc. plans on repeating today's ferry schedule tomorrow (Saturday) with service commencing at 11:00AM from Deep Point and the last run being the 3:30PM from the island. Tram service will not be available.

On Sunday, we plan on the first run being a 10:00AM departure from Deep Point and then we hope to finish out the scheduled service, with the last run being the 9:30PM from Bald Head Island. Rising temperatures on Sunday should stay above freezing overnight allowing for significant melting. It is uncertain whether tram service will be provided on Sunday morning due to storm debris on the roadways. As soon as a determination is made on this, word will be passed.

<http://baldheadislandferry.com/announcements>

Thank you,

Bald Head Island Transportation, Inc.

All, please continue to be mindful of the potential dangers with many of the heavy limbs and trees under the canopy of the forest yet completely free from ice. If you have the need or desire to get out and about, look to those areas along the oceanfront of south, west, or east beach and the quickest way to and from..., out of the cover of the forest to get some fresh air while walking the dogs.

While our Public Works personnel remaining on island will get busy tomorrow morning first thing, be cognizant of their efforts as each time a golf cart or pedestrian needs to pass by they take caution to stop what they are doing making sure you get by safely before resuming their efforts. And our Public Safety personnel, as always, prepared should you need them for any emergency need by calling 911, so if you can minimize your travels and/or routes due to the continued risks as previously mentioned, that would be most appreciative of our staff.

Please continue to be safe and stay warm!



Chris McCall
Village Manager

- - - - -