



## CITY UPDATES

Read about upcoming Holiday Schedule changes on pg. 2

## LEARN ABOUT ENERGY AUDITS ON PG 3.

## CITY COUNCIL UPDATES

Read highlights from Council Meetings on Pg. 4

## LOOSE LEAF SEASON

Loose leaves & pine needles can be placed behind the curb, away from water meters, fire hydrants & stormwater drains. After ensuring piles are free of limbs or other debris, please call us at 252-939-3282 to request a service order for pick up!

## CHRISTMAS TREE REMOVAL

*For Residential customers*

- ① Remove all decorations & lights from tree.
- ② Remove tree from stand.
- ③ Place the tree at the curb prior to your collection date, and call 252.939.3282



## BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

Kinston Police Department, Kinston Fire and Rescue along with City Hall staff joined Althea Simmons, Administrative Manager I in the City Manager's office for her annual 1 mile walk for breast cancer awareness on October 27th! Each year, Althea raises money for the American Cancer Society, and so far in her campaign she has raised over \$800!



## ANNUAL TINSEL TRAIL

*Pearson Park*

On Saturday, November 12th, Downtown Kinston Revitalization hosted the annual Tinsel Trail lighting! The displays will remain lit through December 31st.



## GIVING TUESDAY 2022

The City of Kinston conducted a canteen item donation drive for Kinston's North Carolina State Veterans Home and delivered goods on November 29th, *Giving Tuesday!*





# UPCOMING HOLIDAYS

*Environmental Schedule changes are below*

## **Christmas**

Observed Fri, December 23rd - Tues, December 27th  
Friday's garbage route will be collected on Thursday, December 22nd.

Monday and Tuesday's garbage route will be collected Wednesday, December 28th.

## **New Years Day**

Observed Monday, January 2nd.

Monday's garbage route will be collected on Tuesday, January 3rd.

## **Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday**

Observed on Monday, January 16th.

Monday's garbage route will be collected on Tuesday, January 17th.

For more information, please call our 24hr Customer Service Center at (252)939-3282.

# U.S. CAPITOL CHRISTMAS TREE

Since 1970, the USDA Forest Service has provided a tree from one of our national forests to be placed on the lawn of the U.S. Capitol building. Kinston Public Services had the honor of acting as an overnight pit-stop for the 78 foot tall Red Spruce, before visiting Kinston's NC State Veterans Home to honor and recognize our veterans! This giant beauty and staff assisting with the series of community celebrations made their way to the Capitol, taking stops in North Carolina, Virginia and Maryland.



# RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Located at the Kinston Public Service Complex at 2360 HWY 258 South.

Tuesday, December 13th  
11:30am-4:00pm



American Red Cross

Tuesday, February 14th  
11:30am-4:00pm

*Please visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) & enter KPSC to schedule an appointment.*

# NEW LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLD WATER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHWAP)

LIHWAP is a temporary emergency program that will help eligible low-income households afford water & wastewater services, providing a one-time payment directly to the utility company.

For more information on this program & eligibility, visit the LIHWAP website at

[www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/socialservices/energyassistance/low-income-household-water-assistance-program-lihwap](http://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/socialservices/energyassistance/low-income-household-water-assistance-program-lihwap)

# 2022 RIVER OF THE YEAR

*American Rivers named the Neuse River as their 2022 River of the year!*

American Rivers hosted a celebration at Old Waynesborough Park on October 17th to announce the Neuse River as River of the Year. With restoration efforts improving habitat for wildlife and access for boating and fishing along with cleanup efforts improving water quality, the Neuse has seen major progress.

"The River of the Year honor celebrates outstanding progress toward a cleaner, healthier Neuse River that is vital to every person who lives in this region."

*American Rivers President, Tom Kiernan*



Fun fact from American Rivers:

The Neuse River is named after the Neusiok people, one of several Native American nations that settled along the Neuse in present-day Raleigh. Neuse means "peace". The Tuscarora tribe calls this river the "Gotano" which means "pine in water."

## ENERGY AUDIT

*Want to learn how to make your home more energy efficient?*

CALL US TO SCHEDULE YOUR FREE ENERGY AUDIT TODAY!

With an Energy Audit, we can help you understand your energy consumption, identify problem areas in your home & provide information to help lower your usage.

24 HOUR CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER 252.939.3282

## COVID-19 TESTING & VACCINATIONS

### Holloway Recreation Center

101 N Myrtle Ave, Kinston, NC

Available Monday - Wednesday

10:00am - 5:00pm

Call 252-939-3362 for more information.

*Chilly weather is here! Warm up to these energy saving tips!*



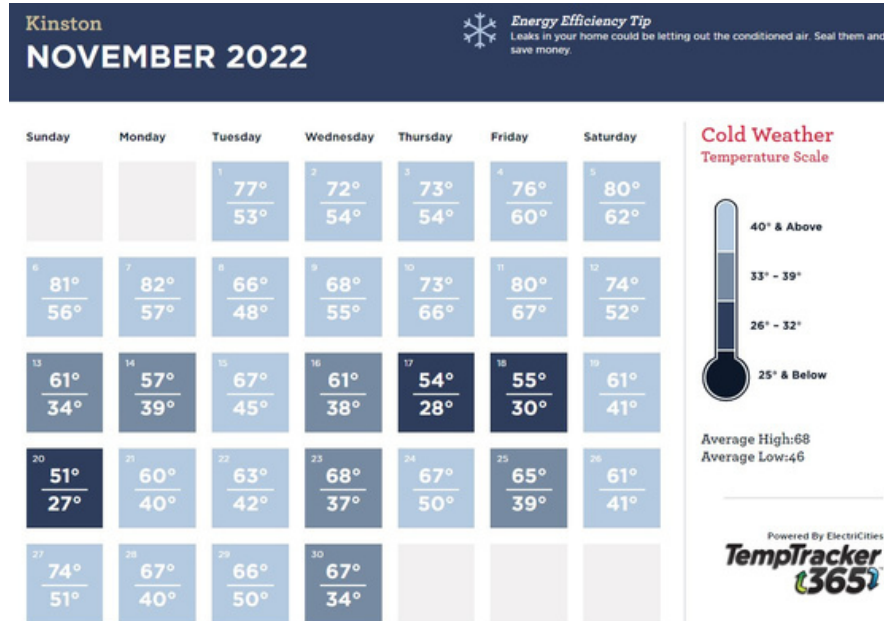
- Keep the air circulating. Set ceiling fans to spin clockwise. This helps push down warm air that has risen.
- Close doors of unused rooms.
- Check and seal air leaks throughout your home. Weatherstrip your windows and doors.
- Set your thermostat between 68° to 72°.
- Open curtains to allow sunlight to naturally heat the home, and close them at night to reduce the chill from cold windows.
- Keep the fireplace damper closed unless there is a fire burning.

## TEMPTRACKER365

*Have you used ElectriCities of NC's TempTracker365?*

This tool allows you to track temperatures by days, weeks or months! This can give insight on times that temperatures were immensely cold or hot. Extreme temperatures could cause your heating/cooling system to run longer, which would affect your monthly bill & usage.

Try TempTracker 365 today: <http://www.temptracker365.com>



# Stuff a Patrol Car

Come out & help KPD stuff a patrol car to help those in need this Christmas! We will be at Walmart of Kinston, December 12-16 from 5:00-7:00pm.

Donations may also be dropped off at the Kinston Police Department M-F 8:00am - 4:00pm.



## CLEAR TALKS

Come out to one or all of our CLEAR TALKS. No agenda or speeches, just the opportunity to voice your concerns, ask questions, and engage in conversation with your police department. This is a great chance to join officers for coffee and meet with Interim Chief Keith Goyette.



12.20.2022  
JACK ROUNTREE  
HOMES  
2:00-4:00PM

FOR MORE  
INFORMATION,  
CONTACT CPT.  
JENKINS:  
252.939.3721





## MEET YOUR CITY EMPLOYEES

*Meet the new employees hired since September!*

- Alexis Riddick - Center Assistant
- Andrew Tyndall - Lifeguard
- Benjamin Pierce - Sanitation Equipment Operator
- Bethany Hiles - Admin Secretary
- Brice Turner - Firefighter
- Brittany Williams - Center Assistant
- Cameron Lane - Center Assistant
- Canaan Weston - Firefighter II
- Candy Jentsch - Cashier
- Damion Gomez - Maintenance Worker I
- David Pridgen - Facilities Maintenance
- George Graham III - Sanitation Worker
- Isaiah Prophet - Firefighter
- Jackson Lee - Firefighter II
- James Hill - Maintenance Worker II
- Logan Thompson - Firefighter
- Matthew Albertson - Firefighter
- Max Begelman - Lifeguard
- Olivia Riddick - Center Assistant
- Robert Stotler - Equipment Operator I
- Sandy Drum - Recreation Program Supervisor
- Stephen Emory - Maintenance Worker I
- Suzanne Nix - Lifeguard
- Tabitha Stroud - Lifeguard
- Tameshia Woodard - Cashier
- Thomas Hill - Maintenance Worker I
- William Lang - Police Trainee

Want to join the City?

Contact our HR Department at 252-939-3118,  
or go online to

[www.governmentjobs.com/careers/kinstonnc](http://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/kinstonnc)



We are pleased to  
welcome Mrs. Elizabeth  
Blount as the new  
Director of Planning  
for City of Kinston.

## CITY COUNCIL UPDATES

The following are some  
highlights of the City Council  
meetings from  
September 2022 – November  
2022 (see the full minutes at  
[kinstonnc.gov/AgendaCenter](http://kinstonnc.gov/AgendaCenter)):

- The City recognized 3 retirees; Sgt. Kevin Royer; Master Police Officer Barry Price; and Interim Police Chief Jenee Spencer. Thank you for your years of service and dedication to the City of Kinston!
- A grant was awarded by the NC Division of Public Health to receive 5 new bike racks to be installed at various locations in the City. This feeds into the larger missions of creating a Kinston that is more pedestrian friendly.
- Trenton Road, located near Lenoir Community College, was adopted as a City street. The section is approximately 370 feet long, and extends from Highway 70.
- The City of Kinston was awarded the NC Parks and Recreation Trust Fund Grant in the amount of \$500,000 towards the renovations of Emma Webb Park.

## UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

December 6th  
5:30pm, City Hall

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

January 3rd  
5:30pm, City Hall

CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
(Work Session @ 5:30PM)

January 17th  
7pm, City Hall

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

February 7th  
5:30pm, City Hall

CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
(Work Session @ 5:30PM)

February 21st  
7pm, City Hall

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

March 7th  
5:30pm, City Hall

CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
(Work Session @ 5:30PM)

March 21st  
7pm, City Hall

**(December - March)**

*Meetings can also be viewed on the City's Facebook page.*



Scan me to subscribe

**Stay up to date!**

@City of Kinston  
Facebook · YouTube

Website:  
[kinstonnc.gov](http://kinstonnc.gov)