

Roaming Around Reidsville

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Following last month's ice events, I wanted to give a big "shout out" to the City of Reidsville's Public Works Department. Reidsville and Rockingham County were hard hit by the ice storm event of February 13, 2021. Duke Energy workers get a lot of kudos, deservedly so, for their efforts during ice and snow events because everyone knows that no power can make for some miserable days.

But our Public Works employees are also out on the job when ice and snow events occur. Power issues wreaked havoc at our City's Water Treatment Plant which left some homes with low to no water pressure briefly, but thankfully, all hands were on deck to get the problem resolved.

Oftentimes the biggest responsibility of our employees during these kinds of events is moving fallen trees and debris out of the roadways. More than 175 trees were down in the streets, which had to be cut up and moved out of the way to open up the road. As I was working on this column, at least 15 trees were still down that were tangled up with power lines so our workers were waiting for Duke to clear the lines so they could remove the trees.



Trees are a visible sign of what our workers do, but they also responded to over 400 alarms at our lift stations, four of which were without power at the time this column was written. One of our pump stations was working on only one pump with repairs under way on the burnt out motor. Public Works was also checking our high priority sewer lines across the City for damage. Many trees were down on sewer outfalls.

Getting trees out of the roadways is a top priority, but trees were also down in other areas of the City. All of the City's Greenways were blocked with fallen trees, meaning they have to be temporarily closed. Trees are also down in parks and the City's Greenview Cemetery. They all add up to a long "to do" list that the Public Works Department will be working on in the weeks ahead.

As this column was being turned in, we were waiting to see if another ice storm event would hit our area. That means Public Works employees could possibly be out again picking up the debris left from Mother Nature and whatever else is tossed their way. They will be leaving the comfort of their homes and time with families to get the job done. They will leave the tree down in their own yard until they can get the trees out of City roadways.

The same is true when we have snow events. They have to prepare the roads with salt and brine when needed and then have to push the snow off the streets so that we can get out. While not necessarily fun, it is a necessary job, and I for one, am glad they are out there willing to do it, among all their other duties.

So, again, a big "shout out" to our Public Works Department and all the employees who all help make our lives a little easier.

In other items, I am running these news blurbs again this month since they are still current!

Deadlines for Reidsville Rec Sports!

Right now, the City of Reidsville is planning to hold recreational sports leagues in 2021. Of course, dates may change due to COVID-19 precautions. Spring Baseball/Softball registration should have wrapped up last month, but Basketball registration has been extended until March 26th. Please check with the City Rec Department at 1-336-349-1090 for questions or updates. Volleyball registration won't begin until April 5th. You can register online by going to <https://activenet.active.com/reidsvillerec>.

Host Families Needed.

The Old North State League continues to look for host families for its premiere 2021 season at Jaycee Ballpark. Those willing to open their homes to Reidsville Luckies players, average age 18-22, from the first of June until the end of July are being sought. ONSL is looking for

welcoming homes in the community since some baseball players are traveling from across the country to play ball. Host families don't have to feed players or provide transportation unless they want to! In return, host families receive season tickets, free gear and are recognized on host family night. You can learn more at www.oldnorthstateleague.com. Interested families can email Lexie Allred, Director of Marketing & Public Relations, or Alec Allred, director of baseball operations, at alecallred@oldnorthstateleague.com.

Rockingham County Senior Games.

Registration started last month for the 2021 Rockingham County Senior Games and continues until March 19th. Regular registration costs \$10 but if you register online at <https://www.ncseniorgames.org/>, the cost will only be \$7. More information should be available through the Rockingham County Senior Games Facebook page, etc. The games will be held April 13-May 14, 2021.