



NEW BERN POLICE  
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# City of New Bern

FOUNDED 1710

New Bern, North Carolina

Three Centuries of North Carolina Heritage



FRANK PALOMBO  
CHIEF OF POLICE  
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PRESS RELEASE  
For Immediate Release

December 29, 2009

## STREET CLOSURES FOR FIRST NIGHT EVENT

The New Bern Police Department is preparing for street closures and public safety during the First Night celebration to be held Thursday night in downtown New Bern. The event kicks off at 3 p.m., with children's activities at the Riverfront Convention Center and two fireworks displays later in the evening.

Due to the expected influx of pedestrian traffic in the area, **the Public Works Department will start closing streets at 5 p.m. Thursday.** Affected streets are: Pollock Street (from Hancock to Craven streets) and Middle Street (from Broad to South Front streets). Motorists can also expect traffic flow to be affected on Craven Street near Gussman's Cleaners and Mitchell's Hardware.

**Union Point Park will be closed to vehicular traffic at noon Thursday, and will remain closed throughout the event. The boat ramps and docks will also be closed.** Pedestrians wishing to enter the park are not affected by the closure. Citizens are allowed to bring coolers, bags and baskets into the park. Glass bottles, alcohol, and fireworks (to include sparklers) are prohibited. **Pets must be leashed to enter the park.**

Public parking is open throughout different areas of downtown, with **limited handicap parking near the restrooms of Union Point Park.**

All drivers traveling in the area are reminded to use exercise patience and caution, especially following the conclusion of the event. There will be a high volume of pedestrian traffic and higher than normal level of vehicle activity. Police recommend motorists use Broad Street as a primary exit from the area, with Pollock Street serving as a secondary route.

For additional information on street closures, please contact Beth Stevenson, Public Information Officer at the New Bern Police Department at (252) 672-4211. For specific information about First Night or other 300<sup>th</sup> Celebration events, visit [www.newbern300.com](http://www.newbern300.com) or call 252-635-1710.

Frank Palombo, Chief of Police

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