

CONOVER NEIGHBOR



March 2016

Conover Code Enforcement- Upcoming Mosquito Season



Spring is just around the corner and warm weather, daylight and outdoor time will increase. While this time can be the most enjoyable weather of the year, those dreadful mosquitoes can ruin an evening out in the fresh air.

Recent news concerning the Zika virus that is spread by mosquitoes has brought new concerns about how to stay safe. An outbreak of this virus in our area is highly unlikely, however, taking steps to reduce mosquito breeding grounds will help reduce their numbers, make our outdoor time more enjoyable and prevent illness spread by mosquitos.

As soon as the temperatures reach above 50 degrees you may begin to see mosquitoes buzzing around and before you know it, you have been bitten. Contrary to a mosquito's vampire like reputation, blood is not a mosquito's main source of nourishment. Male and female mosquitoes live mainly off of nectar and plant sugars but when it comes time to nourish their eggs, the females pounce on anything that has blood pulsing through its veins and this is how they spread illnesses.

Mosquitoes are resilient creatures. They can breed in moist dirt but prefer shallow stagnant water where their larva can feed on algae and surface to breathe the air. Eliminating these places around your home and business is the first step in reducing their numbers. Look for any place where water could collect and sit. The recent snow and ice of late winter and early spring will permit water to sit for extended periods of time without evaporating. Anything can be a breeding ground for mosquitoes. Children's toys, plant pots, plastic bags, building material and old tires can all collect water.

Elimination of habitat is the number one way to impact their numbers but no matter what, they will still be out there. Natural areas, culverts and moist dirt can help keep the mosquito population alive. Since we cannot eliminate all their breeding grounds, efforts should be put in place to reduce your chance of being bitten. This can include using a mosquito repellent on you and your clothing that you know is safe, repairing screens on your home, reducing thick mosquito roosting plants around your home, or planting natural mosquito repelling plants such as rosemary, citronella, lavender and others.

Conover Code Enforcement can help eliminate stagnant water by enforcing City Ordinance 12-2(a) that declares a breeding ground for mosquitoes as a public nuisance and therefore must be removed. If you suspect stagnant water exists in your area that you cannot take appropriate measure to remove, contact Conover's Code Enforcement Officer at the Conover Police Department by telephone at 828-464-4698 or by email at codeofficer@conovernc.gov.

Planning Ahead:

City Council:	Meets the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at Conover City Hall
Planning Board:	Meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Conover City Hall

Filing of Military Discharge Documents

Did you know you can have your DD214 filed at the Catawba County Register of Deeds office? This is a free service offered to military veterans. Filing of your discharge papers will ensure you and your family will be able to access the information in case you lose your papers or in case of your death.

In order to file your DD214 you will need to take the discharge document and a photo ID (Driver's License, State Issued Identification Card, Passport or Military Identification Card) to Catawba County Register of Deeds office located in the Justice Center at 100 SW Boulevard, Newton NC.

For more information on this service visit www.catawbacountync.gov/depts/regdeed/military.asp or call 828-465-1572.

Extreme Makeover: Welcome Sign Edition

In the coming months drivers will see some changes when entering Conover. The City will be upgrading three existing brick signs around town that have served the city for decades. The update will include new rock work as well as a new Conover logo that prominently displays the city gazebo and the year of the city's incorporation.



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