

# CONOVER NEIGHBOR



October 2017

## SAVE THE DATE

The Conover Police Department will host this year's annual National Night Out Event at Concordia Square on Tuesday, October 3, 2017 from 6PM to 9PM.



This event is a community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, better places to live.

## Fire Prevention Week

In a fire, seconds count. Seconds can mean the difference between residents of our community escaping safely from a fire or having their lives end in tragedy.



That's why this year's Fire Prevention Week theme: "Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!" is so important. It reinforces why everyone needs to have an escape plan. Here's this year's key campaign messages:

- Draw a map of your home with all members of your household. Mark two exits from each room and a path to the outside from each exit.
- Practice your home fire drill twice a year. Conduct one at night and one during the day with everyone in your home, and practice using different ways out.
- Teach children how to escape on their own in case you can't help them.
- Make sure the number of your home is clearly marked and easy for the fire department to find.
- Close doors behind you as you leave – this may slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire.
- Once you get outside, stay outside. Never go back inside a burning building.

Please follow these important safety tips and if you have any questions or concerns, please call the Conover Fire Department at 828-464-1295.

The Conover Farmers Market will be open for the last time this year on October 7<sup>th</sup> from 8:00a.m. – 12 Noon at the Conover Post Office parking lot.

Visit [www.conoverfarmersmarket.org](http://www.conoverfarmersmarket.org) or follow them on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/conoverfarmersmarket](https://www.facebook.com/conoverfarmersmarket) for more information.

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

## **Fall Leaves and Storm Drains**

Ever jump in a big pile of fall leaves as a kid? Leaves look pretty, are fun to jump in, and in the mountains there is an entire tourist industry devoted to looking at them. But after the party's over, somebody has to clean up. For most of us, that means raking or blowing them into a big pile – and then what?

Most of us put leaves at curbside for pickup by the City's Public Works department. That's great, unless they are placed in the street! Rain carries leaves placed in the street straight to the nearest storm drain. In large quantities, they can block the drains and contribute to localized flooding. In smaller quantities, the storm drain takes them to streams and creeks where they cause havoc with the ecosystem. But haven't leaves been falling into streams and creeks forever? Sure, and if each creek or stream only had to handle what fell into it naturally, they'd be just fine. But by the time you and your neighbors rake your yards, that's more leaves than a creek or stream can handle. A great alternative to placing leaves at the curb is to compost and add them back to the lawn or your garden and flower beds.



**If you do blow or rake your leaves to the front yard for pick up, please remember it is a violation of the City of Conover Code of Ordinances and a misdemeanor to place them on the street side of the curb or on the street itself!**

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## **Downtown Streetscape Update**

The downtown streetscape construction work is well underway and expected to be completed soon. Fortunately the project came in under budget. This will allow the work to be expanded to include milling and resurfacing of the five point intersection along with new crosswalks.

On-street vehicle parking will still be available along 1<sup>st</sup> Ave S during construction. There will be 6 fewer marked parallel spaces along the street than before with 34 spaces remaining.

The project is funded by 80% state/federal money, with a 20% Conover match. Landscaping will be installed in the curb extensions and medians, including shrubs, and street trees. Ground cover will be installed during the fall planting season.

A new street clock, brick sidewalk pavers (engraved pavers are available by contacting the City), sidewalk benches, planters, and trash cans will be installed as a part of the project. If you are interested in memorializing a loved one by placing their name on a brick please fill out an application @ [conovernc.gov/bricks](http://conovernc.gov/bricks) and make payment at City Hall.

The goal of this streetscape project is to make the downtown a more walkable, attractive, and inviting area for residents and visitors. The streetscape improvements, along with the downtown building revitalization grant program are intended to promote commerce and return vacant and underutilized buildings downtown back into productive use. If you have questions please stop by the Planning Department at City Hall or call 828-464-1191.



### **Planning Ahead:**

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