

CONOVER NEIGHBOR



October 2019

Fire Prevention Week

October 6-12, 2019



As Fire Prevention Week approaches, the Conover Fire Department encourages residents

to “Plan and Practice Your Escape”. So what does that mean? Today’s home fires burn faster than ever. In a typical home fire, you may have as little as one to two minutes to escape safely from the time the smoke alarm sounds. Knowing how to use that time wisely takes planning and practice. The Conover Fire Department is teaming up with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) -- the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week for more than 90 years -- to promote this year’s Fire Prevention Week campaign, “Not Every Hero Wears a Cape. Plan and Practice Your Escape!” which works to educate the public about basic but essential ways to quickly and safely escape a home fire. This year’s campaign urges all families to establish and practice their home escape plan.

Situational awareness is a skill people need to use wherever they go. No matter where you are, look for available exits. If the alarm system sounds, take it seriously and exit the building immediately.

For more information, call the Conover Fire Department at 828-464-1295.

Code Enforcement – Signs

If you drive around the City of Conover you will notice the absence of countless signs along the roadway that advertise everything from handyman work to palm reading.

With the exception of the time around elections, Conover does not allow any signage to be placed within the public right-of-way that is not traffic related. The public right of way is the space between the edge of the road or curbing and the legal property line.

Most cities have a zoning code that does not permit this type of signage, and do not have a dedicated code enforcement officer or planning department to remove signs and inform the sign owners of the violation.



The next time you visit another town or city take a look around and see how many signs are cluttering the roadways. Did you ever notice them as much before? Have you become so use to them on the edge of the roadway that they are overlooked and not noticed? After you notice the difference between the roadway signs, are you delighted that your home town puts forth the effort to keep the scenery clear of these signs?

The Planning Department and Code Enforcement are proud to continue to remove these signs and educate those who place them in our city. This effort keeps the roadways cleaner and safer for Conover residents and its visitors.

The sign code has been developed over time to help the overall appearance of Conover. If you are an individual or business and wish to place a sign anywhere in the city limits, it is always a good idea to call the Planning Department at 828-464-1191 or Code Enforcement at 828-464-4698 to ensure your sign meets the zoning code.

“This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.”

Recycling Update

Improvements are necessary to keep recycling clean and viable for marketing. Prior to July 2014 our recycling was separated at the curb using 18 gallon containers. This was very time consuming but a very effective way to keep the recycle stream clean. In July 2014 we initiated single stream recycling where everything was placed into 96 gallon containers. We now know that from that time until now an underlying problem was forming... CONTAMINATION!

Folks were eager to recycle but are placing items into the stream that really don't belong (at this time). Lots of things are "recyclable" but not everything recyclable is currently accepted into our recycle stream. The following items are recyclable but do not belong in your 96 gallon recycle container; plastic grocery bags, foam cups, trays, and plates, plastic clothes hangers, electronics, and clothing.

Many people do not know that the City of Conover does not process our own recyclables. We collect it curbside and contract with a local company (Republic/GDS) to off load our recyclables and they process and market them to the world. In more recent times we have had to start paying to off load our recyclables. Whereas before we received a diversion credit for recycling material. In August this charged amount increased significantly.

This is due in part to the China Sword policy, volatile markets, material saturation and contamination. Conover residents have always been big contributors to recycling and we want to keep that momentum going! Just to re-iterate this is not only a Conover problem, this is a nationwide issue that we all have to work on together. The City of Conover has joined with many other local governments in the Recycle Right NC campaign. This is a 10 week anti-contamination campaign designed to help re-educate our residents on what really needs to go into the recycle stream. Please keep up with us on Facebook, Twitter, or www.conovernc.gov/recycle for important information to help you be a better recycler!

RESIDENTIAL HOUSEHOLD

HAZARDOUS WASTE AND ELECTRONICS ONE-DAY COLLECTION EVENT

WHEN?
Saturday
November 2, 2019
9am - 1pm

WHERE?
LP Frans Stadium
Home of the Hickory Crawdads
2500 Clement Blvd NW
Hickory

SPONSORED
by Catawba County
Utilities & Engineering,
City of Hickory, Cooperative
Extension Service and NC
State Dept of Agriculture &
Consumer Services

FREE
of charge
to citizens of
Catawba County

RAIN OR SHINE

PARTIAL LIST OF HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE ACCEPTED AT THE EVENT
Household cleaners, paint products, automotive products, pesticides, fertilizers, kerosene, batteries, pool chemicals, mercury thermometers, fluorescent tubes, computer monitors, TVs, VCRs, stereos, cell phones, pagers, calculators, fax machines, microwaves, and much more! The County contracts with electronics recycling companies that are EPA R2 and/or e-Steward Certified to ensure proper handling and security of electronic waste collected. **No business waste will be accepted.**

MEDICATION DISPOSAL
The Catawba County Sheriff's Office will offer collection for unwanted medications and prescription drugs. Sharps/needles will NOT be accepted at this event.

PLASTIC BAG RECYCLING
Keep Catawba County Beautiful will offer plastic bag recycling. Bring plastic bags to recycle and receive a reusable bag.



catawba county
MAKING. LIVING. BETTER.

amandak@catawbacountync.gov
catawbacountync.gov | 828.465.8217

Conover Farmers Market

Come out and join us at our annual Holiday Market on Saturday, November 23rd from 10 am – 2:00 pm. There will be over 40 vendors, food, fun, and excitement. This is the last event of the season – don't miss it!



Planning Ahead:

City Council: Meets the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Conover City Hall
Planning Board: Meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Conover City Hall