

CONOVER NEIGHBOR



February 2014

Snow Removal Schedule

When roads become impassable due to fallen snow or ice, the Street Department has several objectives. These objectives include providing clear passage for emergency vehicles, reducing hazards for motorists and pedestrians, and minimizing the economic loss to the community caused by the workers' inability to travel to their respective jobs.

When roads reach impassable conditions, arterial roads (major roads and streets that carry large volumes of traffic) are given first priority. These roads are scraped as bare as possible following two or more inches of snow accumulation, then once every four hours, unless extreme conditions require that more frequent scraping be done. Parking lanes and shoulders will be cleared as soon as the travel lanes are open. Further, collector streets (general access and residential streets) are scraped following three or more inches of snow accumulation and plowed every four to five hours as conditions dictate. If ice conditions are anticipated the City has the means to Liquid Brine the streets prior to icy conditions. Each quadrant of the City will be dealt with equally. When extreme cold conditions exist, sand will be spread. The City does scrape some state roads, excluding Interstate 40, in residential and downtown areas.

Please refrain from parking on the street during snow or ice events so the Street Department has access for maintenance.

For more information on road conditions during snow or ice periods, call the Public Works Department at 464-4808, or the Catawba County Communications Center at 464-3112.

In Case of Freezing Temperatures.....

During winter months water system failures can occur due to freezing temperatures.

Frozen service lines can cause service disruptions or high usage due to a break in the line. We advise that service lines underneath homes in unheated areas and outside faucets be insulated to protect against freezing.

Please remember to turn off and drain hoses after each use to prevent the hose from becoming cracked during cold weather.

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

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

Winter Fire Safety Tips For the Home

The high cost of home heating fuels and utilities have caused many Americans to search for alternate sources of home heating. The use of wood burning stoves is growing and space heaters are selling rapidly, or coming out of storage. All of these methods of heating may be acceptable. They are however, a major contributing factor in residential fires. Many of these fires can be prevented. The following fire safety tips can help you maintain a fire safe home this winter.

Heating

- Establish a three-foot "kid-free" zone around open fires and space heaters.
- Never use an oven to heat your home.
- Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
- Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Ensure that a working smoke alarm is installed inside every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement. Smoke alarms give everyone in the home an early warning and an opportunity to escape a fire quickly.

Contact the Conover Fire Department at 464-1295 if you have a question or need any assistance on making your home fire safe.

Conover Code Enforcement

Junk vehicles are out there. If you pay attention you will see them, some are obvious, some may have been sitting right before your eyes for years going unnoticed. In either case, Code Enforcement will be looking to have them removed from public view as a junk vehicle can harm the city and its residents in a number of ways.



Health and safety can be compromised if the vehicle was to collect water or allow pests to seek shelter in the vehicle. The collected water can become stagnant, providing an optimal breeding ground for mosquitoes. Pests such as feral cats can use the vehicle for shelter and increase the possibility to spread disease to our children or pets.

Property value in the city can also be affected with junk vehicles. The appearance of a junk vehicle can produce a negative experience for residents and visitors in Conover. That negative experience could change the outcome of a home purchase or give a new or relocating business owner second thoughts about Conover. These types of outcomes, although they may be extreme, can hit Conover businesses and residents in the wallet.

So, what constitutes a vehicle as junk? The city has defined this with three simple rules.

1. Does the vehicle operate as originally intended? (Can it be driven?)
2. Is the vehicle wrecked?
3. Does the vehicle appear to be worth less than \$500?

If a vehicle meets one of the three rules, it is defined as a junk vehicle and must be removed or stored inside a 4 walled structure. A car cover or placement in a carport will not be sufficient.

If you see a possible junk vehicle in Conover, you can report its location to Code Enforcement at 828-464-4698 or send an email to: codeofficer@conoverncc.gov. If you have a junk vehicle and don't know how to get rid of it, you may contact junk yards, who may give you cash for the vehicle, or donate the vehicle to a charitable organization, which can be tax deductible.

Whether you report it or have one sitting on your property, having it removed or properly stored can be for the greater good of your neighborhood, Conover and you.