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# uarterly Newsletter

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# City News



### Message from Interim Manager

Springtime is here! With the beauty of spring comes lots of colors, spring cleaning, and warmer temperatures of course. But springtime also brings something else to your City Council and Staff. It's time to fine tune all the preliminary planning that goes on continuously in your City government and develop the budget for Fiscal Year 2013-2014. The beginning of that process was the Citizen Input Session held on March 14. We felt it was a very productive session and we appreciate all the valuable input and suggestions for the Council to consider as we develop the budget. We also appreciate all the input we have received from those who could not attend the session. This is your City and it will take an active citizenry for us to be an even greater City. If you have additional input or suggestions, please feel free to contact your City Council or you may contact me at 910-276-8324 or hhaywood@laurinburg.org.

This year began with a lot of questions and

transition with regard to City staff with the appointment of so many interims, the Interim City Manager, the Interim Police Chief, and the Interim Fire Chief. One of those questions has been answered with the selection of Randy Gibson as the City of Laurinburg's first full-time Fire Chief. The selection process is ongoing for the Police Chief and City Manager positions. Possibly by the time the next quarterly newsletter is published, we will have answers to those questions as well. Therefore, let me just say what an honor and privilege it has been to serve as your Interim City Manager. I appreciate all the support I have received from City Council, City Staff, and so many residents of this wonderful City.

Thank You!

Harold W. Haywood Interim City Manager

## Improvements to Our Downtown.

The Beautification Department in partnership with the Street Department removed the root bound Crepe Myrtles from the downtown planter boxes during the month of March. The Crepe Myrtles that were removed were planted years ago and were not conducive to the planter box environment. These trees will be replaced with Nellie Stevens Hollies which are evergreen trees and will provide foliage throughout the year as well as set a perfect stage for Christmas on Main event. If you have any questions or would like additional information please contact our Beautification Department at 910-276-8257.



### Calendar of Events

City Council Agenda Workshop

Barrett Building April 9; May 14; June 11 7 pm

**City Council Regular Monthly Meetings** 

City Council Chambers April 16; May 21; June 18 7 pm

**Memorial Day** 

City Offices Closed May 27, 2013

### Holiday Sanitation Schedule

Memorial Day-

Monday's route will be picked up on Tuesday, May 28, 2013

Scan with Smartphone for more information.



### **Conserving Water**

Spring has sprung and with the warm weather approaching us we at the City of Laurinburg would like to remind everyone that we have been very fortunate in years past with our water supply. However, the drought does affect the aquifer where our water comes from. So, we would like to take this opportunity to remind you that conserving water today will hopefully ensure water tomorrow.

You can contact our office at 910-276-2364 for additional information on conserving water.

- Put food coloring in your toilet tank. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- ♦ When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run while rinsing. Fill one sink with wash water and the other with rinse water.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- For a drink of cold water, keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator.
- Monitor your water bill for unusually high use. Your bill and water meter are tools that can help you discover leaks.
- Water your lawn and garden in the morning or evening when temperatures are cooler to minimize evaporation.
- Wash your fruits and vegetables in a pan of water instead of running water from the tap.
- Spreading a layer of organic mulch around plants retains moisture and saves water, time and money.
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean your driveway and sidewalk and save water every time.
- Collect the water you use for rinsing fruits and vegetables, then reuse it to water houseplants.
- ♦ If water runs off your lawn easily, split your watering time into shorter periods to allow for better absorption.
- ♦ Shorten your shower by a minute or two and you'll save up to 150 gallons per month.
- Adjust your lawn mower to a higher setting. A taller lawn shades roots and holds soil moisture better than if it is closely clipped.
- ♦ When cleaning out fish tanks, give the nutrient-rich water to your plants.
- Designate one glass for your drinking water each day or refill a water bottle. This will cut down on the number of glasses to wash.
- Grab a wrench and fix that leaky faucet. It's simple, inexpensive, and you can save 140 gallons a week.
- Water your plants deeply but less frequently to encourage deep root growth and drought tolerance.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.

Please remember water is a precious commodity that we cannot live without, so when you think of water think about conserving it.

### It's Spring Cleaning Time!

Fast food cups and cigarette butts belong in the wastebasket, NOT thrown along our city streets and parks. You've seen it happen. You're driving along on a beautiful day, enjoying the scenery, when... WHOOSH! — A bag of burger wrappers bursts from the window of the car ahead of you. When you stop at a stop sign, look at the ground and you'll see thousands of cigarette butts littering the ground. This is when you can step in and help! If you see someone litter, you can report him or her through the Swat-a-Litter Bug program. You can pick up the cards for this program at Public Works or Chamber of Commerce.



It's time for you to get involved.

The litter problem in Laurinburg can't be solved overnight, but it can be solved. Right now, people from all over our community are getting active, looking for ways to eliminate unsightly trash from our community. Business leaders, government officials and diverse groups of citizens are coming together in this effort. Take the time to make a difference. Just volunteering a few hours of your time a month can make a difference. You can make it as fun as you want too! The Adopt-a-Spot and Adopt-a-Street programs are sponsored by the City of Laurinburg. We encourage you to call our Beautification Department @ (910)276-8257 and find out more about the program.