

CITY GRAM



Spring 2011



FOG

We are all familiar with fog that often occurs in the early morning hours of the day. This article is to familiarize citizens of another type of FOG that can cause major problems with the City's Sanitary Sewer System. This FOG is

Fats, Oils, and Grease. In the same way that fats, oils, and grease are bad for the arteries in the human body, they are also bad for the sewer system. Residents can help prevent pipe blockages and sanitary sewer overflows by keeping Fats, Oils, and Grease out of the sewer system. Sewer backups can cause damage to your home or business, health hazards, and also threaten the environment in which we live. A sewer pipe blocked by grease is a common cause of sewer backups and sewer overflows. Fats, Oils, and Grease are a natural byproduct of cooking. Grease is the common term for animal fats and vegetable oils. It is contained in items such as meat fats, lard, cooking oils, shortening, food scraps, baking goods, dairy products, butter, and margarine. While they appear to be harmless, when residents pour them down the sink drain, the liquid cools and the grease will solidify. This causes grease buildup inside the sewer pipes. This buildup of grease restricts the flow of sewage and will eventually completely clog the pipes.

Below is a list of things residents should do to keep FOG (Fats, Oils, & Grease) out of your household plumbing and the city's sewer system.

- Never pour Fats, Oils, and Grease down the sink drain or toilet.
- Place Fats, Oils, Grease, and Food Scraps into a container and after cooling, dispose of them in your garbage.
- Do not put food scraps down the garbage disposal as this only shreds them into smaller pieces and does not prevent grease from going down the drain.
- Use a strainer in your sink to catch food scraps.

Please follow these recommendations to help insure that your drain pipes remain "FAT FREE", which is a healthy diet for the sewer system.

WATER CONSERVATION

AS OF MARCH 1, 2011 OUR COUNTY IS EXPERIENCING SEVERE DROUGHT. THIS IS THE SECOND WORST LEVEL IN THE FOUR-CATEGORY SYSTEM USED TO MEASURE DROUGHT. WE SHOULD ELIMINATE NONESSENTIAL USES OF WATER, REDUCE WATER USAGE DAILY AND MAXIMIZE WATER USE EFFICIENCY. SOME SUGGESTIONS ARE:



- **WASH ONLY FULL LOADS OF CLOTHING.**
- **INSTALL WATER SAVING SHOWER HEADS.**
- **RINSE DISHES, VEGETABLES AND FRUITS IN A FILLED BASIN, RATHER THAN UNDER RUNNING WATER AND USE LEFT OVER WATER FOR YOUR PLANTS.**

CITIZEN BOARD APPOINTMENTS

The Graham City Council invites you to take a more active role in municipal affairs by applying for membership on one of the City's advisory boards or commissions. If you have an interest in public service and possess the desire to serve the City of Graham in such a capacity, this is your opportunity to express this interest and to contribute to the betterment of the City. The following Boards and Commissions currently have vacancies:

- Board of Adjustments & Alternates*
- Appearance Commission*
- Historic District Commission*
- Tree Board*



Graham residents interested in appointment to any of the above listed boards and commissions should submit an application of interest to the City Clerk's Office, P.O. Drawer 357, Graham, NC 27253. Applications are available at City Hall or on our website at www.cityofgraham.com, click on "City Government" then "Boards and Commissions" then "Volunteer Application" under "Related Links".

Graham Recreation & Parks

Graham Recreation & Parks now offers online registration at www.GrahamRecreationAndParks.com
Questions? Call the Graham Recreation and Parks Department at 570.6718.

SUMMER DAY CAMP REGISTRATION

Summer Day Camp: GPRD's summer day camp is now accepting applications for the Playtime Camp. The camp is designed for children (grades K-7). There is a nine week program (**\$440-Graham residents/\$565-non residents**) and a new five week program (**\$244-Graham residents/\$314-non residents**). Weekly trips to activities such as swimming, bowling, roller-skating and Putt-Putt and daily lunch and snacks are included in the fee. Call Brian Faucette at 513-5510 about registration fee information or you may register at the Graham Recreation Center 311 College St. or online.

Hi-Octane Summer Day Camp: Applications are being accepted for grades 8-9 for the Hi-Octane Camp. This camp travels to various locations in North Carolina on recreational and educational field trips. Fees for this camp are \$510 for Graham residents & \$665 for non-residents. Fees for a five-week camp are \$283 for Graham Residents & \$352 for non-residents. Interested applicants must contact Brian Faucette @ 513-5510 to register.

Graham/Mebane Lake March-October

Mon. Wed.-Sat. Open Dawn-Dusk
Sunday Open 1pm-Dusk

November & February
Saturday Open Dawn-Dusk
Sunday Open 1 pm-Dusk

December & January - CLOSED

Call 919-563-6544

SKI TOURNAMENT: June 11-12, July 30-31, & August 27-28.

CATFISH & CARP TOURNAMENT: May 28, July 9, & September 10. For more detailed information about the tournaments please call 919-563-6544.

FISHING DERBY: The GRPD is co-sponsoring a FREE kid's fishing derby Saturday, June 25th from 9:00-12:00 noon at the Graham Mebane Lake. The event is for children ages 4-15. Prizes are given for most fish caught, biggest fish, smallest fish, etc. Call 513-5510 for more information or register at the Graham Recreation Center or the marina at Graham Mebane Lake.



YEE HAW! RIVER PADDLE: The 4th Annual Yee Haw River Paddle will be held on Saturday May 7th. The 2011 event will feature a new route and a brand new competitive race. Visit www.thehaw.org/yeehaw.htm for pricing and boat rental information and to register for the event.



Football: Registration opens in June. Ages 6-8, 9-10 and 11-12. Age cut-off is August 1, 2011. Practices will begin early August. Games will begin in September and end in November. Expect to devote at least 3 days per week to this football program.

**Registration Fee: \$25 - Graham Tax-Paying Residents
\$40 - Non-residents**

Fall Outdoor Soccer: Registration opens June 6th and ends July 1st. Open to ages 4-17. Age cut-off is August 1, 2011 and all teams are co-ed.

**Registration Fee: \$15 - Graham Tax-Paying Residents
\$30 - Non-residents**

SOME SOLUTIONS FOR POLLUTION!

Stormwater flowing over driveways, lawns, and sidewalks picks up debris, chemicals and dirt. Stormwater can flow into a storm sewer system or directly into a lake, stream, river or wetland. Anything entering a storm sewer system is discharged untreated into the water bodies we use for fishing, swimming and drinking. Pollution runoff is one of the greatest threats to our clean water. Healthy household habits like pet waste, grass clippings, pesticides and automotive fluids being kept off the ground and out of stormwater will help protect lakes, streams, rivers, and wetlands. Remember to share these habits with your neighbors!



RUN FOR THE HAW!

Runners and sponsors are welcomed to the GRPD & Graham Rotary Club's 3rd annual **Run for the HAW! 5K/10K** to be held on Saturday, May 28, 2011 at 8 a.m. For more detailed information please visit www.GrahamRecreationAndParks.com.

Graham Walks is an opportunity for you, your friends and family to get some exercise. Morning walks are from 11:30-1pm. (Downtown Graham). Evening walks are from 4:30-6pm at Bill Cooke Park. **Graham Walks** will be every Thursday from April 28th through June 2nd. Regular participants will receive prizes after certain walking goals are met. For more information call Carlyn Stovall at 513-5510.



GRAHAM SPORTS HALL OF FAME
BANQUET



Tickets are on sale for the Graham Sports Hall of Fame Banquet April 9, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. The banquet will be held at the Graham Recreation Center, 311 College St. Tickets are \$15 and include dinner. 2011 Hall of Fame Inductees are: Jane Gibson Albright, Don Guthrie, Sherri Pickard, and the 1987 American Legion Post 427 Baseball Team. 2011 Hall of Honor Inductees are: C. William (Bill) Hunter and Frederick Baker Kimrey. Tickets are available at the Graham Municipal Building, 201 S. Main St. in Graham or at GrahamRecreationAndParks.com. For more information, contact Carlyn Stovall at 513-5510.

THURSDAY AT SEVEN
Downtown Graham 7-9pm

- MAY 26 JIM QUICK & COASTLINE BAND
- JUNE 23 THE MAGNIFICENTS BAND
- JULY 28 THE ATTRACTIONS BAND
- AUG. 25 THE HOLIDAY BAND
- SEPT.22 HIP POCKET BAND



DOUBLE FEATURE FRIDAYS

This FREE concert series is part of the community wide **Musical Chairs Concert Series** and features a concert at 7pm followed by a movie at 8:30pm, 1st Fridays, May-September. Dates for **Double Feature Fridays** are: May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5 & Sept. 2. Contact Brian Faucette at 513-5510 for more information.

ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION 4/27/11 - 1:00 P.M.

THIS YEAR IT WILL BE HELD ON THE CAMPUS OF GRAHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL. WE WILL BE PLANTING TREES WITH SIXTH GRADERS. THE APPEARANCE COMMISSION WILL ALSO BE PROVIDING ARBOR DAY LITERATURE AS WELL AS SEEDLINGS THE STUDENTS CAN TAKE HOME AND PLANT. THE PUBLIC IS INVITED. INVITATIONS ARE BEING EXTENDED TO THE GRAHAM COMMUNITY WHO WOULD LIKE TO SERVE ON THE APPEARANCE COMMISSION. WE HAVE FOUR VACANCIES TO FILL. THE MEETINGS ARE IN FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL, MAY AND THE COMMISSION WELCOMES YOUR IDEAS, YOUR TALENT AND CREATIVE ABILITIES. CHECK OUT THE FLYER ON THE FRONT PAGE OF THE CITY OF GRAHAM WEBSITE WWW.CITYOFGRAHAM.COM.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The Graham Area Business Association is sponsoring the second annual "Let Freedom Ring" event. It will be held on September 10, 2011 in the entire Court Square in downtown Graham. This will be a time for fellowship, awareness and remembrance of the people who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our nation's security and those who dedicate their lives to the safety of our local communities on a daily basis. There will be a finale of fireworks to conclude the events of the day. Watch for more information later in the papers or call the Graham Area Business Association at (336) 229-4221.

HOLIDAY GARBAGE SCHEDULES

FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 2011, GOOD FRIDAY:

There will be no garbage collection on Friday April 22. Friday routes will be collected on Monday, April 25.

COLLECTIONS WILL FOLLOW THE REGULAR SCHEDULE:

Monday, May 30, 2011, Memorial Day
 Monday, July 4, 2011, Independence Day
 Monday, September 5, 2011, Labor Day

RECYCLING SCHEDULE:

APRIL	6TH	20TH	
MAY	4TH	18TH	
JUNE	1ST	15TH	29TH
JULY	13TH	27TH	
AUGUST	10TH	24TH	
SEPTEMBER	7TH	21ST	

ALAMANCE COUNTY'S PAINT AND PESTICIDE COLLECTION



It will be held April 16th from 8 am—1 pm. The location is at the Burlington Fire Training Facility. The address is 100 Stone Quarry Road Haw River near the Burlington Animal Shelter. For more information please call the Alamance County Landfill at (336) 376-8902.

The City Gram provides residents with information concerning City happenings. Comments or questions may be made to Frankie Maness, City of Graham, PO Drawer 357, Graham, NC 27253 or call 336-570-6700.

GRAHAM CITY COUNCIL

JERRY PETERMAN , MAYOR
 JIMMY LINENS, MAYOR PRO-TEM
 JIM ALBRIGHT, COUNCIL MEMBER
 VICTOR EULISS, COUNCIL MEMBER
 CHIP TURNER, COUNCIL MEMBER

Set recyclables at the curb by 7:00 a.m. on your collection day. Place bins at least 5 feet from garbage containers. Put recyclables in your bin or brown paper bags only. All cardboard must be completely flattened and no larger than 3 feet by 3 feet. Any questions call TFC Recycling at 336-222-8465 or 919-957-8803.



SPRING ALLERGIES



During Springtime the abundance of blooming flowers results in the air being saturated with pollen. Unfortunately, pollen can trigger allergic reactions in individuals with a sensitive immune system. When the pollen laden air is inhaled, it can lead to a host of symptoms which are commonly characterized as hay fever allergies or rhinitis. Symptoms include a runny or itchy nose or nasal congestion, watery eyes, headaches and a general feeling of lethargy. It is nearly impossible to completely avoid spring allergies especially in North Carolina but you can try to avoid your main allergy triggers.

1. Stay indoors whenever the pollen count is very high.
2. Keep doors and windows closed whenever possible during the spring months. An air purifier may also help.
3. Clean air filters in your home often and clean bookshelves, vents and other places where pollen collects.
4. Wash your hair after going outside because pollen can collect there.
5. Vacuum twice a week. Wear a mask because vacuuming can kick up pollen, mold and dust that were trapped in your carpet.