

GRAHAM RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION
MONTHLY MEETING
March 13, 2024 6:30 PM
Graham Historical Museum

AGENDA

- I. Welcome
- II. Approval of Minutes – Oct. '23 minutes; no quorum @ Jan. 16, 2024 meeting
- III. Chairperson's Report
- IV. Director's Report
- V. Old Business
 - 1. ABSS contracts – proposal presented ABSS
 - 2. Recreation Center – Gym #1 HVAC replacement - work scheduled for March '24
 - 3. Sponsorship Policy – adopted by Council on Feb. 13th
 - 4. Impact Alamance grant – equipment has been installed, surfacing installed by GRPD staff the week of Mar. 4th.
 - 5. Land Acquisition
 - i. Graham Regional Park – Stewart property – no updates
 - ii. Cooke Park – Teer Property – no updates from the family's agent
 - 6. Cabin @ Cooke Park – contractor assessing the cabin - options with costs for repairs, removal, etc. to be presented
 - 7. Bank of America building – City admin. has been in contact with officials from Bank of America
- VI. New Business
 - 1. Accessible Parks grant
 - i. GRPD staff is conducting an ADA self-assessment as part of the application
 - ii. Presentations to community groups and public meetings will be presented in March
 - iii. A second quote for the work has been received, additional quotes are being solicited
 - 2. Budget request – Operations and Capital Improvement Project budget requests have submitted
 - 3. Recreation Center – Gym #2 HVAC replacement
- VII. Activity Reports
 - 1. Recreation Center
 - 2. Athletics
 - 3. Programs
 - 4. Parks
 - 5. Graham-Mebane Lake
 - 6. Marketing
 - 7. Hall of Fame
- VIII. Other Business
- IX. Adjournment

GRAHAM RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION

October 18, 2023

GRAHAM HISTORICAL MUSEUM

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chair Jay Cook, Casey Johnson, Brian Cutlip, Nicki Smith

STAFF: Brian Faucette **VISITOR:** Madison Sykes

Chair Cook called the meeting to order at 6:35 with a welcome.

MINUTES

-Mr. Cutlip made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 9, 2023 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Johnson and unanimously approved.

CHAIR'S REPORT

-Chair Cook informed the Commission on details of the Impact Alamance grant received by the Friends of Graham Recreation. Funds will be used to purchase and install playground equipment at Graham Regional Park with a focus on adding inclusive elements to the "natural playground" side of the park.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

-Mr. Faucette reported the Parks Division is fully staffed after the hiring of James Fishel as Parks Maintenance Technician and Connor Young as Athletic Fields Technician.

OLD BUSINESS

-Mr. Faucette reported the updated ABSS contracts for Apollo Field and Goley St. Field have been presented to Greg Hook, the ABSS Chief Operations Officer for review.

-Mr. Faucette presented updates on Graham-Mebane Lake projects

-Pontoon Boat renovations – renovations are complete, the first cruises will be held Oct. 21st.

-Mr. Faucette presented updates on Graham Recreation Center projects

-Interior Painting is complete

-HVAC replacement-quotes will be solicited in November.

NEW BUSINESS

-Mr. Faucette thanked the Commission for submitting notes on the Sponsorship Policy and informed them edits will be completed and then reviewed by GRPD staff, City administration and City attorneys.

ACTIVITY REPORTS

Marketing: N/A **Athletics:** N/A **Programs:** N/A **Friends Group:** N/A **Parks:** N/A **Centers:** N/A

Sports Hall of Fame: Chair Cook reported the committee is still on track for the Induction Ceremony on April 13, 2024.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commission members asked Mr. Faucette to express concern to the officers working GRPD events about the increase in smoking in event space. Mr. Faucette will forward this concern to programming staff and ask them to include it in their requests submitted to Extra Duty Solutions. Commission members also expressed interest from downtown businesses to have more festivals and support for a mountain bike trail.

With all business concluded, Mr. Cook made a motion to adjourn at 7:20pm, seconded by Mr. Cutlip and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Faucette

Jay Cook, Chair

Date

Graham Recreation and Parks Commission
Director's Report for January/February '24

I. Present Projects

- a. Shelter #2 @ Cooke Park** - The shelter installation was completed in late Jan. Site clean-up and installation of picnic tables occurred in February. The shelter will be ready for rentals this spring.
- b. Elon Engineering Project** - No report, students are on winter break.
- c. Playground equipment at Graham Regional Park** - The new equipment was received in mid-February. Installation began the week of February 26th and should be complete by Mar. 8th. GRPD staff will install the playground surfacing the week of Mar. 4th.
- d. Interior Signage @ Cooke & S. Graham Parks** - New rules signage is being created and should be installed in both parks in April.
- e. Rec. Center HVAC** - Replacement of a HVAC unit for Gym #1 is scheduled for mid-March.

II. Future Projects

- a. Land Acquisition**
 - i. GRP** - Mr. Stewart (property owner) is still waiting on an appraisal. He is now working with a second firm.
 - ii. Cooke** - Graham Administration continues to check in with the Teer Family (property owners) to monitor their desires concerning the property adjacent to Cooke Park.
- b. Accessible Parks Grant - ADA/Family restroom & ADA entry doors @ Rec. Center** - Staff is still soliciting a third quote and working on requirements for a grant to be submitted in May. Presentations to community groups are scheduled in March.
- c. Cabin @ Cooke Park** - GRPD staff is exploring options for repair, donation, and/or removal of the cabin at Cooke Park.

III. Policies/Manuals/Plans

- a. Graham-Mebane Lake Master Plan** - The final draft was received in January. Staff gave a final round of notes and information to be included in the final Master Plan.
- b. Sponsorship Policy** - City Council approved the Sponsorship Policy at the February 13th meeting.
- c. GRPD Personnel/Orientation Manuals** - Work on a Personnel Manual and an Orientation Manual continues.
- d. ABSS/GRPD contracts** - A proposal outlining usage of shared facilities has been submitted to ABSS. A formal contract is expected later this summer.

IV. Historical Museum Attendance - 10-January; 21-February

V. Outside Committees

- a. Graham Pedestrian Plan** - Final staff comments were submitted in early Feb. A final draft is expected this spring.
- b. Great Alamance Creek Steering Committee** - A Plan that will: a) map potential trails, connections, trail heads, etc., b) prioritize future development projects, c) identify partners, and d) identify potential funding sources is being finalized to guide the development of the Great Alamance Creek. A section of potential trail that would connect S. Graham Park to the Haw River Trail via Little Alamance Creek is part of this plan. The plan should be completed in late 2024.
- c. Wellness Collaborative** - No updates
- d. Friends of GRPD** - The group transferred funds received from Impact Alamance to the City of Graham to fund the purchase and installation of new playground equipment at Graham Regional Park.

VI. Staffing - GRPD Supervisors are currently hiring PT staff to assist with maintenance in the Parks Division and Day Camp staff in the Recreation Division.

VII. Financial Summary - Convenience fees - \$177.51-January; \$666.30-February

Recreation Division

	Jan.	Feb.
Open Gym/Weight Room/Pickleball	\$4.00	\$1.00
Maple St. Center rentals	\$60.00	\$0.00
Civic Center rentals	\$495.00	\$747.00
Rec. Center rentals	\$175.00	\$150.00
Staff Fee	\$870.00	\$600.00
Park Shelters	\$100.00	\$600.00
Field Rental	\$0.00	\$0.00
Table/Chair rentals	\$0.00	\$0.00
Girls Basketball -refunds	(\$98.75)	\$0.00
Boys Basketball	\$25.00	\$25.00
Youth Basketball (5U & 6U-Co-Ed) -refunds	(\$222.50)	\$0.00
Youth Soccer	\$4,618.75	\$343.75
Youth Softball	\$187.50	\$203.75
Youth Baseball	\$946.25	\$1,347.50
Youth T-Ball	\$817.50	\$633.75
Flag Football	\$25.00	\$0.00
Grow Golf Now	\$0.00	\$20.00
Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony	\$0.00	\$780.00
Summer Day Camp	\$0.00	\$24,625.25
Donations	\$62.00	\$20.00
Total	\$8,064.75	\$29,297.00

Lake Division

	Jan.	Feb.
Fishing Boat launches	CLOSED	\$409.00
Non-Motor Boat launches (Kayak/Canoe)	CLOSED	\$60.00
Ski Boat launches	CLOSED	\$0.00
Jon Boat rentals	CLOSED	\$102.00
Kayak/Canoe rentals	CLOSED	\$0.00
Bank Fishing	CLOSED	\$166.00
Bait/Supplies	CLOSED	\$38.00
Annual Permit (motorized boats)	CLOSED	\$1,420.00
Annual Permit (non-motorized boats)	CLOSED	\$0.00
Annual Permit (bank fishing)	CLOSED	\$0.00
Shelter Rentals	CLOSED	\$50.00
Big Bass Tournament	CLOSED	\$355.00
Catfish Tournament	CLOSED	\$0.00
Pontoon Boat Cruises	CLOSED	\$0.00
Paddle Tours	CLOSED	\$0.00
Introduction to Kayaking program	CLOSED	\$0.00
Total	CLOSED	\$2,600.00



Graham-Mebane Lake Report, February 2024

Graham Recreation and Parks Department



Graham-Mebane Lake opened our 2024 season on Friday, February 2nd. The weather was fair this month, with some good days and some not-so-good. The lake started the season out muddy and never cleared up; which kept the fish catching on the poor side. The Lake returns to its six days a week schedule in March.

February Lake Highlights

- Scooby, our longtime lake dog, passed on the 1st.
- Tel and his crew installed the kayak launch ramp on the 29th.

By the Numbers (2023 in parentheses)

Boat Launches:	137 (151)	Customers:	316 (381)
Motorized Boats:	126 (130)	All Boaters:	182 (212)
Ski Area Launches:	0 (1)	Motorized:	171 (190)
Non-motorized Boats:	11 (20)	Non-Motor. Boaters:	11 (21)
Seniors/Disability:	8 (4)	Bank Anglers:	77 (61)
Using Annual Permit:	74 (92)	Vessel Renters:	11 (12)
Vessels Rented:	8 (8)	Passive Visitors:	46 (96)

Steve Hadden, CPRP
Lake Warden, Graham-Mebane Lake
Marina: (919) 563-6544,
shadden@cityofgraham.com

"The chief task in life is simply this: to identify and separate matters so that I can say clearly to myself which are externals not under my control, and which have to do with the choices I actually control." - Epictetus, ancient Greek philosopher





Days Open: 12

Daily Activity (POS) from Staff Reports:

			Daily User Fees:						Fishing	Vessel	Fishing	Lake	Over		
Date	Boats	Visitors	Motor.	Ski Area	Non-Motor.	Bank	Bait	Supplies	Rental	Tourn.	Cruise	Other	Under	Total \$	
1															
2	15	24	345.00			3.00			16.00					\$364.00	
3	14	34	309.00			9.00			20.00	105.00				\$443.00	
4	10	22	167.00			6.00				35.00				\$208.00	
5															
6															
7															
8															
9	8	12	162.00			6.00				60.00				\$228.00	
10	28	73	344.00		18.00	27.00	11.00	1.50	26.00	35.00				\$462.50	
11	4	13	36.00			18.00								\$54.00	
12															
13															
14															
15															
16	10	17	79.00		6.00	3.00				25.00				\$113.00	
17	6	14	68.00		6.00	15.00	16.50		20.00					\$125.50	
18	7	21	9.00		18.00	22.00		1.75	20.00					\$70.75	
19															
20															
21															
22															
23	4	14	18.00			6.00		1.75		35.00				\$60.75	
24	16	24	216.00			12.00								\$228.00	
25	15	38	76.00		12.00	39.00	5.50			60.00				\$192.50	
26															
27															
28															
29															
Totals:	137	306	\$1,829.00		\$60.00	\$166.00	\$33.00	\$5.00	\$102.00	\$355.00				\$2,550.00	
Total Daily User Fees: \$2,055.00															

Deposit Receipts:

Deposit Receipts:	Total \$
Lake Deposits: Cash/Checks	\$1,303.00
Community Pass: Credit Cards	\$1,247.00
Community Pass: Shelter Rental	\$50.00
RECEIPT TOTAL:	\$2,600.00

Marketing Report

GRAHAM RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION
February 2024 Report



Contact: Brandy McCandless
Title: Marketing Supervisor
Phone: (336) 513-5510
Email: bmccandless@CityofGraham.com

"You do all this cool stuff that I want to do. You programmers are beneficial, like lichen."
— Tel Fehlhafer, Green Oasis Overseer

Project Updates

- Continued reaching out to bands and planning for the Musical Chairs Countywide Outdoor Concert Series at Bill Cooke Park and the Thursdays at Seven Concert Series in Downtown Graham. Currently waiting on completed contracts to be returned from the ten scheduled bands.
- The monthly Hikes with Hounds program explored Bill Cooke Park with four shelter dogs (Zeus, Chloe, Snoopy, Bessie) and 12 volunteers (02/02)
- Business card size Graham-Mebane Lake operation hours cards were created and are now available for lake visitors...easy to store in a wallet (02/05)
- Measurements for the event trailer were sent to a local graphics company for an estimate for a full wrap (02/05)
- Measurements of the 200 North Main Street Pocket Park were sent to a lighting supply company for an estimate on patio accent lighting (02/05)
- Attended the City of Graham Appearance Commission / Tree Board Meeting to begin Arbor Day in Graham planning (02/05)
- Attended the Alamance County Programming Collaborative meeting to discuss countywide 2024 spring events (02/06)
- Cleaned out Bluebird Nest Boxes for the upcoming nesting season, 18 total across Graham's parks (02/07)
- Attended the online Regional Municipal Special Event Meeting discussing event management school and special event permits (02/08)
- "Donate A Tree To A Graham Park" information and order forms are now available online and in a printed format (02/08)
- The Hikes with Hounds volunteer t-shirt order was submitted. The option for volunteers to purchase t-shirts was available during the winter months. (02/08)
- Attended the NCEE - Leopold Education Project Workshop at the Kathleen Clay Library in Greensboro (02/09)
- Compiling information and creating graphics for the CITYgram, GRPD spring flyers, and 2023

infographic

- Signage was received from the Haw River Trail team for the Graham Paddle Access: hours of operation and no smoking/vaping/tobacco/alcohol (02/13)
- Attended the City of Graham Council Meetings for Road Closure Approval for the Thursdays at Seven Concert Series (02/13)
- Assisted on the interview panel for the Town of Morrisville's Assistant Director of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources position and toured the recreation facilities & parks (02/13, 02/19, & 02/21)
- Met with Joshua, Tel, and Brian to discuss "Athletic Field & Facility Reservation" requests through Community Pass. A webpage has been created and requests can be made online beginning 03/04. (02/23)
- Attended the Special Events Meeting discussing downtown events with merchants (02/27)
- Met with Grace VandeVisser at the Alamance County Visitors Bureau, along with Brian, Emma, and the City of Graham Planning to learn more about Placer.ai software and its benefits for municipalities (02/28)



Ongoing Projects

- Creating a quarterly nature display at the Graham Recreation Center, featuring various topics to spark curiosity about the many reasons to visit Graham's parks
- Coordinating new Park Signage with Syntech for Bill Cooke Park and South Graham Park
 - Final proofs of the Bill Cooke Park & South Graham Park Signage were confirmed with Syntech by Brian and myself. We are moving forward with the designs and are planning for a Spring 2024 installation: rules/hours, wayfinding signage, tennis/pickleball court rules. (01/23)
- 200 North Main Street Pocket Park Project - exploring lighting options to purchase with possible community partners/sponsors
- Pursuing the NC Environmental Education (NCEE) Certification. The goals of the NCEE Certification Program are to increase environmental literacy, provide practice in environmental education teaching methods, and foster community leadership.

Current & Upcoming Programming

- **Graham Historical Museum**
 - 2024 Exhibits & Programs
 - February – April: "Homelife in Graham (200 years)" – displaying cookware, dinnerware, cleaning practices, garden tools, etc.

March: "Notable Women of Graham" (Women's History Month)

- **Hikes with Hounds**

- Year-round, one Friday each month
- Partnership with the City of Burlington Animal Services and Recreation & Parks
- 2024 Locations
 - January Burlington - Burlington City Park (2 miles)
 - February Graham - Bill Cooke Park (2 miles)
 - March Alamance Parks - Cane Creek Mountains Natural Area (2 miles)
 - April Haw River Trail - Shallow Ford Natural Area (2-3 miles)
 - May Haw River Trail - Burlington Animal Services Trail (2 miles)
 - June Haw River Trail - Longmeadow Trailhead (3 miles)
 - July Haw River Trail - Glencoe Paddle Access (2 miles)
 - August Haw River Trail - SAX Island (2 miles)
 - September Alamance Parks - Cedarrock Park (2-3 miles)
 - October Burlington - Guilford Mackintosh Park & Marina (2 miles)
 - November Burlington - Willowbrook Park (2 miles)
 - December Graham - Graham Regional Park (1-2 miles)

- **Sunflower/Crimson Clover Project at Graham Regional Park**

- Crimson Clover will flower in late March/early April 2024
- TENTATIVE: Sunflower Field to plant in May 2024 (conversation started for planning)
- A GRPD Parks & Athletic Facilities Team, City of Graham Public Works, and the Alamance County Soil and Water Conservation District Project

- **Arbor Day in Graham Activities**

- During the month of April (programs and social media tree education)
 - Going Bonkers for Botany (spring break educational program for kids)
 - Arbor Day in Graham's Tree Planting Ceremony
 - "Donate A Tree to A Graham Park" opportunity
 - Nature Display about "Trees" at the Graham Recreation Center
 - Ongoing social media posts about trees throughout the month of April
- Collaboration with the City of Graham Appearance Commission and Tree Board

- **Musical Chairs Countywide Outdoor Concert Series at Bill Cooke Park**

- 2024 Band Lineup
 - May 3 – TBA
 - June 7 – TBA
 - July 5 – TBA
 - August 2 – TBA
- Time: 7:00pm – 9:00pm
- Location: Bill Cooke Park • 1010 Townbranch Road, Graham, NC 27253

- **Alamance Creek Week**
 - 2024 Dates: May 11 - 18
 - Collaborating with Graham-Mebane Lake and StormwaterSMART for activities
- **Thursdays at Seven Concert Series in Downtown Graham**
 - 2024 Band Lineup
 - May 23 – TBA
 - June 27 – TBA
 - July 25 – TBA
 - August 22 – TBA
 - September 12 – TBA
 - September 26 – TBA
 - Time: 7:00pm – 9:00pm
 - Location: Downtown Graham • West Elm Street, Graham, NC 27253

Volunteering

- NC State Extension Master Gardener Volunteer

Social Media

Facebook Followers: 9,512 (increased 36)

Instagram Followers: 2,404 (increased 1)

Twitter Followers: 248 (increased 0)

Website

Top 10 Most Viewed City of Graham Website Pages for January 31 – February 29, 2024:

Top Posts/Pages



1.	HOME - City of Graham, NC	6,987
2.	Water & Sewer Billing - City of Graham, NC	5,280
3.	Recreation & Parks - City of Graham, NC	1,509
4.	Water & Sewer - City of Graham, NC	1,339
5.	GRPD Special Pumpkin Bash - City of Graham, NC	1,081
6.	Make a Payment - City of Graham, NC	864
7.	GRPD Athletics - City of Graham, NC	775
8.	Trash and Recycling - City of Graham, NC	770
9.	New Online Water Bill Payment System - City of Graham, NC	748
10.	Police - City of Graham, NC	619

"A community that is engaged and working together can be a powerful force."

- Idowu Koyenikan

"Youth demands recreation, and if it is not provided in high places, they will seek it in low places."

- Karl G Maeser

Facilities Report

GRAHAM RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION
February 2024 Report

Marquis Graves
Facilities Supervisor
p. (336)570-6718
e. mgraves@cityofgraham.com



Facility Updates:

Recreation Center:

Youth Basketball Games are scheduled to end in February. A calendar has been attached that displays days in which games occur. Due to basketball games taking place, Pickleball will now only take place in the small gym from 12:00pm – 5:00pm Monday – Friday. Open Gym will follow a similar schedule within the Big Gym. Gym Walkers are also able to use the gym from 8am – 12pm daily. The Congregate Nutrition Program for Seniors meet daily within room 1 of the rec center from 9am – 12pm. Alamance Burlington School System speech therapy classes take place at the Rec Center within the back classrooms from 12:00pm – 3:00pm Mondays – Fridays. Rentals are also taking place at the center. Early voting is scheduled to take place in February. The small gym at the Recreation Center will be used as the voting location. Alamance County board of Elections have plans to come in and change the locks for the small gym for voting security purposes.

Civic Center:

Rentals are underway at the Civic Center. Calendar for February is attached.

Maple St. Center:

The following reoccurring classes and groups utilize the center during the month of September. Staff is looking to make upgrades to the ramp leading into the side entrance of Maple Street Center. A calendar for rentals at Maple St. is attached.

- Maple St. Line Dancers: Mon. & Tue. 9:00am – 11:00am Instructors: Carolyn Gantt and Frances Woodlief
- Xtreme Hip Hop : Mon. & Wed. 6:00pm – 7:00pm Instructor: Delicia White
- Mah-Jongg: Tue. 12:00pm – 3:00pm

- TOPS: Tue. 5:15pm – 6:15pm Instructor: Belinda Smith
- Troxler Ballroom Dance: Wed. 9:30am – 10:30am
- Liz and Lou Dance Practice: Wed. & Thur. 7:30pm – 8:30pm
- Beginners Yoga Class: Thur. 6:00pm – 7:00pm Instructor: Tava
- ALCO Vets: Every 3rd Monday of the month. 6:30pm – 7:30pm Contact: Bobby Chin
- Alamance arts has begun utilizing the Maple St. center for art classes beginning in October. Classes occur every 3rd Sunday.
- *A new reoccurring meeting will take place on the 1st Saturday of each month beginning in January. This meeting will be held by the Concerned Bikers of Alamance County, with their contact being Elizabeth Brocafuerte.

Programs/Events/Additional Info:

- The 30+ pick up basketball program occurs every 3rd Sunday of the month.
- Other programs such as Strecherchise and Computer Classes for Seniors will resume in January.
- Staff meeting is scheduled to be held on February 22nd to address current and future rentals.
- All activities scheduled in the small gym at the Graham Recreation Center have been postponed until after early voting has ended.

Athletics Report

GRAHAM RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION

February 2024 Report



Joshua Cutlip

Athletic Supervisor

(336) 570-4023

jcutlip@CityofGraham.com

Winter Programs

- Basketball
 - Program Dates: 11/13-2/29
 - Age Groups: 5U (4-5), 6U (5-6), 8U (7-8), 10U (9-10), 12U (11-12) 14U (13-14)

5U and 6U are co-ed. Each age group above that will be split into boys and girls.

Registration closed on October 26th and we've ended with 322 players; up from 262 last season. We'll be partnering with Gibsonville and/or Alamance Parks in 6U, 8U Girls, 10U Girls, 13U Girls, and 14U Boys age divisions.

The basketball season concluded on February 22nd with the 14U Boy's Championship. In that game the Graham Hornets defeated the Gibsonville Pride by 10 points. We also hosted a "3rd Place Game" in that age division where the Gibsonville Hoosiers defeated the Graham Hawks.

A post-season survey has been sent out and we've gotten around 25 response currently; the questions sent are below.

On a scale of 1-5, how would you rate the participants overall experience with the sport?

What was you or the participants favorite part of the season?

What areas of the program did the participant dislike?

Please list any changes you would recommend to improve our youth athletic programs?

If you didn't coach, what do you feel holds you back from coaching a team?

What aspect of the sport would you like the coaches to focus on? (competition, skill development, social skills, teamwork, having fun)

How could we improve on the experience for next season?

What athletic program(s) would you like to see added in the future?

5U: 41 (4 teams)

6U: 62 (6 teams)

8U Boys: 41 (4 teams)

8U Girls: 10 (1 team)

10U Boys: 71 (7 teams)

10U Girls: 19 (2 teams)

12U Boys: 40 (4 teams)

13U Girls: 19 (2 teams)

14U Boys: 19 (2 teams)

Total: 322

Spring Programs

- Soccer
 - Program Dates: 2/19-4/26

With basketball ending we quickly turn our attention to the soccer season. Practices have begun and we're already playing games in the 5U age division. Thankfully I won't be coaching any teams this season as we found enough coaches for each of the teams. We've got some

new equipment in as we have completely new coroner flags for the season along with new nets for most the goals.

5U: 40 (4 teams)
6U: 49 (5 teams)
8U: 50 (4 teams)
10U: 57 (4 teams)
14U: 58 (4 teams)
Total: 254

- **Baseball/Softball/T-Ball**

- Program Dates: 4/15-6/15

T-Ball and 6U are co-ed. Each age group above that will be split into boys and girls.

Registration closed on March 1st with registration numbers staying consistent to where they were last year. We're on the edge of being able to have softball teams in 2 age groups (8U and 13U). The hope is that we'll be able to get a couple more kids and be able to field a softball team. For baseball we're planning on partnering with Gibsonville this season. If we have any softball teams we'll be partnering with both Gibsonville and Mebane.

T-Ball: 49 (5 teams)
6U Baseball: 23 (2 teams)
8U Baseball: 20 (2 teams)
8U Softball: 7 (1 team)
10U Baseball: 21 (2 teams)
10U Softball: 2
13U Baseball: 22 (2 teams)
13U Softball: 7 (1 team)

Elon University Partnership

We partnered with Elon University to offer discounted tickets to a couple of their basketball games for Graham Recreation and Parks program participants. Tickets for these games are \$5 for everyone that purchased tickets through the Elon Ticket Office. This offer was available for the

women's game against Campbell on February 4th, Elon unfortunately lost 53-35. Jane Albright purchased a total of 40 tickets, anonymously, which we distributed to families of our women's basketball teams.

The second and final game of the partnership was played on February 29th. Elon defeated William & Mary in a close 76-71 contest.

We're also working to get a ticket offer available for the baseball season when Elon plays preseason #1 Wake Forest.

Upcoming Summer Programs

- Summer Lacrosse Camp: July 8th-11th
 - We're working to partner with the Alamance Rams, new lacrosse travel program, to provide instruction.
- Summer Basketball Camp: July 15th-18th
- Summer Flag Football Camp: July 22nd-25th

Future Program Ideas

Below are ideas I've had for potential programs that the department could offer. I'd like to get one or two implemented and offered for the next year.

- Cross-Country/Running program
 - Something that is health based and introduces running as a fun activity.
 - Would have a kid portion and adult portion.
- Youth Golf
 - Similar structure to the Grow, Golf, Now Program
 - Will be looking towards The Challenge if and when they are sold and management turns over.
- Adult Pickleball
 - Way to get into adult athletics
 - Looking for way to strike while the iron is hot with the sport's popularity and growth.

PARKS & ATHLETIC FACILITIES

February 2024



"I feel like everything I say should be memorable. Shame on you for forgetting." – Emma Griffin, Corporate Coffee Drinker

Bill Cooke Park

Athletic Fields – We dragged the outfields and mowed them to remove excess winter desiccation.

Removed leaves from the outfield fence lines.

Moved all necessary soccer goals and benches to the fields for the start of the rec soccer season.

Spot sprayed weeds in the outfields.

Crabgrass pre-emergent application was applied to all of the outfields.

General Maintenance – Monthly playground inspections were completed with no issues found.

Soap dispensers in the concession stand bathrooms were moved to meet ADA compliance. ADA compliant signs were added to the exterior of the building.

Fixed two sections of the dog park fence damaged during tree removal.

Fixed a pot hole in the road leading up to the dog park.

Fixed an area damaged during the Shelter 2 build. Graded the area, seeded, and strawed.

Built new picnic tables and placed them in Shelter 2.

Painted an ADA parking space that was required after doing the ADA checklist near the basketball court.

Lower bathrooms were opened for the season.

ADA compliant signs were added to the exterior of the building. Soap dispensers were lowered to meet ADA requirements.

Crabgrass pre-emergent was applied to concert and movies areas, the entry islands, around the basketball court and around the entry sign.

South Graham Park

General Maintenance – Monthly playground inspections were completed with no issues found.

Fixed an issue with the roof on Shelter A.

Started painting ADA parking spaces required from doing the ADA checklist.

Removed graffiti from bathroom exterior.

Graham Regional Park

General Maintenance – Monthly playground inspections were completed with no issues found.

Submitted an 811 locate request for the new playground pods that are being installed.

Removed several trees in the new playground pod locations so install could begin.

Apollo/Goley

Apollo – Crabgrass pre-emergent applied to field.

Soccer field was painted for GMS season.

Goley – Crabgrass pre-emergent applied to field.

Johnson Ave

General Maintenance – Crabgrass pre-emergent applied to field.

Lake

General Maintenance – Installed kayak launch ramp.

Sprayed the weeds in the bank fishing area.

Neighborhood Parks & Playgrounds

Greenway – Crabgrass pre-emergent applied around the playground area.

Harmon Park – Crabgrass pre-emergent applied around the playground area.

Civic Center – No Report.

Marshall St – Crabgrass pre-emergent applied around the playground area.

Recreation Center – Crabgrass pre-emergent applied to facility.

Oakley St. – Crabgrass pre-emergent applied around the playground area.

Maple St. – Crabgrass pre-emergent applied to facility.

Hwy 54 Access – Access ramp was cleared of debris from recent flooding.

200 N. Main – No Report.

Museum – No Report.

Miscellaneous

Met with Brandy to select a tree for Arbor Day planting.

Met with Jeffries to get all of our facilities fire extinguisher tags updated for the new year.

We hired a new part-time employee. Tim Gill joined our team on February 26th and had a great first week. If you see him in the park, please take time to introduce yourself to him.

Met with the playground installers at Graham Regional Park on multiple occasions to discuss the project.

River Mill Middle School softball/baseball and Varsity softball started. We had a wet first week but were able to get two of their scheduled games played.

Continued Education & Community Involvement

James finished the Crew Leader Training class at ACC.

Programs & Events Report

GRAHAM RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION
February 2024 Report

Emma Griffin
Program Manager
(336) 513-5510
egriffin@CityofGraham.com



Upcoming Programs

- Science and Safety Expo
 - Saturday, April 20: 1:00 – 4:00 pm
 - The Alamance County Safe Kids Coalition and Alamance County Public Libraries host this event. It will feature various stations related to childhood safety and STEM activities.
 - Graham Recreation and Parks will be represented by Graham Mebane Lake staff by hosting a station to teach kayak and canoe safety.
 - Location: North Park
 - Next Meeting:
 - Tuesday, March 19
- Graham Sports Hall of Fame
 - Induction Ceremony: Saturday, April 13, 2024
 - Inductees
 - Hall of Fame: 1998 Men's Golf Team, Shelby Hall, Nikki Wilborn, Burton Cates
 - Hall of Honor: Jim Perry, Buster Goodman
 - Catering is confirmed
 - Video materials have been sent to the digital creator
 - Ticket Sales opened on February 5. Tickets can be purchased online via Eventbrite or in person at the Graham Recreation Center, Monday – Friday: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm.
 - Brandy has weekly posts scheduled highlighting all inductees leading up to the ceremony
 - Next Meeting: March 11
- Graham Walks – Spring 2024
 - Registration Dates: April 10 – May 8
 - Program Dates: May 1 – May 29 (5 Weeks)
 - Weekly Group Hikes and Weekly Downtown Walks will be offered.
- Slice of Summer
 - Date and Time: TBD (pending City Council approval)
- 9/11 Commemorative 5K Event
 - Saturday, September 7, 2024: 7:00 – 11:00 am
- Pumpkin Bash
 - Friday, October 25: Time TDB (pending City Council approval)

"I don't know how you're so calm right now. I would be freaking out."

– Brandy McCandless, Marketing Maestro

Professional Development

- NRPA
 - Supervisors' Management School: "The premiere resource for parks and recreation professionals who want to gain the skills and knowledge necessary to lead their staff effectively. The courses cover various topics, including leadership principles and team management, as well as the most up-to-date techniques and information on leading, staffing, organizing, directing, and managing employees. With the tools and insights gained from this program, professionals will be able to oversee the day-to-day operation of their staff as they deliver programs and services to their community."
 - Attended November 5 – 9, 2023, and will complete the course in November 2024.
- Harwood Institute
 - "The Harwood Institute equips people, organizations, communities, and networks with the tools to bridge divides, build capacity, and tackle shared challenges. By Turning Outward, we enable communities to become a collective force for change." Alamance County is bringing key leaders together to impact and unite the community through conversations.
 - Next lab will be in February
 - Schools and Youth Wellness Focus
 - Meeting: February 21 (11:00 – 12:00) at the Graham Civic Center
 - Discussed the two Community Conversations that occurred (Alamance Early College and Cummings High School Boxing Club and the central themes participants discussed
- Leadership Alamance
 - Currently planning for Recreation, Arts, and Leisure program day for April 18

Committees

- Safe Kids Coalition
 - Meeting: February 20 at 9:00 am
 - Discussed the Science and Safety Expo and asked who all could be involved.
 - Agency updates and Spring events.
 - I brought up coalition members signing up for other community events to promote safety
- Alamance County Programming Collaborative
 - Programming colleagues across the county meet monthly to discuss special events and programming. Topics include dates of events and selection, policies and procedures, difficulties and solutions, and collaborative events for the group.
 - Meeting: February 6
 - Agency Updates
 - Spring event dates
 - Next Meeting: March 5
- Executive Safety Committee
 - Next Meeting: March 6
- City of Graham Wellness Committee
 - Represent the department for our citywide wellness committee which focuses on physical, mental, social, and environmental health.
 - Meeting: Thursday, February 8
 - Discussed monthly events/programs to cover the various aspects of wellness as directed in our committee guidelines

"I don't know how you're so calm right now. I would be freaking out."

– Brandy McCandless, Marketing Maestro

- Helped determine dates for the February program covering Financial Wellness and the Blood Drive in March.
- Next Meeting: March 14
- Alamance County Cooperative Extension Advisory Board
 - The purpose of the advisory board is to focus on advocacy, education, and finding ways to get out to the public more.
 - I am interested in pursuing more partnerships with the Extension office to offer classes and educational opportunities in Graham.
 - Meeting: Tuesday, February 20 at 12:00 pm
 - Discussed staffing changes
 - Discussed potential partnerships with agencies in the community
 - Next Meeting: May 21

Miscellaneous

- February 1: Attended the Senior Games Sports Management Clinic in Cary in preparation in assisting with the Alamance Burlington 2024 Senior Games
- February 2: Passed out letters to Downtown Businesses informing them of the Graham Recreation and Parks Department's 2024 street closure requests for 2024 events.
- February 7: Event Planning session for the April 20 SafeKids Event (Science and Safety Expo)
- February 8: Attended a community conversation with 16 students from the Alamance Burlington Early College to discuss the current state and future of Alamance County.
- February 13: Attended the City Council meeting to gain approval for street closures for Slice of Summer and Pumpkin Bash. These items were not approved as presented and I was instructed to explore additional options.
- February 22: Met with other Supervisors to discuss the ADA grant and next steps
- February 26: Scheduled a meeting with Downtown Businesses to discuss options for Slice of Sumer and Pumpkin Bash. There was no one in attendance.
- February 27: Scheduled a meeting with Downtown Businesses to discuss options for Slice of Sumer and Pumpkin Bash. Three people representing businesses attended along with Megan Garner, Renee Ward, and Brian Faucette,
- February 28: Attended a meeting with Grave VandeVisser at the Alamance County Visitors Bureau along with Brian, Brandy, and the City of Graham Planning team to learn more about Placer.ai software and the benefits for municipalities.
- February 29: Scheduled a meeting with Downtown Businesses to discuss options for Slice of Sumer and Pumpkin Bash. One person representing a business attended along with Aaron Holland and Brian Faucette.
- February 29: An email was sent out to Downtown Businesses laying out options for street closures dates and times for Slice of Summer and Pumpkin Bash. A Google Form was also created to get feedback on preferences to present to City Council at their next meeting.

"I don't know how you're so calm right now. I would be freaking out."
 – Brandy McCandless, Marketing Maestro



Graham-Mebane Lake Report, January 2024

Graham Recreation and Parks Department



The lake was closed in January and part-time staff have the month off. Steve used this time to prepare for our opening in February (maintenance and paperwork) and to begin planning programs and events.

January Lake Highlights

- We are starting the season with a full staff, though we may advertise for pontoon boat drivers in early spring.
- Steve began refresher software training with Lake Staff.
- Tel and crew pressure-washed around the marina building and began filling in cracks between asphalt and cement near the marina front door.
- Steve pressure-washed the kayak launch ramp.
- The lake re-opens for the season on Friday, February 2nd. We will be open Friday through Sunday throughout the month.
- Heavy rains in December raised the Lake to full pool.

Steve Hadden, CPRP

Lake Warden, Graham-Mebane Lake

Marina: (919) 563-6544

shadden@cityofgraham.com



Athletics Report

GRAHAM RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION

January 2023 Report



Joshua Cutlip
Athletic Supervisor
(336) 570-4023
jcutlip@CityofGraham.com

Winter Programs

- Basketball
 - Program Dates: 11/13-2/29
 - Age Groups: 5U (4-5), 6U (5-6), 8U (7-8), 10U (9-10), 12U (11-12) 14U (13-14)

5U and 6U are co-ed. Each age group above that will be split into boys and girls.

Registration closed on October 26th and we've ended with 322 players; up from 262 last season. We'll be partnering with Gibsonville and/or Alamance Parks in 6U, 8U Girls, 10U Girls, 13U Girls, and 14U Boys age divisions.

We're into the final two weeks of the basketball season! The age groups that have already ended are 8U boys, 8U Girls, 12U Boys, and 13U Girls. The most exciting finish to a season came in the 8U Boy's championship game. It was a game that came down to the wire with the Raptors taking down the Tar Heels by 1. The Tar Heels took their first lead of the game with 20 seconds left; the Raptors answered by hitting a game winning layup with 10 seconds left. In the 12U age division Next Level Ballers defeated the Hornets in the championship with a comfortable victory of around 10 points. In both the 8U and 13U Girl's age divisions our teams fell short with losses in the quarters-finals (13U) and semi-finals (8U).

Thankfully in the 8U age division the coach we suspended never made a return to coaching. His team (Blue Chips Basketball) got knocked out of their tournament before his suspension was lifted.

For the actual gameplay most teams seem to be even with the exception of a couple in the 8U and 10U boys age divisions. We have been playing music during games at both Ray St. and the Graham Recreation Center. Announcing the games has hit a couple of speed bumps as I'm at war with the wireless microphone; I'm expecting those issues to be solved on Monday. Once I get that solved we'll be announcing games at the Graham Recreation Center; we'll work in the games at Ray St. in due time.

5U: 41 (4 teams)
6U: 62 (6 teams)
8U Boys: 41 (4 teams)
8U Girls: 10 (1 team)
10U Boys: 71 (7 teams)
10U Girls: 19 (2 teams)
12U Boys: 40 (4 teams)
13U Girls: 19 (2 teams)
14U Boys: 19 (2 teams)
Total: 322

Upcoming Spring Programs

- Soccer
 - Program Dates: 2/19-4/26
 - Registration Dates: 12/1-2/1

Registration closed on February 1st and we've ended with 255 players; up from 191 last Spring! The season will be kicking off on February 19th with practices and March 11th for games. We're still two coaches short (5U and 10U) but the season is a couple weeks away and I'm expecting to have those spots filled.

5U: 40 (4 teams)
6U: 49 (5 teams)
8U: 50 (4 teams)
10U: 58 (4 teams)
14U: 58 (4 teams)
Total: 322

- Baseball/Softball/T-Ball
 - Registration Dates 1/1-3/1

Registration opened with the turn of the calendar and it's gotten off to a slow start. I'm planning on pressing on registration messages to get the numbers up before it closes on March 1st.

Baseball: 37

Softball: 7

T-Ball: 25

Elon University Partnership

We partnered with Elon University to offer discounted tickets to a couple of their basketball games for Graham Recreation and Parks program participants. Tickets for these games are \$5 for everyone that purchased tickets through the Elon Ticket Office. This offer was available for the women's game against Campbell on February 4th, Elon unfortunately lost 53-35. Jane Albright purchased a total of 40 tickets, anonymously, which we distributed to families of our women's basketball teams.

The ticket offer will also be available for the last home game of the men's season against William & Mary; this game will be broadcast on CBS Sports Network. We're also working to get a ticket offer available for the baseball season when Elon plays preseason #1 Wake Forest.

Future Program Ideas

Below are ideas I've had for potential programs that the department could offer. I'd like to get one or two implemented and offered for the next year.

- Cross-Country/Running program
 - Something that is health based and introduces running as a fun activity.
 - Would have a kid portion and adult portion.
- Youth Golf
 - Similar structure to the Grow, Golf, Now Program
 - Will be looking towards The Challenge if and when they are sold and management turns over.
- Adult Pickleball
 - Way to get into adult athletics
 - Looking for way to strike while the iron is hot with the sport's popularity and growth.

Programs & Events Report

GRAHAM RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION
January 2024 Report

Emma Griffin
Program Supervisor
(336) 513-5510
egriffin@CityofGraham.com



Upcoming Programs

- Science and Safety Expo
 - Saturday, April 20: 1:00 – 4:00 pm (**DATE CHANGE**)
 - This event is hosted by the Alamance County Safe Kids Coalition and Alamance County Public Libraries. It will feature various stations related to childhood safety and STEM activities.
 - I spoke with Steve about the Lake being represented to demonstrate kayak and canoe safety. Jackie Adams has agreed to host that station.
 - Location: North Park
 - Next Meeting:
 - Tuesday, February 20
- Graham Sports Hall of Fame
 - Induction Ceremony: Saturday, April 13, 2024
 - Inductees
 - Hall of Fame: 1998 Men's Golf Team, Shelby Hall, Nikki Wilburn, Burton Cates
 - Hall of Honor: Jim Perry, Buster Goodman
 - Catering is confirmed
 - Video materials have been sent to the digital creator

Professional Development

- NRPA
 - Supervisors' Management School: "The premiere resource for parks and recreation professionals who want to gain the skills and knowledge necessary to lead their staff effectively. The courses cover various topics, including leadership principles and team management, as well as the most up-to-date techniques and information on leading, staffing, organizing, directing, and managing employees. With the tools and insights gained from this program, professionals will be able to oversee the day-to-day operation of their staff as they deliver programs and services to their community."
 - Attended November 5 – 9, 2023, and will complete the course in November 2024.
- Harwood Institute
 - "The Harwood Institute equips people, organizations, communities, and networks with the tools to bridge divides, build capacity, and tackle shared challenges. By Turning Outward, we enable communities to become a

"Leaders aren't born, they are made. And they are made just like anything else, through hard work. And that's the price we'll have to pay to achieve that goal, or any goal." — Vince Lombardi

collective force for change.” Alamance County is bringing key leaders together to impact and unite the community through conversations.

- Next lab will be in February
- Schools and Youth Wellness Focus
 - Meeting: January 24 (11:30 – 12:30) at the Alamance County Health Department
 - Planned 3 additional Community Conversations with youth in the county. The purpose of these conversations is to talk to various people of all demographics to determine some of the biggest issues they see in our community, what solutions could be put into place, and what steps to take to unite our community.
- Leadership Alamance
 - Currently planning for Recreation, Arts, and Leisure program day for April 18

Committees

- Safe Kids Coalition
 - Meeting: January 16 at 9:00 am
 - Discussed the Science and Safety Expo and asked who all could be involved.
 - We also discussed the status of Safe Kids being established as its own 501(c)3. The coalition has had trouble accessing its funds since the nonprofit we used to operate under dissolved. This would allow our group to have access to funds, apply for grants, and use that to put back into the community.
- Alamance County Programming Collaborative
 - Programming colleagues across the county meet monthly to discuss special events and programming. Topics include dates of events and selection, policies and procedures, difficulties and solutions, and collaborative events for the group.
 - Next Meeting: February 6 at 1:00 pm
- Executive Safety Committee
 - Next Meeting: March 6
- City of Graham Wellness Committee
 - Represent the department for our citywide wellness committee which focuses on physical, mental, social, and environmental health.
 - Next Meeting: Thursday, February 8
- Alamance County Cooperative Extension Advisory Board
 - The purpose of the advisory board is to focus on advocacy, education, and finding ways to get out to the public more.
 - I am interested in pursuing more partnerships with the Extension office to offer classes and educational opportunities in Graham.
 - Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 20 at 12:00 pm

Miscellaneous

- January 4: Met with Sam Karlson to begin planning for the SafeKids event
- January 10: Safe Kids Event planning session
- January 17: Leadership Alamance Planning Meeting
- January 19: Met with Brian and Cary
- January 31: Hall of Fame meeting was canceled. Kim and Jay spoke over the phone and determined there was no need to meet.

"Leaders aren't born, they are made. And they are made just like anything else, through hard work. And that's the price we'll have to pay to achieve that goal, or any goal." — Vince Lombardi

"Community is much more than belonging to something; it's about doing something together that makes belonging matter."

- Brian Solis

"What its children become, that will the community become."

- Suzanne La Follette

Facilities Report

GRAHAM RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION
January 2024 Report

Marquis Graves
Facilities Supervisor
p. (336)570-6718
e. mgraves@cityofgraham.com



Facility Updates:

Recreation Center:

Youth Basketball Games are continuing during the month of January. A calendar has been attached that displays days in which games occur. Due to basketball games taking place, Pickleball will now only take place in the small gym from 12:00pm – 5:00pm Monday – Friday. Open Gym will follow a similar schedule within the Big Gym. Gym Walkers are also able to use the gym from 8am – 12pm daily. The Congregate Nutrition Program for Seniors meet daily within room 1 of the rec center from 9am – 12pm. Alamance Burlington School System speech therapy classes take place at the Rec Center within the back classrooms from 12:00pm – 3:00pm Mondays – Fridays. Rentals are also taking place at the center. The Recreation Center will be closed on January 15th for Martin Luther King Jr. day. Meetings were held with contractors and architects for a potential family restroom addition for the Graham Recreation Center. The projected location of the family restroom will be where the current trophy/award display is located (in between the men's and women's restrooms).

Civic Center:

Rentals are underway at the Civic Center. Calendar for January is attached. The Service Awards Recognition will take place at the Graham Civic Center on January 16th.

Maple St. Center:

The following reoccurring classes and groups utilize the center during the month of September. Staff is looking to make upgrades to the ramp leading into the side entrance of Maple Street Center. A calendar for rentals at Maple St. is attached.

- Maple St. Line Dancers: Mon. & Tue. 9:00am – 11:00am Instructors: Carolyn Gantt and Frances Woodlief

- Xtreme Hip Hop : Mon. & Wed. 6:00pm – 7:00pm Instructor: Delicia White
- Mah-Jongg: Tue. 12:00pm – 3:00pm
- TOPS: Tue. 5:15pm – 6:15pm Instructor: Belinda Smith
- Troxler Ballroom Dance: Wed. 9:30am – 10:30am
- Liz and Lou Dance Practice: Wed. & Thur. 7:30pm – 8:30pm
- Beginners Yoga Class: Thur. 6:00pm – 7:00pm Instructor: Tava
- ALCO Vets: Every 3rd Monday of the month. 6:30pm – 7:30pm Contact: Bobby Chin
- Alamance arts has begun utilizing the Maple St. center for art classes beginning in October. Classes occur every 3rd Sunday.
- *A new reoccurring meeting will take place on the 1st Saturday of each month beginning in January. This meeting will be held by the Concerned Bikers of Alamance County, with their contact being Elizabeth Brocafuerte.

Programs/Events:

- The 30+ pick up basketball program occurs every 3rd Sunday of the month.
- Other programs such as Strecherise and Computer Classes for Seniors will resume in January.

PARKS & ATHLETIC FACILITIES

January 2024



Bill Cooke Park

Athletic Fields – New soccer fields were painted for the upcoming season. All benches and goals have been moved to the fields.

Weeds were sprayed along the fence lines and spot sprayed in the outfields.

General Maintenance – Monthly playground inspections were completed with no issues found.

Assisted with the removal of dead/dying Ash trees within the park.

Completed the ADA checklist for facilities.

Landscape bed at entry sign was cleaned and plants trimmed as needed.

Sanded and repainted the concession stand.

Lowered the batting cage net due to weather threat.

Fixed washout spots on the gravel part of the walking.

Fixed squirrel damage on shop building.

South Graham Park

General Maintenance – Monthly playground inspections were completed with no issues found.

Completed the ADA checklist for facilities.

Removed a tree that fell blocking the nature trail path.

Fixed washouts on walking track.

Graham Regional Park

General Maintenance – Monthly playground inspections were completed. Found an issue with the ADA zipline chair in the inclusive playground where the harness latch spring was broken. Chair was removed for safety reasons until it was repaired.

Weeds were sprayed in the inclusive playground, landscape beds, and the wooded natural area.

Apollo/Goley

Apollo – Removed leaves from the field and spectator area.

Goley – No Report.

Johnson Ave

General Maintenance – Soccer field painted for the upcoming season.

Lake

General Maintenance – Sprayed bank area for weeds. Treated fire ant mounds in turf areas.

Neighborhood Parks & Playgrounds

Greenway – Playground inspection completed with no issues found.

Harmon Park – Playground inspection completed with no issues found.

Civic Center – Playground inspection completed with no issues found.

Marshall St – Playground inspection completed with no issues found.

Recreation Center – Playground inspection completed with no issues found.

Landscape bed in front of facility was cleaned up and plants trimmed as needed.

Oakley St. – Playground inspection completed with no issues found.

Maple St. – No Report.

Hwy 54 Access – Removed trash that washed up from flooding.

200 N. Main – Landscape beds were cleaned up and plants trimmed as needed. Sprayed the turf area for weeds.

Museum – Helped Brian move a new cabinet into the building.

Courtyard area was sprayed for weeds.

Miscellaneous

Help Brandy remove lights and ornaments from the tree at city hall.

Continued Education & Community Involvement

James continues his Crew Leader Training class at ACC. Class is scheduled to end in early March.

Marketing Report

GRAHAM RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION
January 2024 Report



Contact: Brandy McCandless
Title: Marketing Supervisor
Phone: (336) 513-5510
Email: bmccandless@CityofGraham.com

"You just have to keep moving forward. You just have to keep doing something, seizing the next opportunity, staying open to trying something new." — Shonda Rhimes

Project Updates

- Thanks to the Parks & Athletic Facilities for their help in taking down the decorations on the City of Graham's Christmas tree (01/03)
- The monthly Hikes with Hounds program explored Burlington City Park with three shelter dogs (Igor, Olaf, & Scarlett) and 9 volunteers. (01/05)
- Attended the online Regional Municipal Special Event Meeting discussing holiday and upcoming events (01/11)
- Attended the IFEA/NRPA Event Management School at Oglebay for the Certified Festival & Event Associate (CFEA) Certification – Year 2 on January 14-19, 2024
- Completed the Human Resources Online Trainings (01/22)
- Final proofs of the Bill Cooke Park & South Graham Park Signage were confirmed with Syntech by Brian and myself. We are moving forward with the designs and are planning for a Spring 2024 installation: rules/hours, wayfinding signage, tennis/pickleball court rules. (01/23)
- Coroplast signage was created for Spring Youth Athletics Registration and are displayed at the Graham Recreation Center and community parks (01/23)
- Attended the NCEE - DEQ Environmental Educators Workshop at Blue Jay Point County Park in Raleigh (01/24)
- Currently reaching out to bands and planning for the Musical Chairs Countywide Outdoor Concert Series at Bill Cooke Park and the Thursdays at Seven Concert Series in Downtown Graham



Ongoing Projects

- Coordinating new Park Signage with Syntech for Bill Cooke Park and South Graham Park
- 200 North Main Street Pocket Park Project - exploring lighting options to purchase with possible community partners/sponsors
- Pursuing the NC Environmental Education (NCEE) Certification. The goals of the NCEE Certification Program are to increase environmental literacy, provide practice in environmental education teaching methods, and foster community leadership.

Current & Upcoming Programming

- **Graham Historical Museum**
 - 2024 Exhibits & Programs
 - TBD
- **Hikes with Hounds**
 - Year-round, one Friday each month
 - Partnership with the City of Burlington Animal Services and Recreation & Parks
 - 2024 Locations
 - January Burlington - Burlington City Park (2 miles)
 - February Graham - Bill Cooke Park (2 miles)
 - March Alamance Parks - Cane Creek Mountains Natural Area (2 miles)
 - April Haw River Trail - Shallow Ford Natural Area (2-3 miles)
 - May Haw River Trail - Burlington Animal Services Trail (2 miles)
 - June Haw River Trail - Longmeadow Trailhead (3 miles)
 - July Haw River Trail - Glencoe Paddle Access (2 miles)
 - August Haw River Trail - SAX Island (2 miles)
 - September Alamance Parks - Cedarrock Park (2-3 miles)
 - October Burlington - Guilford Mackintosh Park & Marina (2 miles)
 - November Burlington - Willowbrook Park (2 miles)
 - December Graham - Graham Regional Park (1-2 miles)
- **Sunflower/Crimson Clover Project at Graham Regional Park**
 - Crimson Clover will flower in late March/early April 2024
 - A GRPD Parks & Athletic Facilities Team, City of Graham Public Works, and the Alamance County Soil and Water Conservation District Project
- **Arbor Day in Graham Activities**
 - During the month of April (programs and social media tree education)
 - Collaboration with the City of Graham Appearance Commission and Tree Board

- **Musical Chairs Countywide Outdoor Concert Series at Bill Cooke Park**
 - 2024 Band Lineup
 - May 3 – TBA
 - June 7 – TBA
 - July 5 – TBA
 - August 2 – TBA
 - Time: 7:00pm – 9:00pm
 - Location: Bill Cooke Park • 1010 Townbranch Road, Graham, NC 27253

- **Alamance Creek Week**
 - 2024 Dates: TBD
 - Collaborating with Graham-Mebane Lake and StormwaterSMART for activities

- **Thursdays at Seven Concert Series in Downtown Graham**
 - 2024 Band Lineup
 - May 23 – TBA
 - June 27 – TBA
 - July 25 – TBA
 - August 22 – TBA
 - September 12 – TBA
 - September 26 – TBA
 - Time: 7:00pm – 9:00pm
 - Location: Downtown Graham • West Elm Street, Graham, NC 27253

Volunteering

- NC State Extension Master Gardener Volunteer

Social Media

Facebook Followers: 9,476 (increased 27)

Instagram Followers: 2,403 (increased 5)

Twitter Followers: 248 (increased 0)

Website

Top 10 Most Viewed City of Graham Website Pages for January 2 - 31, 2024:

Top Posts/Pages



1.	HOME - City of Graham, NC	3,430
2.	Water & Sewer Billing - City of Graham, NC	1,508
3.	Trash and Recycling - City of Graham, NC	1,357
4.	Recreation & Parks - City of Graham, NC	1,351
5.	GRPD Athletics - City of Graham, NC	773
6.	Police - City of Graham, NC	754
7.	GRPD Soccer - City of Graham, NC	507
8.	Water & Sewer - City of Graham, NC	458
9.	GRPD Facilities - City of Graham, NC	457
10.	Public Works - City of Graham, NC	379