

GRAHAM RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION
MONTHLY MEETING
November 12, 2025 6:30 PM
Graham Historical Museum

AGENDA

- I. Welcome
- II. Approval of Minutes – September 10, 2025
- III. Graham Regional Park Master Plan timeline
 - i. Final presentation to Rec. Commission – November 12th
 - ii. City Council presentation/Possible approval – December 9th
- IV. Chairperson's Report
- V. Director's Report
 - 1. Impact Alamance grant
- VI. Old Business
 - 1. Accessible Parks Grant - Entry door replacement - searching for vendor
 - 2. Graham-Mebane Lake projects
 - i. Ramp Project – lake draw down requirements and timeline
 - ii. Trespass Issue & Monitoring
 - 3. Land Acquisition - Graham Regional Park - Stewart Property – **approved by Council at Nov. 9th meeting**
 - 4. Afterschool Program
- VII. New Business
 - 1. FY '25-'26 Budget considerations
- VIII. Activity Reports
 - 1. Recreation Center
 - 2. Athletics
 - 3. Programs
 - 4. Youth Programs
 - 5. Parks
 - 6. Graham-Mebane Lake
 - 7. Marketing
 - 8. Hall of Fame
- IX. Other Business
- X. Adjournment

GRAHAM RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION

September 10, 2025

GRAHAM HISTORICAL MUSEUM

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chair Jay Cook, Brian Cutlip, Laurie Pickard, Nicki Smith, Patrick Burnette, Casey Johnson, Hayley Olsavsky, Madison Sykes-visitor, Griffin McClure (Friends Group)-visitor, Lynn Lloyd (Friends Group)-visitor
STAFF: Brian Faucette

Chair Cook called the meeting to order at 6:40 with a welcome.

MINUTES

-Mr. Cutlip made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 16, 2025 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Smith and unanimously approved.

GRAHAM REGIONAL PARK MASTER PLAN

-Michael Alderman and Kristen Herndon presented the latest Master Plan drafts during a Zoom meeting. Commissioners and visitors were pleased with the final draft. The draft will be presented to City Council at the October meeting and will be presented to the Rec. Commission for a final time on the November 12th meeting.

CHAIR'S REPORT

- Sports Hall of Fame selected the 2026 induction class with the ceremony set for spring 2026.
- The Friends Group reported funds over \$222,000. A large portion is currently invested.
- Children's Chapel Church's 150th Anniversary Celebration will be held at First Presbyterian Church on Sept. 13th.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

-Mr. Faucette informed the Commission that Robby Burnette has accepted the offer to become Youth Programs Director. Mr. Burnette will lead the Summer Camp and Afterschool programs.

OLD BUSINESS

- Mr. Faucette reported a new vendor is being explored for the entry door replacement project at the Rec. Center.
- Mr. Faucette informed the Commission the lake ramp project is still set to begin in mid-October, the slip dock is installed, and the land owner who disturbed lake property has ordered seedlings to be planted in January.
- Mr. Faucette reported all debris from the lake flooding has been removed, insurance claims are still being processed, and repair of the dock and fishing pier will be explored throughout the year.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. Faucette announced the City of Graham was awarded a PARTF Grant in the amount of \$307,750 for the reimbursement of the Teer Property.
- Mr. Faucette reported the potential acquisition of the Stewart Property at Graham Regional Park will be considered at the Sept. 9th City Council mtg.
- Mr. Faucette informed the new afterschool program began in late August.
- Mr. Faucette presented a request from Graham High School to consider naming the tennis courts at Cooke Park for former staff members from the school. After discussion, Commission members advised Mr. Faucette to deny the naming request based on policy.

ACTIVITY REPORTS

Marketing: N/A **Sports Hall of Fame:** included in Chair's report **Lake:** N/A **Friends Group:** included in Chair's report **Parks:** N/A **Programs:** N/A **Athletics:** N/A **Centers:** N/A

OTHER BUSINESS

With all business concluded, Mr. Cutlip made a motion to adjourn at 7:45pm, seconded by Mrs. Pickard and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Faucette

Graham Recreation and Parks Commission
Director's Report for October '25

I. Present Projects/Programs

- a. **Cooke Park Expansion** - Teer Property - Utility removal projects are complete. The Graham Fire Department continues to conduct training sessions in the two houses that will eventually be burned once testing on the building materials of the houses is complete. Once the houses and debris are removed, development of a nature trail will be explored.
- b. **Afterschool Program** - The GRPD Afterschool Program is averaging around 21 students per week.
- c. **Accessible Parks Grant** - A new vendor for the entry door upgrade project is still being explored.

II. Future Projects/Programs

- a. **Land Acquisition - GRP** - At the October City Council meeting, Council increased the budget to negotiate with Mr. Stewart on the purchase of his property. A purchase price was agreed upon and will be presented to Council at the November meeting.

III. Policies/Manuals/Plans

- a. **GRP Site Master Plan** - The plan was presented to the City Council at the October meeting. The plan will be refined based on final feedback and presented to the Rec. Commission at the Nov. meeting and will be presented to Council at the December meeting for potential final approval.
- b. **GRPD Personnel/Orientation Manuals** - A draft GRPD Personnel Manual has been forwarded to the City Manager for review.

IV. Historical Museum Attendance - 80 – October

V. Outside Committees

- a. **Wellness Collaborative** - The contract for the \$60,000 grant to fund a new Park and Play van was finalized in October. Council will consider a budget amendment in Nov. with a potential vehicle purchase in the new year.
- b. **Friends of GRPD** – N/A

VI. Staffing

- a. We continue to hire PT staff to operate the Ice Rink.

VII. Financial Summary - Convenience fees - \$286.48 - October

Recreation Division

Open Gym/Weight Room/Pickleball	\$46.00
Maple St. Center rentals	\$70.00
Civic Center rentals	\$550.00
Rec. Center rentals	\$160.00
Staff Fee	\$420.00
Park Shelters	\$250.00
Field/Passive Area Rental	\$1,235.00
Table/Chair rentals	\$13.75
Youth Soccer (Fall)	(\$65.00)
Youth Basketball (Co-ed)	\$1,047.50
Youth Boys Basketball	\$2,557.50
Youth Girls Basketball	\$1,020.00
Afterschool	\$4,127.00
Donations/Misc. Sponsorships	\$92.00
Tree Lighting Vendor	\$150.00
ARTS Vendor	\$300.00
Total	\$11,973.75

Lake Division

Fishing Boat launches	\$943.00
Non-Motor Boat launches (Kayak/Canoe)	\$129.00
Ski Boat launches	\$4.00
Jon Boat rentals	\$0.00
Kayak/Canoe rentals	\$18.00
Bank Fishing	\$645.00
Bait/Supplies	\$525.25
Annual Permit (motorized boats)	\$250.00
Annual Permit (non-motorized boats)	\$0.00
Annual Permit (bank fishing)	\$0.00
Shelter Rentals	\$0.00
Passive Area Rental	\$175.00
Big Bass Tournament	\$0.00
Catfish Tournament	\$0.00
Pontoon Boat Cruises	\$610.00
Paddle Tours	\$22.00
Total	\$3,321.25

PARKS & ATHLETIC FACILITIES

October 2025



Bill Cooke Park

Athletic Fields

- Aerated all of the outfields.
- All soccer goals and benches were removed at the end of the season.
- Topdressed wear areas and low spots on C3 outfield.
- Sprayed fence lines for broadleaf weeds.
- Spot treated for fire ants along fences.
- Broken trash can near concession stand was fixed.
- Batting cage was lowered for the season.

General Maintenance

- Monthly playground inspections were completed with no issues found.
- Backfilled along track edges. Overseeded and added straw.
- Fixed the double gate between C1 & C2.
- Several dead trees were removed up near shelter 2.
- Removed stumps from dead trees near shop. Area was overseeded and straw added.
- Repaired a damaged blue bird house.
- Grassy area around the houses on the new property was mowed.

South Graham Park

- Monthly playground inspections were completed with no issues found.
- Mulch was added to the berm at the top of the parking lot.
- Removed 2 dead trees on the nature trail.

Graham Regional Park

- *Monthly playground inspections were completed. There was an issue found with the merry-go-all in the inclusive playground. Parts have been ordered to get that fixed.*
- *Pre-emergent application was applied to the inclusive playground turf area.*
- *Leaves were removed from the natural playground and mulched.*
- *An old well that was discovered behind the inclusive playground was filled in.*
- *Replaced the damaged control board in the challenge course time clock.*
- *Replaced the bearings in the merry-go-all in the inclusive playground.*

Apollo/Goley

Apollo

- *Field was aerated.*

Goley

- *Weeds were spot sprayed in the outfield.*
- *Spot treated fire ants in the outfield.*

Johnson Ave

- *Field was aerated.*

Lake

- *Leaves were mulched.*
- *Kayak launch and dock were reattached to the sea wall.*
- *Kayak rack was taken apart so the poles could be reset and then it was reassembled.*

Neighborhood Parks & Playgrounds

Greenway

- *Trees were trimmed.*

Harmon Park

- *Trees were trimmed.*

Civic Center

- *. No report.*

Marshall St

- *No report.*

Recreation Center

- *Crape myrtle tree on the side of the facility was removed.*
- *Playground borders were added along the sidewalk.*
- *Pipe that was discovered in the sand area of the playground was removed.*

Oakley St.

- *No report.*

Maple St.

- *No report.*

Hwy 54 Access

- *No report.*

200 N. Main

- *No report.*

Museum

- *Removed leaves from the courtyard.*
- *Fixed the toilet paper holder in the bathroom at Brandy's request.*

Miscellaneous

- *Tel worked the Pumpkin Bash downtown event.*
- *Tel hung and removed the Pumpkin Bash banners.*
- *Special Olympics was held at Bill Cooke Park on 10.24.2025*
- *Bill Cooke Park was used for a softball tournament rental on Saturday 10.18.2025.*

Continued Education & Community Involvement

James is working on his training videos from HR.

Athletics Report

GRAHAM RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION

October 2025 Report



Joshua Cutlip

Athletic Supervisor

(336) 570-4023

jcutlip@CityofGraham.com

Fall Programs

Fall Soccer Registration Numbers

- 5U: 40 players (4 teams)
- 6U: 53 players (5 teams)
- 8U: 51 players (5 teams)
- 10U: 50 players (4 teams)
- 14U: 61 players (4 teams)

Fall soccer came to an end on October 20th. The season was an overall success with minimal hiccups, and only 1 day rained out. In each of the age groups we had competitive tournaments and season ending games. In 8U and 10U the #1 seeded teams both won in close matchups; in 14U the #2 seeded team won. The most balanced age groups were the 10U and 14U, any team could've won those leagues with the Warriors (10U) and Tigers (14U) taking home the medals. 8U had a larger gap between the teams. The top two teams were head and shoulders above the other three, though the other three were very evenly matched.

Overall response on the season has been very positive from our end-of -season survey.



Flag Football Registration Numbers

- 8U: 42 players (4 teams)
- 12U: 40 players (4 teams)

Flag football wrapped up on October 21st with no real issues. Playing games on Bill Cooke Park Field 3 went excellent and provided us with great field flexibility. Our 12U tournament went smoothly and we had some upsets which is always good for the program. In the championship the #2 seeded 49ers defeated the #4 seeded Fusion Flags.

Overall response on the season has been very positive from our end-of-season survey.

Fall Pickleball Registration Numbers

- Championship: 8 teams (all returning teams)
- League 1: 8 teams (6 returning, 1 new)
- League 2: 8 teams (6 returning, 2 new)

Pickleball was a headache to get going this season. In the Championship Division we had 7 teams but were able to add one the Friday before we began. This kept the division at 8 teams the same amount we've had the previous 2 seasons. In League 1 we remained at 8 teams for the season. The real headache came in League 2. We had 9 teams registered on the Monday the program was starting. That day we had two teams drop out due to injuries; they only registered because they are friends and wanted to play together. Luckily, we had one team on the wait-list and were able to add them to bring the number of teams back to 8. Though three weeks into the season we had a team drop out of League 2 due to medical problems. This knocked us down to 7 teams but hasn't hindered the league in any way. For our Championship end-of-season tournament we expanded it to allow all teams to

participate, up from 4 previously. This was a change I made after speaking with the teams and their wanting to play more matches. One thing that has become apparent is the gap of ability between League 1 and the Championship Division. I'm going to reevaluate how the program is setup over the winter to see if we'll continue with the promotion/relegation system or move to a closed setup.

Upcoming Winter Programs

Basketball registration ended on October 26th and we were at capacity before registration ended, this means we have a wait-list for each age division. This year we'll have the largest basketball program we've had since 2018-2019, the earliest year Community Pass has statistics on.

This year we're making a slight change to our calendar. All age divisions 6U and up will start practices on November 5th and start games December 1st. The change comes in 5U when we'll begin practices January 5th and games around January 21st. This will allow us more gym flexibility for the first two months of the season. Once 5U games get underway we'll hopefully be near the end of the other age divisions.

Basketball Registration Numbers

- 5U: 59 athletes (5 coaches)
- 6U: 71 players (7 coaches)
- 8U Boys: 79 players (8 coaches)
- 8U Girls: 21 players (2 coaches)
- 10U Boys: 71 players (7 coaches)
- 10U Girls: 29 players (3 coaches)
- 12U Boys: 58 players (6 coaches)
- 13U Girls: 9 players (1 coach)
- 14U Boys: 21 players (2 coaches)

NCRPA New Initiative Grant

We've been awarded the NCRPA New Initiative Grant to introduce a new program this budget year. The program we'll introduce will be a youth street hockey program. The program will be formatted in a camp setup and we'll look to host the camp the week of ABSS' spring break.

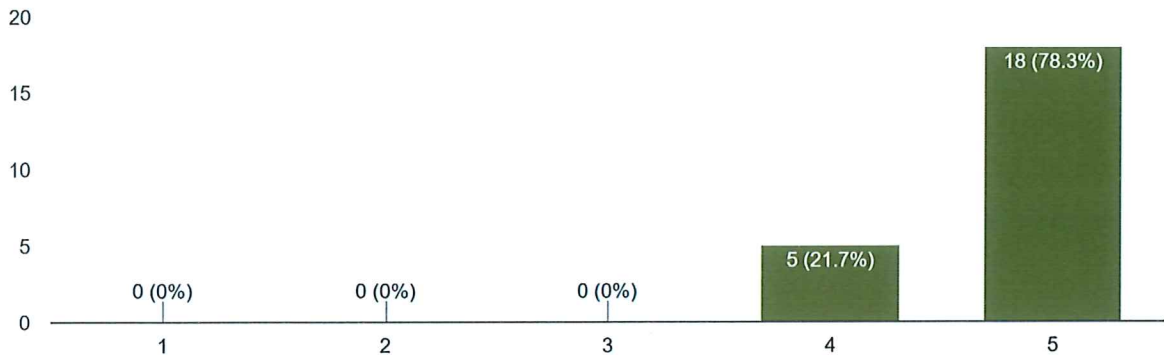
Fall Program Surveys

We sent out surveys for all our fall programs, below are some questions and answers.

23 Soccer Responses

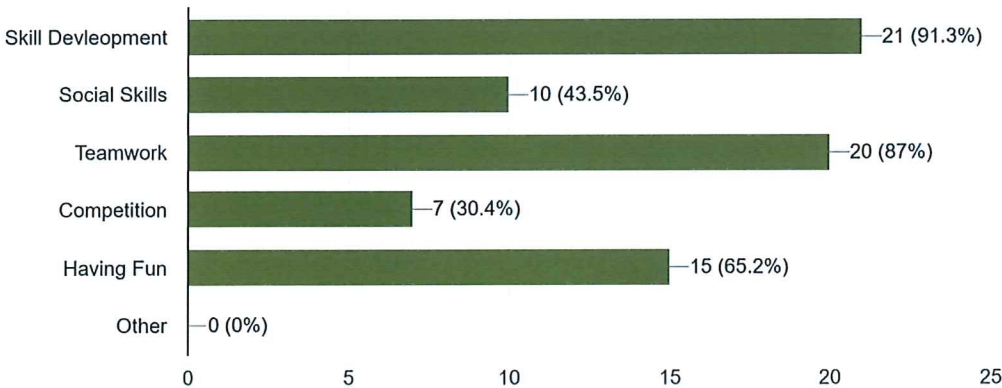
On a scale of 1-5, how would you rate the participants overall experience with the sport?

23 responses



What aspect of the sport would you like the coaches to focus on? (select all that apply)

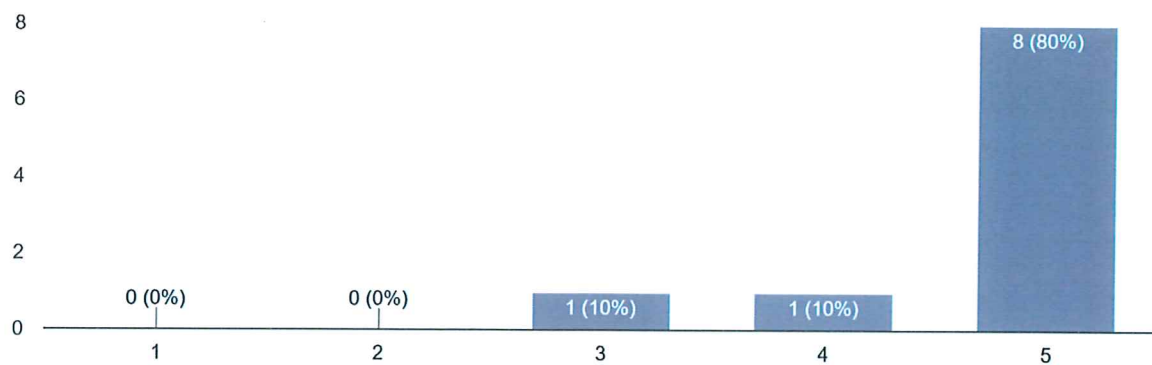
23 responses



10 Flag Football Responses

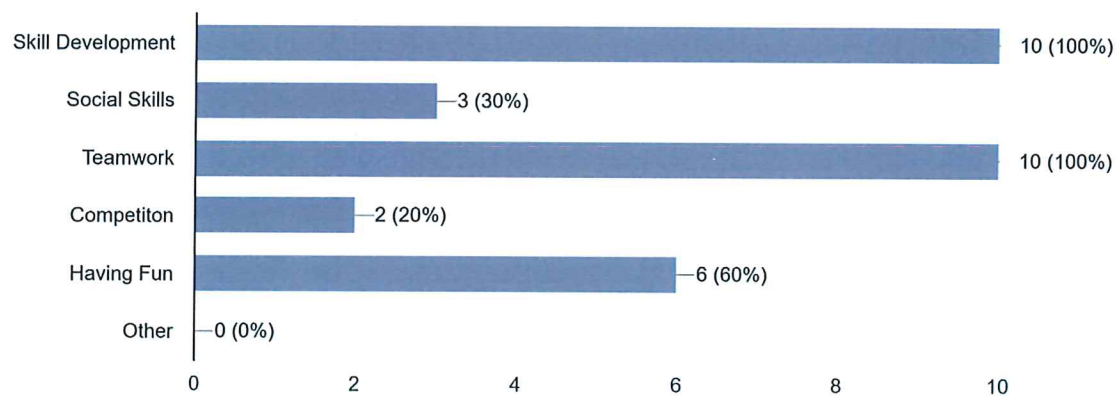
On a scale of 1-5, how would you rate the participants overall experience with the sport?

10 responses



What aspect of the sport would you like the coaches to focus on? (select all that apply)

10 responses



Why did you choose to play flag football with the Graham Recreation and Parks Department?

10 responses

Convenient and accessible. Easy to manage practice and game times.

to learn basic skills, have fun and be apart of a team

love the sports the programs offer. Coach Josh Cherry is great...you too Josh.

Trustworthy very respectful and communication skills are awesome

The way the program has been run in the past is very team friendly and the staff are easy to work with.

We always play sports withGraham Rec

Wanted to try the sport

Graham is close to home, also I played with graham as a child

Team sports. Outside recreation

What is your definition of youth athletics at the recreation level?

10 responses

Development and all inclusive. Working towards skill building and overcoming adversity. Competitive but balanced with learning.

having fun while learning life lessons such as overcoming adversity

having fun...learning sportsmanship...team building

Fun and experience

Building confidence and growing skills by meeting players where they are.

To learn the basic skills of the sport. Also, learn the meaning of teamwork along with discipline. But have fun as well.

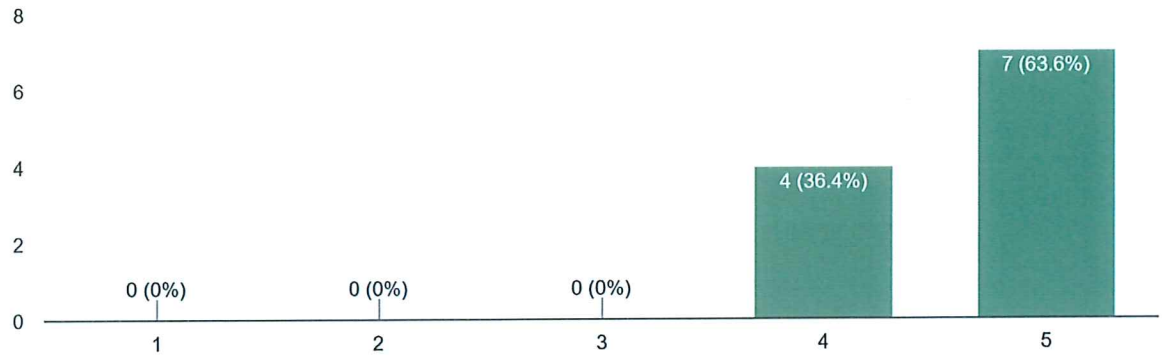
A way to play a sport and learn and work on skills and teamwork

Skill development, teamwork, having fun.

11 Pickleball Responses

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

11 responses



What is your goal(s) to get out of the Adult Pickleball Program?

10 responses

Just extra playing time. Like that it is structured and don't have to worry about finding others to play with.

fun

Fun, competitive play with people I enjoy playing pickleball with.

Experience

Fun

Have fun but with some competition

Learn the sport; have fun

To better my game and meet new people.

social interaction, exercise, and competition

"Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile."

- Albert Einstein

"We are not put on this earth for ourselves, but are placed her."

- Jiddu Krishnamurti

Facilities Report

GRAHAM RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION REPORT September 2025 Report

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



Facility Updates:

Recreation Center:

The City of Graham Health Fair occurred on October 15th. Setup for the Health Fair took place on October 14th. Senior congregate meal program will not meet during the day of the Health Fair. Gym Walkers will also not be able to participate until after the Health Fair. Open Gym will take place during two time slots to allow more time for individuals to come to the center. These times will be 12:00pm – 2:00pm & 6:00pm – 8:00pm Mondays - Fridays. Saturday hours will remain 10:00am – 2:00pm.

Due to the floor maintenance needed at Maple Street, the following groups are still continuing to meet at the Graham Recreation Center:

- Maple Street Line Dancers (moved to small gym Mondays & Tuesday evenings)
- Popowsky Dance Duo (moved to small gym Wednesdays & Friday evenings)
- Shag Dance Lessons (moved to small gym Monday evenings beginning at 7:00pm)
- Mahjong (moved to Room 2 on Wednesday afternoons 12:00pm – 1:30pm)

The Trick or Treat the Rec event taking place on October 29th 4:00pm – 7:00pm. This is a free event which will consist of treat/goodie bags, spooky decorations and ghostly glow in the dark games and activities in the large gym. Graham Recreation staff was present and assisted with the program as well as discussed the Afterschool Program with those that expressed interest. and showcase some of the various programs offered at the Rec Center and detail potential future programs. The Trick or Treat the Rec event saw 250 – 300 participants attend the event.

Planning is underway for the Glow in the Dark Cardio Drumming class set to take place on November 10th 5:15pm – 5:45pm.

Calendar for October has also been attached.

Civic Center:

Safe Kids meeting was hosted on October 21st @ 9:00am. Fire Safety prevention as well as various youth related events were discussed during the meeting.

Rental calendar for October has been attached.

Other Civic Center Tasks Completed

- Handled maintenance and cleaning duties due.
- Implemented plans to improve décor of the foyer at the Center.
- Prepared Center for Voting that will take place on November 4th.

Maple St. Center

All programs at Maple Street center have been relocated to Civic Center. Scheduled rentals have been moved to Civic Center or Recreation Center. Relocations are due to Maple Street being closed for floor repairs.

Programs/Events/Additional Info:

- Drums Alive has returned to the Graham Recreation Center. Program will operate each Monday of the month.
- Drums Alive will now become a charged program. Individuals who wish to participate have the option to pay \$40.00 for a 10-week session or pay \$5.00 per drop-in session.
- Speech Therapy classes will take place again in the back classroom at the Recreation Center. These classes are held and organized by ABSS Teachers.
- Afterschool Program is looking to host a Thanksgiving dinner for staff, afterschool participants & families and City Council members.
- Skylights at Rec Center have been covered to prepare for voting and Drums Alive Glow Event.
- Meeting was held on October 9th with myself, Brian Faucette and Hunter with AMT-ADA to discuss adding a safety unlock mechanism for ADA restroom at Rec Center.
- Met with RCI Doors on October 27th to discuss implementing ADA doors to the front entrance of the Rec Center.
- Attended Financial Systems training at City Hall on October 30th.



Graham-Mebane Lake Report, October 2025

Graham Recreation and Parks Department



We had really nice weather this October – but it did not turn into good fishing. The heaviest bass caught were in the 5-to-6-pound range. Catfishing was slow and crappie almost non-existent.

October Lake Highlights

- We had 44 passengers on five Lake Cruises (pontoon boat) this month. They were well attended being 88% full. Cruises continue for the first two weekends in November.
- Our Second Chance Tournament was held on the 4th. Danny Glover, of Snow Camp, claimed the right to join the BBT Fish-Off with his 4.63 pounder.
- Chris Wimbish won the BBT Fish-Off on the 11th with a 5.05-pound bass. Charles Foust (3.4 lbs.) and Todd Wilson (3.28 lbs.) took Second and Third.
- The lake water level had dropped a foot by mid-month but finished at full pool.
- In November, we move to weekends-only, 8am-5pm, and are closed in December and January.



By the Numbers (last year in parentheses)

Boat Launches	289	(307)
Motorized Boats:	259	(245)
Ski Area Launches:	1	(1)
Non-motorized Boats:	29	(61)
Seniors/Disabled:	22	(36)
Using Annual Permit:	138	(128)
Vessels Rented:	50	(50)

Customers	962	(1,230)
All Boaters:	425	(444)
Motorized:	394	(381)
Ski Area Users:	1	(1)
Non-Motor. Boaters:	30	(62)
Bank Anglers:	267	(329)
Vessel Renters	1	(62)
Programs & Events:	58	(78)
Passive Visitors:	211	(317)

The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain!

Dolly Parton, singer-songwriter, actor, businessperson, philanthropist

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



Graham-Mebane Lake Monthly Financial Report

Graham Recreation and Parks Department



October 2025

Days Open: 27

Daily Activity (POS) from Staff Reports:

Date	Boats	Visitors	Daily User Fees:				Bait	Fishing Supplies	Vessel Rental	Fishing Tourn.	Lake Cruise	Other	Over Under	Total \$
			Motor.	Ski Area	Non-Motor.	Bank								
1	14	31	59.00		12.00	44.00	8.50	4.00						\$127.50
2	12	40	22.00		12.00	18.00	17.00							\$69.00
3	14	30	39.00		12.00	55.00	21.25							\$127.25
4	24	64	103.00		6.00	43.00	29.75	14.75						\$196.50
5	25	62	139.00		12.00	33.00	63.75	13.25						\$261.00
6	12	41	21.00		12.00	6.00	8.50							\$47.50
7														
8	4	23				19.00	17.00							\$36.00
9	7	35	18.00			24.00	12.75							\$54.75
10	8	28	13.00			27.00	8.50		18.00			175.00		\$241.50
11	17	73	81.00		6.00	57.00	25.50	11.00						\$180.50
12	14	37	176.00			18.00	8.50							\$202.50
13	3	17	9.00			6.00	4.25							\$19.25
14														
15	14	40	67.00	4.00		16.00	21.25							\$108.25
16	9	36	40.00			18.00	8.50						-12.00	\$54.50
17	8	30	26.00		6.00	27.00	21.25							\$80.25
18	17	64	67.00		3.00	20.00	29.75	2.00			30.00			\$151.75
19	16	52	72.00			54.00	38.25						-1.00	\$163.25
20	8	27	22.00			9.00	9.75							\$40.75
21														
22	4	28	8.00			23.00	12.75	5.75						\$49.50
23	5	12	54.00			4.00	8.50							\$66.50
24	12	23	13.00											\$13.00
25	13	42	13.00		36.00	37.00	17.00	2.00			50.00			\$155.00
26	17	63	99.00		12.00	63.00	38.25	4.25			60.00			\$276.50
27	4	24	5.00				4.25	0.50						\$9.75
28														
29	2	10	9.00			6.00								\$15.00
30	4	24	18.00			12.00		3.00						\$33.00
31	2	9				6.00								\$6.00
Totals:	289	965	\$1,193.00	\$4.00	\$129.00	\$645.00	\$434.75	\$60.50	\$18.00		\$140.00	\$175.00	-\$13.00	\$2,786.25
Total Daily User Fees: \$1,971.00														

Deposit Receipts:

Lake Deposits: Cash/Checks	\$1,881.25
Community Pass: Credit Cards	\$904.75
Community Pass: Lake Cruises	\$310.00
RECEIPT TOTAL:	\$3,096.00



2025 Year-to-Date Report for Graham-Mebane Lake

Graham Recreation and Parks Department



ACTIVITY:	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	TOTALS
# Days Open	11	27	25	27	26	19	27	25	27		214
# Boats	123	642	567	583	548	223	530	429	289		3,934
# Visitors	323	1,961	2,482	3,004	2,760	1,346	2,062	1,576	965		16,479

ALL REVENUE:

User Fees Total:	1,705.00	5,956.00	4,859.00	5,738.00	5,131.00	2,168.00	4,115.00	2,638.00	1,971.00		\$34,281.00
Motorized Boat	1,418.00	4,556.00	2,541.00	2,547.00	2,256.00	890.00	2,069.00	1,372.00	1,193.00		\$18,842.00
Ski Area Users	0.00	0.00	0.00	54.00	90.00	45.00	45.00	36.00	4.00		\$274.00
Non-Motorized Boat	51.00	240.00	445.00	714.00	774.00	330.00	534.00	345.00	129.00		\$3,562.00
Bank Fishing	236.00	1,160.00	1,873.00	2,423.00	2,011.00	903.00	1,467.00	885.00	645.00		\$11,603.00
Bait	52.25	583.00	1,151.75	1,486.75	1,699.75	727.25	1,268.25	826.00	434.75		\$8,229.75
Fishing Supplies	4.00	124.75	250.25	296.25	260.00	133.25	240.00	165.25	60.50		\$1,534.25
Vessel Rentals	98.00	300.00	1,160.00	1,693.00	1,382.00	665.00	1,190.00	531.00	18.00		\$7,037.00
Fishing Tourns.	380.00	3,590.00	310.00	1,255.00	1,260.00	35.00	1,125.00	0.00	0.00		\$7,955.00
Shelter Rentals	0.00	100.00	50.00	100.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00		\$400.00
Paddle Programs	0.00	0.00			44.00		0.00	44.00	0.00		\$88.00
Lake Cruises	0.00	0.00			0.00		0.00	0.00	450.00		\$450.00
Other	5.00	324.90	-4.50	135.25	142.75	1.00	144.50	-6.00	162.00		\$904.90
Total Revenue	\$2,244.25	\$10,978.65	\$7,776.50	\$10,704.25	\$9,969.50	\$3,779.50	\$8,132.75	\$4,198.25	\$3,096.25	\$0.00	\$60,879.90

DAILY AVERAGES:

Boats	11	23	22	21	21	11	19	17	10	0	18
Visitors	29	72	99	111	106	70	76	63	35	0	77
Revenue	\$204	\$406	\$311	\$396	\$383	\$198	\$301	\$167	\$114	\$0	\$284

Programs & Events Report

Graham Recreation & Parks

October 2025 Report

Michelle Shaffer

Program Manager

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“Success consists of going from failure to failure without loss of enthusiasm.”

– Winston Churchill

October Events & Programs

- Graham Walks
 - Registration Community Events on October 1st
 - Lighthouse Nutrition, 7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. – No in person registrations, 1 individual picked up paper tracking form
 - Shamrock Nutrition, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. – 3 in person registrations, 5 individuals picked up paper tracking form
 - Graham Recreation Center, 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. – No in person registrations, 1 individual picked up paper tracking form
 - Fall 2025 Registration Count: 80
 - Group Hikes
 - Thursday, October 9, 10 a.m. – 1 participant
 - Tuesday, October 14, 6 p.m. – 2 participants
 - Saturday, October 25, 9 a.m. – 1 participant
 - Wednesday, October 29, 8 a.m. – Cancelled due to weather
 - Wrap-up Community Event on November 5th
 - Lighthouse Nutrition: 7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
 - Shamrock Nutrition: 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
 - Graham Recreation Center: 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.
- Pumpkin Bash
 - Friday, October 24, 2025: 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.
 - Emergency Action Plan Meeting with PD & FD – Friday, October 10
 - Interview with WSJS Radio on October 24
 - 2025 Attendance (according to PlacerAI) – 5.3k

- Downtown Business Pumpkin Decorating Contest
 - 20 Business Participated
 - 156 Individuals voted
 - Category Winners
 - Best Traditional – The Verdict
 - Funniest – The Main Line
 - Silliest – Shamrock Nutrition
 - Most Unique – The Broom Closet
 - Most Adorable – Graham Library
 - Scariest – Colonial Hardware
 - Most Original – The Broom Closet
 - Most Creative – 64 Harvard
 - Best Overall – The Broom Closet
 - 2nd – Graham Library
 - 3rd – Farm Services
- 26 Trunk or Treat Vendors
 - Vendor Survey Sent, Results pending
- Event Survey Results Pending
 - As of 11/3 we have 29 surveys completed
 - Will draw winners for Children’s Museum Passes on Monday, Nov. 10
- Post Event Meeting w/ PD – October 29
- 9/11 Commemorative 5k
 - Post Event Meeting with PD & FD – Friday, October 10
 - 2026 Timing Company Selected – American Timing Co.
- Esperanza
 - Post Event Meeting – October 28

Upcoming Programs

- Arts Around the Square
 - Saturday, May 16, 2026: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
 - Met with Alamance Visitor Bureau on October 20 about marketing options outside of Alamance County
 - Music & Entertainment
 - AV/Sound services secured
 - 1 Mobile Stage secured
 - The Guitar Den, interactive performer secured
 - Event Activities
 - Inflatables secured
 - Vendor Jury Selection Committee
 - First Meeting in October 7 at 9:30a.
 - 16 Vendors Accepted
 - 8 Vendors have paid vendor fee to confirm space as of 11/3
 - Next Meeting November 11 at 9:30a
 - Vendor Application

- Currently 55 applicants as of 11/3
- Vendor Recruitment
 - Attended Autumnfest, Mebane on Oct 4
 - Gathered contact information for 10 potential vendors
 - Upcoming Markets
 - Arts on Market, Chapel Hill - Nov 23

Networking & Relationship Building

- Downtown Graham Businesses
 - 28 Downtown Graham Business Special Events Surveys Completed
 - Met with 3 downtown business owners
 - Little Oblivion Brewing Co.
 - O.V. Yonder
 - E.P. Gates
- Attended Alamance Programming Meeting on October 7
- Attended Elon University Community Networking Hour on October 23

Committees

- Wellness Committee
 - Assisted with Wellness Fair Set up on Oct. 14th
- Attended NCRPA Special Events Network Leadership Committee meeting on October 13th

Professional Development

- Completed Special Event Online Workshop through NCRPA – October 3, 10, 17,
- Completed CPRP Exam, Passed – October 14
- Attended Main Street Matters Seminar with Alamance Chamber – October 16
- Completed Edmonds Training with Finance – October 30

Marketing Report

GRAHAM RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION
October 2025 Report



Contact: Brandy McCandless
Title: Marketing Supervisor
Phone: (336) 513-5510
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"The most effective form of learning is practice, not planning. Focus on taking action, not being in motion. Habit formation is the process by which a behavior becomes progressively more automatic through repetition." - James Clear, author of the #1 New York Times bestseller Atomic Habits

Project & Program Updates

- Planning is underway for the holiday events, including Downtown Graham's Ice Skating Rink on synthetic ice and the City of Graham Christmas Tree Lighting Celebration
- Sat in on a Zoom call with City of Graham staff to explore a new website design with Revize (10/06)
- Attended the follow-up Active Alamance App 3 Month Meeting to reflect on what's going well and where we can improve the app (10/06)
- Coordinated with Bud Catoe to return to the Maple Street Center in October to teach Beginner & Intermediate Shag Lessons on Monday evenings (Marquis was able to relocate the class to the Graham Recreation Center due to MSC closure) (10/06)
- Attended the Alamance County Programming Collaborative meeting to discuss countywide 2025 fall/winter events (10/07)
- Summer flowers were replaced at the Mobile Parklet (currently located at Smitty's Homemade Ice Cream in Graham) and the Museum courtyard with cold-tolerant pansies (10/08)
- Attended the Monthly Teams Meeting with GRPD Supervisors and WithersRavenel to discuss the Graham Regional Park Master Plan draft and upcoming council meeting presentation (10/09 & 10/30)
- The monthly Hikes with Hounds program was held at Guilford Mackintosh Park & Marina with 2 dogs (Moose & Sammy) and 4 volunteers. (10/10)
- Restocked GRPD promotional items, including sunglasses, dog bag dispensers, pens, and notepads (10/14)
- Began interviews for Downtown Graham's Ice Skating Rink. Thank you to Brian, Joshua, and Tel for their help at the interviews. (10/15)
- Created GRPD-branded yard game tables for special events: checkers and bingo (10/16)
- Met with Brian, Michelle, and the Alamance County Visitors Bureau Director, Grace VandeVisser, to discuss marketing opportunities for Arts Around the Square (10/20)
- Attended the RRS Webinar: Why ADA Compliance Matters (10/21)
- Sat in on a Zoom call with City of Graham staff to explore a new website design with ProudCity (10/21)
- Attended the Elon University Campus-Community Networking Hour (10/23)

- Assisted with loading/unloading, setting up the Park & Play Mobile Recreation Van and information tent, and took promotional photos/video for the Downtown Graham Pumpkin Bash (10/24)
- Created a Facebook LIVE with Michelle to announce the Downtown Graham Pumpkin Bash's Downtown Graham Business Pumpkin Decorating Contest Winners (10/27)



Ongoing Projects

- Active Alamance App
 - Created through a community partnership led by the Alamance Wellness Collaborative and Impact Alamance, the app unites parks and recreation departments countywide to encourage active living and time outdoors.
 - Download on the App Store or Google Play: <https://activealamance.com>
- Coordinating new Park Signage with Syntech
 - Up Next: walking track/trail length
 - Future Goal: entryway sign for Graham Regional Park
- City of Graham Mobile Parklet
 - Currently located at Smitty's Homemade Ice Cream in downtown Graham
- 200 North Main Street Pocket Park Project
 - Lighting options to purchase with possible community partners/sponsors (TBD)
- Pursuing the NC Environmental Education (NCEE) Certification. The goals of the NCEE Certification Program are to enhance environmental literacy, provide opportunities for practicing environmental education teaching methods, and promote community leadership.

Current & Upcoming Programming

- **Sunflower/Crimson Clover Project at Graham Regional Park**
 - Crimson Clover Field was planted on September 26, with flowers expected in April 2026
 - Sunflower Field will be planted in May 2026, and the flowers will peak in July
 - A GRPD Parks & Athletic Facilities Team, City of Graham Public Works, and the Alamance County Soil and Water Conservation District Project
- **Hikes with Hounds**
 - Year-round, one Friday each month
 - Partnership with the City of Burlington Animal Services and Recreation & Parks
 - 2025 Dates & Locations (weather & trail conditions permitting)
 - January 10 Burlington - Springwood Park (2 miles)
 - February 7 Graham - Bill Cooke Park (2 miles)

- March 7 Burlington - Lake Cammack Park & Marina (2 miles)
- April 11 Haw River Trail - Shallow Ford Natural Area (2-3 miles)
- May 9 Haw River Trail - Cane Creek Mountains Natural Area (2 miles)
- June 13 Haw River Trail - Longmeadow Trailhead (3 miles)
- July 18 (NEW) Haw River Trail - Glencoe Paddle Access (2 miles)
- Aug. 29 (NEW) Haw River Trail - SAX Island > Glencoe Paddle Access (2 miles)
- September 19 Alamance Parks - Cedarrock Park (2-3 miles)
- October 10 Burlington - Guilford Mackintosh Park & Marina (2 miles)
- November 14 Burlington - Willowbrook Park (2 miles)
- December 5 Graham - Graham Regional Park (1-2 miles)

- **Graham Historical Museum**

- Current Exhibit
 - August – December 2025: Children’s Chapel Sanctuary – Celebrating 150 Years of Worship Service
 - *Tentative* - Baseball in Alamance County Exhibit
- Programs
 - Lunch-and-Learn
 - *Tentative* - Topic: Textile Leagues and Minor League Baseball in Alamance County • Speaker: Dr. Mark Cryan, Elon University Professor of Sport Management

- **Downtown Graham’s Ice Skating Rink on Synthetic Ice**

- 2025 Dates: November 21 – December 14 (3 weeks – closed for Thanksgiving)
- Times: (see website for details)
- Location: Downtown at Alamance Arts
- October 1 – 31: Hiring for the Part-Time/Seasonal Ice Rink Attendants

- **City of Graham’s Christmas Tree Lighting Celebration**

- Date: Sunday, December 7, 2025 (no rain date)
- Time: 5:00 pm – 7:30 pm
 - Tree Lighting Ceremony: 6:30 pm, fireworks will follow the lighting of the tree
- Location: Front Lawn of the City of Graham Municipal Building (City Hall)

- **Coffee and Conversation (C&C)** (quarterly program at Graham & Burlington locations)

- Enjoy coffee/tea and light refreshments, community, and conversation with the special guest speaker. Guests will also have the chance to connect with representatives from local recreation and parks departments to explore park and trail destinations and learn about outdoor program opportunities in the community.
 - Next Coffee and Conversation – Topic & Speaker: *[Trails & Treats](#): A hiker and runner's guide to great trails and good eats in North Carolina* with authors Palmer McIntyre & Hollis Oberlies
 - Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 (no C&C November 2025)
 - Location: Graham Civic Center

Volunteering

- NC State Extension Master Gardener Volunteer – help with workdays, outreach, and managing the social media account “Extension Master Gardener Volunteers of Alamance County”

Social Media

Facebook Followers: 11,977 (increased 263)

Instagram Followers: 2,759 (increased 45)

Twitter Followers: 267 (increased 0)

Website

Top 10 Most Viewed City of Graham Website Pages for October 4 – November 2, 2025:

Top Posts/Pages



1.	HOME - City of Graham, NC	4,430
2.	Water & Sewer Billing - City of Graham, NC	2,196
3.	Recreation & Parks - City of Graham, NC	1,419
4.	GRPD Special Pumpkin Bash - City of Graham, NC	1,083
5.	GRPD Basketball - City of Graham, NC	783
6.	Meet the City Council - City of Graham, NC	746
7.	GRPD Athletics - City of Graham, NC	740
8.	Trash and Recycling - City of Graham, NC	686
9.	Police - City of Graham, NC	621
10.	Events - City of Graham, NC	530

Reviews

Graham Regional Park



Lindsay Day

10 reviews • 0 photos



21 hours ago

NEW

My kids love this park, and I get “best mama ever!” points when I bring them here. The ninja course, the zip line, the cool trio swing, the spinning tree climbing thing, plus all the classic play equipment – what more could you want?!