



City of Lowell
101 W First Street
Lowell, NC 28098

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LIVE.LOVE.LOWELL



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It's here, it's here! Your City of Lowell newsletter has arrived! We're excited to share updates with you and the exciting things we have on the horizon. COVID-19 put a damper on many things but we are optimistic about the future as everything starts to re-open. City Hall is now open! To keep our staff and visitors safe, everyone must wear a face covering and use the provided hand sanitizer upon entering. We are starting to get some smaller scale community events on the calendar and we also have a George Poston Park Access trail opening soon that will be located right off of Birch Street, which is near our Community Center.

If you have questions about any of the things happening in our great city, answers are just a call, click, or visit away—we love to hear from you!

YOUR CITY COUNCIL



MAYOR
Sandy Railey



MAYOR
PRO-TEMPORE
Thomas Gillespie



COUNCILMEMBER
Phil Bonham



COUNCILMEMBER
Ken Ervin



COUNCILMEMBER
Candy Funderburk



COUNCILMEMBER
Shane Robinson

MOBILE MAMMOGRAM BUS

CaroMont Health will be bringing back the big, pink bus this year and, just in time for Breast Cancer Awareness Month!

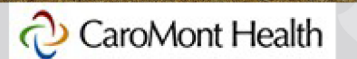
When? October 19th- 1pm-4:30pm at Lowell City Hall
Appointments are highly recommended: please call (704) 824-3518 to pre-register.

Walk in appointments based on availability. CaroMont Health accepts insurance for the Mobile Mammography and they also have a self pay option. Grant funding is available for uninsured females that are over the age of 40 and meet income requirements. These grants are provided by the CaroMont Foundation.



PLAYGROUNDS ARE OPEN!

While playgrounds have been closed due to COVID-19, we have been working hard on making some improvements! At Bob Bolick Park, we added a climber piece that was funded by CaroMont Health, we replaced the swings, and we added landscaping borders and fresh mulch. We also added landscaping borders and fresh mulch to Harold Rankin.



NEW FINANCE OFFICER



We would like to welcome Jared Pyles to the City of Lowell, who was recently hired as the new Finance Officer. Jared received his bachelor's degree from East Carolina University where he obtained a dual concentration BSBA in Accounting and Finance. He has 6 years of experience with a background in public accounting performing audits and accounting experience, both within local government. We are excited to have Jared's knowledge and skills in Lowell.

POLICE DEPARTMENT FOOD DRIVE

The Lowell Police Department is hosting its 2nd annual Food Drive! They will be collecting non-perishable items from November 1st until December 19th. All items can be dropped off at the police department. All donations will go to a local food bank here in the City of Lowell.

WHAT IS STORMWATER?

Stormwater is simply rainwater that does not soak into the ground. It runs off hard surfaces like paved streets, parking lots, sidewalks and rooftops. As stormwater travels, it can pick up pollutants along the way. This stormwater pollution enters our waterways and can be detrimental to water quality and aquatic life. The storm drainage system in Lowell is a network of storm drain inlets and underground pipes that carry stormwater from our streets directly to our streams. Some of the current methods of maintaining urban landscaping, including over watering, over fertilizing and planting invasive species have resulted in negative environmental impacts to our water quality.

For this reason, it is important to understand the ways in which the landscape management industry can help aid in keeping our waterways clean through the following Best Management Practices (BMPs). BMPs are methods or activities that may help prevent stormwater pollution.



Question: It's the perfect time of the year to work on my yard. How can I safely do so while still protecting our waterways?

Answer:

- Use manual or mechanical methods for weed/pest control rather than chemical methods.
- Apply pesticides and fertilizers sparingly, never use more than needed. Follow the label.
- Avoid applying applications before a forecasted rain event.
- Use a tarp under the spreader when filling or emptying to prevent spills. Make sure fertilizer does not fall onto sidewalks, driveways, or roads, if this happens, NEVER hose it off.
- Keep grass clippings and leaves off the street and away from storm drains.

Question: I have a stormwater question or concern, who can I call?

Answer: You can make a submission through our Report a Concern button on the front page of our website (www.lowellnc.com) or through our Stormwater Hotline at (704) 824-3518; option 3.

PARK WATCH



The City of Lowell has started a Park Watch program & we need your help! This Park Watch program is a partnership between the

Lowell Parks and Recreation Department, the Lowell Police Department, and City residents to reduce crime, vandalism, & illegal activities in our parks, at our recreation facilities, and at our trail heads. For more information, please visit our website.

RIVER CLEAN-UP

Volunteers are needed to help us clean up the beautiful Southfork River on November 7th from 8:30am-12pm! Meet at 1101 Catawba River Run. To sign-up, visit our website or call (704) 824-0099.

NEW WATER METERS

The City will be installing new water meters for customers through the end of October. We have created a Frequently Asked Questions page on our website to provide you more information and how this project will benefit our utility customers.

BULK PICK-UP COLLECTION CHANGES

Beginning January 4, 2021, the City is changing its bulk refuse collection program to quarterly pickup dates in an effort to improve efficiency while still providing options for our residents. The change is also a result of rising landfill costs as well as a growing list of items that are no longer permitted at our landfill locations.

The City's bulk pick up program collects large household items such as furniture, mattresses, computers, scrap metal, appliances, and more. No contractor debris is allowed. For a complete list of what is and is not accepted, visit the Sanitation page under the City Services tab on the City's website.

Bulk pick-up dates will be the first weeks of March, June, September, and December. During those weeks you may place any acceptable items on the curb, and they will be picked up free of charge. On your regular weekly trash pickup date, only those items that are placed in the provided city receptacle will be picked up. Please note: that the new bulk collection change does not affect our regular weekly brush and yard debris pickup. No changes will be made to that service.

In addition to the quarterly bulk pickup dates provided, the city will continue to offer the loaner truck program. This program allows residents to reserve a city dump truck which will be delivered to your residence on your reserved day. Once filled, the city will pick up the truck and take the debris to the landfill. The cost for this service is based on the current landfill charge & found on the city website. As the city begins to implement this change, more information will be provided as well as reminders as we get closer to the beginning of 2021.

PLANNING UPDATE

The Lowell Planning Department and the Lowell Planning Board has started working with NFocus Planning on the process of re-writing the Lowell Unified Development Ordinance and creating the Lowell Future Land Use Plan in order to achieve the following:

- a) Ensure consistency with the new N.C. General Statute 160D
- b) Create user-friendly format with "plain language" text;
- c) Minimize text redundancies and need to reference multiple sections of code;
- d) Ensure text, terms and procedural consistency within code;
- e) Update and add definitions to reflect current planning practice and usage;
- f) Maximize use of diagrams and graphics to promote intuitive understating and use of LDO; and
- g) Maximize clarity to City staff, citizens, and professional developers.

CITY CALENDAR

October 2020

- 3 Mask Giveaway, 11am-1pm, Harold Rankin Park
- 6 Planning Board, 6pm, City Hall
- 6 National Night Out, 4pm-6pm, Harold Rankin Park
- 13 Council Meeting, 7pm, City Hall
- 19 CaroMont Mobile Mammography, 1pm-4:30pm, City Hall
- 26 Community Improvement Advisory Committee, 6pm, City Hall

November 2020

- 1 Lowell Police Department Food Drive Begins
- 3 Election Day (Please vote!)
- 4 Planning Board, 6pm, City Hall
- 7 River Clean-Up, 8:30am-12pm
- 10 Council Meeting, 7pm, City Hall
- 11 Veteran's Day (City offices closed)
- 23 Community Improvement Advisory Committee, 6pm, City Hall
- 26 Thanksgiving (City offices closed)
- 27 State Holiday (City offices closed)

December 2020

- 1 Planning Board, 6pm, City Hall
- 8 Council Meeting, 7pm, City Hall
- 12 Christmas Parade, 4pm, N. Main St. to W. First St.
- 12 Last Day of Lowell Police Department Food Drive
- 21 Community Improvement Advisory Committee, 6pm, City Hall
- 24 Christmas Eve (City offices closed)
- 25 Christmas (City offices closed)

CITY HALL NOW OPEN

City Hall opened October 5th after closing during COVID-19 restrictions. Please observe the following if visiting City Hall:

- a) Limit of 3 customers at a time in Lobby
- b) Must wear a face covering
- c) Use provided hand sanitizer upon entering

LOWELL WOMEN'S CLUB

The Lowell Women's Club meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 6:00pm at the Lowell Fire Department. Membership registration is open and all are welcome! For questions, please contact Candy Funderburk at (704) 678-0292.



LEAF COLLECTION

October 16 - February 15

Leaves will be vacuumed if left at the curb (no more than 2 ft) in a neat row. Leaves further in yards or near mailboxes will not be vacuumed. Please ensure there are no rocks, sticks, or brush mixed in with leaves.

CITY CONTACT INFORMATION

Mayor	Sandy Railey	704.860.7162
Mayor Pro-Tempore	Thomas Gillespie	704.824.1249
City Council	Phil Bonham	704.674.1452
	Shane Robinson	704.898.4796
	Ken Ervin	704.813.1586
	Candy Funderburk	704.678.0292
City Manager	Kevin Krouse	704.824.3518
City Clerk	Beverly Harris	704.824.3518
Planning & Zoning	Scott Attaway	704.824.3518
Police Chief	Scott Bates	704.824.8540
Fire Chief	Robbie Cunningham	704.824.3357
Public Works	Thomas Shrewsbury	704.824.1072
Parks & Recreation	Cristy Cummings	704.824.0099
Recycling Center at Harold Rankin Park		715 N. Main St.
		Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 12-6pm; Saturday 10-6pm

After Hours Non-Emergency 704.866.3300

After Hours Public Works 704.506.3145

Emergencies 704.506.3146

The City of Lowell newsletter is published to inform residents of Lowell about their city and related activities. Questions and comments should be directed to the City Clerk's office, 101 West First Street, Lowell, NC 28098.