

TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE



www.townofwaynesville.org

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Town of Waynesville - Incorporated 1871

JANUARY 2010

SNOW STORM RESPONSE

What Citizens Need to Know

It has been several years since Waynesville experienced a heavy snowfall like that of December 18th. If the predicted weather patterns for 2010 hold true, it's likely we'll receive more snowfall this winter than in recent years. Be assured the Town is prepared for emergencies such as snowstorms, but no matter the best efforts of Town personnel, citizens should be prepared for some inconveniences during a heavy snow storm. While keeping our citizens comfortable is a high priority, the top priority is safety, for motorists, those with high risk health issues, our personnel and those with whom we contract for snow removal. With that in mind, we'd like to explain the plans used by the Town during a heavy snow.



1. Snow and Ice Control



The Town is responsible for snow removal on 85 miles of Town streets and also services DOT maintained roads, such as Main Street and Russ Avenue. In heavy snowfall, the Town utilizes its own

equipment, and contracts with local companies for additional equipment and operators. The Town does not have the capability to clear every road within town limits in a matter of hours. It may be several days before your street is scraped, and even then snow and/or ice may remain on the road. Please use caution when traveling and we urge people to plan ahead and stay at home unless travel is absolutely necessary.

It is standard practice to plow the roadways out to the curb line or outer edge of the shoulder. This allows

for proper drainage once the snow and ice begins to melt, and minimizes the hazards from refreezing. The Town is not responsible for removing snow plowed into driveways or the entrances to private streets. Streets are prioritized for snow removal:

• **Thoroughfares**

Main thoroughfares such as Russ Avenue and Main Street must be cleared quickly to allow emergency services and essential commercial traffic to continue moving.

• **Primary Routes**

Those roads, both state and town maintained, which feed larger areas of town.

• **Smaller Residential Streets**

Smaller residential streets are cleared by generally following the sanitation routes. However, if continued snowfall affects the top priority roads, equipment and manpower will be shifted back to those thoroughfares. It may be 24-72 hours after a heavy snowfall before all of these roads are reached, even longer on steep roads difficult to access.



2. Electrical Service

Citizens within the Town of Waynesville receive electrical power from either Progress Energy or the Town of Waynesville. The Town purchases power from Progress wholesale and sells it to approximately 3,100 customers. The Town Electric Department responds to all outages within its service area. The Town now has two substations, a 20 megawatt and a 15 megawatt substation which became operational in May 2009. The redundancy and protections offered by the second substation were evident December 18th, as two of the primary transformers/circuits were damaged in the 20 megawatt substation. Our electrical personnel were able to switch those served by the two damaged transformers/circuits to the new substation and get power back to them within 5 hours. The early damage estimate to the older substation is \$50,000, but the investment in the second substation paid off big for

the citizens of Waynesville in this storm.

On Sunday, January 3, with single digit temperatures, demand on the power system was exceptional. As a result, customers began to experience a series of blinks to their system at approximately 9 minute intervals. This was due to the heavy load on the system, but specifically on the two feeders or circuits that Town personnel had switched to the new substation during the snowstorm on December 18. By 10:00 a.m., Town personnel had shifted enough demand off of those feeders so that the circuit breakers quit tripping and the blinks stopped. We apologize for the inconvenience this caused. Without the investment in a second substation, the problems would have been much greater.

3. Special Needs Registry

The Police and Fire Departments work in cooperation with Haywood County Emergency Services to maintain a Special Needs Registry of individuals who have a physical, mental, or cognitive condition that would require special assistance during an emergency. Citizens who are on oxygen, dialysis, or have other conditions which require constant electrical service or prevent them from communicating their name and other information to Police or Fire personnel are urged to register with the Waynesville Police Department. This information is voluntary, and is only visible to law enforcement and emergency services personnel. Information will be updated every three months, to ensure that contact information for relatives and caretakers remains correct.

When a storm or other power outage occurs, the Police Department checks on the welfare of the citizens registered. The Police will then contact the listed contact person(s) if necessary. If emergency shelters are established, police and fire personnel will assist in transporting individuals to the shelter if needed.

For more information, and to register, please contact the Waynesville Police Department at 456-5363. Registration forms are available at the Police and Fire Departments, on the Town website or a form can be mailed or delivered to their home.

4. Reporting a Problem

On the back of every quarterly newsletter you'll find a Telephone Reference list for every Town department. You may want to cut out this contact list and keep it handy for quick access throughout the year.

The Public Works departments normally work 7 am - 4 pm, Monday through Friday. But office staff are not at Public Works after hours. During an emergency, such as the snowstorm, employees work many additional hours and days. During normal hours, you may call 456-3706 to report a problem. To report a problem after normal business hours, please call 456-5363 to reach the Waynesville Police Department. All calls for water, sewer, electric, or street issues are then reported

to the appropriate personnel.

Autism Alert System - A program similar to the Special Needs Registry is being created with the Autism Society for residents with autism and other cognitive or behavioral conditions. This program includes sticker decals that can be placed on vehicles and front doors. The vehicle decal alerts the Police or EMS personnel that there is information in the glove box, which is invaluable if the driver is unable to communicate after an accident. In the case of an emergency at home, the sticker on the front door provides notice that this information is available on the refrigerator.

For more information, please contact the Waynesville Police Department at 456-5363.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January – May. Third Thursday of each month, Noon Music Series. Enjoy a variety of instrumentals at lunchtime, Charles Alley, Director, 12 noon - 1:45 p.m., Grace Episcopal Church, 394 N. Haywood Street.

February is LOVE the LOCALS in Downtown Waynesville. Special deals and discounts offered throughout the month. Downtown shops, galleries and restaurants have a LOCAL WARMING going on!

For more information call Downtown Waynesville Association at 456-3517 or visit www.downtownwaynesville.com



Board of Aldermen Retreat

The Board of Aldermen has scheduled their annual retreat for Friday, January 29, 2010. During this time the Board will discuss current and long range plans and set goals for the upcoming year.



Waynesville Employees Caught in the Act of Kindness

Regina Sheehan of Summit Street approached Fire Chief Joey Webb and told him that she had a flat tire recently while taking her dad to a medical appointment. Before she could get out of the car, two town employees came to her rescue. Jonathan Yates and Bill Litty changed her flat tire. She was so thankful for their quick response to help her. ***Thanks Jonathan and Bill!***

LIMBS AND BRUSH

December has been particularly challenging for our public works employees. There were severe winds on December 8, resulting in many downed trees and limbs that caused power outages and several blocked roads. The snow storm of December 18 was wet and deep, and more trees and limbs came down, with more extensive power outages resulted. In the following weeks, we have had more winds that brought down some of the broken limbs and trees that were just waiting for the opportunity to fall.

Many citizens had extra time over the holidays to pick up limbs and brush in their yards and place them at the street. Our service is usually very dependable and limbs and brush are hauled away within two weeks. In this case, it will take our personnel several weeks to catch up on collecting the massive amount of limbs and trees that have fallen. We ask for your patience as we work to remove these items from your neighborhoods.

We have mentioned often that when citizens or businesses hire firms or individuals to cut trees, they also need to contract for the removal of the limbs and brush. The service the Town provides is not intended to haul what private contractors generate from tree trimming, landscaping or land clearing. Our service is intended to remove the limbs and brush that a typical homeowner generates in normal circumstances. Please continue to follow what our ordinances allow and don't overtax the service more than what it is intended to be. Thank you for your cooperation in this regard!

Bitter Cold Takes Toll on Needy

There are a lot of citizens having difficulty paying their utility bills. Please consider contributing to agencies which assist people with heating needs.

COMMUNITY FOOD DRIVE

Thanks to everyone who helped make the Town of Waynesville's second community food drive a success! During November and December thirteen truck loads of food were collected and delivered to Haywood Christian Ministry for distribution to those in need in Haywood County. Collection boxes were placed at various town offices, during Main Street events, Christmas Parade and on Fridays in the Municipal Building parking lot.

Students at Hazelwood Elementary School participated this year, collecting a total of nine truck loads of food. Competitions were held between the classes and everyone was a win-



ner. These students are to be commended for their hard work and will be treated to a pool party at Waynesville's Recreation Center. Way to go!

SIGNS -

Facts You Might Want to Know . . .

The Town of Waynesville's Land Development Standards contain an extensive section (154.308) regarding signs. Permitted signs are also addressed within each district's regulations, with maximum sizes varying widely between districts. Prohibited signs, however, are a more complicated issue. The following types of signs are prohibited within Waynesville's jurisdiction: off-premise signs, portable or movable signs, roof signs, animated or flashing signs, signs attached to utility poles, signs that advertise an activity or business no longer being conducted, and signs within the road right-of-way.



There are exceptions — property for sale, lease, or rent, with size restrictions, and with only one such sign per street frontage. Political signs are permitted, but may only be displayed during a period beginning 60 days prior to an election and ending 14 days after the election. A deposit must also be paid and will be held by the town if the aforementioned time period is violated. Yard sale signs are permitted, but may only be located on the property holding the yard sale. Construction signs are permitted after the issuance of a building permit and must be removed within 7 days of the issuance of a certificate of occupancy.

Before purchasing, constructing, or placing any sign, please contact Byron Hickox, Land Development Administrator at 452-0401 to inquire about all applicable regulations and permitting procedures. **Please do not place signs on Utility Poles!!!!**

Descendant of Lost Bible Located

A Bible with the name of Ellen Blanche Jackson, born March 31, 1890 written in the front, was located in Waynesville's Municipal Building for several years. Waynesville resident David Blackwell took on the project to locate Ms. Jackson's descendants and was successful.

Descendant Pamela Dunn Verbel wrote: "Ellen was born and raised outside Irwinton in Wilkinson County, Georgia where she is also buried. She was a nurse in Macon, Georgia. She never married. All of her earthly belongings were left to her sister, Dora Jackson Hartley also of Wilkinson County, Georgia. How her Bible got to Waynesville, North Carolina, I guess will remain a mystery.

"First, I would like to thank the city of Waynesville

for their efforts to locate the family of Ellen B. Jackson and taking care of her Bible for so long. This Bible is an incredible find for our family. David Blackwell is a true jewel in your town. My family could never thank him enough for his help."

Adopt-A-Street Volunteers Needed

Due to budget restraints, the State has modified the N.C. Division of Prisons Community Work Crew Program. Therefore, inmates are not always available to help with clean up of some of our streets. The Town is now seeking more volunteers to adopt streets in order to maintain litter pick-up.

Currently 83 streets are part of Waynesville's Adopt-A-Street program which represents an on-going effort to keep our town a cleaner, more beautiful place to live and work. If you and your family, your business or organization would like to participate in this effort, please contact Freida Rhinehart at deputyclerk@townofwaynesville.org or by phone at 356-1172.



Participants are asked to pick up trash at least quarterly (4 times per year). Gloves, trash bags and safety vests are furnished by the Town. In Addition, an Adopt-A-Street sign will be placed on the street with your business, organization or your name in recognition of your service.

Waynesville Seniors Did You Know . . .

Did you know. . . There is a website with information just for seniors in Haywood County? Check out haywoodconnections.org.

Did you know. . . There is a free quarterly newsletter with senior specific information? To receive the newsletter, call 452-2370 ext 2800.



Did you know. . . There are many discount coupons for seniors?

Go to seniorsdiscounts.com. Some local discounts can also be found at haywoodconnections.org - when you reach the home page, just click on "discounts".

If you have questions about any of the above, or about reaching senior assistance agencies, please call Haywood Community Connections representatives Sandy at 734-5393 or Evelyn at 646-0982.

Historic Preservation Corner

Have you heard of the neighborhood called "Spread Out?" The name has been around a long time but so far we don't know where it came from. We do know that it applies to the residential area bounded by N. Main and Walnut Streets, and includes properties along Boundary, Hazel and Maple Streets. The historic quality of the area was recognized by the State of N. C. when it was placed on the State's Study List of potential nominations to the National Register of Historic Places earlier this year. Currently, using federal grant funding with matching funds provided by the Town, a consultant has been hired to complete the research necessary to place the district on the National Register of Historic Places.

Notable historic structures within the district include the Hanna-Graham House (ca. 1895), the First Presbyterian Church (ca. 1907), Dr. Thomas Stringfield House (ca. 1920) and some other residences built from the late 1800's and the late 1920's.

Property owners within the district were recently invited to a public meeting to learn more about the National Register designation and to share their knowledge of the neighborhood. Anyone with information about the history of the neighborhood or with questions about the National Register nomination project are encouraged to contact Paul Benson, staff to the Waynesville Historic Preservation Commission at 456-2004, or planning@townofwaynesville.org.

WAYNESVILLE PUBLIC COMMISSION *Art* CALL FOR ARTISTS

The Waynesville Public Art Commission has issued a call for artists to create a piece in honor of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and the Town's unique and historic connection to it. This distinctive and lasting work will be an artistic railing in the downtown Mini Park. The Call is open to all professional artists or teams, over the age of 18, residing in North Carolina or Tennessee. The Commission and a community advisory panel will select a finalist. The application deadline is February 12, 2010.

For application instructions, or more information about this call for artists or any of Waynesville's previous art installations, visit townofwaynesville.org or call Downtown Waynesville Association at 456-3517.

Leaf Season Ends Please Place Leaves in Bags

Beginning in February, the Town will collect only leaves that are bagged. The vacuum machine will be taken out of service until next October. This machine is used during the time when leaf pickup is at its highest volume.



Please do not obstruct the ditches, gutter lines, streets or sidewalks with bags of leaves. And remember to keep all other material separate from leaves.

U. S. CENSUS - 2010

What: The census is a count of everyone residing in the United States.

Who: All U.S. residents must be counted - people of all races and ethnic groups, both citizens and non-citizens.

When: Census Day is April 1, 2010. Questionnaire responses should represent the household as it exists on this day. More detailed socioeconomic information will be collected annually from a small percentage of the population through the American Community Survey.

Why: The U.S. Constitution requires a national census once every 10 years. The census will show state population counts and determine representation in the U.S. House of Representatives.

How: Census questionnaires will be delivered or mailed to households via U.S. mail in March 2010; many households will receive a replacement questionnaire in early April. Census workers also will visit households that do not return questionnaires.

The Importance of Census Data – The Census determines the distribution of more than \$300 billion annually of government funding for critical community services. It generates thousands of jobs across the country. And it impacts your voice in Congress.

“BE COUNTED IN 2010.”



Waynesville Employees Honored at Luncheon

Town employees were honored at a luncheon on Friday, December 4 at Waynesville's Recreation Center. The Town's work force consists of 163 full-time employees. Retirees in 2009 were Gary Bolden and Gladys Messer.

Years of Service:

5 Years - Steve Messer, Bradley Miller, Patrick Trantham, Joshua Crawford, Paul Benson, Jeff Sims, Donald Elliott and Douglas Greer.

10 Years - Bill Hollingsed, Kevin Leatherwood, Jeffery Evans, James Cates, Darrell Calhoun, Malcolm Beasley, Ryan Singleton, and Thomas McClure.

15 Years - Lee Galloway, Daryl Hannah, Margaret Langston, Kenneth Aldridge, Keith Moore and Keith Shetley.

20 Years - James Rhinehart, Shannon Morgan, David Rathbone and Marvin Crawford.

25 Years - Phillip Wyatt, Wentford Henson, Kyle Cook and Phyllis McClure.

30 Years - David Smith

35 Years - Doug Grasty

Employees of the Year!

Two employees were chosen for "2009 Employee of the Year."



Human Resource Manager Margaret Langston has been employed with Waynesville for 15 years.

Wentford Henson, Water/Sewer Maintenance, has been employed with Waynesville for 25 years.



Margaret and Wentford were nominated by their co-workers for this award. Congratulations to both these employees!

MAYOR:**Gavin A. Brown****MAYOR PRO TEM:****Gary Caldwell****ALDERMEN:****Elizabeth Feichter****J. Wells Greeley****LeRoy Roberson****MANAGER:****A. Lee Galloway****ASST. MANAGER:****Alison Melnikova****TELEPHONE REFERENCE**

Police Administration	456-5363
Fire Administration	456-6151
Building Inspections	456-8647
Code Enforcement	456-2010
Utilities	456-3515
Tax Collections	452-3588
Town Manager	452-2491
Asst. Town Manager	456-2002
Town Clerk	452-2491
Human Resources	456-2028
Planning	456-2004
Zoning	452-0401
Public Works Director	456-4410
Streets/Sanitation	456-3706
Water/Sewer/Electric	456-3706
After Hours/Emergency	456-5363
Water Treatment Plant	456-8497
Waste Treatment Plant	452-4685
Parks and Recreation	456-2030
Armory	456-9207

**DOWNTOWN WAYNESVILLE
ASSOCIATION**

456-3517

www.downtownwaynesville.com**MEETING SCHEDULES****Board of Aldermen**

2nd & 4th Tuesday at 7 pm - Town Hall

ABC Board

3rd Tuesday at 10 am - 373 Walnut St.

Board of Adjustment

1st Tuesdays at 5:30 pm - Town Hall

Community Appearance Commission

1st Wednesdays at 9 am - Town Hall

Firemen's Relief Fund Board

On Call

Historic Preservation Commission

1st Wednesdays at 2 pm - Municipal Bldg.

Planning Board

3rd Mondays at 5:30 pm - Town Hall

Public Art Commission

2nd Thursdays at 5:30 pm - Town Hall

Recreation & Parks Advisory Comm

2nd Tuesdays 5:30 pm - 550 Vance St.

Waynesville Housing Authority

1st Wednesdays 5:30 pm - 65 Church St.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**Martin Luther King, Jr.****Day** - Offices closed January 18
(garbage pick up on January 19
for both days)**Easter** - Offices closed Friday,
April 2 (garbage pick up on
April 1 for both days)PRSRST STD
US POSTAGE
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WAYNESVILLE, NC
PERMIT #422**TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE**
P.O. BOX 100
WAYNESVILLE, NC 28786