



April, 2015

Great Neighborhood Earth Day Challenge

Join this communitywide effort in April to make a difference.

Every neighborhood plays an integral part in the vitality of the City of Concord. For each of us in Concord our individual experience may be different depending on where we live or work. However, collectively we share in the desire for the neighborhoods that we live in to be safe, inviting, thriving and visually attractive.

Host a project in your neighborhood on Saturday, April 25.

Neighborhood groups and neighborhood leaders – enter the [Great Neighborhood Earth Day Challenge](#) contest by joining together with neighbors and friends to beautify and enhance your neighborhood. Projects should be held on Saturday, April 25, 2015. The volunteer project organizer can determine the starting and ending time, as well as the scope of the project. Projects should be organized around the following: goal of building community, improve the overall appearance of the neighborhood, and creating native habitats for wildlife. The winning neighborhood earns bragging rights and the privilege of displaying the “Great Neighborhood Earth Day Challenge Sign” for the entire calendar.

Sign-up Today!

[Click here](#) to complete the online registration form. Call 704-920.5298 or email jzarc@concordnc.gov if you have questions.

Neighborhood Leadership Council Meeting – 6:30PM, April 30, 2017

Join us for the 2nd Quarter 2015 Neighborhood Leadership Council meeting – Thursday, April 30, 6:30 p.m. at Clearwater Artist Studio located at 223 Crowell Drive NW in the Gibson Village Neighborhood.



During the meeting, we will have roundtable discussions formed around the following topics: Crime and Safety, Emergency Preparedness, Improving Communication, Transportation, and Revitalizing Your Neighborhood Association.

Neighborhood Leadership Council meetings are open to neighborhood leaders or emerging leader who have a passion for investing in their community and a willingness to share ideas with other likeminded leaders. Recognized neighborhood organizations are encouraged to designate a primary and an alternate representative to serve as its NLC representative.

Refreshments will be served.



Neighborhood Matching Grant Program

Pre-application workshop scheduled for May 14th



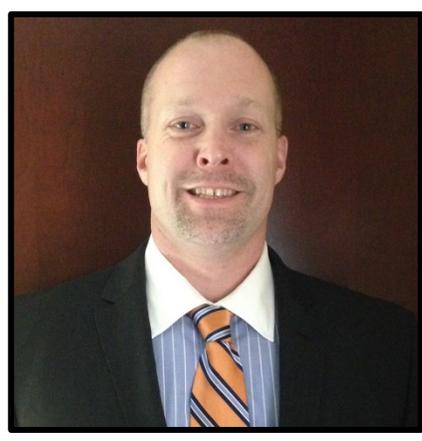
The Neighborhood Matching Grant (NMG) program was established to assist recognized neighborhood organizations in funding projects which will enhance and strengthen neighborhoods. The program awards up to \$3,000.00 in matching grant funds to eligible recognized neighborhood organizations.

Organizations interested in applying for grant funds should make plans to send a representative to the pre-application workshop which will be held at 6pm on Thursday May 14, 2015 in Fire Station 3 - 100 Warren C. Coleman Blvd.

Remember, it pays to plan ahead! It's never too early to start planning your neighborhood improvement projects.

Lloyd named New Assistant City Manager

On March 23, 2015, City Manager Brian Hiatt named Lloyd Payne, Jr. as Concord's newest Assistant City Manager. The position had been vacant since August, when Jim Greene left Concord and became the Assistant City Manager for the City of Raleigh, NC.



"It is an honor to be selected to serve as an Assistant City Manager in Concord," remarked Payne. "I have been thoroughly impressed with the professionalism of the City's staff and leadership and am excited to be part of the dynamic team. I look forward to working with staff and the community in order to make the City of Concord the very best it can be."

Mr. Payne comes to Concord from the Town of Elkin, where he has served as Town Manager since August, 2005. As Town Manager he was responsible for the town's budget development, code enforcement, personnel administration, zoning administration, and general management daily operations. He developed a variety of process and program improvements for the Surry County community, including several regional and inter-local efforts. Prior to working in Elkin, he served as the Town Manager of Lake Waccamaw in Columbus County for four years. Payne will begin work in Concord on May 11. Visit concordnc.gov for more info.

Kindergarten Registration April 13 - April 17

Cabarrus County Schools

Cabarrus County Schools is now registering students for kindergarten. Any child who reaches the age of five years old on or before August 31, 2015 is eligible to register for Kindergarten. Registering your child during our Spring Registration helps facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten! The 2015 Spring Registration is from April 13th - April 17th. [Click here](#) for more information.



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Fire Prevention Tip: Practice Spring Safety While Spring Cleaning

With the arrival of Spring, thoughts turn to cleaning up from the long winter, making repairs around the home and enjoying the outdoors. Keeping a few safety items in mind will help you make your spring experience much more enjoyable.



Spring Clean-Up and Safety tips:

- **Check fire protection and safety equipment.** Test your smoke alarms. Make sure all doors and windows open easily and are accessible for fast escapes.
- **Remove all hazards.** Check and correct things such as frayed or damaged appliance cords, wiring, fuses or breakers. Address piles of trash and yard debris. Remove stacks of paper and magazines; take them to recycling centers.
- **Properly store flammable liquids and home chemicals.** Make sure that gasoline and cleaning fluids are well marked and are out of the reach of children and pets. Store those materials in a cool, dry place outside the house.
- **Clean-up work areas.** Put dangerous tools, adhesives, matches or other work items away and out of any child's reach. Make sure that all chemicals are kept under lock and key and out of reach of children and pets.
- **Make sure your street numbers are posted properly and are visible.**
- **Check and make sure you have a working flashlight and battery-powered radio for the approaching storm season.**
- **Plan your escape.** Sit down with your family and make sure that everyone knows what to do in the event of a fire by designing a home escape plan. Make sure you have two ways out of every room and that you have a meeting place outside the home for the whole family. & Practice the escape plan.

Good Neighbor Tip: Fence Etiquette

Installing a fence can be a great addition to your property. It can also be a nightmare if your etiquette isn't up to par. Good neighbors always avoid fence disputes by practicing fence etiquette. If you follow zoning regulations and share installation plans with neighbors before construction, you can install a new fence AND stay on good terms with the folks next door. Here are some basic "good neighbor" tips:

Know the rules – If required, contact your homeowner's association for any HOA guidelines and understand the zoning regulations for height, setbacks, and other restrictions. Contact the [Planning Department](#) for information on any height limits for front and rear yards.



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Share your plans with neighbors – Remember no one likes surprises. Be a good neighbor and talk to your neighbor before erecting a fence. Simply share your location plans. If property line issues exist, resolve them prior to installation. This will save both time and money.

Observe boundaries – To avoid an expensive mistake, carefully consider fence placement near property lines. Study your property line plat and know the exact property boundaries. Some fencing companies will include a property survey in the project cost. This avoids the risk of going one inch over the property line or building a fence in a utility easement and then having to tear down the fence in the future.

Put the best face outward - It's common practice to put the more finished side of your fence facing the street and your neighbor's yard.

Maintain and improve: It's your responsibility to clean and maintain both sides. If an aging section starts to lean, shore it or replace it.

It may be your fence, but if it's attractive, the fence becomes a feature for your entire neighborhood. Remember, good fences make good neighbors.



Crime Prevention Tip:

Lock it Or Lose it!

Did you know that a large number of theft from vehicle cases often times involved unlocked car doors or instances where the driver leaves valuables in plain view without locking doors?



Don't let yourself be an easy target. Put safety first and reduce your risk of becoming a victim in these situations by always locking your car. Completely close car windows when parking and never leave valuables in plain view and by parking in well-lit areas whenever possible. These simple acts can go a long way towards deterring crime.

Remember, if you are a victim of crime, contact the Concord Police Department as soon as possible – call 911 for emergencies and (704) 920-5000 for non-emergency information, or to meet the officers assigned to your district.

[April 2015 Neighborhood Meeting Calendar](#)

Click the above header to view the neighborhood organization meeting calendar.

The calendar includes meeting dates, times and locations for neighborhood meetings, City Council Meetings, Planning and Zoning Commission Meetings and other city events. Please note that meetings date and times are subject to change without notice. This is a live calendar so changes are made immediately after they are reported. For a full schedule of all recognized organization meetings, visit the program's website concordnc.gov/neighborhoods.