



# Neighborhood News

March 2016

## Beautify your Neighborhood

See what a difference you, your neighbors and a weekend can make.

Believe it or not, spring is just around the corner. The grass will suddenly become a lot greener and flowers will begin to bloom. With warmer weather comes the opportunity to partake in more outdoor activities like playing in parks, or going for a walk in the neighborhood. This time of year also presents a great opportunity for neighborhood groups to work with neighbors, civic groups, business partners and the city to engage in community beautification initiatives. Here are a few ideas and resources to consider that will help make a visible difference in your neighborhood and throughout the city.

### 1 Participate in the 2106 Spring Litter Sweep

Every spring and fall, city co-workers together with recognized neighborhood organizations, collect litter along the city's roadsides. 2016 Spring Litter Sweep is scheduled for Saturday, April 16 through Saturday, April 30. [Litter Sweep is a statewide roadside litter removal initiative.](#) Neighborhoods can win a cash prize for collecting the most bags of litter. If your neighborhood would like to participate in this event, notify your assigned neighborhood liaison or contact Cherie Jzar (704) 920-5298.



**2016 Spring Litter Sweep**

Gather a team and collect litter from Concord's roadways. 2016 Spring Litter Sweep is scheduled for April 6 through April 30

<b>Bag Pick-up</b> City crews will collect the litter you pick up. Tie the orange bag and place at curbside. Then call (704) 920-5555 to schedule a pick-up.	<b>Supplies</b> Gloves, bags, and safety vest are available for your neighborhood group. Call your neighborhood liaison to arrange pick-up.	<b>Contest</b> Recognized neighborhoods can win a cash prize for collecting the most bags of litter.
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Visit [solid.nc.gov](http://solid.nc.gov) or call 704 920 5298 or send me to [ljzar@concordnc.gov](mailto:ljzar@concordnc.gov) for more information.

Litter Sweep is a biannual event sponsored by the City of Concord and the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

**APRIL 16 – APRIL 30**

### 2 Join the Great Neighborhood Earth Day Challenge

We are encouraging neighborhood groups to join together with neighbors and friends on Saturday April 23, 2016 to work on a beautification or enhancement project. **Great Neighborhood Earth Day Challenge** projects should be held during the weekend starting on Saturday, April 23 2015. The volunteer project organizer can determine the starting and ending time, as well as the scope of the project. However projects should be organized around the following goals: building community, improving the overall appearance of the neighborhood, and articulate the unique



### How and where can I recycle CFL bulbs?

Compact Fluorescent Light (CFL) Bulbs and Fluorescent Tubes should not be placed in your recycle cart. To recycle these bulbs, place them in a sealed plastic sandwich bag and take them to one of the following locations (from residential customers only):

- Cabarrus County Household Hazardous Waste Facility
- Cabarrus County Governmental Center
- Cabarrus County Cooperative Extension Building
- Cabarrus County Human Resource Center
- Concord Public Library
- Kannapolis Library
- Mount Pleasant Library
- Harrisburg Library
- Concord Senior Center
- Cabarrus County C&D Landfill

For more info on recycling, visit [concordnc.gov](http://concordnc.gov) to access the Solid Waste Resource Guide.



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identity of the neighborhood. The winning neighborhood earns bragging rights and the privilege of displaying the "Great Neighborhood Earth Day Challenge Sign" for the entire calendar. Last year the Christenbury Neighborhood won the challenge. Sign-up information will be emailed to neighborhood leaders. Call 704-920.5298 or email [jzarc@concordnc.gov](mailto:jzarc@concordnc.gov) if you have questions.

## 3 Plan a Neighborhood Improvement Project

Develop a plan to take on a project that will physically improve your neighborhood. Neighborhood Improvement projects include physical improvements to public areas in your community. Here are some ideas to get you started: Repurpose open space, create a gathering area for homeowners, install identification signs, landscape the front entrance of your neighborhood, install a Little Free Library, install new lighting at entryways to improve visibility, plant a tree, install art pieces, or commission an artist to paint a mural. Grant funds are available to support these projects. The program provides matching grant funds to support recognized neighborhood groups in completing eligible improvement projects.



**To learn more about the Neighborhood Matching Grant Program attend the next Neighborhood Leadership Council Meeting..** The meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 23 in the Community Room at Concord Fire Station #7 located at 250 International Drive SW Concord, NC 28025. Come network with neighborhood leaders and learn about Concord's Neighborhood Matching Grant Program. Recognized

neighborhood organizations are encouraged to designate a primary and an alternate representative to serve as its NLC representative. For more information on [Concord's Neighborhood Matching Grant](http://Concord's Neighborhood Matching Grant) program, visit [concordnc.gov/neighborhoods](http://concordnc.gov/neighborhoods) or contact [Cherie Jzar](mailto:Cherie Jzar) (704) 920.5298.

## 4 Be a Good Neighbor

**Properly maintain and care for your yard.**

Good Neighbors know that proper care and maintenance of your home and landscaping benefits the entire community. We've all seen the occasional property where the grass in the lawn is overgrown to the point where tall weeds and overgrown bushes seem to be the only features. It stands out and makes the property unattractive, unsightly, and also a potential fire hazard during the dry summer months. Warmer weather means that grass will start to grow. So be a good neighbor and take proper care of your yard. A well-maintained yard is also an effective crime prevention tool. Lawns that are not being cared for give criminals the impression that the property is unattended and might be an easy target. City Code states that grass must not exceed 8 inches in height. Properties should also be kept free of noxious weeds such as poison ivy, poison oak, and poison sumac. Failure to comply with these guidelines could result in the property owner/resident receiving a notice from Code Enforcement to rectify the situation within five days of receipt of the notice. If the violation is not corrected, the city will make arrangements to cut the grass/weeds





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at the owner's expense. For more information on Code Enforcement, contact your area's Code Enforcement Officer or visit [concordnc.gov](http://concordnc.gov).

## 5 Plant a Pollinator Garden & help build [The Butterfly](#)

### Highway

Pollinators are necessary for feeding the world. Many pollinator species in our area are experiencing population declines due to pesticides and habitat loss. You can help restore native pollinator habitats to our area by planting in your yard, business, school, or neighborhood a garden that will serve as a habitat to monarch butterflies and other pollinators. Your garden should include native plants and flowers. For more information about the Butterfly Highway Project, visit [butterflyhighway.org](http://butterflyhighway.org). Also contact the Concord Wildlife Alliance to buy a pollinator garden seed kit or for tips on how to create a network of native flowering plants to support butterflies, bees, birds and other pollen and nectar dependent wildlife.



## FLUTTER-BY EARTH DAY

All ages are invited to join us for Earth Week celebrations showcasing the monarch butterfly. You'll be enlightened with information about this endangered pollinator and its native plants. Kids and adults alike can participate in fluttering fun crafts and activities. No registration required.

Day 1: Tuesday, 4/19, 4:30-6:00 p.m. at the James L. Dorton Park, Large shelter  
5790 Poplar Tent Road

Day 2: Thursday, 4/21, 4:30-6:00 p.m. at the Les Myers Park, Paul's Shelter  
338 Lawndale Ave

Visit [concordnc.gov](http://concordnc.gov) for list of classes and programs.

## 6 Adopt a Street, Adopt-A-Stream, or Join the Clean-A-Creek effort



Litter-free streets, streams, parks, and public areas add to the beauty and appeal of our community. To improve the appearance of Concord and to encourage community involvement, the City established an Adopt-A-Street and the Adopt-A-Stream programs. These programs organize individuals and groups around the City that are interested in helping remove litter from public areas and roadsides. Participating groups commit to picking up litter at least

once every three months (or more if necessary) along their adopted section of street and stream. Supplies (litterbags, safety vests and gloves) are available provided. In recognition of the commitment, signs will be installed along streets that have been adopted identifying the groups that have volunteered to help keep them litter-free. For more information on the Adopt-a-Street Program, contact Concord Transportation Director Joe Wilson at (704) 920-5362 or send email to [wilsonj@concordnc.gov](mailto:wilsonj@concordnc.gov). The Clean-A-Creek effort is for those groups who want to clean on a onetime basis and not necessarily commit to doing so several times a year. For more information on Adopt-A-Stream or the Clean-A-Creek effort, contact Crystal Brown at 704-920-5287 or [brownc@concordnc.gov](mailto:brownc@concordnc.gov).



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## Neighborhood Meeting Schedule

*\*Board Meeting*

### **March 1**

\*Wyndham Place – 434 Wyndham Pl NE, 10AM

### **March 3**

\*Province Greene - 632 Weyburn Drive, 7PM

### **March 7**

Gable Oaks Board Meeting, TBD 7PM  
Christenbury Annual Meeting - Manor House, 7PM

### **March 8**

Asheford Greene – TBD, 7PM  
\*Highland Creek - Community Clubhouse, 7PM  
\*Laurel Park – Community Clubhouse, 6:30PM

### **March 9**

Brandon Ridge – Fire Station #8, 7PM  
\*Winding Walk - 10660 Fairwoods Dr, 6PM

### **March 10**

[City Council Meeting – City Hall, 6PM](#)  
Glen Grove– Fire Station #8, 6PM  
Yates Meadows - Roberta United Methodist Church, 7PM

### **March 14**

Oakleaf – Clubhouse, 6PM  
Residents of Historic Concord – 205 S Union, 7PM

### **March 15**

[Planning & Zoning, 6PM](#)  
Silver Hill - Primitive Baptist Church, 6PM  
Cinnamon Hill - Fire Station #8, 6:30PM  
\*Carriage Downs - Clubhouse, 7PM

### **March 16**

\*Sheffield Manor – Clubhouse, 6:30PM

### **March 17**

[St Patrick's Day](#)  
Covington HOA - Speedway Club, 6PM  
[Historic Preservation Commission Meeting, 7PM](#)  
Winecoff School Rd & Belvedere - Flow Harris

### **March 21**

\*Oak Park – Community Clubhouse, 7PM  
\*The Woodlands – 5719 Woodridge Ct NW, 7PM  
\* Kings Crossing – Clubhouse, 7PM

### **March 23**

Neighborhood Leadership Council Meeting – Fire Station #7, 6:30PM

### **March 28**

Logan Community Meeting - Logan Multi-Purpose Center, 7pm  
Moss Creek - Clubhouse, 6:30 PM

Neighborhood News is published monthly and information from neighborhood associations and others are welcome.

Please share this newsletter by forwarding it to your neighbors - post an excerpt in your community's newsletter, post a copy on your community bulletin board, website, Facebook or Nextdoor page.

[Partnership for Stronger Neighborhoods](#)

**BUILDING** relationships to **EMPOWER** communities and **CONNECT** citizens to resources.