



Town of Grifton

Honorable Mayor
Billy Ray Jackson

Board of Commissioners

Buddy Albritton
Alton Clements
Richard Hill
Ardathy Spikes
Sammy Whitehurst

Town Manager
Joe Albright

Greetings! This newsletter contains some important information and reminders for our community.

Interested in a Farmers Market?

The Town of Grifton will hold a Farmers Market interest meeting at Town Hall on March 15th, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. If you are interested in participating as a vendor or want more information as a customer we urge you to come out and share your ideas and thoughts. We are looking for vendors to provide fresh produce, baked goods, homemade jellies/jams, and other assorted agricultural products. Participate in purchasing or selling fresh local goods while interacting within your own community!

Have You Noticed Town Commons?

Many changes have begun to take place in Grifton as a result of the economic assistance provided through the N.C. Rural Center's STEP Grant awarded in 2006. In particular, Town Commons was completely renovated and updated to provide a more attractive focal point for meeting and gathering downtown. A new circular walkway bordered by an assortment of newly planted flowers and vegetation waiting to bloom beautifully this spring encompasses the previously existing brick monument at the center. The black perimeter fencing brilliantly sections the dedicatory lot off, while the recently constructed trellis provides the perfect amount of shade for a sunny day in downtown Grifton. As the weather begins to warm, we invite you to stroll downtown and check out the newly landscaped and constructed town commons.

Celebrate Indian Heritage.

Another project resulting from the N.C. Rural Center's STEP Grant is the recently constructed Catechna Indian Village located across from the Grifton Museum on Creekshore Drive. This historically accurate reproduction of an early Native American dwelling from this region provides an educational experience for all. Stop by and take a look at the creatively constructed longhouse used by the Tuscarora Indians that inhabited the nearby village of Catechna, where famed explorer John Lawson was tried and executed by the natives.

On March 19, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. the Town of Grifton will hold a ribbon cutting ceremony to officially dedicate and open the Catechna Indian Village. We urge you to enjoy the beautiful views of the Contentnea from this creek-side exhibit, with special guest Joseph Herbert, Native American style pottery maker and author of *Woodland Potters and Archaeological Ceramics of the North Carolina Coast*, who will be making and firing pottery on site. Food and refreshments will be offered by the Grifton Boy Scouts. We look forward to celebrating our rich Indian Heritage with you this coming March!

It's Time to "Eat Mo Shad"!



For the 41st year in a row, Grifton will play host to the Shad Festival. This year's Festival will take place the week of April 10th, with most events occurring on the 15th and 16th. For the second year in a row, the band Spare Change will be returning downtown to put on another entertaining show. Fun can be had by kids of all ages, young and old. If you want to "toss a shad" or simply enjoy live entertainment, this Festival is the place to be. Vendors will be on hand with a variety of great food, arts & crafts, and much more. With record breaking attendance last year, we insist that you come and enjoy the fun and fellowship!

Keep Grifton Beautiful!

As a reminder, the Town of Grifton wishes to encourage all citizens and business owners to help make and keep Grifton beautiful. While town officials and volunteer organizations work hard every day to make the town visually appealing, all citizens need to work together to keep our community beautiful. Please take steps to regularly mow and maintain yards and other property. Take steps to ensure that trash, debris, and other refuse does not accumulate on your property. Overgrown grass and debris on property is not only a violation of town ordinance, but it is a public health nuisance that serves to harbor rodents and other vermin. By working together, we can all create and maintain a beautiful community!

Other Reminders:

Leaf and limb pickup will occur on Monday of each week. All leaves and small material must be bagged or placed inside a container that is not heavier than 50 pounds. Limbs must be cut into sections no more than 4 foot lengths and cannot exceed 6 inches in diameter. The Town will not pick up yard debris exceeding these size limits. The Town will also not pick up large piles of yard waste left by a professional landscaper. The landscaper must be responsible for removing the materials.

The Town of Grifton **does not** provide large bulk item or white good collection. Large items and white goods can be taken to the Pitt County landfill station located on Weyerhaeuser Road. Any person placing large items or piles of limbs that are over the size limits on the roadside will receive a notice from the Town of Grifton to have these items removed. If they are not removed within 3 days after the date of the notice, the Town will have them removed and bill the property owner for the expense. If you have any questions regarding trash pick-up, please contact the Town Hall at (252) 524-5168.

The Town has a junk car ordinance that the Police Department and Town Manager are responsible for enforcing. The Town's definition of a junk car is: (1) A motor vehicle that does not display a current license plate lawfully upon that vehicle; (2) Is partially dismantled or wrecked; (3) Cannot be self-propelled or moved in the manner in which it was originally intended to be moved; (4) Is more than five (5) years old and worth less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00). Each home is allowed to have one vehicle described above as long as the car is covered with an approved covering and it is located in the rear yard, out of view from the street. If you have any questions concerning this ordinance, please contact the Police Department or Town Hall. Remember, the Town does have the right to remove the vehicle after official notification.

The Town would like to remind citizens with dogs that it is unlawful to allow dogs to run at large within the town limits. Any dog found to be running at large within the town will be picked up by the Grifton Police Department. Dog owners who violate the Town's animal control ordinance will be issued a citation for such violation. Please help us protect the well-being of your pets and the well-being of the community by obeying the Town's animal control ordinance.

If you have any questions or comments about Town of Grifton services, you can contact the Town Hall at (252) 524-5168.