



Town of Grifton

Honorable Mayor
Billy Ray Jackson

Board of Commissioners

Will Barnes
Johnny Craft
Angela Gay
Claude Kennedy
Raymond Oakes

Interim Town Manager

Mark Warren

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

HYDRANT TESTING

Grifton Volunteer Fire Department will be testing fire hydrants on February 16th and 17th, 2019. As a result, discoloration of your water is very likely. However, Town Staff will work promptly to remedy this issue. **Please be assured that there will be no contamination to the water system and it is perfectly safe to use.** If discoloration occurs at your residence, turning your faucet on and the letting the water run momentarily should help it run clear.

We appreciate your patience and understanding during this time. For questions or concerns please call Utilities Supervisor Billy Raynor at 252-561-6260

TEMPORARY CHANGE IN WATER DISINFECTION

Beginning March 11th, 2019 and continuing until approximately April 15th, the Neuse Regional Water and Sewer Authority and all of its member utilities will temporarily change the disinfectant used in the water treatment process from chloramines to chlorine. Since March 2009, NRWASA and its members, including the Town of Grifton, have used chloramines, which are a mixture of chlorine and ammonia, as the disinfectant in the water treatment process. Chloramines are an effective disinfectant and also reduce the level of byproducts that are regulated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. State drinking water guidelines recommend that water systems using chloramines periodically switch back to free chlorine for a minimum of four consecutive weeks. This brief scheduled change in disinfectant is a standard water treatment practice to keep water mains clean and free of potentially harmful bacteria throughout the year. During the temporary switch to free chlorine, customers may notice a slight change in the taste or smell of their tap water. The mild chlorine taste and smell is normal and poses no health risk. Most customers will not need to take any precautions as the water remains safe to drink and is treated according to both state and federal standards. People and businesses that normally take special precautions to remove chloramines from tap water, such as dialysis centers, medical facilities and aquatic pet owners, should continue to take the same precautions during the temporary switch from chloramines to free chlorine.

The Town of Grifton 2017 Annual Water Quality Report is now available.

www.grifton.com/Grifton%202017%20CCR.pdf

Keep Grifton Beautiful!

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!

Reminder Section:

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.

Please see the following new ordinance that will become effective 1-1-2019

Prohibit accumulation of leaves, grass clippings, etc. on public ways

(a) Authority of ordinance. The section is enacted pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 160A-174 as an exercise of the police power granted to the town.

(b) Prohibitions. It shall be unlawful for any person to blow, place, or allow to be placed leaves, grass clippings, or any debris from his or her premises on a public street or sidewalk, in the grass strip between a paved sidewalk and street, in any area that pedestrians would be expected to use to walk upon parallel to a public street, or in the median strip within a public right of way.

This section shall not apply to the following: the accumulation of leaves along a curb line of a public right of way for the purposes of collection by a private leaf collecting contractor (provided the leaves are promptly collected by the contractor); **the accumulation of limbs along the curb line of the public right of way for the purposes of collection by the Town of Grifton under the street pick-up policy guidelines established by the Town;** the placement of debris and limbs during a recognized and approved State of Emergency; or to contract mowing within North Carolina Department of Transportation right of ways.

(c) Criminal Penalty. Any person violating this section shall be guilty of a class three misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be subject to punishment in accordance with G.S. 14-4. Unless otherwise provided, the maximum fine for a misdemeanor violation is five hundred dollars (\$500.00). This criminal penalty is in addition to any civil penalties that may be charged.

Grifton is an equal opportunity provider and employer.