

Community Notes

Elic A. Senter, Mayor
John Allers, Mayor Pro Tempore
Anita Fuller, Commissioner
Ray Gilliam, Commissioner
Johnny Mitchell, Commissioner
Art Wright, Commissioner

Let's Paint Franklinton Purple!

By now, you've hopefully heard of the *Relay for Life* program of the American Cancer Society. What you may not know is that Franklin County has been one of the largest Relay for Life programs in our state for some time. Though the annual event (held this year on May 16-17) has moved back to Bunn High School, there are still *plenty* of opportunities for our community to be involved.

In an effort to show support and raise funds for the *Relay for Life* program, for cancer patients and their families, and cancer survivors throughout Franklinton and Franklin County, Franklin County Relay for Life has created a program called *Paint Franklin County Purple*. More specifically, we are partnering with Franklin County Relay for Life to paint *Franklinton* purple!

How will we do this? Simple. Place something on your door, in your window, on your mailbox, etc., that is purple. It can be a sign of support with a message such as 'We Support Relay for Life!' or 'Give Cancer the Boot!'. It can be a purple ribbon or bow. It can be a purple poster. It can be purple Christmas lights. Feel free to be creative!

There is no financial commitment to be a part of this effort! To participate, simply place your purple out by **May 1**, and leave it up until **May 17**. If we all come together and have something purple in our windows or doors, we can truly Paint Franklinton Purple!



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WATCH YOUR SPEED THE POLICE CERTAINLY ARE!



Speeding while driving a vehicle through Town limits has long been a challenge for our citizens who desire safe streets. In an effort to help curb speeding, particularly through our major routes (such as Green Street - NC 56 Highway - which has a speed limit of 35 mph through Town, and Main Street, which has a speed limit of between 20 mph and 35 mph, depending on the section one travels), the Franklinton Police Department secured a grant from the Governor's Highway Safety Trust Fund to purchase two mobile speed-check signs, which display the speed of each driver as they pass. When the speed is higher than the posted speed, the sign flashes - and takes a photograph of the car as it passes. The signs are also able to be moved around Town - so they may be posted on Main Street one day, and on Green Street the next, and two days later, may be found on Mason Street.

The motivation behind this effort is to get drivers to *slow down* while driving in Town. Our through-town speed limit is 25 mph. This speed limit applies across Town, unless there are signs otherwise noting a different speed limit. (Such an example would be in the area of downtown, where the posted speed is 20 mph, or Green Street - NC 56 Highway - where the speed is 35 mph.) Speeding violations have been given for speeds as high as 60 mph in Town. Such speeds place our citizens - and most importantly, our children - in the path of unsafe drivers and unsafe speeds, and for most of us is simply unacceptable.

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Cover Your Cleanout!

Have you noticed that your sewer line cleanout (that small disc with a square knob, usually made of white plastic, found close to the street) is missing? Well...that little piece of plastic is very, very important! It covers the access point to the sewer line that leads directly from your home or business to the main sewer line along the street. When it's missing, or not on correctly, it allows debris and rainwater to flow directly into the sewer line.

Why is that important? One of the Town's major issues with our infrastructure system is a problem called I & I - inflow and infiltration. Basically, I & I occur when there are heavy rains (or other precipitation, such as snow or ice). Normally, the rainwater would run off into a storm drain. However, if your sewer cleanout is in a low point in your yard (as many are), the rainwater will drain *there*, instead of to a ditch or storm drain. It then acts as somewhat of a water vacuum, moving the storm water into the sewer system.

Why is that a bad thing? Because once it flows into the sewer system, the Town then has to pay to treat that water; this means *you* as a customer are paying to treat storm water that has no sewage in it, and actually does *not* need treatment! This is a very, very costly issue for all of us - so making sure our homes and businesses have properly affixed cleanout covers is crucial!

Wondering about yours? Need a cleanout cover? Feel free to contact Town Hall, and our Public Works Department will be glad to help.

WINTER ENERGY-SAVINGS INFORMATION FROM DUKE PROGRESS ENERGY

- The thermostat is a real culprit of higher winter bills. To help save energy and money, select the lowest comfortable setting when home, and bump the thermostat down a degree or two when leaving home.
- Have your HVAC system checked regularly by a qualified heating and air conditioning contractor to maintain efficiency and peak performance. Through the Home Energy Improvement Program, a Duke Energy Progress customer can get hundreds of dollars in rebates for choosing to make their home run more efficiently. Visit www.duke-energy.com/heip to learn more.
- Leave drapes or blinds open to allow the sun's rays to warm the house.
- Inefficient heating can also add to monthly power bills during colder temperatures. One of the easiest things customers can do to support heating efficiency is to change air filters regularly. A dirty air filter makes a heating system work harder, which uses more energy.
- Replace standard bulbs with compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs. CFLs are more efficient than regular bulbs, while giving off the same amount of light. Duke Energy Progress offers heavily discounted CFL and LED bulbs at www.duke-energy.com/lightdiscounts.
- Find these and other tips at www.duke-energy.com. Just click the "save energy and money" link.

2013 FRANKLINTON ANNUAL DRINKING WATER REPORT CAN BE VIEWED AT

www.franklintonnc.us/images/ccr.pdf



Like Us on Facebook
Franklinton Police Department, NC

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If you are interested, Franklin County Relay for Life has ribbons for sale, for \$10 each in case you'd like a simple way to join in. They can be purchased from Scottie Martin, chair of Franklin County Relay for Life. Scottie can be contacted at scottie.martin@wakegov.com or 919-495-2939. (All funds raised go directly to the American Cancer Society.)

Emergency Planning: Preparing for Spring Storms

Storm Safety Procedures

The following steps should help keep your staff and facility safe from harm in the event of a spring storm.

- Create an emergency action plan that includes evacuation procedures, contact information for local first responders, and emergency contact information for all employees.
- Keep supplies in an emergency preparedness kit. Suggested items include water bottles, non-perishable food, blankets, first-aid supplies, flashlights, and a battery-powered radio.
- Keep an eye on the news, the Town website, or contact your [emergency management office](#) for information about local shelters, evacuation plans, and emergency exit routes.
- Make sure the grounds around your facility are free of heavy debris that could be tossed around in the wind, and trim trees to prevent limbs from falling on buildings.
- Choose a safe area in your facility where occupants can gather if a storm or tornado warning is issued. This area should be located in a basement if available, or a ground-level room with no windows.

After the Storm

While your electric power is very reliable, outages do happen. Facility damage can also result in long-term downtime. By planning ahead, you can get back to business quickly and minimize the damage to your bottom line.

Backup Power

Dependable back-up power is necessary to maintain mission-critical equipment during an outage. Diesel and natural gas generators are the most commonly used. Diesel systems are the most widely used and typically have the lowest initial costs. However, diesel generators use large onsite storage tanks that require refilling and must meet strict environmental regulations. Natural gas units often cost more to install, but offer a continuous source of fuel. Operate generators according to manufacturer's recommendations, and never connect generators to your electrical system; they can back feed and endanger line workers.

Continuity Planning for Businesses

A business continuity plan is a comprehensive statement of actions to be taken during (and after) a spring storm or any other emergency that interrupts business. The objective is to continue operations and return to full capacity as quickly as possible. When creating a plan, ask yourself a few simple questions. What processes are essential in order to stay in business? What can be set aside? How would you accomplish critical functions and where would you get the necessary resources? Carefully evaluate your organization to identify which staff, procedures, material, and equipment are essential to remain in operation.

Brought to you by Duke Energy Progress and PSNC Energy.

WANTED: YOUR DRAIN'S WORST ENEMY



DO

- ✓ Put oil/grease in collection containers
- ✓ Remove oil/grease from kitchen utensils & food preparation areas with scrapers, towels or brooms
- ✓ Keep grease out of wash water
- ✓ Place food scraps in collection containers

DON'T

- ✗ Pour oil/grease down drains
- ✗ Wash dishes with hot water until oil/grease is removed from surface
- ✗ Put food scraps down drains even if using food grinders
- ✗ Use cloth towels to clean grease from surfaces or dishes



**CARDBOARD RECYCLING BIN IS LOCATED
BEHIND TOWN HALL!**

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Franklin County Sheriff's Office	919-494-2186
Franklin County Clerk of Court	919-497-4200
Franklin County Animal Control	919-496-3032
Franklinton Post Office	919-494-5068
Franklinton Library	919-494-2736
CenturyLink	252-977-9011
Progress Energy Customer Service	800-452-2777
Progress Energy Report Outages	800-419-6356
PSNC	877-776-2427
Time Warner Cable	866-489-2669

Trash & Recycling Schedule

- March 5 Trash Collection
- March 12 Trash & Recycling Collection
- March 19 Trash Collection
- March 26 Trash & Recycling Collection
- April 2 Trash Collection
- April 9 Trash & Recycling Collection
- April 16 Trash Collection
- April 23 Trash & Recycling Collection
- April 30 Trash Collection
- May 7 Trash & Recycling Collection
- May 14 Trash Collection
- May 21 Trash & Recycling Collection
- May 28 Trash Collection
- June 4 Trash & Recycling Collection
- June 11 Trash Collection
- June 18 Trash & Recycling Collection
- June 25 Trash Collection
- July 2 Trash & Recycling Collection
- July 9 Trash Collection
- July 16 Trash & Recycling Collection
- July 23 Trash Collection
- July 30 Trash & Recycling Collection

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Has this had an impact? In a word...**YES**. The signs were posted in December, and following their posting, a marked decrease in speeding violations was noted in the data gathered by the Police Department. Our Police Department is making every effort to curb such speeding throughout Town, but most importantly in school zones, where a higher level of enforcement will be found. So please, watch your speed. Lives depend on safe drivers!

Town of Franklinton

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Kim Worley, Town Clerk

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Town Hall Business Hours

Mon. ~ Fri.

8:30 am - 5:30 pm

We're on the Web!

www.franklintonnc.us

The Franklinton Board of Commissioners Meet the 3rd Tuesday of Every Month. Citizens are Invited to Attend.

Franklinton Launches Cooking Oil Recycling Program

In an effort to become more environmentally responsible the Town of Franklinton is launching a recycled cooking oil program. Recycling cooking oil benefits us by removing used oils from the waste stream and converting it into bio fuel, which typically burns cleaner, thereby reducing carbon emissions. This alternative method of disposal greatly benefits citizens by providing a means to eliminate pouring oil and grease down their kitchen drains; which is one of the biggest culprits in causing sewer back up problems.

What Types of Oils Can I Recycle?

Any used cooking oil or grease can be used to create biodiesel, including vegetable oil, fish oil, bacon grease, chicken fat, and pork fat.

How Do I Recycle My Used Cooking Oil?

It's easy, pour your cooled used cooking oil into in any glass or plastic container with a lid, seal the container and reuse it until it's full. Once you have filled your container bring it to our cooking oil recycling bin and pour it in.

Where Can I Recycle My Used Cooking Oil?

A leak-proof clearly marked cooking oil container has been place behind Town Hall. To access this area you should use the driveway located directly between the Municipal Building and the Town Hall Annex.

