

City Works



City of Burlington, NC - "Connecting the Triad & Triangle"

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Here Come the Leaves 2010-11 Leaf Collection Schedule

As the balmy days of summer fade into cool autumn nights, Burlington's trees begin to display their full potential. Along with all this beauty comes every homeowner's favorite annual chore, leaf cleanup.



Burlington provides roadside leaf collection four times through autumn until the beginning of

winter. Loose leaves need to be piled behind the curb or on the shoulder of streets (without curb and gutter) by 7:00 AM on the Monday of the week scheduled for collection.

Please do not pile leaves in the street, in drainage ditches, or over water meters. Leaves in street gutters can clog storm drains, potentially causing flooding of neighborhood streets. Citizens' prompt removal of fallen leaves is appreciated. This will reduce the potential for flooding and pollution in local creeks and help increase public/environmental health.

Please do not park in front of or on leaf piles. Leaves that contain gravel, limbs, glass or other

See **LEAVES** on Page 2

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Visit the City of Burlington on the web at BurlingtonNC.gov.

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BDC Unveils New Grants for Downtown Business and Property Development

The Burlington Downtown Corporation (BDC) opened its revamped grants program for applications on August 16th. BDC is taking a comprehensive approach to encouraging development in the downtown district. Based on recommendations from the 2008 Master Plan, the new grant programs offer something for both new and existing business owners, investors looking to make their mark downtown, building owners looking to restore and modernize, and potential developers of downtown residential units. The BDC will be accepting grant proposals until September 30th from business and property owners located within the downtown district for the first round of grants, which will be made available on a quarterly basis.

The Small Grants Program provides funding assistance to



projects that will facilitate development, growth and modernization of existing properties in the Municipal Service District. A total of \$80,000 is allocated for projects that fall within four specific categories:

New businesses needing help with start-up costs may be interested in the Business Up-Fit Grant. This 50-50 matching program will provide assistance with activities related to getting new businesses up and running. Eligible grant activities include demolition work, installation of flooring,

See **GRANTS** on Page 3

2010-11 Leaf Collection Schedule

LEAVES from Page 1

Section 1

October 18 - 22
November 1 - 5
November 29 -
December 3
January 3 - 7

Section 2

October 18 - 22
November 1 - 5
December 6 - 10
January 10 - 14

Section 3

October 25 - 29
November 8 - 12
December 13 - 17
January 18 - 21

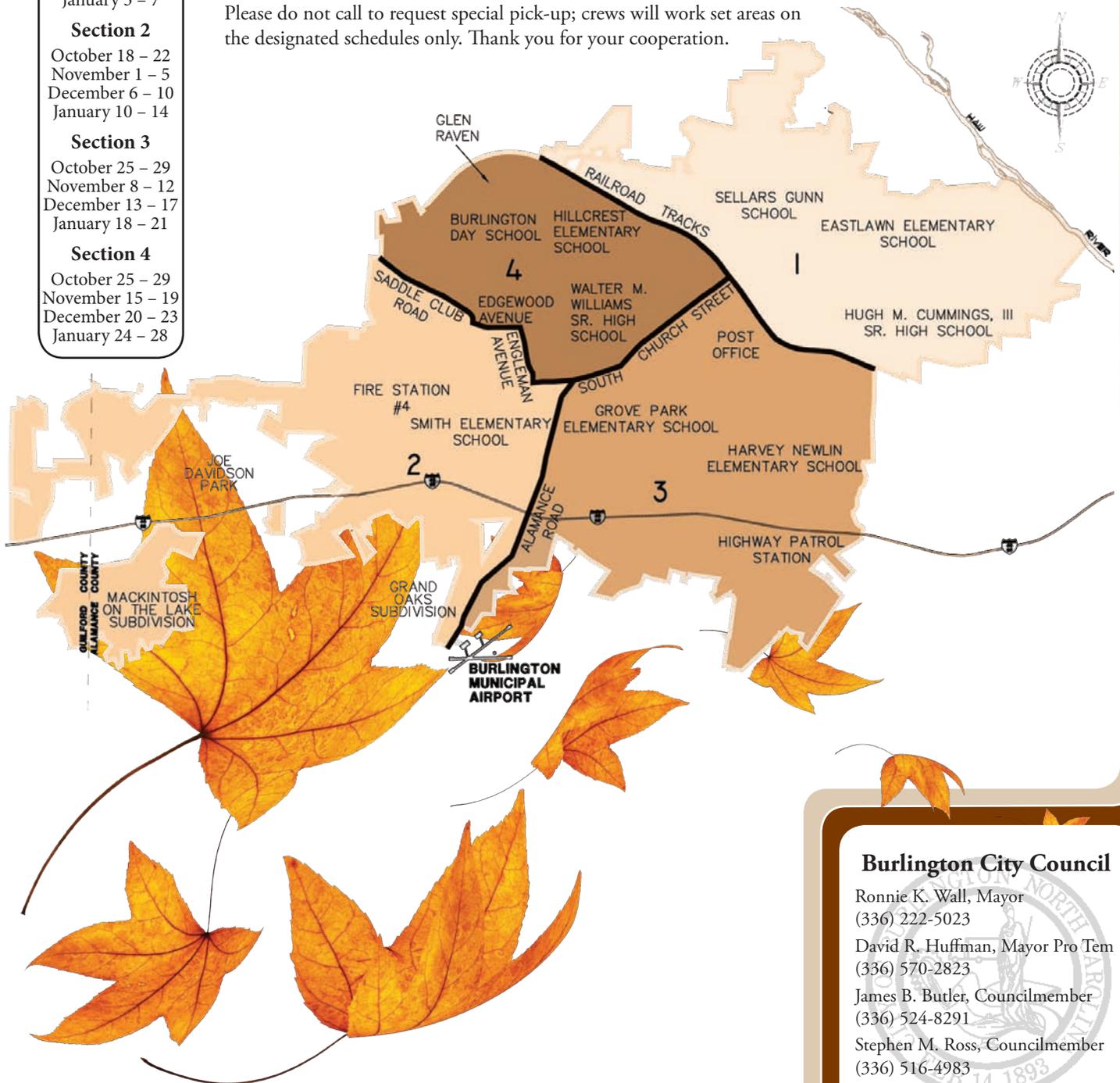
Section 4

October 25 - 29
November 15 - 19
December 20 - 23
January 24 - 28

solid matter will not be collected. Should you desire more frequent leaf collection, you may place leaves in your yard waste can, box, or in clear plastic bags for collection on your regular trash day. Do not mix limbs with leaves. Limbs are collected separately and will result in your leaves not being collected.

Questions concerning leaf collection should be directed to the Cemetery Division at 222-5077 or 222-5078.

Please do not call to request special pick-up; crews will work set areas on the designated schedules only. Thank you for your cooperation.



Burlington City Council

Ronnie K. Wall, Mayor
(336) 222-5023
David R. Huffman, Mayor Pro Tem
(336) 570-2823
James B. Butler, Councilmember
(336) 524-8291
Stephen M. Ross, Councilmember
(336) 516-4983
Celo I. Faucette, Councilmember
(336) 516-7271

BDC: Downtown Grant Program

GRANTS from Page 1 painting, finished carpentry, and purchases of display fixtures or equipment. Business enterprises identified in downtown Burlington's market study will be given priority for funding; these include full service dining, specialty clothing, food-related retailers, such as bakeries, wine shops or candy shops; and home furnishings. A maximum of \$5,000 is available to retailers and \$10,000 is available to restaurants and bakeries, depending on square footage.

Businesses looking to develop new marketing strategies or expand their customer base can apply for the Business Sustainability Grant. This grant will focus primarily on technical assistance in the form of specialized training, workshops, software, research and development of marketing or business strategies. A maximum of \$3000 in matching money is available over a two-year planning period.

An expansion of the Façade & Signage Grant, the Building Rehabilitation & Modernization Grant will allocate funds for projects focusing on both the exterior and interiors of buildings. There are two different categories of grants falling within this program: Exterior Façade & Signage Grant and the Interior Systems Grant. Exterior projects include but are not limited to painting, window repair and awning or signage installation. Interior projects can receive funding for upgrades in plumbing, HVAC, electricity, fiber optics, energy efficiency improvements and improvements related to Number 1 Fire District. Each interior or façade is subject to a \$7,500 maximum in matching grants, with a \$20,000 building maximum.



Encouraging the development of high quality residential units within the upper stories of the downtown district is the focus of the Downtown Residential Development Incentive Grant. The grant provides a per square foot subsidy up to \$5000/unit for renovation of second-story spaces into residential units. Eligible grant activities include interior work such as demolition, up-fit or installation of systems, finishes and fixtures. Owners wishing to upgrade Class C or B units to Class A may also apply. Class A units will be determined based on an amenities list and range of finishes. The grant can be used for creating apartments, condominiums or even a boutique hotel.

Applicants may apply for one or a combination of grants on one application. Interested applicants are encouraged to schedule a pre-application meeting with BDC staff prior to submitting the application. Applicants should be prepared with a completed business plan and other relevant business information. See the application for more details. To be eligible for grant money, applications must be submitted to the BDC at its downtown location at 200 S. Main Street in the historic Depot. The grants will be made available each quarter.

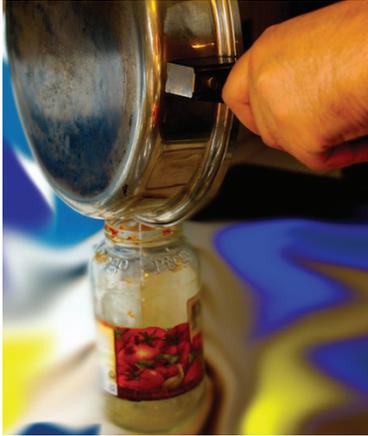
For an application, stop by the BDC's office or download one online at www.burlingtondowntown.com.



FOGs & Who Ya Gonna Call?

Fats, Oils and Grease

Frying up some chicken or perhaps cooking bacon for breakfast this morning? Where should all that grease go when you finish? If you answered, "down the drain" then think again. Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) are a major problem for your water treatment system.



While FOG might seem like fluid going down the drain, they quickly solidify in the pipes contributing to sewer spills across Burlington. Grease sticks to the insides of the sewer causing build-up. Eventually, FOG can block the entire pipe causing raw sewage overflow into your home, neighborhood, yard, or street. Clean-up is expensive, as well as potentially exposing people to disease-causing organisms.



Got leftover FOGs? Next time use an old container for excess grease. Put food scraps from plates in the trash can for disposal. Do not pour grease and oil or any food scraps down drains. Do not use hot water to rinse grease off any cookware or surface.

For more information call the City of Burlington Water Resources Department at 222-5133.

Who Ya Gonna Call? Clog Busters!

Ever had your pipes clogged? Before you reach for the phone book, you may want to think about where that clog is coming from. Are all of your toilets backing up? Water won't go down any sink? The best thing to do if you have a sewer blockage affecting your home or business is to investigate the problem yourself. Follow these simple steps to help eliminate the problem:

1. Immediately stop all water usage.
2. Notify other occupants or tenants of the problem.
3. Check for overflows on lower levels, including the basement. (Often the lowest level will overflow first if there is a blockage in the lateral or City main.)
4. Try to determine if the blockage is affecting more than one fixture or drain. (Many times there will be a gurgling noise.)
5. Call the City's Water and Sewer Maintenance Department at 222-5140 **before** you call a plumber. (If a sewer blockage occurs after regular business hours, follow the instructions given by the automated answering device.)



Following your call, City personnel will respond as follows:

- A maintenance crew will be dispatched (based on availability) to investigate the problem and clean the main line as needed.
- Once the main line is determined to be open, you will be informed of the City's findings.

Should the problem still exist following the inspection of the City's main sewer line, the property owner will be responsible for having the blockage removed. The property owner may wish to contact a plumber for assistance.