



It's Been a Good Summer for Clayton—Despite Poor Economic Climate



Things are looking up in Clayton.

Despite the poor economic climate that put a damper on things in other places, we've had a good summer. The Town Council held the line on taxes; our credit worthiness was upgraded yet again and our Finance Department won another award; the new medical center and new Community Center are opening; important utility infrastructure work is getting done—the list goes on

and on.

In a small town like ours where progress seems to come slowly sometimes, we're on a good run.

Important things are getting accomplished. Our people are doing a good job.

And now, as the upcoming Harvest Festival ushers in the fall, let's all take time to come together downtown and celebrate the "Harvest." This will be a very special festival since it's likely to be the last one with carnival rides in the Municipal parking lot. That area is due to be remade into a *Downtown Centerpiece* in the spring. Downtown merchants need something like the *Centerpiece* to jazz up the area, but I'm going to miss having the rides there. They've been a part of the Festival for a long time, just as the Festival has long been part of our heritage.

The Chamber of Commerce calls the Festival "the largest,

most exciting event of the season," and I'm sure it is. Thousands of people will visit our town September 16-20, many of them from outside the area. It's a great way to show them who we are, and the progress we've made.

Different people like different parts of the Festival best, but me, I'm looking forward to "Clayton Idol." I'll also be spending some time in the Town's booth at the annual Arts & Crafts Fair on Main Street Saturday, September 19. Other town officials will be there, too. It gives us a great chance to spend time with Clayton folks and a good excuse to eat some festival food.

Come on out and see us and celebrate.

★ Public Service Announcement ★

As a Clayton resident, wouldn't you like to get to know the Town and its people better? Then consider the opportunities serving on a Town board or committee could provide to you.

The Clayton Town Council is seeking citizens to serve on the following advisory boards and committees:

- Board of Adjustment
- Downtown Development Association (DDA)

- Clayton Library Board
- Planning & Zoning Board
- Clayton Recreation Advisory Committee
- Fire Department Advisory Board

Appointments are made by the Town Council when vacancies occur or when terms of service expire.

Information about the Town boards and committees and applications are available on the Town's website at: www.townofclaytonnc.org.

If you do not have access to the internet and would like additional information or an application, please contact Town Clerk Sherry Scoggins at 919.553.5002.

Citizens wishing to be considered for an appointment to a board or committee are encouraged to return a completed application to the Town Clerk by Friday, September 18, 2009.

Water Conservation Tips From Public Works

While memories of the recent record setting drought linger, please consider these simple steps that may help everyone join together to conserve our valuable water resource and enable an average family to reduce their monthly water usage significantly.

1. Consider installing water efficient appliances and fixtures in place of conventional ones:
 - Vintage toilets (*manufactured before 1978*)
4 to 6 gallons per flush
 - Conventional (*manufactured between 1978-1994*) 3.5 gallons per flush
 - Water efficient toilets (*manufactured after 1994*) 0.5 gallons per flush
 - Conventional shower head
3 to 10 gallons per minute
 - Low flow shower head
2 to 2.5 gallons per minute
 - Faucet aerator (*manufactured before 1978*)
3 to 6 gallons per minute
 - Flow regulating aerator
0.5 to 2.5 gallons per minute

Data supplied by AWWA, 1999

2. Even if you do not replace an older toilet, you can save a gallon per flush by placing two half gallon milk jugs filled with water in the tank.
3. Repair leaking faucets and toilets. One drop of water every five seconds is equal to five gallons per day from a leaking faucet. A leaking flapper valve in a toilet can leak up to **200 gallons per day**. You may check for leaks in the toilet by placing several drops of food color in the tank, if the color appears in the bowl after 30 minutes you have a leak. You may also check for leaks by recording your water meter reading and waiting for two hours and recording the reading again, if the meter has changed without water use you have a leak in your system.

4. Take a shower instead of a bath; a bath uses between 30 and 50 gallons of water. A five minute shower with a low flow shower head would use 10 to 15 gallons of water. For even more savings turn off the water while lathering or place a small bucket in the shower and use it for hand watering outside.
5. Do not leave the water on while shaving or brushing your teeth. Use a cup to wash out your toothpaste.
6. Only run washing machines and dishwashers when the units are full. Consider a front loading washing machine which uses one half as much water.
7. Use a compost pile or trash can instead of the garbage disposal; these units can consume a great deal of water.
8. Use native plants and turf which are drought resistant for landscaping and gardens and use mulch in the garden to retain moisture. Use soaker hoses when watering your garden or landscaping and water during the cool periods of the day because much of the water used in landscaping can be lost to evaporation.
9. Do not leave a water hose running when you wash your car; this practice uses over 100 gallons of water on average each time.
10. Keep in mind, the alternative day irrigation rules remain in effect.

The Town's Public Works Department hopes you find these tips useful. Using less water saves you and the entire system money and most importantly, protects one of the most vital resources we have.

For more information please contact Byron Poelman at 919-553-1530 or James Warren at 919-553-1536.

**Don't forget to visit the
Town's booth at the
Harvest Festival
September 19th.**

