

## LOCAL NEWS

# Tarp Day set September 29

EMILY WEAVER

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In an effort to keep roadside clean of litter the NC Department of Transportation and NC Keep America Beautiful are asking for citizens to sign up to participate in Tarp Day on Saturday, September 29.

"A considerable amount of roadside debris comes from vehicle loads, which (are) not properly covered or secured," according to information released by NCDOT and NCKAB. The two partnering organizations have proposed "Tarp Day as a means to bring focus to roadside litter and that securing loads is an easy solution in reducing future littering."

"Cleveland County has kind of been on the cutting edge of this," said Solid Waste Director Sam Lockridge. "With our, what many call 'tarp ordinance,' we actually promote that every day."

NCDOT and NCKAB will be sending tarps, "Secure Your Load" brochures, and "Secure Your Load" litterbags to the county for Tarp Day. Cleveland County employees and volunteers will be distributing these promotional items to people for free at the recycling centers, Lockridge said.

"We're happy that the state of NC has followed our lead," he added. "We practice this every day in our county."

Tarp Day comes just weeks after the Cleveland County board of commissioners voted to amend the county's "tarp" ordinance by removing the word

"tarp." The amended solid waste ordinance still requires all people transporting solid waste to secure their loads by "effective means." Under Cleveland County's municipal code, Chapter 11, Article II: Solid Waste Ordinance, Section 11-34, subsection B, "effective means" is defined as (but not limited to) "durable, heavy plastic or canvas tied down or secured to cover all the load."

"Our ordinance is more geared toward people having to secure their load before transporting their waste," Lockridge said. It doesn't have to be covered with a tarp, he added. "It can be tied down, weighted down, as long as it is secured in the back of the truck and won't fly off."

The fines for violating the county's "secure load" ordinance remains the same: \$25 - first violation, \$50 - second violation, and \$100 - third and subsequent violations. According to Commissioner Johnny Hutchins, tickets for violations are often given out to offenders as they pull into the dump.

To participate on an alternative Saturday handing out promotional items to keep NC's roadside clean, email George Kapetanakis at gkapetanakis@dot.state.nc.us, call 919-715-3188 or fax 919-715-2554 with the following: your commitment date of participation, designated contact name and phone number, physical shipping address for delivery of materials, and an estimate of brochures and vehicle litterbags needed.

## HERALD DEADLINES

Deadline for Lifestyles information and articles is 12 noon on Monday. Lifestyles items include weddings, engagements, anniversaries, birthdays, club news, church news and community news.

When holidays or other reasons make it necessary for the paper to publish a day early the deadline is Friday at 12 noon.

There is a \$10 fee for birthdays for ages 0-5. Forms, which must be signed by the parents, are available at the receptionist's desk. Regular advertising rates apply for birthday articles for persons ages 6 and above. There is a \$20 fee for weddings, anniversaries and engagements. Wedding forms are also available at the receptionist's desk. Only the information requested on the form will be printed.

Deadlines for regular news and sports is 5 p.m. Tuesday. In cases of meetings and other activities held on Tuesday night, information will be received until 8 a.m. Wednesday.

Items received after deadline will run if time and space permit.

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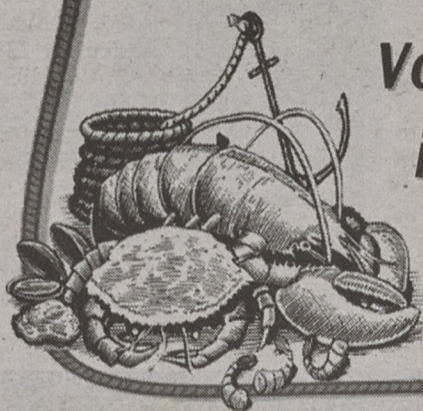
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