

Clover Crawl is a highly anticipated event that mixes socialization, good food and good music to accompany the annual Anson County 4-H fundraiser. Unfortunately, a social gathering is not feasible this year. To preserve the festivity and spirit associated with Clover Crawl, the 4-H Clover Crawl Social will be postponed until 2022. The 2021 4-H Clover Crawl Social will be replaced with a 4-H Fundraising Campaign and Auction. Items being auctioned include:

- a basket of local wines
- a Four Branches Shooting Preserve package
- two tickets for the 2022 4-H Clover Crawl Social.

To bid visit: [sites.google.com/ncsu.edu/ansoncounty4hauction/home](https://sites.google.com/ncsu.edu/ansoncounty4hauction/home). Funds raised during our 2021 4-H Fundraiser Campaign will be used to support ongoing 4-H programs in the county. The year prior to the current pandemic, Anson County 4-H and Anson County 4-H Youth Promise's combined program efforts reached over 700 youth in the community through various activities and programs such as school enrichment, summer camps, after school programming, community service and other year-round educational programs. Additionally, Anson 4-H and 4-H Youth Promise work with adults, volunteer leaders and youth to provide community projects, parenting skills and enhanced leadership abilities. All 4-H programming is available to any youth between ages 5-19.

4-H Agent Sam Cole said, "Our fundraiser has been a success in previous years and we are optimistic that we will continue in our success. 4-H programs have had much impact on the youth in this county through the years. With the public's help and support, programs can continue to make significant contributions to their future, and the future of our county." If you would like to learn more information about this event please contact Samuel Cole, 4-H Agent at 704-694-2915.

### NETworX Anson Accepting Participants for Upcoming Classes

On Tuesday, February 23 at 7:00 p.m. NETworX Anson will begin its classes on building community and holistically addressing poverty. Due to the pandemic, classes will take place via Zoom. Registration to become a participant is currently open and ends on Monday, February 22 at 12 noon. Participants will meet once a week for 12-18 weeks. Tablets will be provided for class attendees to ensure Zoom is accessible to them. Davi Trotti and Heather McIntyre will act as Coaches and lead the class discussions. A few points of focus in the classes will be self-care, relationship building and goal achievement. Graduates of the class will have the opportunity to serve as board members for NETworX Anson. Interested individuals will go through an entrance interview to determine if the classes will be an adequate resource to them. "It is important that we are able to be a resource to those we serve," stressed McIntyre. She stated that the interview serves to "create a rapport and trust with possible participants." NETworX Anson County is a nonprofit founded in 2019 to address community poverty in all of its aspects. The organization operates under its Lead Agency, HOLLA!, and is located at 229 East Main Street in Morven. For inquiries about enrolling, please contact Devin Pettiford at [devinpettiford@gmail.com](mailto:devinpettiford@gmail.com) or call (704) 851-3144.

### Celebrating Black History Month 2021

This February, the NC Department of Administration celebrates Black History Month by highlighting a few of our state and nation's recent "Firsts" – A spotlight on African Americans serving as "firsts" in their professions, service appointments, and artistry. Featured profiles serve as beacons of courage who are leading the way, charting new paths, proudly representing the African American community – and inspiring people everywhere. If there is a recent African American first that you would like to see featured on the DOA website ([ncadmin.nc.gov](http://ncadmin.nc.gov)) and across social media, send an email to [communications@doa.nc.gov](mailto:communications@doa.nc.gov). **Lloyd Austin, III** | A retired four-star general who served more than four decades in the US Army, Gen. Lloyd Austin will serve as the first African American defense secretary in U.S. history, having been appointed by President Joe Biden in 2021. On his appointment: "It's an honor and a privilege to serve as our country's 28th Secretary of Defense, and I'm especially proud to be the first African American to hold the position. Let's get to work." **Cheri Beasley** | Appointed in 2019 by Governor Roy Cooper, Cheri Beasley was the first Black woman ever to serve as Chief Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court and served from 2019 to 2021. On the role of courts in racial justice after George Floyd demonstrations: "These protests are a resounding, national chorus of voices whose lived experiences reinforce the notion that Black people are ostracized, cast out, and dehumanized...we must do better, we must be better."

**Paula Dance** | Sheriff Paula Dance made history in 2018 when she became Pitt County's first African American sheriff and the first African American female sheriff in North Carolina. On why she wanted to become a sheriff: "I didn't run to be the first African American female sheriff. I ran because I wanted to be sheriff of Pitt County. I want to serve the community I love and help move it in the right direction."

**Marcia Fudge** | Appointed by President Biden, US Rep. Marcia Fudge will be the first African American woman in decades to lead the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. Drawing from her 30+ years of public service and inspired by HUD's first African American female leader, Patricia R. Harris under President Jimmy Carter, Fudge will tackle the looming economic crisis, addressing evictions and housing insecurity. Fudge was a former Congressional Black Caucus chair and first African American and female mayor of Warrensville Heights, Ohio. On teaching Black History in schools: "The failure to teach all of America's history perpetuates and exacerbates the myth that African Americans and others were mere bystanders in the exploration, development, growth and prosperity of our country. Too many don't know the full complexity of American history and have been uninformed and misinformed about our contributions to this country."

**Amanda Gorman** | Serving as America's First US National Youth Poet Laureate, Amanda Gorman, a young, 22-year-old African American woman from Los Angeles, inspired the nation with her recitation of "The Hill We Climb" during the 2021 presidential inauguration. On writing with responsibility amidst a pandemic and racial tensions: "I have to interweave my poetry with purpose. For me, that purpose is to help people, and to shed a light on issues that have far too long been in the darkness."

**Jaki Shelton Green** | Appointed by Governor Roy Cooper in 2018 to serve as North Carolina's ninth – and first African American – Poet Laureate, Jaki Shelton Green, has been inspiring North Carolinians with her words ever since. Green is an award-winning poet and has been writing and teaching in the literary world for more than 40 years. On being an African American woman: "I've been 'othered'...left out, not included. [My poetry] means a lot for so many who see themselves on the other side of certain margins, especially people of color. I honor their stories and voices and I want to create spaces where those voices are amplified. Because I'm foolish enough to believe transformation can happen, one poem at a time."

**Kamala Harris** | Elected in November 2020, Kamala Harris made history as the first woman, first Black and first Asian-American Vice President of the United States of America. On being the first in many positions she's served in: "...breaking those barriers is worth it. As much as anything else, it is also to create that path for those who will come after us."

**Barack Obama** | Elected in November 2008, serving two consecutive terms, Barack Obama broke barriers as the first African American President of the United States of America. On hope and how it transpires in midst of challenges: "Hope—Hope in the face of difficulty. Hope in the face of uncertainty. The audacity of hope! In the end, that is God's greatest gift to us. A belief in things not seen. A belief that there are better days ahead."

**Michael S. Regan** | Having served as North Carolina's second African American Department of Environmental Quality secretary since Howard Lee, Michael Regan will now serve as the first African American US Environmental Protection Services administrator in our history, selected by President Joe Biden. On leading the EPA: "Climate change is the most significant challenge humanity faces. We'll make meaningful progress together by listening to every voice — from our youth & frontline communities to scientists & our workforce. I will be honored to be part of that work as EPA Administrator."

**Mark Robison** | Elected in November 2020, Mark Robison will serve as North Carolina's first Black Lieutenant Governor. On breaking barriers and sharing his personal story: "Young people from across the board that come from all types of disadvantaged situations, they are going to say if that guy can make it, I can make it as well."

**Raphael Warnock** | Rev. Raphael Warnock, a senior pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church – the spiritual home and place where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once preached – was elected to US Congress in a run-off special election in 2020-21. He became the first African American to represent the state of Georgia in the US Senate. On becoming Georgia's first African American US Senator: "...A son of my late father who was a pastor, a veteran and a small businessman and my mother who, as a teenager growing up in Waycross, Georgia, used to pick somebody else's cotton. But the other day, because this is America, the 82-year-old hands that used to pick cotton went to the polls and picked her youngest son to be a United States Senator."

**Union County / Anson County / Monroe, NC / Lancaster County  
Water & Sewer District**

### Chlorine Burnout FAQs - February 2021

**Water Quality Preventive Maintenance Program FAQs**

The region's water providers - Lancaster County Water and Sewer District, Union County Public Works, Anson County Public Works, and Monroe Water and Sewer - are committed to providing safe and reliable water to our residents and businesses. As part of our continuing effort to supply you with clean drinking water, we are joining together to conduct an annual Water Quality Maintenance Program.

The program will use a maintenance process that is recommended by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NC DEQ), and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC).

This program temporarily switches our water disinfectants from chloramines to chlorine for one month to help maintain the system and provide the highest quality water year-round.

**Why are we temporarily switching from chloramines to free chlorine?**

As a maintenance activity to optimize the water quality of the distribution system, the water plant will switch to free chlorine for disinfection for a period of about one month, or until the distribution system has been completely flushed. This maintenance accomplishes the following:

- Remove any biofilm and bacteria from the water distribution system pipes;
- Reduce the formation of nitrates and nitrites (nitrification);
- Reduce taste and odor complaints;
- This maintenance process is recommended by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR).

After distribution system flushing is completed, the water plant will resume utilizing chloramines.

**How long will the maintenance program take to complete?**

This routine maintenance is performed every 1-2 years for a month at a time.

**What other water quality-related steps will be taken under the program?**

Water utilities use fire hydrant flushing to move the chlorine-disinfected water through the system faster. As part of the maintenance program, utility crews will be using hydrant flushing to maintain the system, ensure high water quality, and reduce the chlorine odor and taste during the temporary switch.

**During this maintenance process, is the water safe to drink and use?**

Yes, the water is completely safe to consume and use. The water being produced and distributed to customers during this period will continue to meet all federal and state water quality standards. As always, testing will be conducted to confirm the quality of the water.

Although most customers will not notice any difference in their water, Anson County Public Works recommends that three groups of water users take the following precautions. These customers are specifically advised to seek professional advice about the appropriate steps they should take to accommodate for the change in water disinfection.

- Kidney dialysis providers/patients;
- Fish, pond, pool and aquarium owners/operators; and
- Businesses that use water in their production process.

**Will I notice any changes to my water during the program?**

Most customers may not notice any change in the water. Some customers may notice the following during this routine maintenance period:

- A slight discoloration or cloudiness in the water;
- A slight chlorine odor or taste;
- Minor fluctuations in water pressures while flushing is occurring;
- Minor discoloration in the water due to flushing the system;
- Utility crews operating fire hydrants to flush the system.

**What should customers do if they experience any discoloration or odor?**

If the water is discolored or cloudy, flush the water through an outside spigot or tub faucet for a few minutes to clear. By running the water through a spigot or tub faucet, the problem clears faster. It will not clog faucet strainers.

**Why not stay with free chlorine as a treatment process?**

While chlorine is a stronger disinfectant, chloramines are a better long-term treatment option because chlorine does not last as long in our region's systems. Chloramines provide long-lasting disinfection benefits with minimal disinfection by-products. It is also more stable in our water distribution systems and it improves odor and taste.

**Why is this maintenance activity and flushing being performed now?**

It is ideal that this maintenance activity be performed in the spring or fall of the year, when usage is low.

**For questions call the Anson County Water Department at 704-694-5208**

Union County - [www.co.anson.nc.us](http://www.co.anson.nc.us) | Anson County - [www.co.union.nc.us](http://www.co.union.nc.us) | City of Monroe - [www.monroenc.org](http://www.monroenc.org)  
Lancaster County Water & Sewer District - [www.lcwsd.org](http://www.lcwsd.org)