



March 2025

News & Events in Holly Springs Government

THE SOURCE

Mayor's Message

Hi Neighbors,

People always ask me how they can get involved in helping guide the future of our community. Two of our committees have openings available and they are both great ways to give back!

The Tree Advisory Committee has four openings with one-year terms and one opening for a junior/young adult member with a one-year term. The committee recently held a tree pruning workshop and is hosting a tree planting event for Arbor Day this month.

Four openings for residents are available on the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee, which advises the Town Council and the Parks & Recreation Department. Committee members serve as a liaison between the Town and the residents of Holly Springs and the surrounding area. Three of the open seats have terms that expire in June 2028; one has a term that ends on June 30, 2026.

If you're interested in applying, visit hollyspringsnc.gov, and look under the Government tab for details about these committees and links to the online applications. Applications will be accepted through Monday, April 7.

Yours truly,
Sean Mayefskie



hollyspringsnc.gov

One Month, Two Big Openings

This March, join the Town of Holly Springs in celebrating the opening of both Fire Station 3 and the Middle Creek Greenway!

"These two major projects represent a substantial investment in the community's future, enhancing public safety and providing regional recreational opportunities," said Mayor Sean Mayefskie.

Tour New Fire Station 3 at Open House

Keeping up with growth in the northwest region, the new Fire Station 3 at 114 Cinder Station Road near the Carolina Springs neighborhood features a single-story, three-bay building that can accommodate up to 16 firefighters. It also includes a small area for the Holly Springs Police, expanding their footprint throughout the community.

In addition to key safety components, such as modern decontamination technology that pressurizes the apparatus bay to keep contaminants out of living quarters, the station also includes amenities that make it a comfortable space for the firefighters stationed there.



Fire Station 3 Open House

Saturday, March 8, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Drop by any time to tour the station, check out fire trucks, and meet firefighters. Use the QR code to navigate to the station using Google Maps.



Middle Creek Greenway Mid-March Opening

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Monday, March 17, 11 a.m.

Walk or bicycle to meet at the trailhead at the westernmost end of Lockley Road for this event.

Get your green on and celebrate the official opening of the Middle Creek Greenway at this ribbon cutting ceremony with Town leaders.



The nearly 3-mile off-street greenway generally follows the path of Middle Creek between Sunset Lake and Holly Springs roads. The greenway will also provide a regional link via the Town of Apex's Middle Creek Greenway, currently under construction.

The new paved greenway in Holly Springs adds miles to a shorter trail segment that followed a mostly dirt path. In addition to connecting with major Town thoroughfares, residents of Arbor Creek, Bridgewater, Woodcreek, and Sunset Ridge North can enjoy neighborhood access points. Coming from across town? Use the new greenway access parking lot at the westernmost end of Lockley Road.



Safety Spotlight

Holly Springs Remains One of the Safest Towns in the State and Nation, Annual Report Indicates

Holly Springs remains one of the safest communities, especially for its size, both in the State and the nation, Police Chief Paul Liquorie noted in his department's annual report. The report highlights the Town's continued commitment to safety and the Police Department's dedication to "purposeful policing," a philosophy that achieves policing goals while considering the community's needs and values.

In calendar year 2024, Holly Springs' violent crime rate was 33 times lower, and its property crime rate was over 16 times lower than Wake County as a whole, according to the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation summary statistics.

Key findings in the report include a rise in total assault offenses from 142 to 153 incidents. Robberies increased from two in 2023 to five reported incidents in 2024.

Motor vehicle thefts also rose, from 11 incidents to 24 in the last year. The increase is attributed to groups that originated from outside Holly Springs.

Conversely, burglaries saw a significant decline of 35%, partly due to the apprehension of a serial commercial burglar through a regional effort that included Holly Springs investigators. Larceny offenses also dropped by 38%, supported by high visibility,



data-driven, deterrent patrols, and proactive investigative efforts, as well as collaboration with retail businesses, Liquorie said. Larcenies from motor vehicles also decreased below the five-year average. Sexual assaults presented a deep decline of 42% from 24 to 14, with all but one minor incident having a known acquaintance between the victim and suspect.

As the region continues to experience significant growth, the number of vehicles has increased on roadways. The Town experienced a slight rise in the overall number of collisions, and crashes involving injuries increased from 129 to 140. For the majority, patients were treated and released on the scene, or only sustained minor injuries. One fatal collision involved a motorcyclist, consistent with the previous year.

"Over the course of the last year, our officers were confronted with life-threatening situations, apprehending

armed felons and rushing into burning buildings to help evacuate elderly and handicapped residents," Liquorie said. "They revived patients in significant medical distress and recovered critically missing people. Detectives relentlessly pursued and solved complex investigations, including a regional commercial burglary trend

125	2800
community events	training hours completed by staff
340	90
pounds of unwanted medications collected	commands understood by wellness dog Kona
20%	64,977
of officers are female	calls for service

and an aggravated assault with a firearm."

Liquorie noted that the department enhanced its capabilities by adding a crime analyst, crisis negotiators, and new technologies last year. The Police also assisted other jurisdictions that were in dire need of assistance after Hurricane Helene.

Kona, a police wellness dog, joined the Holly Springs Police team and serves police officers dealing with trauma. Kona also serves as a calming influence for crime victims and as a community outreach officer at events.

The department participated in more than 125 annual events, from scouting and homeowner association meetings, to the July 5th fireworks and the Holly Days Parade.

"The men and women of the Holly Springs Police are grateful for the enduring support they receive and are pleased to continue providing innovative and professional service to our community," Liquorie said.

Read the entire Police Annual Report on the Town's Transparency Portal: hollyspringsnc.gov/transparency

Moody's Upgrades Holly Springs to Highest Aaa Credit Status

The Town of Holly Springs was upgraded to a Aaa credit rating last month, the highest financial distinction possible from Moody's Ratings. The rating was also assigned to the voter approved Parks and Recreation and Transportation Bonds debt issuance.

According to the Moody's Ratings press release the decision reflects "the diverse, broad based economic

growth driving the tax base materially higher following a 2025 revaluation. Additionally, the upgrade reflects the town's stable and significant reserve balance, driven by an experienced management team that adheres to long term financial policies."

The ratings can be compared to a credit score—the higher the rating, the better financially positioned the Town

is. That translates to lower borrowing rates and lower interest rates when a municipality must borrow money, making the Town's bonds more attractive to investors.

Also last month, S&P Global Ratings, another rating agency, reaffirmed their existing AAA rating for the Town, as well.

Celebrate Creek Week

Litter Cleanup, Story Walk, Arbor Day Tree Planting & More Planned for Week of March 15-22

Celebrate this annual regional event highlighting the importance of clean and healthy waterways.

Litter Cleanup

Saturday, March 15, 9 a.m.-noon
Ting Park, 101 Sportsmanship Way

Volunteer to clean up litter at Ting Park, which drains to the Cape Fear River, before flowing into the ocean near Wilmington, NC. Advance registration is required.

hollyspringsnc.gov/creekweek.

Arbor Day Tree Planting

Saturday, March 22, 9:30 a.m.
Holly Springs Cultural Center, 300 W Ballentine St.

Wrap up the week by participating in a tree planting ceremony to celebrate Arbor Day. Mayor Sean Mayefskie will read the Town's Arbor Day proclamation. The event also includes a reading of "An Arbor Day Tree," the planting and dedication of the tree on the Cultural Center lawn, and a photo with the Tree City USA flag.

Meet at the Tree Advisory Committee table on the side of the Cultural Center that faces Town Hall. Information about tree maintenance, coloring pages for children, and more will be available.



Story Walk

Throughout March
Womble Park, 1201 Grigsby Ave.

Bring the whole family to enjoy a story walk at Womble Park. Pages from Joel Harper's children's book "All the Way to the Ocean" will be mounted on temporary signs along the trail, allowing visitors to enjoy a journey along park trails while also following the journey of rainwater.

Purchase a Rain Barrel

Collect rainwater that runs from rooftops to use for gardens, lawns, and more. Details online:

hollyspringsnc.gov/rainbarrel

Virtual Stream Walk

Explore Middle Creek virtually with an online streamside tour. Holly Springs is actively working with other local municipalities to limit nutrients and pollutants entering the waterway. Take the virtual walk:

hollyspringsnc.gov/creekweek

Save the Date! Live at the Springs Concert in Ting Stadium

Get ready, Holly Springs! Live at the Springs returns to Ting Stadium on Saturday, May 10 for an unforgettable night of live music, great vibes, and lots of community fun.

The third annual concert will feature a Billboard award-winning band, bringing an electrifying performance to the stage! Stay tuned for the official artist announcement in March. hollyspringsnc.gov/live



Save the Date: Spring Sweep

Yard waste collection returns to carts only on a biweekly schedule March 1. Holly Springs vacuum trucks are out of service until leaf season begins again next fall.

Look up the schedule and find more info about yard waste collection: hollyspringsnc.gov/yardwaste

Residents can always take excess yard waste to the Town's Yard Waste Convenience Center off Rex Road for disposal. You can also call 311 or (919) 577-3111 to request excessive yard waste collection for an additional fee.

Mark your calendars for the Spring Sweep! The Town will offer this fee-free yard waste clean-up event April 7-11. During the Spring Sweep week, residents can place any volume of acceptable yard waste at the curb for collection on Sunday, April 6.

hollyspringsnc.gov/sweep

Annual Change in Drinking Water Treatment Method

Holly Springs drinking water might smell and taste more like chlorine in March and early April because of an annual change in the treatment. It will still be safe to drink.

The State requires a month-long switchover each year for a balancing of treatment methods. This year, the water treatment plant that supplies Holly Springs is completing maintenance, which will require a few additional weeks of chlorine treatment, through April 14.

hollyspringsnc.gov/water



HOLLY SPRINGS
farmers market

every saturday
year-round
9:00 - noon
by the
cultural center

30+ vendors weekly
kids' activities



www.HSFarmersMarket.com

Town Road Project Work Ramps Up with Warmer Weather

With the return of warmer weather conducive to paving, residents will notice an uptick in active construction projects on roads throughout Holly Springs. Construction of transportation bond-funded turn lane projects on N.C. 55 and Main Street is set to begin soon, work on Holly Springs Road continues, and additional projects are gearing up.

N.C. 55 & Main Street Turn Lanes

The Town is adding a new right turn lane on N.C. 55 southbound from Avent Ferry Road to Main Street. The Town also is building a northbound right turn lane along Main Street from near Earp Street to Holly Springs Road. It will provide stacking room for traffic turning onto Holly Springs Road so that northbound traffic can keep moving. Drivers may notice occasional lane closures during off-peak hours.

Intelligent Traffic Signals

Traffic signal cabinet equipment around Holly Springs is being modernized by the NCDOT – the next step in developing an intelligent traffic signal network that will allow real-time monitoring for vehicle flow optimization. Through mid-June, drivers may notice workers installing

the new hardware, which could cause temporary lane closures and signals in flash mode or powered off. Traffic will be directed, and some signal work may occur at night for safety and driver convenience.

Holly Springs Road Construction

Road construction on east Holly Springs Road continues. Activities anticipated to wrap up mid-year include finishing the bridge over Middle Creek and building eastbound lanes. The next step is installing medians and the roundabout, expected to begin later this year.

Read more about an Enbridge Gas project along Holly Springs Road between Raleigh Street and Fire Station 1 below.

Other Projects

Construction of a sidewalk connection along Avent Ferry Road between the hospital and downtown is anticipated to begin this summer. Also, replacement of sidewalk ramps so they meet ADA requirements in the downtown area continues.

hollyspringsnc.gov/projects

Enbridge Gas Project Affects Holly Springs Road

A detour and lane shift will affect drivers and pedestrians on Holly Springs Road between Raleigh Street and Bass Lake Road for an Enbridge Gas project. The company, formerly Dominion Energy, is upsizing its gas main along the road frontage.

For a couple of weeks during the first phase of construction, which could begin in late February at the earliest, drivers traveling from Main Street toward Sunset Lake Road will be detoured onto Raleigh Street, Earp Street, and Bass Lake Road between 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on weekdays.

Drivers on Holly Springs Road traveling toward Main Street will switch lanes to the opposite side of the road during these hours. Access to the school and nearby homes and businesses will remain available throughout construction.

The sidewalk between Raleigh Street and Bass Lake Road will be closed in sections during construction, with the section between Raleigh Street and Cayman Avenue expected to close first. Pedestrians should find an alternate route.

Additional lane shifts and detours are expected during the several-months-long project. Watch for signage along the road, which will announce lane closures and detours closer to the construction date.

For questions about the gas company's project, contact Enbridge at (919) 819-1325.



Spring Fun for Everyone

Spring in Holly Springs is a vibrant time of year, and the Town is hosting a number of annual festivals and events you won't want to miss.

Chalk of the Town

Saturday, March 15, 1:30-4:30 p.m.
Cultural Center

Explore the creative works of local artists or showcase your own talent: artists of all ages and skill levels are invited to Chalk of the Town around the Holly Springs Cultural Center.

Enjoy a crafts and activities area for young artists, food vendors, music, and more!

hollyspringsnc.gov/chalk



Community Yard Sale

Saturday, March 29, 8 a.m.-noon
Ting Park

Ready to clean out your garage or attic... or shop for treasures? The Ting Stadium parking lot is converted into a community-wide yard sale for this annual event.

hollyspringsnc.gov/communityyardsale

Spring Fling

Saturday, April 5, 10 a.m.-noon
Ting Stadium

Bring the whole family for a morning of games, activities (some may have a fee), bunny meet and greets, and huge egg hunt for children ages 8 and younger. When it's time for the egg hunt, make sure your children's laces are tied and their toes are on the line! When the announcer says go, children scramble across the field collecting thousands of candy- and toy-filled eggs.

hollyspringsnc.gov/springfling

