



Spring 2010

The Indian Trail Blazer

A Great Community Since 1907

Indian Trail CENSUS 2010

We Can't Move Forward Until You Mail It Back!

Indian Trail needs your help! All citizens of the town have a part to play in shaping our community's future by participating in an historic event -

the 2010 U.S. Census

More than 130 million addresses across the nation will receive a short, 10-question census form. You will receive your census questionnaire in March 2010, either by U.S. mail or hand delivery. Some people in remote areas will be counted in person.

Census data directly affect how more than **\$400 billion** per year in federal funding is distributed to tribal, state and local governments, and will impact the quality of life in our community. Additionally, census data determine which schools receive funding for improvements; where new hospitals and roads will be built; and how we are represented at all levels of government. That's why it's so important that you fill in the form and promptly mail it back.

Since 1990, the town has experienced a tremendous amount of growth. The town has seen its residential population go from 1,942 in 1990 to 11,905 in 2000 to 27,161 in 2005. Your participation in the 2010 Census is essential! Our community will greatly benefit from a complete participation of our citizens. Did you know that this survey is completely confidential?

By law, the Census Bureau cannot share an individual's responses with anyone, including other federal agencies and law enforcement entities.

Indian Trail Census Day: April 1, 2010

The Town of Indian Trail will recognize April 1 as "National Census Day". You can use this day as a point of reference for sending your completed forms back in the mail.

Come join us on March 29 at the Indian Trail Civic Building for a **"Census Breakfast"**. You can fill out a form, have a doughnut and a cup of coffee - all at the same time!

Interested in more information?

Visit the U.S. Census website at:
www.2010.census.gov

Or our website:
www.IndianTrail.org



IT'S IN OUR HANDS

Arbor Day

INDIAN TRAIL EARTH DAY

The Town of Indian Trail is hosting its 3rd annual Earth Day Arbor Day Festival. This day-long celebration will kick off with our annual community clean-up event.

We welcome individuals, neighbors or civic groups to join the town in keeping Indian Trail a beautiful place to live and visit. You may choose a street, road, or neighborhood you wish to clean or the Town can choose an area in need, for you. Gloves, bags and safety vests are provided to all volunteers.

When: Saturday, April 24th
Where: Indian Trail Civic Building
Time: 8:00 a.m.

Volunteers from Town Hall will be serving coffee, juice and bagels at the start of the event in appreciation to all who volunteer. So mark your calendars, gather up your friends and join us in our continuing efforts to keep Indian Trail "clean and green". Please contact Trena or Susan at (704) 821-8114 for more information on the Clean-up.

Volunteer Registration is Required by Monday, April 19th!

Saturday, April 24th
8:00 –2:00 p.m.

At
Indian Trail Town Hall
100 Navajo Trail

Annual Clean up 8:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m.

Earth Day Arbor Day Festival
10:00—2:00 p.m.

The fun does not stop with the Clean Up event! The Earth Day Arbor Day festival starts at 10:00 a.m. following the clean-up event. This festival has

something for everyone!

- Town will receive its Tree City USA award
- Various educational classes on the environment, trees, and other related programs.
- Announcement of poetry and rain barrel contest winners from the Town's elementary and middle schools.
- Bluegrass Band
- Bounce House and fun for the kids
- Ceremonial tree planting at Town Hall to honor Arbor Day and Earth Day.
- Kids bicycle and helmet safety checks
- Free Bike Give-away!
- Food, Fun, and more!

For more information on this event, please visit



Park and Greenway Master Plan

The Town of Indian Trail will soon have its first ever Park and Greenway Master Plan. This plan has been developed with guidance from the Parks, Tree and Greenway Committee, which served as the plan steering committee. There was an extensive public input process of community meetings and online surveys. These methods of public outreach were used to understand the types of recreational facilities that are most used by the residents and needed for Indian Trail.

The steering committee has produced a recommendation of approval to the Planning Board and Town Council. In February 2010, the steering committee presented this plan to the Planning Board and Town Council for consideration and adoption.

Interested in looking at the draft Plan? There are hard copies available in several civic locations, including the Town Hall, the Development Services Building, and Union West Library. There is also a copy of the plan available in digital format on the Park Plan homepage. You can access it by going to the Town's website www.indiantrail.org and clicking on the "Park Plan Homepage" under "Quicklinks" on the right hand side of the page.

The Park and Greenway Master Plan will incorporate all types of parks and greenways. Specifically, the Plan addresses five types of parks. The different parks are identified as Mini Parks (1-5 acres), Neighborhood Parks (5-10 acres), Community Parks (20-50 acres), and District Parks (80-150 acres), and greenways. Some of these facilities will include ball fields, playgrounds, running and walking paths, and much more.



Prototype of a typical playground

Bike **it**

Come join in the fun! Indian Trail will kick-off its first Bike Plan project on Saturday, April 24, 2010 at the Earth Day / Arbor Day Celebration. The goal is to develop a plan so bicyclist, pedestrian, and motorist alike can travel safely. The development of the town-wide bicycle plan is possible due to a \$35,000 grant received from the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT).

The kick-off celebration will provide free bicycle and helmet safety inspections, bicycle maintenance classes, and a bicycle give-away! These safety inspections and classes are geared towards the kids, so load up the bikes for a fun filled day of celebration.

Bicycle Tip #1:

Wear a Helmet!

The first rule of riding scooters, skateboards, bikes, and rollerblades is "Wear a Helmet"



Bicycle Safety Inspection

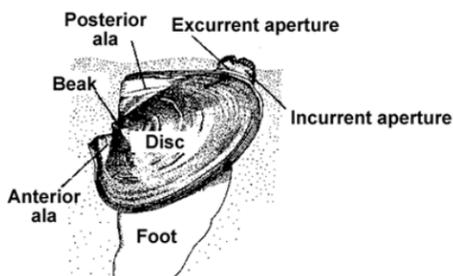
For more information on this upcoming event and bicycle safety tips visit our website at www.indiantrail.org.



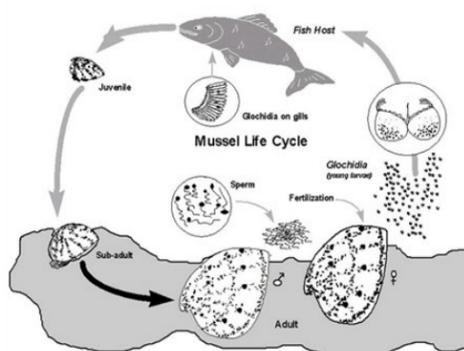
The Carolina Heelsplitter

The Carolina heelsplitter was first described in 1852 and at that time it flourished in several locations in the Catawba and Pee Dee River systems. Over the years, declining water quality conditions have significantly reduced the occurrence of the species. The US Fish and Wildlife Service designated the Carolina heelsplitter as an endangered species on June 30, 1993. Today only six populations are known to survive. One of these populations is located in Goose Creek in the vicinity of the Towns of Mint Hill, Stallings and Indian Trail.

The Carolina heelsplitter is a freshwater mussel. Mussels are mollusks, soft bodied animals enclosed by a shell. They are benthic (bottom dwelling), anchored to the streambed by their foot. Water, filled with food and oxygen, enters through the incurrent aperture. They strain out and digest decayed plants and other matter. This removes organic material from the water and prevents a build-up of nutrients. They expel the water through their excurrent aperture.



The life cycle of freshwater mussels is complex and unique. The whole process revolves around the fertilization of the female brought about by water currents. After weeks, the female releases the young larvae or glochidia which attach to a fish host. They remain attached for several weeks, getting nourishment from, but not hurting their host. The juvenile mussel then drops from the fish and if it finds suitable water free of pollution it will continue to develop to adulthood.



Mussels are not very mobile and are therefore very sensitive to pollution. The Carolina Heelsplitter like most mussels needs cool, clean, well-oxygenated water to survive. Stable creeks that are relatively dirt free are also important. The best way to keep the creeks and their banks stable is to maintain the buffers or plant growth along the creek. The Goose Creek Water Quality Recovery Program, which is being implemented by Mecklenburg County and the Towns of Mint Hill, Stallings and Indian Trail in accordance with State and Federal laws, aims to guide efforts to improve water quality conditions in Goose Creek thus protecting the Carolina heelsplitter.

For more information on what you can do to protect water quality conditions in

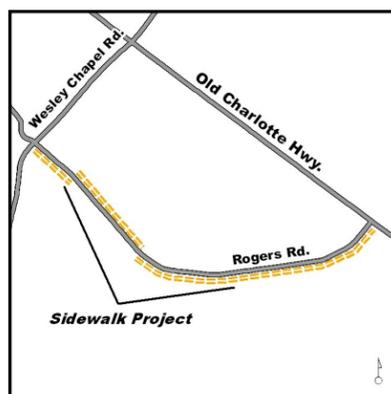
Goose Creek, visit <http://stormwater.charmeck.org> and select "Pollution Prevention." To learn more about the Goose Creek Water Quality Recovery Program, select "Storm Water Professionals," "Water Quality" and "TMDLs-Mecklenburg County."



PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

March 30, 2010

The Town of Indian Trail will hold a Public Meeting regarding Rogers Road Sidewalk Project and Unionville Indian Trail Road Sidewalk Project on March 30, 2010 from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm in the Town of Indian Trail Civic Building, 100 Navajo Trail. This will be a drop-in format.



Rogers Road Sidewalk



Unionville Indian Trail Road Sidewalk

Construction funding for these sidewalk projects comes from the federally funded Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program. Please contact the Engineering Department at 704-821-1314 for additional information.

UCSO-Indian Trail Bureau

Citizen Observer

The Union County Sheriff Office utilizes Citizen Observer to notify citizens about crimes, emergencies, and other important information. Citizen Observer is a web based notification toolset for law enforcement that enables citizens to receive and respond to text, email, and web alerts.

Alerts: Using Citizen Observer, UCSO can send outbound messages to targeted public and private groups via email and text message.

Publishing: Alerts are posted to the web and can be published to our UCSO website, Google maps and social networks like Facebook automatically via RSS feed.

Tips: tip411 enables the public to text an anonymous tip that can be responded to by authorized personnel in the UCSO.

Registration is **FREE** and **EASY**

1. Go to www.citizenobserver.com;
2. Complete the Registration form
3. Sign in, select "watch group"; Search using 28079; locate your neighborhood, or the nearest to you; become a member of your neighborhood's watch group to get alerts for your neighborhood.

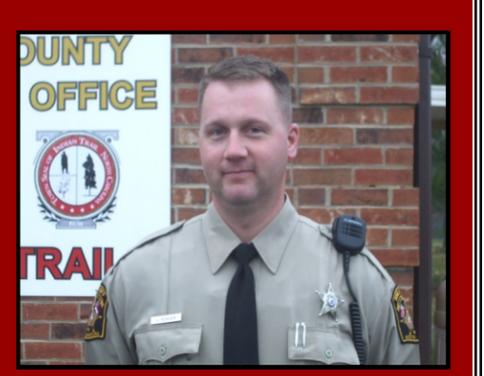
New Community Resource Deputy Deputy Jeremy Schoen

The Union County Sheriff's Office Indian Trail Bureau has added a Community Resource Deputy. The Community Resources Deputy is a key position that will allow Deputy Schoen to meet and discuss long term problems for neighborhoods and focus on creative solutions.

Deputy Schoen will be a point of contact to coordinate activities between the Sheriff's Office and town residents to include: HOA Meetings, Civic Meetings, Community Watch, Business Watch etc. He will also be conducting problem solving efforts within the town, to address nuisance issues and to collect data for Criminal Investigators and Traffic Enforcement efforts.

Deputy Schoen is also available for school functions for the nine separate schools within the town. He can be contacted by email:

JeremySchoen@co.union.nc.us
or by phone @ 704-684-6390.



Yard Debris Burn Ordinance

The Indian Trail Town Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at 7 p.m., to consider a Yard Debris Burn Ordinance. The development of the draft ordinance was tasked to the Public Safety Committee last fall.

The draft ordinance is an attempt to limit burning of yard waste and debris, such as tree limbs, grass, and leaves, by prohibiting the activity within 100 feet of a residential structure, and requiring that a permit be obtained from the North Carolina Department of Forest Resources. The Committee believes that due to the nature of Indian Trail's urban structure, with a mixture of high-density development and low-density rural areas, the ordinance could work well. The safety concerns in newer development would be addressed with the limitation of burning within 100 ft of a structure, but it would still allow for the activity in more established and rural areas through the NCD-FR Permit - an easy and free process which can be found online at www.dfr.state.nc.us.

Several of the committee members, including some with emergency response experience, believe it will work well. They commented on growing concern about potentially needing to respond to a yard debris burn call in a

high density subdivision on a windy day, and have what could be a small incident in more rural areas, turn into a major tragedy, where multiple houses are destroyed, and lives are put at risk.

The Council heard the initial draft Ordinance on November 10, 2009, presented by Brian McLamb, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee. The draft ordinance returned to the Committee for further examination of the enforcement options. The Committee recommends the Indian Trail Code Enforcement handle the enforcement of the ordinance and address all violations. The local Volunteer Fire Departments also agreed to aid the town in reporting the violations and educate the public on the new ordinance.

Additional information can be found on the Town's website, www.indiantrail.org, or you can contact Luke Fawcett, Staff Liaison for the committee at lff@planning.indiantrail.org.



Indian Trail Town Council Contact Information

John J. Quinn Mayor	(704) 821-7671	mayor@council.indiantrail.org
Jeffrey L. Goodall Mayor Pro Tem	(704) 207-9103	jgoodall@council.indiantrail.org
John A. Hullinger	(704) 882-4309	jhullinger@council.indiantrail.org
Gary D'Onofrio	(704) 893-4605	gdonofrio@council.indiantrail.org
Robert Allen	(704) 821-9445 ext 21	rallen@council.indiantrail.org
Darlene Luther	(704) 661-5922	dluther@council.indiantrail.org



From left to right: Mayor Quinn, Councilmember Hullinger, Mayor Pro Tem Goodall, Councilmember Luther, Councilmember D'Onofrio, Councilmember Allen.



Town of
INDIAN TRAIL
north carolina

PO Box 2430
Indian Trail, NC 28079
www.indiantrail.org

New Town Manager To Start March 1, 2010

After an intensive nationwide search that attracted 117 candidates, the Indian Trail Town Council has unanimously selected Joseph A. Fivas to serve as Indian Trail's next Town Manager. Mr. Fivas currently serves as the City Manager for the City of Owosso, Michigan.

Prior to his tenure in Owosso, Mr. Fivas was the Assistant Director of State Affairs for the Michigan Municipal League and served as a Policy Advisor to the Michigan Speaker of the House. Mr. Fivas holds a Law Degree from Thomas M. Cooley Law School and a Master of Public Administration and a Bachelor of Science, both from Central Michigan University. Mr. Fivas has a proven track record which includes business development, securitization of grant funding, and the development of parks and walking trails which have enhanced the quality of life activities for residents.

The Town Council embarked on a thorough recruitment process several months ago to seek out the most competitive candidates nationwide. With the assistance of Jim Mercer of the Mercer Group, Inc., an Atlanta based executive search firm, the candidate field was narrowed to a select few candidates and the Town Council made the final selection.

"I am confident Joe will be an excellent Town Manager for Indian Trail. It's going to be fantastic as we meet the challenges and *take advantage of the opportunities* in front of us. We are excited about the new ideas Joe will bring to our Town. His knowledge, leadership, and extensive community and economic development experience will be essential to propel Indian Trail forward," said Mayor Pro-Tem Jeff Goodall. "Each of us on the Council looks forward to engage such a motivated and seasoned leader to join our Town family."

"My wife Julie and I are eager to bring our family to Indian Trail and excited to experience all that the Town has to offer. We have family in the area, and know what a wonderful opportunity this will be for us. Indian Trail has a reputation as a great place to live, work, learn, and raise a family," said Mr. Fivas. "I look forward to working with the Town Council, the business community, community residents and Town staff to continue to develop a strategic direction for the future growth of Indian Trail"

In addition to his outstanding leadership and management skills, the Town Council was impressed with his dedication to public service and genuine commitment to the community in which he has served.

2010-2011 Budget Schedule

March 13 Saturday	Town Council 2010/11 Goals and Initiative Session 9:00am to 5:00pm
May 6 Thursday	Budget Workshop with Mayor and Council 6:00pm – 9:00pm
May 17 Monday	Final workshop to review proposed budget by Council, 6:00pm – 9:00pm
May 28 Friday	Proposed budget ready for public review and on website (draft)
June 8 Tuesday	Regular meeting – public hearing on budget
June 22 Tuesday	Budget adopted at June Council Meeting



TAX FACTS 2010

Property Tax Notice: Tax bills for the year 2009 were due on September 1, 2009 and became delinquent on January 6, 2010. Interest has been added to all outstanding balances at the rate of 2% for the month of January and will accrue at the rate of 3/4 of 1% each month on the 1st day of the month until paid in full. If you have any questions concerning a tax matter, please call (704) 821-4951 and speak with a tax representative. Final notices were mailed on February 1, 2010.

NOW AVAILABLE: You can now use credit /debit cards to pay your taxes online at www.paybill.com/indiantrail or by calling 1-866-440-5242. Please note a convenience fee will be charged by a third party for using the service. Payments are still accepted by mail or may be paid at Town Hall, 100 Navajo Trail, Indian Trail, NC with cash, check or money order.

Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated in order that the Town of Indian Trail may still service the communities' needs.

Help Keep Indian Trail Clean Adopt-A-Highway

Are you or your group looking to commit to keeping Indian Trail clean? Consider participating in NCDOT Adopt-A-Highway program. Groups including school, civic, business, professional, religious and social groups can participate.

How does it work?

Each adopted section of highway is approximately two miles long. Volunteer groups sign contracts with NCDOT agreeing to remove litter from their adopted stretch a minimum of four times each year. Heavily-traveled roads may require additional pick-ups.



NCDOT posts signs at each end of the adopted section with a group's name to show its participation in the program. NCDOT provides safety training, safety vests and trash bags. Initially the adopted highway is contracted for four years.

For more information visit

www.ncdot.org/doh/Operations/dp_chief_eng/roadside/Beautification/Highway/
Or contact the local program Coordinator Tiffani Mullis at (704) 289-1397.


 PO Box 2430
 Indian Trail, North Carolina
www.indiantrail.org