

# CONNECTIONS FALL 2025



Greenville Utilities' Customer Newsletter • guc.com • (252) 752-7166

## CEASE THE GREASE: Holiday Cooking Shouldn't Ruin Your Plumbing

Save yourself any pain in the drain, and don't pour fats, oils, and grease down your sink drains while you are cooking for the holidays (or anytime for that matter).

Hot grease is a liquid, but when it cools it solidifies and sticks to the interior of your pipes. This will cause blockages and clogged pipes in your home's plumbing system. Clearing out the clogs can be expensive. These things can also clog sewer lines and lead to sewer spills, which are bad for the environment.

MYTH: Running hot water along with the fats, oil and grease helps. FALSE! Don't believe the myth that it's okay to pour grease down the drain as long as you run the water at the same time. No amount of hot water keeps grease from eventually congealing. This only gets the grease through part of the pipes in your home. Once it goes into the sewer and cools, it sticks to the walls of the pipes and creates an expensive and messy problem of sewer backups - for you, for your neighbors, and for the creeks and rivers in your neighborhood.



#### Here are some more ways to Cease the Grease -

- Wipe and/or scrape your dishes before washing them.
- Remove excess oil from pots and pans with a paper towel and throw away the towel in a trash can.
- Remove oil and grease from dishes, pans, fryers, and griddles. Cool first before you skim, scrape, or wipe off excess grease and put it into the trash.
- Scrape food scraps from dishes into trash cans or garbage bags.
- Use strainers in sink drains to collect food scraps and throw away the scraps in the trash.
- Avoid using your garbage disposal.
- Put used fat, oil, and grease in a foiled lined bag, such as a foiled coffee bag or a used soup or vegetable can. GUC has reusable lids, free of charge. Call 252-329-2199 if you'd like one for your kitchen.

### **NEW GUC BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS**

The Greenville City Council has appointed Robert (Bob) Shaw and Simon Swain to three-year terms on the Greenville Utilities Board of Commissioners. Their terms became effective on July 1, 2025.

Commissioner Shaw is a retired Pulmonary Critical Care Doctor who served in private practice as well as taught at ECU and Pitt Community College. Commissioner Swain worked as a manager for DuPont before starting his second career as an Information Technology professional. They are now retired. Board members serve three-year terms, with a maximum of two terms. At the July 17 meeting, the Board of Commissioners elected Mark Garner, Ferrell Blount, and Wanda Carr as their officers.







Simon Swain

For more information about GUC Board of Commissioners, visit quc.com/board-commissioners.



Protecting public health is the number one goal of our Water Treatment Plant (WTP) staff and it shows in each year's Water Quality Reports. Not only do they consistently meet state and federal drinking water standards - they exceed them. Another way their dedication shows is through the awards they receive year after year.

This year, our WTP staff earned one of the most prestigious awards in the industry – the "Five Year National Directors Award" from the Partnership for Safe Water (PSW). "I'm really proud of our team," said Julius Patrick, WTP Facility Manager. "This is a dedicated group effort. Only six other utilities in North Carolina have ever achieved the Directors Award recognition, which goes to show the team's ongoing commitment to protecting public health."

### **COMMUNITY SOLAR PROGRAM EXPANDS ELIGIBILITY**



GUC's Board of Commissioners voted to change the eligibility and subscription options for the new Community Solar Program. The changes will offer more opportunities for customer participation.

We are now allowing commercial and industrial customers to enroll in the program. We've also removed the five-panel limit to which a customer can subscribe. Customers who wish to participate will pay a one-time, per-panel subscription fee, then each month, they will pay a monthly fee and receive a monthly credit (based on the previous year's energy output). When customers sign up, they will be given the choice of paying the subscription fee up front, or over a 12-month period.

GUC is the second public utility in North Carolina to run a community solar program, which will give our electric residential, commercial, and industrial customers the option to subscribe to solar panels and receive credits on their utility bills.

Learn more about how you can participate by visiting guc.com/solar!

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For more news about GUC, please visit our website, guc.com.







