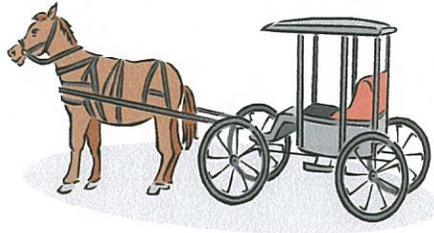


Town of Carthage Service Guide

Revised June 2012



Website - www.townofcarthage.org

Home of the famous Carthage Buggy Festival held annually on the Friday
night and Saturday of Mother's Day weekend

Website - www.thebuggyfestival.com

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Population/Land Area

The current population of the Town of Carthage is 2,213. Carthage encompasses a land area of five square miles. Maps and information about Carthage are available at the Town Hall.

Town Property Tax Rate

Call Town Hall for the current rate.

History/Background

Carthage has a long, proud history as the county seat of Moore County. The Town's first courthouse was built in 1785 and was a log cabin on twelve foot stilts. A survey was commissioned to lay out approximately sixty acres within two miles of the center of the County as the county seat of Moore County, which it has remained ever since. The courthouse was built on the highest point in the area that was surveyed. On December 23, 1796, the North Carolina General Assembly officially approved the charter for Carthage, establishing the first town in Moore County.

Through the early 1800's a few small commercial enterprises were established in the town, mainly to support the county courthouse.

In the 1850's the economy of the town received a boost when Carthage was made part of the route of an ambitious plank road that was built to Fayetteville and other towns to the west. The Tyson and Jones Buggy Company established a buggy factory in the center of town and for many decades served as the largest manufacturer of buggies and carriages in the United States. In the 1890's and 1900's, the town continued to flourish as the plank road was supplemented by a railroad and many small commercial establishments were able to thrive in the town.

Administration

947-2331

The Town of Carthage administrative offices are located at the William C. Walton Municipal Building (Town Hall), 4396 Hwy 15/501. The mailing address for all town departments is 4396 Hwy 15/501, Carthage, NC 28327.

- *Town Board of Commissioners.* The Mayor and five Commissioners serve the Town of Carthage. The Town Board provides ordinances, rules and regulations as necessary for the public.

- *Town Manager.* Responsibilities include ensuring the effective operation of services, recommendations on policies to the Town Board and implementation of policies adopted by the Town Board and acts as Zoning Administrator.
- *Town Clerk.* The clerk is responsible for taking minutes at council meetings, certifying ordinances and acts as Special Event Coordinator.
- *Advisory Boards and Committees.* Citizens serving on various advisory boards and committees help run the town government by shaping and carrying out policy.

Unless otherwise posted, the Planning Board meets the first Thursday of every month and the Commissioners meet the third Tuesday of every month at the McDonald Building. Special meetings are posted on the bulletin board at Town Hall. Public hearings are posted on the bulletin board and advertised in The Pilot. All meetings are open to the public. Persons wishing to apply for appointment to a board or committee should contact the Town Clerk.

Public Safety

Police - 947-2231

Fire - 947-2226

Call 911 for emergency service from the police department, fire department or emergency medical services. The county has an enhanced 911 system, which usually displays the address of the location from which a 911 call is placed on a screen at the Communications Center, unless the call is made from a cell phone.

- *Police Protection.* All areas within the Town limits receive protection from the Town of Carthage Police Department. The Police Department is located at the Town Hall, 4396 Hwy 15/501. The Police Department provides a wide range of services, including crime prevention programming, Community Watch, community policing services, crime investigation and crime analysis, among others. If you would like the police to keep a watch on your home while you are away, please call the department.
- *Fire Protection.* The Carthage Fire Department protects persons and property from fire damage and responds to calls within the Town limits and the Carthage Fire District.
- *Animal Control.* It is a violation of the city's Animal Control Ordinance to allow dogs or cats to annoy neighbors through excess noise, to run at large without proper collar and identification, to run at large while in heat or while creating a public nuisance such as bothering, threatening or chasing people, cyclists or vehicles or spreading garbage or damaging public property. Vicious dogs and livestock are prohibited from the town.

- *Parking Tickets.* Pay parking tickets at the Municipal Building, 4396 Hwy 15/501. Persons with questions about a parking ticket should call the Police Department.
- *Abandoned Vehicles.* Vehicles left or abandoned on city property or on any public street in the city limits can be removed by the city at the owner's expense. Complaints or reports of abandoned vehicles may be forwarded to the Police Department.

Public Works

947-5041, 947-2331

The Public Works Department delivers services such as street maintenance, sanitation, water and sewer and cemetery maintenance.

- *Streets.* The street division of the Public Works Department provides the following services: street maintenance, sidewalk maintenance, street lighting, street sweeping and drainage activities. Complaints or reports of potholes, street light outages, drainage problems or sidewalks in need of repair may be forwarded to the Public Works Department.
- *Sanitation.* This division is responsible for the collection of household garbage and yard waste. Household garbage is picked up on Monday mornings and should be placed next to the street in the container provided before 6:00 a.m. Yard waste is picked up every other Monday morning. Grass clippings or leaves, should be placed in bags next to the street before 7:00 a.m. Limbs may be placed next to the street if they are no more than 6 feet in length or 3 inches in diameter. Visit our website or call Town Hall for a schedule.
- *Recycling.* A recycling container is located in the far right corner of the parking lot at the William C. Walton Municipal Building (Town Hall). Residents should sort recyclables from household waste and deposit in this container.

Items that **should** be placed in this container include:

Plastic Bottles
Aluminum Cans
Steel Food Cans
Tin & Steel Aerosol Cans (Empty)
Glass Bottles (Clear, Green & Brown)
Newspaper/Magazines/Mail
Phone Books/Office Paper
Cardboard - Non waxed

All items must be empty and clean. Cardboard boxes must be broken down and flattened.

Items that **should not** be placed in this container include:

- NO Garbage or Plastic Bags
- NO Ice Cream Containers
- NO Foam Egg Cartons
- NO Compact Discs or DVD's
- NO Paper Towels, Napkins, Cups or Plates
- NO Styrofoam Items
- NO Toys or Sporting Goods

- *Cemetery.* The Town owns and maintains Cross Hill Cemetery, located on McReynolds Street, at the western edge of the corporate limits. Maintenance on the property is undertaken by the Town. Plots in the new section of the cemetery are available for sale at the Town Hall.
- *Water and Sewer.* Accounts are billed every month and are due on the 25th of the following month. "Past Due" accounts are subject to a \$50.00 penalty fee and immediate disconnection of service. Routine maintenance is provided on water and sewer lines to keep them operating properly.

To request water and sewer service or report a problem contact Town Hall. The after hours emergency number is 783-5723.

Finance Department

947-2331

The Finance Department administers the Town's financial policies and procedures, maintains the Town's sound financial condition and consults with the Town officials and management in the on going administration of Town financial activities. Financial management functions include financial accounting, investments, managerial accounting, multi-year program accounting, payroll, revenue collections and financial reporting to appropriate agencies.

- *Accounts Payable.* Invoices are received from vendors for all goods and services rendered.
- *Budget.* Each year Carthage Town Council approves the town's budget and sets the property tax rate based on the assessed value or property inside the city limits. Town Council develops the budget during the winter and spring prior to a new fiscal year, which runs from July 1-June 30. Opportunities are given for public input. Copies of the budget document are on file at the Town Hall, 4396 Hwy 15/501.

Planning and Zoning

947-2331

This division includes areas of responsibility for administration and enforcement of town zoning, subdivision, minimum housing, nuisance ordinances, as well as coordination of annexation procedures. Contact Town Hall if you have questions regarding zoning or subdivision regulations, or to apply for a permit for a new business, a building project, a sign or to subdivide property. Complaints regarding substandard buildings which violate the Town minimum housing ordinance, or about junked vehicles, tall grass, or an accumulation of junk or debris may be forwarded to the Code Enforcement Officer at 947-2231.

Annexation

947-2331

Annexation into the town limits is required before a property owner can tap onto town water or sewer services. Applications for voluntary annexation into the Town of Carthage may be obtained from the Town Clerk.

Elections

Municipal elections for Mayor and Town Board of Commissioners are held every odd numbered year. All officials are elected at large for staggered four year terms. Persons age 18 or older residing in the Carthage town limits may vote. Contact the Moore County Board of Elections at 947-3868 regarding voter and candidate registration.

Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) **947-2331**

The Extraterritorial Planning and Zoning Jurisdiction extends one (1) mile from the town limits. The Town of Carthage enforces zoning and subdivision standards, the N.C. State Building Code and issues permits in these areas and in the town limits. ETJ boundaries are shown on the zoning map at Town Hall.

Permits, Licenses and Certificates **947-2331**

A list of all permits, licenses and certificates, as well as a fee schedule, is available at the Town Hall. A permit or license is required for all businesses in town, all building projects, installation of signs or requests to subdivide property. Please contact Town Hall for further information. Any business that moves into a building in town must contact the Moore County Fire Marshall at 947-6500.

Parks and Recreation Facilities

Moore County provides recreation programming services for the Town of Carthage as well as the rest of Moore County. Moore County Parks and Recreation maintains Hillcrest Park, Lake Luke Marion and the walking trail on Pinehurst Avenue. The Town maintains Caviness Park on Barrett Street and Nancy Kiser Park next to the Elementary School on Rockingham Street, which includes the Jerrell Dutton Athletic Field.

McDonald Building/Community Building

The McDonald Building on McReynolds Street houses the Town Board of Commissioners meetings, as well as being available to the public for rent. The Community Building, which is across the street from the McDonald Building, is also available for rent. Contact Town Hall if you are interested in renting either building for an event.

Numbers to Call

Emergency	
Fire, Police, Sheriff, Medical	911
Carthage Police (non-emergency)	947-2231
Carthage Fire (non-emergency)	947-2226
Carthage Town Hall/Utility Billing/ Planning/Zoning	947-2331
Carthage Public Works	947-5041
Emergency (after hours)	783-5723
Carthage Water Plant	947-5100
Carthage Post Office	947-2377
CenturyLink (telephone)	864-9011
Progress Energy (electric)	800-452-2777
Time Warner Cable	692-6684
Moore County Library	947-6325
Schools	
Carthage Elementary	947-2781
New Century Middle	947-1301
Union Pines High	947-5511
Moore County Offices	
Clerk of Court (Courthouse)	722-5000
Animal Control	947-2858

Board of Elections	947-3868
Building Inspections	947-2221
Health Department	947-3300
Register of Deeds	947-6372
Social Services	947-2436
Tax Information	947-2255