March 17, 2025



Alamance County Board of Commissioners John P. Paisley, Chair 124 West Elm Street Graham, NC 27253

cc: Tory Frink, Kelly Allen

Dear Chairman Paisley,

Greetings from New Leaf Society (NLS). As you know, NLS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that works to improve the curb appeal of Alamance County. We achieve this by forming public-private partnerships with local municipalities to improve landscaping in public spaces, such as roadways, gateways, parks, and downtown business districts. In addition to landscaping projects, NLS actively participates in environmental celebrations, sustainability initiatives, planting days, and litter campaigns.

Considering that you are among our valued municipal partners, we are writing today to request that the Alamance County Commissioners proclaim the weeks of April 12-26, 2025, as Alamance County's Litter Sweep to coincide with the North Carolina Department of Transportation's Spring Litter Sweep campaign. In 2024, NCDOT invested \$25.8 million statewide to collect 12.7 million pounds of litter. To combat this growing issue, NCDOT invites volunteers to participate in this biannual event and provides essential supplies, including orange trash bags, protective gloves, and volunteer reflective vests. NCDOT maintenance crews also participate and collect the trash bags left by volunteers along the right-of-way. For more details about participation, please contact Alamance County's local coordinator, Ann Bratton, at <u>eabratton@ncdot.gov</u>.

As a group of active volunteers, business leaders, and stakeholders, NLS believes that efforts to enhance the appearance of our communities' roadways and public greenspaces are diminished by the presence of litter. It will take an ongoing and coordinated effort from community leaders across the County to raise awareness of this issue and to encourage citizens to take initiative in their own communities. We hope you will consider holding a Litter Sweep within your organization, as well. Please find attached more information about NCDOT's Litter Sweep, plus a sample proclamation to use for this occasion. We hope you will read the proclamation aloud at your April 7th Commissioners' meeting.

Thank you for your consideration of the transformative work that NLS and its partners are undertaking for the benefit of Alamance County's residents. We appreciate your time and attention for understanding this need.

Sincerely,

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Allen E. Gant, Jr. Chairman, New Leaf Society

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