

Henderson County North Carolina

Know Your Local and County Government

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League of Women Voters of Henderson County
www.lwvhenc.org

2018 Edition



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®
www.lwv.org

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The League of Women Voters of Henderson County (LWVHC) publishes this booklet to provide information to citizens to encourage their full participation in the governmental process. Its purpose is to provide basic data on government agencies and services in Henderson County. We wish to thank the Henderson County Board of Commissioners, the municipal governments and the many other public officials and agencies who provided the information and checked our data.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

The League of Women Voters (LWV) is a non-partisan organization of women and men dedicated to the principles of government established by the Constitution of the United States. The League does not support or oppose any candidates or political parties.

The purpose of the LWV is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League provides information to voters on candidates, issues, voting and election procedures. The League of Women Voters of Henderson County is supported by membership dues, contributions from members, and contributions from individuals and businesses. Membership is open to all people over 16 years of age.

**League of Women Voters of Henderson County
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Check out website for further information and updates and follow us on Facebook.

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HISTORY

Henderson County is nestled in the hills of the Blue Ridge in southwestern North Carolina, which were once the Cherokee hunting grounds. This fertile, well-watered plateau was settled in the eighteenth century, first by William Mills and his wife Eleanor, in the Fruitland area where they reared a family of seven children. He became the father of the county apple industry, forerunner of the multi-million dollar production of today, on 640 acres of land granted to him by North Carolina. The Mills River and Valley and Mills Gap bear his name.

Predominantly Welsh, English, Scottish and Irish pioneers followed. Families with names of Corn, Capps, King, Sentelle, Shipman, Kuykendall and Blackwell can trace their ancestry to the Revolutionary War veterans who settled permanently in our area. Those who fought on the British side carry the names of Mills, Stepp, Featherstone, Lyda and Edney, prominent preachers of yesteryear.

In the early 1800's Hendersonville/Flat Rock became a summer resort where many wealthy South Carolina planters and dwellers came to escape the intense heat, insects and diseases of the lowcountry. The tradition of a popular summer community continues with many historic homes restored and still in use.

The Civil War found county residents split: some loyal to the Confederacy, some to the Union, a clear indication of the independent, feisty spirit of the inhabitants. Henderson County was incorporated in 1838, and for political reasons was named for Judge Leonard Henderson of eastern North Carolina. Judge Mitchell King donated land for the county seat, Hendersonville, incorporated in 1847.

With an elevation of 2200 feet, the county occupies 375 square miles. The estimated population is over 114,209 in 2016. Eight townships comprise the county: Hendersonville, Blue Ridge, Green River, Edneyville, Mills River, Hooper's Creek, Crab Creek and Clear Creek. Hendersonville, Laurel Park, Fletcher, Mills River and Flat Rock are the five incorporated municipalities in the county.

ECONOMY AND CULTURE

The economy of Henderson County is based primarily upon diversified manufacturing, agriculture and tourism. According to the NC Department of Commerce, the fifteen businesses with the largest number of employers are Henderson County Board Of Public Education, Margaret R Pardee Memorial Hospital, Ingles Markets, Park Ridge Health, County Of Henderson, Continental Automotive Systems, Wal-Mart Associates Inc., Meritor Heavy Vehicle Systems, Broad River Rehabilitation, Sierra Nevada Brewing, Blue Ridge Community College, GE Lighting Solutions, Carolina Village, Raflatac, Compassionate Home Care/ Four Seasons Compassion for Life.

Henderson County is home to more than 136 manufacturers producing globally-recognized products that add value to our local economy. The manufacturing sector employs more than 15% of Henderson County's workforce at an average wage in excess of \$54,000/year, resulting in an annual payroll of \$280 million circulating in the local economy. The average wage for all employment sectors in Henderson County is just over \$37,000/year. The county's largest manufacturers are Continental Automotive Systems, Wilsonart International, Meritor Heavy Vehicle Systems, BorgWarner Thermal Systems, UPM Raflatac, Multi Packaging Solutions International, Sierra Nevada Brewing, Kimberly-Clark, GE Lighting Solutions, and Manual Woodworkers and Weavers.

The **Henderson County Partnership for Economic Development** (<http://gohendersoncountync.org>) is the professional economic development entity for Henderson County, North Carolina. HCPED protects and encourages existing industry, markets the county to targeted clusters (automotive, outdoor recreation, food and beverage, metal working and plastics), preserves and improves sites and buildings, and advocates on public policy matters at the local and state level. Since 1994, HCPED has assisted existing and new clients that announced over \$1,232,515,020 in new taxable investment, helping to create and retain 5,583 quality jobs.

Agribusiness Henderson County (www.agrihc.org) promotes the economic development of agricultural and agribusiness in Henderson County. It is a public and privately funded non-profit organization assisting new and existing agricultural operations to foster growth in the industry. Gross farm income, total cash receipts (2012) of \$101,724,883,

is derived from produce, nursery stock and ornamental shrubs. Henderson County is the largest apple producer in North Carolina and the 7th in the nation. Recently Henderson County has seen agribusiness ventures move into beer, wine, and hard cider production and support agricultural activity.

Tourism, when extended to include summer residents plus the children and staffs of the many summer camps, almost doubles the population, adding \$275,020,000 annually to the income of the county. Tourism activity is supported by **Henderson County Tourism Development Authority** (www.historichendersonville.org) with resources and travel planning information.

Twenty-five percent of the residents are of retirement age. Their stable incomes are protection against the economic downturns, and they provide countless volunteer hours towards all facets of community life. The median household income in Henderson County reported for 2016 is \$48,138.

The **Times-News** (www.blueridgenow.com), owned by Gatehouse Media, LLC, is the daily newspaper. Hendersonville Lightning and Hendersonville Tribune also provide local news on a weekly basis. Two radio stations, WHKP and WTZQ, and cable television service the area. There are over 135 Places of Worship within the county. Medical facilities are available through Margaret R. Pardee Memorial Hospital, a county owned facility in partnership with UNC Health, and Park Ridge Hospital, supported through the Adventist Health System. In addition, The Free Clinics and the Blue Ridge Community Health Center provide services to the uninsured and underinsured.

Culturally, the community supports several active theater groups, a symphony orchestra and chorale group. Many citizens enroll in Blue Ridge Community College Lifelong Learning Curriculum. Local organizations, service clubs and an arts council sponsor flower, antique and art shows.

The area offers a variety of recreational activities for residents and visitors with easy access to the Blue Ridge Parkway, DuPont State Forest and Pisgah National Forest. Interstate 26 bisects the county, and the Asheville Regional Airport offers passenger and air freight services daily.

The **Henderson County Public Library**, with a main library and five branches, boasts one of the most active circulations in the state, and is the center for many literary and film programs. Website for all branches: www.henderson.lib.nc.us/

Main Branch - 828-697-4725
301 N. Washington St., Hendersonville NC 28739

Green River Branch - 828-697-4969
50 Green River Rd., Zirconia NC 28790

Etowah Branch - 828-891-6577
101 Brickyard Rd., Etowah NC 28729

Edneyville Branch - 828-685-0110
2 Firehouse Rd., Edneyville NC 28792

Fletcher Branch - 828-687-1218
120 Library Rd., Fletcher NC 28732

Mills River Branch - 828-890-1850
124 Town Center Dr., Mills River NC 28759

HENDERSON COUNTY
1 Historic Courthouse Square
828-697-4808
County Government
www.hendersoncountync.org
County Manager 828-697-4809

Under the authority of the North Carolina Constitution, the General Assembly established counties, outlining the powers and duties of county governments. The county governments derive authority from the State Legislature and act on given issues when specifically designated by the General Assembly.

The main areas of responsibility in county government include finance, health, social services, tax and land records, building inspections, emergency services, public safety, and education. In addition, counties often may offer other non-mandated services such as parks and recreation, public libraries, and land use planning. Counties have the authority to enact ordinances or take other actions that would preserve or protect public health and safety.

County Government

COUNTY CITIZENS ELECT THE FOLLOWING:

- BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
- SHERIFF
- REGISTER OF DEEDS
- BOARD OF EDUCATION

Henderson County government includes services that are in support of the government function such as maintenance, human resources, risk management, staff attorney, county engineer, information technology, and public information. Henderson County government provides location and some funding for state mandated services. These include the Health Department, Department of Social Services, Board of Public Education, Blue Ridge Community College, Soil and Water Conservation, Cooperative Extension, Board of Elections, public safety, courthouse operations, and fire marshal.

In addition, Henderson County government provides public libraries, county parks and recreation programs, building inspections, emergency medical services, emergency management, planning and zoning, veterans' services, youth development, and solid waste programs. Finally, there are two county departments, Pardee Hospital and Henderson County Tourism Development Authority, that exist and are defined under special laws or resolutions. All programs and services listed above are reflected in the annual budget process, with county funding blended with state, federal and grant funds as appropriate.

There are limits to a county's authority. In North Carolina, counties have no funding responsibility for and only an advisory role in secondary road systems. Public utilities such as water and sewer are directed through partnerships with other governments, as entered into by the county.

Henderson County government includes services that are in support of the governmental function such as maintenance, human resources, risk management, staff attorney, county engineer, information technology, and public information. Henderson County government provides location and some funding for a number of state mandated services. These include the Health Department, Department of Social Services, Board of Public Education, Blue Ridge Community College, Soil and Water office, Cooperative Extension, Board of Elections, public safety, courthouse operations, and fire marshal.

Board of Commissioners
www.hendersoncountync.org
1 Historic Courthouse Square, Hendersonville, NC 28792
828-697-4808

Henderson County is governed by a five-member Board of Commissioners. Members of the Board are elected every two years for staggered four-year terms. The members elect the Chair who presides at all meetings. The county is divided into five districts with one member residing in each district. However, all members are elected by the entire voting population. The Board serves as a policymaking Board. It has limited legislative powers to enact ordinances, resolutions and orders, as necessary. The Board supervises and controls county government, authorizes disbursement of county money, determines the tax rate, and appoints county board and commissions and some county officials.

The Board's work is supervised by the County Manager. The manager has responsibility for day-to-day county operations, implements policies set by the Board of Commissioners and is the Budget Officer of the County. The manager is supported by a finance officer, staff attorney, county engineer and public information officer as well as department heads for county services.

The Board of Commissioners meet on the first Monday of each month at 5:30 pm and the third Wednesday of each month at 9:00 am.

Boards and Committees of Henderson County

The Commissioners appoint citizens to approximately thirty-eight different Boards and Committees. Citizens interested in this type of community service may review the available boards and committees at the county website under Citizen Participation. Board and Committee vacancies are listed on the county website along with a downloadable Citizen Application at www.hendersoncountync.org/board/boards.html.

Henderson County Planning
828-697-4819
planning@hendersoncountync.org

The Henderson County Planning Board is comprised of nine members appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. Planning Board members serve for staggered terms of three years each. Regular public meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 5:30 pm in the King Street Meeting Room located at 100 N. King Street in Hendersonville, NC. The Planning Board approves major subdivision of 35 to 299 lots and provides recommendations to the County Commissioners regarding proposed zoning map changes, ordinance revisions, and other land use related items.

The Henderson County Planning Department currently consists of four professional planners and a property addressing coordinator. The Planning Department and its daily operations are supervised by the Senior Planner. The Planning Department and various other County Departments are under the direct oversight of the Business and Community Development Director. The department's staff work involves, but is not limited to, assisting citizens with rezoning requests, subdivision reviews, preparing and updating various land use plans in the County's jurisdiction including the County Comprehensive Plan, Community Plans and the Land Development Code; maintaining a portion of the county's electronic mapping information; administration of the Apple Country Transit System and transportation related plans and projects; overseeing and administering related housing and economic development grants; and maintaining the E911 addressing systems which includes addressing property, renaming roads and oversight of road abandonments. The department provides demographic data, maps, and other relevant information to elected and appointed boards, committees, agencies and county departments. Additionally, staff participate in an advisory role on numerous county and regional committees and organizations which focus on a variety of topics such as open space, transportation, affordable housing, and recreation.

Projects in the Planning Department include the 2020 Henderson County Comprehensive Plan (CCP) -winner of the 2005 Outstanding Planning Award from the North Carolina chapter of the American Planning

Association (NCAPA); the Land Development Code - winner of the 2009 Outstanding Planning Award from NCAPA; and the community plan process. The County has completed the first four community plans which include Etowah-Horseshoe, Edneyville, Dana - winner of the 2012 Outstanding Planning Award from NCAPA, and Green River-Tuxedo-Zirconia (GRTZ) community plans. There are a total of ten community plans identified in the CCP.

Zoning Board of Adjustment

<http://www.hendersoncountync.org/ces/>

The Henderson County Zoning Board of Adjustment. The board is composed of five regular members and four alternate members who serve staggered three-year terms. Regular public meetings are held on the last Wednesday of each month at 4:00 PM at the County Administration Building, 100 N. King Street in Hendersonville. This is a quasi-judicial administrative body that reviews requests for zoning variances, conditional use permits, and temporary use permits. The Board also hears and decides appeals of staff zoning interpretations and acts as the watershed and floodplain ordinance review board.

Henderson County Code Enforcement Services is managed by a Director. This department consists of Zoning Enforcement, Nuisance Enforcement, Solid Waste Enforcement, and Minimum Housing Enforcement. The Code Enforcement Services Department is in charge of enforcing the Henderson County Zoning, Solid Waste, Nuisance, and Minimum Housing Ordinances.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS

North Carolina League of Municipalities www.nclm.org

Authority is granted to municipal governments by the State Constitution, the North Carolina General Statutes, and the City Charter. Major areas of city government are police and fire protection, planning, zoning administration, public works (garbage and leaf collection, street maintenance, traffic engineering), and provision for water and sewer utilities.

CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE

www.cityofhendersonville.org

145 Fifth Avenue E.

P.O. Box 1670

Hendersonville, NC 28793

828-697-3000

City Government

The City of Hendersonville is governed by a Council-Manager form of government. The City Council consists of a mayor and four council members elected in non-partisan elections every two years for four-year staggered terms. The elected mayor is the Chairman of the Council. The mayor presides at all meetings and represents the city for all ceremonial purposes. The mayor pro tem is elected by the City Council from among its members to preside in the mayor's absence. City Council meets the first Thursday after the first Monday of each month at 5:45 pm.

The Council has the power to adopt ordinances, rules, regulations, and procedures to properly govern the city. The Council also has the power to levy and collect an ad valorem tax on property. Property assessment values are taken from county records.

The City Manager is charged with the responsibility of upholding ordinances and carrying out the policies and procedures as set by the Council. The Manager is the chief administrator of the city and is responsible to the Council for administering all municipal affairs placed in charge by them; for appointing, suspending, or removing all department heads and other city employees, except as otherwise provided for by law;

and for preparing and submitting the annual budget and capital improvement program to the Council.

The City Clerk, appointed by the Council, is responsible for all records of council meetings and performs general duties in support of the Mayor, Council, and City Manager.

The City Attorney, appointed by the Council, is required to attend all regular council meetings, prepare ordinances, and give legal advice on any matter requested by the Mayor, Council, or other City officials.

Hendersonville Planning

The City of Hendersonville adopted the 2030 Hendersonville Comprehensive Plan in 2009. The city enforces, within its corporate limits and extra territorial jurisdiction (that area extending up to one mile beyond the city limits), a zoning ordinance regulating the use and density of land development, a subdivision ordinance, minimum housing code, and a flood damage prevention ordinance. The City employs two full-time planners and an administrative assistant.

The Hendersonville Planning Board, an advisory board, is comprised of ten members: seven city residents appointed by the City Council and three from the extra territorial jurisdiction appointed by the Henderson County Board of Commissioners. All ten members serve staggered terms of three years. The City of Hendersonville provides the operations budget. Meetings are held the second Monday of each month at 4:00 pm at the City Operations Center (305 Williams Street) and are open to the public.

Any request for change in the zoning ordinances must be directed to the City Council, which rules upon this request after recommendation by the Planning Board, meeting in public session.

The Board of Adjustment rules on suitability of conditional use and variance requests, also meeting in public session. The Board's jurisdiction is the same as the Planning Board.

TOWN OF FLETCHER
www.fletchernc.org
300 Old Cane Creek Road
Fletcher, NC 28732
828-687-3985

Town Government

Fletcher was incorporated in June 1989 with its first election in December 1989 and is governed by its Charter which was amended by ordinance in September 1996 from Mayor/Council form of government to Council/Manager form of government. Town services include police, public works, recreation, fire/zoning, and planning. Fire protection is contracted with Fletcher Fire and Rescue and Mills River Fire and Rescue. Town streets and roads are maintained by the Public Works Department. State roads within the town are maintained by North Carolina Department of Transportation. Trash is picked up by the Public Works Department and recycling is contracted out to a private contractor.

Town Council

The governing body is made up of a mayor and 4 council members. Members of the Board are elected in non-partisan elections every two years for staggered four-year terms. The Mayor is Chair of the Town Council and presides at all meetings. He/she is the official head of the town and represents the town for all ceremonial purposes. The Council has the power to make ordinances, rules, and regulations for the proper government of the town. The Council appoints all standing committees. The Council has the power to annually levy and collect a tax on property, real and personal. Property assessment values are taken from county records.

Fletcher has a manager who handles the day-to-day operations of the Town and reports directly to the Town Council. The manager is also responsible for recommending and implementing policy that is approved by Council. Other duties of the manager include preparing an operating budget that is submitted to Town Council and then implemented by the manager and staff.

Planning and Zoning

The Town of Fletcher Planning and Zoning Department provides technical assistance to Town Council, the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustments. The staff also enforces the Town's Land Development Code adopted in 2005. The Planning Board advises the Town Council and makes recommendations on zoning requests, conditional district applications and major subdivision preliminary plats. The board also works on other planning and zoning related issues. The Fletcher Planning Board consists of eight appointed citizens. All citizens may attend monthly meetings held generally on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM in Town Hall.

TOWN OF LAUREL PARK

www.laurelpark.org
441 White Pine Drive
Laurel Park, NC 28739
828-693-4840

Town Government

The Laurel Park Charter was adopted February 28, 1925, and revised on June 14, 2000. Town services are provided by three departments: the Laurel Park Police Department is a community-oriented law enforcement service of the Town; the Public Works Department coordinates street maintenance, maintenance of public buildings and grounds, water system operation and maintenance, snow and ice removal, leaf collection, and brush collection; and the Administration Department handles state and federal reporting, budgetary accounting, water billing, record keeping, and tax collection. Fire protection is furnished by contract with the Valley Hill Fire and Rescue Department. Solid waste collection is provided to all residential homes on a weekly basis. Both of these contract services are funded from general revenue tax dollars. Laurel Park owns and operates the Town's water system which services most of the Town; however, parts of Laurel Park receive water and/or sewer service directly from the City of Hendersonville.

Town Council

Laurel Park operates under a Council/Manager form of government. The Town Council consists of a mayor and four commissioners, each elected in non-partisan elections every two years for staggered four-year terms. The mayor presides at all meetings. The mayor is the official head of the Town and represents the Town for all ceremonial purposes. The Town Council appoints all standing boards within the community. The Town Council is a policy-making body and has the power to enact ordinances, rules, and regulations for the proper governing of the Town. The Town Council employs a town manager who oversees the daily operations of the Town and supervises all Town employees. The Town Council has power to annually levy and collect a tax on property, real and personal. Property assessment values are taken from the county assessor's records.

Planning Board

The Planning Board makes studies of areas, prepares plans, develops policies, ordinances and administrative procedures, making recommendations to the Town Council regarding these issues. Seven members are appointed by the Town Council for terms of three years. Meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month at 3:00 pm in the Town Hall meeting Room.

TOWN OF MILLS RIVER

www.millsriver.org
124 Town Center Drive
Mills River, NC 28759
828-890-2901

Town Government

The authority and responsibilities of the town government are determined by the State Constitution and General Statutes. Town services include fire protection contracted with the Mills River Fire Department. Supplemental law enforcement services are provided by the Henderson County Sheriff's Department. Street lights are provided as a service. Streets and roads are maintained by the State. Residents are responsible for their own rubbish pick-up. The Town of Mills River provides planning and zoning services.

Town Council

Mills River operates under the Council/Manager form of government; the five elected members elect the mayor. The Council elects a mayor for a two-year term from among its members. The Council members are elected in non-partisan elections every four years for staggered terms. Three members must live in the district they represent while two members are elected at large. The offices of the Town of Mills River are staffed by eight paid employees: the Town Manager/Planner, Town Clerk/Finance Director, Tax Collector, Park Director, Zoning Official, Receptionist, Maintenance/Park Ranger, Park Ranger. The Council appoints all standing committees.

Planning Board

The Town of Mills River adopted a Zoning Ordinance in March 2004. The Planning Board advises the Town Council and makes recommendations on rezoning requests and requests for text amendments to the zoning ordinance. Various other land use matters may be reviewed by the Planning Board before being heard by Town Council. The Mills River Planning Board consists of nine citizens appointed by the town council. All citizens may attend monthly meetings held generally on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall.

VILLAGE OF FLAT ROCK

www.villageofflatrock.org

110 Village Center Drive

Flat Rock, NC 28731

828-697-8100

Village Government

The Village of Flat Rock was incorporated in July 1995. Village services include the development and enforcement of land use ordinances related to zoning, flood damage prevention, unsafe structures and properties, tree preservation, sign control and historic landmarks designations. Other services provided by the Village include emergency services and fire protection furnished by Blue Ridge, Green River, and Valley Hill Fire and Rescue Departments. Law enforcement services are provided by the Henderson County Sheriff's Department. Streets and roads are either private or state owned and maintained.

Village Council

The administration and government of the Village of Flat Rock is vested in a governing body composed of seven members: a mayor and six council members. Members are elected in non-partisan elections every two years for staggered four-year terms. The Mayor presides at all meetings, is the official head of the Village, and represents it for all ceremonial purposes. The Council has the power to make ordinances, rules, and regulations for the proper governance of the village. The Council appoints all standing committees. There are three full-time employees of the Village who serve in the positions of Village Administrator, Village Clerk, Tax Collector, Deputy Village Clerk and Zoning Administrator. All other positions are filled by volunteers.

Planning Board

The Village has a comprehensive land use plan and appoints two boards to address land use issues within the Village. The Planning Board consists of seven members and serves primarily in an advisory capacity regarding land use applications and policies. The Planning Board meets the first Tuesday of each month at 10:30 AM in the Village Hall. The Board of Adjustment, comprised of five regular members and four alternates, conducts quasi-judicial hearings on such matters as zoning variances and appeals from administrative zoning decisions and meets as needed.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Henderson County Department of Public Health

www.hendersoncountync.org/health

1200 Spartanburg Highway, Suite 100

Hendersonville, NC 28792

828-692-4223

The Department of Public Health operates under the direction of the Henderson County Board of Health. Funds to operate the department come from Henderson County general revenues, state and federal grants, and fees charged through Medicaid, private insurance, patient payments, and user fees. Department activities include work in environmental and personal health, assurance on services to vulnerable populations, communicable disease surveillance and control, and keeping all county birth and death records. The Department conducts a comprehensive community health assessment every four years to identify and prioritize health problems and monitors health status through the year.

The environmental health section is responsible for promoting public health policy and procedure in maintaining acceptable sanitation levels at all food establishments, places of lodging and institutions within the county; supervising the installation of all septic and well systems within the county; water testing; and mosquito controls. The environmental health section will answer questions on indoor air pollution and any other environmentally-related issue.

The personal health section provides well child and pediatric care, pregnancy testing, prenatal care, family planning services, breast and cervical cancer screenings, and behavioral health counseling. The Department accepts Medicaid, some insurance plans, and self-pay based on a sliding fee scale. Payments plans are accepted, and services are not refused for inability to pay. Some services are offered at no cost to eligible clients.

Surveillance and control of communicable disease includes the availability of state-mandated vaccines, tracking of certain communicable diseases,

diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis and sexually transmitted diseases, and confidential HIV testing.

Public health nurses provide school nursing services, case management for eligible pregnant women and developmentally at-risk infants and preschoolers, home visits to pregnant and postpartum women and newborns, and supportive health services and technical assistance in childcare facilities.

The nutrition services provided to eligible county residents through this department include the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). This program is available to pregnant, breast feeding, or postpartum women, infants and children up until age five; and includes nutritionally appropriate food vouchers. Eligibility is based on financial criteria as well as medical/nutritional need. Medical nutrition therapy for some non-WIC clients is also available.

The Department offers dental health education, dental screening, and fluoride varnish treatments for children. The health education section has ongoing programs to promote other health department programs, community opportunities, child passenger safety, physical activity, nutrition, and tobacco-free initiatives.

Henderson County Department of Social Services
www.hendersoncountync.org/dss
1200 Spartanburg Highway, Suite 300
Hendersonville, NC 28792
828-697-5500

In North Carolina, Department of Social Services programs are locally administered under the direction of the Board of Social Services. Members of the Board of Social Services select the County Social Services Director, advise elected officials in developing plans to improve social conditions, consult with the County Social Services Director, and assist the County Social Services Director in the planning and approval of the annual budget. County staffing and funding requests are approved by the Henderson County Board of Commissioners. Financed by Federal, State, and County appropriations, over twenty- seven program services are provided to residents of Henderson County.

There are five categories of program services, including Medicaid, financial assistance programs, social work programs, Child Support Services, and Child Care Subsidy assistance. Medicaid, a public insurance program for children and the disabled and elderly, is the largest Social Services program. Medicaid is the number one provider of long- term care health insurance to the elderly in Henderson County.

Reimbursements on behalf of people receiving medical care are made directly to doctors, hospitals, nursing homes, pharmacies, and other healthcare providers.

Financial assistance programs include Work First, food assistance, energy assistance, emergency assistance, and adult care home special assistance. Assistance payments on behalf of people in need most often are made directly to vendors. Financial assistance programs are available with regard to financial need.

Social Work program services provided through contract or caseworkers include child protective services, family foster care, residential group care for teenagers, adoption services, adult protective services, services for the blind, guardianship, licensing and monitoring of adult care homes, in-home services, at-risk case management services, and employment training.

Social Work program services, most often a community response to a health or safety concern, are provided without regard to income. Child

Support Services include the establishment, enforcement, and modification of court orders, paternity establishment, and location of absent parents to ensure children are provided financial support by an absent parent.

Child Support Services are available to county residents without regard to income. The Child Care Subsidy program subsidizes the cost of child care for young working families. Vendor payments, financed by federal and state appropriations including Smart Start, are made directly to child day care providers. This program is available with regard to financial need and income.

Collaborative outreach programs are available to residents at Blue Ridge Community College NCWorks Center, Blue Ridge Health Center, Pardee Hospital, Park Ridge Hospital, County Department of Public Health, Children and Family Resource Center, Interfaith Assistance Ministry, Council on Aging, and The Free Clinics. Community involvement through the family foster and respite care programs is an important part of Social Services. Volunteer opportunities include tutoring of children, sponsorship of a foster child, transportation, office support, holiday events, friendly visitation program, lawn and house care for the frail and elderly, and special projects such as the Henderson County Toy Run.

DSS Contact Information

DSS Reception	697-5500
Abuse/Neglect Reports	
Child Abuse	697-5572
Adult Abuse	697-6241
After hours:	697-4911
Child Support Services	697-5549
Child Day Care	694-6410
Foster Care Recruitment	697-6252

211 - REFERRAL SERVICES

Henderson County residents who need help can find information and direction to services by simply dialing 211. This easy-to-remember number connects to a 24-hour service staffed by a trained specialist who will refer the caller to a service or program that can help. This multilingual service helps citizens meet basic needs like food, shelter, clothing, health and mental health referrals as well as job training, tutoring, crisis intervention, and many other social services. This regional service is funded in part by United Way of Henderson County. Further information may be found at www.nc211.org

WATER AND WASTEWATER

The City of Hendersonville has two water intake sites in the Pisgah National Forest (north Mills River and Bradley Creek), where there are two dams and associated in-stream reservoirs. The City also obtains water from a third intake located on the Mills River near NC Highway 191 and NC Highway 280 in Mills River. The City's water treatment plant is also located in Mills River and has a rated capacity of 12 MGD (million gallons per day). There are several finished water storage tanks which provide 16.5 MGD of storage capacity within the City's water distribution system. The City provides water to surrounding towns (Laurel Park and Saluda), to customers in Fletcher and Flat Rock, and to many customers and industries located outside the City's corporate limits.

Areas of Henderson County, along the NC Highway 280 corridor, close to the airport, and portions of Fletcher, are served by Asheville's water system.

The City of Hendersonville has a wastewater treatment facility located in the Balfour area east of US Highway 25 (Asheville Highway). This facility expanded in 2003 to a rated capacity of 4.8 MGD. The City also provides wastewater treatment for the Town of Laurel Park, the Village of Flat Rock, and major industries in the southern part of the county as well as through a forced main serving the Mountain Home Industrial Park (sewer system is owned and operated by Henderson County as part of the Cane Creek Water and Sewer District). This wastewater treatment facility is sited to provide treatment in the future to much of the Mud Creek/Clear Creek drainage basin. The Henderson County Water and Sewer Advisory Council works in conjunction with Hendersonville's City Council on treatment and service issues but has been inactive since 2005.

Henderson County and the Town of Fletcher have formed the Cane Creek Water and Sewer District. This District buys wastewater treatment capacity from Metropolitan Sewerage District (MSD), a treatment authority in Buncombe County. The geographic treatment area of this District is the northern part of Henderson County along Cane Creek and has the potential to provide treatment capacity along the French Broad from the Mills River community to Etowah. The advisory board is the Cane Creek Water and Sewer District Advisory Board.

Many residents in the County also depend upon wells and springs for water sources and septic systems for wastewater disposal.

SOLID WASTE

www.hendersoncountync.org/engineering/solidwaste

Solid Waste

Henderson County has closed the county landfill to municipal solid waste. All waste is deposited at a transfer station at the site and removed by a contractor to a regional, out-of-state landfill. There is a fee for trash disposal. Some municipalities provide waste pick up service to their constituents. Within the county many citizens contract with private trash haulers. Private haulers also provide pick up services for recyclable material.

The county website has been revised and includes links to brochures on recycling and guidelines for residential solid waste disposal. The brochures can be accessed and printed from the website.

The county **Transfer Station** operates from 8 AM - 4 PM Monday - Saturday. A fee schedule is available on the county Transfer Station Website.

Convenience Center accepts items for recycling. It operates from 8 am to 4:30 Monday - Saturday. Check the county website for items that are acceptable for recycling.

EDUCATION

HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

www.hendersoncountypublicschoolsnc.org

**Administrative Offices
414 Fourth Avenue West
828-697-4733**

A major part of the cost of public education in North Carolina is State Legislature funded and controlled. The State Board of Education consists of the Lieutenant Governor, the Treasurer, and eleven members appointed by the Governor. The Governor's appointees are subject to confirmation by the General Assembly in joint session. Eight of the appointed members represent the eight education districts of the state. Three members are appointed from the state at-large.

Appointments are for overlapping terms of eight years. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction serves as secretary and chief administrative officer of the Board. The Governor also appoints two Student Advisors who participate in the State Board deliberations in an advisory capacity only. The State Teacher of the Year is selected to serve two years as an ex-officio advisor to the State Board.

The State Board of Education is responsible for general supervision, teacher certification, teacher allotments, course of study, textbook selection, and fiscal control. The State Board of Education maintains a minimum salary schedule for teachers based upon teacher certification and years of experience.

The County Commissioners appropriate local funds for education, and local funding provides a 8.5% salary supplement to teachers in the Henderson County Public School System. Funding for the general operation of the Henderson County Public Schools as of 2013 comes from state (67.21%), federal (9.29%), and local sources (21.87%, which includes capital outlay, current expenses, and child care).

Nutritious breakfasts and lunches are served in each school. Students who qualify may eat free or at a reduced price. School Food Service is a centralized operation supervised by a child nutrition director under the auspices of the Henderson County Public School System.

All principals and teachers in the Henderson County Public School System are certified by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. All Henderson County Public Schools are fully accredited by both the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Henderson County Board of Education
www.hendersoncountypublicschoolsnc.org

The Henderson County Public School System is governed by a seven-member Board of Public Education elected on a non-partisan countywide basis for staggered four-year terms. The members elect a chair who presides at all meetings. Their primary function is to establish policies for the operation of the school district and oversee the implementation of these policies.

The School System

Henderson County Public Schools consists of 23 schools: four high schools (grades 9-12), The Innovative High School (which includes Early College High School and the Career Academy), four middle schools (grades 6-8), and thirteen elementary schools (grades K-5). Enrollment is approximately 13,500 students.

Approximately 1800 people are employed by the schools. Of this number, over 900 are certified teachers. An extensive bus transportation system utilizes 109 buses with adult drivers trained and certified by the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles. There are full facilities for the maintenance of these vehicles.

Curriculum

The school system follows the State Standard Course of Study. A balanced K-12 program of Arts Education program is offered. A comprehensive vocational curriculum begins in the middle schools. Health and physical education are provided by specialists beginning in Kindergarten. Media and technology programs are offered by certified specialists. Band and strings are available in grades 6-12. Foreign language instruction is offered in grades 9-12. Each high school offers four levels of French and Spanish.

Children With Special Needs

All schools provide specially designed instruction, at no cost to the parent, to meet the unique educational needs of children ages three through twenty-one who have been evaluated and declared eligible and in need of special education services. These services are offered on a continuum of varying levels of service, depending on the needs of each student as identified in their Individualized Education Plan (IEP). The least restrictive environment or setting in which the student may receive an appropriate education is a primary factor of consideration by IEP teams. Most school-aged children with disabilities are served in regular and resource settings; however, self-contained or separate settings are also available for students who require more intensive intervention to meet their special needs. Henderson County Public Schools follow federal mandates and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction regulations in determining evaluation requirements and program eligibility.

Student Support Services

Services include school counselors, attendance counselors, dropout prevention programs, promotion of student and staff health, safe and drug free schools including tobacco, alcohol and drug abuse education, an outreach program for homeless children and their families, and student records. The schools offer an athletic program guided by coaches and staff who are interested in the total development of the student. Sports teams are available in middle school for 7th and 8th graders. Each high school offers comprehensive athletic programs for both male and female students for the Fall, Winter, and Spring sport seasons. Beyond tax support, parents and community contribute to the support of these programs.

BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

www.blueridge.edu
180 West Campus Drive
Flat Rock, NC 28731
828-694-1700

Blue Ridge Community College (BRCC) is a two-year, comprehensive community college established to serve the citizens of Henderson and Transylvania counties. Chartered in 1969, it is one of the fifty-eight public community colleges operating under the auspices of the North Carolina Community College System. Blue Ridge Community College is an open-door institution offering two-year college transfer programs, two-year associate degrees, diplomas, certificates, and continuing education programs. The College operates the Henderson County Campus in Flat Rock and the Transylvania County Campus in Brevard.

The College is funded from state, local, federal, and private funds. The counties are responsible for building operation and maintenance of the two locations. The State funds equipment, staff, faculty and programs. Federal funds support student financial aid, adult basic education, and training for the underemployed. The State and the counties share the cost of establishing new physical facilities.

In addition to the curriculum programs, BRCC provides other services to the community:

Adult Education and Literacy offers Adult Basic and Secondary Education (ABE), High School Equivalency Diploma, Accelerating Transitions Program, English Language Acquisition (ELA), Adult High School Diploma, and Project Search. All classes are offered free-of-charge.

NCWorks offers a comprehensive array of career planning, training, and job placement resources. These resources include career counseling, assessment and information; resume and job seeking skills preparation; and job development and placement. Training funds are available for dislocated workers or adults who meet income guidelines.

Small Business Center (SBC) at BRCC functions as a management information resource for the community of small businesses in Henderson and Transylvania counties. The mission of the SBC is to enhance the prospects of success for small businesses in the region.

Community Enrichment Division offers the Blue Ridge Concert Series and Music by the Lake Series as well as the Blue Ridge Center for Lifelong Learning, a membership based organization for individuals age 50 and older that offers courses and trips. Personal Enrichment classes offer the opportunity for learning experiences as diverse as oil painting, line dancing, pottery, photography, watercolor, wire jewelry making, drawing or motorcycle safety, just to name a few.

WINGATE UNIVERSITY

805 6th Avenue West

Hendersonville, NC 28739

Toll Free (1-800-755-5550) Admissions: 704-233-8200

<https://www.wingate.edu/>

Wingate University operates two programs on the campus of Pardee Memorial Hospital, Physician's Assistant Studies and a School of Pharmacy, and plans are underway to add a BSN program. Students perform clinicals in Pardee Hospital with classes in a new, purpose-built building.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

EMERGENCY SERVICES - 911

All emergency services dispatch through one emergency number countywide.

HENDERSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

www.hendersonsheriff.org

828-697-4596

The Sheriff is the Chief Law Enforcement officer in the county and is elected every four years. The senior staff consists of a Chief Deputy, two Majors, five Captains and a Communications Director. The captains and director each supervise their respective divisions which includes Criminal Investigations, Patrol, Support Services, the Office of Professional Standards, Detention and Communications.

The Sheriff's Office responds to both routine and emergency calls for assistance to the citizens of the community, manages the Henderson County Detention Center and the E911 Center. The E911 Center answers calls for and dispatches all fire, rescue and emergency services for Henderson County.

The Sheriff's staff maintains security in the courthouse, transports prisoners and in-custody mental health patients, and serves civil papers and warrants. The Sheriff's Office also has several specialized units which include Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), K-9 Team, Explosive Ordinance Team, Warrant Squad, Direct Enforcement Team, Dignitary Protection Team and a team of School Resource Deputies who are assigned in the Henderson County Public School System. There are approximately 80 citizen volunteers that assist the office in the Volunteers in Partnership (VIP) program.

Municipal Police Departments

Fletcher, Laurel Park and Hendersonville have police departments responsible for all provisions of the municipal codes (laws) as well as laws of the state within the municipal boundaries. Each department has a police chief appointed by the governing body. The Chief's principal responsibilities are management, command and public relations.

Hendersonville Police Department	697-3025
Fletcher Police Department	687-7922
Laurel Park Police Department	692-9399

County Medical Examiner

The county medical examiner, a physician appointed by the NC Chief Medical Examiner for a three-year term, investigates all violent deaths, deaths during anesthesia, deaths unattended by a physician, and all deaths in hospitals if the patient was admitted less than 24 hours before. The examiner signs death certificates, orders autopsies when necessary, furnishes information upon request to law enforcement agencies, and testifies in court.

Other Law Enforcement Agencies

NC State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) www.ncsbi.gov

NC Highway Patrol www.ncdps.gov/our-organization/law-enforcement/state-highway-patrol

NC Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) www.ncdot.gov/dmv

NC Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission abc.nc.gov

NC Alcohol Law Enforcement <https://www.nc.gov/alcohol-law-enforcement-0>

NC Wildlife Resources www.ncwildlife.org

THE NORTH CAROLINA COURT SYSTEM

North Carolina Courts www.nccourts.org

The judicial power of the State of North Carolina rests in the General Court of Justice as a unified and state-operated system. It consists of three divisions: the Appellate (consisting of the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals), Superior Court, and District Court. All Court personnel are paid by the state; the Administrative Office of the Court (AOC), under the Chief Justice, is responsible for developing a single budget for the entire judicial system.

The State is divided into 41 districts as of the end of 2006, grouped in eight divisions. Henderson County, along with Transylvania and Polk counties, comprises the 29B Judicial District in the eighth Division. The county provides courtrooms and related judicial facilities. Fines and forfeitures must be distinguished from costs and fees. Under the N.C. Constitution fines and forfeitures go to the county school fund and are not to be used to support the court.

In North Carolina judges must be attorneys. Judges are elected. Supreme Court Justices and Court of Appeals Judges are nominated and elected in non-partisan elections by the voters of the entire state to eight-year terms. Superior Court Judges are nominated and elected in non-partisan elections by the voters of their districts to eight- year terms. District Court Judges are nominated and elected in non- partisan elections by the voters of their districts to four-year terms.

Henderson County Courts

Superior Court - The Superior Court has original jurisdiction in all felony cases (major crimes) and in civil cases in which the amount in controversy is more than \$25,000. It also hears criminal appeals from District Court as well as appeals from rulings by the Clerk of Superior Court.

Special judges may be appointed to five-year terms by the governor to serve in any district where needed. Superior Court Judges rotate throughout the judicial division which includes their home district.

The Superior Court Judge with the most seniority in a given district (or, if seniority is equal, the oldest) is the Senior Resident Superior Court Judge. This judge is responsible for supervising Superior Courts in his/ her district, carrying out various administrative duties, and appointing magistrates and some other court officials.

District Court - District Court tries misdemeanor cases, civil cases in which the amount in controversy is \$25,000 or less, domestic relations cases and juvenile cases.

The Chief Justice of the State Supreme Court designates one of the District Judges as Chief District Judge. This Judge supervises the District Courts and all of the Magistrates in the district. He/she schedules the sessions, supervises the calendaring of civil cases, and assigns the other District Judges.

Court - Magistrates are appointed to two-year terms by the Senior Resident Superior Court Judge from names submitted by the Clerk of Superior Court. Magistrates may hear and decide small claims cases (\$10,000 or less), accept guilty pleas in certain misdemeanor cases, and issue arrest warrants and search warrants. They also set the initial bail in criminal cases.

District Court - Juvenile -The District Court has jurisdiction over juvenile matters. These cases concern children under the age of sixteen who are delinquent and children under the age of eighteen who are undisciplined, dependent, neglected, or abused. The Court appoints an attorney to represent a juvenile at a delinquency hearing and appoints a guardian ad litem to represent the juvenile at an abuse or neglect hearing.

Juvenile Services, headed by a chief court counselor, provides a system of juvenile probation and aftercare. The purpose of the statewide Office of Juvenile Justice is to divert juvenile offenders from training schools so that they remain in their own communities to be treated through community-based services.

Officers of the Court

District Attorney is elected by the judicial district to a four-year term in a partisan election to represent the state (people) in all criminal cases in both the Superior and District Courts. He/she is responsible for scheduling all criminal cases in the 29B district and is authorized to employ assistant district attorneys.

Clerk of Superior Court is elected in his or her home county to a four-year term in a partisan election. He/she is responsible for all record keeping and administrative functions of both the Superior and District Courts in Henderson County. Besides maintaining court records and controlling court funds, the Clerk is Judge of Probate and acts in such special proceedings as adoptions, incompetency determinations, and partitions of land, and the administration of trusts. In criminal matters the Clerk is empowered to exercise the same powers as a magistrate with respect to taking waivers of trial and pleas of guilty to some defined minor offenses.

Adult Probation/Parole Officers supervise adult probation and parolees. This supervision includes drug, alcohol, and financial counseling; domestic intervention; and monitoring and enforcing payment schedules for restitution to victims or to meet court-ordered fines and fees.

Community Services Program of the Governor's Crime Control and Public Safety, Victim and Justice Services places and monitors defendants at tax-supported and non-profit agencies who have been ordered to perform Court-ordered community service work.

Guardian *ad Litem* is appointed by the Court to investigate cases of child abuse and neglect from the perspective of what is best for the child. The duties of the Guardian ad litem are to make an investigation to determine the facts, the needs of the juvenile, and the available resources within the family and community to meet those needs; to facilitate, when appropriate, the settlement of disputed issues; to explore options with the judge at the court hearing; and to protect and promote the best interests of the juvenile.

The Jury System

The Henderson County Jury Commission consists of three qualified voters of the county – one each selected for a two-year term by the Senior Superior Court Resident Judge, the Clerk of Superior Court, and the Board of County Commissioners.

Every two years the commission prepares a list of prospective jurors (called the Petit Jury) drawing from both licensed driver and voter registration lists. The law requires a random selection be used so that all names have an equal opportunity to be selected.

Each prospective juror must be 18 years old, a citizen of the State, resident of the county, mentally and physically competent, able to hear and understand the English language, and must not have served on a jury during the preceding two years. A juror who has served on a Grand Jury is excused from jury duty for six years. An employer may not discharge or demote any employee because of the employee's service as a juror.

VOTER INFORMATION

www.hendersoncountync.org/elections

**Board of Elections
75 E. Central Street
Hendersonville, NC 28792
828-697-4970**

To qualify to vote in North Carolina, the applicant must sign a voter declaration attesting that he or she:

- is a citizen of the United States
- has been a resident of North Carolina, this county, and this precinct for 30 days
- will not vote in any other county or state after submission of the form
- will be at least 18 years of age by the general election
- has not been convicted of a felony or has completed any sentence, probation, or parole

Where to register to vote or make changes in one's registration:

- Board of Elections Offices
- Department of Motor Vehicles
- Public Assistance Agencies
- Agencies serving persons with disabilities
- Armed Forces Recruitment Offices
- Public Libraries

A qualified resident needs to register **ONLY** in the following situations:

- He or she has not previously registered in Henderson County
- Henderson County registration has been canceled because of registration in another county or state
- Voter registration had been canceled because of felony conviction. After probation is completed, the rights of citizenship are restored.

A citizen may register with any political party recognized in the State of North Carolina. Party affiliation determines the primary in which a voter is eligible to vote. Voters may also register unaffiliated, but during a partisan primary election, they must declare the party primary in which they wish to cast their vote.

A registration form may be hand delivered or mailed to the Board of Elections office, located at 75 E. Central Street in Hendersonville. If mailed, the form must be postmarked at least 25 days before the day of the election. If hand delivered, the form must be received no later than 5:00 pm on the 25th day prior to the election.

Once the registration form has been completed and submitted to the local Board of Elections office, allow two to six weeks for delivery of the voter identification card. Read the information thoroughly and note any changes or mistakes on the card. This card can be used to make name changes, party affiliation changes, and address changes within the county. The voter identification card will show the name and location of the voter's polling place. It is for the voter's use only and is not required in order to vote.

Changes in the election laws now permit citizens to register up to the Saturday before the election, provided they bring one of the following ID types with them: current NC driver's license, current passport, current utility bill showing residence address, current bank statement, current government check, current paycheck, and/or other current government documents which show residence address.

Changes in one's party affiliation **cannot** take place during ONE-STOP VOTING. If a voter wants to change party affiliation, it must be done at least 25 days before the election.

17 Year Olds Voting and Party Primaries

Seventeen-year-olds may vote in party primaries if they will be 18 years old at the time of the general election or regular municipal election for which the primary is held. These voters must register not earlier than 60 days nor later than 25 days prior to the election.

Elections

Henderson County is divided into 35 voting precincts. Polling places for each precinct are listed on the Board of Elections website. The polls are open on Election Day from 6:30 am until 7:30 pm. In addition to primary and general elections, special elections may be called by a city, county, state or special district for purposes of submitting proposals to the voters (examples: bond issues, referendums or amendments to the state

constitution). Special elections may be held at the same time as a primary or general election or at some other time.

National, State, District and County - General Elections are held in even numbered years on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November. Primary elections are held on the Tuesday following the first Monday in May.

County School Board - Non-partisan elections are held in even numbered years at the same time as general elections.

Municipal Elections - General Elections are held in odd numbered years. The General Elections are held on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November. If the elections are non-partisan, the primaries are held on the fourth Tuesday before the general election.

Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor - Non-partisan elections are held in even numbered years at the same time as the General Election.

Absentee Voting

A voter, the voter's near relative, or a qualified legal guardian may request an absentee ballot.

The State Absentee Ballot Request Form needs to be sent to the county Board of Elections no earlier than 50 days before an election and no later than the Tuesday before the election. The request form can be found at <http://www.hendersoncountync.org/elections/absenteenew.html>.

If the voter is qualified, an application and ballot will be mailed to the voter after the receipt of the request. Absentee ballots are available 60 days before a general election and 30 days before a municipal election. The completed ballot must be received in the County Board of Elections office by 5:00 PM on the day before the election in order to be counted.

One-Stop Voting

Any registered North Carolina voter may choose to vote in person using One-Stop Absentee Voting that begins the third Thursday before the election and ends the Saturday prior to the election. Voters are able to vote by One-Stop voting at the Board of Elections offices during regular office hours and at additional sites as designated by the local Board of Elections.

PARTY ORGANIZATION

The two permanently established parties in North Carolina are the Democratic and the Republican parties. Both parties are organized on the precinct, county, district and state levels. There are eight other political parties that are active in the state.

POLITICAL ADDRESSES

11th U.S. Congressional District: All Henderson County precincts

42nd N.C. Senatorial District: All Henderson County precincts.

113 N.C. House of Representatives District: Armory, Atkinson, Crab Creek, East Flat Rock, Etowah South, Flat Rock, Green River, Raven Rock

117 N.C. House of Representatives District: Bat Cave, Brickton, Clear Creek, Carolina Village, Edneyville, Etowah Valley, Fletcher, Grimesdale, Hoopers Creek, Horse Shoe, Hendersonville 1, Hendersonville 2, Hendersonville 3, Long John Mountain, Laurel Park, Moore's Grove, North Blue Ridge, Northeast, North Mills River, Northwest, Park Ridge, Pisgah View, Rugby, South Blue Ridge, Southeast, South Mills River, Southwest

29B Judicial District: Henderson, Polk, and Transylvania counties.

Citizen Information Web Sites

North Carolina State Government www.nc.gov

UNC School of Government www.sog.unc.edu

NC Association of County Commissioners www.ncacc.org

NC League of Municipalities www.nclm.org

NC Courts www.nccourts.org

TAXES

County Assessor

www.hendersoncountync.org/ca

200 North Grove Street Suite 102, Hendersonville, NC 28792
828-697-4870

Financing Local Government

The largest source of revenue for local governments is the property tax, which supplies over 50% of the total revenues. The other major sources of income are the sales tax and grants from the federal and state governments. Fees, charges and other revenues make up the balance.

Real property is appraised at full market value each four years. Certain personal property, such as vehicles, is also taxed.

Each year the Board of Commissioners sets the property tax rate for the county and the 13 fire districts. There are 5 additional property tax levying bodies within the county: the City of Hendersonville, the Towns of Fletcher, Laurel Park, Mills River and the Village of Flat Rock. There are two (2) special assessment districts within the City of Hendersonville. The Assessor's office also provides data on real and personal property located within the Town of Saluda that is in Henderson County.

County Tax Calendar

Tax Collector

www.hendersoncountync.org/ca/collectorduties.html

200 North Grove Street Suite 102, Hendersonville, NC 28792
828-697-4870

January: The property owner lists personal property with the County Assessor. This is the time to make application for most exemptions and to make application for Present-Use Value.

January - December: Classified Motor Vehicles (tagged vehicles) are billed.

January - December: Motor Vehicle Valuation Review Board meets to hear appeals from taxpayers concerning assessed real property values.

April: The Board of Equalization and Review meets to hear appeals from taxpayers regarding the listing, appraisal, or assessment of their property of others for the current calendar year only.

September 1: Property taxes are due and payable to the Tax Collector. If payments are still delinquent after January 5, interest is charged.

Public Parks and Recreation Facilities

National Park Service

Carl Sandburg Home and National Historic Site

www.nps.gov/carl/index.htm

82 Carl Sandburg Ln

Flat Rock, NC 28731

Includes final furnished home of Carl and Lillian Steichen Sandburg on 246 acres with working goat herd and barn, amphitheater, outbuildings and walking trails.

Pisgah National Forest

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/nfsnc/recarea/?recid=48114>

NW Henderson County is home to a section of the 500,000 acre Pisgah National Forest. Includes the North Mills River Campground, 5289 N. Mills River Road, Mills River, NC 28742

State of North Carolina

<http://www.ncforestservice.gov/Contacts/dsf.htm>

Dupont State Recreational Forest

Located between Brevard and Hendersonville, NC

Staton Rd/DuPont Rd

Includes 10,400 acres of forest with 80 miles of trails, four major waterfalls along the Little River, and 5 lakes.

Holmes Educational State Forest

<http://www.ncesf.org/holmes.html>

1299 Crab Creek Rd

Hendersonville, NC 28739

Includes walking trails, Outdoor Education Workshops, Picnic Facilities, Ranger Conducted Classes, Trails with "Talking Trees" and exhibits, Group Campground (Youth Groups Only).

Henderson County

<http://www.hendersoncountync.org/recreation/parks>.

Facility Reservations can be made by calling the HCPRD Office at 697-4884.

Henderson County Athletics & Activity Center (AAC)

708 South Grove Street, Hendersonville, NC 28792

(828) 697-4884 or (828) 697-4900

Athletic Center Gym Phone: (828) 694-1611

Blantyre Park - French Broad River access only.

Dana Community Park

2879 Upward Road, Flat Rock, NC 28731

Includes playground, community center, picnic shelter.

East Flat Rock Park

107 East Blue Ridge Rd, East Flat Rock, NC 28726

Includes playground, picnic shelter, walking trail, basketball court, playing field, restrooms.

Edneyville Community Center

15 Ida Rogers Rd, Edneyville, NC 28727

5,335 square-foot center with a meeting room, kitchen and restrooms, with 15.12 acres of land around the center which will include multi-purpose fields, walking trail and playground equipment.

Edneyville Community Park

149 Firehouse Rd, Edneyville, NC 28727

Includes small shelter and playground.

Etowah Park

447 Etowah School Rd, Etowah NC 28739

Includes a shelter, picnic tables, playground, a walking trail, tennis courts, baseball fields, a soccer field and shuffleboard court, with a Frisbee golf course planned.

Jackson Park

801 Glover Street, Hendersonville, NC 28792

Includes 4 picnic shelters, 9 baseball fields, multi-purpose fields for soccer and events, 8 tennis courts, basketball court, disc-golf course, off-leash dog area, playgrounds, and many walking trails, providing a central location for many community sports and activities. The park is home to many species of birds, wildlife, and plants, making the park a great place to observe nature.

Tuxedo Park

US 225, Tuxedo, NC

Under development - The plans include playground equipment, shelter, restrooms, open fields, walking trails, tennis courts or basketball.

Upper Hickory Nut Gorge Trailhead

3836 Gerton Hwy, Gerton, NC 28735

US 64 at Cummings Road - River Access Park

Westfeldt Park - River Access Park

83 Old Fanning Bridge Rd

Fletcher, NC 28732

City of Hendersonville Parks

<https://www.hendersonvillenc.gov/parks-recreation>

Facility Reservations can be made by calling the Office at 697-3084.

Berkeley Mills Park

69 Balfour Rd, Hendersonville, NC 28792

Includes baseball park and a large pavilion with restrooms. Plans are being developed for a nature trail.

Boyd Park

Between Church St. and N. Main St at Bearcat Blvd.

Includes two tennis courts and a miniature golf course (putt-putt).

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park

Located at 4th Ave and Grove St.

Includes picnic tables, a walking path, and a granite memorial.

William H. King Memorial Park

Located on Seventh Avenue East. It is comprised of six acres and includes a baseball field, a one-mile nature trail, and a one-half mile walking trail.

Lenox Park

Located on Lenox Avenue. It is comprised of one-half acre and has picnic tables. It also has a historic natural spring.

Oklawaha Greenway Trail

The trail begins near the Henderson County Parks & Recreation building in Jackson Park and travels three and a quarter miles to Berkeley Mills Park with connections to Patton Park, Sullivan Park, and William H. King Memorial Park. The trail closely follows Mud Creek and is mostly shaded by mature trees along the trail and creek. The trail is ten feet wide with an asphalt surface. Mileage signs are placed every quarter of a mile along the trail to help trail users know how far they have traveled and how much farther it is to their destination. Several benches are placed along the trail

for people to stop and take a rest. There are three bike FixIt Stations with common tools for working on bicycles located at Berkeley Mills Park, Patton Park, and Jackson Park. Drinking fountains are located at Berkeley Mills Park and at the 7th Avenue crossing area by the City's dog park, Pets' Own Place. All motorized vehicles and/or equipment including scooters are prohibited from the trail (except for city and county maintenance equipment and Law Enforcement). For more information about the Oklawaha Greenway and Friends of the Oklawaha Greenway, please visit <http://www.friendsofoklawaha.org/Oklawaha>

Patton Park

Located on Highway 25 North. It is comprised of 19 acres and features: 2 baseball fields, basketball courts, 4 racquetball courts, 2 tennis courts, a football field, two pavilions with picnic tables and grills, 2 gazebos, a playground for tots, a one-half mile lighted walking trail, an Olympic-sized swimming pool (open from Memorial Day to Labor Day), restrooms and a skate park.

Pets' Own Place on Seventh Avenue

Located at 1019 Seventh Avenue East, is a fenced dog park with two separate section for small and large dogs. There is also a waste bag dispenser, trash receptacle and a water spigot. The park is located across Mud Creek at the Oklawaha Greenway trail head. Parking is available off Seventh Avenue.

Sullivan Park

Located on Ashe Street in the Green Meadows subdivision. It is comprised of five acres and features include: two basketball courts, an equipped playground, picnic tables and a public restroom (open seasonally). There is an asphalt connector that connects Sullivan Park with the Oklawaha Greenway Trail.

Toms Park

Located on Lily Pond Lane off West Allen Street. It is comprised of five acres and features: 27 shuffleboard courts, picnic tables, and the Whitmire Activity Building that is currently used by the Hendersonville Bridge Club.

Village of Flat Rock

<http://villageofflatrock.org/>

The Park at Flat Rock

55 Highland Golf Drive

Hendersonville, NC 28792

Includes 66 acres with playground, perimeter trail, pavillion, welcome center with restrooms.

Town of Mills River

<http://www.millsriver.org/town-park.html>

Town Park

124 Town Center Dr

Mills River, NC 28757

Includes 1.2 mile multi-use trail, dog park, playground, restrooms, picnic shelter, tennis/pickleball courts, handicapped accessible fishing pier, and canoe/kayak launch.

Town of Fletcher

<https://www.fletchernc.org/departments/parks-and-recreation/>

Bill Moore Community Park

85 Howard Gap Rd
Fletcher, NC 28732

Includes 5 Baseball/Softball Fields, 3 Multi-purpose Fields, Concession Stand, Restrooms, Steelcase Picnic Shelter, Playground, Park Ridge Health Fitness Circuit, Cane Creek Access, 9-hole Disc Golf Course, Arboretum Gardens, Walking Trails, Morris Broadband Dog Park.
Facility reservation info at 828-687-0751.

Kate's Park

Library Rd
Fletcher, NC 28732

Includes playground, paved walking trail, small picnic shelter, and green open space.

Town of Laurel Park

<http://www.laurelpark.org/parks>

Laurel Green Park

440 White Pine Dr, Hendersonville, NC 28739

Includes 4-acre parcel with a playground, meandering walking paths, a pond and a centrally located gazebo.

Jump Off Rock Park

End of Laurel Park Highway, Laurel Park
Includes scenic overlook and walking trails.

Rhododendron Lake Nature Park

Lake Drive, Laurel Park
Includes walking trails, exercise stations and a footbridge.

GOVERNMENT IN ACTION CALENDAR HENDERSON COUNTY

County Commissioners Meetings Historic Courthouse	1st Mon	5:30 pm
Historic Courthouse	3rd Wed	9:00 am
Board of Education Meetings 414 4th Ave. W.	2nd Mon	6:00 pm
Recreation Adv. Board Meetings Jackson Park	3rd Tues	noon
Social Service Board Meetings Human Service Bldg.	3rd Tues	2:00 pm
Board of Health Meetings Human Service Bldg.	2nd Tues	6:00 pm
Planning Board Meetings County Admin. Bldg	3rd Thurs	5:30 pm
Zoning Board Meetings County Admin. Bldg	Last Wed	4:00 pm
Pardee Hospital Board Meetings Pardee Hospital	Last Wed	3:00 pm
Library Board Meetings Main Library	2nd Tues	9:00 am

CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE

City Council Meetings City Hall	1st Thurs after 1st Mon	5:45 pm
Planning Board Meetings City Ops Center	2nd Mon	4:00 pm
Zoning Board of Adj. Meetings City Ops Center	2nd Tues	1:30 pm
Historic Preservation City Ops Center	3rd Wed	5:00 pm
Tree Board Meetings City Ops Center	1st Tues	3:00 pm

TOWN OF FLETCHER

Town Council Meetings Town Hall	2nd Mon	7:00 pm
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TOWN OF LAUREL PARK

Town Council Meetings Town Hall	3rd Tues	9:30 am
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TOWN OF MILLS RIVER

Town Council Meetings Town Hall	2nd Thurs 4th Thurs	7:00 pm 7:00 pm
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VILLAGE OF FLAT ROCK

Village Council Meetings Village Hall	2nd Thurs	9:30 am
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The League of Women Voters of Henderson County

Voters Guide at

VOTE411.ORG

ELECTION INFORMATION YOU NEED

The candidates' views on the issues in their own words

Polling places - Election dates - Absentee ballot info

*The League of Women Voters - Committed to defending democracy
and empowering voters since 1920*

For more information: www.lwvhenc.org