



Rutherfordton

NORTH CAROLINA

Welcome Guide
2024-2025



1TOWN 1TEAM





Dear New Resident,

Welcome to Rutherfordton! We are so happy that you are here. As you're settling into your new home, we hope that you're finding your way around the community, meeting other residents, and enjoying what the Town has to offer.

Your local government is here to help you get everything you need by providing this guide. The Town staff works hard to provide residents with high levels of service in all that we do, so you should expect excellence from each and every one of us. Since we don't directly provide all of the services you use in your daily life, we work hard to make sure that we partner with the organizations and agencies around us to provide you with seamless customer service.

Though our Town is small, we believe that there is something for everyone. Our Town staff has worked hard to create an inclusive environment to support our residents. Our goal is to ensure that residents experience the quality of life they deserve. Safe, livable neighborhoods; recreation and leisure activities; and a strong local economy are just a few key objectives we always keep in mind when serving you. We are truly here for you. Keeping these goals at the forefront, we strive to live up to our motto of being "A Minted Original."

Again, welcome to Rutherfordton, and we are pleased to have you join our community. Please don't hesitate to call upon your local government for any questions you may have. We hope you love Rutherfordton as much as we do.

No matter what you call it- Rutherfordton, Ruff'ton, Rolph-ton, Rudder4ton, Rullerfourton- we're glad you're home.

Sincerely,

Mayor Jimmy Dancy



Our Community

OUR TOWN

AT A GLANCE

Chartered in 1787, Rutherfordton is one of the oldest towns in Western North Carolina. Our founding along a ridge line offer vistas of a rolling countryside, leading to a backdrop of the great Blue Ridge Mountains. Our history runs deep here, and we are a community of firsts. You can still sense our past in the traditional historic brick buildings in downtown. Today, we are known within the region for our unrivaled quality of life, the beauty of our place, and our pride in our community. We provide a wealth of cultural and creative arts more commonly found in a large city, and an abundance of outdoor recreation activities found only in more rural places. Our downtown is the heart of activity and energy in our community, where new discoveries are made every day.



4,182
Population



100 +
Historic Buildings



4.2
Square miles



~3
Miles of trails

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Schools & the PO Box

District 1 Schools

R-S Central High School	641 Hwy. 221 North, Rutherfordton, NC 28139 (828) 287-3304
R-S Middle	Westbrook Road Rutherfordton, NC 28139 (828) 286-4461
Pinnacle Elementary	Painters Gap Road Rutherfordton, NC 28139 (828) 287-3449
Rutherfordton Elementary	201 Bob Hardin Road Rutherfordton, NC 28139 (828) 287-3778

If viewing online, click on "District 1" to be taken to the county school system's website.



The Pop Up Opportunity Box, or the PO Box meeting room, is available to the community as a space for quiet work, for meetings, and as the home for small business resources and reference guides. Conveniently located on the first floor of the Woodrow Jones Community building. This space offers WiFi, business books and resources, and more, to accommodate a range of users and needs.



Pop Up Opportunity Box (PO Box)
146 N Main Street. Rutherfordton, NC
Advance reservations required.

Our Government

Government Structure

In Rutherfordton, the Mayor and Town Council serve part-time and are elected on a non-partisan basis. The Mayor is elected for a four-year term and serves as the presiding officer at Town Council meetings and as the official head of the Town for ceremonial purposes. The four Town Council Members are elected at-large for staggered four-year terms.

Under the council-manager form of government, the Town Council acts as the legislative body in establishing policy and law, while the Town Manager handles the day-to-day management of the Town organization. The Town Council appoints a professional Town Manager, who serves as the Council's chief adviser, and the Town Manager appoints the employees of the Town.

Town Council Members



Doug Sheets



Stan Clements



Doris Crute



Henry Giles

Town Manager



Doug Barrick

Mayor



Jimmy Dancy

The Administration Department houses both the Town Manager and the Clerk. The Town Manager serves as the Chief Administrative Officer for the Town, while also overseeing all other departments and functions.

Town Clerk



Jeanie Hall

Boards and Committees

- ABC Board
- Parks and Recreation Board
- Planning and Zoning Board
- Board of Adjustment
- Recreation Trust Fund
- Historic Preservation Commission
- Redevelopment Commission

www.rutherfordton.net/boards-commissions/

If you are interested in serving on a board or committee, visit the website above for more information.



2023 ACTION PLAN

Town of Rutherfordton

What projects are we working on?

This Action Plan was adopted by our council after polling the community, Town Department Directors, and council members about ways our town can better serve our citizens. We use this plan during our budget planning season, so we can put money where our mouth is. Make sure to stay up to date on our current projects and plans by following our social media or signing up to receive the Rutherfordton Sun!



Join our email list by scanning this code!



Best in Governance

The Gold Standard

- Increase recruitment and retention through excellent benefits and incentives
- Invest in new or renovated facilities for police
- Continue to write grants to decrease burden on tax payers and keep projects moving forward
- Maintain open lines of communication with our residents

Balanced Economic Development

Diverse Businesses Growth & Support

- Create business welcome guides
- Prioritize business development and redevelopment
- Advance to Phase II of the Business Park
- Advocate for Future US 74 interstate designation
- Establish a social district

Community Building

Healthy community & relationships

- Build a new town hall with flexible community gathering spaces
- Leverage town buildings and assets to offer community programming and events
- Increase community presence, partnerships, and health
- Support new art and murals
- Place continuous focus on recreation development and improvements

Neighborhood Stabilization & Housing

Improve Housing Conditions

- Bolster URA with infill development, infrastructure improvements, and home repairs
- Decrease neighborhood blight with code enforcement and land banking opportunities
- Create robust partnerships with organizations to reach goals



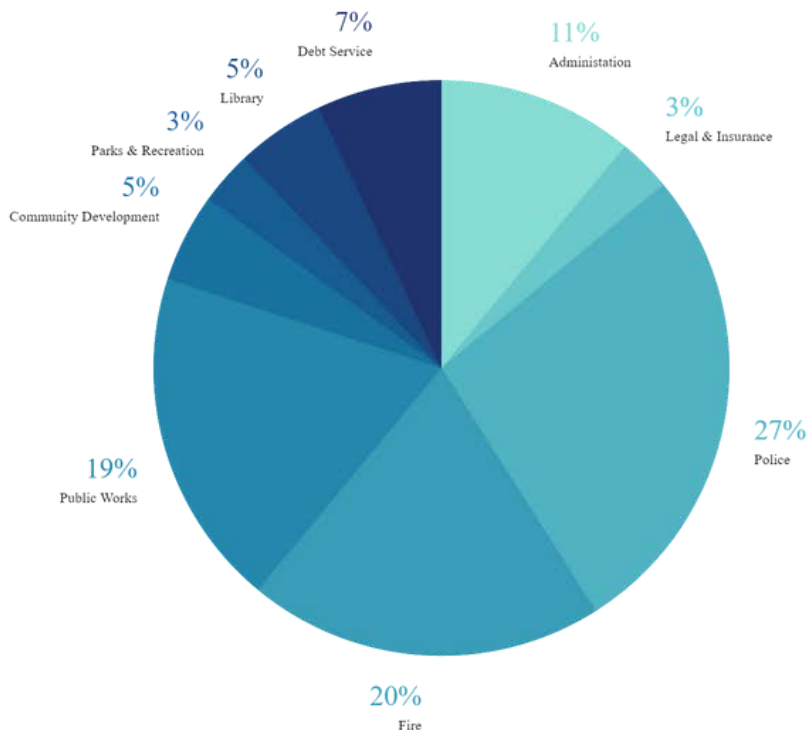
Finance Department

Our Department

The Town operating budget represents more than the allocation of funds to the Town's operations. It sets the tone for the goals, visions, and priorities of our community. Over the past few years, the Town has taken steps to invest in ways to improve our community.

Call or visit us in person or online if you have any questions about the budget!

General Fund Expenditure Highlights



Main Budget Goals



Strengthen our community



Grow our economy



Lead in Public Service



Build a sustainable town



Sonya Outling
Finance
Director



Utilities



Dominion Energy®

(877) 776-2427

<https://www.dominionenergy.com/north-carolina-electric>

Dominion Energy offers service to homes using natural gas. Dominion Energy provides natural gas to areas in Rutherford County with cost being at or below the national average. Pricing for this utility is negotiated directly with Dominion Energy and is dependent on a variety of factors.



(828) 286-0640

ncbrwa.com

Broad River Water Authority provides water to Rutherfordton residents, and is a constant winner of AWOP awards. The water system includes a modern water plant located on our water source, the Broad River, one of the cleanest and most dependable rivers in North Carolina.



(800) 777-9898

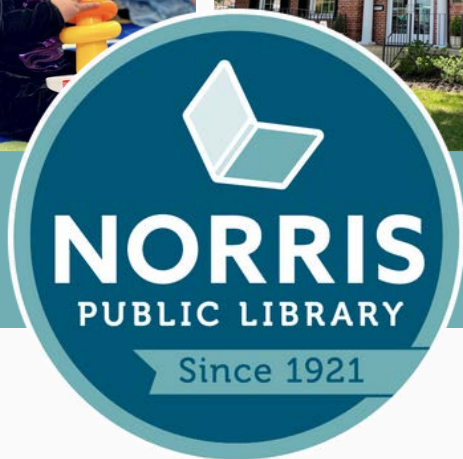
<https://www.duke-energy.com/home>

We are one of the largest electric power holding companies in the United States, providing electricity to 7.7 million retail customers in six states.



There is a wide selection of internet providers in Rutherfordton. Multiple service providers offer fiber internet, DSL, and more. Companies include AT&T, Earthlink, Viasat, and HughesNet. The Town of Rutherfordton also offers free wifi in the downtown areas.

If viewing online, click logos to follow the link to their website.



Norris Public Library

“Bringing people together to dream, discuss, and discover.”

Our library is a hub for connection in our vibrant small town. Through collaboration, we create opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds to come together, widen their perspectives, achieve their dreams, and have fun. We help keep Rutherfordton a place where people care for their neighbors and take part in their community.

In addition to diverse collections of books for every age group, the library offers digital resources, hands-on educational materials, video games, and community space for families and friends to gather and enjoy lifelong learning together.

When you register to be a part of the Norris Library community, you'll have access to the entire collection of the Foothills and NC Cardinal Consortiums - over 7.9 million books, audiobooks, movies, and more. Additionally, you'll have access to the North Carolina Digital Library and the NC Kids Digital Library - quality ebooks and audiobooks available 24/7. Check out the extensive list of digital resources available at www.norrispubliclibrary.org.



Hours of Operation

Monday-Friday: 9:00am-5:00pm
1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month:
10:00am-1:00pm

Membership & Services

Library Membership

Get access to all the library has to offer by registering with a photo ID & proof of a Rutherford County address.

Hold, Please!

Place a hold on a specific item by calling the library or requesting the item online with your account.

Printing Services

NPL offers printing, copying, and faxing, as well as free scanning!

Fabulous Book Sales!

Check the library website for the next Norris Library Foundation Book Sale to grow your own collection of books.

Questions? Contact us!

norrispubliclibrary@gmail.com

(828) 287-3520 x 3

 @NorrisPublicLibrary



Rutherfordton Elementary School Visit, 2023

Children's materials & services at NPL

Our Library offers a variety of hands-on educational and entertainment resources for children and their families. It also offers programs that promote creative expression, build STEM skills, and celebrate the diversity of our wonderful community! Explore the Library's website to learn about more its services, materials, upcoming programs, and special collections like STEM kits, Learning Tablets, and video games.



Funded by a Community Action Grant from the Forest City Data Center, our STEM kits and Learning Tablets are just a few of the educational resources available for checkout at NPL.

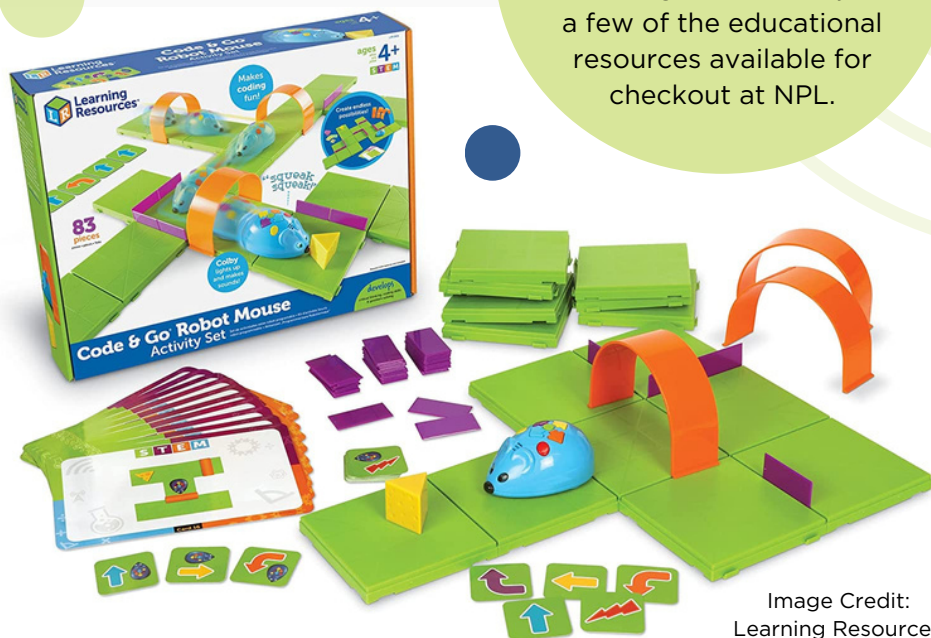


Image Credit:
Learning Resources®

Weekly Programs & StoryWalk®

Baby Storytime

Join us every Thursday at 10:30am for a special program designed for infants aged 0 to 24 months! We'll read stories, sing songs, and practice movement together!

Preschool Storytime

Join us every Friday at 10:30am to sing songs, read stories, play games, and make a craft!

StoryWalk® at Kiwanis Park

NPL maintains a StoryWalk® at Kiwanis Park in partnership with Rutherford County Library. Enjoy a new picture book every season!



Image Credit:
Brooke Hargett



GROWING TOGETHER, TO GROW TOGETHER.

No gardening experience is required to volunteer with Ruff'ton Roots! Just a positive attitude, a desire to make a difference, and a love for getting in the dirt.

Volunteer tasks include everything from tending the garden to delivering the packaged produce. Work events are generally Monday evening, Wednesday evening or Saturday morning and are scheduled around specific goals and the weather. They are typically 2-4 hour work events.



How do we do it?

Under the Community Development Department, the Ruff'ton Roots community garden aims to grow organic and nutrient-dense food, where 100% of the harvests are donated to food pantries and soup kitchens in Rutherfordton & beyond. We are dedicated to increase healthy food access throughout our community.

We aim to disrupt the barriers and unjust systems that have disproportionately distributed resources, and aim to create an equitable food system where all individuals have ability to participate, prosper, and benefit.

Join us to help fight food insecurity in Rutherford County.



  RufftonRoots



Explore More.

The Bechtler House

130 W. 6th Street, Rutherfordton
(828) 351-9575
Visit the home of Christopher Bechtler, the man who minted the first one-dollar gold coin in 1832. The Bechtler House serves as the headquarters for the NC Gold Trail and houses the original Bechtler Press, his Rifle, and some Coins!



Rutherford County Farmers Market

172 Park Square, Forest City
Saturdays from 8am-12pm
Farmer's Market provides an opportunity to support local Rutherford County Farms! Come shop for seasonal produce, homemade items, and much more.



Tryon International Equestrian Center

4066 Pea Ridge Rd, Mill Spring, NC (17 miles from Downtown Rutherfordton)
The Equestrian Center is an international destination for all who love horses, outdoor living, and an active lifestyle.



NC Gold Trail

This trail spans across the state to educate visitors about the NC Gold Rush and the significance it provides to US History.

Chimney Rock State Park

431 Main St, Chimney Rock, NC (21 miles from Downtown Rutherfordton)
Chimney Rock at Chimney Rock State Park is a nature lover's paradise with a collaboration of spectacular views and incredible hiking trails. They combine to create a mountain adventure experience that is postcard perfect.

Lake Lure Beach

2724 Memorial Hwy, Lake Lure, NC (20 miles from Downtown Rutherfordton)
Enjoy the summer at Lake Lure Beach. Relax under the sun, float on the water, build sand castles, or picnic with family and friends!

Quality Care. Close to Home.

Rutherford Regional Health System is a 143-bed acute care facility that offers a broad array of inpatient and outpatient care. Rutherford Regional is dedicated to providing patients with a full range of services to meet your healthcare needs.

Featured Services

- The Birth Place
- Family Care
- Outpatient Surgery
- Cancer
- Imaging

Contact Information

(828) 286-5000
288 S Ridgecrest St
Rutherfordton, NC 28139





Our Local Parks



Crestview Park

Park Street,
Rutherfordton
This 26 acre multi-purpose park, has baseball fields, basketball courts, tennis courts, walking trail, horseshoe pits, playground, a picnic shelter, bathrooms and drinking fountains.



Main Street Park

At the intersection of First Street and Main Street in downtown Rutherfordton. Decorated with planters, trellises, archways, and benches.



Rutherfordton Clubhouse

241 Clubhouse Drive,
Rutherfordton
Built in the 1930s, this log house can be rented for weddings, anniversaries, birthday parties, reunions, and business luncheons.



Kiwanis Park

Green Street,
Rutherfordton
3.7 acres that is heavily shaded amphitheater, off-leash dog park, play area, and access to Cleghorn Creek



Purple Martin Trail

2.4 miles, Extends from Crestview Park to Kiwanis Park. The trail has access points to Cleghorn Creek and multiple picnic shelters along the route. There is parking at corner of Main Street and Industrial Avenue, at Crestview Park, and along Skyline Drive.

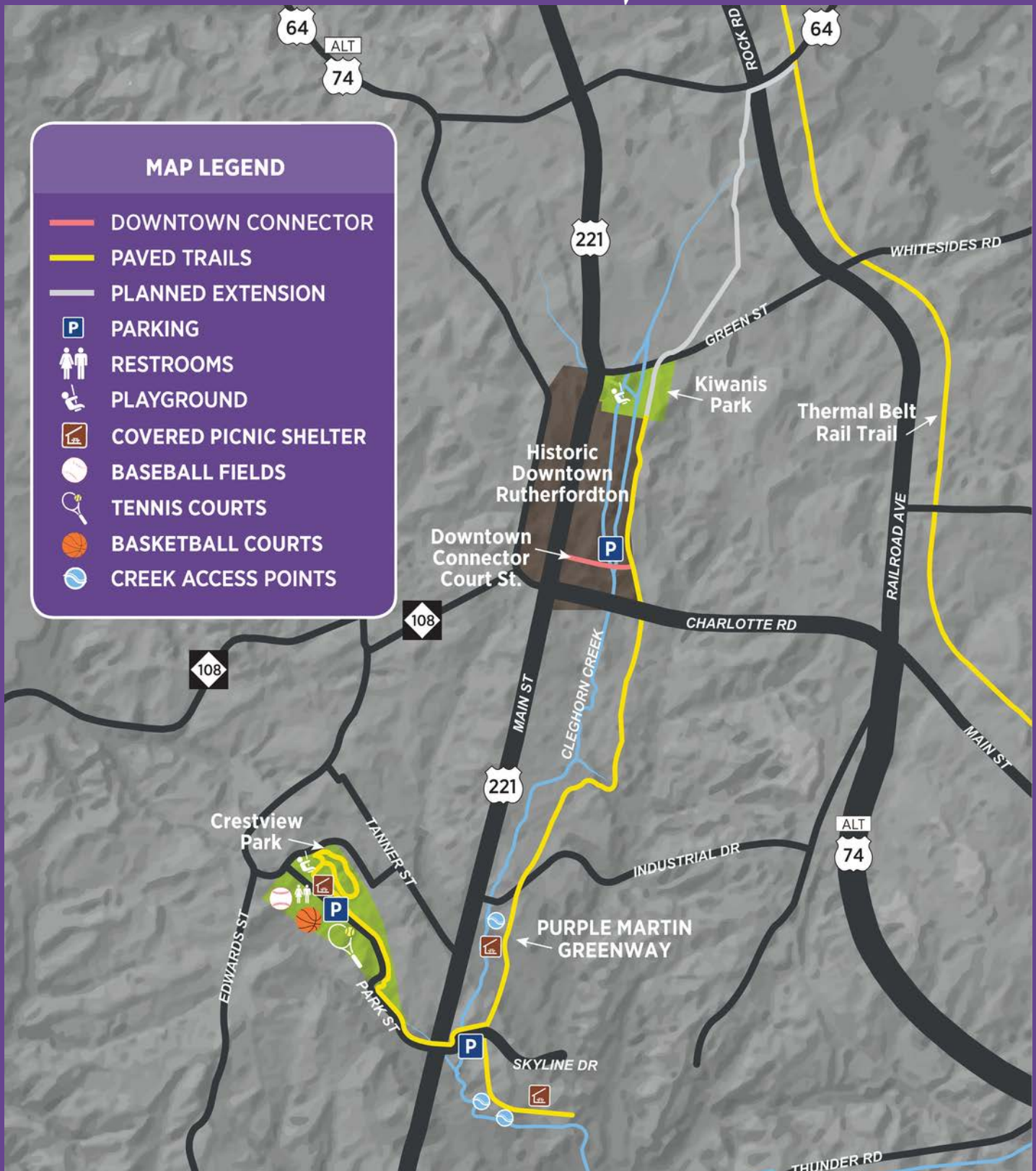


Fairview Park

2nd Street,
Rutherfordton
A newly renovated neighborhood park with a basketball court, playground equipment and a rentable picnic pavilion to host cookouts for the whole family.

PURPLE MARTIN

greenway



MAP LEGEND

- DOWNTOWN CONNECTOR
- PAVED TRAILS
- PLANNED EXTENSION
- PARKING
- RESTROOMS
- PLAYGROUND
- COVERED PICNIC SHELTER
- BASEBALL FIELDS
- TENNIS COURTS
- BASKETBALL COURTS
- CREEK ACCESS POINTS

Historic
Downtown
Rutherfordton

Downtown
Connector
Court St.

Kiwanis
Park

Thermal Belt
Rail Trail

Crestview
Park

PURPLE MARTIN
GREENWAY

ANNUAL MLK MARCH

JANUARY 15

10 A.M.
COURTHOUSE



CARS & COFFEE

JANUARY 20 JULY 20
FEBRUARY 17 AUGUST 24
MARCH 16 SEPTEMBER 21
APRIL 27 OCTOBER 19
MAY 18 NOVEMBER 16
JUNE 29 DECEMBER 21

8:30 - 11 AM
CENTRAL STREET



FAB FEST

APRIL 5 AUGUST 2
MAY 3 SEPTEMBER 6
JUNE 7 OCTOBER 25
JULY 5

6 PM - LATE
CENTRAL STREET

PURPLE MARTIN FABULOUS 4-MILER

APRIL 20

8 AM
KIWANIS PARK



MOVIES IN THE PARK

MARCH 8 JULY 12
APRIL 12 AUGUST 9
MAY 10 SEPTEMBER 13
JUNE 14

8 PM
KIWANIS PARK

DUCK DASH DERBY

MAY 10

7 PM
KIWANIS PARK



PARTICIPATE. PLAY. ENGAGE.
Bringing you the best
of Rutherfordton in
2024.



OCTOBER 31

4 - 6 PM
DOWNTOWN

SUNFLOWER DAYS

LATE AUGUST

RUFF'TON ROOTS



Hilltop FALL FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 5

10 AM - 5 PM
DOWNTOWN

FIREWORKS



JULY 5th Dusk

KIWANIS PARK



CHRISTMAS PARADE & TREE LIGHTING

DECEMBER 7

5 PM
DOWNTOWN

NIGHT OUT IN RUTHERFORDTON

DECEMBER 12

5 PM - 8 PM
DOWNTOWN



  @MYRUTHERFORDTON

FOR FULL EVENT LINEUP AND DETAILS, VISIT RUTHERFORDTON.NET OR

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL!



Rutherfordton



Public Works

OUR DEPARTMENT

AT A GLANCE

Rutherfordton's Public Works Department strives to provide excellent service to the citizens of Rutherfordton. Services include street and sidewalk maintenance, waste removal for almost 1,700 houses, maintenance of Town buildings and structures, care for landscaping of public parks and the Rutherfordton Cemetery, beautification of the Town entrances, and operation of the sewer system (which equates to more than 30 miles!). While the list of services is extensive, the employees are constantly noting potential changes that could further improve the community.

The Town provides a curbside collection of yard debris, including brush, tree trimmings and larger tree limbs. All material needs to be cut into 5ft lengths, or about the amount that would fit into the back of a truck bed, and placed at the curb away from any obstructions or powerlines for removal. Policy allows for one large load per month without charge. Large piles and frequent piles will require an extra charge per pickup.

Public Works will also collect extra household garbage that will not fit in the trash can such as large debris, small appliances, yard trimmings, recyclable materials, and unwanted furniture for an extra charge. Extra material from a private contractor or construction material is included in this extra material pickup. Please call Town Hall at (828) 287-3520 to pay and schedule the collection.



For any questions , please call us at
(828) 287-5961



Place trash and recycling bins at the curb in front of your residence.



Make sure that bins are not blocking sidewalks, mailboxes, or powerlines.



The equipment used to pick up the bins needs a minimum of 3 feet on either side of the bin.



Public Works can pick up extra garbage that cannot fit into a bin for an extra charge.



Rutherfordton



Police

OUR DEPARTMENT

AT A GLANCE

The Rutherfordton Police Department is committed to fairness, professionalism, compassion and excellence while providing police services with the utmost integrity and in accordance with the law. The Rutherfordton Police Department is also devoted to meeting the needs of the community and responding to those needs in an effective and empathetic manner.

16 full-time officers **5** reserve officers **1** civilian employee

“Our officers truly understand the definition of service.”

-Police Chief Clint Ingle

Community Outreach

Keep Check On Program

RPD officers can check on your residence while you're out of town, and contact you if a need arises.

R.I.D.E.S.

R.I.D.E.S. is our new Rutherfordton Impaired Driving Experience Simulator!

Shop with a Cop

One of the ways the RPD strives to strengthen the community and reach out to families in true need.

Contact us!

Location:

129 N Main St,
Rutherfordton, NC 28139

Phone Number: (828) 287-5062

[Sign up for Nixle to be alerted about relevant local information from the Rutherfordton Police Department](#)



@RutherfordtonPoliceDepartment



Rutherfordton

Fire/Rescue

Additional Information

Fire Inspections

RFD conducts fire inspections in the Town of Rutherfordton and the Town of Ruth

Blue Address Signs

RFD will make a blue address sign for free for each residence in our fire district to ensure clear visibility for first responders in case of an emergency.

Smoke Detectors

Call the Fire Department for assistance in installing smoke detectors in your home. These are available for free inside our fire district.

How to Join

Check the Fire Department page on our website or call to learn about the opportunities to serve your community by becoming a volunteer firefighter. We even have a junior program!

OUR DEPARTMENT

AT A GLANCE

The Rutherfordton Fire and Rescue Department is comprised of career and volunteer staff, and exists to serve the citizens of the Town and district by protecting lives and property within its service area from the destructive effects of fire, accident, and natural disaster. The RFD responds to a variety of emergencies consisting of fires, motor vehicle accidents, medical, technical rescue, hazardous materials, natural disasters, and many other calls for service. To maximize service and save money, the fire fighters have special skills that allow the department to remain self-sufficient. The Fire Department maintains the fire trucks, mow their lawn, and clean the facility.

12 Full-time firefighters

7 Part-time firefighters

12 Volunteer firefighters

8 Junior firefighters



Contact us!

Station 1: 144 N Mitchell St,
Rutherfordton, NC 28139

Station 2: 1701 Baber Road,
Rutherfordton, NC 28139

Phone Number: (828) 287-7367



@RutherfordtonFire&Rescue



Welcome Home.

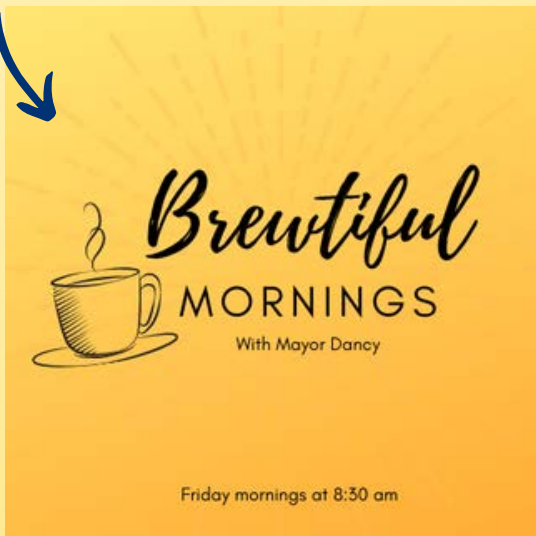
NOW CONNECT WITH US!

rutherfordton.net

Take notes
here!

Watch our live stream on Facebook every other Friday morning to learn about what's happening in the Town.

Join our Annual Citizens Academy to learn about how the Town operates! Learn from each department in the fall.



@myrutherfordton

