

# Our Town

July/August 2020

TOWN of WAKE FOREST



## SHAPE *the* FUTURE

*What will Wake Forest look like in 20 years?  
The answer is up to you — it's up to all of us.*

The Town of Wake Forest is embarking on a major update to the Wake Forest Community Plan. The updated Community Plan will shape the Town's vision and guide development for the next 10 to 20 years. The renewed plan will also help Town leaders make substantive and thoughtful decisions on behalf of the community.

The two-year process will start this summer and include various ways for residents to participate and offer input.

### Northeast Neighborhood Plan

In addition, the Town of Wake Forest is also updating the Northeast Neighborhood Plan. The plan provides short and long-term recommendations

for the Northeast Neighborhood. The Town has contracted with Rhodside Harwell, Inc. to update the Northeast Neighborhood plan. The project will kick off later this summer and is expected to take 12 months to complete.

Residents will have various opportunities to provide input for the new Northeast Neighborhood Plan. Topics of considerable interest include food security, improved public and affordable housing, workforce training, transportation, connectivity and building partnerships.

More information on both plan updates will be announced soon. To view the current plans, visit [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov) and search "maps, plans & ordinances."

**Independence Day schedule:** Town hall and all administrative offices will be closed Monday, July 6, for Independence Day. For a complete list of Town holidays and any changes to services, visit [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov) and search "holiday schedule."

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## News Highlights

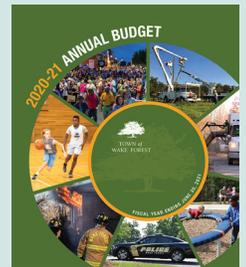
### 2020-21 Annual Budget Highlights »

The 2020-21 budget was approved by the Wake Forest Board of Commissioners in June.

The property tax is reduced from \$0.52 to \$0.495 per \$100 of assessed property valuation. A residential solid waste fee of \$21 per month will take effect Jan. 1, 2021 and will appear on the water and sewer bill from the City of Raleigh.

The vehicle fee remains at \$25 and no adjustments were made to electric rates.

Chief Financial Officer Aileen Staples, ✉ [astaples@wakeforestnc.gov](mailto:astaples@wakeforestnc.gov), ☎ 919-435-9461, 🌐 [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov), search "budget"



**Welcome, Fire Department! »** The Town of Wake Forest welcomes the Wake Forest Fire Department to its organization. After nearly 100 years of operating as a private, non-profit organization, the Wake Forest Fire Department is now part of Wake Forest town government.

Effective July 1, the consolidation is a result of recommendations in a detailed report by EnviroSafe, a management consulting firm specializing in local government public safety services. The Wake Forest Fire Department Board of Directors voted unanimously in agreement with joining the Town's municipal structure.



## Summer Nutrition Program continues through July

The Northern Regional Center (NRC), 350 E. Holding Ave., will continue serving as a weekday food distribution site through Friday, July 31, announced Andrew Brown, Jr., chair of the Northern Community Food Security Team (NCFST). Until then, parents and caretakers of students ages 18 and younger can continue to pick up free, nutritious meals Monday–Friday from 11 a.m.–1 p.m. as part of Wake County's Summer Nutrition Program. Distributed curbside



at the NRC, the food is placed in safe and sanitized containers to minimize concerns related to the spread of COVID-19.

Brown also reminded residents about the NCFST's Weekend Meals

Program. Offered Fridays at the NRC from 11 a.m.–1 p.m. (rain or shine), the initiative invites families to pick up enough food to sustain them through the weekend. Thanks to the NCFST's network of partners, a variety of foods are available at no cost, including dairy, poultry, fruits, vegetables and shelf staples (peanut butter, pasta, oatmeal, cereal and nuts).

"Our efforts would not be possible without the support we receive from our incredible partners," said Brown. "These partners include Farmer's Foodshare, Backpack Buddies, Bread of Life Ministries, Tri-Area Ministries, Fresh Point Produce, and Inter-Faith Food Shuttle."

NCFST Chair Andrew Brown, Jr. ☎ 919-435-9466, ✉ [abrown@wakeforestnc.gov](mailto:abrown@wakeforestnc.gov)

For a list of all Town updates related to COVID-19, visit [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov) and search "covid 19 alerts"

**STAY STRONG  
WAKE FOREST**

*We'll get through this!*



FILE PHOTO 2018

To ensure an accurate record of users, patrons to the pool must register online in advance.

## Sprayground and Aquatic Center OPENING WITH CARE

The Holding Park Aquatic Center (HPAC) and the Taylor Street Park Sprayground are now open to the public for the summer season. Out of concern for public safety, Wake Forest Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Department has introduced various measures as part of daily operations for each facility.



### Taylor Street Park Sprayground

Located at 416 N. Taylor St., the free sprayground operates daily in two-hour sessions, then closes 30 minutes for cleaning, Monday–Saturday from 10 a.m.–7:30 p.m. and Sundays from 1–8 p.m. The facility is scheduled to close for the season on Tuesday, Sept. 8.

The following measures are in place:

- Temporary fencing has been installed around the sprayground to control the entry and exit of visitors.
- For the purposes of contact tracing, all persons entering the sprayground must be signed in by staff.
- Seating areas will be clearly marked to ensure proper spacing and social distancing (patrons may bring their own chairs).
- Staff will enforce a maximum capacity of 16 people.



with one hour in between to allow staff to clean and sanitize the facility, including deck chairs, door handles, hand rails and other high-touch areas.

A maximum of 120 patrons will be allowed inside the facility during each session. **Patrons must register and pay online for each session in advance. No walk-ins will be allowed.**

To register for Open Swim, visit [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov) and search "Holding Park Aquatic Center." The daily schedule, fees and full list of policies are listed on the Holding Park Aquatic Center webpage. Click the "Register & Pay Here" button to complete your online registration.

Pool policies for 2020 include (but are not limited to) the following:

- No cash transactions are allowed. All Open Swim patrons must pre-register and pay the user fee online in advance. This will ensure an accurate record of the number of users and assist with contact tracing efforts.
- Lockers will not be available due to social distancing restrictions.
- Pool passes/punch cards will not be offered to ensure compliance with attendance limitations.
- Tables will be spaced six feet apart.
- The number of deck chairs will be reduced by 50 percent. Seating areas will be clearly marked to ensure proper spacing and appropriate social distancing. Patrons may bring their own chairs.
- Markings will be in place to keep patrons a minimum of six feet apart while waiting to use the diving board, slides and concession stand.
- Parent-Toddler swim time will not be offered as part of the 2020 HPAC schedule.
- Special events and rentals will not be offered at the HPAC in 2020.

## Sprayground & Aquatic Center

(continued)

Community health and safety is the top priority for the Town of Wake Forest. The situation surrounding COVID-19 continues to evolve, so the operating schedule for the sprayground and aquatic center are subject to change. Town officials will continue to closely monitor updates and follow guidelines from the Wake County Health Department, N.C. Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHSS) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). These guidelines have been implemented in protocols established by the Town to address potential exposure and protect our community and staff.

## Health & Safety Guidelines

Officials say pool and sprayground patrons can help stay healthy by practicing these health and safety guidelines:

- Use hand sanitizer.
- Maintain a social distance of six feet from others.
- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough and sneeze.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and warm water.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.

Athletics & Aquatics Superintendent Edward Austin, ☎ 919-435-9562, ✉ eaustin@wakeforestnc.gov, 🌐 wakeforestnc.gov, search “sprayground” or “aquatic center”

## Police launch “Take Me Home Program” to better protect children & adults with disabilities

According to the Alzheimer’s Association, about six out of 10 people living with dementia will wander away from their homes. As the development of the disease continues, it can become increasingly difficult and potentially impossible for the person to find their way home. Many children with autism may also wander. That’s why the Wake Forest Police Department (WFPD) is introducing a new program designed to help officers find and safely return home people with disabilities as quickly as possible when they wander away from their families or caregivers.

The Take Me Home initiative is designed to protect Wake Forest children, adults and the elderly with disabilities, such as autism, Down syndrome or Alzheimer’s and other dementia disorders, who go missing and may be unable to communicate who they are and where they live.

The program is a free, voluntary and confidential database offered, managed and maintained by Wake Forest police for Wake Forest residents. It is only accessible to law enforcement via the WFPD.

When someone enrolls in the program, police obtain their basic information, a current digital photograph, family emergency contact information and other information



that might help police if they encounter them.

Then, in the event a caregiver alerts police their loved one has wandered away, officers will have the immediate ability to distribute a photo and other pertinent information to law enforcement and other first responders which will save precious minutes in launching the search.

The system can also work in reverse. In the event police find someone wandering the town who’s confused, disoriented and unable to say who they are or where they live, officers can check the database to determine if they are enrolled in the program.

Enrollment is easy. Caregivers can register family members with special needs by completing the online form at [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov), search “take me home.”

**Operation Safe Sale:** Wake Forest residents who are selling or purchasing items advertised online may come to the police department, 225 S. Taylor St., to complete their transaction. Transactions may be made in the police department parking lot or inside the lobby, either with or without an officer present. Anyone wishing to have an officer present will be required to schedule an appointment by calling 919-554-6150.

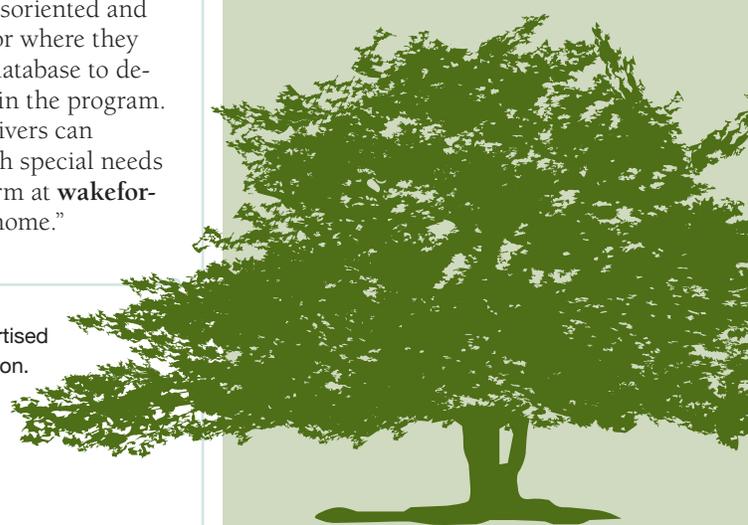


*In all that we say or do,  
let’s be clear that racism,  
hatred and bigotry have no  
place here in our community.*

*In all the many ways we  
interact with each other  
and care for one another,  
let’s demonstrate that every  
human life has value.*

*Wake Forest is a wonderful  
and caring community.  
Let’s be leaders in acceptance,  
inclusion and equity for all.*

—MAYOR VIVIAN JONES



## Happy Dan the Magic Man goes online

One of the Renaissance Centre's favorite performers, Happy Dan The Magic Man, is offering virtual performances on the third Wednesday of each month through December. Happy Dan's one-of-a-kind magic and comedy show begin at 11 a.m. and can be streamed on the Renaissance Centre Facebook page.



Shows are scheduled for July 15, Aug. 19, Sept. 16, Oct. 21, Nov. 18 and Dec. 16.

The day after the event, the recorded show will be posted at [wakeforestrencen.org](http://wakeforestrencen.org) so it can be viewed on demand.

To learn more about the Renaissance Centre, including our virtual programming, like us on Facebook and sign up for free updates via E-Notifier.

🌐 [wakeforestrencen.org](http://wakeforestrencen.org), Renaissance Centre Box Office, ☎ 919-435-9458



### COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC AFFAIRS

## Top five ways to stay informed

Here are key ways to stay up to date on Town programs, services and events:

■ **Download the app.** You'll have information at your fingertips. Search for the "Town of Wake Forest" app in Google Play, iTunes or in the iPhone app store.

■ **Find us on social media.** We're on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Nextdoor. Search for the Town of Wake Forest and see our posts.

■ **Visit the website.** Updated regularly, [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov) is your portal to important information. Use our Google-powered search engine to find topics of interest.

■ **Subscribe to E-Notifier.** Subscribe to one or more categories to receive traffic alerts, police advisories, *The Week Ahead* and more via email.

■ **View videos.** Watch Town of Wake Forest videos on YouTube and watch real-time streaming video broadcasting on Wake Forest TV 10 directly from the Town's website.

🌐 [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov), search "communications", Communications & Public Affairs Director Bill Crabtree, ☎ 919-435-9421, ✉ [bcrabtree@wakeforestnc.gov](mailto:bcrabtree@wakeforestnc.gov)



Watch the show from your living room via Facebook Live.

## Renaissance Centre to host virtual concert featuring the MALPASS BROTHERS

Although the Wake Forest Renaissance Centre is closed and in-person events canceled, "the show must go on-line." As we continue adjusting to life in the midst of COVID-19, the Renaissance Centre is set to begin offering a series of free online visual and performing arts experiences you can enjoy from the comfort of your home.



earned his first talent show trophy at age 7, and Taylor was playing mandolin by the time he was 10. Today, the duo promote the work and music of classic country artists they treasure while creating new music and making their own mark in the lineage of a rich American cultural heritage.

With sincerity, honesty and an utter ease on stage

that belies their years, their smooth vocal blend and skillful musicianship layer infectious into the deep respect they pay to legends who have paved the way. Add the funny, off-the-cuff quips between the two 20-something siblings, and the engaging concert becomes a magnetic time-traveling journey to when a calmer rhythm reigned supreme.

To learn more about the Renaissance Centre, including our virtual programming, like us on Facebook and sign up for free updates via E-Notifier.

🌐 [wakeforestrencen.org](http://wakeforestrencen.org), Renaissance Centre Box Office, ☎ 919-435-9458

One of the Renaissance Centre's signature events, The Malpass Brothers in concert, will take place virtually on Saturday, July 25. The event will begin at 7 p.m. and can be streamed via the Renaissance Centre Facebook page.

Steeped in traditional country music, The Malpass Brothers feature a smooth vocal blend and skillful musicianship while performing in the styles of Johnny Cash, Marty Robbins and Hank Williams, Sr.

As young boys, Christopher and Taylor Malpass embraced the music of their granddad's phonograph records. Christopher



### Save the Date for Celtic Angels Christmas

**Dec 18-19.** Celtic Angels Christmas captivates audiences of all ages with the magic of Christmas in an awe-inspiring show which encompasses vocal and instrumental seasonal and Irish favorites along with spectacular world class champion Irish dancing. Tickets go on sale soon at [wakeforestrencen.org](http://wakeforestrencen.org).



*Stay at Home*

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**Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays  
10 am -12 pm and can be accessed on-line.**

If you are interested in learning more about our program, please call us at **919.276.4005**.

Register on our website  
[perkinsphp.com/admissions](http://perkinsphp.com/admissions)

10500 Ligon Mill Road, #101  
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[PerkinsPHP.com](http://PerkinsPHP.com)

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### PUBLIC SAFETY

## Be prepared for street flooding hazards

Periods of heavy rain have the potential to cause flooding in several low-lying areas throughout Wake Forest. The following Wake Forest-area streets are subject to flooding and should be approached cautiously during significant rainfall events:

- Durham Road/NC-98, Richland Creek
- East Juniper Avenue near North Allen Road
- East Juniper Avenue near North White Street
- Forestville Road, Toms Creek
- Forestville Road, Sanford Creek
- Harris Road, Richland Creek
- Heritage Heights Lane, 1300 Block
- Jenkins Road, Horse Creek
- Ligon Mill Road, Smith Creek
- Ligon Mill Road, Toms Creek
- North Main Street, Walnut Avenue to Cedar Avenue
- North White Street, Juniper Street to Flaherty Avenue
- Oak Grove Church Road, Dunn Creek
- Purnell Road at Jackson Road, Horse Creek
- Purnell Road, Mud Branch
- Rogers Road, Sanford Creek
- Rogers Road, Smith Creek
- West Oak Avenue, Richland Creek
- Wait Avenue, Dunn Creek
- Wall Road, Wallridge Drive to Harris Road
- Watkins Farm Road at Young Street

### COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC AFFAIRS

## Watch board meetings live on Town's website

The Wake Forest Board of Commissioners typically meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. Meetings can be viewed both live and on demand through the Agendas & Public Meeting Portal on the Town's website. To get to the portal, visit [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov) and search "public meeting portal."

Board of Commissioners meetings are also broadcast live on Wake Forest TV 10—the Town's government access channel—then re-broadcast daily throughout the remainder of the month at 9 a.m., 3 p.m., and 9 p.m. The television channel is available only to Wake Forest residents and businesses that subscribe to Spectrum Cable TV service. However, WFTV 10 can be viewed online in real-time streaming video by anyone who has internet access. To stream WFTV 10 online, visit [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov) and search "wftv 10."

### Sign up to receive Board of Commissioners meeting summaries.

Meeting summaries are issued from the Communications & Public Affairs Department following the Board's monthly meetings. To receive each month's meeting summary via email, sign up for E-Notifier at [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov) (search "enotifier"). The brief meeting summaries should not be viewed as official minutes. To request the official meeting minutes, contact Town Clerk Deeda Harris at [dharris@wakeforestnc.gov](mailto:dharris@wakeforestnc.gov).

📧 [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov), search "public meeting portal", Communications & Public Affairs Director Bill Crabtree, ✉ [bcrabtree@wakeforestnc.gov](mailto:bcrabtree@wakeforestnc.gov), ☎ 919-435-9421

## Ball league registration is underway



As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources (PRCR) Department is taking a slow and cautious approach to resuming athletics programming. The coronavirus is expected to remain a threat for the foreseeable future, so the PRCR Department is working to balance health and safety concerns with public demand for resumed access to amenities and services.

Youth Fall Baseball and Softball registration is underway for boys ages 6-16 and girls ages 6-14 and will continue through Sunday, July 12. A participant's eligibility is determined by his or her age on April 30, 2020, and a birth certificate is required for new participants. The in-town registration fee is \$60 and the out-of-town fee is \$100. Online registration is available at [wakeforestnc.recdesk.com](http://wakeforestnc.recdesk.com).

Community health and safety is the top priority for the PRCR Department. Once practices and games begin, several precautionary measures will be taken to protect players, coaches and officials. Due to the evolving situation surrounding COVID-19, athletic programs are subject to change with limited notice.

Athletics & Aquatics Superintendent Edward Austin, ☎ 919-435-9562, ✉ [eaustin@wakeforestnc.gov](mailto:eaustin@wakeforestnc.gov), 🌐 [wakeforestnc.recdesk.com](http://wakeforestnc.recdesk.com)

### PLANNING

## Take the NCDOT Great Trails Survey

The NC Department of Transportation wants to hear from you about North Carolina's trails and how to make them better. The NCDOT is encouraging residents and leaders to participate in a brief survey on our state's multi-modal transportation. The input will be used to identify a network of shared-use paths and trails that connects every county in North Carolina.

The public can give feedback in two ways by taking an interactive map survey or a 10-question survey. Participants are encouraged to take both surveys beginning now through September 30.

Available at [ncdot.gov](http://ncdot.gov), these surveys are a part of NCDOT's effort to develop its statewide trail plan and 5-year implementation strategy, called the Great Trails State Plan.

For more information, visit [ncdot.gov](http://ncdot.gov) and search "Great Trails Survey."

### COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC AFFAIRS

## Report a problem using SeeClickFix

Now you can immediately report non-emergency problems to the Town of Wake Forest from your smartphone, tablet, or computer, thanks to the Town's partnership with SeeClickFix.

Use the Town of Wake Forest website or app to report issues such as damaged sidewalks, street light outages, park issues and potholes. Requests are routed directly to the attention of the appropriate town staff for responsible handling.

To report a problem, go to [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov) and search "report a problem." On the "Report a Problem" web page, enter your request in the SeeClickFix window.

Or, download the Town of Wake Forest app and submit your request using the "SeeClickFix" function.



## Get life moving again at Goldfish!

It's time to dive back in. Time to hear laughter, watch the water ripple, experience progress being made. And it's time to see first hand the life lessons that are learned through swimming...lessons like how to be resilient.

Yes, things have changed. But our commitment to safety, your children, and our community will always remain the same. So, we ask you to join us as we dive back in.



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### Greenway users urged to respect private property

While using Wake Forest's greenways, it is important for everyone to respect private property and remain within the confines of the marked trails. Anyone who ventures off the trails onto the adjacent land may be guilty of trespassing.

In North Carolina, trespassing is classified as a Class 2 misdemeanor under NCGS 14-159.12 and punishable by up to 60 days in jail and a \$1,000 fine.

The Wake Forest Police Department urges greenway users to remain on the trails and off adjacent property. Anyone witnessing suspicious activity is urged to call the Police Department at 919-554-6150.



## Town begins installing high-speed FIBER NETWORK

Utility Service Contractors, a private contractor working on behalf of the Town of Wake Forest, recently began installing a high-speed fiber network to support the Town's public safety efforts and critical administrative activities. CTC Technology & Energy is managing the \$2.5 million installation which will initially interconnect 14 Town facilities before expanding to serve businesses and residential neighborhoods.

In 2016 Wake Forest selected CTC to develop a broadband feasibility study to include high-level design and cost estimates to connect Town facilities and other points of interest. As part

of the study, CTC conducted a comprehensive needs assessment, examined the Town's broadband market and services, and evaluated the potential role of existing Town assets in enabling broadband before delivering its findings in early 2017.

Extending from town hall, the current fiber network installation is the next step in implementing the CTC report.

Residents can track the progress of the fiber installation by visiting the Town's website at [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov) and searching "fiber infrastructure dashboard."

Chief Information Officer Adam Oates, ☎ 919-435-9501, ✉ [aoates@wakeforestnc.gov](mailto:aoates@wakeforestnc.gov)

## Simple Recycling to discontinue service in Wake Forest

Simple Recycling has informed the Town of Wake Forest that it will discontinue its curbside textile collection program in Wake Forest effective Friday, June 19. In a letter to Town officials, Simple Recycling identified the COVID-19 pandemic as the primary reason for its decision.

The Town is encouraging local residents to consider the following tips when apparel, footwear and accessories are out of style, worn or just no longer useful.

- Pass clothing along to family or friends.
- Donate clothing. Reputable charities and thrift stores accept and sell donated clothing to help fund their activities and achieve their charitable missions.
- Recycle clothing. Some clothing retailers, such as

Levi Strauss, Madewell, H&M and The North Face provide in-store receptacles to take back used clothing and may offer incentives.

■ Repurpose clothing. This can be as simple as turning an old t-shirt into a cleaning rag.

Additionally, the following local non-profits accept donations of clothing: GCF Donation Center & Store, Goodwill, Retails Thrift Store, Ukay Ukay Thrift Store, Giving Tree Foundation, Helping Hand Mission, Salvation Army, Women's Center of Wake County, North Raleigh Ministries.

The average person throws away nearly 70 lbs. of clothing, shoes and accessories each year. By recycling these items, residents can keep them out of the landfill and make them available to others who can use them.

🔍 [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov), search "recycling", ☎ 919-435-9570

### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS

Third Tuesday | 7 p.m.  
Town Hall Board Room

### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORK SESSION

First Tuesday | 5:30 p.m.  
Town Hall Board Room

### PLANNING BOARD MEETINGS

First Tuesday | 7:30 p.m.  
Town Hall Board Room

View meetings :

- live on **WFTV 10** and re-broadcast at 9 a.m., 3 p.m. and 9 p.m. daily for up to two weeks after the meeting
- live at [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov), search "wftv 10", and on-demand in streaming video



WFTV 10 is the Town's government access channel available to Spectrum TV subscribers. Watch WFTV 10 live online at [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov), search "wftv 10".

## STAYING INFORMED

### E-NOTIFIER

Sign up for the Town's free email subscription service at [wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov) (search for "e-notifier")



### TOWN of WAKE FOREST

301 S. Brooks St.  
Wake Forest, NC 27587  
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[wakeforestnc.gov](http://wakeforestnc.gov)



Our Town is published bi-monthly by the Town of Wake Forest Communications Department

### Communications & Public Affairs Director

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