



Tourism Tidbits

October 19, 2016

A bi-weekly newsletter from HCTDA

America In Bloom

The America In Bloom symposium and awards program was recently held in Arroyo Grande, CA. Henderson County received a score of “four Blooms” for the second year in row. Henderson County also won a Special Award for Most Striking Public Wall Mural for the Veteran’s Mural located on the corner of 4th Avenue and King Street.

America in Bloom is an economic driver, designating communities nationwide as desirable areas to live, work, and visit. Cities, municipalities, and counties are evaluated on strict judging criteria, based on their location’s climate, environmental conditions, and population. Henderson County was judged in the 30,000-50,000 Population Category. The Henderson County TDA encourages business to promote Henderson County as an America In Bloom community.

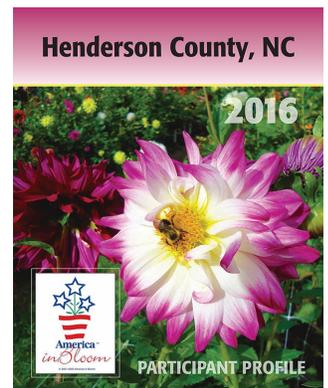
Henderson County received 4 Blooms out of a possible 5, or 79% of possible points. Points were awarded for judges’ evaluation of Floral Displays, Landscaped Areas, Urban Forestry, Environmental Efforts, Heritage Preservation, and Overall Impression.

The judges recognized several attractions and business as 2016 Special Mentions for Landscaped Areas. These included Bullington Gardens, Downtown Hendersonville, Burntshirt Vineyards, Hubba Hubba Smokehouse and Sierra Nevada Brewing Company, which all contributed significantly to Landscape Area criteria and being a superlative one for Henderson County.

Two America in Bloom judges visited sites in Henderson County on June 27th and 28th of this year. Participating municipalities included: Hendersonville, Mills River, Laurel Park, and Flat Rock. Check out the 2016 Henderson County America In Bloom

Participant Profile & Evaluation: <http://www.visithendersonvillenc.org/2016-America-In-Bloom-Profile.pdf>

<http://www.visithendersonvillenc.org/2016-America-In-Bloom-Evaluation.pdf>



Hendersonville in the Media Spotlight

- Winton-Salem Journal – http://www.journalnow.com/winstonsalemmonthly/features/getaway-hendersonville/article_6b40fc38-87f5-11e6-8e32-ff095ea2b593.html

Fire Danger Increasing in Western North Carolina

The U.S. Forest Service and the North Carolina Forest Service are warning the public of increasing fire danger in western North Carolina, due to dry conditions and persistent drought that has resulted from low rainfall in the past few months. Fuels in the forest will readily burn if ignited. Fire danger is predicted to remain high for the rest of October and into December.

Both agencies would like to remind the public to use caution in any outdoor burning. Even when burn-bans are not in effect, conditions may not be advisable for outdoor fires. The public is discouraged from burning yard waste during periods of low humidity or high winds.

Additionally, campfires can be a source of wildfires. Follow these guidelines to help prevent wildfires:

- * Allow the wood to burn completely to ash, if possible
- * Pour lots of water on the fire, drown ALL embers, not just the red ones
 - * Pour until hissing sound stops
 - * Stir the campfire ashes and embers with a shovel
 - * Scrape the sticks and logs to remove any embers
- * Stir and make sure everything is wet and they are cold to the touch
- * If you do not have water, use dirt. Mix enough dirt or sand with the embers.
 - * Continue adding and stirring until all material is cool.
- * Do NOT bury the fire as the fire will continue to smolder and could catch roots on fire that will eventually get to the surface and start a wildfire.

Remember...only YOU can prevent wildfire

Asheville Airport News

ALLEGIANT > Allegiant is offering a new non-stop flight to the New York City area via Newark Liberty International Airport, beginning November 17. Allegiant also announced that the seasonal non-stop flight to the Washington, D.C. area via Baltimore Washington Thurgood Marshall International Airport has been extended through mid-January, 2017.

AMERICAN > American Airlines has reinstated their 7am flight to Charlotte, opening additional connecting options for travelers. They offer frequent daily flights to their Charlotte hub, with the first flight at 7am, and the last arrival into AVL before midnight.

DELTA > Delta is continuing their strong number of flights and seats in our market - very similar to their 2015 schedule - with frequent daily flights to their Atlanta hub. The first flight of the morning departs at 5:50am, and the last arrival into AVL is just before midnight.

UNITED > United is planning additional frequencies to Chicago, most likely during holidays or peak travel weeks. Frequency per day may range from 2-4 flights per day. United continues to offer seasonal service to Newark Liberty International Airport.



For information about parking at the airport, visit <http://flyavl.com>

Business Update

- The Cascades Mountain Resort – has opened in the former Quality Inn on Sugarloaf Rd.
- 2 Guys Pizza – New location / 1307 7th East
- Sumo's Japanese Restaurant, 1730 Asheville Hwy. / former Asian Fortune location

HCTDA Upcoming Events

October 25 / 1pm

HCTDA Board Meeting

Visitor Center, 201 S. Main St

October 27 / 11am-12noon

Group Sales Forum

BRCC Continuing Ed Bldg., Rm 122

November 10 / 5-7pm

Tourism After Five

Flat Rock Playhouse Downtown

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