



Wayne County is a great place to do business, and an equally great place to call home. A temperate climate, abundant and affordable housing, vibrant local culture and a calendar full of local events are just a few of the things attracting business people and families to Wayne County. Learn more about our thriving community and let us show you why Wayne County is a place you'll want to call home.

HISTORY

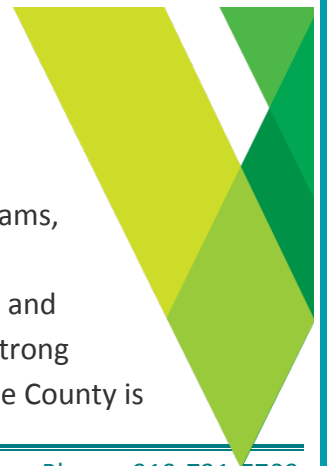
From nearby landings of colonial settlers to current day happenings, Wayne County is very rich in its historic aspects, including important contributions to Civil War history. Goldsboro was an important railroad junction during the Civil War. Confederate troops were stationed here to guard the city and report for duty by rail. Hospitals were established, and over 800 Confederate soldiers were buried in a mass grave at Willowdale Cemetery.

Historic Markers in Wayne County include:

- The Battle of Goldsborough Bridge: Foster's Raid
- Charles B. Aycock's birthplace
- Waynesborough Park
- Sherman's March through Goldsboro
- North Carolina Railroad
- Governor Curtis H. Brogden's home
- Dobbs County Courthouse
- Torhunta Indian farming community
- Seymour Johnson Air Force Base
- Battle of Whitehall
- Odd Fellows Home
- Cherry Hospital
- Goldsboro Union Station
- Women voting advocate Gertrude Weil's home
- Barnes-Hooks Farms

EDUCATION

From North Carolina's renowned state universities to local education and training programs, Wayne County offers opportunities for its community members to increase their opportunities. Quality education at all levels is a top priority in Wayne County. Our local and regional institutions pride themselves in preparing workers who are job-ready. From a strong public school system through higher education and ongoing professional training, Wayne County is



committed to providing quality education for our residents and businesses. We have excellent educational facilities from public/ private primary and secondary to community college.

Public Education

One of the largest school districts in Eastern North Carolina, Wayne County Public Schools serves over 19,300 students from kindergarten through 12th grade. The district is firmly committed to education that breeds advancement, exemplified through the inclusion of STEM educational models in classrooms across the county and the opening of Wayne School of Engineering as a think tank for hands-on learning.

STEM Education

STEM Education is a modern approach to middle grades and prep school curriculum that focuses on the real-world application of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math disciplines. The program, which is underway in Wayne County's Public School system, seeks to bridge the gap between the skills many prep students have when they complete high school and the skills needed to evoke innovation in our workforce and higher education systems. This is accomplished through direct communication, collaboration and partnerships among STEM educators in the classroom, local businesses, existing industry and secondary education institutions. Wayne County boasts STEM labs in all of its middle schools.

Higher Education

Wayne Community College

Founded in 1957, Wayne Community College plays a significant role in workforce development through the WORKS Initiative and Customized Training solutions. Students can earn two-year degrees in a variety of disciplines. The school offers over 70 degree, certificate and continuing education programs, in addition to customized training for specialized job opportunities.

University of Mount Olive

Founded in Mount Olive, NC in 1953, the private, four-year Baptist College offers SACS accredited degrees in a multitude of disciplines. Besides the main campus in Mount Olive (Wayne County), the school has operated a satellite campus in Goldsboro at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base since 1975 to provide military and civilian students with a convenient learning location. The school also operates six other satellite campuses outside the county and offers a comprehensive agriculture program, as well as online degrees, including MBA.

HOUSING

Wayne County residents can choose from a variety of abundant and affordable housing options. Wayne County has a very diverse group of housing, from historical, family-oriented, private-gated communities, modern, country club, and urban style, single-aged or senior-aged communities. Residents can choose to live in the historical heart of downtown, out in the country, or in a more modernized neighborhood.

HEALTHCARE

Residents of Wayne County enjoy leading healthcare resources. Wayne County residents are fortunate enough to have Wayne Memorial Hospital now Wayne UNC Health Care as their local hospital. While many community hospitals are struggling to survive, Wayne UNC Health Care continues to grow to meet the changing needs of the community it serves. Hospital management and the board of directors, current and past, have worked diligently over the years to be fiscally responsible, to plan well, and to adapt to the changing needs of the community it serves.

Wayne UNC Healthcare



Founded in 1896, Wayne UNC Health Care, formerly Wayne Memorial Hospital, has provided quality care to our regional residents for over a century. The hospital employs nearly 1,400 individuals in a wide range of specialties including Cardiopulmonary, Cancer Care, Diabetes Care, Endoscopy, Pediatrics, Neurodiagnostics and Rehabilitation. In the spring of 2016 Wayne Memorial Hospital expanded and became a part of the UNC Hospital systems, renamed Wayne UNC Healthcare.

Regional Hospitals

Beyond Wayne County, our residents have access to more fine healthcare

- Lenoir Memorial Hospital in Kinston is 29 miles from Wayne County
- Vidant Hospital in Greenville is 43 miles from Wayne County
- WakeMed in Raleigh is 57 miles from Wayne County
- Duke Raleigh Hospital in Raleigh is 60 miles from Wayne County
- UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill is 86 miles from Wayne County
- Duke University Hospital in Durham is 100 miles from Wayne County

LEISURE ACTIVITIES

Local theatres, a state park and many golf courses are just some of the cultural and recreational amenities in Wayne County. Whether you enjoy hiking or biking, hitting the golf course or savoring the arts, Wayne County has the amenities to match your lifestyle. The newly refurbished Paramount Theatre, Cliffs of the Neuse State Park and the Arts Council of Wayne County are just a few of the amenities available to our residents.

Arts & Culture

For a relatively small community, Wayne County residents prioritize arts and culture. From the Paramount Theatre in Goldsboro with its regular concert, musical and film events to the Wayne Chapter of the North

Carolina Symphony, and the Goldsboro Ballet, residents of Wayne County enjoy the finest in regional performances and national touring acts.

- *The Paramount Theatre* was originally built in 1882 and reconstructed in 2008. This beautiful landmark is historic downtown Goldsboro's headquarters for the performing arts.
- *Stagestruck* which was established in 1978, is Goldsboro's longest running community theatre group. They produce 4-5 plays and musicals each year, and auditions are always free and open to the public for all productions.
- *Center Stage Theatre* which was established in 1978, is a 501 C (3) non-profit community theatre group providing quality entertainment to Wayne County.
- *The Arts Council of Wayne County* offers exhibitions, performances, workshops, art classes, and houses adult and children's art galleries, studios and much more.

Parks & Recreation

- The beautiful Cliffs of the Neuse State Park and extensive Goldsboro Parks & Recreation system are just two examples of the outdoor and recreational amenities available here. Cliffs of the Neuse State Park with its staggering cliffs overlooking the Neuse River, multiple hiking trails and 11-acre lake for swimming is one of the jewels of Wayne County. Visitors and local families alike have enjoyed the park for years and take advantage of the park's 35-site campground and museum-quality exhibits at the visitor center.
- Wayne County offers twelve city parks to choose from such as:
 - Berkeley Park
 - Fairview Park
 - H.V. Brown Park
 - Herman Park
 - Mina Weil Park
 - Mountain Bike Trail
 - North End Park
 - Peacock Park
 - Quail Park
 - South End Park
 - Stoney Creek Park
 - Veterans Memorial Park
- Most of the Wayne County parks offer: picnic shelters, restrooms, equipment rentals, events, and activities for all age groups. Some of the parks offer: tennis courts, basketball courts, ball fields, mountain bike trails, disc golf courses, farmers market, and other year-round events.

Activities

- Wayne County offers a variety of recreational activities in the community such as:
- *AMF Boulevard Lanes* is the ideal way to entertain your family, friends and co-workers by a night out of knocking pins down.

- *Busco Beach ATV Park and Campground* is an ATV rider's paradise with more than 1,800 acres of riding trails, drag races, motocross tracks, youth tracks, mud pits, mud holes, mud races and ATV ponds. They also offer a lake and several ponds for swimming, jet skiing, boating or fishing.
- *Goldsboro Events Center*, formerly Goldsboro Country Club, but is newly renovated and restored to house amazing rental space (a great place for weddings and receptions), a golf and tennis shop, tennis courts, and golf course.
- *Goldsboro Family YMCA* has an enclosed Olympic size pool with spectator seats, indoor walking and running track, weight room, triple gymnasium, group exercise classes, summer camps, after school programs, preschool programs, swim lessons, showers and locker rooms, saunas, steam rooms, Jacuzzis, outdoor sports complex featuring 6 multipurpose fields and 1.5 mile track.
- *Goldsboro Equestrian Center* is situated on 22 acres, and the facility consists of a large stall barn, pastures, jumping arena, and covered and lighted riding rings.
- *Round- A- Bout Skating* is the local place for kids and teenagers to hang-out and skate the night away.

Golf

Wayne County boasts an abundance of courses for golf enthusiasts. Public, private, semi-private and military course options are all available here. The semi-private Southern Wayne Country Club offers 18 holes, an Olympic size pool and an on-site PGA professional. The renowned Walnut Creek Country Club has been recognized as one of the finest courses in eastern North Carolina. Established in 1965, Walnut Creek Country Club boasts a number of amenities, including a Pete Dye-designed 18-hole championship course, a beautiful member's clubhouse with formal dining room, five tennis courts and an Olympic size swimming pool.

Golf courses in the area include:

- Walnut Creek Country Club
- Southern Wayne Country Club
- Sleepy Creek Golf Club
- Lane Tree Golf Course
- Goldsboro Municipal Golf Course
- Three Eagles Golf Course on Seymour Johnson AFB.

Community Events

Wayne County hosts a variety of festivals throughout the year. Wayne County Events caters to every age and community. There are multiple family friendly events, and even some events for an adult night out.

- January- the New Year's Eve celebration in the town of Mount Olive. This event is a local favorite for the traditional Mt. Olive Pickle Drop, and history of the Mount Olive Pickle Company
- March- the Town of Fremont hosts a Daffodil Festival
- April- Waynesborough Park hosts the *Pig in the Park Barbeque Festival*, which is a local favorite for a picnic, music, and family fun. Local BBQ winner takes home the best barbeque in Wayne County award

- April- is the *North Carolina Pickle Festival* where locals come together in the town of Mount Olive to celebrate pickles
- May- *Center Street Jam*, every other Thursday from May-August; a musical guest appears for a free concert downtown Goldsboro
- Held in May every two years is also one of our biggest events, *The Wings Over Wayne Airshow*, people come all over the state and country to watch airplanes, tour airplanes, meet the pilots, and become more acquainted with Seymour Johnson Air Force Base
- July- the Berkley Mall hosts the Fourth of July fireworks where families and friends come to watch the sky light up to celebrate America's Independence Day
- Late September- early October, Wayne County hosts the *Wayne Regional Agricultural Fair*. It is a family event with lots of things to do, plenty to eat and incredible animals to see.
- October- Wayne County hosts the *Taste of Wayne* in downtown Goldsboro. Since 1990, the *Taste of Wayne County* has taken place to benefit the United Way of Wayne County; it is Wayne County's only food festival featuring a large variety of local cuisine
- November- we light the Christmas tree downtown, and have festivities and events to get everyone in the Spirit of Christmas.
- Another local favorite is the *NC Symphony Holiday Pops* concert held every late November in the Paramount Theatre.
- December- in Wayne County is full of events such as: *A Christmas Carol* by Center Stage Theatre, *The Nutcracker Ballet* at the Paramount Theatre, *Jingle in the Park* by Goldsboro Parks and Recreation, *Mount Olive Christmas Parade*, *Child of the Promise* play at the Paramount Theatre, Cliffs of the Neuse Flotilla, Goldsboro Christmas Parade, Christmas Candlelight Tours, Trolley Rides through downtown.

Accommodations & Dining

Wayne County has numerous places to make your visit comfortable. Here are a few options:

- Town Place Suites
- Hampton Inn Goldsboro
- Best Western Inn Plus
- Country Inn & Suites
- Holiday Inn Express & Suites
- Goldsboro Suites
- Quality Inn & Suites

A variety of major chain restaurants offer choices, like:

- Logan's Roadhouse
- Chili's
- Texas Roadhouse
- Olive Garden
- Longhorn Steakhouse



Locally owned restaurants are sure to become favorites:

- The Village Steakhouse
- Ed's Southern Spirits
- Wilber's Barbeque
- Carl & Chelle's
- Lantern Inn
- McCall's Barbeque and Seafood
- Great Harvest Bread
- La Paz Mexican Restaurant
- Sumo Japanese Steak House
- China House
- The Laughing Owl
- B & G Grille
- Dee's Diner
- Empire Fire Mongolian Grill
- Mimmo's Pizza
- Torrero's Mexican Restaurant
- Fuji's Steakhouse
- Los Fogones Peruvian Restaurant

Downtown Goldsboro

In the heart of Wayne County's county seat, downtown Goldsboro, you will find everything you are looking for, from restaurants and bars, to shopping, antiques, and historical landmarks. The rejuvenated downtown area is a must see, with its charming streets, fountains and streetscape. Great for a cup of coffee, a night on the town or anything in between!

- Herman Park, right in the center of downtown, is Goldsboro's oldest and most popular park
- Goldsboro's Union Station was built in 1909, and passenger trains used it up to 1968. Passenger trains will return to Union Station once the renovation phases are complete. Services are planned to connect Goldsboro with Raleigh, Rocky Mount, Wilmington, and Morehead City and beyond
- The Wayne County Courthouse, built in 1914, hosts a World War I memorial and a marker denoting the execution of North Carolina's first surveyor John Lawson by local Tuscarora Indians
- The Wayne County Museum, which was used in World War II as the USO, memorializes Wayne County history with rotating exhibits, a permanent *War Between the States* exhibit, and a *Wall of Fame* honoring notable Wayne County natives.
- The Wayne County Veterans Memorial is a living monument was built to honor those veterans who have died and instill in future generations an understanding and respect for the sacrifices made on our behalf. The site includes a Memorial Wall, The Pavilion, Jaycees' Vietnam Memorial, SJAFB Sculpture, Wayne County granite map, a fountain and illuminated flags.

