



CATAWBA  
COUNTY, NC

2009 NEWCOMERS GUIDE

*Brought to you by the Catawba County  
Chamber of Commerce.*

1055 Southgate Corporate Park SW  
Hickory, NC 28602

P: 828-328-6111 F: 828-328-1175

[www.catawbachamber.org](http://www.catawbachamber.org)

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**VITAL SERVICES**

Emergency, Police, Fire, Ambulance  
 Or Rescue Units 911  
 Catawba County Sheriff (828) 464-3112  
 NC Highway Patrol (828) 466-5500  
 FBI (828) 322-8513  
 SBI (828) 294-2226  
 US Marshall (Charlotte) (704) 344-6234  
 Animal Control (Hickory) (828) 324-2060  
 Animal Control (County) (828) 464-7686  
 Catawba County Sheriff (828-464-3112  
 NC Highway Patrol (828) 466-5500  
 FBI (828) 322-8513

**POLICE DEPARTMENTS (non-emergency)**

Catawba (828) 241-4888  
 Brookford (828) 322-4903  
 Claremont (828) 459-9295  
 Conover (828) 464-4698  
 Hickory (828) 324-2060  
 Long View (828) 327-2343  
 Maiden (828) 428-5005  
 Newton (828) 465-7430

**FIRE DEPARTMENTS (non-emergency)**

Catawba (828) 241-4955  
 Claremont (828) 459-9296  
 Conover (828) 464-1295  
 Hickory (828) 323-7420  
 Long View (828) 322-1311  
 Maiden (828) 428-5028  
 Newton (828) 695-4314

**MEDICAL & URGENT CARE**

Poison Control (800) 848-6946  
 Bowen Primary & Urgent Care (828) 325-0950  
 Catawba Valley Medical Center (828) 326-3000  
 Frye Regional Medical Center (828) 325-5000  
 Unifour Urgent Care (828) 267-0551

**HOSPITALS**

Catawba Valley Medical Center  
 820 Fairgrove Church Road  
 Hickory NC 28602  
 (828) 326-3000  
[www.catawbavalleymc.org](http://www.catawbavalleymc.org)

Frye Regional Medical Center  
 420 North Center Street  
 Hickory NC 28601  
 (828) 315-5000  
[www.fryemedctr.com](http://www.fryemedctr.com)

**Utilities:*****Electricity***

Duke Energy – 1 800 777-9898  
[www.dukeenergy.com](http://www.dukeenergy.com)

ElectricCities of NC, Inc.- (919) 760-6000  
[www.electriccities.com](http://www.electriccities.com)

Energy United (800) 522-3793  
[www.energyunited.com](http://www.energyunited.com)

***Natural Gas***

Piedmont Natural Gas - 828 322-1613 or  
 1 800 752-7504  
[www.piedmontng.com](http://www.piedmontng.com)

***Telephone:***

AT&T/BellSouth – (Claremont, Conover, Maiden,  
 Newton, Sherrills Ford)  
 (800) 767 2355  
[www.att.com](http://www.att.com)

Embarq: (Brookford, Catawba, Long View, Hickory,  
 Terrell) – (828) 328-0200  
[www.embarq.com](http://www.embarq.com)

***Cable:***

Charter Communications  
 (828) 322-2288 or 1 866 472-2200  
<http://www.charter-business.com>

***Internet:***

AT&T/BellSouth – (Claremont, Conover, Maiden,  
 Newton, Sherrills Ford)  
 (800) 767-2355  
[www.att.com](http://www.att.com)

**Charter Communications**

(828) 322-2288 or 1 866 472-2200  
<http://www.charter-business.com>

Embarq: (Brookford, Catawba, Long View, Hickory,  
 Terrell) – (828) 328-0200  
[www.embarq.com](http://www.embarq.com)

North Carolina Wireless (828) 322-1505  
[www.lightleap.com](http://www.lightleap.com)

***SANATION***

Garbage Disposal Service (GDS) (828) 256-2158  
[www.republicservicesofnc.com](http://www.republicservicesofnc.com)

See Local Municipalities also

**WATER & SEWER (See Local Municipalities)**

## **MEDIA**

### **Newspapers**

Charlotte Observer  
1 800 532-5350  
[www.charlotte.com](http://www.charlotte.com)

### **FOCUS Newspaper**

(828) 322-1036  
[www.focusnewspaper.com](http://www.focusnewspaper.com)

Hickory Daily Record – (828) 322-4510; 1 800 876-8586  
[www.Hickoryrecord.com](http://www.Hickoryrecord.com)

### **Observer News Enterprise**

(828) 464-0221  
[www.observernewsenterprise.com](http://www.observernewsenterprise.com)

## **RADIO / TV STATIONS**

WFHE-FM 90.3 WFAE-FM 90.7  
(800) 876-9323  
[www.wfae.org](http://www.wfae.org)

WHKY-AM 1290 / WHKY-TV 14  
(828) 322-5115  
[www.whky.com](http://www.whky.com)

WKVS-FM / KICKS 103.3  
(828)758-1033  
[www.foothillradio.com](http://www.foothillradio.com)

WNNC-AM 1230 / WAIZ AM 630 / WXRC-FM 95.7 THE RIDE  
(828) 464-4041  
[www.957theride.com](http://www.957theride.com)

WLON-AM 1050 /WCSL-AM 1590 /WZGM-AM 1350  
WGNC-AM 1450/WOHS-AM 730/WADA-AM1390  
(704) 735-8072  
[www.hrnbc.com](http://www.hrnbc.com)

## **NC Drivers License Agencies**

- 1158 Lenoir-Rhyne Blvd SE - Hickory (828) 326-9126  
- Hwy 321 South – Newton (828) 466-5516  
[www.dmv.dot.state.nc.us](http://www.dmv.dot.state.nc.us)

## **NC License Plates/Tag Agencies**

- 901 Hwy 321 NW Ste 100, Hickory – (828) 328 3783  
Catawba Village Shopping Center  
- 803 West Conover Blvd (828) 464-6878  
[www.dmv.dot.state.nc.us](http://www.dmv.dot.state.nc.us)

## **Register To Vote**

Voter Registration – (828) 465-8440  
[www.catawbacountync.gov](http://www.catawbacountync.gov)

## **School Registration:**

Catawba County Schools (828) 464-8333  
[www.catawbaschools.net](http://www.catawbaschools.net)

Hickory Public Schools – (828) 322-2855  
[www.hickoryschools.net](http://www.hickoryschools.net)

Newton-Conover Schools – (828) 464-3191  
[www.nccs.k12.nc.us](http://www.nccs.k12.nc.us)

## **US POST OFFICE**

Catawba	(828) 241-1836
Claremont	(828) 459-9698
Conover	(828) 464-2073
Hickory	(828) 328-5503
Maiden	(828) 428-8609
Newton	(828) 464-4031
Sherrills Ford	(828) 478-2241
Terrell	(828) 478-2812

## **MUNICIPAL OFFICES**

Town of Brookford – (828) 322-4903  
1700 South Center Street – Hickory – NC 28601  
<http://www.catawba.k12.nc.us/campcatawba/brookford.htm>

Town of Catawba – (828) 241-2215  
PO Box 70 - Catawba NC 28609  
<http://www.catawba.k12.nc.us/campcatawba/catawba.htm>

Catawba County (828) 465-8200  
PO Box 389 – Newton NC 28658  
<http://www.catawbacountync.gov>

City of Claremont – (828) 459-7009  
PO Box 446 – Claremont NC 28610  
<http://www.cityofclaremont.org>

City of Conover – (828) 464-1191  
PO Box 549 – Conover NC 28613  
[www.ci.conover.nc.us](http://www.ci.conover.nc.us)

City of Hickory – (828) 323-7424  
PO Box 398 – Hickory NC 28603  
<http://www.ci.hickory.nc.us/>

Town of Long View – (828) 322-3921  
2404 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue SW – Hickory NC 28602  
<http://www.ci.longview.nc.us>

Town of Maiden – (828) 428-5000  
PO Box 125 – Maiden NC 28650  
<http://www.maidennc.com>

City of Newton – (828) 465-7400  
PO Box 550 – Newton NC 28658  
<http://www.newtonnc.gov>

**OTHER COUNTY & STATE OFFICES**

NC Dept of Revenue (828) 327-7474  
[www.dor.state.nc.us](http://www.dor.state.nc.us)

NC Employment Security Commission (828) 466-5535  
[www.ncesc.com](http://www.ncesc.com)

Small Business Technology & Development Center  
 (828) 345-1115  
[www.SBTDC.org](http://www.SBTDC.org)

Economic Development Corporation (828) 267-1564  
[www.catawbaedc.org](http://www.catawbaedc.org)

Social Security Commission (828) 328-3609  
[www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov)

**MISCELLANEOUS****CATAWBA COUNTY OFFICES**

Board of Elections (828) 465-8440  
[www.catawbacountync.gov/depts/elect](http://www.catawbacountync.gov/depts/elect)

Building Inspections (828) 465-8399  
[www.catawbacountync.gov/depts/u&e/building.asp](http://www.catawbacountync.gov/depts/u&e/building.asp)

Environmental Health (828) 465-8270  
[www.catawbacountync.gov/phealth/ehmain.asp](http://www.catawbacountync.gov/phealth/ehmain.asp)

Government Center (828) 465-8200  
[www.catawbacountync.gov](http://www.catawbacountync.gov)

Planning & Zoning (828) 465-8380  
[www.catawbacountync.gov/depts/planning](http://www.catawbacountync.gov/depts/planning)

Public Information Officer (828) 465-8464  
 Tax Office (828) 465-8404  
[www.catawbacountync.gov/depts/tax](http://www.catawbacountync.gov/depts/tax)

Dept of Social Services (828) 695-5600  
[www.catawbacountync.gov/dss](http://www.catawbacountync.gov/dss)

Health Department (828) 695-5800  
[www.catawbacountync.gov/phealth](http://www.catawbacountync.gov/phealth)

**SCHOOLS - 2009****CATAWBA COUNTY SCHOOLS**

Dr. Timothy Markley, Superintendent  
 PO Box 1010 - 10 East 25<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Newton NC 28658  
 (828) 464-8333 - Fax (828) 464-0925  
[www.catawbaschools.net](http://www.catawbaschools.net)

Total Enrollment:	17,573
Total Budget:	180 Million
# of Elementary Schools	16
# of Middle Schools	5
# of High Schools	5
# of Early College High Schools	1

Embracing every culture and ability is the central focus for the 28 schools of Catawba County Schools. Regardless of learning style, ethnicity, economic standing or talents – the goal of the district is to graduate caring, responsible citizens who maximize their potential.

Advanced technology; and online learning; successful competitive athletic programs; comprehensive arts (music, drama, dance, visual); exceptional children, academically gifted and Title I support programs.

In 2008, the district was recognized by the state of North Carolina for its high graduation rate of 81.2% which ranked first among large districts (12,000 + students) and seventh in the state among all schools. The district also ranked first among large districts and thirteenth among all NC schools in a John Locke Foundation survey on parent-friendly schools. Arndt Middle School was recognized by the North Carolina Governor's Office as a Real D.E.A.L. (Dedicated Educators, Administrators, and Learners).

**NEWTON-CONOVER CITY SCHOOLS**

Dr. Barry Redmond, Superintendent  
 605 North Ashe Ave – Newton NC 28658  
 (828) 464-3191 – Fax (828) 466-0063  
[www.nccs.k12.nc.us](http://www.nccs.k12.nc.us)

Total Enrollment:	2,822
Total Budget:	\$24,857,000
# of Elementary Schools:	3
# of Middle Schools:	1
# of High Schools:	2

The Newton Health Science High School opened its first year for 2005-2006 with a mission to prepare ninth-and tenth-graders for college. They currently has an enrollment of 102 students.

In 2006 celebrated 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Newton-Conover City Schools.

**HICKORY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Dr. Lillie Cox, Superintendent  
 432 4<sup>th</sup> Ave SW – Hickory, NC 28602  
 (828) 322-2855 – Fax (828) 322-1834  
[www.hickoryschools.net](http://www.hickoryschools.net)

Total Enrollment:	4646
Total Budget:	\$48,000,000

Elementary Schools	5
Middle Schools	2
High Schools	1
Alternative Schools	1

Hickory Public Schools is a 3-A system with an emphasis on Academics, Athletics and Arts!

Our schools excel in academics with SAT scores above the state and the national averages and with the implementation of the International Baccalaureate program at Hickory High. Success is shown in our athletics with State Championships in eight different sports. We firmly believe that education in the appreciation for the arts are important in a child's development, maintaining our commitment to our award winning orchestra, chorale program, band and visual arts. For the 14<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, *SchoolMatch* named HPS among 16% of the nations 15,600 public school systems providing what families want most in education.

#### **PRIVATE PRIMARY & SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

Catawba County offers a variety of private, special and alternative schools from which families can choose All schools listed below are members of the Catawba County Chamber of Commerce.

##### ***Concordia Christian Day School***

4 year old Preschool – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
(828) 464-3011  
[www.concordialutheran.net](http://www.concordialutheran.net)

##### ***Conover School***

Ages 3 – 21 – Accommodating the Mentally/Physically Handicapped  
(828) 465-6470

##### ***Hickory Christian Academy***

K4 – 10<sup>th</sup> Grade – (828) 324-5405  
[www.hickorychristianacademy.com](http://www.hickorychristianacademy.com)

##### ***Hickory Day School***

K – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade – (828) 256-9492  
[www.hickoryday.org](http://www.hickoryday.org)

##### ***St. Stephens Lutheran School***

3 year old Preschool – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
(828) 256-2166

##### ***Tabernacle Christian School***

K3 – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade – (828) 324-9936  
[www.tabernaclehickory.org](http://www.tabernaclehickory.org)

##### ***Tri-City Baptist Church & Christian School***

K4 – 12 Grade – (828) 465-6644  
[www.tcbc.org](http://www.tcbc.org)

#### **DAY CARE & CHILD DEVELOPMENT**

Apple Tree Academies, Inc.  
(828) 328-5211

Apple Tree Academies, Inc.  
(828) 464-6319

The Children's Resource Center  
(828) 328-8228  
[www.childrensresourcecenter.org](http://www.childrensresourcecenter.org)

LeGrande Learning Center of Hickory  
(828) 327-4422  
[www.legrandelearning.com](http://www.legrandelearning.com)

Quality Care Child Development Center, LLC  
(828) 256-4447

YMCA of Catawba Valley – Adrian L. Shuford, Jr. Branch  
(828) 464-6130  
[www.ymcacatawbavalley.org](http://www.ymcacatawbavalley.org)

YMCA of Catawba Valley – Hickory Foundation Branch  
(828) 324-2858  
[www.ymcacatawbavalley.org](http://www.ymcacatawbavalley.org)

#### **HIGHER EDUCATION**

Appalachian State University  
PO Box 32100  
Boone, NC 28608  
(828) 262-2000  
[www.appstate.edu](http://www.appstate.edu)

Catawba Valley Community College  
2550 US Highway 70 SE  
Hickory, NC 28602-9699  
(828) 327-7000  
[www.cvcc.edu](http://www.cvcc.edu)

Appalachian State University Greater Hickory Partnership  
2760 Highway 70 SE  
Hickory, NC 28602  
(828) 324-6966  
[www.hmhec.org](http://www.hmhec.org)

Lenoir-Rhyne University  
625 7th Ave NE – Hickory NC 28601  
PO Box 7163 – Hickory NC 28603  
(828) 328-1741  
[www.lr.edu](http://www.lr.edu)

## **Key Facts**

### **POPULATION (July 2007)**

Catawba County	153,404
Hickory Metropolitan MSA	357,875
Median Age	37.0
Minority Population	32,392

*(2007 American Community Survey)  
Includes Alexander, Burke, Caldwell & Catawba Counties  
Source NC Office of State Planning 2008*

### **ECONOMIC INDICATORS**

Average Household Size	2.6
Households	59,311
Total effective buying income (Catawba County) 2007	\$2,588,253,000
Median household income 2007	\$ 42,625
Total retail sales (Catawba County 2007)	\$2,426 billion

*Source: NC Department of Commerce, EDIS database, 2007 American Community Survey*

### **POPULATION**

Brookford	435
Catawba	741
Claremont	1,106
Conover	7,922
Hickory	40,520
Maiden	3,404
Newton	13,554
Catawba County	153,404
Hickory MSA	357,875

*Includes Alexander, Burke, Caldwell & Catawba Counties*

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Largest City	Hickory
Total Area	413.79 sq miles
Land Area	400.4 sq miles
Elevation	1165 feet above sea level
Ave. Annual rainfall	50 inches
County Seat	Newton

### **GETTING YOUR NC DRIVER'S LICENSE**

~All new residents of North Carolina who plan to operate a motor vehicle in this state must obtain a driver's license within 60 days of establishing a permanent residence. To apply, you must appear in person at one of the state's driver license offices and take the required tests.

~Motor vehicle laws vary from state to state. Therefore, you are encouraged to become familiar with North Carolina's license requirements and traffic laws by reading the DMV Driver's Handbook. A book can be obtained at your local office or online at [www.dmv.dot.state.nc.us](http://www.dmv.dot.state.nc.us).

~Residents within the state have 60 days to report a change of address or name.

~To obtain a license for the first time, a birth certificate, Social Security Card or individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN) and proof of residency must be presented.

~Contact the local DMV Driver's License Office for a list of acceptable documents (828) 326-9126 or (828) 466-5616. [www.dmv.dot.state.nc.us](http://www.dmv.dot.state.nc.us).

### **TAGS & REGISTRATION FOR YOUR VEHICLE**

~Typically residents have 30 days to apply for new tags.

~You should obtain a NC Driver's License.

~Proof of liability insurance, title (if paid for), and current out of state registration card are required.

~If your vehicle title is held by a lien holder (usually a bank or financed company), you must furnish the lien holder's name/address and current out of state registration card.

~Residents within the state have 60 days to report a change of address or name.

~ For more information (i.e. leased vehicles, costs, etc.), contact the local NC ~License Plate/Tag Agency (828) 328-3783 or (828) 464-6878 [www.dmv.state.nc.us](http://www.dmv.state.nc.us)

### **VOTING**

To register to vote in North Carolina, a person must sign a voter declaration affirming that:

~You are a U.S. citizen.

~ You will have been a resident of North Carolina and Catawba County for 30 days before the election.

~You will be at least 18 years old by the next general election.

~You are neither registered nor will you vote in any other county or state.

~If you have been a convicted felon you must have your citizenship restored.

~Registration is handled by the Catawba County Board of Elections (828) 464-2424 or go online at [www.sboe.state.nc.us](http://www.sboe.state.nc.us)

**TAXES**

~ (Effective 2007) For a complete list of taxes contact (828) 465-8408 or visit [www.catawbacountync.gov](http://www.catawbacountync.gov)

City/County Taxes

<u>Property Tax</u>	
Brookford	\$ .52/\$100
Catawba County	\$ .49/\$100
Catawba, Town of	\$ .40/\$100
Claremont	\$ .46/\$100
Conover	\$ .40/\$100
Hickory	\$ .50/\$100
Long View	\$ .40/\$100
Maiden	\$ .40/\$100
Newton	\$ .48/\$100
<u>Vehicle Tax</u>	
Catawba County	\$ .49/\$100

State Taxes

Corporate Income Tax	6.96%
State Income Tax	6% - 8.25%
Local State Sales Tax	8%

*All property is subject to county tax plus fire or municipality tax.*

**TRANSPORTATION**

Driving distance to Catawba County, in miles (Hickory, NC)

Charlotte NC	47
Nashville, TN	307
Baltimore, MD	357
Orlando, FL	498
Raleigh, NC	150
Chicago, IL	543
Philadelphia, PA	448
New Orleans, LA	634
Charleston, SC	217
Atlanta, GA	223
Richmond, VA	247
Washington, DC	322

**Major Thoroughfares:**

Interstate-40 East/West, HS Highway 70 East/West, US Highway 321 North/South, Interstate-77 North/South (within 25 miles)

Airports:

Hickory Regional Airport	.....(828) 323-7408
Charlotte/Douglas International Airport	.....(704) 359-4027
Piedmont Triad International Airport	.....(336) 665-5600

**Bus:**

Piedmont Wagon (local county public Transportation).....(828) 464-9444

**WEATHER**

Catawba County is renowned for year-round beautiful weather while still enjoying all four seasons.

- The sun shines an average 210 days a year.
- Average annual snowfall 7.8 inches.
- Average rainfall is 50.7 inches.
- Average relative humidity is 74%.
- Average January low temperature is 27 degrees F.
- Average July high temperature is 87 degrees F.
- Elevation 1165 feet above sea level.

North Carolina State Symbols

Flower.....	Dogwood
Bird.....	Cardinal
Tree.....	Longleaf Pine
State Mammal.....	Gray Squirrel
State Insect.....	Honey Bee
State Rock.....	Granite
State Dog.....	Plott Hound
Precious Stone.....	Emerald
State Beverage.....	Milk
State Nickname	“The Tar Heel State”
State Color.....	Blue and Red

**PARKS**

**Hickory City Parks** – For additional information contact (828-322-7046)

**Civitan Park—460 17th Avenue, NE**

Featuring a picnic shelter with tables and grills, two tennis courts, an outdoor basketball court, lighted softball and football field, playground, restrooms and a concession stand.

**Cliff Teague Park—1125 C Avenue, SE**

Featuring a tennis court, playground equipment, outdoor basketball court, and horseshoe pits.

**Fairbrook Optimist Park—1560 4th Avenue, SE**

Lighted softball field, playground, Restrooms, and a concession stand.

**Glenn C. Hilton, Jr. Memorial Park—2000 6th Street, NW**

Featuring five picnic shelters with tables and grills, two playgrounds, restrooms, gazebo, lighted and paved walking trail, nature boardwalk, 18 hole disc golf course, canoe launch, horseshoe pits, and a memorial garden.

**Henry Fork River Regional Recreation Park—5655 Sweet Bay Lane**

Featuring an 8000 square foot picnic shelter with a catering kitchen, restrooms and tables and grills, seven soccer fields, Alpine Tower ropes course, two playgrounds, concession stand, paved walking trail, and a canoe launch.

**Hickory City Park—1515 12th Street Drive, NW**

Featuring a picnic shelter with tables and grills, eight lighted tennis courts, walking, fitness and nature trails, bikeway, and restrooms.

**Hickory Optimist Park—751 2nd Avenue, SW—328-1553**

Featuring a picnic shelter with tables and grills, tennis court, outdoor basketball court, lighted softball field, playground, restrooms, horseshoe pits, and a concession stand.

**Jaycee Park—1515 12th Street Drive, NW—322-1989**

Features an outdoor basketball court, lighted baseball field, playground, restrooms, and a concession stand.

**Geitner-Rotary Park—2035 12th Street Drive, NW**

Features an activity building, picnic shelter with tables and grills, gazebo, paved bikeway, walking and nature trails, boat dock and ramp, fishing pier, and restrooms.

**Kiwanis Park—805 6th Street, SE—322-7636**

Features two picnic shelters with tables and grills, tennis court, outdoor basketball court, four lighted baseball fields, two playgrounds, horseshoe pits, walking trail, restrooms, and two concession stands.

**McComb Park/Patrick Beaver Memorial Garden—421 5th Avenue Place, NE**

Features a water fountain, seating area, gazebo, and a beautiful memorial garden.

**Neill W. Clark Jr., Recreation Park—3404 6th Street Drive, NW**

Featuring an outdoor basketball court, four lighted soccer fields, playground, horseshoe pits, and restrooms.

Neill W. Clark, Jr., Gymnasium—322-2188

Neill W. Clark, Jr., Main Building—324-6990

**Southside Heights Park—1400 2nd Street, SW**

Featuring a picnic shelter with tables and grills, outdoor basketball court, playground, and multi-purpose field.

**Stanford Park—1451 8th Street Drive, NE**

Featuring three baseball fields, restrooms, concession stand, outdoor basketball court, picnic shelter, two playgrounds, paved walking trail, and skate park.

Highland Recreation Center—328-3997

Parks and Recreation Department Administrative Office—322-7046

**Taft Broome Park—115 7th Avenue, SW—327-8554**

Featuring a picnic shelter with tables and grills, two tennis courts, two outdoor basketball courts, lighted

multipurpose field, playground, horseshoe pits, putting green, restrooms, and an outdoor swimming pool with a slide.

Brown Penn Recreation Center—328-4890

Brown Penn Senior Center—328-5789

Ridgeview Recreation Center—324-8007

**West Hickory Park—830 16th Street, SW**

Featuring an outdoor half basketball court, lighted softball field, a playground, restrooms, and an outdoor swimming pool with a slide.

**Westmont Recreation Center—1316 Main Avenue Drive, NW—328-9804**

Featuring two tennis courts, an outdoor basketball court, playground, horseshoe pits, restrooms, and outdoor shuffleboard courts.

Westmont Senior Center—324-1200

**Winkler Park—2500 Clement Boulevard, NW**

Featuring a picnic shelter with grills, playground, walking and nature trails, horseshoe pits, restrooms, the Winkler Activity Center, Winkler Museum, Winkler Home Place, and L.P. Frans Stadium.

**CATAWBA COUNTY PARKS****Riverbend Park**

6700 NC Hwy 16 North

Conover, NC 28613

Phone (828) 256-9157

Ranger's Mobile Phone (828) 312-1064

Open Friday - Monday only

Nov. - Feb, 8 AM - 6 PM

March and October 8 AM - 7 PM

April - September 8 AM - 8 PM

Closed Christmas Eve and Day

Riverbend Park is one of the largest non-state or federal parks in North Carolina. There are 450 acres and nearly 12 miles of trails to explore in this beautiful river basin park. You can explore a variety of wildlife habitats that range from fresh water wetlands to upland forest. Come and explore the beauty and diversity of Catawba County's natural heritage at Riverbend Park.

**Recreational Opportunities**

1 mile of shoreline and a 3/4 acre pond for fishing

Canoe/Kayak access to the Catawba River

Picnic areas

1,000 sq ft Meeting/Educational facility (reservations available)

20 x 45 open Picnic Shelter near river (reservations available)

Wildlife habitat viewing areas

2 acre fenced Dog Park (permit required)

7.8 miles of mountain biking trails

### **Bakers Mountain Park**

Bakers Mountain can be seen off Hwy 127 in Mountain View. The park entrance is located on Bakers Mountain Road just off Old Shelby Road. 6680 Bakers Mountain Road  
828.324.8461  
828.312.4844 (Ranger Mobile)  
Open Friday - Monday only  
Nov. - Feb, 8 AM - 6 PM  
March and October 8 AM - 7 PM  
April - September 8 AM - 8 PM  
Closed Christmas Eve and Day

Bakers Mountain Park is located on the highest point of elevation in Catawba County (1780 feet). The park features 189 acres of mature Chestnut Oak forest with nearly 6 miles of trail to explore. You will experience a variety of wildlife and plants that are native to the North Carolina Mountains. Come and explore the beauty and diversity of Catawba County's natural heritage at Bakers Mountain Park.

The park further preserves the County's natural heritage, and give residents another unique opportunity to marvel at the natural beauty of the Western North Carolina foothills. Patrons of Riverbend Park may be surprised by the differences in the two facilities.

Abundant wildlife, rare plants and a mixed hardwood forest comprised of mostly Chestnut Oak and Mountain Laurel make the park a refreshingly different recreation opportunity. An observation platform and gazebo are located near the top of the mountain giving hikers an excellent view of the Catawba Valley.

#### Recreational Opportunities

6 miles of hiking trails  
Observation platform and gazebo  
Picnic areas & grills  
2 covered and 1 enclosed shelter  
Leashed dog walking  
Quarter mile paved trail - A.D.A. accessible  
Educational and volunteer opportunities  
Bird checklists are available

### **St. Stephens Park**

**2247 36th Avenue, NE—256-9014**

Open Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and Mondays.  
November – February: 8 AM – 6 PM  
March & October 8 AM to 7 PM  
April – September: 8 AM – to 8 PM  
Closed Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays

#### **Amenities**

1 Acre dog park (permit required)  
1/3 mile gravel surfaced walking trail

Playground  
Horseshoe pits  
Picnic shelter  
Meeting room  
Bird feeding station

St. Stephens Park, formerly a part of the City of Hickory's system, reopens for the first time since it was closed in 2005. The 9.1 acre park is located behind Clyde Campbell Elementary School off Kool Park Road at the dead end of 36<sup>th</sup> Ave NE in Hickory.

The dog park will be a very popular part of the renovated St. Stephens Park due to its location in a densely populated area of the county and close proximity to the City of Hickory. Dog owners must obtain a permit for all dogs using the enclosed dog park.

### **Newton City Parks – For additional information contact (828) 695-4317**

#### **Southside Park**

Located West of US #Hwy. 321 Business, behind National Guard Armory  
A 27 acre passive park, with a mile walking/jogging trail, open air amphitheater, numerous picnic tables, play area, two picnic shelters, two sand volleyball courts, two horseshoe pits, informal ball field, and a large open play area for soccer, kite flying, badminton, frisbee, etc.

#### **Northside Park**

East 22nd Street and College Avenue  
This park area is approximately 12 acres and includes a lighted adult softball field, youth baseball and soccer fields, four lighted tennis courts, one outdoor basketball court, play area with picnic shelter and a 1/2 mile walking/jogging trail.

#### **East Park**

East "E" Street and South Ervin Avenue  
This 5 acre site has a recreational athletic field for baseball, softball, and soccer, lighted outdoor basketball court, a large picnic shelter with a play area.

#### **Westside / Jaycee Park**

US #Hwy. 321 Business and West "J" Street  
The park area is 9 acres and includes one lighted combination softball, baseball, football, soccer field. Four lighted tennis courts, one lighted basketball court, 1/2 mile walking trail, and a play area with a picnic shelter.

#### **Little Brook Park**

US #Hwy. 321 Business and South College Avenue  
It consists of 1/2 acre. This area offers several picnic tables with a play area bordered by a stream.

Updated 10/21/09