



Town of Fletcher

PRIDE IN OUR PAST ~ FAITH IN OUR FUTURE

Telephone: 828-687-3985
Email: info@fletchernc.org
Facebook: [FletcherNC.Gov](https://www.facebook.com/FletcherNC.Gov)
Website: www.fletchernc.org

300 Old Cane Creek Road
Fletcher, NC 28732

February 2025

Town Council

Preston Blakely, Mayor
Phone..... 828-215-7706
p.blakely@fletchernc.org

Amber McKinney, Councilwoman
District 1 828-699-2954
ambermckinney128@gmail.com

Keith Reed, Councilman
District 2..... 828-367-7130
k.reed@fletchernc.org

Jim Player, Councilman
District 3 828-702-4200
j.player@fletchernc.org

Trevor Lance, Mayor Pro-Tem
District 4..... 828-338-9338
trevorlance@gmail.com

Town Phone Numbers

Town Manager 828-687-3985
Town Fax..... 828-687-7133
Police/Fire Emergency 911
Police Dispatch..... 828-697-4911
Police Non-Emerg. . 828-687-7922
Parks & Rec..... 828-687-0751
Public Works 828-654-9208

Town Meetings

Town Council Agenda Meeting
1st Monday of month at 6:00 pm

Town Council Regular Meeting
2nd Monday of month at 6:00 pm

To live stream or view previous
Town Council Meetings, please
visit [https://www.youtube.com/
@TownofFletcherNC/streams](https://www.youtube.com/@TownofFletcherNC/streams).

Planning Board Meeting
3rd Tuesday of month at 6:00 pm

Parks & Rec Advisory Board
1st Thursday of month at 6:00 pm

All meetings are held at
Fletcher Town Hall.

This newsletter is published for
Town residents and reports on
issues and events that affect our
community. Past issues of our
newsletter are found on our web-
site at [https://www.fletchernc.org/
about-us/newsletter/](https://www.fletchernc.org/about-us/newsletter/).

Contact us with your questions
and/or comments by emailing
them to info@fletchernc.org. For
additional Town info, please visit
our website at www.fletchernc.org
or our Facebook page at
[https://www.facebook.com/
FletcherNC.Gov/](https://www.facebook.com/FletcherNC.Gov/).

This institution is an equal
opportunity provider.

News from the January 13th Town Council Meeting

Note: During the January 6th Town Council Agenda Meeting, Councilman Trevor Lance was sworn in as Mayor Pro-Tem and Amber McKinney was sworn in as District 1 Councilwoman.

- Mayor Preston Blakely presented Greg Walker, retired Parks & Recreation Director, the "Order of the Long Leaf Pine" award from Governor Roy Cooper's Office for Greg's dedication to Fletcher's parks and recreation program.
- By Consent Agenda, Town Council:
 - Approved Budget Amendment #2 to the fiscal year '24/'25 Budget to increase the parks maintenance line to include our cost of trail repair and playground mulch replacement due to Hurricane Helene while awaiting FEMA reimbursement.
 - Approved a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) memorandum of understanding and Resolution R-25-01 for maintaining a continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative transportation planning process between the governmental agencies within the French Broad River MPO and the NC Department of Transportation.
- A Public Hearing was held to consider amendments to Fletcher Land Development Code Section 4.9(D.2), Section 5.8, and Appendix 2 which were intended to correct contradictory language in and remove obsolete cross references related to other sections previously amended. Council approved the amendments as presented.
- Police Chief Dan Terry recognized Detective Sergeant Ron Diaz for his new certification as a Crime Scene Investigator after having attended The National Forensic Academy, a 10-week crime scene investigation training program at the University of Tennessee. Sergeant Diaz shared some informational highlights on his training.
- Mayor Blakely reviewed the updated committee assignments for Council members.
- Mark Biberdorf, Town Manager, provided an update on several matters:
 - Fletcher Farmers Market - On January 27th, a public listening session will be held at Fletcher Town Hall to receive feedback from potential market operators and vendors. Next steps will include the selection of a date, time, and location for the market which will probably start in May and continue through October.
 - Bill Moore Community Park repairs - McGill Associates has been selected, through a request for qualifications process, as the engineering firm to coordinate the Park repair work. They have developed bid specifications for the needed repair work with the ballfield fencing and ballfield surfacing bids due by February 4th. The repair for the multi-use courts will be bid separately as well as the outer bridge repair.
 - Emergency response - A County review meeting will be held January 23rd to discuss the county-wide effectiveness of hurricane emergency response efforts.
 - Town maintenance - Some Leland Cypress trees along Woodhill Drive which were causing issues have been removed and the Town is still investigating low lighting issues on Rutledge Road and Tulip Tree Court.
 - Senator Budd's Office - Mayor Blakeley and Mr. Biberdorf will be meeting in mid-January with a representative from Senator Ted Budd's office to share Town priorities and concerns.

Personal Property Listing Sheets Due 1/31/25

Individual Personal Property and Business Personal Property Listing sheets are due to the Henderson County Assessor by **January 31st**. If you filed an individual property listing form in 2024, you should have received a 2025 pre-printed listing form by mail. Make any changes to your property listing, due to sales or purchases, and return it to the Henderson County Assessor at 200 North Grove Street, Suite 102, Hendersonville, NC 28792. Any mailed forms must have a USPS stamped postmark no later than 1/31/25 to avoid a 10% late listing penalty.

If you acquired property that must be listed but you do not have a form, you can download a listing form from <https://www.hendersoncountync.gov/tax/page/forms-and-applications> or call 828-697-4870. Remember this tax listing includes personal property such as mobile homes, boats, unlicensed vehicles, etc.

Business property owners may file their listing by mail or online at <https://www.hendersoncountync.gov/tax/page/business-personal-property>.

Past Due Property Tax Payments

If your 2024 property taxes are still unpaid, 2% interest was added 1/7/25 and 0.75% will be added on 2/1/25. You may check your balance due at <https://www.fletchernc.org/departments/finance/property-taxes/> or call the Tax Office at 828-687-3985 for the correct payment amount.

FEMA Application Reminders

The deadline to apply for Hurricane Helene FEMA individual assistance is **February 6, 2025**.

The quickest way to apply is on the FEMA website at <https://www.disasterassistance.gov/>. You can also apply in person at the Henderson County Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) located in the Blue Ridge Commons complex at 2111 Asheville Highway, Hendersonville NC 28791. They are open Monday - Friday from 8:00 am - 6:00 pm and on Saturdays from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. You can also apply by using the [FEMA App](#) or by calling the FEMA Helpline at 1-800-921-3362.

Private Property Debris Removal Program

Property owners who cannot get their hurricane debris to the right of way for the County contractor to pickup or who have inadequate debris removal insurance, may apply to have qualified disaster debris removed from their property for free through the Private Property Debris Removal Program. The program also covers the demolition of eligible unsafe structures. For more info, visit <https://www.hendersoncountync.gov/em/page/private-property-debris-removal-program>.

Storm Debris & Brush Removal Continues

- Henderson Co. estimates their contractor, SDR, has collected about 1/4 of the debris that has been set out for pick up, so they ask for your continued patience during this lengthy process.
- To learn more about this significant clean-up task, visit <https://www.facebook.com/HendersonCountyNCGovernment/videos/1340828313774316>.
- Residents and businesses can still place storm debris along the road right-of-way for pickup, but it must be separated by debris type and only from the storm.
- **You are encouraged to self-report the location and type of debris you need picked up by visiting <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/b0c483595fc84c44927c9014f1c26b16>.**
- If you have specific questions or concerns about storm debris pickup, you may contact Henderson County Emergency Operations Center at 828-771-6670 from 8:00 am - 4:30 pm Monday - Friday or via email to helene-info@hcem.org.

From the Office of Chief Terry:



I hope the new year has started out great. I'm glad to report the calls for service regarding drug overdoses has significantly declined in the last year. The upward trend on the use of Narcan by members of the police department has also reversed with the need to administer Narcan for opioid overdoses decreasing. We desire to see these numbers decrease even more.

As a department, we continue to proactively enforce laws related to illegal drug use and possession. Unfortunately, much of the enforcement action taken by the police department is drug related, whether it be for possessing illegal substances, trafficking/selling illegal substances, or committing theft related crimes to support a drug habit.

One way to get drugs out of the community is via the prescription pill drop box located in the lobby of the police department. This is a service for residents to safely dispose of their unused and unwanted medications and reduces drug overdoses and drug abuse by reducing the amount of medications in our community. This service is available Monday through Friday between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.

Finally, we want to encourage anyone who may be struggling with addiction or know someone who is, to take advantage of resources and get help before it's too late. We will continue to enforce our drug laws and going to jail is no fun. But more importantly, we want everyone to be safe and healthy. Please share these resources with those who may benefit. Together we can do more.

- **Hope Coalition of Henderson County**
www.elementsofhope.org
- **The Free Clinic**
www.thefreeclinics.org
- **Blue Ridge Health**
www.brchs.com/services/behavioral-health-counseling/
- **RHA Mobile Crisis Team West**
www.rhahealthservices.org/mobile-crisis-management/

Please welcome this new business to Fletcher !



Bookkeeping, Tax Preparation, & Payroll Services

We have been in business since 2003 and have 40+ years' experience. We offer our professional services at a very competitive price.

Tax season hours:

Sunday - Saturday from 9:00am - 5:00pm

Call or drop-in to make an appointment.
After hour appointments can be
accommodated as requested/needed.



225 Cane Creek Road
Fletcher, NC 28732
828-651-0134

Jeffrey@poarchassoc.com

Small Business Administration (SBA) Loans

The SBA offers three types of disaster loans at low interest rates (typically less than bank loan rates):

Home Disaster Loans: Loans to homeowners or renters to repair or replace disaster-damaged real estate and personal property, including automobiles.

Business Physical Disaster Loans: Loans to businesses to repair or replace disaster-damaged property owned by the business, including real estate, inventories, supplies, machinery and equipment. Businesses of any size are eligible. Private, non-profit organizations such as charities, churches, etc., are also eligible.

Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL): Working capital loans to help small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture, and most private, non-profit organizations of all sizes meet their ordinary and necessary financial obligations that cannot be met as a direct result of the disaster. These loans are intended to assist through the disaster recovery period.

Applicants are encouraged to apply online at <https://lending.sba.gov/search-disaster/>. Please call 800-659-2955 or visit the Henderson County Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) at 2111 Asheville Highway, Hendersonville, NC 28791 if you have any questions.



**February
Events**

COFFEE CLUB

Self-Help Credit Union
February 4th from 8:00 am - 9:00 am
Lutheridge Conference Center
2049 Upper Laurel Drive Arden, NC 28704

FOCUS AFTER FIVE

February 13th at 5:30 pm
Julieta Fumberg, Photography
348 Depot St Studio 120, Asheville, NC 28801

COFFEE CLUB

Catholic Charities
February 18th from 8:00 am - 9:00 am
Lutheridge Conference Center
2049 Upper Laurel Drive Arden, NC 28704

RIBBON CUTTING:

Carrie Ann Chandler, Realtor
February 25th at 4:00 pm
The Main Event at 125 S Main Street
Hendersonville, NC 28792

Find us on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/FletcherBusiness>

Disaster Recovery Resources Expos

The Small Business Administration (SBA) in coordination with The Small Business & Technology Development Center and Mountain BizWorks is hosting a free series of Business Recovery Expos at the A-B Tech Enka Small Business Center located at 1465 Sand Hill Road, Suite 1060, Candler, NC 28715.

These events are designed to help businesses impacted by Hurricane Helene learn about recovery resources and support available through the SBA. The expos will feature expert presentations, one-on-one consultations, and valuable networking opportunities to aid in rebuilding and growing your businesses.

Join us to discover these tools and services that can assist you and your community in the recovery process. Event times are 10:00 am - 2:00 pm.

- Breweries & Bars – January 29th
- Agriculture – February 5th
- Construction – February 12th
- Tourism & Hospitality – February 19th



Fletcher Library Opportunities in February

20 Library Road, Fletcher NC 28732 828-687-1218



HOURS: Monday 9am - 6pm; Tuesday - Thursday 9am - 5pm; Friday & Saturday 9am - 3pm

Tech Time Appointments: Want to learn how to download an e-book or digital audiobook? Watch a movie for free using Hoopla or from NC Digital Library? Learn a new language using Transparent Language? Baffled by your new tablet or smartphone? One-on-one tech time, by appointment, is offered for free at Fletcher Library. Call the library or stop by to schedule an appointment.

Family Story Time: Every Wednesday at 10:30 am

Goodwill Career Connections Every Wednesday (10:00am-1:00pm)

Do you need interview practice or help creating a resume, filling out an online job application, or getting started with your job search? Drop in to get help from a Career Connections Coordinator.

Paws for Reading (Children) Saturday, February 1st (10:30pm-12:00pm) ** Registration Required **

Children can sign up to read to a certified therapy dog! Call or come by the Fletcher Library to sign up for a 10-minute reading session.

Lego Club (Children) Thursday, February 6th (3:30pm-4:30pm)

All ages are welcome to come out to the Fletcher Library on the 1st Thursday of the month for Lego Club. We will provide Legos to use while you are here. Please do not bring your own. We have Duplo blocks for younger children as well. We can't wait to see what you will create! Please be aware that all children under 11 must have an adult stay with them.

Knitting for a Cause Group (All Ages) Saturday, February 8th (10:00am-12:00pm)

Yarn and patterns are provided. Please bring your size 4, 5, 6, 7, and/or 8 circular or straight knitting needles if you have them OR your crochet hook! Have fun knitting or crocheting to help others

Paws for Reading (Children) Saturday, February 8th (12:30pm-2:00pm) ** Registration Required **

Children can sign up to read to a certified therapy dog! Call or come by the Fletcher Library to sign up for a 10-minute reading session.

Check 'Em Out Book Club (Adults) Monday, February 10th (11:00am-12:00pm)

Join the Fletcher Library Book Club for good books and good conversation! We will discuss *Other Birds* by Sarah Addison Allen

Zaniac: Newton's Speedway- Forces and Friction (Children) Monday, February 10th (4:00pm-5:00pm) ** Registration Required

Using Hot Wheels cars, students explore the concepts of force and friction as described by Newton. Manipulate how hard a car is pushed and explore how to maximize the pull of gravity. *This free program is funded by the Friends of the Library.*

Craft Day (All ages) Tuesday, February 11th (10:00am-4:00pm)

Drop by the Fletcher Library for fun crafts for all ages. Everyone is welcome!

Book Review Book Club (Adults) Thursday, February 13th (10:30am-11:30am)

Read what you want and bring it to the table for discussion. This group meets on the second Thursday of each month.

Writers Guild (Adults) Thursday, February 13th (1:30pm-3:30pm)

All writers are invited to join a lively discussion about the guild's current projects related to publishing and the marketing of your work. Learn tricks and techniques from published authors and aspiring writers and reveal your own convictions. This group meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month.

Paws for Reading (Children) Saturday, February 15th (12:30pm-2:00pm) ** Registration Required **

Children can sign up to read to a certified therapy dog! Call or come by the Fletcher Library to sign up for a 10-minute reading session.

Medicare Fraud, Scams, and Abuse Protection and Reporting (Adults) Monday, February 17th (2:00pm-3:00pm)

This program is for those currently on Medicare and caregivers. Learn how to protect and report Medicare fraud. *The Council on Aging of Buncombe County in conjunction with the SHIP (Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program) is offering a free educational series all about Medicare insurance and understanding how the parts work together.*

Paws for Reading (Children) Saturday, February 22nd (10:30am-12:00pm) ** Registration Required **

Children can sign up to read to a certified therapy dog! Call or come by the Fletcher Library to sign up for a 10-minute reading session.

Paws for Reading (Children) Monday, February 24th (10:30am-12:00pm) ** Registration Required **

Children can sign up to read to a certified therapy dog! Call or come by the Fletcher Library to sign up for a 10-minute reading session.

New Recreation Program Supervisor

Please welcome Emily Sheppard as the new Recreation Program Supervisor for Fletcher Parks & Rec. She brings several years of experience in event planning, having organized a wide variety of events from public and private gatherings, summer camps, holiday parties, and sporting tournaments. Originally from Georgia, Emily now proudly calls the mountains of Western North Carolina home. In her free time, she enjoys being outdoors, painting, and spending time with her husband and their two pets, Basil and Brioche.



Job Opportunity with Fletcher Parks and Recreation

Are you passionate about making a difference in our community and working in the great outdoors?

Permanent Part-Time Park Maintenance

Help us keep our parks clean, safe, and inviting for everyone. This part-time job is an ideal fit for individuals who enjoy hands-on work and take pride in maintaining beautiful public spaces. This position will average working 16 hours per week. For more job information or to apply, please visit <https://www.fletchernc.org/departments/human-resources/job-openings/>.

TOWN OF FLETCHER PRESENTS:

Father Daughter Dance

- When: Saturday, February 8th
3:00-5:00pm
- Where : Prescott Auto Reserve Event Center
37 Maxwell Dr. Hendersonville , NC
- [Register Online](https://www.fletchernc.org/departments/human-resources/job-openings/)
- [Fletcherparks.recdesk.com](https://www.fletchernc.org/departments/human-resources/job-openings/)



Sponsors: **Hunter**, SUBARU, mills river family DENTAL, Marthaler JEWELERS

Father/Daughter Dance tickets are still available at <https://fletcherparks.recdesk.com/Community/Home>

Spring Registration
BASEBALL & SOFTBALL

Fletcher Youth Baseball & Softball League

Registration for the Fletcher Youth Baseball & Softball League is taking place now. For more info, please visit the League's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Fletcheryouthbaseball/>.

You may also register your player on the League's website at <https://www.fletcheryouthsports.org/>.

All questions about Fletcher Youth League Baseball & Softball should be addressed to the Youth League rather than to Fletcher Parks & Recreation Department.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Saturday, Feb. 8th	Father Daughter Dance Prescott Auto Reserve	3:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Tuesday, Mar. 11th	Summer Day Camp Online Registration begins for Fletcher Residents	
Tuesday, Mar. 11th	Middle School Camp Online Registration begins for Fletcher Residents	
Wednesday, Mar. 12th	Summer Day Camp Online Registration begins for Non-Fletcher Residents	
Wednesday, Mar. 12th	Middle School Camp Online Registration begins for Non-Fletcher Residents	
Saturday, Apr. 12th	Easter Egg Hunt - Bill Moore Park Registration required	Noon - 2:00pm

TOWN OF FLETCHER
300 OLD CANE CREEK ROAD
FLETCHER, NC 28732

Disaster Legal Services: Free Legal Clinic

Residents affected by Tropical Storm Helene can receive free legal assistance on FEMA claims, appeals and landlord/tenant issues. Volunteer attorneys from the NC Bar Association, Disaster Legal Services and Pisgah Legal Services will be available on **Saturday, February 1, 2025, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.** at the Henderson County Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) located in the Blue Ridge Commons complex at 2111 Asheville Highway in Hendersonville, NC 28791.

Walk-ins are welcome or you can schedule a 1-hour appointment at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0F4BADAB28A7FC1-54283025-disaster#.

In order for a volunteer attorney to better provide you assistance, please bring with you the following information and documentation:

- Any and all documents related to FEMA or other legal issues, including applications, letters, prior appeals submitted, leases, contracts, etc.
- Your FEMA claim username & password to access your claim/appeal online.
- Any and all documents related to the reason for the FEMA denial, such as identification, deeds/titles, leases, etc.

Please be aware that you will be asked to sign a “Free Legal Clinic Client Assistance Agreement Form” at the start of your appointment. To review it prior to your arrival at the DRC, please click the “Legal Clinic Client Disclaimer.pdf” link at the bottom of the above noted website.



Shredding Event

Saturday, April 12th

9:00am - noon

**Fletcher Town Hall
Southside Parking Lot**



MORE DETAILS COMING SOON