

Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department Department Updates

Presented by: Michael Hopkins/Director

Date: January 7, 2025



Mission and Vision

- Mission:
- To enhance the quality of life for Jackson County residents by providing accessible, safe, and inclusive recreational opportunities and preserving natural resources.



- Vision:
- To create a community where recreation and nature foster physical, mental, and social well-being, ensuring a sustainable and vibrant future for all.

Key Project Updates

- 1. Aquatics Center:
 - - Progress: Facility has been completed. A week long soft opening in was held in December to train and acclimate staff.
 - - Next steps: Working towards having more of a defined hours of operation dependent upon lifeguard staffing.

New Main Entrance



Sauna



Locker Area



Competition Pool



Leisure Pool



Party Room



Key Project Updates

- 1. Webster Park:
- - Progress: ADA Playground, Pavilion and Trail Lighting Installed.
- - Current focus: Parking and Trail Improvements.

ADA Playground Webster



Pavilion Webster



Solar Lighting Webster



Key Project Updates

- 1. Qualla/Whittier:
 - - Progress: Bid Approved For Cherokee Enterprises
 - - Next steps: Finalize Contract And Begin Project. Will Have A Year To Complete From Signing Of Contract.

Qualla/Whittier Community Park



Key Project Updates

- 1. Jackson County Greenway:
 - - Progress: Property continues to be acquired for expansion. Once all deals are finalized we have the potential to add an additional 1.6 miles of Greenway.
 - - Next steps: Finalize land acquisitions and begin Greenway build out with the help of the Jackson County Public Works Department and contract help. A feasibility study is underway for the bottleneck area of Ledbetter Road.

Greenway Bridge



Greenway



Damage Assessments and Restorations

- 1. East LaPorte Park:
 - - Progress: BH Granning Landscaping is currently in the process of restoring the park after damage from Hurricane Helene.
 - - Next steps: Once finalized the park will be fully functional.

East LaPorte Park Repairs



East LaPorte Park Repairs



East LaPorte Park Repairs



Programs & Events

- 2024 Youth Program Participants: 1,844



Programs & Events

- 2024 Number Of Programs Offered: 436



YOUTH SPRING SOCCER

Registration: January 1 - 31

Fee: \$65.00 (includes shirt, shorts, and socks)

For girls and boys with birth years from 2011-2020 ONLY
(Birth certificates are REQUIRED for all first time players)

DIVISIONS: U6, U8, U10, U12/14

Practices will begin week of March 18

VOLUNTEER COACHES NEEDED OR TEAMS CANNOT BE FORMED!

JANUARY

RECREATION CENTERS

CONTACT INFORMATION

Cullowhee: 828-293-3053

Cashiers/Glenville: 828-631-2020



JACKSON COUNTY
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT



LITTLE DRIBBLERS - Cashiers/Glenville Rec Center

Registration: January 1 - 31

Fee: \$25.00

For boys and girls in first grade ONLY

An instructional program to teach the basic fundamentals of basketball

PICKLEBALL RANDOM DRAW TOURNAMENTS

Women's Doubles - Tuesday, January 14 @ 6:00pm

Men's Doubles - Thursday, January 23 @ 6:00pm

Tournaments are held at First Methodist Church in Sylva

Registration begins January 2 at 9:00am - www.rec.jacksonnc.org

\$5.00 CASH per participant

Limited to the first 12 registered in both



ADULT VOLLEYBALL PICKUP

Cashiers/Glenville Rec Center

Wednesdays in January

5:00-8:00pm

\$5 per person

Or facility membership



HOMESCHOOL PE - Cullowhee

Registration: Now - January 17

Fee: \$25 per child

For ages 5-12

Limited to the first 15 to register

Class meets Tuesdays beginning January 21

11:00am - 12:00pm



AQUA GROUP FITNESS

Aqua Group Fitness classes will begin in January! To register go to www.rec.jacksonnc.org or scan the code below. Registration for each class begins at 7:00am the day prior.



VOLUNTEER

Mountain True will be hosting Greenway Invasive Removal Dates from January to March. Look for dates on Facebook, Instagram and department emails.

JACKSON COUNTY ARCHERY RANGE IS OPEN!!

Call Trevor Brown for more information: 828-293-3053 or email at trevorbrown@jacksonnc.org

COMING IN THE SPRING 2025:

Bike Rodeo at the end of April or early May



Programs & Events

- 2024 Number Of Facility Rentals: 1,854



Facility Usage

- 1. Cashiers Recreation Facility: Total number of check-ins-57,031 of which 28,392 were seniors.
- Cullowhee Recreation Facility: Total number of check-ins-49,429 of which 19,648 were seniors.
- 2. Cashiers Recreation Facility: Total number of members-1,494
- Cullowhee Recreation Facility: Total number of members-1,833

Recreation Centers: Cullowhee and Cashiers/Glenville



Fitness Usage

- 1. Cashiers Recreation Fitness Classes: Total number of classes offered during 2024-1,110
- Cullowhee Recreation Fitness Classes: Total number of classes offered during 2024-1,398
- 2. Cashiers Recreation Fitness Attendance: Total number of participants 2024-11,222
- Cullowhee Recreation Fitness Attendance: Total number of participants 2024-7,196

Fitness Classes Monthly Breakdown

2024 Fitness Class Totals

CASHIERS

Month	Total Attendance	Total Classes	Average Per Class
January	609	85	7.16
February	599	76	7.88
March	581	72	8.07
April	1018	90	11.31
May	1112	104	10.69
June	1329	108	12.31
July	1277	84	15.20
August	1302	92	14.15
September	799	89	8.98
October	1185	125	9.48
November	803	100	8.03
December	608	85	7.15
TOTAL	11222	1110	10.11
Average	935.17	92.50	

CULLOWHEE

Month	Total Attendance	Total Classes	Average Per Class
January	581	107	5.43
February	697	118	5.91
March	654	130	5.03
April	642	139	4.62
May	613	130	4.72
June	635	120	5.29
July	627	115	5.45
August	554	104	5.33
September	557	111	5.02
October	578	119	4.86
November	492	102	4.82
December	566	103	5.50
TOTAL	7196	1398	5.15
Average	599.6666667	116.50	

Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department: County Parks



[MORE INFORMATION](#)

Little Canada

Address:

149 Charleys Creek Road
Tuckasegee, NC 28723

[Map & Directions](#)

Amenities:

- Covered Picnic Shelter
- Grills
- Restrooms on Site
- Playground
- Horseshoe Pits
- Open Green Space
- Outdoor Stage
- Walking Trail

Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department: County Parks



[MORE INFORMATION](#)

East-Laporte

Address:

6912 Highway 107
Cullowhee, NC 28723

[Map & Directions](#)

Amenities:

- Covered Picnic Shelter
- Asphalt Basketball Court
- Sand Volleyball Court
- Open Green Space
- Restrooms on Site
- Tuckasegee River Frontage with Put-In
- Grills
- Picnic Tables

Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department: County Parks



Cullowhee Recreation Center Park

Address:

88 Cullowhee Mountain Road
Cullowhee, NC 28723
Phone: 828-293-3053

[Map & Directions](#)

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

Amenities:

- Two Lighted Softball Fields
- Asphalt Basketball Court
- Five Soccer Fields (two lighted)
- Two Playgrounds
- Walking/Running Trail
- Two Covered Picnic Shelters
- Six Small Covered Shelters
- Concession Stand/Scorers Tower
- Restrooms on Site
- Two Handicap Accessible Fishing Piers
- 18-Hole Disc Golf Course

Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department: County Parks



[MORE INFORMATION](#)

Mark Watson Park

Address:

86 Mark Watson Park
Sylva, NC 28779

[Map & Directions](#)

Amenities:

- Two Softball Fields
- Four Lighted Tennis courts
- Playground
- Covered Picnic Shelter
- Horseshoe Pits
- Dog Park
- Asphalt Basketball Court
- Walking/Running Trail
- Concession Stand
- Restrooms on Site

Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department: County Parks



Balsam Community Center

Address:

400 Cabin Flats Road
Sylva, NC 28779

[Map & Directions](#)

Amenities:

- Community Center
- Asphalt Basketball Court
- Playground

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department: County Parks



Cashiers Community Park

Address:

335 Frank Allen Road
Cashiers, NC 28717

[Map & Directions](#)

Amenities:

- Playground
- Two Tennis Courts
- Walking/Running Trail
- Two Baseball/Softball Fields – one lighted
- Covered Picnic Shelter
- Concession Stand
- Restrooms on Site

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department: County Parks



[MORE INFORMATION](#)

Fairview Youth Complex

Address:

251 Big Orange Way
Sylva, NC 28779

[Map & Directions](#)

Amenities:

- Three Lighted Baseball Fields
- Batting Cages
- Concession Stand/Scorers Tower
- Restrooms on Site
- Walking Trail

Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department: County Parks



Judaculla Rock

Address:


552 Judaculla Rock Road
Cullowhee, NC 28723

[Map & Directions](#)

Amenities:

- Historic Soapstone Quarry with over 1,000 Petroglyph Motifs
- Viewing Pavillion
- Walking Trail
- For more information, visit [Click Here](#)

Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department: County Parks



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Savannah Community Park

Address:

270 Greenway Rd
Sylva, NC 28779

Amenities:

- Cover Picnic Shelter
- Grill
- Playground
- Swings
- Restrooms
- Walking Trail

MORE INFORMATION

Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department: River Access



Shook Cove

Address:

1211 Shook Cove Road
Tuckaseegee, NC 28723

[Map & Directions](#)

Amenities:

- Restrooms on site
- Paved boat ramp

Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department: River Access



Locust Creek

Address:

342 Old Cullowhee Road
Sylva, NC 28779

[Map & Directions](#)

Amenities:

- Boat ramp for small drift boats
- Full restrooms on Site

Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department: River Access



Webster

Address:

1955 Webster Road
Sylva, NC 28779

[Map & Directions](#)

Amenities:

- No boat ramp or launch site. Canoes and kayaks must be launched by hand
- Parking at Webster Baptist Church across the street
- Picnic Tables
- Grills

Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department: River Access



CJ Harris

Address:

150 North River Road
Sylva, NC 28779

[Map & Directions](#)

Amenities:

- Paved boat ramp
- Restrooms on site

Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department: River Access



Barkers Creek

Address:

5139 US 74-W
Whittier, NC 28789

[Map & Directions](#)

Amenities:

- Paved boat ramp
- Restrooms on site
- Picnic Tables
- Grills
- Volleyball court

Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department: Ralph J. Andrews Park Campground



[MORE INFORMATION](#)

RJ Andrews Campground

Address:

814 Ralph J. Andrews Park Road
Glenville, NC 28736
Phone: 828-743-3923

[Map & Directions](#)

Amenities:

- 6 50-Amp Full Hook-Up Sites
- 18 50-Amp Electric and Water Sites
- 11 Primitive Sites
- 1 Primitive Group Site
- 3 Bath Houses
- Covered Shelter
- Playground
- 1 Sewage Pump Station
- 1 Water Station
- Picnic Area
- Access to Lake Glenville

Employees

- Full Time Staff: 17
- Permanent Part Time: 3
- Part Time: 64
- Seasonal Part Time: 16
- Instructors: 32
- Personal Trainers: 5

Future Plans

- 10 Year Comprehensive Parks & Recreation Department Master Plan. To Be Completed By The End Of 2025.
- Cashiers Community Park: Rebid
- Greenway Buildout
- Athletic Field Surfacing Upgrades

Questions?

- Can I Answer Any Questions?



JACKSON COUNTY
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

- THANK YOU!