

Tourism Assn & Welcome Center Summer 2025 Newsletter

Summertime is when Hot Springs Shines- Time to Settle in and Relax



Chillin' in a hammockit doesn't get any better than this.



Rafting and Tubing are an ideal combo of relaxation and adventure!

Photo from a recent rafting trip by <u>French</u> <u>Broad Adventures</u>.



How we look todayphoto taken in May by Bill Downey, <u>Madison</u> <u>County, NC Tourism</u>

A perfect getaway in Hot Springs

Hot Springs, NC is on the western edge of Madison County near the Tennessee state line. An easy day trip for many residents in the region, or an extended getaway destination for folks from all over the world.

We continue to progress in our recovery after flooding and invite you to visit with us this summer!

HIKING TRAILS are all OPEN

HORSEBACK RIDING is OPEN at <u>Sandy Bottom Trail</u> <u>Rides</u>

THE FRENCH BROAD RIVER is OPEN for RAFTING, FUNYAKING AND TUBING. <u>Learn More and Contact</u> <u>one of our Outfitters for a reservation.</u>

RESTAURANTS and SHOPS are OPEN Find the latest updates on shopping and dining options and hours on our <u>Business Hours page.</u>

VACATION RENTALS, SUITES and a few CAMPING options are OPEN! Find a cozy nook for you, friends and family. <u>View all</u> Lodging on our website.

THE HOT SPRINGS RESORT & SPA is OPEN for natural Hot Mineral Water Soaks in a private outdoor hot tub along Spring Creek!

Business Hours for Hot Springs NC

Scroll down to the end so you don't miss anything!

- Bluff Mountain Festival this weekend
- Other Events
- New Walking Tour article
- New Bird Banding Station at Murray Branch
- New Walnut Mountain Shelter exhibit
- More about the Hot Springs Resort & Spa

The 28th Annual



Bluff Mountain Festival

This Saturday, June 14, 2025, 10am - 6pm Free! Everyone is Welcome!

Foot-tapping bluegrass, old-time music, ballad singing, cloggers, a silent auction of beautiful regional items, an artists' market, good food, a beautiful setting, and much more make the Madison County Arts Council's Bluff Mountain Festival a special community event.

Bring your blankets and lawn chairs for seating in front of the stage and in the shade of elegant magnolias.

Madison County Arts Council Website for Event Info

Summer Events

Live Music at **Big Pillow Brewing Fireworks Displays** in downtown Hot Springs and the Laurel Community Center Fun themed activities at **Vaste Riviere Outpost** Live Music and Workshops at **Rare Bird Farm** Summer Camps at **Woodson Branch Nature School**

And more! Click the button below to view them all.



Hot Springs Events Calendar

A Walking Tour of Hot Springs-New Article!

Stroll around town from the comfort of your seat in this <u>new article</u> full of updates and photos.

We are proud to share our progress after 8+ months of recovery from Hurricane Helene flooding.

If you have been wondering about the **Iron Horse Station's status**- you will find an update in the article!

Article by Alicia Araya



Check out the new article! The Road to Recovery: A Walking Tour of Hot Springs, NC, post-Helene

New Bird Banding Station at Murray Branch

If you've ever floated down Section 10 of the French Broad or taken a drive down the scenic River Road, you have been to Murray Branch Picnic Area. This special secret spot is now beautifully restored for recreation, and has a new addition nearby- the **Blue Ridge Bird Observatory's new Hot Springs Banding Station!**

What is Bird Banding? Bird banding is the process of safely capturing birds and uniquely marking each individual for future identification.

Why is this important? Researchers will gain insight into the populations and migratory habits of bird species that travel through riparian ecosystems.

Paired with the long-term data collected from BRBO's existing station on Big Bald Mountain, this new site will help round out our understanding of bird communities in the French Broad watershed from headwaters to bottomlands. The data collected by this new station may prove crucial to informing conservation policies for populations that are becoming increasingly imperiled in WNC.

HOT SPRINGS BIRD BANDING STATION VISITOR DAYS



JOIN US AT 8AM OR 10AM ON:

June 14th June 22nd July 5th July 26th

Located on River Road ight past Murray Branch



Ways to get involved? Free Visitor Days this summer for kids and grownups!

Sign up in a simple google doc at the link below!

RSVP for a Bird Banding Day!

Historic Walnut Mountain Shelter Exhibit now at the Welcome Center

Carolina Mountain Club hosted a National Trails Day Work Extravaganza on June 7



These people love Hot Springs and it shows through their generous acts of service over the years!

123 incredible volunteers came out for National Trails Day to give back and show their love for the trails and our resilient trail town.

They checked a few more boxes off the list:

- The Rebuild of the historic 1938 Appalachian Trail Walnut Mountain Shelter
- Worked on sections of the A.T., Van Cliff, Jack Branch, and Bluff Mountain Trails
- Cleared debris from the Hot Springs Resort & Spa grounds



Learn more about Volunteering with the CMC!

Hot Springs Resort & Spa

...updates on their Facebook Page

Hot mineral water soaks are now available 7 days a week! M, T, W, Th: 3 - 9:30pm F, Sa, Su: 9am - 9:30pm

The Campground remains closed but good news!- they are anticipating a late summer reopening.



A limited number of cabins are available for overnight rental. Call for reservations at 828-622-7676. Accepting mineral bath reservations for the rest of 2025!

Hot Springs Resort & Spa Website



Gathered around our new Peace Pole at the May 2nd Dedication.

Town leaders and community members celebrated this special gift from the <u>Rotary Club of</u> <u>Madison County</u>. More Links and Information Event Venues & Retreat Centers Things To Do Hot Springs Blog

Places to Eat

Places to Stay

Shops and Galleries

Hot Springs Flood Recovery Updates



Hot Springs Welcome Center is open daily from 10-5pm

106 Bridge Street Hot Springs, NC 28743

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Hot Springs Welcome Center is maintained by the Hot Springs Tourism Association and Town of Hot Springs, in partnership with the Madison County Tourism Development Authority.

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This edition compiled by Stacey Geyer, HSTA Administrator.

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