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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**APR 3** **Holiday:** Good Friday  
April 3<sup>rd</sup> - COG Offices Closed

**APR 5** **Easter Holiday:** April 5<sup>th</sup>

**APR 29** **Kerr-Tar Regional Food Council Meeting:**  
April 29th at 10 a.m., COG Office

**APR 29** **Young Adult Hiring Event:**  
April 29th at 11 a.m., Granville Co. Expo Center

# HAVE YOU RECEIVED A CLOSEOUT NOTICE FROM TREASURY?



“Closeout Notices” are being emailed by the US Treasury to some local governments for ARPA SLFRF Funds. The email notice lets you know you have the option to close out your ARPA funds. If you are ready to close out:

- First, log in to your Treasury portal using your existing ID and login credentials.
- Then follow the straightforward steps to complete your close out certification. It does not take long.
- Keep a copy of your work for your ARPA records.

The only local governments receiving these notices will be those that indicated in their last year’s (April 2025) Treasury Report that they have fully expended their ARPA funds and are ready to close out.

According to the email from Treasury: **“Treasury encourages your community to utilize the resources below to successfully close out the SLFRF award as soon as possible. Recipients who initiate the award closeout in the portal are no longer required to submit Project & Expenditure (P&E) Reports. Note: Recipients who do not initiate program closeout are required to continue to submit required reports”**

If you have received a Closeout Notice, and would like assistance with logging in to the Treasury portal and/or closing out your funds, feel free to reach out to

**KATIE CONNER AT**  
**KCONNER@KERRTARCOG.ORG**

# OUTDOOR RECREATION ECONOMIC STATISTICS



The U.S. Department of Commerce’s Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) has released new economic data exhibiting outdoor recreation’s powerful and positive economic impact on North Carolina’s economy in 2024.

According to the new BEA Outdoor Recreation Economic Statistics, outdoor recreation created \$17.8 billion in value added for North Carolina, accounts for 2.1% of the states GDP, and includes 155,462 Outdoor Recreation jobs in 2024. This is the largest recorded measure for North Carolina since the BEA started calculating the size of the outdoor recreation economy in 2012. Click [HERE](#) for North Carolina BEA data.

# MAKING MUNICIPAL WEBSITES ADA ACCESSIBLE

The U.S. Department of Justice has finalized a rule clarifying that municipal websites and mobile applications must be accessible under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Title II. The rule requires municipalities' websites and mobile-related apps to meet WCAG 2.1 Level AA, the widely used accessibility standard developed by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) that helps ensure people with disabilities can access all government online services and information.

Important deadlines:

Municipalities serving 50,000 or more residents must comply by April 24, 2026

Municipalities serving less than 50,000 residents must comply by April 26, 2027

Compliance does not require fixing everything at once; municipalities should begin by identifying affected digital content and relevant staff, prioritizing essential services and high-visibility pages, developing an ongoing accessibility plan, and considering budgetary needs for the next fiscal year. Municipalities that do not comply could face real consequences, including lawsuits and settlements, Department of Justice complaints, mandated remediation timelines, legal fees and reputational harm.

Due to ADA Title II accessibility requirements, the North Carolina Department of Revenue (NCDOR) has decided to remove all distribution reports that do not meet these requirements and mandates beginning March 31, 2026. The NCDOR is requesting all local governments to download and save any distribution reports from Dec. 31, 2025, and back prior to March 31, 2026.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the NCDOR Distribution Team at 919-814-1118 or via [email](#).

## THE 10TH ANNUAL SUSTAINABLE FLEET TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE

The 10th Annual Sustainable Fleet Technology Conference will be held at the Durham Convention Center in Durham, NC August 25-27, 2026.

Mark your calendars and join us along with other leading fleets and technology providers to share industry ideas, trends, strategies and technologies that will improve the efficiency and sustainability of fleet operations. The event will include keynote presentations, 70+ speakers, breakout sessions, indoor vehicle and equipment displays, and plenty of networking opportunities.

**Register now** and save with special \$349 Early Bird pricing! (Ends July 10)



# TAMMY KOGER SELECTED AS DIRECTOR OF NEW DIVISION OF AGING

Tammy Koger was selected to lead the Division of Aging, effective March 1, 2026.

Tammy brings extensive experience in leadership and program management. Since joining the Division as Deputy Director in October 2025, she has made a significant impact in a short time. Her accomplishments include:



- Strengthening collaboration with key stakeholders, including Area Agencies on Aging, the Governor’s Advisory Council on Aging, the Senior Tarheel Legislators, and the NC Coalition on Aging.
- Leading strategic alignment of statewide services and funding, including State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) initiatives.
- Directing critical audits and implementing new communication tools to enhance coordination.
- Initiating operational improvements, including development of Standard Operating Procedures and a strategic plan for 2026.

Prior to her role with the Division, Tammy served as Director of the NC Assistive Technology Program, where she advanced statewide initiatives to improve access to assistive technology, fostered cross-agency collaboration, and implemented innovative strategies to support independence for individuals with disabilities.

Her proven ability to lead complex programs and build strong partnerships will be invaluable as she guides the Division of Aging in its mission to enhance the quality of life for older adults across North Carolina.

## AREA AGENCY ON AGING

The Area Agency on Aging provides services that include at-home assistance, nutrition services, transportation, caregiver support, advocacy, and social engagement opportunities. By tailoring services to meet the diverse needs of older adults and their caregivers, the Area Agency on Aging promotes independence, dignity, and well-being among the aging population in the region. With a commitment to fostering a supportive and age-friendly environment, the agency advocates for policies that enhance accessibility, equity, and inclusivity for older adults, contributing to a more vibrant and thriving community for all ages within the five counties of the Kerr-Tar area.



Aging Director: Alan Winstead ([awinstead@kerrtarco.org](mailto:awinstead@kerrtarco.org))  
 Aging Specialist: Crystal Allen ([callen@kerrtarco.org](mailto:callen@kerrtarco.org))  
 Family Caregiver Specialist: Michael Patterson ([mpatterson@kerrtarco.org](mailto:mpatterson@kerrtarco.org))  
 Regional Long Term Care Ombudsman: Kim Hawkins ([khawkins@kerrtarco.org](mailto:khawkins@kerrtarco.org))



# KERR-TAR SENIOR GAMES

**Kerr Tar Senior Games are taking place now!** More than 270 senior athletes have signed up to participate in either athletic events or the arts program. Athletes compete in the appropriate to compete to represent our region at the statewide Senior Games for a chance to compete on the national level.

A dedicated steering committee works year-round to conduct one of the best regional Senior Games in the state. Granville Health System again is the Presenting Sponsor for Senior Games.



The 2026 Senior Games kicked-off in our region on Friday, March 20. The Franklin County Department of Aging held the opening ceremony at the Louisburg Magnet High School.

To find out how you can participate in Senior Games, contact Michael Patterson [mpatterson@kerrtarcog.org](mailto:mpatterson@kerrtarcog.org) or Crystal Allen [callen@kerrtarcog.org](mailto:callen@kerrtarcog.org) or by phone at 252-436-2040.



# AMBULANCE CHASE

The Kerr-Tar Area Agency on Aging participated in the Granville Health System's Ambulance Chase in Oxford. We distributed Senior Health Insurance Information Program to inform attendees about Medicare benefits. We also discussed opportunities for older adults in our region and answered questions about navigating technology.

# SENIOR TARHEEL LEGISLATURE

The North Carolina Senior Tarheel Legislature recently held its meeting in Winston-Salem. The Kerr-Tar Region delegates represented us at the meeting. The General Assembly created the Senior Tarheel Legislature to promote citizen involvement and advocacy opportunities concerning aging issues. Two delegates represent every county.

If you want more information about you can become involved, contact Alan Winstead at [awinstead@kerrtarcog.org](mailto:awinstead@kerrtarcog.org) or 252-436-2040.





# SHIIP

## SENIORS' HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION PROGRAM

N.C. Department of Insurance • Mike Causey, Commissioner  
855-408-1212 (toll free) • [www.ncdoi.gov](http://www.ncdoi.gov)

### APRIL IS

# ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH

Alcohol is the most commonly used addictive substance in the United States.

Alcohol addiction and excessive alcohol misuse affects people of all ages, gender and ethnicities.

If you or someone you know and love is a Medicare beneficiary, help is available.

Medicare covers an annual screening for all beneficiaries.

For those that screen positive, Medicare covers up to four counseling interventions per year.

Ask a SHIIP counselor for more information.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: CRYSTAL ALLEN @ 252-436-2040

JOIN THE NORTH CAROLINA ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM AS WE CELEBRATE

# ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY AWARENESS DAY!

*Participate in our*  
**FIND & THRIVE EVENT**

**April 24th** >>> **10AM- 2PM**  
 3080 Hammond Business Pl #101,  
 Raleigh, NC 27606

Join us for an enriching event designed to promote awareness, connection, and community involvement. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in interactive activities, explore local resources, and engage with vendors and partners.

**Event Features**

- **Find & Thrive Loan Opportunity**
  - Explore different types of devices and equipment available for long-term loan.
- **Scavenger Hunt Experience**
  - Explore our demonstration lab, test your knowledge, and learn key facts through fun, interactive stations.
- **Vendor Showcase**
  - Connect with local organizations, businesses, and service providers.
- **Assistive Technology Awareness Activities**
  - Test your knowledge and learn key facts through interactive stations.

**Registration is required:**

<https://forms.office.com/g/6MCN8PgOuh>

More info or Questions, contact Alayna Bollinger at [alayna.bollinger@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:alayna.bollinger@dhhs.nc.gov)



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**  
 Employment and Independence  
 for People with Disabilities



NCDHHS is an equal opportunity employer and provider. 3/26"



# REGION K ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS & PREVENTION Conference & Walk



Friday, June 12, 2026

10:00 am-2:00 pm

<p><b>FREE</b> &amp; Open to the Public</p>	<p>Warren County Armory Convention Center 501 US Hwy 158 Bus E, Warrenton, NC 27589</p>	<p>Free t-shirts, lunch, &amp; goodies available (while supplies last)</p>
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Wear **PURPLE & SILVER** to show the world you care about ending elder abuse and/or decorate your vehicle, in support. We will recognize each participant that displays their support for Elder Abuse Awareness & Prevention.

**Want to be a Exhibitor or Volunteer?**  
Please scan the QR code or visit:  
<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/4vnfp6s>

**For more information, contact:**

Nyasha Woodard,  
Adult Service  
Warren County DSS  
(252) 257- 5000

Kimberly Hawkins  
Kerr-Tar Area  
Agency on Aging  
(252) 436-2040

**SCAN HERE  
to be a exhibitor  
or sponsor!**



# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The U.S. Census Bureau released version 4.26.1 of OnTheMap for Emergency Management. Version 4.26.1 updates American Community Survey tabulations to the 2020-2024 5-year estimates and Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics Origin-Destination Employment Statistics (LODES) data to 2023.



OnTheMap for Emergency Management provides real-time access to a range of detailed Census Bureau data about the people living and working in areas affected by hurricanes, floods, wildfires, winter storms, and federal disaster declaration areas.

Explore our OnTheMap for Emergency Management data tool and our help and documentation resources.

[Explore](#)

**WEBINAR**  
Thursday, April 9  
7:00-8:00 pm

**BIKEWALK  
NC**

Join BikeWalk NC for a special webinar on April 9 from 7-8 PM to discuss the current regulations governing electric bicycles and other electric motorized cycles in North Carolina. We will explore how these vehicles are defined under existing law, where challenges are emerging, and what considerations may shape future policy discussions.

[Register](#)

## KERR-TAR RPO ADVANCES PRIORITIZATION 8.0 AND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

The Kerr-Tar RPO held their March TAC/TCC Meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> at COG office. During the meeting the board moved to approve our draft Local Input Methodology for Prioritization 8.0. This is an effort to become more competitive on the regional and divisional levels when competing for project funding during the Prioritization process. The board also moved to approve that NCDOT proceed with presented data to continue work on our regional comprehensive transportation plan. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns relating to this; please contact Ty Cheek at [tcheek@kerrtarcog.org](mailto:tcheek@kerrtarcog.org) or call 252-436-2040 ext. 2004.

# DEQ FLOOD RESILIENCY BLUEPRINT

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Flood Resiliency Blueprint program (Blueprint) held a public information session on March 25 to provide an overview of the state’s science-based and stakeholder-driven flood mitigation planning initiative.

The meeting provided information on the program’s online decision support tool and the ongoing development of River Basin Action Strategies. The Blueprint is designed to support the planning, evaluation, and implementation of flood resilience strategies. It is the largest proactive statewide flood mitigation investment in North Carolina history, equipping local governments, the state, and supporting organizations with data, tools, and processes to guide strategic investments to reduce flood risk, fund priority projects, and address gaps in mitigation efforts.

Since 2024, the Blueprint has funded 81 flood resilience projects totaling more than \$40 million in the six river basins designated by the NC General Assembly: Neuse, French Broad, White Oak, Tar Pamlico, Cape Fear, and Lumber.

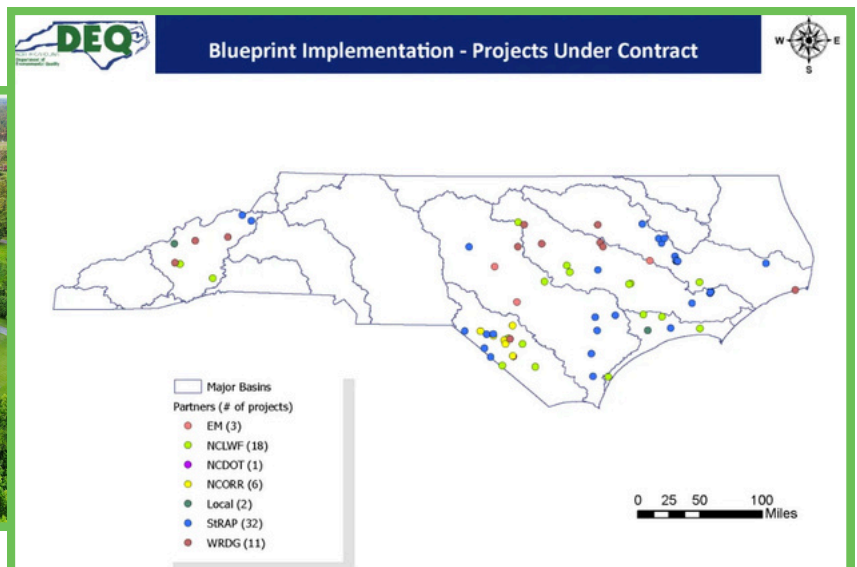


The online decision support tool, or Blueprint tool, is a data- and model-driven GIS-enabled web application designed to:

- Provide users with accurate, data-driven flood risk and vulnerability assessments
- Allow users to explore, develop, and define flood resilience actions
- Help users to evaluate and prioritize effective flood resilience actions

The program will also deliver a River Basin Action Strategy for each basin. The action strategy will include a set of projects and funding strategies aimed at reducing flooding, lessening damage, and strengthening communities’ long-term resilience – their ability to withstand, adapt to, and recover quickly from future disasters.

To learn more about the Blueprint, click [here](#).



# SAVE THE DATE!



## Kerr-Tar Regional Economic Development Summit

# Thursday, October 8, 2026

McGregor Hall Performing Arts Center  
Henderson, NC 27536

Platinum



**PERSON COUNTY**  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

*Thank you to our sponsors!*

Venue Sponsor



Silver Sponsor



Bronze Sponsor



Contact Desiree Brooks at  
252-436-2040 or  
dbrooks@kerrtarco.org to  
learn about  
other sponsorship opportunities!



# SPRING JOB FAIR HEALTHCARE, CDL AND RETAIL



NCWorks hosted a dynamic and well-attended job fair on March 4, spotlighting opportunities in healthcare, CDL, and retail. The event brought together 8 employers and approximately 90 participants, including an enthusiastic group of students from Kittrell Job Corps Center.

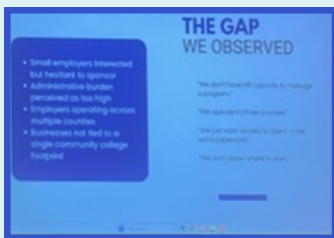
The energy throughout the day was outstanding, with meaningful conversations, on-the-spot networking, and strong connections made between employers and job seekers. Adding to the vibrant atmosphere, Two Heifers Food Truck was on site, providing great food and an extra touch of community engagement.

Events like this continue to highlight the importance of bringing workforce opportunities directly to the community—making it a truly great day for all involved.

## APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING

Several workforce staff members recently attended the second Apprenticeship Training hosted by the State of North Carolina in Greensboro on March 2-3.

This training provided valuable insights into expanding and strengthening apprenticeship programs across our region.



Sessions focused on best practices, employer engagement, and innovative strategies to support workforce development through apprenticeships. By participating in this training, our team continues to build knowledge and strengthen our ability to connect local businesses with effective talent development solutions, bringing valuable resources and opportunities back to the communities we serve.

## PERSON CO LUNCH & LEARN



On March 23, Person County Government hosted a Lunch & Learn in Person County focused on NC LIVE, the state's digital library resource.

Attendees learned about the wealth of online resources, research tools, and educational materials available to support students, job seekers, and the broader community.

The session provided practical tips for accessing NC LIVE from home or at local libraries, highlighting how these resources can enhance learning, career development, and community engagement.



A proud partner of the American Job Center network



# YOUNG ADULT HIRING EVENT 2026

## APRIL 29, 2026

### 11 AM - 2 PM



**GRANVILLE COUNTY CONVENTION  
& EXPO CENTER**  
4185 US HIGHWAY 15  
OXFORD, NC 27565



## TARGET AUDIENCE

Local High School Juniors & Seniors from Franklin, Granville, Person, Vance & Warren Counties.

*\*This event is also open to the general public.*



[BIT.LY/3OQAQGH](https://bit.ly/3OQAQGH)

To register, scan QR code or contact Stacey Williams at  
**252-598-5205** or [stacey.williams@ncworks.gov](mailto:stacey.williams@ncworks.gov)

\*FOR PROGRAM FUNDING DETAILS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE STEVENS AMENDMENT, PLEASE VISIT [WWW.BIT.LY/KTWDBSTEVENS](http://WWW.BIT.LY/KTWDBSTEVENS)

*Happy Birthday*



*Lou Grillo*

**April 8<sup>th</sup>**

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# Kerr-Tar

## Regional Council of Governments

### COMMUNITIES SERVED

Franklin County  
Granville County  
Person County  
Vance County  
Warren County  
Town of Bunn  
Town of Butner  
City of Creedmoor  
Town of Franklinton  
City of Henderson  
Town of Kittrell  
Town of Louisburg  
Town of Macon  
Town of Middleburg  
Town of Norlina  
City of Oxford  
City of Roxboro  
Town of Stem  
Town of Stovall  
Town of Warrenton  
Town of Youngsville

**Executive Director**

**Diane Cox**

[dcox@kerrtarcog.org](mailto:dcox@kerrtarcog.org)

**Area Agency on Aging**

**Alan Winstead**

[awinstead@kerrtarcog.org](mailto:awinstead@kerrtarcog.org)

**Community & Economic Development**

**Desiree Brooks**

[dbrooks@kerrtarcog.org](mailto:dbrooks@kerrtarcog.org)

**Workforce Development**

**Lou Grillo**

[lgrillo@kerrtarcog.org](mailto:lgrillo@kerrtarcog.org)

### MISSION STATEMENT

Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments aims to promote regionalism that provides opportunities for local governments to enhance and improve the quality of life for our citizens through effective delivery of services and programs.

**Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments**

1724 Graham Avenue

PO Box 709

Henderson, NC 27536

Phone | (252) 436-2040

Fax | (252) 436-2055

[info@kerrtarcog.org](mailto:info@kerrtarcog.org) | [kerrtarcog.org](http://kerrtarcog.org)

