

# DURHAM COUNTY



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What we do and  
how to reach us.

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**DURHAM COUNTY**  
**GUIDE to SERVICES**



## DURHAM COUNTY

This handbook is designed to furnish the public with a description of the operations and services provided by Durham County Government. It includes a brief description of references to departments, boards and commissions that are available to foster the continual growth of Durham County. In order to be more accessible to the citizens of Durham County, this manual includes a directory of all county departments along with the names and phone numbers of the department heads. A listing of key tourist attractions is also included in this publication.



## History

As early as colonial days, the area known as Durham County was important to North Carolina history. The English, Scottish and Irish settled along the waterways of the present Northeast corner of the county on land given to the Earl of Granville by the British Crown. As a result of the hard work of those early settlers, the area soon became a prosperous section of the state.

The City of Durham, named for Dr. Bartlett Durham, began as a railroad station and settlement. While Durham's official birth date is April 26, 1853 (the date that the U.S. Post Office was established), the town was not incorporated by the General Assembly until April 10, 1869. The tobacco manufacturing industry focused worldwide attention on the area after the Civil War. As a result of that thriving business, Durham County grew and prospered tremendously.

In 1881, Durham officials sought to become an autonomous political subdivision and decided it was time to separate from Orange County. Durham County was formed on April 17, 1881 from portions of land transferred from neighboring Wake and Orange counties. In 1911, an additional portion of land was added from Wake County.

The first Durham County Board of Commissioners convened its initial meeting May 2, 1881. Durham County operated under the commission form of government with the chairman serving as chief administrator until 1930, when it adopted the county manager form of government. As of 2001, there have been six county managers.



*Durham County Courthouse, East Main Street.  
Old Union Train Station on the far right.*

## Dco Today

Durham County has evolved from an agricultural and manufacturing economy to attain world-class status in the areas of medicine and high technology. In the process, it has become one of the country's most desirable places to live. The internationally known Research Triangle Park is home to more than 170 global research and development organizations including, BASF, Credit Suisse, CREE, Cisco, GlaxoSmithKline, IBM, RTI International and Syngenta. These companies and others in the park employ approximately 39,000 full-time workers and 10,000 contract workers. Other major research and development organizations, including AW North Carolina, BD, bioMerieux, Boramed, Cormetech, and Organon Teknika are located in the northern section of the county. In 1999, Burt's Bees, Inc. relocated its headquarters to Durham.

### DURHAM COUNTY PROFILE

Date Established: April 17, 1881  
 Population: 237,976  
 Registered Voters: 212,698  
 Location: north central North Carolina, equidistant from Philadelphia and Atlanta  
 Land Area: 299 square miles  
 County Seat: Durham  
 Townships: Durham, Carr, Oak Grove, Mangum, Lebanon and Triangle  
 Location of General County  
 Offices: Historic County Courthouse  
 200 East Main Street  
 Durham, NC 27701



## General Government

### BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Durham County is governed by a Board of Commissioners (BOCC) comprised of five members who are elected at large on a partisan basis by countywide vote. Commissioners serve four-year terms and elections are held in November of even-numbered years. The board takes office at its first meeting in December following the November election, and at that time, elects a chair and a vice-chair.

The primary duties of the board include formulating policy, adopting an annual budget, establishing the annual property tax rate, appointing various officials, planning for County needs and enacting local ordinances. The board also has authority to call bond referendums, authorize the county manager to enter into contracts and establish new programs and departments.

The board holds a work session on the first Monday of each month at 9 a.m. and convenes its regular business meetings on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 7 p.m. All meetings are open to the public. Regular meetings are broadcast live on cable access channel 8. Citizens can also access current and past broadcasts on the County's website, [dconc.gov](http://dconc.gov).



Fred Foster, Jr.  
Chairman



Brenda Howerton  
Vice Chairman



Wendy Jacobs



Michael Page



Ellen Reckhow

## COUNTY MANAGER ..... (919) 560-0000

The county manager serves as the chief administrator of the County. He is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the BOCC. The manager supervises and coordinates the activities of the County's departments for the BOCC, seeing that all orders and policies are carried out. He also works to ensure that the policies and guidelines mandated by both federal and North Carolina state statutes are implemented. The manager recommends an annual budget, makes recommendations on appropriate matters of business, represents the County in dealing with various agencies and performs other duties assigned by the Board.

The County Manager's Office created the Durham City-County Neighborhood College, a unique educational opportunity offered by Durham City and County governments. The nationally award winning program is a ten-week series of classes that provide information on key local government services. Participants meet and interact with City and County staff and learn valuable information about local governments.

### Michael Ruffin / County Manager



Mike Ruffin  
County Manager

The County Manager's Office serves as the communications link between County government, other governmental entities and the public. Additional responsibilities include: developing the legislative package, monitoring the General Assembly, maintaining a positive relationship with local legislators, working with the local news media, maintaining the County's website, preparing and distributing brochures, booklets and newsletters, coordinating videotaping of the BOCC's meetings, hosting a TV show, answering citizen's complaints and promoting an effective public relations policy among County government employees.

### Marqueta Welton / Deputy Manager

### Lee Worsley / Deputy Manager

### Deborah Craig-Ray / Assistant Manager

### Drew Cummings / Assistant Manager

## CLERK TO THE BOARD ..... (919) 560-0026

### Michelle Parker-Evans / Department Head

The Clerk to the Board is appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. The Clerk maintains the official historical recordings of Durham County and provides support to the BOCC by preparing agendas and minutes of official meetings. The Clerk is officially responsible for the County Seal and the retention of official documents, including resolutions and ordinances approved by the Board. The Clerk also manages all BOCC citizen appointments to boards and commissions.

## BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES ..... (919) 560-0012

### Pam Meyer / Department Head

This department is responsible for the efficient and accurate preparation and the day-to-day administration of the annual operating budget in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 159. The mission of the department is to provide technical and professional support and assistance to the county manager, BOCC, and County departments.

## COUNTY ATTORNEY ..... (919) 560-0715

### Lowell Siler / Department Head

The county attorney is appointed by the Commissioners to advise the BOCC, the county manager and department heads on all legal matters related to the operation of County government. The County Attorney's Office is responsible for ensuring that affairs and actions of Durham County are conducted in accordance with federal, state and local laws. Legal opinions are provided on all laws, contracts, leases, deeds and other legal documents.

## BOARD OF ELECTIONS ..... (919) 560-0700

### Michael Perry / Department Head

The Board of Elections manages the voter registration process and conducts all elections held within Durham County. Its functions also include: establishing election precincts, appointing election officials, conducting candidate filings, auditing campaign finance reports, and educating the public about the election process in North Carolina.

**FINANCE ..... (919) 560-0035****George Quick** / Department Head

The primary function of the Finance Department is to establish and maintain a countywide system of financial planning, administration, reporting and control. The department also maintains an accounting system to provide adequate records and ensure compliance with local, state and federal legislation. The department is also responsible for the administration of the county's investment program and debt issuance.

**GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT ..... (919) 560-0430****Motiryo Keambiroiro** / Department Head

The mission of General Services is to provide safe, quality and timely services to the citizens, customers and infrastructure of Durham County. Divisions are Administrative Services, Building Maintenance, Grounds Maintenance, Solid Waste Management, Mosquito Control, Road Identification and Mail Services. This department provides a variety of services including: building and grounds maintenance for County owned and operated buildings; recycling collection for County owned buildings and unincorporated residents; operation of four convenience sites; operation of the Durham County Memorial Stadium; fleet management for all County-owned vehicles; fabrication, installation, and maintenance of all county road identification signs; pest and mosquito control; internal mail/courier services, and contract administration for janitorial and security services.

**HUMAN RESOURCES ..... (919) 560-7900****Cora Wilson** / Department Head

The Human Resources Department is responsible for managing recruitment and selection, classification and compensation, benefits, policy development and administration, employee training and development programs, performance review process, employee relations and records management for Durham County Government.

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ..... (919) 560-7000****Perry Dixon** / Department Head

The mission of the Information Technology Department is to plan, manage and support the County of Durham's information resources. The department provides business applications support, network management, email services, internet access and security.

**REGISTER OF DEEDS ..... (919) 560-0480****Willie Covington** / Department Head\*

The Register of Deeds is the legal custodian of real estate records, marriage records and vital records. The office records and maintains these records which include deeds, deeds of trust, maps/plats and birth and death certificates.

**SAP ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING SERVICES ..... (919) 560-7314****Barbara Torian** / Department Head

The mission of SAP ERP Services is to help all County departments who use the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) solution for employee self-service, recruitment and management as well as financial and budgeting functions.

**TAX ADMINISTRATION ..... (919) 560-0300****Kimberly Simpson** / Department Head

Tax Administration is responsible for the listing, appraising and assessing of all real and personal property in Durham County; and the collection of all property taxes, hotel/motel occupancy taxes, gross receipt taxes, heavy equipment taxes, animal taxes, special assessments such as street assessments, water and sewer assessments, and beer and wine license.

**VETERAN SERVICES ..... (919) 560-8387****Lois Harvin-Ravin** / Department Head

Veteran Services counsels and assists veterans, their dependents, surviving spouses and active-duty service members in applying for federal, state and county Veterans Affairs and serves as a liaison between the veteran and the Department of Veterans Affairs throughout the claim process.

\*Elected Department Head

## Public Safety

### CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESOURCE CENTER ..... (919) 560-0500

**Gudrun Parmer** / Department Head

The Criminal Justice Resource Center promotes public safety through support for the local criminal justice system. The department also supervises and rehabilitates justice involved individuals through a wide array of supportive services so that they may achieve their full potential as contributing members of their community. Service delivery builds upon and is provided in collaboration with various agencies within Durham County such as Alliance Behavioral Healthcare, the judicial system, the juvenile and adult detention center, the NC Department of Public Safety, as well as community and faith-based organizations.

### EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ..... (919) 560-8285

**Michael Smith** / Department Head

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) serves as the primary provider of 911 emergency ambulance services within Durham County. Paramedic level service is provided from six primary EMS Stations within the Durham City limits, and additional locations in Bahama, Redwood, Bethesda and Parkwood Fire/EMS Departments. First Responder assistance is provided within Durham County by both Durham City Fire and County Fire/EMS Departments.

### YOUTH HOME ..... (919) 560-0840

**Angela Nunn** / Department Head

The Durham County Youth Home provides juvenile detention services offering positive service, programs and care for a juvenile pending a court disposition.

### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/FIRE MARSHAL (919) 560-0660

**Jeff Batten** / Department Head

The Emergency Management Department is the coordinating agency for all emergency response/recovery force activity when the County's emergency operations plan is implemented. The Fire Marshal conducts code enforcement for that North Carolina Fire Code, performs fire inspections to ensure the safety of citizens in County Buildings, inspects Durham Public Schools to ensure the safety of students and staff, provides fire prevention education, safety and emergency response for Durham County.

### CITY/COUNTY INSPECTIONS ..... (919) 560-4144

**William "Gene" Bradham** / Department Head

The Inspections Department is responsible for the administration of all applicable North Carolina State Building Codes, the Durham City-County Unified Development Ordinance, and any other applicable local ordinances. The goal of the department is to provide a cost-effective level of service that ensures the adequate protection of the health and safety of the citizens of the City and County of Durham through assertive enforcement of the various State building, electrical, plumbing, mechanical and fire codes.

### SHERIFF'S OFFICE ..... (919) 560-0897

**Michael Andrews** / Department Head\*

The Sheriff's Office is responsible for patrolling the County to enforce the law, operating a safe and secure Detention facility, properly serving civil process papers, and providing courtroom and building security. Patrol duties include protection of persons and property through neighborhood patrol services, responding to calls, conducting investigations and arresting violators. The Sheriff's Animal Services Division is responsible for the care, custody and control of animals in Durham County. This division enforces the County's Animal Control Ordinance, provides public education and assures that pets are properly licensed and vaccinated.

*\*Elected Department Head*





## Environmental Protection

### ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ..... (919) 560-0735

Glen Whisler / Department Head

The mission of Durham County Engineering and Environmental Services Department is to protect regional water quality through the administration of the sewer use, stormwater and erosion control ordinances; to improve County facilities through the management of capital projects; and to preserve natural and scenic lands, farms and forests. The department is made up of five divisions: Stormwater and Erosion Control; Sustainability; Project Management; Open Space and Real Estate and Utilities.



## Economic and Physical Development

### CITY-COUNTY PLANNING ..... (919) 560-4137

Steve Medlin / Department Head

City-County Planning is charged with the responsibility of planning physical development in Durham County. The Planning Department develops various strategic plans addressing land use, open space, historic resources, the environment, housing, transportation, economic development, government services and facilities.

### COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE ..... (919) 560-0525

Delphine Sellars / Department Head

The Cooperative Extension Service provides research-based education and other services through workshops and trainings as well as customized education, based on community needs and interests to improve quality of life. Extension programs are free or low cost and Extension Educators are available to answer questions on a variety of topics. Durham County Extension offers programs in Early Childhood Development, 4-H Youth Development, Consumer and Family Education, Food and Nutrition, Agriculture and Horticulture, and Community Capacity Building. Cooperative Extension is a partnership of the two land-grant Universities of North Carolina State, North Carolina Agriculture and Technical State, USDA and County Government.

### SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION ..... (919) 560-0558

Eddie Culberson / Department Head

The Soil and Water Department, with assistance from the USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, work with Durham County landowners/users to protect, enhance and promote its natural resources by implementing Best Management Practices through grants and state and federal cost share programs.

## Human Services

### DURHAM REGIONAL HOSPITAL .....(919) 470-4000

The Durham Regional Hospital is a 369-bed acute care hospital whose major services include pediatrics, obstetrics, gynecology, orthopedics as well as general medicine and surgery. The hospital is operated by Duke University Health System through a sublease with Durham County Hospital Corporation.

### PUBLIC HEALTH .....(919) 560-7600

**Gayle Harris** / Department Head

Durham County Department of Public Health is responsible for public health programs for the entire community. Major services include education, communicable disease control, maternal and child health services, dental health, laboratory services and vital statistics. Public Health is also responsible for the mandated enforcement of local and state rules and regulations as they apply to food, lodging, child care facilities and other institutions and on-site water protection (i.e., private water supply wells and private sewage disposal systems, public swimming pools), and nuisance complaints.

The Department of Public Health also houses Lincoln Community Health Center's Early Intervention, Gynecology and Hepatitis C clinics, as well as one of three satellite locations for the WIC Program in Durham County. For more information about the wide range of health services provided to uninsured and underinsured citizens of Durham County by the Lincoln Community Health Center, call (919) 956-4000 or visit [www.lincolnhc.org](http://www.lincolnhc.org)

### SOCIAL SERVICES .....(919) 560-8000

**Michael Becketts** / Department Head

The Durham County DSS partners with families and the community in achieving well being through prosperity, permanence, safety and support. DSS provides economic services programs including Work First, Medicaid, Child Support, Child Day Care Subsidy and Food and Nutrition Services (food stamps) as well as social work services, including child protective services, foster care, adoption, adult protective services, group care and crisis assistance.

## Cultural and Recreational Services

### LIBRARY .....(919) 560-0100

**Tammy Baggett** / Department Head

Durham County Library is a regional system comprised of a main library, four regional libraries, one branch and two small community libraries. It was established in 1898, as the first free, tax-supported library in North Carolina. The mission of the library is to encourage discovery, connect the community and lead in literacy. The library is a place to gather, learn and create. It provides access to information, technology, local history, civic and cultural events, and entertainment.

### LITTLE RIVER REGIONAL PARK .....(919) 732-5505

The Little River Regional Park and Natural Area is a cooperative project between Durham and Orange Counties, funded equally by both, with major assistance from the Triangle Land Conservancy, Eno River Association, NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund, NC Parks and Recreation Trust Fund, and the Land and Water Conservation Fund.





## Education

**DURHAM TECHNICAL  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE** ..... (919) 536-7200  
[durhamtech.edu](http://durhamtech.edu)

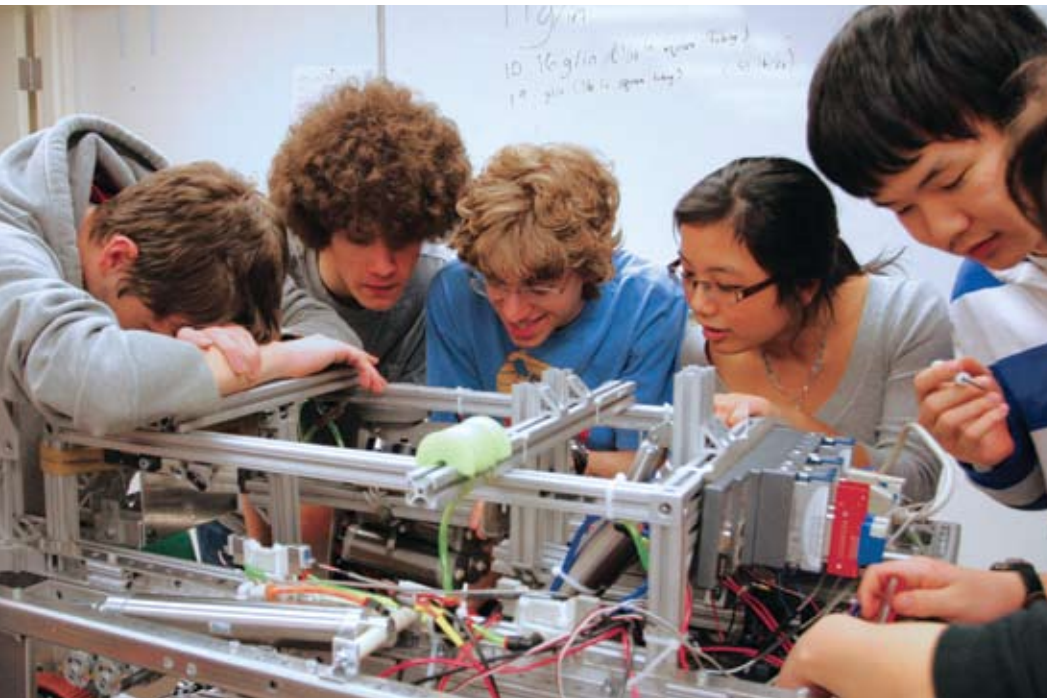
**Dr. William G. Ingram** / President

Durham County provides financial support to Durham Technical Community College, a charter member of the North Carolina Community College System. Durham Tech provides education and technical skills required by the area's changing workforce.

**DURHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS** ..... (919) 560-2000  
[dpsnc.net](http://dpsnc.net)

**Dr. Eric J. Becoats** / Superintendent

Durham Public Schools (DPS) has 56 schools and an approximate enrollment of 32,400 students. A seven-member board of education governs the system. The board is elected every four years on a non-partisan basis. One member is elected at large, one from each of four voting districts, and one each from two consolidated districts.



## Boards and Commissions

**TO CONTACT ANY OF THE BOARDS** ..... (919) 560-0025

The Durham County Board of Commissioners is charged by statutory authority to appoint persons to various boards, commissions, committees and authorities to assist in the operation of County government. Any citizen of Durham County who is of voting age and is current in payment of all Durham County property taxes is eligible to serve on the appointed boards, commissions, committees or authorities. To learn more about serving on any of the boards listed below, contact the Clerk to the Board at (919) 560-0025.

### **ADULT CARE HOME COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The committee's function is to maintain the rights of residents living in adult care homes including assisted living facilities and family care homes. They seek to increase community involvement and promote community awareness of the needs of the residents in these homes.

### **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD**

This board controls the policy formation, operation and management of the ABC stores and performs any other activities authorized or required by ABC Law.

### **ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

This committee advises the Board of County Commissioners and the County Manager with respect to animal control matters.

### **AREA MENTAL HEALTH BOARD**

The members of this board suggest methods to solve mental health problems in the community, while also coordinating resources, personnel and facilities in the area of mental health, intellectual challenges and substance abuse.

### **AUDIT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

This board provides oversight responsibilities of the audit function and serves in an advisory capacity to the County Manager and the Board of Commissioners.

## BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION

The commission is a volunteer citizens group whose purpose it is to advise Durham's City Council and Board of County Commissioners on bicycle and pedestrian issues.

## BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

The board holds quasi-judicial public hearings to determine requests made by property owners in the City and County of Durham for minor and custodial care special use permits, variances and appeals of administrative interpretations or decisions.

## BOXING AND WRESTLING COMMISSION

This commission supervises boxing and wrestling events in Durham County. The Boxing and Wrestling Commission seeks to promote public trust in the organization of these sports and the administration of the rules and regulations governing them.

## CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

This committee participates meaningfully in the planning, implementation and evaluation of federal, state and local programs for community development and implementation.

## COMMUNITY CHILD PROTECTION TEAM/CHILD FATALITY PREVENTION TEAM

The team promotes the development of a community-wide approach to the problems of child abuse and neglect and seeks ways to protect children from preventable deaths. The team reviews selected cases that are being serviced by child protective services and cases in which a child had died of suspected abuse or neglect. Recommendations are presented to the Board of County Commissioners regarding any system improvements or needed resources where deficiencies may exist.

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The purpose of this committee is to develop a comprehensive continuum of services for the adult criminal justice system, identify services gaps, and develop intervention strategies and comprehensive solutions.

## DANGEROUS DOG APPEAL BOARD

This board is responsible for hearing the appeal of dog owners who have had their dogs declared dangerous or potentially dangerous.

## DESIGN DISTRICT REVIEW TEAM

The team reviews site plans, elevations, and other development proposal drawings and information for compliance with design guidelines and makes recommendations to the Development Review Board regarding the design of developments within the Downtown Design Overlay District.

## DURHAM CITY-COUNTY APPEARANCE COMMISSION

This commission enhances and improves the visual quality and character of Durham City and County. Their mission is to cultivate excellence in design, preservation and stewardship of natural and built environment, to communicate the economic, social and aesthetic value of good design and planning, and to celebrate exemplary design within the community.



### **DURHAM CONVENTION CENTER AUTHORITY**

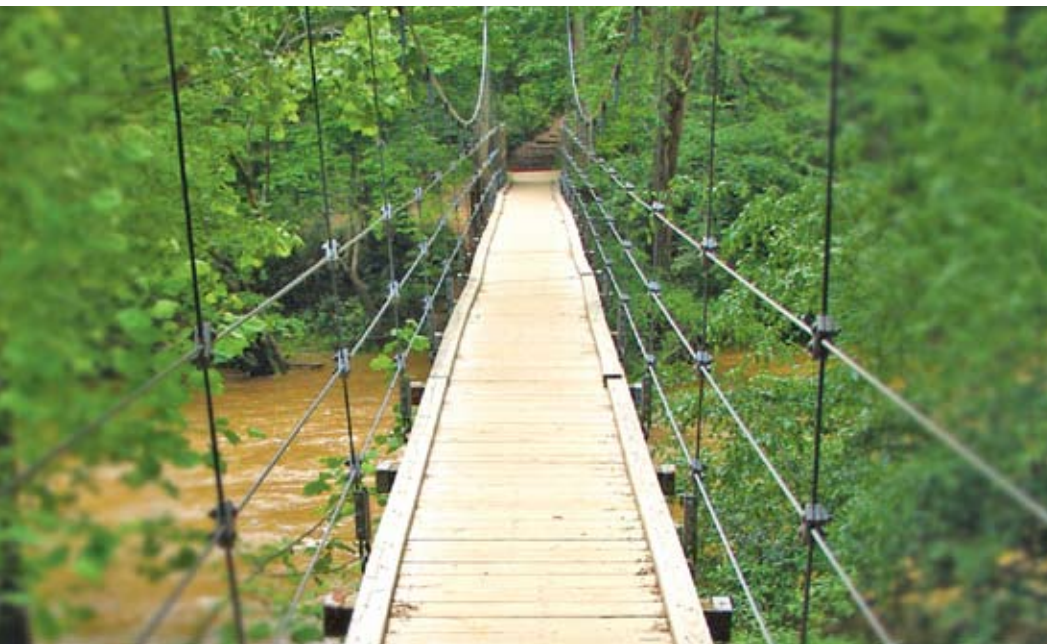
This authority is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Durham Convention Center. The authority employs independent contractors, determines rates for facility use, formulates policies and procedures for the operation and use of the facility and makes recommendations to the governing bodies regarding the annual operating budget.

### **DURHAM COUNTY HOSPITAL CORPORATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

This board is responsible for planning a comprehensive and coordinated hospital and health care system, including at Durham Regional Hospital and Lincoln Community Health Center.

### **DURHAM TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

The Tourism Development Authority is the Durham Convention and Visitors Bureau's governing board. The board meets to set policy, assure fiscal health/stability and monitor the bureau's performance in order to actively promote travel and tourism within the City and County.



### **DURHAM TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

This board supervises the administration of Durham Technical Community College through the election of a president, personnel oversight and the adoption and enforcement of rules, regulations and laws for its operation.

### **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL**

The purpose of the council is to assist in the planning, development and implementation of a County Emergency Medical Services System in the geographical area covered by the EMS System and the Council.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS BOARD**

This board provides the City and County with expert and comprehensive advice on various environmental matters. They serve to facilitate communication between the public and government leaders on a variety of topics including: watershed protection, natural resource protection, air quality, green building design, energy conservation and global climate change.

### **FARMLAND PROTECTION ADVISORY BOARD**

The board seeks to promote the best use of land in Durham County to ensure the protection of Durham County's attractive and ecologically desirable forests and farms. They work with farmers, the community, government entities and other resources to identify and implement strategies for preservation and enhancement of the farming community.

### **HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

This commission acts to promote, enhance and preserve the character and heritage of the Durham community. Quasi-judicial public hearings are held to determine whether requested changes to the exterior of historic district or landmark properties are appropriate by State law, local ordinance and historic preservation plans for the districts.



### HOMELESS SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The purpose of this committee is to advise the Durham County Board of Commissioners and the Durham City Council on the implementation of collaborative initiatives to prevent and end homelessness in Durham.

### INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES AND POLLUTION CONTROL FINANCING AUTHORITY

This authority aids in the financing of industrial and manufacturing for the purpose of alleviating unemployment or raising below-average manufacturing wages by financing facilities which provide job opportunities or provide better wages than those prevalent in the area.

### JURY COMMISSION

The commission is responsible for the compilation of jury lists and the selection of jurors for the courts.

### JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL

This council annually reviews the needs of Durham juveniles who are at risk of delinquency or who have been adjudicated, undisciplined or delinquent. The council also submits a plan of action for the expenditure of juvenile crime prevention funds to the Board of County Commissioners for its approval.

### LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

This board reviews and makes recommendations to the Library Director, County Manager or Board of County Commissioners, as appropriate, on proposed library programs, policies and regulations for the government of the library.

### MEMORIAL STADIUM AUTHORITY

The function of this authority is to supervise and direct the general operation of Memorial Stadium. It establishes policies relative to maintenance, fees and use of the facility.

### NURSING HOME COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

This committee maintains the rights of residents living in nursing homes and promotes community education and awareness of the needs of the resident in these homes.

### PIEDMONT FOOD & AGRICULTURAL PROCESSING STEERING COMMITTEE

This committee provides guidance to the Piedmont Food and Agricultural Processing Center. The center serves as a small business incubator for farmers and food entrepreneurs to expand their markets, increase revenues, revitalize their farms and businesses, as well as initiate new enterprises related to local farm products.

### PLANNING COMMISSION

This commission reviews recommended plans, policies and reports of the professional planning staff and makes recommendations concerning them to the governing bodies, including rezoning and zoning ordinance changes.



## PUBLIC HEALTH BOARD

This board formulates policies and procedures for the Department of Public Health. The board works with Public Health administrators, clinicians, staff and our community to promote health, protect the environment and prevent disease.

## OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS COMMISSION

This commission advises the Board of Commissioners on matters relating to open space preservation, trail development and greenways, while involving and educating all segments of the Durham community.

## RALEIGH-DURHAM AIRPORT AUTHORITY

The Raleigh-Durham Airport Authority supervises the operational management of the Raleigh-Durham International Airport.

## SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION

This board is responsible for the administration of Social Services. The board selects a Department of Social Services Director, develops policies to improve social conditions, presents a budget to the Board of County Commissioners and administers public assistance.



## SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD

The Durham Soil and Water Conservation District Board seeks to conserve, enhance and promote the natural resources of Durham County by providing technical assistance, environmental education information and economic incentives with regard to soil and water conservation.

## TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD

This board advises the County Manager and Board of County Commissioners on issues related to human services transportation policy matters. The board makes program recommendations, helps set priorities, approves funding allocations to human service agencies, evaluates the impact of existing programs and advocates for community needs.

## TRIANGLE J WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Triangle J Council of Governments Water Resources Program considers issues relative to water resource matters and is home to numerous programs that help manage water supply and water quality in the Cape Fear (Jordan Lake) and Neuse (Falls Lake) river basins.

## TRIANGLE TRANSIT AUTHORITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees possesses the general legislative powers of Triangle Transit.

## WOMEN'S COMMISSION

This commission serves as an advisory body on the status of women to the Durham Board of County Commissioners. This commission assesses women's needs, educates the public concerning those needs and provides technical assistance and consultation to women on an individual and/or group basis.

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

This board acts as an advisory board for the Durham County Workforce Investment Act Program administered by the City of Durham Office of Economic and Development. The board is responsible for the oversight and policy guidance of the One Stop Career Center and all other Employment and Training activities conducted within Durham County that utilize state and/or federal funding.



## General Information On Taxes

### REAL ESTATE TAXES

Durham County Real Estate Taxes become due on September 1. If unpaid after January 5, interest of 2 percent accrues, and then  $\frac{3}{4}$  % each month thereafter until the bill is paid in full. For more information, call 919-560-0300.

All real estate owned in Durham County must be listed with the Tax Office during the month of January.

Durham County has permanent listing, which means that once a property is listed, the same property does not have to be listed again, unless improvements or changes are made to the property.

### MOTOR VEHICLE PROPERTY TAX

Approximately four months after renewing a vehicle registration with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), a tax bill will be sent from Durham County. The bill is due on the date indicated. For example, if you have a March renewal, you will receive the bill in June and it will be due on July 1.

If not paid by July 31, interest will be added. If taxes on a motor vehicle remain unpaid, motorist will be blocked from renewing registration. The tax bill MUST be satisfied before that block can be removed. A paid tax receipt must be presented to DMV in order for the block to be removed.

Effective July 1, 2013, citizens are required to have all taxes paid at the time of vehicle registration renewal with the NCDMV.

Unregistered (untagged) motor vehicles must be listed annually in January and will be billed with other personal property.

## Local Tourist Attractions

- American Tobacco Historic District
- Carolina Theatre
- Duke Chapel
- Duke Homestead and Tobacco Museum
- Duke University
- Duke University Medical Center
- Durham Arts Council Building
- Durham Bulls Athletic Park
- Durham Performing Arts Center
- The Hayti Heritage Center
- The Heritage Room
- North Carolina Central University
- North Carolina Museum of Life and Science
- Research Triangle Park
- The Streets at Southpoint
- West Point on the Eno



Durham County Government is an  
Equal Employment/Affirmative Action  
Employer.

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Durham County.

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[dconc.gov](http://dconc.gov)

