

Mecklenburg County Manager's "Board Bulletin"



From Mecklenburg County <web@subscriptions.mecklenburgcountync.gov>
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June 21, 2021

COVID-19 Update

As of 8:30 a.m., there were 113,839 cases of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) with 979 deaths due to COVID-19 reported among Mecklenburg County residents.

Click [here](#) for the latest data report. To learn about vaccination sites please click [here](#).

County Park and Recreation Department Closes Historic Latta Plantation at Latta Nature Preserve

Historic Latta Plantation, within Latta Nature Preserve, is closed until further notice. This site was previously managed by Historic Latta Place, Inc., a private, not-for-profit organization.

Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation is not renewing the contract with Historic Latta Place, Inc. for the funding and operation of Historic Latta Plantation.

Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation will continue to operate Latta Nature Preserve, which consists of walking trails and other amenities of the nature preserve. The closure of the house and grounds will not affect the Raptor Center, [Quest](#) or other services in the Nature Preserve.

All previously scheduled and future Historic Latta Plantation programs and operations are canceled, and the house and grounds will remain closed until further notice.

Click [here](#) for more information on available and upcoming amenities at the Latta Nature Preserve.

Mecklenburg County's Stepping Up Committee Gears Up for Community of Practice Report

The Mecklenburg County Stepping Up Committee is an interdisciplinary collaborative that consists of participants from all facets of our community, including law enforcement, the courts, behavioral health/substance use service providers, advocates, and County government.

On May 16, 2015, the National Association of Counties (NACo), along with the Council of State Governments Justice Center and American Psychiatric Association Foundation launched the [Stepping Up Initiative](#), a program to reduce the number of people with mental illness in jails. While Mecklenburg County officially joined this initiative in June 2016 through a resolution passed by the Board of County Commissioners, the County has a longstanding commitment to the principles of the Stepping Up Initiative.

Earlier this spring, Mecklenburg County was selected as one of 20 counties nationally, including three counties in North Carolina, to participate in the Stepping Up "Set, Measure, Achieve" Community of Practice (CoP).

The four areas of focus of this Community of Practice are to measure and impact the following:

- **The number of people booked into jail who have SMI (Serious Mental Illness)**. Knowing how many people who have SMI are booked into jail helps county leaders determine the scale of the problem they are dealing with, and those booking rates can be compared with the booking rates of people who do not have SMI.
- **Their average length of stay**. Calculating the average length of stay for people identified as having SMI helps counties determine whether those individuals are more likely to remain in jail longer than people who do not have SMI.
- **The percentage of people connected to treatment**. Identifying the percentage of people who have SMI and are connected to community-based behavioral health treatment and supports upon release illuminates the extent to which people are getting the services they need to be successful in the community.
- **Their recidivism rates**. A baseline recidivism rate allows the county to determine if people who have SMI are re-arrested and/or return to jail at similar or higher rates than the general population

Following the completion of this CoP in the fall of 2021, the Mecklenburg County team will be proposing goals associated with the four areas of focus above, which will be tracked and compared to baseline measure in order to report outcomes and progress toward the Stepping Up goals.

Mecklenburg County Welcomes Charlotte's USL Championship Soccer Club to American Legion Memorial Stadium and Grady Cole Center

As of July of 2021, Charlotte's USL Championship Soccer Club will begin calling the American Legion Memorial Stadium home. Mecklenburg County previously renovated the stadium to accommodate the Charlotte Independence soccer team, special events, concerts, and festivals.

The Charlotte Independence soccer team joined the United Soccer League (USL) Championship as an expansion team in September 2014, and the team has been playing at the Mecklenburg County Sportsplex at Matthews since June 2017.

Ahead of the season opener on July 7, 2021, Mecklenburg County -- in collaboration with Charlotte Independence -- will host a series of events for the media, Board of County Commissioners, and community. Below is a list of upcoming events.

- June 23 - Media Day (not open to public)
- July 7 - Ribbon Cutting (not open to public)
- July 7 - Charlotte Independence game with fireworks after the game.

For more information, click [here](#) or contact Senior Public Information Specialist [Rossana Seitter](#).

News Releases:

- [ONE Charlotte Health Alliance to Provide COVID-19 Vaccines Through Mobile Health Units](#)
- [2021 Public Health Awardees for Grassroot Initiatives to Address Health Disparities](#)
- [Pop-up Bike Park 'Visits' Cordelia Park June 14-20](#)
- [EPA Administrator Visits Charlotte-Mecklenburg](#)

- [Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Closes Historic Latta Plantation](#)

Click [here](#) to view a full list of news releases.

CALENDAR REMINDERS

- Tuesday, June 22 – Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners, Budget/Public Policy meeting, 2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, July 7 – Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners, Regular meeting, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

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