

Town Hall Bulletin

TOWN OF INDIAN TRAIL NEWSLETTER

October 2024



Indian Trail to Place Occupancy Tax on November Ballot

This November, Indian Trail voters can vote on a ballot initiative that would add an occupancy tax for hotel and short-term rental stays. The November ballot includes a proposal for up to a 5% occupancy tax that would fund tourism-related initiatives, such as recreational amenities for residents and visitors, as well as promoting travel and tourism. Read on to learn more about this important tax **paid by visitors, not residents**.

What is an Occupancy Tax?

An occupancy tax is paid by people who stay in a short-term rental accommodation, like a hotel or Airbnb. North Carolina law requires the taxing authority to use occupancy taxes for tourism-related expenses.

Who Pays an Occupancy Tax?

Only visitors or guests who use short-term rental properties or future hotels in Indian Trail will pay the occupancy tax. The only way a resident would pay for this tax is if they stayed in one of the short-term rental properties.

What Will This Proposed Tax Pay for?

According to NC law, occupancy tax revenues can only be used for tourism-related purposes, including promoting tourism and travel. Other communities use occupancy taxes to pay for event venues, sporting arenas, or recreational spaces. Indian Trail intends to use the revenues to invest in tourism-related amenities, such as enhancing our parks and recreational amenities, a future multigenerational community center, and supporting downtown business development.

If the Town doesn't have a hotel, why is an Occupancy Tax on the ballot?

The Town of Indian Trail believes it is important to plan for the future. While the Town does not have a hotel now, the plan is to have one (or more) in the future. When that time comes, the Occupancy Tax will already be in place so the Town and its residents can benefit from it.

Why is it on the ballot? When do I vote?

The Town of Indian Trail has been working with the NC General Assembly for years to shepherd this ballot initiative through the legislative process. It was recently approved for inclusion on the ballot in this November's general election. The Town Council voted to put the question to voters in this November's election. Registered voters can vote FOR or AGAINST the proposed occupancy tax in the general election on November 5, 2024.

Occupancy Tax Informational Community Meeting

If you have questions about the Occupancy Tax, stop by the Indian Trail Town Hall on Tuesday, Oct. 8, from 4-6 p.m. for a drop-in informational meeting. The meeting will be in the Shirley Howe Community room.

The Town will also have an informational booth at HITS After Six on Oct. 17 if you can't make it to the meeting on the 8th.

Learn more about the Occupancy Tax initiative at <https://indiantrail.org/1808/Occupancy-Tax>.



Town of Indian Trail

LEARN MORE:
**OCCUPANCY TAX
COMMUNITY
MEETING**

TUESDAY
October 8, 2024

TIME
4:00 - 6:00 P.M.

VOTE ON NOV. 5!

Indian Trail Town Hall
315 Matthews Indian Trail Road
Indian Trail, NC 28079

Learn More!
www.indiantrail.org

October Meeting Dates*

8	Occupancy Tax Community Meeting, 4-6 p.m.	17	Stormwater Committee Meeting, 6 p.m.
8	Town Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.	22	Town Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
15	Special Board of Adjustment Meeting, 6:30 p.m.		
17	ABC Board, 6 p.m. @ABC Store (5880 U.S. 74)		

All meetings are at the Indian Trail Town Hall unless otherwise noted. Council meetings may be viewed online at <http://indiantrail.org/310/Live-Archived-Media>.

*Meetings are subject to change. Please visit the Town's website at www.indiantrail.org for the most up-to-date meeting information.

Solid Waste and Recycling: News and Reminders

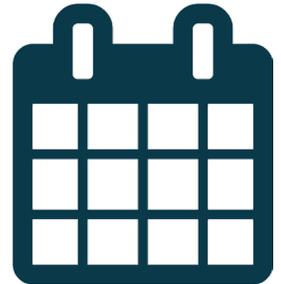
Solid Waste & Recycling Reminders

- Yard waste materials should not be disposed of in your trash cart. Yard waste is serviced every other week opposite your recycling week. Visit <https://www.indiantrail.org/268/Yard-Waste-Collection> for more information on yard waste collection.
- Please place your trash cart and recycling cart at least three feet apart from each other and any other obstacles, such as mailboxes and parked vehicles. Put your cart/carts out the night before your service day. Regular solid waste service runs from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on your designated day.
- If you're a new resident who just moved in and have a lot of cardboard boxes, you can take them to the Goldmine Road Waste and Recycling Center to get rid of them quickly.
- The following items should NOT be placed in your recycling carts:
 - *Plastic bags. They can be taken back to any retail store that offers recycling.
 - *Glass. Glass products can be taken to any Union County convenience site.
 - *Used napkins/paper towels. These can also be taken to any Union County convenience site.



Mark Your Calendar! Important Upcoming Dates:

- **There are no scheduled solid waste pick-up delays in October.** Waste Connections will not be taking any holidays off in October. Please place your solid waste and recycling carts at the curb on your regular day.
- **Bulk and e-Waste Pickup will occur Nov. 4-8 for Orange Recycling Weeks and Nov. 11-15 for Green Recycling Weeks.** For more information, visit <https://indiantrail.org/258/Bulk-Collection>.
- Waste Connections will close for the following upcoming holidays: Thanksgiving (Nov. 28), Christmas (Dec. 25), and New Year's Day (Jan. 1). Solid waste will be delayed by one day following the holidays.



FREE Shred Day for Indian Trail Residents

Indian Trail's annual Fall Shred Day is on Saturday, Nov. 9, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Indian Trail Town Hall (315 Matthews Indian Trail Road).

The Shred Day is FREE and open to Indian Trail residents. There is a limit of five boxes per household.

Plastic bags and cardboard boxes cannot be shredded and will be returned to you.

Paper bags can be shredded along with your documents.

For a full list of what can and cannot be shredded, visit <https://www.indiantrail.org/626/Shred-Day>.



Fall Litter Sweep Recap

The Town of Indian Trail would like to thank the 32 volunteers that joined us for the annual Fall Litter Sweep on Saturday, Sept. 14.

The volunteers collected approximately 750 pounds of litter, including two railroad ties and a pallet. We appreciate their efforts to help Keep IT Beautiful!

If you were unable to participate in the litter sweep but would like to organize a litter pick-up of your own, you can borrow the supplies from the Town Hall. Please call the Public Works Department at 704-821-5401 to make arrangements.

The Town's next Litter Sweep will be in the Spring. Stay tuned!

For more information about how you can help prevent litter, visit <https://indiantrail.org/589/Keep-IT-Beautiful-Litter-Pickup-and-Prev>.



Did You Know? Recycling Fun Fact



Multi-material plastic packaging is amongst the most difficult types of waste to recycle.

Parks and Recreation: Upcoming Programs and Events

HITS After Six: Too Much Sylvania



The final HITS After Six of the year will feature fan-favorite Too Much Sylvania. They'll play a variety of music that will keep everyone singing along and dancing through the night. Join us for a FREE concert, family-friendly activities, food trucks, and more!

Date: Thursday, October 17

Time: 6-9 p.m.

Location: Chestnut Square Park (320 Chestnut Parkway)

Halloween Spooktacular



Save the date for this year's Halloween Spooktacular! In addition to the famous Trunk-or-Treat line, there will also be a pumpkin patch, face painting, children's activities, live entertainment and much more. We can't wait to see all you ghosts and goblins there!

Date: Friday, October 25

Time: 6-9 p.m.

Location: Chestnut Square Park (320 Chestnut Parkway)

Sponsor: Pleasant Plains Dental (<https://pleasantplainsdental.com/>)

Coming in November!

- Indian Trail Car Show and Toy Drive: Saturday, November 2, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Indian Trail Town Hall
- Veterans Day Ceremony: Monday, November 11, at 6 p.m. at the Indian Trail Town Hall

For additional details on these events and more, check out the Find IT Fun Program Guide at <https://bit.ly/3tqEfrN>.

Proper Leaf Disposal

With the Fall season in full swing, it will soon be time to clean up leaves. A few reminders before you bring out the rakes and leaf blowers:

- Place leaves in clear plastic bags or biodegradable lawn bags and put curbside for service.
 - If you need to find out your color week for yard waste pick up, type in your address into our searchable recycling and yard waste map: <https://indiantrail.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=550edf6159d84a11aa93d59ae0bba8d9>
 - You can find the corresponding color on the Solid Waste and Recycling calendar: <https://indiantrail.org/DocumentCenter/View/4181/Solid-Waste-Calendar-2024-2025>
- Keep leaves out of the roadway, storm grates or creek beds. Leaves can clog storm drains and create backups when it rains.
- Do not burn leaves. Indian Trail's Fire Prevention Ordinance prohibits the open burning of yard waste, including leaves. (See ordinance: <https://bit.ly/4eEhf3D>).

If you have any questions, please call the Town Hall at 704-824-5401.

Correct



Incorrect



Incorrect



Facebook Live with the Mayor and the Manager

Special Guest: Keith Adam, Executive Director, Common Heart



Join Mayor David Cohn and Town Manager Mike McLaurin for October's edition of Facebook Live on Thursday, Oct. 24, at 1 p.m. This month, they'll talk with Keith Adams, the Executive Director of Common Heart. Executive Director Adams will discuss Common Heart's mission, the programs it offers, volunteer and donation opportunities, and the upcoming annual Great Turkey Countdown.

Additionally, Town Manager McLaurin will provide an update on important happenings in Indian Trail, and Mayor Cohn will share the details on upcoming events.

If you have a question for Executive Director Adams or the Town, please email it to Communications Director Abbey Ball at anb@indiantrail.org. You can also ask questions in the comments during the show where they will be answered live.

To watch live, tune in to the Town's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/IndianTrail>) at 1 p.m. on Oct. 24. If you're unable to tune into the live stream, the recording will stay on the

Town's Facebook page for future viewing.

For more information about Common Heart, visit <https://commonheart.org/>.

Contact Information

Town Council

David Cohn, Mayor
dcohn@indiantrail.org

Dennis Gay, Mayor Pro Tem
dgay@indiantrail.org

Clarence Alsobrooks, Council Member
calsobrooks@indiantrail.org

Tom Amburgey, Council Member
tamburgey@indiantrail.org

Todd Barber, Council Member
tbarber@indiantrail.org

Crystal Buchaluk, Council Member
cbuchaluk@indiantrail.org

Town Manager

Michael McLaurin
fmm@indiantrail.org

Important Numbers

UC Sewer and Water Services
704-296-4210

UC Public Schools
704-296-9898

UC Sheriff's Office (IT Division)
704-283-3791

Hemby Bridge Fire Department
704-882-2100

Baker's Fire Department
704-289-2741

Stallings Fire Department
704-821-7100

Early Voting for the Nov. 5 Election Begins Oct. 17

Early voting for the Nov. 5 General Election begins on Thursday, Oct. 17, and ends on Saturday, Nov. 2. There are multiple early voting locations throughout the county.

Early voting is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and on Sundays from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

For those who are not registered, you can register to vote and cast a ballot on the same day during the early voting period.

If you don't plan on voting early, the deadline to register to vote or update your address is on Friday, Oct. 11.

Residents can also vote absentee by requesting an Absentee Ballot at <https://votebymail.ncsbe.gov/app/home>. The deadline to submit an absentee ballot request is 5 p.m. the Tuesday before Election Day.

Reminder: Voter ID Requirements

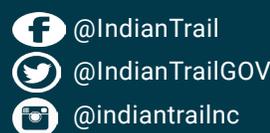
Voters are required to show a photo ID when voting. If you do not have an ID, you can get one for free at the Union County Board of Elections Office, located at 316-B East Windsor Street in Monroe.

For more information about early voting, photo ID requirements, candidates, sample ballots, polling locations, and more, visit <https://www.unioncountyncelections.gov/>.

UNION COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS 2024 General Election Early Voting Schedule		
Location Information		
Union County Library - Main Griffin Room 316-A East Windsor St. Monroe, NC 28112	Hemby Bridge VFD 6628 Mill Grove Rd. Indian Trail, NC 28079	Fairview Town Hall 7516 Concord Highway Monroe, NC 28110
Edwards Memorial Library Hughes Meeting Room 414 Hasty St. Marshville, NC 28103	Wesley Chapel VFD - Stn. 26 315 Waxhaw Indian Trail Rd. S. Waxhaw, NC 28173	Wesley Chapel VFD - Stn. 31 8821 New Town Rd. Waxhaw, NC 28173
Mineral Springs VFD 5804 Waxhaw Hwy. Monroe, NC 28112	Stallings VFD 4616 Old Monroe Rd. Indian Trail, NC 28079	Waxhaw Recreation Barn 5412 Waxhaw-Marvin Rd. Waxhaw, NC 28173
October 17 - November 2		
Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Saturdays 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Sundays 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

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Sign up for e-notifications at www.indiantrail.org.