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Town of Peachland

P.O. Box 120 • Peachland, NC 28133
Phone/Fax: 704-272-7781 • www.TownOfPeachland.org

Mayor: Mayor B. Allen
Commissioners - Jason Mullis, Jeff Davis,
Laura Hasty, James Hamilton
Mayor Pro-Tem: Town Clerk - Lynn H. Griffin
Garrett McLendon Public Works - Roy Dawkins, Jr.

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TOWNS

Anson County uses the county manager form of government, with seven county commissioners representing districts in the county. Board members serve staggered four-year terms. The county has seven incorporated municipalities - Ansonville, Lilesville, McFarlan, Morven, Peachland, Polkton and Wadesboro.

Ansonville Population 631

North of Wadesboro on US Highway 52, lies Ansonville, a small town first settled in 1844. Ansonville was named in 1857 and formally chartered in 1885.

The rural community was the home of Carolina Female College from 1850 through 1867. The school for women was established by local planters with help from Methodist churches in the area. The three-story brick building that housed the college was torn down, but a historical marker shows the location.

Confederate Major General William Smith owned a plantation that stretched east to the Pee Dee River. He established a special trust fund that later helped create Ansonville Industrial Education Center in 1962, now known as South Piedmont Community College, which today has campuses in Ansonville, Polkton, Wadesboro and Monroe. Smith's plantation home is just off US 52 near the southern edge of town. The main house, barn and slave quarters have been restored and are a bed and breakfast establishment.

Lilesville Population 536

Located in eastern Anson County just off US Highway 74, Lilesville is located near where the original county courthouse was built. Although a post office was established as early as 1828, the town wasn't chartered until 1874.

East of Lilesville, William Blewett acquired land along the Pee Dee River to establish grist mills by harnessing river power. In 1903, hydroelectric pioneer Hugh McRae of Wilmington came to harness the power of the Pee Dee. The dam was completed in 1911, and the first power generated in 1912. It was taken over by the Yadkin River Power Co. and merged with Carolina Power and Light in 1926.

McFarlan Population 117

Named for Allan McFarlan, president of the Cheraw and Salisbury Railroad, the 1900 Census dropped the 'd' and the town's name became McFarlan. McFarlans is located south of Morven on US Highway 52.

A post office was established in 1883 when the post office at Sneedsborough closed. The town was incorporated in 1885.

John Grady of McFarlan served in the General Assembly in 1836, and in 1928 Susan Braswell became one of the first female mayors in North Carolina. East of McFarlan are the ruins of what was once Sneedsborough, a community chartered in 1795 as part of a project to build a canal system linking the town with South Carolina seaports. For many years the story of Sneedsborough was retold annually in the play, "Sneysborough: A Ripple in the River," written and produced by the Anson County Writers' Club.

Morven Population 511

Morven was settled by Highland Scots with roots from the west coast of Scotland in the late 1700's. A post office was established in 1823 and named for Morven, Scotland, the home of Esperon Cameron McKenzie, the mother of Hugh McKenzie, the first postmaster.

Originally, Morven was located near the crossroads of State Roads 1824 and 1812. When the Cheraw and Darlington Railroad was put through two miles west of the original settlement, Morven was moved to its present location on US Highway 52. The town was incorporated in 1883.

In the War between the States Yankee raiders burned most of Old Morven. The Scottish Thorn and Thistle is proclaimed as the official flower for the Town of Morven.

Town of Morven

P. O. Box 295 • Morven, NC 28119 • 704-851-9321 • www.morvennc.org
Mayor: Houston Pratt (704)-851-3304
Council Members: Ben Atkinson (704) 782-3111; Theodore Carr (704) 851-3905; Marjorie Cole (704) 695-6534; Annie Townsend (704) 851-9401; Susan Woodburn (704) 851-3193
Town Clerk: Shemetra Melton (704) 851-9321
Police Chief: Rick Little (704) 851-9321
The board of commissioners meets the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Peachland Population 437

Originally known as Mulcahy, Peachland was incorporated in 1895 and named after Pad Gray's peach orchards. Located on US Highway 74 near the Union County line, Peachland was once known for its gold panning.

A Peachland physician, Dr. Parks Turner Beeman is known for successfully feeding his patients while other doctors preferred to starve them. His epitaph reads: "I Fed Fever."

In 1814, Lawyers Spring Primitive Baptist Church was started. Lawyers, on horseback from Charlotte to Wadesboro, camped at one of the many springs in the area.

Polkton Population 3,375

Located on US Highway 74 between Peachland and Wadesboro, Polkton is named for the founder of the progressive Farmer, Leonidas Lafayette Polk. Polk served as North Carolina's first agriculture commissioner and had major visions of the growth of Polkton when the Carolina Central Railroad ran through his farm in 1870.

Polkton was also home to another famous North Carolinian, Harlee Branch Sr., a journalist who worked for 30 years for The Atlanta Constitution. He later served in the Franklin D. Roosevelt administration as chairman of the U.S. Civil Aeronautics Board.

Polkton is the site of South Piedmont Community College's main Anson campus.

Town of Peachland

32 West Passaic Street • P.O. Box 120 • Peachland, NC 28133 • 704-272-7781 • www.townofpeachland.org
Mayor: Richard Allen (704) 272-6190
Council Members: Jeff Davis (704) 272-7073; James Hamilton (704) 272-7591; Laura Hasty (704) 272-8554; Garrett McLendon (704) 272-8429; Jason Mullis (704) 272-7737
Town Clerk: Lynn Griffin (704) 272-7781
The board of commissioners meets the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall.

Wadesboro County Seat Population 5,813

Located near the geographical center of the county, Wadesboro was the second choice for the county seat. The original courthouse was built on the banks of the Pee Dee River near the edge of Richmond County. The town quickly grew as an agricultural crossroads where trading routes from Salisbury, Charlotte, Cheraw and Wilmington met. The arrival of the railroad in 1874 strengthened Wadesboro's position as the leading town in the county.

Wadesboro was chartered in 1783 as New Town. Today, Wadesboro is home to the county government, the Hampton B. Allen Library, Anson County Chamber of Commerce, Anson Community Hospital and many active businesses.

The city operates under a town manager form of government. The council consists of five members elected for four-year terms. The mayor serves a two-year term. Also, the city employs a town manager.

Town of Wadesboro

P.O. Box 697 • Wadesboro, NC 28170 • 704-694-5171 • www.cityofwadesboro.org
Mayor: Bill Thacker (704) 694-3860
Council Members: John Ballard (704) 694-9596; Jeremy Burr (704) 694-3641; Fred Davis (704) 695-1066; James David Lee (704) 694-3760; Bobby Usrey (704) 694-4826
Town Manager: John Witherspoon (704) 694-5171
Town Clerk: Nancy Huntley (704) 694-5171
Police Chief: Janie Schutz (704) 694-2167
Fire Chief: Jimmy Burns (704) 694-2167

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