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**OCTOBER 8TH
4PM - 7PM**

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N.C. Vehicle Registration Goes Digital October 1

License plate stickers and printed registration cards are going away

Beginning October 1, 2026, North Carolina drivers will see a major change when registering or renewing their vehicles. The N.C. Division of Motor Vehicles is moving to an all-electronic vehicle registration system, eliminating the requirement for license plate stickers and printed registration cards.

Drivers will still have to register their vehicles, renew annually, pay property taxes and required fees, and obtain required vehicle inspections. What changes is the paperwork - and that little sticker that North Carolina drivers have been putting on their license plates for years.

NCDMV has provided answers to some of the questions about the change:

• **Q:** What does this mean for me?
A: If your vehicle is registered in North Carolina, you will no longer receive a physical license plate sticker or printed registration card when registering a vehicle for the first time or renewing its registration. Your registration remains valid as long as registration fees and vehicle property taxes are paid on time.

• **Q:** Do I need a printed registration card?
A: No. Law enforcement officers have electronic verification systems that allow them to check a vehicle's registration status. Inspection stations will also be able to use your registration renewal notice to look up your vehicle.

• **Q:** Why was this change made?
A: The N.C. General Assembly eliminated the requirement for printed registration cards and license plate stickers effective October 1. NCDMV says the items have become redundant because police already verify registrations electronically. The change is also expected to save the state money and reduce fraud and counterfeit stickers.

• **Q:** What happens if I'm driving in another state and police ask to see my registration?
A: NCDMV says digital vehicle registration is accepted in most states. Drivers who want a backup can download a copy to their device or print a copy to keep in the vehicle.

• **Q:** What if I still want a printed registration card?
A: You can still have one. A free PDF can be printed from the NCDMV website, or a copy can be printed at a license plate agency. Drivers can also request that NCDMV mail them a printed copy for an additional fee, which has not yet been determined.

• **Q:** Where can I get my vehicle registration?
A: Beginning October 1, drivers can download a PDF for free online; request an emailed copy when renewing online, at a self-service kiosk or at a license plate agency; have a copy printed at a license plate agency; or request a mailed copy for an additional fee. Key registration information will also appear on renewal notices and transaction receipts. Beginning in 2027, NCDMV plans to make vehicle registrations available through the NC Wallet alongside mobile IDs.

• **Q:** Will I have to hand my phone to a police officer?
A: No. NCDMV says drivers will never be asked to hand over their phones to police officers to verify registration. Officers will use their own electronic systems to check registration status.

• **Q:** Do I still have to register my vehicle and pay vehicle property taxes annually?
A: Yes. All required fees and property taxes must be paid annually. Failure to do so can result in late fees, citations, interest or collection actions.

• **Q:** Do I still need a vehicle inspection?
A: Yes. Required safety inspections must still be completed within 90 days before registration renewal. Vehicles registered in the state's 19 emissions-inspection counties must also pass the required emissions inspection.

• **Q:** Do I need to remove the old registration sticker from my license plate?
A: No. Existing stickers do not have to be removed. Drivers who want to remove them may do so on or after October 1.

• **Q:** After I renew, how quickly will the registration update electronically?
A: NCDMV says its system should update within a couple of minutes. If documentation is needed before the digital registration becomes available, the renewal receipt will contain relevant information that can be used as proof.

• **Q:** Will I get a receipt when I renew?
A: Yes. The receipt will show the recent renewal and contain information identifying the vehicle and showing that its registration is current. The receipt will also have a QR code linking to the NCDMV website, where drivers can download a registration PDF or order a printed copy for an additional charge.

• **Q:** Can I still renew online, at a license plate agency, by mail or at a self-service kiosk?
A: Yes. All of those renewal methods will remain available.

• **Q:** Will NCDMV still mail registration renewal notices?
A: Yes. Renewal notices will continue to be mailed 90 days before the registration expires. Drivers with a myNCDMV account will also receive an email reminder.

• **Q:** If I renew by mail, will I receive confirmation that it was processed?
A: Yes. NCDMV will mail a receipt to the address on file confirming that the registration was successfully renewed.

The change takes effect statewide October 1. Additional information is available at www.ncdot.gov/dmv.

Commissioners Meet October 6

The first July meeting of the Anson Board of Commissioners takes place on Tue., Oct. 6 at 6 p.m. The second October meeting takes place on Tue., Oct. 20 at 6 p.m.

Meetings take place in the Board Room, Suite 209, of the Anson County Government Center, located at 101 South Greene Street in uptown Wadesboro.

To schedule an appearance at a board meeting, please sign up prior to the meeting. Information is available at 704-994-3201.

The Commissioners' board meetings are live streamed on their YouTube channel. Also, the videos are archived so they can be viewed at any time. Visit youtube.com and search for Anson Commissioners.

LOST DOG

\$100 REWARD

Rusty has been missing from the area of Salisbury Street & Florence Street in Wadesboro since Sept. 28.

He is a small Jack Russell Terrier.

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