

Location

Just 35 minutes from Uptown Charlotte, Waxhaw is in an ideal location to receive small-town charm, but stay close to the conveniences of a big city. Located adjacent to the state line, Waxhaw is also a quick drive to many major cities across the east coast!

Demographics

Union County Population: 238,267

Waxhaw Population: 20,534 (108.5% growth since 2010)

Bachelor's Degree or Higher: 57%

Median Household Income: \$111,642

Median Age: 37.3 years old

Waxhaw Quality of Life

Waxhaw offers a high quality of life for its residents. In the last 10 years, we've seen over a 100% increase in population due to our town's unique character.

Family-Friendly

Waxhaw's Parks & Recreation Department plans more than 20 events each year and manages multiple parks. With a great school system, Waxhaw has become a destination for young families.

Historic Charm

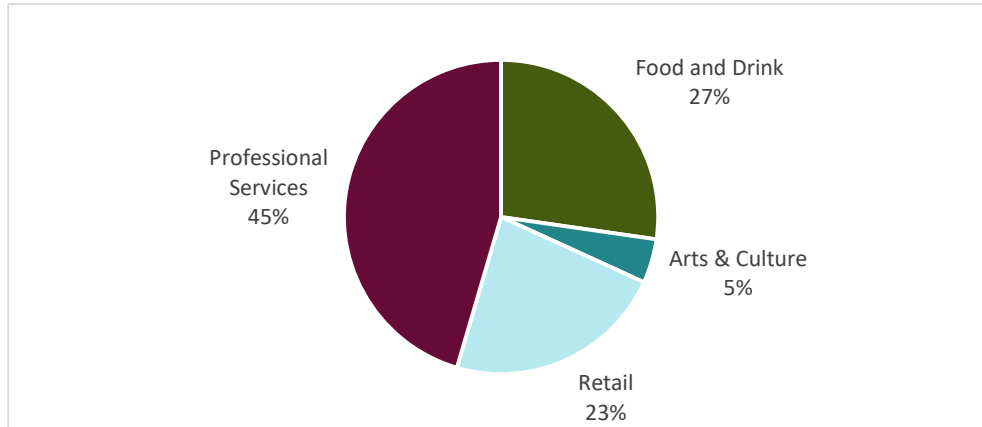
Downtown Waxhaw is one of two intact historic downtowns in Union County. Nationally and state accredited, Downtown Waxhaw boasts old school charm along with hundreds of locally owned businesses.

Artistic Heritage

Waxhaw's artistic heritage can be seen all throughout town, especially in our downtown area. With locally owned art galleries, art studios, and shops showcasing handmade artisans, Waxhaw is a great location for igniting a desire for the arts.

Downtown Waxhaw

Downtown Waxhaw is home to more than 100 small businesses, with nearly 1,500 total employees. State and Nationally Accredited, Downtown Waxhaw follows the National Main Street Four-Point Approach for commercial district revitalization. Downtown is the historic heart of our community that distinguishes Waxhaw from other towns.



Since 2009:

- 64 Building Rehabs
- 13 Façade Renovations
- 26 Public Improvement Projects
- \$20.5 Million in Total Investment
- 54 Net New Businesses
- 254 Net New Jobs
- 6,477 Volunteer Hours, worth \$143,580

Annual Town Events

Kaleidoscope Festival: Annual event in May celebrating the diversity and history of Waxhaw.

Jammin' by the Tracks: A bi-weekly summer concert series located in the heart of Downtown Waxhaw.

Fourth of July Parade: This long-standing tradition weaves through historic Downtown Waxhaw and is the community's kick-off to their Fourth of July holiday.

Autumn Treasures: Waxhaw's Fall Festival that includes a BBQ festival, carnival, food trucks, and craft vendors.

Fright Night: This yearly Halloween event features a haunted maze and trick-or-treating at our downtown businesses.

Holiday Festival of Lights: Waxhaw officially lights the town for the holidays the first weekend of December and hosts craft and gift vendors.

Christmas Parade: The second parade of the year celebrates the holiday season with floats around lights in Downtown Waxhaw.

Opening a Business in Waxhaw

Step 1: Create a Business Plan

Creating a business plan will not only set you up for success as a new business owner, it will also help you target your audience and sell your idea to building owners, investors, and customers!

- What type of business do you want to open?
- Do the demographics support this kind of business?
- Does your business complement the current business mix of the area?
- What type of business model: sole proprietor, S Corp, LLC, cooperative?
- What are your funding resources? Can you get small business loans locally?
- What will your business hours be?
- How will you market your business?

Resources:

- Small Business Center at South Piedmont Community College
The Small Business Center can help you get your business off the ground. They offer 1-on-1 Business Counseling, provide many no-cost trainings, and help provide market research reports.
Renee Hode | 704-993-2424 | rhode@spcc.edu
- Union County Chamber of Commerce:
The Union County Chamber can help connect you to businesses throughout Union County. The Union County Chamber champions business growth and prosperity through leadership, advocacy, connectivity and education.
Pat Kahle | 704-289-4567 | pat@unioncountycoc.com
- Waxhaw Business Association
Network with other local Waxhaw Business owners at the Waxhaw Business Association. Their mission is to encourage, support and promote Waxhaw's thriving business community through education, networking and events.
Tony Garshnick | 704-665-0487
- Union County Entrepreneurs
The Union County Entrepreneurs work to nurture and advance the development of entrepreneurs during their startup period. UCE will work with small businesses in all stages of development to provide counseling and guidance.
704-219-8765

Step 2: Determine all Federal and State Requirements.

Federal Requirements

- Federal Tax ID Registration
- Self-employment tax
- Quarterly filings

State Requirements

- North Carolina Sales Tax
- Alcohol and Beverage Control Licensing

Step 3: Contact the Town of Waxhaw to Meet Local Requirements

Your next step is to give us a call! We'll help you work through any permits and licensing you'll need locally. Below is a general step-by-step process to complete before you open!

1. Contact the Planning Department, 704-843-2195
We'll help you determine if your proposed business is allowed "by-right" or requires further action.
2. Apply for a [Zoning Use Permit](#)
This will give your business type permission to operate in your specific location and zoning district.
 - Permitting Office, 704-843-2195 x257, slee@waxhaw.com
3. Apply for [Building Permits](#)
During construction, there are multiple inspections required. Most of these are detailed on your Building Permit and the applicable inspector must initial the permit.
 - Inspections Office, 704-843-2195 x241, inspections@waxhaw.com
4. If necessary, complete your Fire Prevention Inspection
 - Kevin Starnes, Fire Marshall, 704-843-4001, kstarnes@waxhaw.com
5. You may need additional approvals from outside agencies:
 - Union County Public Works Pretreatment Coordination 704-296-4246
 - Union County Environmental Health (food licensing) 704-283-3825
6. Apply for a [Sign Permit](#)
 - Permitting Office, 704-843-2195 x257, slee@waxhaw.com
7. Receive your Certificate of Occupancy
After work is completed, a Certificate of Completion or Certificate of Occupancy can be requested. A CO will be issued when all of the departments determine your business meets standards and/or regulations established.

Step 4: Open Your Business!

We are so excited you chose to open your business in Waxhaw! We want to celebrate your grand opening.

1. Call Ashley Nowell 704-843-2195 x250 to schedule a ribbon cutting.
2. Are you located in Downtown Waxhaw? Contact Ashley Nowell (704-843-2195 x250, anowell@waxhaw.com) to learn more about getting involved downtown!
3. Add the town events to your calendar - www.waxhaw.com/events