

## Gov. Cooper Proclaims April as NC Beer Month

With 310 breweries from the mountains to the coast, Gov. Roy Cooper has proclaimed April as NC Beer Month. The proclamation, signed on Thursday, March 21 at Highland Brewing in Asheville for posting at [governor.nc.gov/news/procs](http://governor.nc.gov/news/procs), cites the value of the craft brewing industry across North Carolina's economy as cause for celebration.

Throughout NC Beer Month, which is sponsored by the N.C. Craft Brewers Guild and Visit North Carolina with the NC Beer Guys, special events and travel deals will connect beer lovers with brews that draw on the state's destinations worth exploring. Those with accounts on Untappd.com will be able to unlock an NC Beer Month badge and earn a chance for trips to Wilmington and Rocky Mount, which have emerged as new destinations for beer lovers.

"North Carolina's breweries speak to what today's travelers are looking for," said Wit Tuttell, executive director of Visit North Carolina. "They want experiences that are authentic, that are particular to the destination. Whether visiting a brewery in a tiny town or following an urban ale trail, travelers absorb elements of local color, character and heritage. From the very first sip, our beers create lasting impressions."

The governor's proclamation reflects North Carolina's state of "State of Southern Beer," known for award-winning brews, innovation, and connections to the state's agricultural heritage. With threefold growth in the number of breweries over the past five years, the industry's contribution to the state economy has risen. North Carolina craft beer has an annual economic impact of more than \$2 billion and supports 12,000 jobs, according to the Craft Brewers Guild.

Breweries will jump-start NC Beer Month with late March events including Cask on Fools at Crank Arm Brewing in Raleigh and a party at Morgan Ridge Railwalk Brewery & Eatery in Salisbury. Once April begins, travelers can find their way to Hickory's long-running Hickory Hops, Raleigh's Brewgaloo, Charlotte's Moo & Brew Fest and other large big events that showcase a range of North Carolina beer craft. In Greensboro, brewers partner with the Greensboro Science Center for the Brews and Bubbles taste-and-learn experience.

Small towns create their own NC Beer Month signatures. Edenton combines beer and history with its Taverns and Trolley Beer Tour, and neighboring Elizabeth City adds a competitive element with Bocce, Beer & Bites, one of three Beer Events in the "Harbor of Hospitality." Explore Elkin and resident Skull Camp Brewing collaborate on a murder mystery dinner, and Sylva showcases Smoky Mountain beer spirit with its annual Brew Hop.

As a Brew Hop, Charlotte will inaugurate the Untappd Beer Festival (Level 1) on May 4 at Bank of America Stadium. So far, more than 120 breweries have signed on the event, which reflects new Carolina Panthers owner David Tepper's intent to expand use of the stadium outside the sports realm.

Untappd has been an NC Beer Month badge link for years. For 2019, the "drink socially" platform's NC Beer Month badge links holders to sweepstakes prized with getaways to Wilmington and Rocky Mount. A few details:

Wilmington: In five years, the Port City and its island beaches have gone from one brewery to 17, many of them included in the sweepstakes prize. The two-night stay features a Port City Brew Bus tour and gift cards from other taprooms plus a sunset cruise aboard Wilmington Water Tours, Battleship North Carolina and BattleHouseLLM for laser tag.

Rocky Mount: Rocky Mount Mills, a historic cotton mill on the Tar River, has been reborn as an innovation hub with brewery incubators, dining, shops and open house made for beer moments. The destination is completed by a soon-to-open tiny house hotel, River & Twine, which is featured in the Rocky Mount Mills VIP Weekend prize. Also included in the two-night stay: a homebrewing class with the executive brewmaster, a paddling excursion, dinner for two at Tap 1918, and tours and tastings of five resident breweries.

Keep up with events and experiences throughout April at [NCBeerMonth.com](http://NCBeerMonth.com).

**About the North Carolina Craft Brewers Guild:** The North Carolina Craft Brewers Guild is a not-for-profit industry trade organization whose mission is to advance the interests of the craft breweries of North Carolina and to promote North Carolina craft beer. North Carolina has the largest number of breweries in the American South, with more than 200 breweries and brewpubs. For more info, visit [www.ncbeer.org](http://www.ncbeer.org).

**About Visit North Carolina:** Visit North Carolina is part of the Economic Development partnership of North Carolina (EDPNC). Established in 2014, the EDPNC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that oversees the state's efforts in business and job recruitment and retention, international trade, and tourism, film and sports development. The mission of Visit North Carolina is to unify and lead the state in developing North Carolina as a major destination for leisure travel, group tours, meetings and conventions, sports events and film production. For more information on planning a trip to North Carolina, go to [VisitNC.com](http://VisitNC.com).

## BRLC 5th Sunday Lunch and Benefit Fundraiser

Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center will hold a 5th Sunday Lunch and Benefit Fundraiser this Sunday, March 31, from 12 noon to 4 p.m. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy delicious fried fish or baked chicken plates. The meal includes baked beans, slaw, rolls and dessert. You can eat in or carry it out. Financial donations will be accepted, all to benefit members of the community that BRLC serves.

For those of you who would like to get a better understanding of all that they do at BRLC, and for those of you who would like to witness the changes in the lives of neighbors, this will be a great time to come.

The Care Korner will also be open for shoppers.

## Free Groceries for Families in Need April 3

For families in need, free groceries will be available. The Mobile Food Pantry and CHS Mobile Health Unit will be at Morven United Methodist Church, located at 411 East Main Street in Morven, on Wednesday, April 3. Please arrive and register between 8 and 10 a.m. The food distribution begins upon the truck arrival, usually between 9 to 9:30 a.m.

• Be sure to bring your own bags, boxes or carts to carry your food. • Arrive between 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. to be sure you can receive food. • If it is raining the day of or before the delivery, contact Anson Crisis Ministry for a recorded message to know if it is cancelled: 704-694-2445. • You can only pick up food for yourself and one other registered household.

Interested in volunteering for the Mobile Food Pantry? Email [tschumpert@unccumc.net](mailto:tschumpert@unccumc.net). The goal of the Mobile Food Pantry is to feed the hungry and serve those in need.

If you are in need before or after the distribution of food date, please contact Anson Crisis Ministry at (704) 694-2445 or Union County Crisis Assistance at (704) 225-0440.

## Senior Citizen Prom is May 24

Get ready to dance the night away! All Anson County Seniors are invited to join in the fun on Friday, May 24 for the Grace Senior Center Senior Citizen Prom. It will take place at the Lockhart-Taylor Center from 7 to 9 p.m.

Call Mary Jones to register at 704-694-6616.

**HOPE** 148 East Morgan Street  
Wadesboro  
704-690-6689

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6am until 10am

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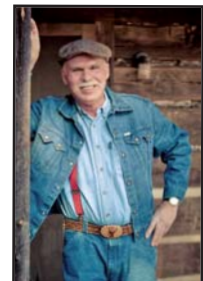


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