

Caldwell County, NC

Caldwell County, North Carolina is located in the foothills just east of the [Blue Ridge Mountains](#) in the northwestern part of the state. The county was named in honor of James Caldwell, a New Jersey native who was the first president of the University of North Carolina, serving from 1806 until his death in 1835.

Lenoir is the county seat. The town of Lenoir was first known as “Tucker’s Barn” and was founded on land given by James Harper, Seth Bradshaw, and W.A. Lenoir and incorporated in 1851.

Lenoir was named in honor of General William Lenoir, American Revolutionary War hero, who accompanied General Rutherford on his expedition against the Cherokee Indians. A native of Virginia, General Lenoir was of French Huguenot heritage. His home, Fort Defiance, is now a living history museum located in the Yadkin River Valley.

Today, [Lenoir boasts the vibrancy of small-town America](#). Its foundation industry has been the manufacture of furniture. Caldwell County is home to a number of the nation’s leading furniture brands. The current economy has a diversified manufacturing base including machinery, auto components, textiles, hosiery, paper, plastics and packing materials. Travel and tourism account for a growing segment of the Caldwell County economy as well.

GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

This Piedmont community is 69 miles northwest of Charlotte, 82 miles southwest of Winston-Salem, and 72 miles northeast of Asheville.

The altitude in Lenoir is 1,182 feet above sea level. Caldwell County ranges from 1,000 feet to 5,964 feet above sea level. Because it is sheltered from extreme cold

weather by the Blue Ridge Mountains, it enjoys [an ideal four-season climate](#). Snow falls an average of once a month from December through March.

Temperatures: January average temperature is 41 degrees. July average is 75 degrees during the day and 58 degrees at night.

Frost-Free Season is April 21 – October 21, with a 70 percent possibility of sunshine each year.

Average humidity is 61 percent.

Annual Rainfall Average is 51.12 inches, with the lowest being 3.39 inches in November and the highest being 5.31 inches in July.

POPULATION

Lenoir’s population is estimated at 19,000. Caldwell County is estimated at 79,000.

EDUCATION

Caldwell County has a consolidated school system with 17 elementary schools, 4 middle schools, and 3 high schools. Caldwell Community College & Technical Institute offers two-years associate degree programs as well as technical and adult education programs. Appalachian State University and Lenoir-Rhyne College both offer four-year curricula and graduate education within 30 miles of Lenoir.

MEDICAL & HEALTH

[Caldwell Memorial Hospital is licensed for 110 acute care beds. Details about the hospital and its medical staff are supplements to this community information.](#)

The hospital’s medical staff: 66 active; 23 consulting; 2 associate; 25 courtesy; and 39 allied health.

MEDIA

Newspapers:

The News-Topic (daily ex. Monday)
The Charlotte Observer regional edition (Wed, Fri, Sun)
The Hickory Daily Record (daily)

Radio Stations:

WJRI-AM
WKGX-AM
WKVS-FM

Television:

Charter Communications Cable Network for municipal areas.
Home satellite services are available throughout Caldwell County.

High Speed Connectivity:

Charter Communications Pipeline
BellSouth ADSL

RECREATION

Lenoir has three recreation centers.

Granite Falls has one recreation center.

Three municipal swimming pools are located in the county.

[Lenoir Aquatic & Fitness Center](#) offers a 50-meter outdoor pool and a six-lane 75x42 foot indoor pool.

[The Quest4Life Wellness Center operated by Caldwell Memorial Hospital](#) is a state-of-the-art wellness center available to the public on a membership basis.

[Water sports, boat slips, marinas, picnic and swimming areas are available on Lake Hickory and Lake Rhodhiss. Many rivers and streams are stocked with mountain trout and other freshwater fish.](#)

[North and northwest Caldwell County holds several thousand acres of state and national forest land with bear, deer, wild boar, grouse and turkey.](#)

The gorge of John's River from Collettsville leads into a wilderness forest, perfect for an all-day trip of swimming, fishing, camping, hiking and horseback riding.

[Wilson Creek is a nationally designated Wild and Scenic River](#) with opportunities

for scenic beauty as well as kayaking, canoeing, and hiking on miles of trails. At certain times of the year, there are Class 5 rapids for the most skilled kayaking enthusiasts to try.

ARTS

The county has a [disproportionate share of artistically talented people](#). Painters, potters, musicians, glass blowers and sculptors make this a lively place to live and enjoy the arts.

[Many recording artists in the Americana tradition, fine art music, southern gospel, Celtic, as well as the Piedmont blues, contribute to the musical heritage of the region.](#)

[The J.E. Broyhill Civic Center is a 1000-seat state-of-the-art auditorium](#) in Lenoir that stages a wide variety of performance art each year.

The Caldwell Arts Council, Inc. is a non-profit agency that sponsors and coordinates arts events year round for citizens of all ages. There are [galleries throughout the county](#) in public buildings including the Chamber of Commerce, [Art in Healing Gallery at Caldwell Memorial Hospital](#), and the Arts Council itself.

Each September, sculptors from across the southeast enter the Annual Sculpture Celebration held in Lenoir. This event is in its 19th year.

UTILITIES

Electricity is supplied by Duke Power in concentrated incorporated areas, and by Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation in surrounding rural areas.

Telephone service is provided by BellSouth.

Natural Gas is available from Piedmont Natural Gas, Inc. LP Gas is available from Blue Ridge Energies Corporation and Rulane Gas Service.

CONVENIENT LOCATION

Caldwell County is situated in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains and is convenient to metropolitan areas without the inconvenience of urban living.

Driving Time to metro centers in NC

Hickory 20 minutes / 15 miles
Charlotte 75 minutes / 69 miles
Asheville 80 minutes / 73 miles
Winston-Salem 80 minutes / 73 miles

Driving Time to mountain recreation:

Blowing Rock 20 minutes / 16 miles
Boone 40 minutes / 31 miles

CALDWELL COUNTY WEBSITES OF INTEREST...FOR A VIRTUAL TOUR:

Caldwell County Chamber of Commerce
www.caldwellcochamber.org

Caldwell County Public Schools
www.caldwellschools.com/

Caldwell Memorial Hospital
www.caldwellmemorial.org

Caldwell Community College &
Technical Institute
www.cccti.edu/

Caldwell County
www.caldwell.nc.us/

City of Lenoir
www.ci.lenoir.nc.us/

The Chamber of Commerce site may be the best starting site because it has links to many of the other sites and provides a calendar of events happening throughout the year.

HOSPITAL SERVICES OVERVIEW

Alvin W. Daughtridge Arthritis Clinic
Ambulatory Infusion Center
Approved Community Hospital Cancer Program
by the American College of Surgeons
Commission on Cancer
Caldwell Pain Management Center
Caldwell Physicians Network
Cardiac Catheterization Lab (Fixed)
Cardiopulmonary Rehab
Center for Breast Health
Center for Diabetes Health
Center for Joint Care
Diagnostic Imaging Services
Emergency Department
Family BirthPlace
Inpatient Dialysis
Intensive Care Unit
Lymphedema Treatment Center
Rehabilitation Center
Total Sports Medicine
Quest 4 Life Wellness Center
Medical Staff Composition
Anesthesia & Pain Management
Cardiology
Diagnostic Imaging
Emergency Medicine
Family Practice
General Surgery
Hospitalists
Internal Medicine
Nephrology
Obstetrics & Gynecology
Ophthalmology
Orthopaedics
Otolaryngology
Pathology
Pediatrics
Podiatry
Urology

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