

# Denver Beautification Committee 2025 Annual Report



# Denver Beautification Committee

## Background Information

- Organized in August 2021 and **supported by the East Lincoln Betterment Association**, a 501(c)(3) non profit
- Purpose: Improve the appearance of Denver, NC and eastern Lincoln County (Catawba Springs and Ironton townships) including NC-16 Business from the Gaston County line to the Catawba County line
- Keep Lincoln County Beautiful's (KLCB) focus is county-wide. There is much to do in eastern Lincoln County.
- KLCB is given the 1st opportunity to fund DBC projects. If KLCB declines, DBC proceeds as a DBC project.
- Funds raised for DBC stay in eastern Lincoln County.

# 2025 Accomplishments

## Overview

- Co-Led Effort to Keep Windblown Flag Prohibition
- Worked with NCDOT to Provide Street Sweeper
- Rock Springs Elementary School Tree Protection
- St James Elementary School PTO Cleanup
- Numerous Improper Signs Removed
- 2 More Abandoned Structures Demolished (Total 12)
- Worked with CVS to get a large utility box repaired
- Worked with Harris Teeter to get large sink hole repaired on privately-maintained road behind CVS

# 2025 Accomplishments

## Overview (continued)

- Worked with First Key Homes to remove large pile of trash left by tenant on front lawn on Webbs Road
- Worked with NCDOT to replace the faded and short stop sign at St James Elementary School exit (Lincoln County School responsibility but NCDOT replaced it)
- Requested a press release to educate residents about improper signs; County did a video

# 2025 Accomplishments

## Overview (continued)

- Accomplishments included in KLCB Annual Report:
  - Roadside, Curb, Median, and Storm Drain Cleanups\*
  - Traffic Sign Cleaning\*
  - Traffic Sign Weed Trimming
  - Illegal Dumping Cleaned Up\*
  - NCDOT Traffic Sign Repair and Roadside Bulk Item Removal
  - NCDOT Roadside Problems Needing Attention
  - County Street Sign and Public Utilities Repairs
- Some examples from Denver, NC included in this report

# Successfully Opposed Windblown Flags!

- DBC and ELBA led the successful effort to oppose the proposed UDO Amendment that would have allowed windblown flags. KLCB also opposed.
- DBC and ELBA spoke at public hearing
- DBC and ELBA co-authored article in LKN Publications, “Keep Windblown Flags Out of Lincoln County”
- Cited inconsistency with Land Use Plan, NC-16 Corridor Vision Plan, and Guiding Principles of Blueprint 2043
- Cited adverse impact on traffic safety (driver distraction) and community appearance



# Thankfully, We Won't Be Seeing More of This in Lincoln County



# NCDOT to Provide Street Sweeping Truck Twice/Year

- NCDOT agreed to provide a street sweeping truck to clean two areas twice/year: NC-73 between NC-16 Business and NC-16 Bypass and the NC-16 Business roundabout south of NC-73 where there are frequent sand and gravel spills. This is not as often as needed or in as many places as needed, but we have gone from nothing to 2x/year.





# Rock Springs Elementary School

## Tree Protection

- Reiser Lawn Service delivered and spread 21 yards of topsoil and 28 yards of mulch around nine trees that border the RSES playground.
- Reid Reiser donated all the labor associated with this beautification project.
- Denver Lake Norman Rotary paid \$1,070 of the cost for the topsoil, mulch, and delivery.
- Keep Lincoln County Beautiful paid \$900.

# Rock Springs Elementary School Tree Protection - Before and After



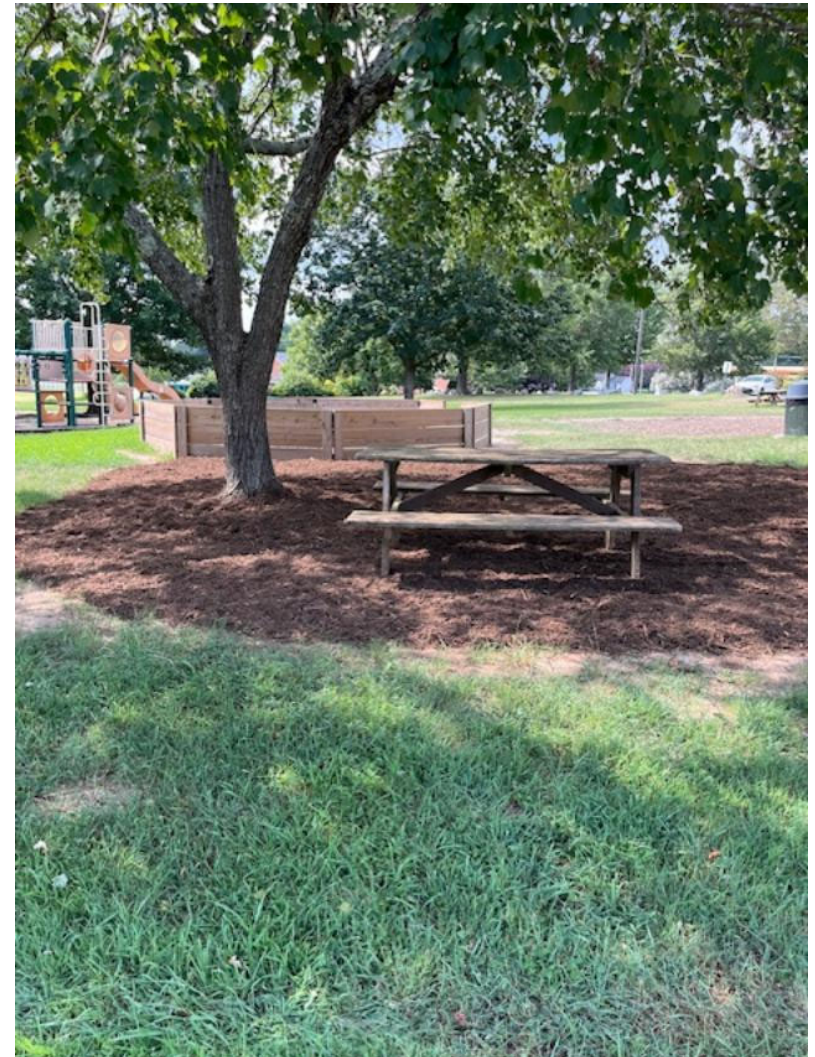


# Rock Springs Elementary School Tree Protection - Before and After





# Rock Springs Elementary School Tree Protection - Before and After





# St James Elementary School

## PTO Cleanup Before Start of School

DBC donated and helped spread 35 bales of pine needles.

DBC/KLCB volunteer picked up 6 bags of litter around both entrances and the perimeter of the school.





# Numerous Improper Signs Removed

- The signs shown in this Annual Report are a small sample of the signs that have been removed. The complete sign list is summarized in a separate document.
- This list doesn't include signs on telephone/utility poles, signs attached to traffic and street signs, and floppy signs in the right-of-way which are reported to Lincoln County Code Enforcement.
- Community event signs are not reported for removal.

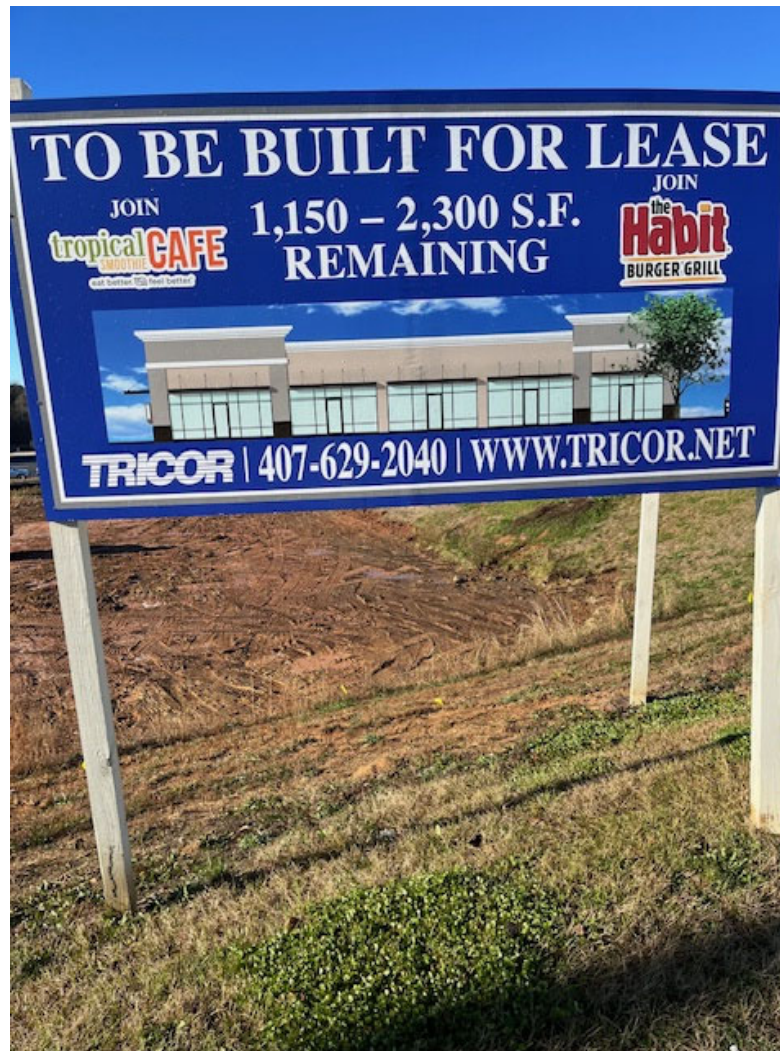
# Signs Moved Out of Right of Way

Before and After pictures of the strip mall near Cookout on NC-73.  
Removed the roadside clutter and made the parcel look more attractive.





# Worked with Tricor to Remove Sign after Construction Completed



# 2 More Abandoned Structures Demolished (Total to Date = 12)

4304 NC-73, Iron Station near  
East Lincoln Middle School



4502 N. NC-16 Business





# Worked with CVS to Get a Large Utility Box Repaired

Before



After





# Worked with Harris Teeter to Get Large Sink Hole Repaired on Privately-Maintained Road

This sinkhole near a storm drain was on the road behind CVS and the ABC store which is a privately-maintained road, not a state-maintained road.

DBC volunteer first contacted Argus property management and then Harris Teeter which owns an adjacent property. Harris Teeter contacted Argus and the sink hole was repaired.



## Worked with First Key Homes to Remove Large Pile of Trash Left by Tenant on Front Lawn on Webbs Road





# Worked with NCDOT to Replace Faded Stop Sign at St James Elementary School Exit

Before



After



# NC-16 Business Roundabout Cleanup

## 2025 Cleanup

20 volunteer hours

52 heavy black bags of gravel,  
dirt/sand, and nails

## 2024 Cleanup

17.5 volunteer hours

48 heavy black bags

3 bags of litter





# NC-16 Business Roundabout Cleanup





# NC-16 Bypass at NC-73 Entrance/Exit Ramps Cleanups





# Cleaned Medians, Curbs, and Storm Drains along NC-73 from NC-16 Business past NC-16 Bypass





# Storm Drain Cleanup





# Median Cleanup and Litter Pickup



# Nails - Cleanup of Optimist Club Road Median and Turn Lane at NC-16 Bypass





# Traffic Sign Cleaning





# Traffic Sign Cleaning





# Illegal Dumping Cleaned Up

## Optimist Club Road near “T” Intersection





# Illegal Dumping Cleaned Up by Walmart - March 2025





# Illegal Dumping Cleaned Up by Walmart - June 2025





# Illegal Dumping Cleaned Up at End of a Dead End Road





# 2024 Accomplishments

- Denver Christian Academy beautification project
- Catawba Springs Elem School beautification project
- Numerous improper signs removed
- 5 more abandoned structures demolished
- Company's request for more billboards withdrawn
- NCDOT removed No Right on Red sign
- RSES flashing light turned off during summer
- Large business truck removed from front yard

# 2023 Accomplishments

- Statue of girl reading a book at Shanklin Library
- New neighborhood bus route for children's safety
- Electrical light for U.S. flag by ELHS football field
- 3 more abandoned structures demolished
- 2 abandoned structures repaired
- 2 replacement trees planted at North Lincoln MS
- Numerous obsolete or improper signs removed
- Lift station driveway paved to correct deep rut



# 2023 Accomplishments

## (continued)

- Emergency Access Only sign installed for safety
- Pile of debris removed by paving contractor
- Secure Your Load signs for 2 businesses on NC-16
- Mulch for Florence S. Shanklin Memorial Library
- Tall grass mowed at old Citgo oil change business
- Some accomplishments included in KLCB Annual Report
  - Litter, Curb, Median, and Storm Drain Cleanups
  - NCDOT Traffic Sign Repair and Roadside Bulk Item Removal
  - NCDOT Roadside Problems Needing Attention
  - County Street Sign Repair and Public Utilities Problems

# 2022 Accomplishments

- East Lincoln High School (ELHS) Accomplishments
  - U.S. Flag Lighting at Main School Entrance
  - Pine Needles Added to 25 Tree Beds in Parking Lots
  - Four Tree Stumps Ground Down at Staff/Bus Entrance
  - Six Litter Pickup Tools Donated to ELHS Beta Club
  - Vegetation Debris by Tennis Courts Cleaned Up
- Two Abandoned Structures Demolished and Removed
- Cowans Ford Dam Sign Beautification
- Numerous Obsolete Business Signs Removed
- Abandoned Tent Site Cleanup
- Informed NCDOT of Continued Erosion NC-16 Guardrail



# 2022 Accomplishments

## (continued)

- Got NCDOT Drainage Work on Pilot Knob Road North
- Got NCDOT to Remove Cement and Rock Piles
- Facilitated Installation of Denver Christmas Banners
- Got Lincoln County Schools to Fix Leaning Stop Sign
- Got Light Fixed on CVS Sign on Webbbs Road (no picture)
- Got Tall Grass Cut at the Old Verizon Store (no picture)

# 2021 Accomplishments

- Created the Denver Beautification Committee in August 2021; supported by ELBA
- Planted 26 trees at North Lincoln Middle School
  - \$3,160 cost paid for by the family of Dr. Paul Carter
- Got hill along NC-73 in front of Walmart added to NCDOT's regular mowing schedule because it's in the right-of-way and Walmart declined to maintain it



# For More Information Please Contact

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