

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

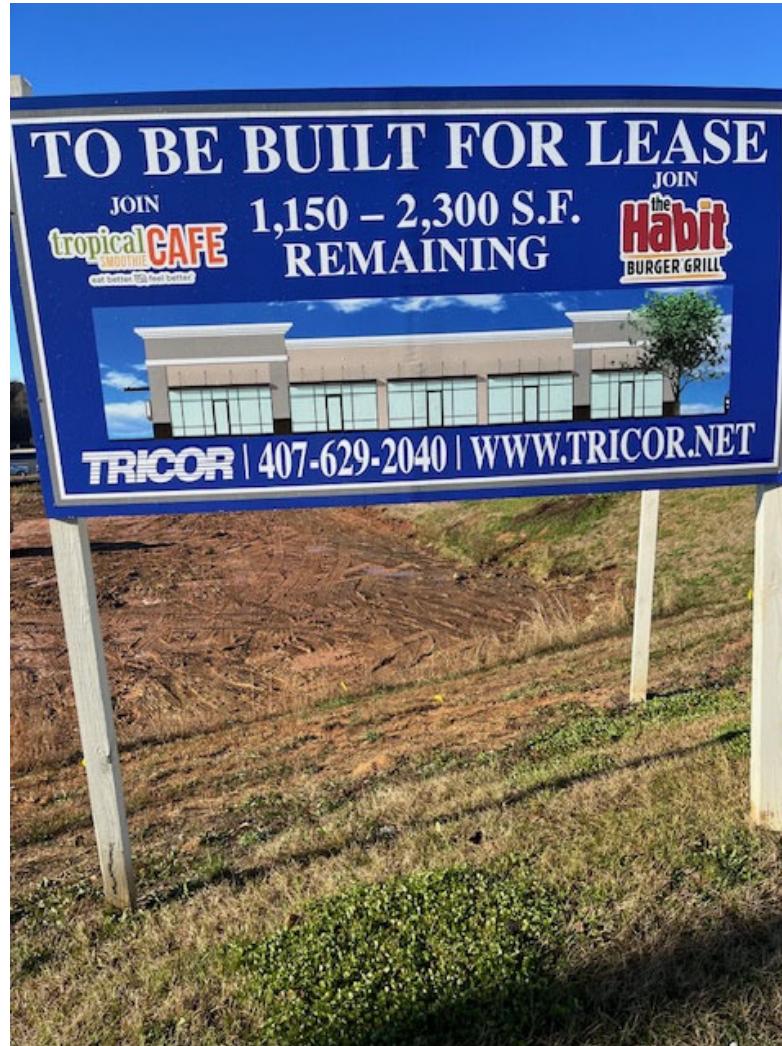
- The signs shown in this Annual Report are a small sample of the signs that have been removed. The complete sign list is summarized in a separate document.
- This list doesn't include signs on telephone/utility poles, signs attached to traffic and street signs, and floppy signs in the right-of-way which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