ALPU NEWSLETTER

<u> ALPO Website / Contact Information</u>

Our website is up and running. To date we have received over 2,900 visitors! This combined with our local phone number will make it easier to stay up to date with everything that is going on in your community.

<u>www.myashelake.com</u> <u>ashelakepoa@gmail.co</u>m

336-649-6226

Get the most up-to-date details and information thru our website.

We ask that if you have any questions or concerns regarding our community use the above contact information.

Association Dues

Remember that your dues are what funds our community and pay for road maintenance, snow clearing, tree removal, insurance, and community improvements. Without your cooperation and contributions none of these would have been possible. THANK YOU neighbor for supporting your neighborhood!

Road Improvements

October 2023

The ALPO Board has surveyed the state of all platted roads within Ashe Lake, and have formulated a plan that considers road status as well as traffic volume. We have contracted with Wolverine Excavation to initially focus on (3) significant problem areas; work is scheduled to start this week. Thru-traffic will be maintained, however delays may be unavoidable and will be minimized. The 1st phase will include portions of:

Lakeside Dr. and lower Pritchard Dr. (Map 1) Chestnut Dr. at intersection of Holiday Ln. (Map 2) Holiday Ln. at intersection of Lakeside Dr. (Map 3)



Map 1



Map 2



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We realize that the roads are a priority for all homeowners. We believe that the current capital improvement plan will minimize requirements for ongoing road maintenance and will benefit all of Ashe Lake in the long run. Thank you for your patience with our progress.

Please contact ALPO at 336-649-6226, or <u>ashelakepoa@gmail.com</u> with your concerns, and to advise of any emergency road issues.



Dues and Property Sales

We have noticed some properties for sale in Ashe Lake, and we welcome the opportunity to settle any Association dues in arrears prior to sale. Please direct any inquiries regarding your dues to <u>AsheLakePDA@gmail.com</u>



EL NIÑO FORECASTED TO BRING HEAVIER SNOWFALL TO THE WESTERN CAROLINAS THIS WINTER - If you haven't heard, NOAA predicts El Niño will be in place through this coming winter, and that will have a significant impact on the type and frequency of weather we'll experience here in the Western Carolinas.

First off, El Niño is part of the ENSO (El Niño Southern Oscillation), which means it's a cycle that comes about every three to four years. It's all about the temperature of the surface water in the Equatorial Pacific. The warmer the water, the stronger the El Niño. El Niño affects the intensity and location of the southern (subtropical) jet stream in the Northern

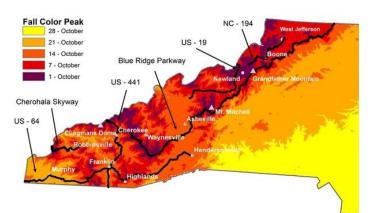
Typically, the jet stream is displaced farther south, across the southwestern United States and continuing through the southeastern U.S. This brings frequent storms across these areas, leading to above-average precipitation and below-average temperatures. This combination typically means more snow in Western North Carolina. In fact, some of the biggest seasonal snow totals have come during El Niño winters.

This winter is predicted to be a moderate El Niño, so let's look specifically at those years' past. Moderate El Niño has occurred seven times since records started in the 1950s. The average seasonal snowfall for those years is nearly 24.5 inches. I think it's safe to say that we can expect a lot more snow days this winter than last!



Leaf Peeping Season

Fall Peak Leaf Color in the High Country region of the NC Mountains can be found from late September to early November thanks to the varying elevations. Use our helpful peak leaf prediction breakdown and links to current foliage reports to help you plan your trip to the mountains in Fall 2023.



This map above gives an estimation of the timing of fall color peaks for the various regions of North Carolina. If you have used our map in the past, you'll see that we have added two new features to the mountain section of our fall color map: towns and scenic roads. We hope these new graphics help you orient yourself as you decide where to visit in the North Carolina Mountains during our fall foliage season. This map differs from most other such maps because it combines the effects of both elevation and latitude on fall color, whereas most other maps simply use elevation alone.

Thanks to Michael Denslow of the Department of Biology at ASU for creating this graphic.

PEAK LEAF COLOR FORECAST BY ELEVATION

Leaf color prediction forecasts are done based on elevation. Higher elevations will see color earlier due to the cooler temperatures. Some things to consider that effect leaf color is the amount of rain, wind and heat the High Country receives during September and October. That is something we cannot predict!

Here is breakdown by elevation:

 1st Week of October- 5,000 Elevation (Beech Mountain, Rough Ridge Trail MP 302.9)

- 2nd Week of October- 4,000 Elevation (Banner Elk, Jumping off Rocks Trail MP 260.3)
- 3rd Week of October- 3,000 Elevation (Boone, Blowing Rock, West Jefferson, Price Lake MP 297)
- 4th Week of October- 2,000 Elevation (Wilkesboro, Stone Mountain State Park, Yadkin Valley Overlook MP 289.8)

For more information check out our Leaf Peeping Page: https://myashelake.com/leaf-peeping-2023

Deer Mating Season

According to the North Carolina Wildlife Resource Commission Deer mating season runs from <u>October</u> <u>through December</u>. This is the time of year when deer are most active and when most deer-related car wrecks take place, especially at night. We urge you to take extra care when driving.

<u>Gardening</u>

Now is the time to get your garden Spring ready. Pull weeds, add compost, leaf clippings, manure, and other amendments and let your garden rest and recuperate during the winter season. **Dur first Fall Frost date is Dctober 1.**

Winterizing Your Home

Follow these steps to prepare your home for winter:

1. Check the gutters - Prevent ice dams by cleaning out your gutters and installing gutter guards.

2. Protect the pipes - Protect against frozen pipes by insulating those that could be susceptible to freezing. When the temperature drops below 32 degrees Fahrenheit, keep a stream of water running in a few faucets to guard against freezing and bursting.

3. Seal the cracks - Caulk holes and openings around windows, doors, air conditioners to help prevent cold air from seeping in.

4. Stop the slips, trips and falls - Keep driveways and sidewalks clear of ice and snow and repair any issues with steps and handrails.

5. Have your heating system checked - Furnaces, boilers and chimneys should be serviced at least once a year to clear any buildup and to keep them running efficiently.

6. Test your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors -Residential fires are more common in winter, so it is important that all your smoke detectors work. Check them monthly and replace batteries as needed.

7. Clear the yard - Keep the trees trimmed and remove dead branches and debris from your yard. Ice, snow and wind can weaken trees and cause branches to fall.

8. House the hose - Remove all garden hoses that are attached to the house, drain them and store them away. Shut off the valves and insulate the faucet.

If you're heading south for the winter, you need to take extra precautions. Turn the water completely off and consider having the plumbing system drained to keep pipes from freezing. Also, have a friend or neighbor check on your home regularly to look for any issues. If a problem is detected, act quickly to minimize potential damage to your property.

Ashe Lake Events



KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL AFFILIATE

The 2023 Keep Ashe Beautiful Fall litter sweep is coming up fast! This year's sweep will be held on **Saturday, October 21st.** Joe Livingston is spearheading this year's efforts at Ashe Lake. Please reach out to us and join us in keeping our community and Ashe County litter free. KAB will provide us with T-shirts & gloves, trash pickers (grabbers), drive safely signs, trash bags etc.





FULL MOON LAKE PADDLE - Get your canoe, kayak or SUP and join us on Ashe Lake for an evening paddle illuminated by the full moon! Enjoy peaceful waters and fireflies as we loop around the lake taking in the beautiful fauna, birds, and wildlife. Final Paddle of 2023: Saturday, October 28th – Hunters Moon. Meet at Association dock at 7:00 pm.



ASHE LAKE WALKING CLUB - Meeting Saturday Mornings (weather permitting) at 9:00 am at the Association Dock. We will loop to waterfalls and back to dock.



ASHE LAKE PADDLE CLUB - Meeting Sunday evenings (weather permitting) at **6:00 pm at Association Dock**.

We are working on exciting new events in Ashe Lake!

Ashe Lake Fishing Tournament Ashe Lake Paddle Club Summer BBQs Santa at the Lake Christmas Lights Contest Ashe Lake Walking Club Community Projects Ashe Lake Garden Club / Plant Share If there is a community activity you would like to see – let us know!

Ashe County & Surrounds Events

NEW RIVER CORN MAZE - Enjoy nature on the historic Brown Family Farm in Deep Gap, NC. Get lost in the maze, stroll along the New River, bring a picnic and enjoy the beautiful fall colors and crisp mountain air. Take a tram ride around the farm. Select your perfect pumpkins to decorate for fall or bake the perfect pumpkin pie! Play a game of corn hole or simply soak in the changing season and colors!!



THE STH ANNUAL STOMP AND BREW CRAFT BEER, WINE, CIDER, MEAD, AND SPIRITS FESTIVAL in downtown West Jefferson, NC. This event celebrates the talented brewers, vintners, and distillers in the northwest North Carolina region with a focus on the process of creating craft beer, wine, and ciders. Proceeds go to support "Shoes for Kids" a local organization that provides shoes for children in need here in Ashe County, NC. Enjoy live music, food trucks, local craft vendors, and a classic car show. This event is petfriendly and 21 or older. www.StompandBrew.com.



THE GTH ANNUAL OYSTER ROAST CELEBRATION is back on Saturday, October 7th! Enjoy live music and loads of fun for kids, including inflatables. Beech Mountain Brewing Company has a full bar and various food options. Savor oysters served steamed or raw with all the fixins'-lemon, horseradish, hot sauce, and crackers. This event is free and open to all, and you can buy food (including oysters) in person. Oysters are sold by the half dozen at market price. Join Beech Mountain Resort for a fantastic day of joy, music, and delicious treats! See you at the 6th Annual Oyster Roast Celebration!



BRUSHY MOUNTAIN APPLE FESTIVAL - The 44th annual Brushy Mountain Apple Festival, sponsored by the Brushy Mountain Ruritan Club, will be held on Saturday, October 7th, 2023 from 8 AM-5 PM in

downtown North Wilkesboro. The Apple Festival is one of the largest one-day arts & crafts festivals in the south. So, mark you calendars and lets make 2023 bigger and better than ever! Admission is Free! Rain or Shine event! <u>www.applefestival.net</u>



Lift your beer stein to celebrate Sugar Mountain Resort's **33rd ANNUAL OKTOBERFEST** – during the mountain <u>fall color show</u>! Enjoy the sounds and tastes of Bavaria from 1Dam-5pm each day. In addition to plenty of brews, there'll be plenty of food, crafts and fun for all ages. It's held rain or shine. Admission, parking and shuttle service are all FREE! **October 7 - 8, 2023**.



THE AUTUMN LEAVES FESTIVAL - Immerse yourself in the magic of autumn, savor delicious treats, and enjoy live performances that will leave you captivated. Let's create cherished memories together and celebrate the beauty of change.



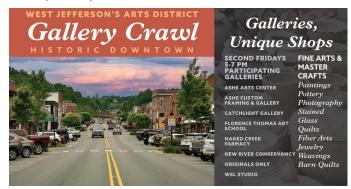
Check out our website for a more comprehensive/updated list of local events.

https://myashelake.com/high-country-events

Dngoing Ashe County Events

ASHE COUNTY FARMER'S MARKET –Saturdays 8am -1pm Thru October 28.

GALLERY CRAWL –Gallery Crawls are back! Crawls will continue July-October every second Friday of the month from 5pm to 7pm in Downtown West Jefferson.





LANSING FARMERS

MARKET – Fridays 3pm – 7pm April through October at the Creeper Trail in Lansing. **KOOL NIGHTS & HOT RODS CRUISE-IN** – Blue Ridge Midnight Runners announce their 2023 Kool Nites and Hot Rods Cruise-In dated for 2023. July 15, Aug 19, Sept 23, and Oct 21. 4pm – 8pm Downtown W. Jefferson. For more info call (336) 977-1989.

We try to keep up with local events and festivals but there may be something we have missed. If there is an upcoming event or festival you would like to see included, please reach out and let us know. ashelakepoa@gmail.com



ALPO is operated by Ashe Lake owners for Ashe Lake owners. We welcome the opportunity to hear your feedback, concerns, and issues to improve our community.

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