



# CITY OF MOUNT AIRY

Mount Airy, the largest of Surry County's four municipalities, is a postcard-perfect community of 10,000 residents that sits within easy reach of I-77, I-74, U.S. 52, U.S. 601 and the Blue Ridge Parkway. A rich legacy as a manufacturing center and backdrop for corporate headquarters has created a unique infrastructure-rich environment for industrial and business service operations. Its colorful musical scene, tourism attractions and "hometown" vibe make Mount Airy a growing destination for entrepreneurs and new residents at all stages of life.



## BUSINESS BACKDROP: READY SITES AND SURPLUS CAPACITY

Mount Airy's economic roots can be traced to a massive granite quarry not far away. The Ararat River, along with other powerful, picturesque waterways, helped shape one of the nation's most vibrant local textile economies. Modern Mount Airy remains a backdrop for apparel and textile production; close relationships between local corporations and the community is one visible legacy of the city's long list of headquarters operations.

Along with abundant water, wastewater service and electric power, Mount Airy boasts two of the region's most attractive industrial parks. The 350-acre Piedmont Triad West Corporate Park is home to a diverse roster of commercial and industrial tenants. Certified "shovel-ready" by the North Carolina Department of Commerce, the park has easy access from I-74. Westwood Industrial Park is located off U.S. Highway 52. It too is home to a variety of manufacturers, service operations and administrative offices. Westwood is only 45 miles from Winston-Salem and about an hour's drive to Piedmont Triad International Airport.

Mount Airy offers a one-of-a-kind piece of rural Americana. The city was largely the inspiration of TV's "Mayberry." Thousands flock to Mount Airy each year to visit attractions such as the Andy Griffith Playhouse, the Museum of Regional History, and numerous shops and eateries along the city's vibrant Main Street. A growing tourism economy combines with steady streams of new residents to create a dynamic, lucrative environment for entrepreneurs and small companies.

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*"The key to improving the economic and cultural status of all our citizens is the ability to have jobs available. Therefore, along with Mount Airy's being a great place to live and raise a family with its excellent schools and rich heritage, we must continually search for industries both large and small to provide adequate employment for everyone. A strong vibrant economy is the cornerstone of society."*

Mayor David Rowe  
City of Mount Airy, North Carolina

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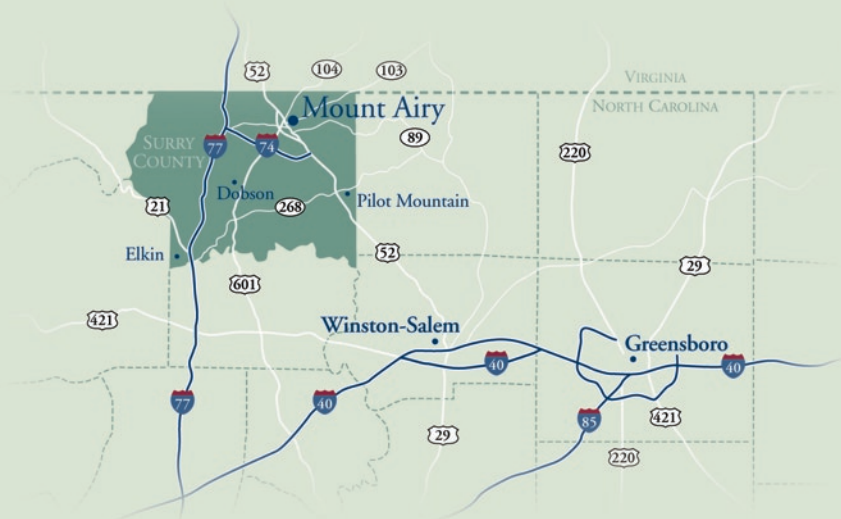
Photo: Hobart Jones

## TEACHING, LEARNING, PREPARING: SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Mount Airy City Schools offer safe, student-centered instruction supported by the latest educational technologies. Small class sizes and ongoing parental involvement are two key ingredients of the system's success. The main campus of Surry Community College, in nearby Dobson, offers college-transfer, continuing education and custom-tailored workforce development curricula. Wake Forest University, now among the nation's premier liberal arts institutions, is a short drive away, as is the North Carolina School of the Arts, Winston-Salem State University and other four-year campuses of the state's renowned university system.

## A COSMOPOLITAN COMMUNITY: THINGS TO DO

As one of North Carolina's most dynamic small cities, Mount Airy offers recreational and cultural amenities to fit all tastes. The city's music scene—found outdoors and in numerous inside venues—provides an upbeat soundtrack spanning mountain folk and indie rock. High school athletic events draw large crowds of local and visiting spectators, and the expansive Reeves Community Center is an exciting hub for fitness, fellowship and fun. The area's storied history can be absorbed at the popular Mount Airy Museum of Regional History, whose rotating exhibits have included items from the Smithsonian collection. The city hosts colorful festivals that celebrate the region's wine, cuisine, music and unique assortment of native sons and daughters.



## 2015 DEMOGRAPHICS

### *Surry County*

Population: 73,195  
Median Age: 41  
Median Family Income: \$35,894  
Median Home Value:\* \$114,100

### *Mount Airy*

Population: 10,361  
Median Age: 42  
Median Family Income: \$33,548  
Median Home Value:\* \$107,100

\*Owner Occupied  
Source: ESRI, 2009

## MAJOR EMPLOYERS

Northern Hospital of Surry  
Renfro Corporation  
Pike Electric

## AIRPORTS

### *Piedmont Triad International*

Six Major Carriers  
16 Non-stop destinations  
60 Minutes from Mount Airy

### *Charlotte Douglas International*

10 Major Carriers  
130 Non-stop destinations  
105 Minutes from Mount Airy

## MAJOR ROADS

I-77, I-74  
US Hwy 52, US Hwy 601  
NC 89, NC 103, NC 104

## DISTANCE TO REGIONAL CITIES

Charlotte, NC—100 miles  
Greensboro, NC—65 miles  
Roanoke, VA—90 miles  
Winston-Salem, NC—35 miles

