## **NEWS RELEASE**

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# Get Together With the Guys for a Smoky Mountain Adventure

Incredible Parkway Tours and Exhilarating Outdoor Activities
Make the Smoky Mountains an ideal Spot for any Outdoorsman

**Haywood County, NC** – Taking a trip the Smoky Mountains is a great way to gain some quality time with your friends and reconnect with your inner explorer.

Haywood County is located at the foot of the Great Smoky Mountains National Forest, and is home to the towns of Maggie Valley, Canton, Waynesville, Lake Junaluska, and Clyde. Camping, golfing, trout fishing, whitewater rafting, and motorcycle tours are just a few activities that are offered in the area.

"We've got great fresh water fishing, and many different outdoor activities and events during the summer months." Explains Lynn Collins, Director of the <a href="Haywood County Tourism">Haywood County Tourism</a>
<a href="Development Authority">Development Authority (HCTDA)</a>. "The area is known as America's Favorite Drive and we have 12 <a href="parkway tours">parkway tours</a> that are truly incredible."

If you have a motorcycle and enjoy taking it out on the open road, bring your bike to Haywood County. The twisting mountain roads in Western North Carolina are some of the most popular motorcycling destinations in the world. It has over 900 accommodations to choose from, ranging from rustic to luxurious. If camping is on your agenda, The Great Smoky Mountains National Forest has some of the best camping spots in the country.

Here are a few activities you can enjoy during your stay:

## **Trout Fishing:**

Trout fishing is a great way to explore Haywood County, and a 3-day license can be purchased for only \$5 which can be used in designated <u>"Mountain Heritage Trout Waters."</u> Waynesville and Maggie Valley are two of only eight Western North Carolina cities that are designated as a "Mountain Heritage Trout

Water City." Dozens of location accesses can be found along the creeks, and <u>downloadable maps</u> are also available to help you find the perfect spot. For more information please visit: <u>www.ncwildlife.org</u>

## **Whitewater Rafting:**

This is one activity that will get your heart racing and is a great way to cool off during the hot summer months. You can get your adrenaline fix by adventuring through class 3 and 4 rapids with and experienced guide. There are also tubing and kayaking options for those who are looking for a more leisurely way to enjoy the refreshing mountain water.

## **Parkway Tours:**

Haywood County is known as "America's Favorite Drive." Whether you're on a bike or in a car, taking a scenic drive on any of the 12 parkway tours is one of the best ways to experience the Smoky Mountains. The open skies and crisp mountain air make it an incredible ride. Our Motor Touring Brochure with help you find the perfect tour, and it highlights the best sections on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

## Golfing:

Home to five outstanding golf courses, Haywood County provides visitors with some of the best courses in the United States, and is surrounded by spectacular views of the Smoky Mountains. According to the National Golf Foundation, North Carolina is one of the five most popular destination states for golf travelers.

#### Hiking:

The wide range of trails in Haywood County and Western North Carolina render these mountains a hiker's paradise. Test your stamina with a climb to the top of Cold Mountain, or try a walking route that's less strenuous but equally rewarding. You can discover waterfalls, overlooks, and different types of wildlife on many of these paths.

#### **Mountain Biking:**

Mountain biking in Haywood County can be an ultimate thrill-seeking adventure for anyone looking for a unique biking experience. You can bike through the picturesque mountain woods or to the top of the Balsam Gap Overlook, which is the highest point on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

## **Day Trips:**

Haywood County is located in the center of it all. As a crossroads of many cultures, Western North Carolina offers countless excursions to places of natural beauty, historical interest, and creative artistry.

The <u>HCTDA</u> represents more than 900 accommodations in the community, from bed and breakfasts, cabins, campgrounds, cottages, country clubs, inns, hotels, lodges, motels, resorts, vacation rentals, and villas, and provides annual funding to Haywood County for promotions, events and festivals. There are many exciting events going on throughout the year, so be sure to check the <u>event calendar</u> when you plan your trip.

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