

## NEWS RELEASE

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## Haywood County: an Exciting Place for Family Fun

*From Mountain Biking and Skiing, to Zip Lining Through the Smokies --  
You'll Find Something Everyone in the Family Can Enjoy*

**Haywood County, NC** – Don't waste another minute researching the perfect family destination this fall, because Haywood County has everything you need for a fun-filled adventure. There are plenty of things to do, ranging from mountain biking, hiking, skiing, white water rafting, horseback riding, and site seeing. September starts the beginning of the fall events, and Haywood has a large array of inexpensive attractions. Click here for more information <http://www.visitncsmokies.com/events>

Whether it's mountain biking through a gorgeous display of fall color, hiking through the majestic Blue Ridge Parkway, feeling an adrenaline rush from zip lining through the trees at the Ghost Town in The Sky theme park, or fishing in the pristine Smoky Mountain water, you're sure to find the perfect attraction for your family in Haywood.

There's a multitude of events that take place every fall. Come out to one of our craft shows to find that perfect holiday gift, or take some time out and visit one of the festivals. While there you can listen to some peaceful mountain music, and enjoy delicious food. If your family loves to BBQ, you can taste the best smoked meals North Carolina has to offer at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Smokin' BBQ and Bluegrass Festival.

With an eclectic selection of galleries, museums, and one-of-a-kind attractions, uncovering Smoky Mountains culture in Maggie Valley and Waynesville can last for days. And whether you're looking for adventure or relaxation—or some combination of both—on your vacation, Haywood County offers endless possibilities, from attractions and entertainment venues to a wide array of outdoor activities and adventures. Even the views from the top of a breathtaking scenic ridge this time of year will create a memory that lasts a lifetime. The leaves have just

begun to show their beautiful display of fall foliage that paint the landscape with colors that showcase fire engine red, energizing yellow, peaceful gold, and warm orange.

### **Exciting Attractions Throughout Haywood County and Beyond**

Maggie Valley boasts one of America's most loved and cherished theme park, Ghost Town in The Sky, entertaining multiple generations of families. Ghost Town is newly renovated and reopened in 2012. The park is opening in phases. "Phase One, Level Fun," opened July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend which features a chairlift to the top of Buck Mountain, and a zip line through the forest that children as young as 4-years-old can experience. The second phase, scheduled to be open for the 2013 season, is Ghost Town's legendary "Western Town," which includes action-packed cowboy fights, can-can dancing, and music. More zip lines will be added in the later phases which will be unlike any other in the word. With its rich history and exciting new rides, Ghost Town in the sky is an attraction that you don't want to miss. Click here to find out more <http://www.ghosttowninthesky.com/>

In addition, just a short distance down the road, is Wheels Through Time museum. One of Smokies tourist destination gems, "Wheels Through Time: the museum that runs," is unique. This collection of several hundred American motorcycles is not only comprehensive in its display of more than 28 makes from American motorcycle history, but offers the visitor a cultural/ educational experience that no other transportation museum in the United States matches. Click here to find out more [http://www.westernncattractions.com/wheels\\_of\\_time\\_museum.htm](http://www.westernncattractions.com/wheels_of_time_museum.htm)

Haywood County is the ideal place to plan your next family vacation because there are many central locations within North Carolina. West of Haywood is Cherokee the Great Smoky Mountain Railroad. To the east, in Asheville, is the Biltmore house, the largest house in the United States. Located 25 miles southeast of Asheville is Chimney Rock State Park. Within the state park you can experience 75-mile views, hiking trails, a 404-foot waterfall and much more. Click here to find out more, <http://www.chimneyrockpark.com/>

It's never too early to plan a perfect family winter getaway. Maggie Valley's Cataloochee Ski Area is consistently one of the earliest resorts in the Southeast to open the ski season. It is also one of the latest to close, thanks to its technologically advanced snowmaking capability. Cataloochee Ski Area is a winter playground for the entire family. With 16 slopes and trails, it offers mountains of fun for everyone, from skiers to snowboarders, from novices to veterans. Beginners can get a feel for things on a couple of smooth, gentle slopes (classes and private lessons are also available), while the more adventurous can head to the ramps, rails and boxes at the Cat Cage Terrain Park. Click here to find out more, <http://cataloochee.com/index-home.php>

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