



Fall 2023 Newsletter

Pittsboro and Sanford Sign Historic Utility Merger Agreement

The Pittsboro Town Board made a historic decision this summer that will significantly impact the community's future. The Town and the City of Sanford signed an interlocal agreement in August for Sanford to become the utility provider for the Town of Pittsboro. This agreement begins an era of significant, ongoing collaboration between the two communities.

The utility merger, a transfer to Sanford of operational responsibility for providing water and sewer utility services to Pittsboro, provides additional resources to meet Pittsboro's long-term water and wastewater service demands, which were growing faster than the Town was confident it could manage. Sanford is currently working to construct new treatment facilities,

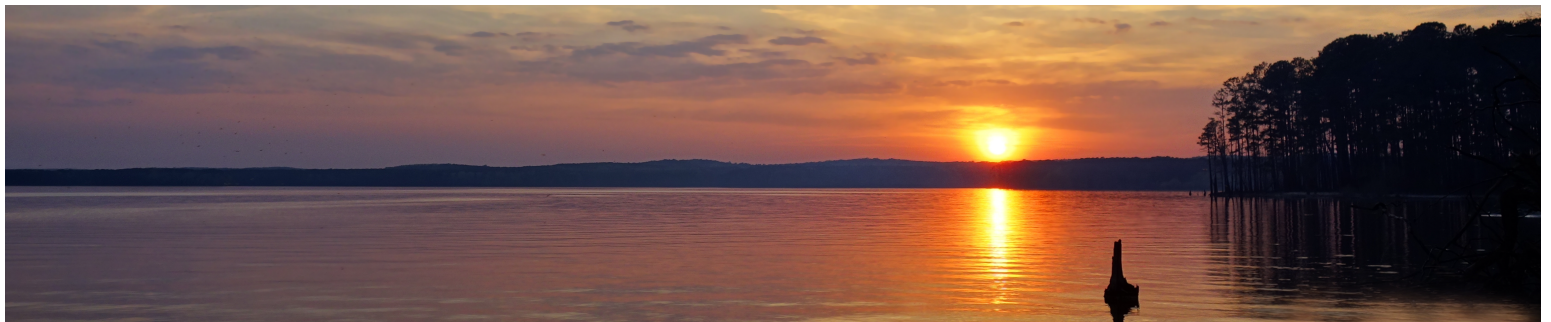
water transmission lines, and wastewater improvements to interconnect its existing infrastructure with Pittsboro.



After the current transition period, the Town of Pittsboro's assets will be transferred to Sanford, no later than June 30, 2024.

This includes Pittsboro's pipeline infrastructure, treatment facilities, meters, software, billing and accounts, customer service, and other systems. Both agencies

have created working groups to ensure a seamless transition. The WIP continues to work with Pittsboro and Sanford as they determine their engagement in the Partnership going forward.



WIP Works with Government Agencies to Move the Project Forward

Did you know that the reservoir and the lands immediately surrounding Jordan Lake are owned by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) with portions of that land leased by the USACE to the State of North Carolina? Because of this arrangement, the Partnership will submit a 'non-recreation outgrant' request to the USACE to obtain permission to construct the water intake and finished water transmission pipelines within USACE-owned land. A non-recreation outgrant is a legal easement setting the terms and conditions for what the Partnership can and cannot do on the land.

The WIP project team is also doing its due diligence to comply with state and federal environmental policies and to get the necessary environmental permits to

construct the new water supply facilities. Approvals issued to the WIP by the USACE must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act, which includes an assessment of potential impacts and a review of that assessment by federal and state agencies with expertise in the environmental resources being evaluated. These acts require applicants to review and document the potential environmental impacts directly resulting from their proposed project. The team will conduct an Environmental Assessment for the project. Through this process, the team will document any environmental impacts and ways to minimize adverse effects. The WIP project team is committed to environmental stewardship, ensuring compliance with all necessary regulations while maintaining an unwavering focus on project timelines and cost-effectiveness.



The Importance of Water Resilience

Water resilience is the ability of a community to provide its residents with clean, safe, affordable, and accessible water. We must be ready to tackle various threats to our water supply, like natural disasters, pollution, climate change, and other crises.

"Imagine a Day Without Water" is a national public awareness campaign that shows how important water is in our daily lives. It encourages us all to reflect on what life would be like if they did not have access to clean and reliable water sources. By fostering a sense of awareness, this movement encourages communities to prioritize water resilience. This year, Imagine a Day Without Water was held on October 19.



How would the lack of access to water affect different parts of your day? For more information on the Imagine a Day Without Water campaign, please visit imagineadaywithoutwater.org.



NC Division of Parks and Recreation, Jordan Lake State Recreation Area, Staff Photo

Exploring Fall Delights at Jordan Lake State Recreation Area

Jordan Lake State Recreation Area offers a variety of fall activities for outdoor enthusiasts of all ages. Take a walk on the scenic trails and enjoy the colorful foliage and wildlife sightings. If you're into fishing or boating, the lake is perfect for that too. Families and friends can also partake in picnics and camping, making the most of the crisp fall weather and creating lasting memories around crackling campfires. Witness the stunning transformation of the trees as they change colors, making Jordan Lake an ideal destination to experience the tranquility and beauty of autumn.

For more information on Jordan Lake State Recreation Area activities and schedule, please visit:

www.ncparks.gov/state-parks/jordan-lake-state-recreation-area

Partnership Website



Looking for more information? Visit the **Western Intake Partnership website** today at westernintakepartnership.com/contact-us

We Want to Hear from You



Questions or Comments?

You can visit the [Contact Us page](#) of our website, call 919-379-5774, or email us at contact@westernintakepartnership.com