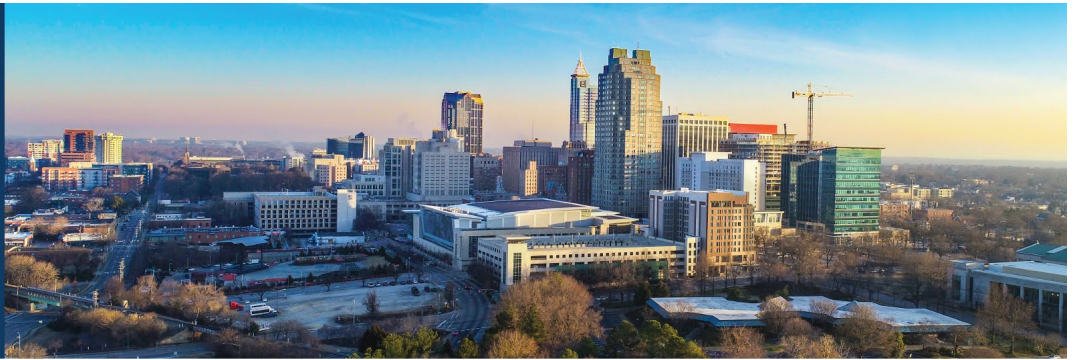


Manager's Update

raleighnc.gov



Issue 2026-31

August 7, 2026

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**Community Education Event: Reducing “Forever Chemicals” in Your Daily Life
(Mayor Pro Tem Harrison)**

INFORMATION:

Weekly Digest of Special Events

Staff Resource: Sarah Heinsohn, Office of Special Events, 996-2200, sarah.heinsohn@raleighnc.gov

Included with the *Update* materials is the special events digest for the upcoming week.

(Attachment)

Council Member Follow Up Items

Follow Up from October 2025 Environmental Advisory Board Report (Annual Work Plan)

City of Raleigh to Host a Community Education Event: Reducing “Forever Chemicals” in Your Daily Life (Mayor Pro Tem Harrison)

Staff Resource: Megan Anderson, Sustainability, 996-4058, megan.anderson@raleighnc.gov

People encounter PFAS (polyfluoroalkyl substances), also known as "forever chemicals," without realizing it. This compound is found in everyday items like food packaging, cookware, and clothing. These compounds have been linked to a variety of health issues. The good news is that reducing exposure to these compounds is possible through simple, everyday choices.

In October of 2025, Raleigh City Council identified a need for community education on the topic of forever chemicals and requested that the Office of Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Board (EAB) host an event as part of the EAB's 2026 Work Plan. The attached staff memo provides additional information on the upcoming virtual education event "Reducing Forever Chemicals in Your Daily Life," to be hosted by City of Raleigh with support from the Environmental Advisory Board. Speakers will highlight how environment and health organization actions and informed consumer choices are reducing PFAS exposure, while empowering residents to take collective effort to drive change.

The event is free, but registration is required. Attendees can find additional information and registration details in the attached memo and at <https://raleighnc.gov/climate-action-and-sustainability/events/reducing-forever-chemicals-your-daily-life-virtual-event>.

(Attachment)

Weekly Events Digest

Friday, August 7 – Thursday, August 13

City of Raleigh Special Events and Hospitality
specialevents@raleighnc.gov | 919-996-2200 | raleighnc.gov/special-events-office

Permitted Special Events

[First Friday at The Times](#)

Hargett Street

Friday, August 7

Event Time: 7:00pm – 11:00pm

Associated Road Closures: E. Hargett Street between Fayetteville Street and S. Wilmington Street will be closed from 5:30pm until 11:59pm.

[Raleigh RunDown Downhill Mile](#)

Centennial Parkway

Saturday, August 8

Event Time: 6:30pm – 7:15pm

Associated Road Closures: Centennial Parkway southbound lanes between Oval Drive and Agriculture Street will be closed from 6:15pm until 7:30pm.

[South Atlantic FIRE RESCUE Expo](#)

Raleigh Convention Center & Cabarrus Street

Wednesday, August 12 – Saturday, August 15

Event Time (for outdoor expo): 9:00am – 5:00pm 8-14-26; 9:00am – 2:00pm 8-15-26

Associated Road Closures: Cabarrus Street between S. McDowell Street and S. Salisbury Street will be closed from 8:00am on 8-12-26 until 5:00pm on 8-15-26.

Other Upcoming Events

[Yappy Hour](#)

Friday, August 7

Dix Park, Dog Park

[Tim McGraw](#)

Friday, August 7

Coastal Credit Union Music Park at Walnut Creek

[First Friday Raleigh](#)

Friday, August 7

Downtown Raleigh

[First Friday Market & Movie: Zootopia 2](#)

Friday, August 7

Moore Square

[First Friday with NC Courage](#)

Friday, August 7

City of Raleigh Museum

[Clue \(High School Edition\)](#)

Friday, August 7 – Sunday, August 9

Raleigh Little Theatre

[Back to School Bash](#)

Saturday, August 8
Method Community Park

[Bronco – El Gran Baile Tour](#)

Saturday, August 8
Raleigh Memorial Auditorium

[Stephen Wilson Jr.](#)

Saturday, August 8
Red Hat Amphitheater

[Summer Concert Series](#)

Sunday, August 9
Fred Fletcher Park

[Prabhu Deva](#)

Sunday, August 9
Raleigh Memorial Auditorium

[Movie Series: Hoppers](#)

Tuesday, August 11
Pullen Park

[Live After 5](#)

Wednesday, August 12
Seaboard Station

[Live After 5](#)

Thursday, August 13
Moore Square

Public Resources

[Event Feedback Form](#): Tell us what you think about Raleigh events! We welcome feedback and encourage you to provide comments or concerns about any events regulated by the Office of Special Events. We will use this helpful information in future planning.

[Road Closure & Road Race Map](#): A resource providing current information on street closures in Raleigh.

[Online Events Calendar](#): View all currently scheduled events that impact city streets, public plazas, and Dix Park.

New Amplified Noise Ordinance Takes Effect January 2026

The City Council approved a [new amplified noise ordinance](#), which went into effect Jan. 1, 2026. Stadiums, arenas, and outdoor sports or entertainment venues, including amphitheaters, are exempt. Parades, outdoor events, races, festivals, and concerts that receive a permit from the Office of Special Events are also not subject to the ordinance.

Council Member Follow Up

To	Marchell Adams- David, City Manager
Thru	Michael Moore, Assistant City Manager
From	Megan Anderson, Sustainability Officer
Department	Sustainability
Date	August 7, 2026
Subject	City of Raleigh to host virtual community education event: Reducing Forever Chemicals in Your Daily Life

The City of Raleigh Environmental Advisory Board is partnering with the Office of Sustainability and Raleigh Water to host a virtual event on Thursday, August 20 at 6 p.m.: “Reducing Forever Chemicals in Your Daily Life.” Attendees will learn what forever chemicals are and how to lower one’s risk of exposure at home. Raleigh’s City Council identified a need for community education on the topic of forever chemicals and requested that the Office of Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Board host this event.

Registration is required to attend this event – [Visit raleighnc.gov and search “Forever Chemicals”](https://www.raleighnc.gov) to find event details, complete the registration form, and submit questions for event speakers.

People encounter PFAS (polyfluoroalkyl substances), also known as "forever chemicals," without realizing it. This compound is found in everyday items like food packaging, cookware and clothing. The good news: reducing exposure is possible through simple, everyday choices.

What will be covered:

- Forever chemicals are getting more attention nationwide. Leaders across North Carolina and the country are taking action to reduce exposure and protect community health.
- Small, proactive steps to limit exposure also support broader climate goals and build a more resilient Raleigh.
- Speakers will show how environment and health organization actions and informed consumer choices are reducing PFAS exposure, and how collective effort drives change.

Attendees will gain knowledge of:

- What forever chemicals are and where exposure comes from
- How local and national groups are working to reduce PFAS use and exposure
- Simple steps you can take today to reduce your exposure and support a more resilient Raleigh

Featured speakers will include introductory remarks by Megan Anderson, Sustainability Officer, Office of Sustainability and Whit Weeler Director, Raleigh Water followed by a keynote address delivered by Christina Manian, MENV, RDN - Registered Dietitian, Sustainable Food Systems Professional.

For more than 10 years, Christina has worked as a registered dietitian. She's treated thousands of patients and [written over 700 published stories](#) for outlets like *Nutrition Business Journal*, *Health*, *Oprah Daily*, *Well+Good (The Skimm)*, *Real Simple*, *Better Homes and Gardens*, *Taste of Home*, and *Simply Recipes*. She's also created content for brands including Vitamix, Oatly, Yerba Madre, Traditional Medicinals, and Prime Roots.

Christina holds national credentials as a Registered Dietitian (RD/RDN) allowing her to practice across the United States, holds a Master of the Environment (MENV) degree from the University of Colorado Boulder with a focus on sustainable food systems, a Bachelor of Science in Nutritional Sciences - Dietetics from Boston University, and completed her ACEND-accredited Dietetic Internship at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. Christina has years of clinical experience working in Intensive Care Units (neuro, medical, cardiac, and surgical) at the University of Minnesota Medical Center; and in private practice providing outpatient clinical and wellness counseling at Boulder Nutrition and Exercise Services in Colorado

She approaches much of her work through the unique lens of sustainability which shines through in both her published work, and [blog](#) and [Substack](#) newsletter, Sustain + Nourish. With this experience, she seeks to support both people and the planet through sustainable nutrition education.

This event will be held virtually, and registration is required to attend. [Registration information can be found online at raleighnc.gov and search "Forever Chemicals"](#).

City Council will receive an update from staff and the Environmental Advisory Board as they finish out their 2026 Work Plan. This will include a report about this event.