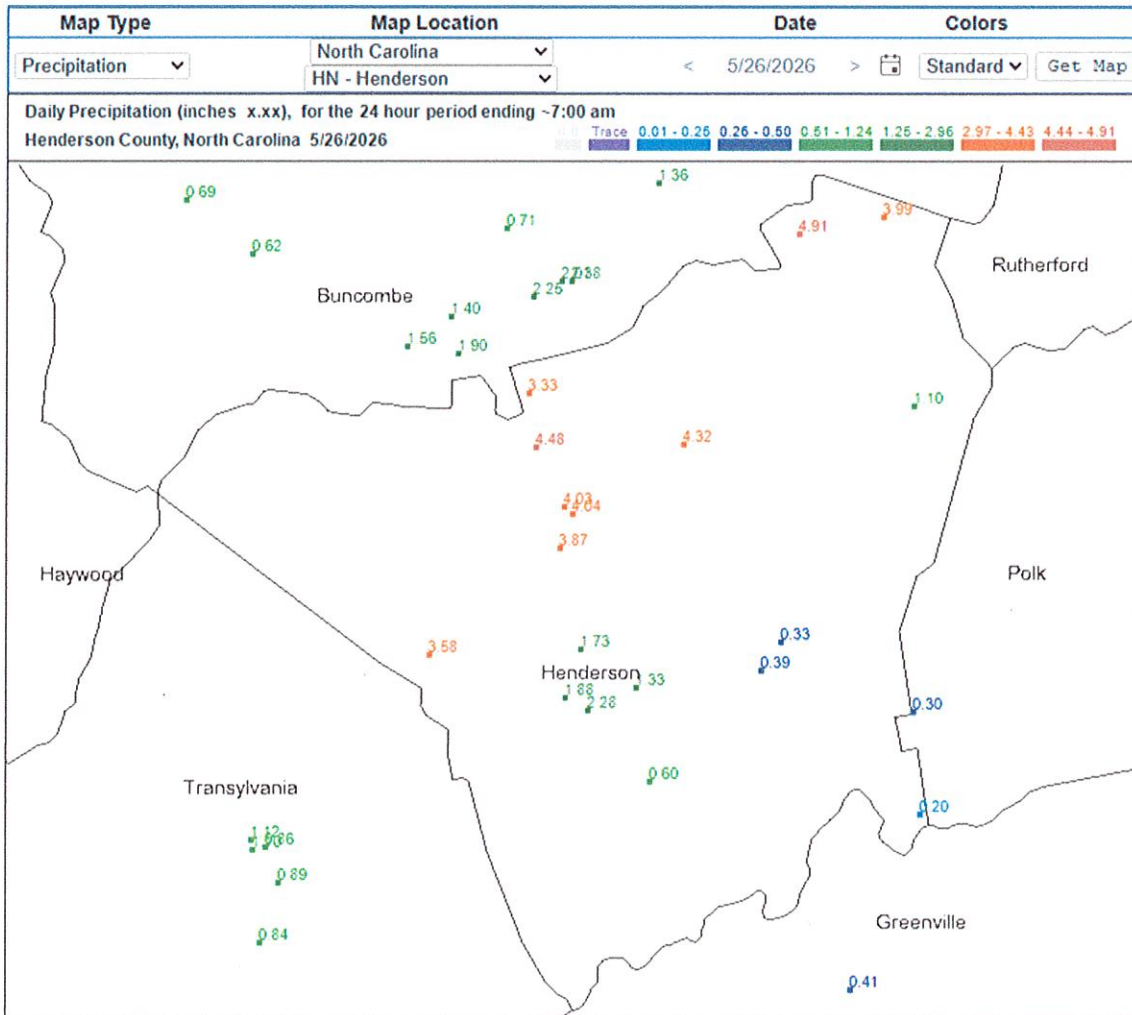




Maps : Daily Precipitation



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Henderson County Commissioners' Meeting 06-03-26

My name is Kirk Hall. My wife, Konnie and I live in the Fork Creek Community of Saluda and also own and operate Orchard Lake Campground.

First Contact Ministries operates a men's drug rehabilitation facility at 4353 Fork Creek Road. The participants of this facility are drug addicts many with criminal records seeking recovery. Over the last 3 ½ years there have been many failed participants struggling with addiction who did not complete the "program" according to quarterly reports submitted to NC by First Contact. Are there also "staff" members as well who have been terminated due to a drug relapse? These failed participants as well as their family and friends have been introduced to our rural Fork Creek Community which gives great cause for concern to those in our community. This concern continues as long as there is a rehab facility in our rural Fork Creek Community.

The common-sense conclusion is that our rural Fork Creek Community is not an appropriate location for a men's drug rehab facility. Nor is it appropriate for a drug rehab facility to adjoin a family campground full of children.

On Sunday May 24, 2026 a dear couple in our rural Fork Creek Community were the victims of a double homicide and arson. Our rural Fork Creek Community is reeling from this incident. This atrocity is still under investigation and to my knowledge the perpetrator(s) have not been caught.

I did speak with the lead detective for Polk County this week and let him know of my concerns. I also let him know that if First Contact will not hesitate to lie about me to you the Henderson County commissioners', in my opinion, they would not hesitate to lie to investigators regarding this most recent tragedy. In my opinion, each and every one of the drop outs from First Contact should be contacted and questioned. While blame cannot be placed on First Contact for this atrocity we must learn from this incident that the Fork Creek Community is not an appropriate location for a men's drug rehab facility.

First Contact has made light of the response time of emergency services. Henderson and Polk County both have experienced the long response time due to the atrocity in our community and both counties have experienced increased costs. Not to mention the many days the 4353 Fork Creek Road facility was inaccessible to emergency vehicles this past winter. Will you speak to the Henderson County and Polk County Sheriff's, Deputies and Detectives regarding this most recent atrocity and find out from them how difficult our community is to access?

My understanding is that Henderson County plans to fund First Contact Ministries \$175,000 for the next fiscal year. There are reasons I have just given, not to mention many other reasons and evidence previously provided not to fund First Contact Ministries.

There are appropriate locations and qualified organizations to help those in need. The Fork Creek Community is not an appropriate location. Please listen to our Fork Creek Community and defund First Contact entirely.

Thanks for your time.

Kirk Hall, Fork Creek Community, Orchard Lake Campground, 828 273-8316, khallolc@gmail.com