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Wednesday, September 10, 2025 **Page 1** **Athens, Tennessee**

Tourism Spending Tops \$76 Million in McMinn County for 2024

2024

**MCMINN
COUNTY**

DIRECT VISITOR ECONOMIC IMPACT


426,920
TOTAL VISITORS

274,897
DAY TRIP
VISITORS

152,023
OVERNIGHT
VISITORS
50+ MILES


MCMINN RANKS 27

McMinn County has moved up
to be the top 27 counties to visit
in Tennessee!



\$76.8 M


**DIRECT
VISITOR
SPENDING**



3.32%

Increase in visitor
spending from 2023

**VISITORS TO MCMINN
COUNTY GENERATED \$360
IN TAX SAVINGS PER
HOUSEHOLD**



McMinn County saw a major boost in tourism last year, with visitors spending **\$76.76 million in 2024**, according to the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development. The growth marks a **3.32% increase** from 2023 and elevated the county's rank to **27th out of 95 counties statewide**.

Tourism supported **612 local jobs**, generated **\$17.12 million in labor income**, and added **\$7.74 million in state and local tax revenues**. On average, daily visitors contributed more than **\$210,000** in spending, which helped fund services and infrastructure while saving households about **\$360 in taxes**.

McMinn County welcomed more than **263,000 visitors** in 2024, reflecting the community's growing appeal. "Tourism continues to be a powerful economic driver for McMinn County," said **Lindsey Ferguson**, executive director of the McMinn County Economic Development Authority. "These numbers reflect the growing appeal of our community and the hard work of our local businesses and attractions."

For more information, visit www.discovermcminn.com or follow @discovermcminn on social media.

Source: Brianna Baker Tourism Coordinator, McMinn EDA

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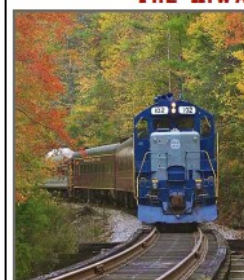
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Athens, Tennessee

McNelly & Co joins Athens Chamber



A ribbon cutting was celebrated recently for new Athens Area Chamber of Commerce member, McNelly & Co. Outdoor Services, located in Athens and surrounding areas. McNelly & Co. Outdoor Services specialize in lawn care and landscaping. Contact them at (423) 650-1169 or mcnellyco@gmail.com. Shown here are chamber and business representatives, family members and staff, Ethan and Emma McNelly, Owners of McNelly & Co. Outdoor Services.

Athens City Street Closure

The City of Athens Public Works Department announces the following street closure:

JACKSON STREET from *Green Street* to *Washington Avenue* and **MADISON AVENUE** from *White Street* to *Green Street*.

These closures will be on Saturday, September 20, from 4:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. **The purpose of this closing is for the Athens Travelers Car Club Cruise-In event.**

Motorists are advised to use extreme caution and watch for traffic signage, workers, and pedestrians. Motorists should allocate additional time for traffic delays when traveling in this area.

For more information, please contact the Office of the Public Works Department at 423-744-2745.

TN WESLEYAN SUNDAY LUNCH IS BACK

Start your Sunday off right with our delicious and decadent Sunday Lunch on the TN Wesleyan Campus! Join us for a wide variety of lunch classics and new favorites to satisfy your cravings. Served all you care to eat style!

Date: Every Sunday

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Time: 11am-1:30pm

Location: Sherman Dining Hall

204 E College Street, Athens TN 37303

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Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2025

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 3

Athens, Tennessee

Madisonville Woman Seriously Injured in Dog Attack; Four Charged



A 71-year-old woman was severely injured Saturday when she was attacked by a pack of 10 to 15 pit bull mixes on Fairview Road, according to the Monroe County Sheriff's Office.

Deputies said the victim, Mary Norwood, suffered serious lacerations before bystanders were able to drive the dogs away. She was treated at the scene and later transported to the University of Tennessee Hospital. Following the investigation, 27 dogs were seized from a nearby residence, and four people — **Clayton Warren Davis, Sara June Burris, Ricky Lee Burris, and Sheila Jenene Kryzak** — were charged with **Animals at Large Resulting in Serious Injury**, a felony. Authorities said additional charges are pending.

Officials noted that **Sara June Burris** faces further charges, including possession of drug paraphernalia and introduction of contraband into a penal facility.

Source: [Sheriff Tommy Jones - Facebook](#)

Pickleball Tournament

United Way of McMinn Meigs Counties
September 27, 2025

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PickleballDen
to sign up!

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Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

Patricia "Tricia" Gail Mayton Curtis, 70 of Riceville, passed away on Friday, September 5. Prior to retiring she worked at Metro Nashville Juvenile Court, and after moving to East Tennessee in 2007, she worked at the McMinn County Senior Center. A memorial service will be held at 12:00 pm, Saturday, September 13 at Blanton's Chapel Cemetery, Power Bridge Road and Bashaw Creek Road, Manchester, TN. Please note there is no physical address for this cemetery. Coordinates are 35.4941590, -86.1448930. Trish would have wanted everyone to dress however you are most comfortable, so please feel free to do so. Smith Funeral & Cremation Services of Athens is honored to serve the family of Patricia "Tricia" Gail Mayton Curtis.

Janet Howard Woods, passed away on Tuesday, September 9. Funeral arrangements will be announced at a later time. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with the care of Janet Howard Woods.



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HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

WEEK
OF
SEPT. 8



McMINN CO. VS. LENOIR CITY

FRIDAY, SEPT. 12 @ 7 PM
@ LENOIR CITY



CLEVELAND VS. MARYVILLE

FRIDAY, SEPT. 12 @ 7 PM
@ CLEVELAND



McMINN CENTRAL VS. MEIGS CO.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 12 @ 7 PM
@ McMINN CENTRAL (ENGLEWOOD)



POLK CO. VS. SWEETWATER

FRIDAY, SEPT. 5 @ 7 PM
@ POLK CO. (BENTON)



WALKER VALLEY VS. CHATTANOOGA CENTRAL

FRIDAY, SEPT. 12 @ 7 PM
@ WALKER VALLEY (CLEVELAND)



SEQUOYAH VS. HOWARD TECH

FRIDAY, SEPT. 12 @ 7:30 PM
@ SEQUOYAH (MADISONVILLE)