

# Wake County by the Numbers

Population: 1.1 million

Expected Growth: **250,000+** in the next decade

**950,000** residents receive water from Falls Lake and Jordan Lake

**40,000** private wells serve about **90,000** people

90,000 onsite wastewater (septic) systems

\*Estimates based on data from 2022

Wake County has measures in place to protect our water resources, but population growth and unpredictability of weather requires us to think differently.

We're taking steps now to ensure Wake has a stable water supply for the next 50 years.

The Wake One Water Plan will help ensure the County has water to equitably support all aspects of our growing population.

# What is the Wake One Water Plan?

The Wake One Water Plan is a 50-year water plan that upholds equitable access to clean and abundant water.

The Plan will look at:

- water supply
- wastewater treatment
- stormwater and flood management
- groundwater protection

Our aim is to look at water planning holistically. We're working with County and local governments to make sure the Plan aligns with development and transportation planning.

The One Water Plan will align with Wake County's comprehensive plan. It will help the County in its mission to create a county that is inclusive and equitable, healthy and active, and sustainable and vibrant.

The final Plan will seek to develop solutions that provide economic, environmental, and social co-benefits to all.

#### Why do we need a Plan?

Clean water is not a given.

There are many challenges that increase water unpredictability. Wake County has the highest growth rate in the state. A changing climate also impacts our water resources.

Today's water management needs are connected to many aspects of building a strong and resilient community. This process extends beyond just water to other economic, social, and environmental needs.

#### What's the timeline?

The Wake One Water Plan kicked off in September 2022 and will be developed over a 3-year period with frequent input from engaged stakeholders.

#### How can I get involved?

We need your input to ensure the success of the Wake One Water Plan.

Visit the project website for more information. Sign up for updates on meeting and survey opportunities.



## The Process



#### Visioning

The County, with the help of engaged stakeholders, is developing a community vision with goals for water management over the next 50 years.



#### Assessment

We're evaluating existing conditions and programs throughout the County. Our goal is to identify building blocks and gaps for carrying out One Water.

We're also developing tools to analyze different strategies that consider future growth and climate change scenarios.



## **Plan Development**

The County, with the help of engaged stakeholders, will develop short, medium, and long-term recommendations. These recommendations will be for water resource policies and practices that support a 50-year sustainable water supply.