



## Jackson County Department of Public Health

Anna Lippard  
Deputy Health Director  
828-587-8225

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **LIFE JACKET LOANER STATIONS OPENED IN TIME FOR MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND**

Safe Kids Jackson County is excited to announce that all five Life Jacket Loaner Stations have been stocked with life jackets in time for the Memorial Day weekend! These Stations (located at the Tuckasegee River Main Stem: East LaPorte, Locust Creek, Dillsboro (Scotts Creek), Barkers Creek, and Bear Lake) will offer life jackets of varying sizes for children to borrow while they participate in water activities near the site. Life jackets will be available throughout the summer—from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend.

With the many lakes and rivers in the area, safety around bodies of water is a concern for our community. Jackson County prides itself on its various outdoor opportunities and believes that passing along the love of nature to generations to come is important. Sadly, drowning is a reality that too many families have had to face in Jackson County. Through providing the Life Jacket Loaner Stations, children will be given the opportunity to bond with nature, family, and friends in a safer environment.

The Stations were made possible through the efforts of multiple agencies such as Duke Energy and the Brian and Nathan Keese Water Safety Organization, Safe Kids Jackson County, Jennings Builder Supply, Jackson County Department of Public Health, Jackson County Public Works Department, and the Sea Tow Foundation.

For question on the Stations, call Martha Thomasson at 828-587-8257.



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Pictured: Martha Thomasson, Safe Kids Jackson County Coordinator

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