Helpful Contacts

<u>Banks</u>

BB&T Bank	478-994-2700
Bank of America	
Farm Bureau	478-994-9802
The Farmers Bank	478-994-6995
Monroe County Bank	478-994-1000
Robins Federal	478-992-5470
State Farm Bank	478-994-9600
Woodforest Bank	478-994-1435

Utilities

City Electric	478-994-5649
City Water	478-994-5649
Forsyth Cable Net	478-992-5096
Georgia Power	888-660-5890
Recycling Center	478-992-5049
Solid Waste Collection.	478-992-5049

<u>Gas</u>

Natural-SCANA Energy......877-467-2262

Propane-Wilson Farms Propane...478-994-2119



City of Forsyth Downtown Development Authority

> 68 North Lee St Forsyth, GA 31029

Phone. 478-994-7747 Fax. 478-994-7746 Get the Ball Rolling in the City of Forsyth, Georgia



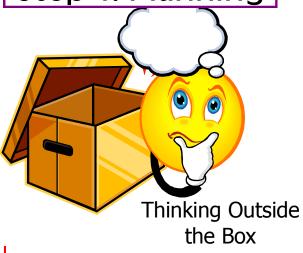
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Other

Police Department	478-994-6022
Fire Department	478-994-2040
Monroe Co Hospital	478-994-2521
Post Office	478-974-0776
Library	478-994-7025
Welcome Center	478-994-9239

Step 1: Planning



First, you must choose a business that is right for you. Discuss your interests, positive traits, and what businesses would make your life easier.

Next, research all angles of the venture you are about to embark upon. Gather economic and operating data, determine who your target market will be and where the business should be located to reach this market.

You will also need to prepare a business plan to develop a successful business. A business plan will force you to think through every aspect of your business. It will also help you keep track of where you are and where you are going. For assistance in

preparing a business plan or training please contact the Small Business Development Center at 478-757-3609 or www.georgiasbdc.org.



Step 2: DDA/BHT

Come meet our friendly staff! A primary goal for Forsyth's DDA and BHT is to help downtown businesses succeed. We are here to assist you in getting your business started and pointing you in the right direction. We are happy to personally sit down with you and discuss what opportunities are available to you as a business owner as well as answer any questions that may arise.

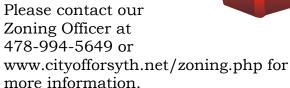


Please call the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and Better Hometown (BHT) at 478-994-7747 or come by the office located in the Welcome Center at 68 North Lee Street.

Step 3: Zoning

Where do you plan to operate your business? The town's Zoning Ordinance helps you ensure that businesses are located in appropriate

and compatible districts. Please be sure to verify that your business is permitted in the desired location.



Step 4: Building

Making improvements to your business space? Will it involve just paint or something that might be more involved (changes to the lighting, plumbing, or wall system)? These more significant changes would require a building permit.

Please contact Building Inspection at 478-994-7618.

Changes to the exterior of a building in downtown must also be approved by the Design and Review Board. Please contact the board at the zoning office at 478-994-5649.

Step 5: Licensing

An active business license is required for any business that operates in Forsyth. The funds from this fee help provide a wide range of business promotion activities.

Please contact City Hall at 478-994-5649 for more information.

If you are wanting to open a restaurant you will also need to contact the Monroe County Health Department at 478-992-5082.

If you plan to sell alcohol both a City and State Alcohol Beverage License is required. First, to obtain your city license please call the City Clerk at 478-994-5649. Then, for the state license you will need to contact the Department of Revenue at 706-295-6688.



