

The Greenbrier Golfing Community

Greenbrier has evolved from a swampy Weyerhaeuser tree farm into one of the most desirable and prestigious neighborhoods in eastern North Carolina. Greenbrier, now more than 20 years old, was New Bern's first major "suburb" within city limits. It started out as a small subdivision, 66 lots, all of which were sold within the first weeks on the market. This gave Weyerhaeuser the impetus to convert the entire 7000 acres to a full-scale real estate development.

Fortunately the city's commitment to growth was already strong in the early 1980's. The New Bern area was beginning to attract more people due to the many nearby golf courses and boat marinas. Since the first phase sold so well, Greenbrier was seen as an engine that would drive growth and improvements in business and job opportunities. Greenbrier's impact, with its anticipated 670 homes, its challenging Emerald Golf Course (designed by Rees Jones) and the eventual 1000 plus residents, was positive. It did not overwhelm the city's capacity in terms of services because the expansions were phased in over a period of more than a dozen years.

Today Greenbrier is fully developed; there are lots available and homes that go on the market usually sell without delay. Prices range from \$250,000 to over \$500,000. The natural setting, the beauty of the golf course, the lakes, the stands of stately trees, the active social functions and friendly neighbors make Greenbrier an ideal place to live. The well-maintained entrances, parks and common areas attest to the support of the various homeowners associations within the development. Location, location, location — Greenbrier's proximity to the major roadway arteries, stores, services and medical facilities is an alluring feature for homeowners. In addition, the small town charm and historical significance of New Bern further enhances the enjoyment of living in eastern North Carolina. Greenbrierites, in turn, contribute various talents, monetary support and volunteer hours to further enrich New Bern, their retirement community.

By Jane Dulane, Managing Editor, Greenbrier Gazette