
**Here is your invitation
to join the organization
that has been the
voice of business
in Oak Ridge for
more than 50 years**



*Your
Invitation
to
Invest*

The Chamber . . . What is it?

The Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce is a membership organization of the business community. The Chamber is not a civic club, charitable organization or department of city government. The Chamber is a private, not-for-profit tax-paying organization. It unites hundreds of business and professional firms, thus creating a unique central agency working to improve business and build a better community.

Most important, the Chamber is people. People who realize that through the Chamber they can accomplish collectively what no one of them can do individually. The strength of the Chamber lies in attracting the greatest number of members, creating a pool of resources from which can be drawn ideas, energy and finances.

Also, the Chamber is:

Over 700 business and professional firms working together to make Oak Ridge a better place to live and to do business . . .

A voice for the business and professional community on critical issues . . .

A clearing house for plans and proposals affecting Oak Ridge's growth . . .

Some 20 task forces hard at work meeting the community's needs . . .

Setting and achieving goals that will ensure that Oak Ridge reaches its full potential as a community . . .

And working to increase prosperity by encouraging growth of existing businesses and fostering new ones.

Why join?

The Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce has proven itself to be an effective volunteer, not-for-profit organization committed to helping to solve today's complex business and community problems. You, as a business or professional person, have a stake in this area, and you can best safeguard your interest by working with others through the Chamber. The Chamber promotes an environment that can maximize your business potential and profitability.

At the Chamber, we don't just talk about the future . . . we reshape it, and we believe you want to help reshape Oak Ridge's future also! That's why we need you and you need us! Together we can blend our talents to insure a better community for all of us. A host of volunteers and a professional staff will work with you and for you to see community dreams turn into reality. Separate Chamber activity areas and divisions will assist you as your business, industry or practice tackles today's problems and grasps today's opportunities.

With this brochure, we invite and challenge you to join with us in developing our community. Let's work together to make it the best we can! Membership in your Chamber is a blue chip investment in the future of Oak Ridge, and that's sure to grow and pay dividends many times over your initial investment.

**The Oak Ridge
Chamber of Commerce . . .
the Voice of Business for
More Than 50 Years**

Explore the many advantages Chamber membership offers you Window Decal

The Chamber's window decal signifies your commitment to continuing the tradition of fair and honest business dealings in Oak Ridge. Display it proudly.

Programs

Networking

Through weekly Coffees and other informal get-togethers, many new business contacts are made. Bring plenty of business cards and enlarge your business and client base, meet new friends, and have fun while you're doing it.

Task Force Involvement

Everyone has a special interest in one or more aspects of the quality of life here, contributing to the increase in housing and residents or expanding membership services. If you have a pet concern and time to be involved, you can bet we have a task force to positively direct your energies. Many hands not only make light work, but in the Chamber organization, make a significant difference. Sign up for a task force when you join.

Referral Service

The Chamber is a source the public relies on for business referrals, and our membership directory is distributed for the purpose of helping add to your bottom line. Additionally, our website directory is often the first exposure people have to Oak Ridge. Members are encouraged to do business with other members, and callers are referred to Chamber members.

Special Opportunities

Marketing

Getting the word out on what your business is all about is important, whether you've been in business for 10 years or one month. As a member, low-cost, high-exposure marketing opportunities will be offered to you through the Chamber from time to time. Take advantage of these opportunities when they meet your needs.

Membership Label List

The potential to effortlessly reach many of your fellow Chamber members through personalized mailings is as easy as ordering a Chamber (peel and stick) label list. If you are planning a special celebration or event and want to share the news with the business community, our label list saves staff time spent compiling and typing a list.

Business Exposure

Opportunities to showcase your business to others in the business community are available. Plan to exhibit at the Business to Business Expo, sponsor a hole at the Member Appreciation Golf Tournament or host a Chamber Coffee. Chamber staff will help you plan your Coffee to give you optimum results. Call for information.

Ribbon Cuttings/Grand Openings

We do all the work, you reap the benefits. We get a city official to cut the ribbon, and provide the poles, ribbon and scissors for a picture-perfect ceremony and invite the Chamber Diplomats to share the moment with you.

Small Business Opportunities

Small Business Programs

Just because you are a small business doesn't mean you can't be a big success, and we are there for you along the way to your prosperous destination.

Small Business Counseling

Free, small business counseling is available at the Small Business Development Center. Get practical advice on how to solve small business problems, increase business, hire the right person, or get your business or marketing plan analyzed. Bounce your ideas and strategies off a pro.

Get Everyone Involved!

If your business is a member, everyone in your organization who contributes to the success of your business also belongs to the Chamber. Encourage staff involvement in Chamber activities, and when the invitation arrives for one of our Coffees or activities, bring members of your staff with you so the whole team benefits from your Chamber investment.

Begin enjoying the many benefits your membership in the Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce offers right away. Fill out our short application, include your check, and mail today.

We look forward to welcoming you.

Membership dues in the Chamber of Commerce may be tax deductible as an ordinary and necessary business expense.

Dues paid to the Chamber are not a charitable tax donation for federal income tax purposes. The Chamber is not a charity, but serves as an advocate organization for area business.

10 reasons you should be on a Chamber task force

1. Involvement will benefit your business by making you more visible in the business community, increasing your business contacts and prospects list.
 2. You will be more informed regarding issues that involve your business.
 3. You will have increased opportunities to make your opinions and suggestions known and acted upon.
 4. It doesn't take much of your time. In most cases only an hour a month.
 5. Task force involvement is a unique member benefit and offers valuable leadership experience.
 6. Volunteering costs nothing, but the rewards are tremendous.
 7. Involvement leads to other things. Many Chamber leaders initially served as task force members.
 8. Your involvement makes a difference in helping to reach important community and membership goals.
 9. We offer something for everyone. No matter what your interests are, there is a Chamber task force working to support your individual effort, so why not join forces with other concerned members.
 10. We need you! Your commitment and support enables the Chamber to continue to be a strong, action oriented organization.
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Names/Notes

Membership Application

Mail to:

Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce

1400 Oak Ridge Turnpike

Oak Ridge, TN 37830

(please print)

Firm/Individual Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone/Fax _____

E-Mail _____

Web Address _____

Representative Name _____

Title _____

E-Mail Address _____

Number of Employees _____

Annual Investment (from schedule) \$ _____

Plus one-time member processing fee + \$25

Date _____ Total \$ _____

Authorized Signature _____

The Chamber will accept personal or business checks
or Visa or Mastercard credit cards

*Congratulations on your
membership decision. This will be the
beginning of a very long and productive
relationship between you and your
Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce.*

Opportunities for Involvement

We encourage you, as a member, to become involved through one of the many task forces listed below.

Please check your choice and indicate your preference.

Housing/Population

Community Image

Beautification

Membership

Diplomats

New Member Campaign

Retention Team

Golf Tournament

Business to Business Expo

Job Creation/Capital Investment

Business Retention

Workforce Development

Political Action

Local

State

Federal

Special Projects

Retail Recruitment

Leadership Institute

Membership Councils

Retail Council

Small Business Council

Government Contractors Council

Women's Council



Oak Ridge

Chamber of Commerce

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