

WASHINGTON COUNTY VIRGINIA



2015 Annual Report

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Message from the 2015 Board Chairman

2015 marked a decade-high level for economic development activity in Washington County. Although many communities of our region and nation continue to experience economic challenges, there are several signs that our County economy is improving. For the year, County-supported economic development activities benefiting new industrial and retail projects announced the attraction of 487 new jobs and over \$36 million in new investment to the community. Growth also came from within—existing business expansion projects further added at least 120 jobs and \$1.2 million of new investment. We're excited and hopeful that the positive momentum for job creation and investment activities will continue forward into 2016.

As was also true during 2014, maintenance and preparation of infrastructure to support the long-term needs of Washington County remained important topics of discussion and action during 2015. Notable action items included funding assistance to support the relocation of State Route 611. Relocation of State Route 611 is needed to allow for the Virginia Highlands Airport's runway extension project, an activity which will also help to further enhance economic development activities, and strengthen our County's tax base.

The Board of Supervisors of Washington County hopes that you will enjoy and benefit from the information provided in this Annual Report. We live in a beautiful area which includes a wealth of cultural, natural and recreational assets, economic opportunities, and historic significance; however, it is the people of this area which truly make Washington County a great place to live, work, and raise a family. I am very appreciative and honored for the opportunity to have served as Chairman.

Sincerely,



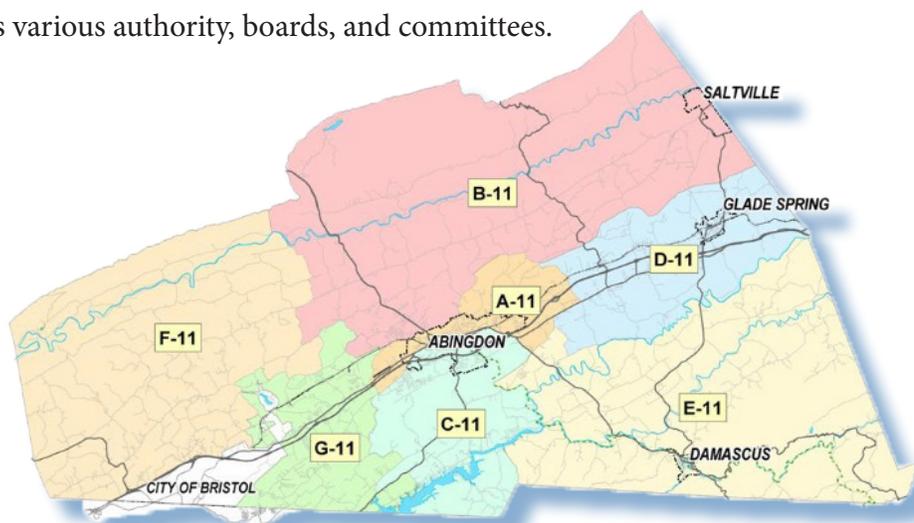
Phillip B. McCall
Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Washington County, Virginia



2015 Washington County Board of Supervisors



The Board of Supervisors serves as the local legislature, adopting local laws or “ordinances” applicable only to Washington County, but within the restrictions set forth by the state laws of Virginia. The seven members of the Board are elected from their representative electoral districts every four years. Major duties of the Board of Supervisors are to set the local tax rates for land and personal property, establish a budget for use of tax revenues to fund government activities, and to regulate land use through subdivision and zoning ordinances. The Board of Supervisors is also responsible for the appointment of the County Administrator, County Attorney, and members of the County’s various authority, boards, and committees.



Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors Auditorium.
 Washington County Government Center
 1 Government Center Place
 Abingdon, VA 24210

Go Online at www.washingtoncountyva.iqm2.com . . .

- Download meeting agendas
- Download meeting minutes
- View and download Board records
- Watch videos of past Board meetings

Contact the Board of Supervisors through the County Administrator’s Office at (276) 525-1300



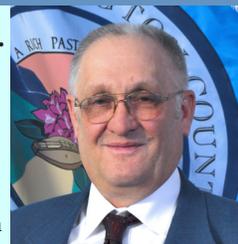
Chairman
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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COMMITTEES

These committees are composed of two members of the Board of Supervisors, various members of other County Boards, Authorities, Commissions, and County Staff. Committees are generally established/re-established at the Board's first January organizational meeting each year. Additional information on each Board of Supervisor Committee can be found on the County website at: www.WashCoVa.com.

County Agriculture Committee

This committee reviews, investigates, and develops recommendations and reports on matters that impact the agriculture industry in Washington County.

County Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee

This committee reviews information, drafts material, and develops recommendations on matters pertaining to the comprehensive plan.

County Facilities Committee

This committee reviews, investigates, and develops recommendations and reports on matters pertaining to County office or other building facilities, including assessing the immediate and long-term needs of these facilities.

County Emergency Services Committee

This committee reviews, oversees, investigates, and develops recommendations and reports on matters pertaining to fire and emergency medical rescue services. This committee also creates and implements policies and procedures for the replenishment of equipment and apparatus.

County Personnel Committee

This committee reviews, oversees, investigates, and develops recommendations and reports on matters pertaining to personnel needs, policies, and practices of the Washington County government.

County Revenue Review Committee

This committee reviews, investigates, and develops recommendations and reports on matters pertaining to county revenue sources and efforts, including assessing immediate and long-term revenue needs.

County Joint Economic Development Committee

This committee reviews, oversees, investigates, and develops recommendations and reports on matters involving coordination of County economic development activities between the Board of Supervisors and Washington County Industrial Development Authority (IDA) or Smyth-Washington Regional Industrial Facilities Authority (SWIFA).

County Joint Planning & Land-Use Committee

This committee reviews, oversees, investigates, and develops recommendations and reports on matters pertaining to the Washington County Comprehensive Plan and County land-use ordinances in coordination with the Washington County Planning Commission.

County Joint Utilities Committee

This committee reviews, oversees, investigates, and develops recommendations and reports on matters pertaining to the provision of public water and sanitary sewer services throughout Washington County, in coordination with the Washington County Service Authority and Washington County Industrial Development Authority.

Courthouse Long-Range Planning Committee

This committee works to maintain the Washington County Courthouse, to preserve the historical significance of the structure, while also making adjustments to allow the local judiciary to continue modernized, fully functional, comfortable, and secure operations.

County Organizational Chart



WASHINGTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATION



The Washington County Board of Supervisors appoints the County Administrator to carry out its directives and attend to the duties of all the day-to-day concerns that arise in local government and ensure they are brought to the Board's attention. The County Administrator holds supervisory duties of all County Departments. The Board of Supervisors also appoints the County Attorney to provide advice and legal services to the Board and County staff.

County Administrator



Jason N. Berry

County Administrator

1 Government Center Place, Suite A
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(276) 525-1300
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The County Administrator is the Chief Administrative officer for Washington County government and is appointed by the Washington County Board of Supervisors. The County Administrator has overall responsibility for financial management, preparation and administration of the County's annual budget, planning, community and economic development, and supervision of the general County projects and agencies that are under the direct control of the Board of Supervisors.

The County Administrator provides oversight, management and coordination of the Administrative Division departments and staff, develops strategic operational goals and objectives, and oversees and directs the implementation of departmental work plans with the primary focus of continuous improvement in the delivery of governmental services, with special emphasis on quality customer service and public relations. Team building, management training, employee development and sound business decisions are tools the County Administrator uses to help the County achieve its strategic service goals.

The County Administrator promotes a good relationship between the County government and citizens of the County by establishing and maintaining a positive image of the County, promotes and encourages the continued community and economic development of the County, and promotes and encourages feasible and economically desirable cooperative projects with neighboring political jurisdictions.

The Administrator is charged with the responsibility to strive to achieve greater efficiency, effectiveness, accountability and economy in governmental services and business.



Tasked with management and oversight of the County's Administrative Division, the County Administrator works diligently to ensure efficient, effective, and accountable delivery of governmental services and business. Notable activities during 2015 include:

- County Administrator hired three new department managers: Brian Hilderbrand, Director of Building Services; Jeff Blevins, Director of Solid Waste; and Tim Estes, Coordinator of Emergency Management.
- County Administrator recommended a balanced Fiscal Year 2015-2016 budget to the Board of Supervisors.
- A Court Order affirmed the Voluntary Settlement Agreement between the City of Bristol and County of Washington, VA for revenue sharing.

2015 also marked Washington County's strongest year for economic development activities in over a decade. The County Administrator played an active role in multiple economic development-related activities, working closely across several departments and agencies. Highlights of the County Administrator's 2015 economic development activities include:

- A successful economic development trip to Arizona which helped to ensure the location of Qore Systems (Qore 24) to Washington County, VA. The Qore Systems announcement to Highlands Business Park includes a capital investment of \$12.8 million and creation of 140 new jobs.
- Worked with the Board of Supervisors, Virginia Highlands Airport Authority, and the Virginia Department of Transportation to begin the first phase of the runway extension project. The relocation of State Route 611 is necessary before the runway can be extended.
- Assisted the Department of Economic Development with their revamped Business Retention & Expansion (BRE) Program.
- Worked with the Washington County Service Authority and the Smyth-Washington Regional Industrial Facilities Authority to help secure a \$250,000 grant from the Virginia Tobacco Commission. This grant will ensure a dedicated water capacity for Highlands Business Park, thereby helping to enhance the marketability of this park.
- Groundbreaking for a new commercial development at Exit 19, which represents a \$20,000,000 private investment and creation of 250 new jobs.



County Attorney



Lucy Phillips
County Attorney

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The Washington County Board of Supervisors appoints the County Attorney to advise the Board of Supervisors and all boards, departments, agencies, officials, and employees of the locality on matters involving official County business. Legal work can involve researching and drafting County ordinances; defending or bringing lawsuits in which the County or its boards, departments, agencies, officials, or employees is a party; providing guidance on local government compliance with laws; and other matters requiring interpretation of law.

Consultation often considers the Freedom of Information Act, Conflict of Interest Act, Public Procurement Act, tax assessment and collection, and Economic Development Incentive Agreements, as well as, general corporate matters such as compliance with federal and state employment law, cable television franchises, insurance policy review and research, and contract negotiations. Litigation includes prosecution of violations of County regulatory ordinances such as subdivision ordinance, zoning ordinance, building code, erosion & sediment control, and civil complaints for demolition of unsafe structures and related cost recovery.

Highlights:

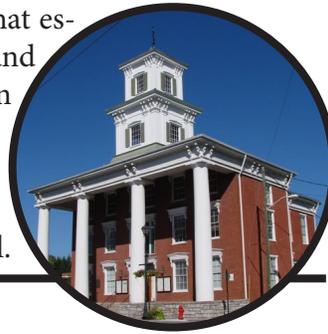
Ordinances

At the direction of the Board of Supervisors, the County Attorney researches and drafts ordinances to amend the Washington County Code of Ordinances, which is the set of local laws for the County. The Board adopted six ordinances in 2015 including ordinances to Define and Allow Ecotourism and Commercial Recreation in certain zoning districts in the County; To Establish a Central Absentee Voter Precinct in the County Government Center Building and to Abolish all Prior Locations; and To Update Financial Eligibility Criteria for Discounted Tax Rates for Qualifying Elderly and Handicapped Persons.



Litigation

The County Attorney represents the County in lawsuits brought by or against the County. In 2015, a lawsuit between the County and the City of Bristol was settled when a special three-judge panel approved a Voluntary Settlement Agreement that established arrangements for revenue sharing between the County and City related to retail development, primarily at the border between the two jurisdictions. The Agreement concluded months of negotiations and proceedings involving public hearings, review by the Commonwealth Commission on Local Government, and ultimately, presentation to the specially appointed three-judge panel.



Legal Advice

On a daily basis, the County Attorney provides legal advice to County department heads, members of the Board of Supervisors, and the County Administrator. In 2015, the County's compliance with environmental regulation of the old closed landfill required extensive research and legal advice due to the presence of underground gas in monitoring wells surrounding the landfill. The County Attorney worked with the County Administrator and Director of Division of Solid Waste Management to negotiate agreements with affected landowners and the Commonwealth Department of Environmental Quality to resolve the regulatory issues.



County Budget & Financial Overview

Mark Seamon

Budget & Finance

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The Department of Budget and Finance is responsible for the County's overall accounting system, including accounts payable, budgeting, purchasing, financial accounting and payroll. A primary function of this department is to develop and manage the County's Annual Operating Budget. The months of July through September are spent preparing materials for the next budget cycle. Formal budget request documents are sent out in early October with the final budget adoption occurring in late June. The newly adopted Annual County Budget takes effect on July 1st of each year.

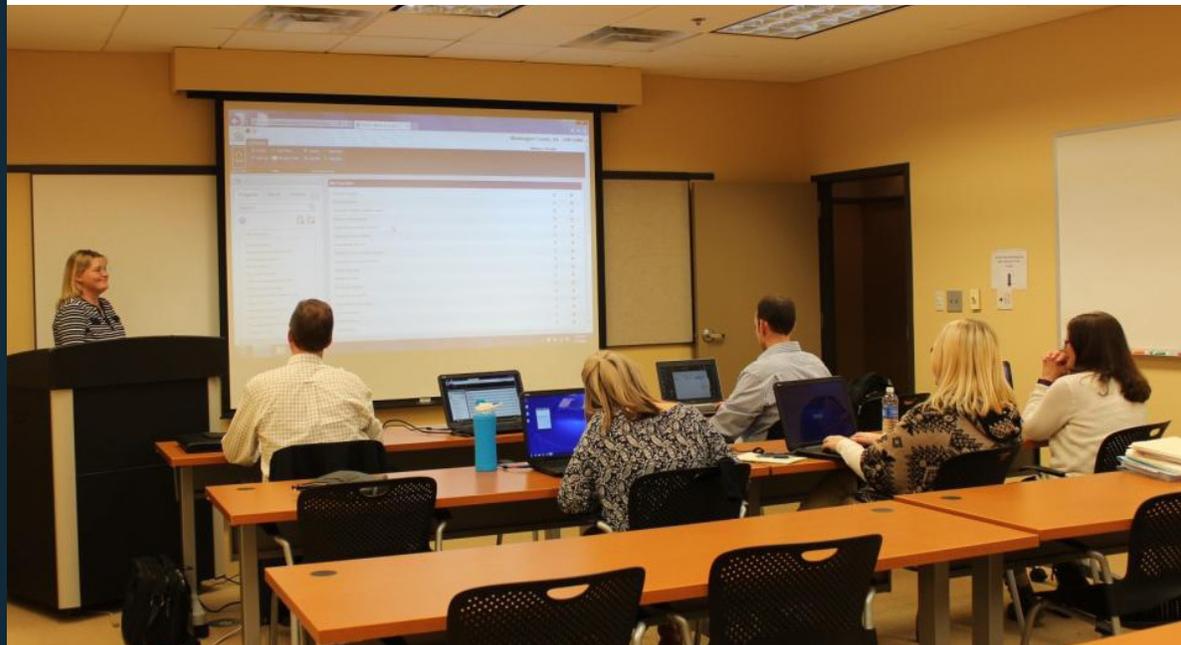
Procurement is also a primary function of this department, with the issuance of Invitation of Bids (IFBs) and Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for goods and services purchased by the County's General Government. The Department also provides small purchasing procedures and guidance to assist general government departments to obtain the best goods and services at the lowest possible cost consistent with the quality needed. To have a good procurement program, all county employees must work as a team to promote the County's best interests in obtaining the maximum value for each dollar of expenditure.

The Department of Budget & Finance processes all general government accounts payable and pays approximately 300 County employees. The Department works directly with the Treasurer's Office to reconcile the County's financial records, and it routinely prepares financial reports for the Board of Supervisors.

Financial ERP Software

To allow for better integration and consolidation of financial, human resources, and payroll reporting activities for County agencies, the Board of Supervisors approved a contract with Tyler Technologies for a new financial ERP software system in 2013. The Washington County Administration, Public School System, Public Library System, Sheriff's Office, and Department of Social Services partnered together in a collaborative effort to implement the software. Throughout 2014, these agencies conducted extensive worksessions with the Information Systems Department and Tyler Technologies Implementors to set up and train employees on the software. Key modules and features of the software were implemented and made accessible to employees in 2015. As the implementation process continues into 2016, additional modules and features will be added.

- **May 2014** - Financial Module went live for County Administration, Sheriff's Office, School System, Library, and Department of Social Services
- **Summer 2014** - Requisition and Purchase Order Module went live for School System
- **October 2014** - Payroll and Human Resources Module went live for County Administration, Sheriff's Office, Library, and Department of Social Services
- **January 2015** - Payroll Module went live for School System
- **June 2015** - Fixed Asset Module went live for County Administration and Sheriff's Office
- **August 2015** - Employee Self Service Module went live for County Administration, Sheriff's Office, Library, and Department of Social Services
- **Fall 2015** - Fixed Asset Module went live for School System
- **December 2015** - Requisition and Purchase Order Module went live for County Administration, Sheriff's Office, Library, and Department of Social Services

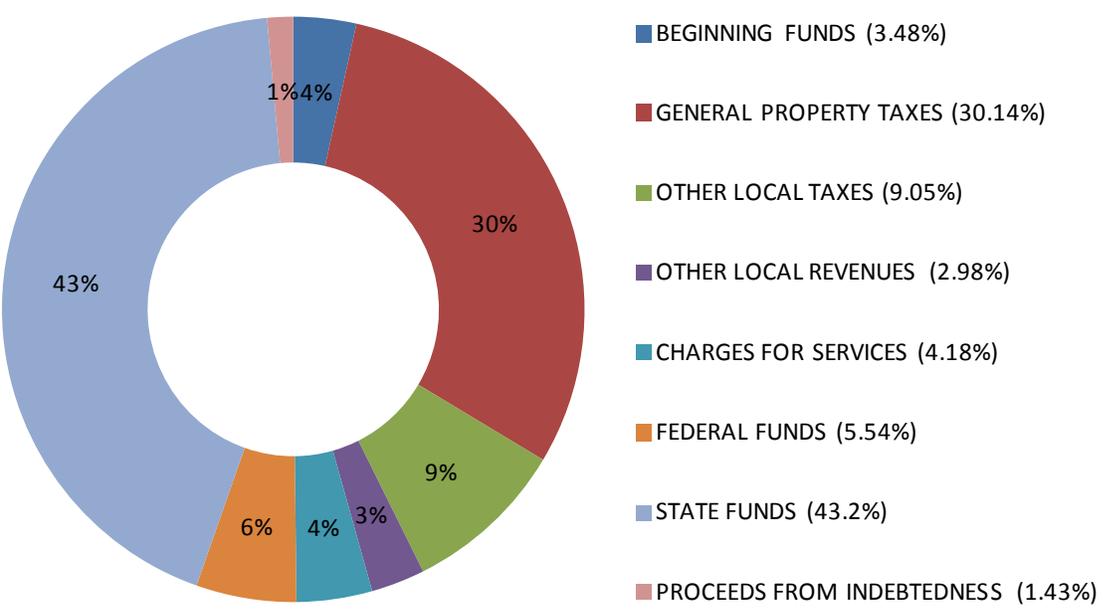




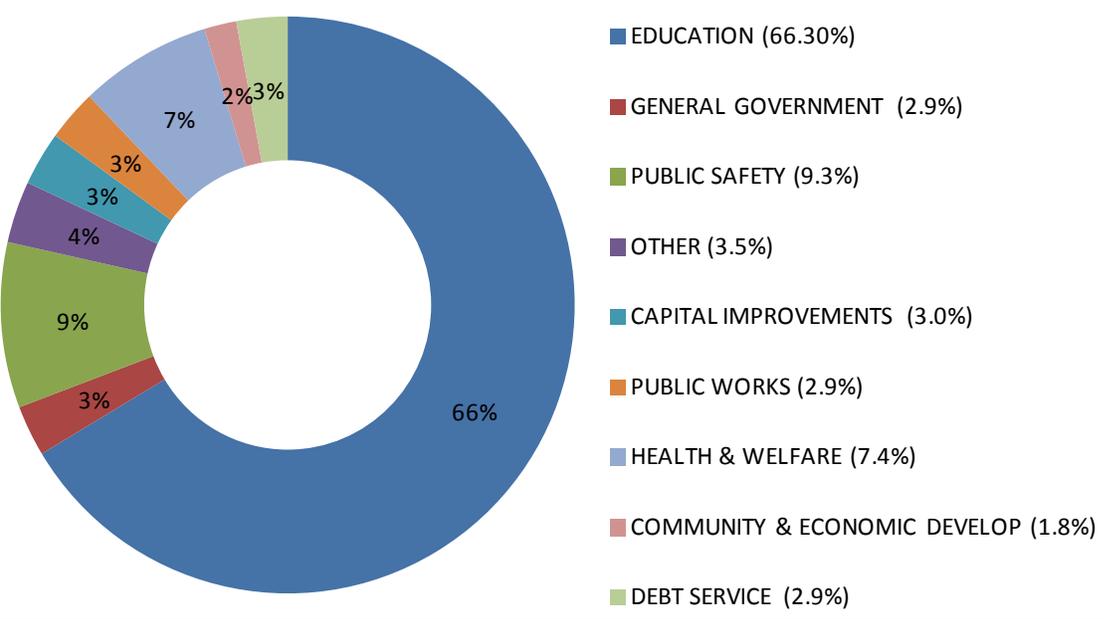
Washington County's financial position remains solid and continues to maintain excellent bond ratings

Fiscal Year 2015 - 2016

ADOPTED REVENUE BUDGET
\$122,301,343



ADOPTED EXPENDITURE BUDGET
\$122,301,343



Bond Ratings:
 Standard & Poor's:
AA Rating
 Moody's Investor Service:
Aa3 Rating
 Fitch Rating Service:
AA- Rating

A locality's bond rating is an independent assessment of the government's credit standing and worthiness, or a local government's credit score. Just as individuals have their own personal credit score, such as , a bond rating serves that same purpose for government.

Higher bond ratings are an indication of a strong financial position and allows a government to borrow money at a much lower interest rate in the event they enter the bond market for a major project or seek small loans locally.

Human Resources

Kathy Johnson, PHR
Director of Human Resources
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kjohnson@washcova.com

The Department of Human Resources is responsible for all employees of the County's general government, as well as, administering benefits for approximately 300 employees. This department plans, implements and administers the human resources functions for the County. Staff works with the County Administrator, County Attorney, Department Directors, and Constitutional Officers, to ensure the County is in compliance with all state and federal regulations and advises department directors on personnel matters.

Job postings, maintaining job applications, interviewing, initial employee orientation, as well as final exit interviews, terminations, or retirements are all handled by the Department of Human Resources. Staff prepares and submits all timesheets for final payroll, maintains employee records, and processes workman's compensation and unemployment claims.

The Human Resources Director serves on the Personnel Committee. This Committee reviews personnel policies, procedures, and job positions. The Committee also seeks and provides solutions to workplace issues that support the vision and operating policies of the County Administrator and Board of Supervisors. All personnel actions begin with this committee before going to the Board of Supervisors for final approval if required.

The Human Resources Department is committed to providing high quality service to all prospective, current, and past employees, and to treating such individuals with respect, good care, and individual attention from the first contact concerning services and programs, through retirement. By making this commitment, the office of Human Resources will be able to maintain a high level of mutual trust and respect, and be an example to the County's workforce as to what is expected of them in their day to day interaction with every County citizen.

New Policies & Procedures

Having well-developed policies and procedures in place helps clarify employee expectations for performance and standards of behavior. As federal and state laws constantly evolve, updating and implementing new policies is an important process to help ensure professionalism, clarity, and compliance.

Workplace Harassment and Discrimination Policy

Workplace harassment awareness and prevention training is required by law for most large employers as well as public employees, and the consequences of failing to comply are serious. One of the best ways an employer can prevent claims of harassment is to educate everyone on the job, and one of the easiest ways to educate everyone is to have an anti-harassment policy. This past year the Human Resources Department and Personnel Committee saw the need for such a policy and created an updated policy. The Board of Supervisors approved the Workplace Harassment and Discrimination policy on May 12, 2015.



ADA/ADAA Disabilities Policy



The County is committed to developing and supporting an inclusive and diverse environment which provides equal opportunity for all employees with disabilities to access, participate, and enjoy the benefits of employment. The County strongly supports the rights of people with disabilities to work and to be treated with dignity and respect.

The County did not have a policy in place that would align to the ADA/ADAAA regulations. Although the Disability Discrimination Act has been around since 1992, there have been several changes in the last few years.

The Human Resources Department and the Personnel Committee wanted to ensure the integration of the principles of equal access, participation, and opportunity for employees with disabilities; with this purpose in mind created and presented a new Disabilities policy to the Board of Supervisors that was approved on July 20, 2015.



Driver Safety Training

In April, all Administrative division employees received defensive driving training. This training was completed in a Defensive Driving Simulator at the Sheriff's Department Safety Building by our insurance carrier VACORP. Forty-five employees participated in this event, including the Solid Waste CDL truck drivers.

This training was very important as the County seeks to maintain a safe working environment for employees, and reduce liabilities caused by accidents and injuries.



In an effort to save the County thousands of dollars and move towards paperless records, the Human Resources

Department rolled out several key initiatives. By partnering with the Treasurer's Office, the HR Department successfully enrolled all Administrative, Constitutional, Library, and Social Services employees in either direct deposit or Paycard for Paychecks, instead of issuing traditional paper checks. This transition was completed by July 1, 2015. All School Division employees will be transitioned by early 2016.

Additionally, the County's new Employee Self Service Portal was rolled out this year, allowing employees to view their personal information, pay checks with earnings and deductions, tax information and W-2's online. The portal also includes links to sites for the Virginia Retirement System, The Local Choice Health Insurance and Mark III, optional insurance coverages.

In time, this site will also allow employees to enter their hours worked and submit leave requests.

New Features to the Washington County Website

Information Systems

Keith Loyd

Information Systems
Public Safety Building
20281 Rustic Lane
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(276) 525-1365
kloyd@washcova.com

The Department of Information Systems (IS) directs the development, operation and maintenance of the County's computer-based information technology (IT) hardware and software systems. All desktop, business, and back office applications, data servers, backup and recovery processes, facility access and security controls, telephone systems and County's website are maintained and managed by the department.

The department also supports the Washington County Sheriff's Office and Office of Emergency Management through maintaining and managing the hardware and software used in daily office operations, patrol vehicles and the County's E-911 and dispatch center.

A range of professional and administrative services are provided through the department in the development, implementation, maintenance, management, and operation of a computerized geographic information system (GIS) spatial database for the County government. County Departments and agencies utilize the IS Department on a regular basis for GIS mapping applications and projects.

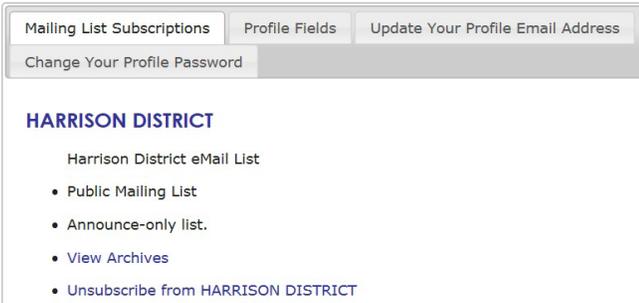
The IS Department supports other County departments and agencies by providing services such as software and hardware support, project management, training and technical consulting. The Towns of Abingdon, Glade Spring, Damascus, and Saltville also benefit from the services of the IS Department through sharing of tax assessment data.

The Department of Information Systems continually works to improve and enhance the County's website. This year's introduction of several key features made the website more user friendly for county citizens, businesses, and employees.



A new Query Builder search tool was added to the County's Interactive GIS mapping site. All fields related to parcel information are now searchable, allowing users to perform more dynamic searches. Parcel Land Cards now reflect "up to the minute" modifications and can be printed within the Interactive GIS.

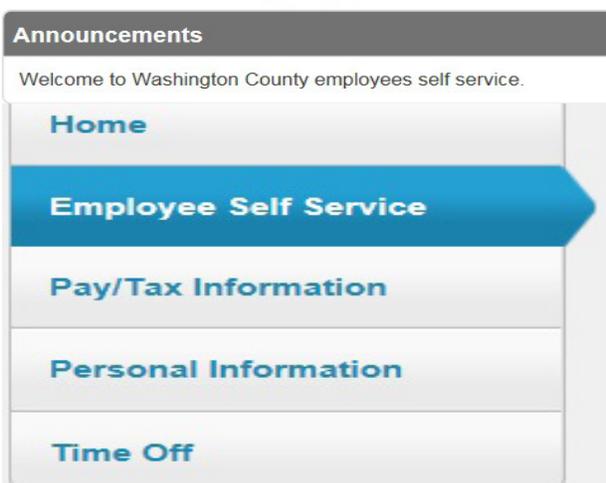
A Citizen Notification Portal was implemented and made available on the County website. This allows the current Board of Supervisors to send information to the constituents of their respective districts. Citizens can sign up on the County's website to receive information via their personal email.



The Information Systems Department continued to improve the Board of Supervisors Meeting Agendas and Minutes section of the website, including video recordings of each Board of Supervisors Meeting. Soon, agendas and minutes of the Industrial Development Authority will also be available to view and search from this portal.



Welcome to Employee Self Service



Information Systems also continued to work with the Department of Human Resources, and other County departments to implement the new Employee Self Service Portal. Additionally, the Information Systems Department worked with the County Administration Department, Public School System, Washington County Sheriff's Office, Department of Social Services, and the Public Library System to install and launch new financial ERP software. This includes implementation of a General Ledger, Purchasing, Payroll, and Human Resources modules.

General Services

Kevin Hill

General Services

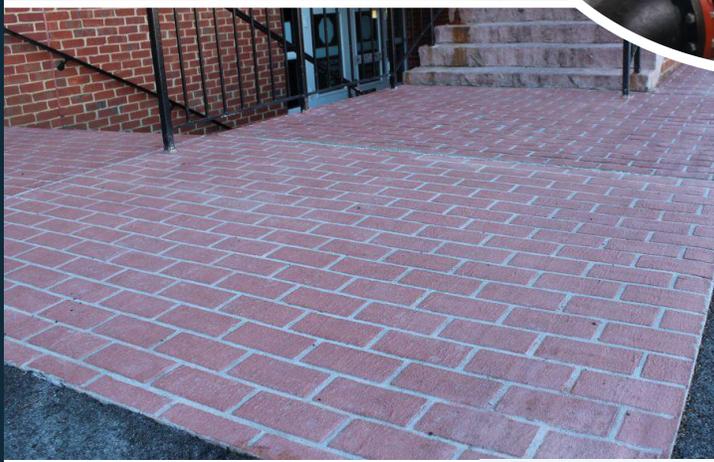
1 Government Center Place, Suite A
Abingdon, VA 24210
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khill@washcova.com

The Department of General Services is responsible for the efficient and economic management of County-owned properties in order to provide a safe and productive working environment for the County's employees, as well as, citizens who visit and conduct business in County facilities. This department provides direct support to the County's various offices, departments, and agencies for facility needs and motor vehicle fleet management.

Maintaining the county's inventory of buildings, grounds, structures and unimproved real estate holdings is the primary responsibility of the General Services department. This includes providing essential maintenance and repair services, as well as renovations and modifications to County properties and structures. This department also manages contracts related to the upkeep, equipping and operation of County vehicles, as well as, acquisition, licensing, maintenance, replacement, and disposal of county vehicles. General Services coordinates and manages all leases and similar arrangements between the County and other agencies for use of County property, and ensures adequate insurance protection and compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws. This department also manages the County's central records and surplus property programs.

Building Projects

The Department of General Services completed two major improvement project this year. In an effort to cut costs, the Voter Registrar's Office was relocated from Lee Highway to the Government Center Building. After careful planning, the County's own General Services Crew was able to remodel a section on the second floor to accommodate the needs of the Voter Registrar's Office. Additionally, the General Services Crew installed a 10" backflow preventer valve on the main fire line going into the Public Safety Building. This is in compliance with current codes that are enforced by the local service authority.



To ensure a safe entrance for Courthouse employees, a deteriorated existing brick sidewalk was removed and replaced with a concrete sidewalk, stenciled to resemble the original brick pattern. Additionally, the Long Range Courthouse Committee selected an architectural firm to conduct a needs/space assessment for the Courthouse and surrounding buildings.

By procuring and working with contractors, the Department of General Services assisted with several major remodeling projects to the Community Services Building. A new 30-year roof was installed to fix issues with water leaks, and provide a safe, dry workplace in the future. Social Services received new offices and administrative space, the Health Department received a new Exam Room, and WIC (Women, Infants, & Children) received a new waiting room.



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT



Washington County's history is shaped by its location, land, and natural resources. In 1776, when Washington County was founded, two major travel routes intersected at Abingdon and brought thousands of settlers to the area. The fertile soil and abundant water supplies in the county soon created a thriving agricultural and industrial community possessing a unique cultural identity. Today, careful planning and forethought are taken to preserve the cultural and historical heritage of Washington County, while still preparing for future growth and development.

Community Development & Planning

Cherith Marshall

Community Development & Planning

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The Department of Community Development & Planning is responsible for short and long-range planning activities within Washington County. The department prepares and updates the County's Comprehensive Plan and works to amend County ordinances as needed. Department staff works with numerous committees responding to a wide range of issues affecting the County and provides assistance with respect to any trends, events, and emerging issues of significance to land use planning in Washington County.

The Comprehensive Plan

Washington County, Virginia Comprehensive Plan



The Washington County Board of Supervisors formally adopted the Comprehensive Plan in April, concluding almost two years of work on this project. The result of this hard work is a long range planning document, or blueprint, to help County officials manage growth, guide development, and implement the community's vision for the future over the next 20 years. The Comprehensive Plan focuses on six major topics: Housing, Economic Development, Natural & Cultural Resources, Community Facilities, Transportation, and Land Use.

Preparation of the plan provided an opportunity for county leaders and staff persons to work with the citizens to develop a vision for future growth and development in Washington County. Many community meetings, Planning Commission work sessions, and public hearings were held to discuss the plan and obtain input from the community.

Once the Comprehensive Plan was adopted, staff transitioned from planning to implementation. The Comprehensive Plan Committee was formed, consisting of two Planning Commission members and staff, to oversee this effort. During their first meeting, the committee selected a few objectives to prioritize: create a "Development Guidebook", research definition of "modern manufacturing" to add to the Zoning Ordinances, work on adding information to the County's website about the importance of agriculture to the community, as well as create a calendar of events/festivals held throughout Washington County.

New to Virginia in 2015 was the House Bill 2 prioritization process to receive transportation funds. House Bill 2 was signed into law by Governor McAuliffe in 2014 and implemented in 2015. The bill directs the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) to utilize a prioritization process to select transportation projects to be funded. Planning staff worked closely with the Virginia Department of Transportation to submit an application for funding for interchange improvements at Interstate 81, Exit 19. The application will be reviewed and scored based on an objective and fair analysis applied statewide. Successful applications will be announced in 2016.



Zoning Administration

The Department of Zoning Administration is responsible for the administration of Washington County's subdivision and zoning ordinances. A major duty of this department is to provide technical assistance on zoning and subdivision issues to the public, the Board of Supervisors, the County Planning Commission, and the County Board of Zoning Appeals. Zoning Administration also serves as secretary for the County Planning Commission and the Board of Zoning Appeals, and is responsible for the preparation of agenda materials.

In addition, Zoning Administration also conducts investigations on any violations of the County's zoning and subdivision ordinances. Any modification (division, boundary adjustment, consolidation) to a parcel must be approved by the Zoning and Subdivision Administration Department to ensure compliance with Zoning Ordinances.

Cathie Freeman

Zoning Administration

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2015 was a busy year for ordinance amendments in Washington County. A text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance is initiated when changes to sections of the Zoning Ordinance are needed to address specific issues. Working closely with the Department of Community Development & Planning, ordinance amendments were made to define "auditoriums," "ecotourism," "private club and lodge," and to revise and update the County's "Recreational Vehicle Park and Campground" ordinance. This work was prompted by developers and/or citizens proposing creative projects to capitalize on Washington County's unique and distinctive assets of traditional music, outdoor beauty, and recreation. Research for a solar ordinance is underway and will continue into 2016.

Technical Review Committee

Zoning Administration coordinates and participates in monthly meetings of the Technical Review Committee to review all County subdivision and development projects. These meetings allow developers and all of the local entities to meet at one time to clarify and simplify the approval process, and to review projects to determine if the developer has adequately provided infrastructure improvements and complied with subdivision platting requirements. The Technical Review Committee is composed of Virginia Department of Transportation, Washington County Health Department, Washington County Service Authority, County Subdivision & Zoning Department, Town Engineering Department, Local Land Surveyors/Engineers, and County Building Development

Zoning Administration assisted the Federal Emergency Management Agency in updating the County's Flood Hazard Maps. These maps identify properties that are at risk for flooding. Participating in this program allows the National Flood Insurance Program to offer flood insurance to homeowners, renters, and business owners in Washington County.



Updated Flood Hazard Maps

Building & Development Services

Brain Hilderbrand

Building & Development Services

1 Government Center Place,
Suite A

Abingdon, VA 24210

(276) 525-1320

bhilderbrand@washcova.com

The Department of Building and Development Services is responsible for administration and enforcement of the adopted Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code. Homeowners and developers are entitled to skillful, effective, and reliable guidance from trained personnel in the areas of construction, renovation, improvement, and demolition of property. This department is committed to administering support in a courteous and timely manner. With a focus on the safety of county residents, the Building and Development Services Department provides knowledge and services regarding local, state, and federal building codes and standards, plan reviews, issuing building permits, and conducting inspections.

In an effort to maintain the professionalism and integrity of this department, staff members participate in continuing education for the latest techniques and requirements within the construction industry, as well as customer service and technology.

Current staff members include:

Director/Building Official: conducts plan review, administers the adopted codes, and manages the department.

Environmental Inspector: enforces the VA Stormwater Management Program and the Erosion & Sediment Control Program.

2 Building Inspectors: conduct inspections, site visits, and plan reviews.

2 Permit Technicians: process permit applications, issue building permits, schedule inspections, and maintain office records.



New Director of Building and Development Services

In May, Brian Hilderbrand joined the County as the new Director of Building and Development Services. In this position, Mr. Hilderbrand serves as the Chief Building Official. Prior to joining Washington County, Mr. Hilderbrand served as a building inspector for Bristol, Tennessee, Washington DC, Sedona, Arizona and Clarkdale, Arizona. Before inspecting buildings, Mr. Hilderbrand worked as a contractor and/or carpenter for over twenty years in both Virginia and Arizona.

Erosion Sediment Control and Stormwater Management

This year, as the Virginia Stormwater Management Program Authority, the department assumed the responsibility of reviewing, permitting, and inspecting all projects in accordance with Virginia's Erosion and Sediment Control/Laws and Regulations. These duties were formerly performed jointly with A. Morton Thomas (AMT).



New Processes & Procedures

The Building & Development Services Department has implemented new procedures to track permit applications, plan review status, and inspection reporting. The goal of the new procedures is to improve efficiency and provide accurate, up to date information to homeowners, contractors and design professionals.



2015 Building & Development Services Projects

Provided plan review, permitting, and inspection services for over 500 projects, including:

- Love's Travel Center in Meadowview
- Exit 19 Wal-Mart Supercenter
- Johnston Memorial Hospital 4th Floor Buildout
- 49 New Residential Homes

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



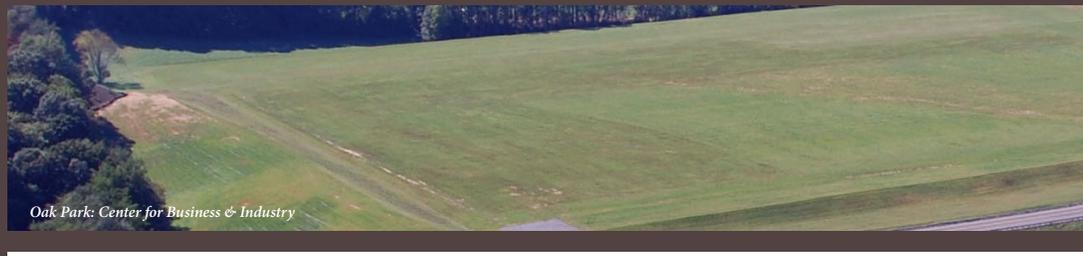
The goal of Economic Development is to strengthen the economy of Washington County through industry growth and diversification. A strong, diverse economy enables Washington County to support a higher quality of life for its citizens by providing job opportunities and broadening the tax base. The County reinvests tax revenues into community services and amenities, including the public school and library systems, public water and sewer facilities, and emergency services.

Economic Development & Community Relations

Whitney Bonham

Director, Economic Development
& Community Relations

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Abingdon, VA 24210
(276) 525-1305
wbonham@washcova.com



Oak Park: Center for Business & Industry

The Economic Development & Community Relations Department focuses on three strategic areas: the retention and expansion of existing businesses, new industrial attraction and recruitment, and business development and entrepreneurship. To foster a pro-business environment in Washington County, this department creates collaborative partnerships between businesses, government, and the community. This includes working closely with the Washington County Joint Economic Development Committee, the Washington County Industrial Development Authority (IDA), the Smyth-Washington Regional Industrial Facilities Authority (SWIFA), the Washington County Chamber of Commerce, and the Virginia Highlands Airport Authority.

The Washington County IDA developed and oversees Oak Park: Center for Business and Industry, a 338 acre industrial park located near Exit 13 on I-81. This Board is comprised of seven members appointed by the Washington County Board of Supervisors and is the primary organization responsible for industrial development within the County.

In the late 1990's, Smyth County and Washington County entered into a joint venture to develop Highlands Business Park, a 300 acre industrial park located in Glade Spring. The Smyth-Washington Regional Industrial Facilities Authority was formed along with the park, and is comprised of six members, three each appointed by the Boards of Supervisors for Smyth and Washington Counties, and is responsible for the development and marketing of Highlands Business Park.

Economic Development Project Activity at a Decade High

2015 marked a strong year for economic development project inquiries, capital investment, and job announcements. Throughout the year, County-supported economic development activities benefiting industrial and retail projects announced attraction of 487 new jobs and over \$36 million in new investment to the community. Each of the named projects below includes new facility construction activities.

2015: New Economic Development Announcements

	Capital Investment	# of Jobs	Future Location
Qore Systems LLC	\$12,800,000	140	Manufacturing Project to Highlands Business Park
Chris Renee Cosmetics LLC	\$2,027,750	37	Manufacturing Project to Oak Park: Center for Business and Industry
Crown/Dash Ventures LLC	\$20,000,000	250	Retail/Commercial Development Near Exit 19
Love's Travel Stop	\$1,500,000	60	Travel Center Development Near Exit 24
TOTAL:	\$36,327,750	487	

QORE SYSTEMS LLC: Relocating to Washington County



In June, Governor Terry McAuliffe announced that Qore Systems, LLC will establish its first Virginia operations in Glade Spring at Highlands Business Park. Qore Systems, LLC is the developer, manufacturer, and distributor of Qore-24, the world's first antimicrobial hand purifier that effectively kills germs for up to 24 hours. The company will invest \$12.8 million to develop and build the new facility, and create 140 new jobs. Virginia successfully competed against sites in North Carolina.



Henry Snodgrass

Chairman, Industrial
Development Authority

1 Government Center Place
Suite D

Abingdon, VA 24210
(276) 628-8141



Harry Dean

Chairman

Smyth-Washington Regional
Industrial Facilities Authority

1021 Terrace Drive
Marion, VA 24354
(276) 783-5103





Chris Renee Cosmetics LLC: Establish New Manufacturing Operations

In September, Chris Renee Cosmetics LLC announced that the company will establish a new manufacturing operation in Oak Park, Center for Business and Industry. Chris Renee Cosmetics, LLC produces natural cosmetics for its two beauty and skin care lines, Chris Renee and 40 West Naturals. The company is investing more than \$2 million to develop and build the new manufacturing facility which will also create 37 new jobs. Washington County successfully competed against sites in Kentucky, Ohio, and Tennessee.



Construction underway on New Building



Future site of Chris Renee Cosmetics, LLC.

Growth from Within

Washington County's economic development growth is further strengthened by new job creation and investment opportunities driven by existing employers. County staff report that outreach activities to assist existing employers for connecting to resources provided by state, regional, or utility-supported business assistance and workforce training programs has also helped facilitate the creation of 120 new jobs, retention of at least 100 jobs, and new private investment exceeding \$1.2 million. County staff also conducted 20 visits to industrial employers during 2015.

Bristol Compressors: EXPANDING OPERATIONS

During the first quarter of 2015, the Washington County Board of Supervisors, Industrial Development Authority, and the Economic Development Department worked with Bristol Compressors on a project to expand its operations. In April, Governor McAuliffe announced that Bristol Compressors would invest \$1 million and create 110 new jobs in connection with this expansion project.



Washington County Chamber of Commerce

Suzanne Lay

Executive Vice President

1 Government Center Place, Suite 2

Abingdon, VA 24210

(276) 628-8141

www.WashingtonVaChamber.org

chamber@bvu.net



Leadership Washington County 22nd Graduating Class

Founded in 1927, the Washington County Chamber of Commerce is a volunteer association of business members working together to strengthen the business climate and to advance the economic, industrial, professional, cultural, and civic welfare of Washington County. Financed by approximately 560 member's investments, the Chamber is independent of all other organizations or groups, and serves as the leading spokesperson for private enterprise in Washington County.

The Chamber of Commerce provides secretarial and administrative services for the Washington County Industrial Development Authority. In this capacity, the Chamber serves as custodian of records and files for the IDA, handles monthly meeting agendas and minutes, and coordinates IDA activities with the IDA Board and the County Economic Development Department.

The Leadership Washington County (LWC) program was started in 1992 as a non-advocacy, non-partisan group to challenge individuals to become actively involved in community affairs and to provide the necessary background to enhance their leadership abilities. Many of Washington County's elected and appointed local government officials, as well as corporate executives from banking, healthcare, education, and private non-profit organizations are graduates of Leadership Washington County.

A monthly Chamber Breakfast series was started in 2009, as a great opportunity for the community to be informed about important topics in Washington County. March 2015 through November 2015, the breakfasts were held on the third Thursday of each month at the Abingdon Senior Center. Contact the Chamber of Commerce, or visit www.WashingtonVaChamber.org, for 2016 Breakfast Series dates and location.

The Leadership Washington County program consisted of eighteen sessions which brought together participants and area government, business, and community leaders. Sessions included: Community Trusteeship, Profile of Washington County, Understanding Leadership Styles, County Government, Financing Local Government, Economic Development, Technology, State Government, and the Arts in Washington County. A highlight of the program included a 3-day trip to Richmond to attend a session of the General Assembly. Participants also met with elected officials, attended committee meetings, and toured the Capitol buildings.



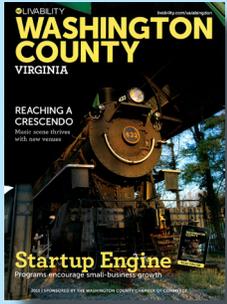
In addition, three unique projects were completed this year by the members of Leadership Washington County including: creation of an Outdoor Classroom at Greendale Elementary, development of a marketing video and brochure for the 4-H Education Center, and an analysis of the impact of local craft beers on tourism and economic development.



Annual Industrial Appreciation Luncheon & Golf Outing

The Chamber of Commerce and the Washington County Industrial Development Authority hosted their Annual Industrial Appreciation Luncheon & Golf Outing at the Glenrochie Country Club on June 3rd. 100 local business and community leaders participated in this event.

The Chamber sponsored the 15th Annual *Livability Magazine*, a full-color magazine and digital marketing program that highlights the great quality of life in Washington County to newcomers, visitors, and relocating businesses.



REACHING A CRESCENDO
With new business and new residents

Startup Engine
Programs encourage small-business growth



2nd Annual Business Challenge Competition

The Business Challenge program is an ambitious business plan competition designed to attract entrepreneurs to locate start-up businesses or to expand existing small businesses within Washington County and the Towns of Abingdon, Glade Spring, and Damascus.

This has been one of the most successful small business and community support programs of the Chamber of Commerce, with 14 new start-ups and 8 expansions since the start of the program.

The 2015 winners were announced at the Chamber's March 20th breakfast briefing. In the Start-up Business category, **Political Dogs** with owner Lee Coburn, was the first place winner. In the Existing Business category, **Cuttin' Up Salon** with owner Angie Wilson, was the first place winner. Each category won \$5,000 towards implementing their winning business strategy.

In addition to the Washington County IDA, other local, regional, and state agencies, as well as private sector organizations partnered with the Chamber of Commerce to support this program.



The Noon Knowledge Professional Development Series is a free program presented weekly by the Chamber of Commerce, the Virginia Dept. of Small Business Assistance and Supplier Diversity, and the Virginia Highlands Small Business Incubator. This on-going series is designed for all local entrepreneurs and professionals interested in building skills in a variety of business-related topics. Sessions take place at noon at the Small Business Incubator, and last 60 to 90 minutes. This year, the series presented 30 Sessions and had more than 550 participants.



2015 Officers

- Jamea Blevins, President
- Danny Ruble, President-elect
- Jim Swartz, Treasurer
- Neta Farmer, Secretary

2015 Board Members

- Mary Begley
- Jason Berry
- John Brickey
- Lee Coburn
- Mike Duckett
- Stacey Ely
- April Hamby-Crabtree
- Sharon Kyser
- Melinda Leland
- Cathy Lowe
- David Matlock
- Allison Mays
- Tim McVey
- Andrew Neese
- Jack Phelps
- Grey Preston
- Kay Stout
- Janet Woolwine

2015 Committees

Internal Affairs Division

April Hamby-Crabtree, Vice President

Budget & Finance Committee

Jim Swartz Chair

Membership Committee

Kristie Helms, Chair

Public Relations Committee

Sharon Kyser, Chair

Fund Raising Committee

Chamber Staff

Public Affairs Division

Cathy Lowe, Vice President

Legislative Committee

Mary Begley, Chair

Transportation Committee

Pete Montague, Chair

Information Technology Committee

Nancy Firebaugh, Chair

Economic Development Division

John Brickey, Vice President

Agricultural Committee

Phil Blevins, Chair

Tourism Committee

Andrew Neese, Chair

Industrial Development Committee

Joe Hutton, Chair

Community Affairs Division

Jason Berry, Vice President

Small Business Committee

Sandy Ratliff, Chair

Education Committee

David Matlock, Chair

Professional Committee

Jack Phelps, Chair

Long Range Planning Committee

Jim Swartz, Chair

Leadership Washington County

Barry Firebaugh, Coordinator

Virginia Highlands Airport Authority

Mickey Hines

Virginia Highlands Airport

18521 Lee Highway

Abingdon, VA 24212

(276) 628-2909

www.VaHighlandsAirport.org

vji46@embarqmail.com

The Virginia Highlands Airport Authority (VHAA) is responsible for the operation of the Virginia Highlands Airport. The Authority is composed of a seven member Board of Directors, one member from each of the County's seven Electoral Districts appointed by the Washington County Board of Supervisors.

Virginia Highlands Airport has a long history tied to economic development and industry. In 1958, Appalachian Power Company began construction on a power plant in Russell County. An employee working on the project, with a desire to live in the Abingdon area and fly the 30 miles to the construction site, leased farm land along Highway 11 and graded out a small dirt airstrip. As industry spread throughout Southwest Virginia and Washington County, the small dirt airstrip became a 2,800 feet long and 40 feet wide paved runway by the late 1960s, 3,380 feet in length and 75 feet in width by 1986, and then extended again in 1991 to its present length of 4470 feet.

As one of the busiest general aviation airports in Virginia, it became apparent that the runway would need to be extended by an additional 1,000 feet to support the growing demand of industry and corporate air traffic, and to enhance the safety of aircraft using Virginia Highlands Airport. At present, the runway length limits the size of aircraft that can take off and land, resulting in lost business to Tri-Cities Regional Airport.

Working with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Virginia Department of Aviation, the VHAA has completed numerous improvement projects, including installing a perimeter fence around airport property and a stormwater drainage system, refurbished existing hazard light towers, and constructed ten new public T-hangars.



2015 Construction Projects



New Landing Pad for Med-Flight II

The Virginia State Police Med-Flight II Base Station replaced the surface of the landing pad this year. The previous asphalt surface had been in place since the mid-1980s when the base station began its operations at Virginia Highlands Airport. Wear and tear had caused the pad to buckle and crack, making it difficult to respond to medical emergencies, where every second could be the difference between life and death. The new landing pad, made of concrete, is expected to last 25 years and improve the functionality of the station.

Fast Facts:

- Total acres: 250
- Number of Employees: 10
- Based aircraft: 72
- Based business jet aircraft: 8
- Total assessed value of aircraft: Over \$21 million
- Amount of local tax revenue annually: \$325,000
- Average number of take-offs and landings annually: 8,000
- Home of Virginia State Police Med-Flight II Base Station



This year, a \$1.1 million grant from the FAA and Virginia Department of Aviation assisted in the removal of trees on 41 off-airport properties. This project greatly improved safety for aircrafts arriving and departing Virginia Highlands Airport.

COMMUNITY UTILITIES



The provision of potable drinking water and sanitary sewer are foundational building blocks for community growth and development. A majority of Washington County's water distribution can attribute its origins to WPA projects initiated during the Great Depression. As the County developed throughout the years, the system was expanded and eventually consolidated to form the Washington County Service Authority. Today, the Washington County Service Authority's water distribution services covers approximately 300 square miles, with over 900 miles of pipeline serving +20,000 customers. Wastewater service continues to evolve in Washington County; today, the Washington County Service Authority's collection system covers 25 square miles and is comprised of 68 miles of pipeline.

Similarly, public sanitation plays an important role in helping to ensure that residents of our community have the ability to safely dispose of used articles and goods. Public sanitation is also important to our business community, as waste remediation continues to become an important factor for cost containment and corporate responsibility.

Solid Waste

Jeff Blevins
Solid Waste

14579 Industrial Park Road
Bristol, VA 24202
(276) 623-1044
jblevins@washcova.com

The Department of Solid Waste oversees the operation of the County's solid waste disposal operations, facilities and equipment. Presently, the Department collects solid waste through a series of fourteen (14) Manned Solid Waste Convenience Stations (MCS) located strategically throughout the County. This department collects and transports the solid waste to one Solid Waste Transfer Station which is located in the Bristol-Washington County Industrial Park. Solid waste from Washington County is then exported to an out-of-state landfill in Sullivan County, TN. The Department itself offers no curbside collection services; however, these services may be contracted for through private waste collection and transportation companies, which have solid waste hauling franchises in the County.



New Director of Solid Waste

Jeff Blevins joined the County in August as the new Director of Solid Waste. Mr. Blevins started working in the Solid Waste Industry as a laborer at the Waste to Energy Plant for the City of Salem, VA, before advancing to Facility Foreman. Additionally, Mr. Blevins has served as Transfer Station Superintendent for Alleghany County, and Assistant Solid Waste Manager for the City of Bristol, VA. Mr. Blevins has received a Class I, II, III, and IV Virginia Solid Waste Operator Certification, as well as a SWANA MOLO Certification. A member of the Southwest Virginia Solid Waste Management Association Board since 2006, Mr. Blevins currently serves as Vice President, and has previously held the position of Secretary and President.

2015 Improvement Projects



A new concrete pad was installed underneath the compactor at the Gate City Transfer Station, replacing the existing, deteriorated pad that was causing drainage issues. A key feature of the new pad includes a better drainage system with a waste water holding container, ensuring that all liquids or contaminated rainwater would not run off-site into adjacent streams or properties.

Oil containment systems were also installed at all County transfer stations to prevent used oil spills and ground contamination.

2015 Highlights:

The employees in the Solid Waste Department worked hard this year to keep Washington County clean.

Containers Processed:

- Open Top Containers: 3,228
- Compactor Containers: 1,415
- Recycling Containers: 129
- Cardboard Containers: 21 *(Began in November)*

Road Miles: 149,257 Miles

Waste Processed:

- 25,437 tons of Waste
- 62 tons of Scrap Metal
- 131 tons of Plastic, Tin, Aluminum, and Mixed Paper



Hours of Operation for Solid Waste Convenience Stations

Transfer Station for Commercial Trash Only - Monday thru Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. Closed on Saturday

Location	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Benhams Community	12 pm to 7 pm	9 am to 6 pm	CLOSED	9 am to 6 pm	11 am to 5 pm	8 am to 5 pm	CLOSED
Damascus Area	12 pm to 7 pm	9 am to 6 pm		9 am to 6 pm	11 am to 5 pm	8 am to 5 pm	
Valley Institute	12 pm to 7 pm	9 am to 6 pm		9 am to 6 pm	11 am to 5 pm	8 am to 5 pm	
Glade Spring	12 pm to 7 pm	9 am to 6 pm		9 am to 6 pm	11 am to 5 pm	8 am to 5 pm	
Green Cove Community	12 pm to 7 pm	9 am to 6 pm		9 am to 6 pm	11 am to 5 pm	8 am to 5 pm	
Green Springs Community	12 pm to 7 pm	9 am to 6 pm		9 am to 6 pm	11 am to 5 pm	8 am to 5 pm	
Hayter's Gap Community	12 pm to 7 pm	9 am to 6 pm		9 am to 6 pm	11 am to 5 pm	8 am to 5 pm	
Konnarock Community	12 pm to 7 pm	9 am to 6 pm		9 am to 6 pm	11 am to 5 pm	8 am to 5 pm	
Abingdon Area	8 am to 5 pm	8 am to 5 pm	8 am to 5 pm	8 am to 5 pm	8 am to 5 pm	8 am to 5 pm	
Lodi Community	12 pm to 7 pm	9 am to 6 pm	CLOSED	9 am to 6 pm	11 am to 5 pm	8 am to 5 pm	
Mendota Community	10 am to 7 pm	11 am to 5 pm		11 am to 5 pm	11 am to 5 pm	8 am to 5 pm	
Mud Hollow Area	12 pm to 7 pm	9 am to 6 pm		9 am to 6 pm	11 am to 5 pm	8 am to 5 pm	
Greendale Community	10 am to 7 pm	8 am to 5 pm		8 am to 5 pm	8 am to 5 pm	8 am to 5 pm	
Tumbling Creek	12 am to 7 pm	9 am to 6 pm		9 am to 6 pm	11 am to 5 pm	8 am to 5 pm	



Washington County Service Authority

Robbie Cornett
General Manager
Washington County
Service Authority
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The Washington County Service Authority (WCSA) provides safe and dependable supply of drinking water throughout Washington County, as well as an environmentally sound wastewater collection and treatment service in portions of the County. WCSA serves approximately 90 percent of Washington County's population with drinking water through 900 miles of pipeline over a 300-square mile area. WCSA provides wastewater service to more than 2,300 customers in various locations in the County. As an independent Authority, WCSA is composed of a seven-member Board of Commissioners appointed by the Washington County Board of Supervisors.



Gold Ranking for 5th Consecutive Year

For the fifth consecutive year, WCSA was awarded the highest possible ranking (Gold) in operations and performance excellence for water utilities by the Virginia Department of Health. The Middle Fork Drinking Water Plant, along with 21 others statewide, earned a performance score of 20 in the judging criteria, with 20 being the highest possible score. The number one ranking means the water produced is three times cleaner than the required standards.



2015 Construction Projects:

The Washington County Service Authority continued work on extending water service throughout the County, reaching an additional 70 homes that previously relied on private wells, springs, or cisterns. Extension project completions include Tumbling Creek Road, North Fork River Road, Nordyke Road, and Rich Valley/White's Mill Road. While working along Nordyke Road, the Washington County Services Authority also replaced several existing galvanized water lines and improved service to 16 WCSA customers.

Projects Under Construction:

Hidden Valley Road Water System Extension Project – extending water service to 38 homes or businesses. Water for this project is provided by a master meter connection to the Russell County Water System.

Now in Phase II of its Galvanized Line Replacement Project, the WCSA will continue to replace all galvanized pipe in the system over the next several years. Fire hydrants will be added where possible and practicable. This project will directly impact approximately 8,000 existing connections (40% of WCSA's customer base) and indirectly impact hundreds/thousands more.



COMMUNITY SERVICES



Personal growth and community engagement are important values to Washington County. Community services provide our citizens with multiple avenues to access resources which advance education, ensure public participation in the democratic process, and promote individual and family stability.

Public School System

Dr. Brian Ratliff
Superintendent

Washington County Public Schools
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The Washington County School System is an award winning school system that provides quality education for more than 7,300 students. The students are taught by a highly devoted team in 17 schools across the County consisting of 7 elementary schools, 4 middle schools, 4 high schools, a Career & Technical Education Center and an Adult Skill Center

The Washington County School Board oversees the operations of the County's public school system and is made up of seven elected school board members, one from each of the seven election districts. High expectations, strong relationships and continuous academic rigor are the foundational tenets to accomplish our mission and vision and to remain focused on building student learners and leaders.

The Washington County School Board and Board of Supervisors are committed to providing the best learning environment possible for all students. Schools in Washington County are fully accredited by the Commonwealth of Virginia and by AdvancED, the parent organization of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). Washington County Public Schools maintain a state graduation rate above 95% (including all diploma and completion types recognized by the Virginia Board of Education).

The Washington County School Division is determined to build on its accomplishments by improving every day.



A Year of High Achievement

All schools made significant improvements in student achievement as indicated by the Department of Education Standards of Learning (SOL) assessments. In the area of mathematics, students reached every achievement benchmark established by the Department of Education. Additionally, an extensive analysis of SOL data was completed and provided to administrators and teachers to help guide the development of school improvement plans and teacher goal setting in the future.



The Washington County Career and Technical Educational Centers had a successful year with an increased number of students earning industry certificates and verified credits in Career and Technical Education courses.



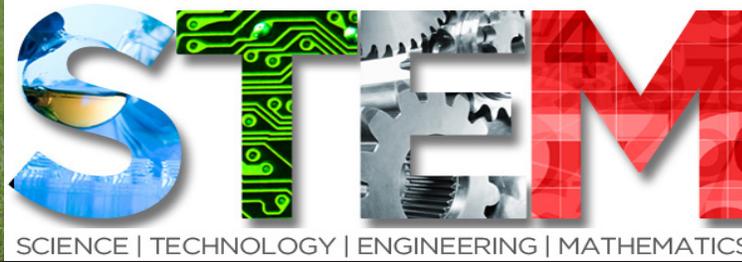


2014-2015 Distinguished School Awards

- High Point Elementary School received National Title 1 Distinguished School distinction.
- Greendale and High Point Elementary Schools were designated as Title 1 Distinguished Schools by the Department of Education.
- Watauga and High Point Elementary Schools received the 2015 Board of Education Distinguished Achievement Award.



At the elementary level, STEM kits were purchased for grades 3-5 which contained several projects for students to analyze and apply basic engineering principles, including rocketry, electricity and properties of materials. In grades K-2, students engaged in projects using the Children's Engineering curriculum provided by the Virginia Department of Education. Teachers are also encouraged to incorporate STEM activities in the current curriculum as appropriate to expand students' knowledge of science, technology, engineering and math.



SCIENCE | TECHNOLOGY | ENGINEERING | MATHEMATICS



Safety was a primary focus for the School System this year and all schools were equipped with security cameras. Crisis plans were reviewed and updated with a clear, consistent format.

Expanded the offered on-line and blended learning opportunities for all students.





Another Successful Year for the Washington County Public Library System Increased Circulation for the 20th Consecutive Year

Especially heartening at a time when other libraries are seeing circulation decrease, the Washington County Public Library (WCPL) System increased circulation again this year to 360,219 items, an average of 6.7 checked-out items for every person in the County. 160,600 people visited one of the County's five libraries this year, with more than 4,000 adults and nearly 12,400 children and teens attending speciality programs. With an emphasis on learning, dedicated library staff can always recommend something that meets visitors' needs – whether they seek education, research, or entertainment. Visits to the Farmer's Market, Virginia Highlands Festival, Mother & Child Expo, and College for Older Adults focused on attracting non-traditional library users and promoting library services.

Several minor renovations were completed at the main Abingdon library this year, providing more efficient working space and a small study cubicle. A laptop station was added to help respond to the changing needs of visitors who use personal electronic devices in the library. New retail-style book displays were included to make browsing easier.



Several best-selling authors, including Donald McCaig, Sam Gwynne, Janisse Ray, and regional authors Felicia Mitchell, Joe Tennis and Kathy Shearer, gave presentations for library patrons. In addition, Anndrena Belcher and Brenda Bynum gave one-woman performances this year.

Public Library System

Charlotte Parsons

Washington County Public
Library System - Main Branch
205 Oak Hill Street
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charlotte@wcpl.net

The Washington County Public Library (WCPL) System consist of five branch libraries throughout the County: the Main Abingdon Branch, Damascus Branch, Glade Spring Branch, Hayters Gap Branch, and Mendota Branch.

Advancements in technology have allowed the WCPL System to greatly enhance services for library users. More than 73,000 online e-books, audio books, and magazines are accessible in various downloadable formats. A wide range of electronic databases are accessible through the library's website (www.wcpl.net), making it possible to learn a foreign language, research genealogy, or conduct research in scholarly journals. More than a million items can be borrowed from Emory & Henry College, King University and Tazewell Public Library and delivered to any library in the WCPL system within two days.

More than 530 programs are offered during the year for children and teens, including; Story Times, a Summer Reading Program, and a Home School Day each Wednesday at the Main Abingdon Branch. The Seed Saver Library program seeks to preserve the County's food heritage and replenish its heirloom seed collection.

A variety of classes are offered at the branch libraries, ranging from computer and technology classes, crafts, gardening, and genealogy research to workshops on job searching and writing or updating a resumes.

The Outreach Program provides services to those who cannot come to the library, such as assisted living or senior centers, child care centers or homebound persons.



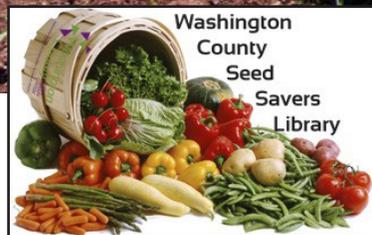
Making Reading a Fun Activity!

Attendance increased this year in the Children & Teen Programs, with over 1,400 participants. The Summer Reading Program, designed to help prevent the "summer slide" that causes children who don't read when school is out of session to fall behind, logged more than 10,500 books read during the summer. Partnering with the Washington County Public School System, the Libraries held several contests this year, encouraging students' creative skills in writing and art.



The branch libraries tailor their programming to patron interests and requests. The *Damascus Branch Library*, also the official Visitor's Center for the town of Damascus, provided space for more than 60 meetings that were conducted by various community and government groups. The *Glade Spring Branch Library* conducted several successful movie series, including Movies in the Square, hosted in conjunction with the Town of Glade Spring, designed to encourage visits to downtown businesses and provide a fun activity for people of all ages. The *Hayters Gap Branch Library* served as a stop along the Bike Virginia route and offered hospitality and resources to more than 100 bikers. The *Mendota Branch Library* partnered with the local food pantry and participated in the monthly Stone Soup dinners, enabling the library to promote services and resources to residents.

Public Library System

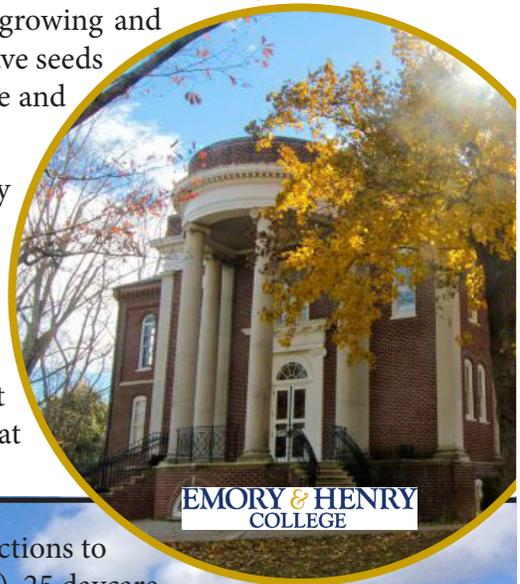


The Seed Savers Library is a special grant-funded program to promote community food grown from heirloom seeds and plants. Currently, more than 240 people are registered in this program, which provides the seeds and instructions on growing and harvesting the seeds. In return, participants agree to save seeds

and return them to the Seed Savers Library to help preserve the County's food heritage and replenish the seed collection.

This year, classes were taught on related topics such as organic gardening, planting by the signs, starting seeds indoors, seed saving, and preserving foods. Additionally, the program's volunteer coordinator gave several presentations at branch libraries, Farmers Markets, Heartwood's Expo, and other locations to promote the Seed Savers Library.

In cooperation with Emory & Henry College, an oral history program also helps to preserve the stories and history of the region's heirloom seeds and seed saving. This past year, students conducted and transcribed interviews with many of the seed savers that library staff will catalog and archive for the benefit of future generations.



Throughout the year, the Outreach Department delivered more than 700 rotating collections to 66 different organizations, including: 13 adult sites (e.g. assisted living or senior centers), 25 daycare centers, nine after-school programs, 4 HeadStart programs, 2 summer programs and 13 child care sites for Christmas.



Department of Social Services



Randy Blevins
 Washington County
 Department of Social Services
 15068 Lee Highway
 Bristol, VA 24202
 (276) 645-5000
 randall.blevins@dss.virginia.gov

The Washington County Department of Social Services has a staff of over sixty people who administer more than two dozen medical, food, financial, and social service and benefit programs for the local, state and federal government. The Department of Social Services has an annual program expenditure of over \$74 million; over 95% of the agency's annual expenditures are spent for benefits and services to Washington County citizens.

Service availability falls into two major divisions: financial assistance benefit programs, and social service programs. The staff at the Washington County Department of Social Services impact the lives of countless county citizens in a positive way - whether it be helping a single working mother secure day care for her child, or exploring community-based resources for an elderly person who can no longer remain at home.



Child Care Services

Families Served:
 Monthly Average - 47



The Community Service Building underwent a major remodeling project earlier this year, which allowed all Department of Social Services staff to have private offices and added administrative/conference space. With the completion of this project, the building was renamed the *C. B. Hale Community Service Building* in honor and memory of Mr. C. B. Hale, a well known Washington County citizen. A dedication ceremony was held April 9th, 2015, with Mr. Hale's wife and family members in attendance.

Mr. C. B. Hale 1924-2012

Mr. C. B. Hale was a well-known business and civic leader in Abingdon and Washington County, who gave much to the people and county that he loved. Mr. Hale was a graduate of King College, member of the Abingdon United Methodist Church, and also a veteran.

Actively involved in the community, Mr. Hale was a Charter Member of the Industrial Development Authority of Washington County, serving from 1966 - 2011. Additionally, Mr. Hale served as Chairman of the Washington County Chamber of Commerce, Chairman of the Board of Virginia Highlands Community College, and President of the King College Alumni.

Mr. Hale was an Administrator of Johnston Memorial Hospital, President of the Washington County National Bank, and President of Central Fidelity Bank. Mr. Hale was also active in Rotary and many other civic and community organizations.

2015 Program Highlights

- SNAP (Formerly the Food Stamp Program):
 Served an average of 3,613 households per month
- MEDICAID :
 Served 11,412 individuals annually
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF):
 Average number of recipients per month —206
- VIEW (Virginia Initiative for Employment Not Welfare) Program
 - Average monthly household recipients—63
 - Employed—49% with \$8.20 average wage
- Welfare, Fraud, Referrals and Collections:
 Investigated 354 allegations annually



Adoption

As a licensed adoption agency, the Department of Social Services provides adoption services for natural parents, children in need, and those seeking to adopt.

Adoption Cases - 61

Foster Care

Children in Foster Care:
 Monthly Average - 36

Fuel Assistance

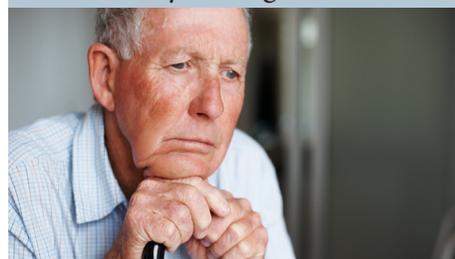
Winter Heating: ❄️
 2,328 Households

Summer Cooling: ☀️
 978 Households

Protective Services

Child Protective Services:
 • Reports & Investigations: 615
 • Validated Reports: 485
 • Ongoing Cases: 24

Adult Protective Services:
 • Reports & Investigations: 155
 • Guardianship Cases: 80
 • Referrals for personal care /nursing home/ALF screenings completed for Medicaid,
 Monthly Average: 16



Virginia Cooperative Extension



Phil Blevins

Washington County
Cooperative Extension
234 West Valley Street
Abingdon, VA 24210
(276) 676-6309
pblevins@vt.edu



The Washington County Office of Virginia Cooperative Extension is an educational outreach program of Virginia's land-grant universities, Virginia Tech and Virginia State University. Cooperative Extension seeks to put the universities' scientific knowledge and research to work in the community to improve lives. Programmatic focuses include Agriculture, Youth Development (4-H), Family and Consumer Service (FCS), and Nutritional Education. Cooperative Extension receives guidance from a group of local citizens from across the County (known as the Washington County Extension Leadership Council) to ensure that programs focus on the most pressing needs of the County's citizens.

Agriculture is the largest industry in Washington County. Cooperative Extension provides educational programs guided by a proactive focus aimed at addressing the problems/needs of agricultural audiences (including the home gardener), with research based information. Activities include training through producer meetings, one-on-one visits, research plots, on-farm demonstrations, and youth training.

The mission of 4-H is to assist youth, and adults working with those youth, to realize their full potential by becoming effective, contributing citizens through participation in research-based, non-formal, hands-on educational experiences. Through 4-H, youth and adults learn the following life skills: understanding self; acquiring, analyzing, and using information; communicating and relating to others; problem solving and decision making; managing resources; and working with others.

Agriculture

Washington County's Largest Industry

Market Value of Products exceed \$76.5 Million in Sales ~ 9th in the State of Virginia ~

Agriculture Extension work is multifaceted, including everything from one-on-one farm/site visits, to producer/citizen educational meetings. Production agriculture focus areas include livestock marketing, genetics, nutrition, health, reproduction, grazing, pest (weed, disease, insect) identification and control, and forage production.

In other focus areas, programming includes home gardening, turf management, urban forestry, pest control (including household pests), and landscape problems. A highlight of the urban programming is the Washington County Extension Master Gardener program. As one of Virginia's strongest group of Master Gardeners, these volunteers provide excellent horticultural resources and education to county citizens.

A highlight of the livestock marketing programming is the Virginia Quality Assured (VQA) feeder calf marketing program. Since its inception in 2005, 33,094 feeder calves from the area have been marketed through this program receiving a \$2,741,588.89 premium over Virginia State Graded feeder calf sales.

Extension also conducts various research trials evaluating crop varieties, cover crops, insect control, seed treatments, and turf management to name a few.



2015 Corn Hybrid Evaluation Plots located in Glade Spring



At a Glance . . .

Commodities & Revenue Generated:

**1st in the State of Virginia
for Egg Production**



Livestock

- Cattle & Calves: 67,259
\$43.4 million annually
3rd in the State
- Dairy Cattle: 2,587
5th in the State
- Goats: 2,077
2nd in the State
- Sheep & Lambs: 6,071
3rd in the State
- Horses: 2,014
8th in the State



Crops (non-pasture)

- Over \$4 million annually
- Hay: 40, 325 Acres
- Corn: 3,500 Acres
- Tobacco: 200 - 300 Acres
- Other Crops:
 - Vegetables
 - Strawberries & Small Fruit
 - Greenhouse Crops
 - Christmas Trees



Pasture is the largest crop produced as it is the foundation of the livestock industry.

3rd in the State of Virginia for Farms

1,602 farms with 192,123 acres in farmland

- Average farm size: 120 Acres
- Median farm size: 52 Acres
- Farm Labor:
 - 1,056 workers
 - \$4.32 million in wages

4-H Summer Camp



2015 4-H Highlights

- 5,400 youth are enrolled in 110 4-H clubs in Washington County
- 254 Washington County 4-H members attended the regional 4-H summer camp; this was the largest camping group hosted during the summer
- 4-H Summer Fun programs provide low-cost special interest classes for youth during the summer, (June - August). Program topics include: etiquette, model rocketry, dairy science, sewing, and history
- Over 1,500 youth completed public speaking and oral communication projects
- 77 local 4-H members were named *District Champion* in public speaking
- 147 Project Records were submitted by 4-H members on a wide array of long-term projects, including: government, beef cattle, nutrition, poultry, and career exploration
- Washington County is home to four Virginia 4-H State Officers: Past-President, Vice President, and two State Ambassadors
- 28 youth represented Washington County at Virginia Tech during 4-H Congress, 7 earned *State Champion* honors
- Six teens were selected from Washington County to represent Virginia at the National 4-H Congress in Atlanta, Georgia



Washington County 4-H Delegation at Virginia 4-H Congress

Department of Elections

Derek N. Lyall

Washington County

General Voter Registrar

1 Government Center Place,
Suite A

Abingdon, VA 24210

(276) 676-6227

dlyall@washcova.com

The Department of Elections of Washington County strives to promote the highest level of service to its citizens by providing equitable opportunities to register and vote. This department maintains accurate records relating to voter registration, elections, and candidates. The Registrar and County Electoral Board are committed to providing citizens the right to vote in accordance with the Constitution of the United States, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the Code of Virginia, thus ensuring fair and impartial elections.

The General Voter Registrar is appointed by the Washington County Electoral Board. The Electoral Board is composed of three members appointed by a majority of the Circuit Court Judges of the 28th Judicial Circuit. The Electoral Board appointments are based on representation of the two political parties having the highest, and next highest, number of votes in the Commonwealth of Virginia election for Governor at the last preceding gubernatorial election. Two Electoral Board members shall be of the political party that cast the highest number of votes for Governor at that election.



New Registrar, New Office

The Department of Elections & Voter Registration welcomed a new General Registrar this year, as well as moved to a new location. On July 1, 2015, Derek N. Lyall was appointed by the Electoral Board as the new Director of Elections and General Registrar for Washington County. Mr. Lyall replaces Mary Ann Compton, who retired after serving as General Registrar for more than 35 years. Mr. Lyall is a longtime resident of Washington County, and previously served as Director of Community Development in the office of U.S. Representative Rick Boucher.

During 2015, the Department of Elections officially relocated to the Washington County Government Center Building. This new location is more convenient for County residents, allowing them to visit the Department of Elections as they conduct other business in the building.



2015 Voting Highlights

- 35,239 registered voters in Washington County
- In the November 2015 election, 39% of the registered voters in Washington County participated, representing a 4% increase from four years ago. 567 voters cast absentee ballots (412 in person and 155 by mail)

★ Photo ID Required for Voting
Effective July 1, 2014 ★

Voter, are you ID Ready?

Voters must present one of the following acceptable forms of identification when voting, effective July 1, 2014:

- Valid Virginia Driver's License
- DMV-issued photo identification card
- Valid United States Passport
- Valid Employee photo identification card
- Other government-issued photo identification card
- Valid college or university student photo identification card (issuer must be an institution of higher education located in Virginia)

If you do not have an acceptable form of identification please contact your local voter registration office for a free ID.

VIRGINIA STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

For more information go to sbe.virginia.gov or call 1-800-552-9745

Looking forward, the office will be preparing for the upcoming 2016 Presidential Election, and conducting significant outreach to ensure that voters are aware of the new Voter ID law which became effective in 2014.



CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICES



The 1776 Virginia Constitution established numerous locally-elected constitutional officers. Through the years, amendments have reduced the number to the present five constitutional officers elected by county citizens. Every four years, voters elect a Treasurer, Commissioner of the Revenue, Commonwealth's Attorney and Sheriff, while every eight years a Clerk of the Circuit Court is elected. The Code of Virginia dictates the duties and responsibilities of each constitutional office.

County Treasurer



Fred Parker

County Treasurer

1 Government Center Place, Suite B
Abingdon, VA 24210
(276) 676-6272
fparker@washcova.com

The Office of Treasurer is responsible for the collection, investment and disbursement of County funds originating from the tax levies and other fees authorized by the Washington County Board of Supervisors and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Virginia Constitution of 1869 established the Office of the Treasurer for cities and counties of the Commonwealth. Title 58.1 of the Code of Virginia holds the central core to the statutory duties and authority of the Treasurer. Additional duties are found through-out the code. The Treasurer may also agree to assume other duties at the request of the governing body or other county agencies. The Treasurer is considered to be the Chief Financial Officer of the locality. The Treasurer is elected at-large for a four year term.

Regular duties of this office include: mailing and collection of County taxes, issuance of dog tags, receipt of Virginia Income Tax payments, and other services related to DMV Select Office and US Passport Office designation.



The Washington County Treasurer's Office consistently has a high tax collection rate and partners with the Virginia Department of Taxation to decrease delinquent tax payments by placing stops on DMV activities and withholding State tax returns.



All Deputies are enrolled and working on the Master Deputy Certification program through the Weldon Cooper Center at the University of Virginia. Currently the Treasurer and seven deputies are fully certified.



Winner of the Southwest Virginia Technology Council Government Award for use of scanner and remittance technology which allows for same day deposit of tax payments by check accompanied by tax record stub. This process is completely automated and replaces time-consuming manual processing.

Services available to County Citizens

- Free Notary Services
- Optional auto-draft for monthly payment of County Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes
- Credit card may be used to make tax payments
- Local processing of payment for Virginia Income Tax and Estimated Quarterly Taxes

DMV Select Office

As a Virginia Department of Motor Vehicle Select Office, citizens can conduct most DMV transactions, including tag renewal, in the Treasurer's Office. However, this select office **does not** issue driver's licenses.



U.S. Department of State Passport Agent Acceptance Office

Citizens can access all forms and receive assistance in completing passport documents through the Washington County Treasurer's Office.



Commissioner of the Revenue



David Henry

Commissioner of the Revenue
1 Government Center Place, Suite C
Abingdon, VA 24210
(276) 676-6270
ldhenry@washcova.com



The Commissioner's Office supports fair and equitable taxation. Out-of-state businesses and property owners are taxed in the same way as local business owners and citizens, increasing tax revenues for

Washington County. Every four years, state law requires a reassessment of property taxes. The next county-wide reassessment is in the beginning phase and normally takes about 18 months to complete. This reassessment will take effect on January 1, 2017.

Real Estate Assessment Cards are available online at:

www.washcova.com/government/constitutional-offices/commissioner-of-revenue

Looking for information about a property? Washington County has online services to provide attorneys, real estate agents, and citizens access to all real estate information at no charge.

Property Record Card - Search By Name *Washington County VA*

Choose the type of search you wish to conduct.

Owner Name

Map#

Street Name

When searching by name the more information provided the faster the search will be.

Please Enter Owner's Last Name:

Last Name

The Commissioner of the Revenue is responsible for assessing all real estate, personal property, and machinery and tools within Washington County, and for maintaining the County's real estate and personal property tax records. The staff of this office also dedicates time to assist citizens with completion of individual Virginia State Tax returns, and performs initial processing prior to delivery of the forms to the Virginia Department of Taxation. Other duties include: implementing local programs such as Tax Relief for the Elderly and Disabled Homeowner, and validation and revalidation of the Land Use Program. The Commissioner of the Revenue is elected at-large for a four year term.

Virginia State Law requires a county with the population the size of Washington County to have a general reassessment at least once every four years. Appraisal companies are selected using a regional, competitive bidding and public procurements process administered by Mount Rogers Planning District Commission. A final recommendation and selection is made by the local Board of Supervisors. The assessment process takes about eighteen months. Current sales data along with market analysis during the reassessment year determine the assessed value that will stand for a four year time period. Once the assessments are complete, the appraisal company mails notification to the taxpayers concerning procedures for appealing assessment values.

The Commissioner's Office is a strong supporter of the Land Use Program and works to educate the public on tax breaks available through this program.



The Commissioner's Office administers and supports several tax relief and discount programs. The Veterans Tax Relief program removes the real estate tax liability for Veterans on their homes and home sites. Tax discounts for senior citizens, disabled residents, and low or fixed income citizens are also available. Each year, the Commissioner meets with the Board of Supervisors to propose this income and net worth based tax discount.

Clerk of Circuit Court



Patricia Moore

Clerk of Circuit Court

189 East Main Street

Abingdon, VA 24210

(276) 676-6224

tsmoore@courts.state.va.us

The Clerk of Circuit Court serves as administrative support and custodian of records for the Circuit Court. Such records include: criminal and civil case files and rulings, appeals from district courts, deeds and land records, marriage licenses, wills and estate records, guardianship records, adoption records, and divorce proceedings and rulings.

In an effort to enhance customer services, the Clerk's Office includes marriage license kiosk. Applicants can opt to expedite the licensure procedure by entering their own information into the free-standing system, then completing the license with the Clerk or Deputy Clerk.

In 2013, the Circuit Court Clerk's Office received a special collection of records created during the 28 years of service to the 4th District by Joseph P. Johnson, Jr. Included in this collection is information on legislation, photos, publications, letters and memorabilia. Materials for the project were donated. The technical concept, systems and records work were performed through internship and donated time. The format of this collection is the first of its kind in the Commonwealth and is available in its entirety for inspection upon visit to the Clerk's Office or for legislative issues on the Clerk's website: <http://www.washcova.com/government/constitutionaloffices/circuit-court-clerk>



An original stained-glass Tiffany window, designed and produced by the New York City Tiffany Studio, is located in the Washington County Courthouse. The window was dedicated on July 4, 1919 as a tribute to the men and woman of Washington County who fought in World War I.



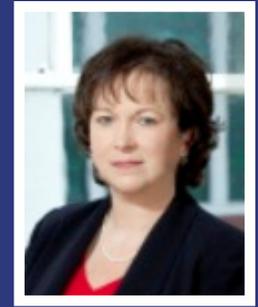
In 2015, the Circuit Court Clerk's office focused on training, education, updating information, and improving work flow processes. The Clerk is a certified faculty member of the National Center for State Courts who teaches career development courses to Clerks, Deputy Clerks and Court Administration staff of the Commonwealth. Deputy Clerks of the Washington County Circuit Court attended those career development courses, in-person training, and webinars hosted by the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia and other agencies. The set goal is to be designated as a high performance court. This achievement ensures a Circuit Court Clerk's Office is best equipped with the knowledge and ability to perform duties and serve the people of Washington County efficiently.



Earlier in the year, the Clerk successfully secured a preservation grant to conserve important historic records. Recently, the Clerk and staff members performed a much needed cleaning and remediation of mold, dirt, dust and debris on the entire records room area. This effort is vital to conservation of the historic records.

As in previous years, the technology utilized in the Clerk's office is provided through awards and subscription service funds. The Clerk is determined to provide improvements and maintenance without creating a tax burden on the citizens of the County.

Commonwealth's Attorney



Nicole M. Price

Commonwealth's Attorney

191 East Main Street

Abingdon, VA 24210

(276) 676-6291

nicole.price@todojustice.org

Under Virginia law, the Commonwealth's Attorney is responsible for the prosecution of felonies which occur in Washington County. Additionally, the Commonwealth's Attorney has elected to provide our citizens and our Courts additional services by also prosecuting misdemeanors occurring in Washington County. The office is conveniently located in the County Courthouse.



The Victim-Witness Assistance Program is housed in the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney to assist victims and other witnesses of crimes in negotiating the Court process. It is our goal to ensure that the full impact of crime is brought to the attention of the Courts of the Commonwealth; that crime victims and witnesses are treated with dignity, respect, and sensitivity; and that they have the opportunity to be heard at all critical stages of the criminal justice process.



Washington County Sheriff

The Washington County Sheriff's Office is responsible for the enforcement of all laws enacted by state and local governments, and for the investigation of felonies and misdemeanors committed in Washington County. Established in 1776, the Sheriff's Office has grown to its current staff of 95 full and part time employees, each assigned to various divisions with specific duties.

The Patrol Division is responsible for patrolling the County, responding to emergency calls, and traffic enforcement on interstate, primary, and secondary roads in Washington County.

The Criminal Investigation Division responds to major crime scenes, investigates serious felony cases, and assists the Patrol Division with investigations. The Narcotics Investigation Unit and Domestic Violence Detective are also assigned to this Division.

The officers of the School Resource Division are in each of the 15 County schools on a daily basis to ensure the safety of the students, faculty and other school personnel. The Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) Program is assigned to the officers within this division.

The Court Security Division is responsible for the security of the Washington County Courthouse, the judges, court personnel, and individuals who visit the Courthouse.

The Civil Process Division serves all civil and criminal papers on individuals who reside in Washington County.

The Communications Section dispatches calls to all police, fire and rescue personnel within Washington County, and the Towns of Abingdon, Damascus and Glade Spring.

The Animal Control Division oversees the enforcement of County ordinances and state laws pertaining to the control of domesticated animals, and the operation of the C. C. Porter Animal Shelter.

The Litter Control Division handles litter complaints and operates the Assign-a-Highway Program for the Probation Office. In 2014, a highway clean-up program through VDOT enabled utilization of Regional Jail Trustees for the task of cleaning the roadways of Washington County.

The Canine Unit consists of three certified canine/handler teams with highly specialized training in tracking, searches, aggression control, and narcotics detection.



Awarded 2nd Place in the State 2014 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge

In September, the Washington County Sheriff's Office was honored on the state level with a second place award for the 2014 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge in their respective category. The award was presented at the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police Annual Conference held in Williamsburg, VA.

According to Washington County Sheriff Fred Newman, "State and national Law Enforcement Challenge Programs promote professionalism in traffic safety enforcement, and encourage law enforcement agencies to share best practices and programs with each other." The awards are based on entries prepared by the participating agencies that highlight their traffic safety activities in the past calendar year.

This was the seventh year the Sheriff's Office competed for the awards. Lieutenant Greg Hogston and Master Deputy Sheriff Erik Hinchey coordinated the Law Enforcement Challenge entry.



Master Deputy Erik Hinchey

Sheriff Fred Newman

Lieutenant Greg Hogston



720 children were fingerprinted during 17 different events in 2015

Litter/Trash Pickup

Bags of Trash:	7,324
Tires:	5,887
Miles Covered:	413

Fred P. Newman
Sheriff of
Washington County
20281 Rustic Lane
Abingdon, VA 24210
(276) 676-6000
sheriff@washso.org



There's an App for That!

The Washington County VA Sheriff's Office added a new tool to connect with citizens and visitors to the county. This tool is a free mobile app, called "The Sheriff App", and can be downloaded from the App

Stores on Apple and Android cell phones and tablets. The new app will allow instant dissemination of information to users, as well as allow users to quickly communicate with the Sheriff's Office from their cell phones. Services accessed directly from app include:

- Frequently Asked Questions.
- Easy access to the Virginia State Police Sex Offender list.
- Photos and information concerning *Most Wanted* individuals.
- A Submit a Tip function which allows users to submit photos and/or information concerning illegal activity in the county.
- News releases regarding incidents that have resulted in arrests. (Note: This does not include ALL arrests made by the agency.)
- Recognize outstanding service and professionalism, through the Commend An Officer feature.
- Access weather-related information for Washington County, including; current conditions, 7 Day Forecasts, weather radar, and important weather alerts.
- The Alerts feature allows the Sheriff's Office to send push notifications, instantly alerting Sheriffs App users of information that they need to know about for safety reasons, or just general information.
- Active Warrants feature provides a list of active warrants. By clicking on a name, app users can submit a tip and a photo that could help in the apprehension of that person.
- Direct access from the Sheriffs App to the Sheriff's Office Facebook page.
- Contact Information: Sheriffs App users can instantly make a phone call or send an email to individual members of the Command Staff.



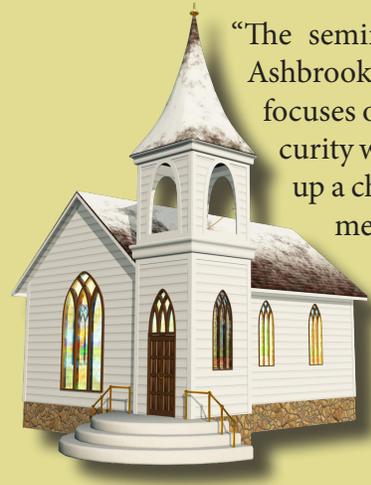
"My goal has always been to provide the highest level of community-oriented public safety services and protection to all citizens of our County," stated Sheriff Newman. "This App will be another tool to help us achieve that goal by providing better, quicker communication between our Sheriff's Office and you."



Washington County Sheriff

Church Security Seminars Offered

With the increasing incidents of church-related security issues nationally and in other areas of the state, the Washington County VA Sheriff's Office began taking a pro-active approach to hopefully curtail violent acts from occurring locally. The resulting outcome of this effort led to the creation of a new seminar program for local churches.



"The seminar, presented by Major Byron Ashbrook, is an hour-long session which focuses on steps to prevent breaches of security within the church building, setting up a church security team, and teaching members to respond to a situation if one does occur," stated Sheriff Newman. "We want to prepare our area churches so that, if the need arises, the church has a plan to address the situation in an effective manner."

The free seminar is offered as a public service to any interested churches by calling the Sheriff's Office at 276-676-6000.

Deputies Equipped with Life Saving Trauma Kits

Sheriff's Office personnel received high risk individual trauma kits that will allow the individual officer to perform the necessary steps that may ultimately save their own life, or the life of another. The two-hour training was provided by Supervisory United States Marshal Matthew Davis, medic for the U. S. Marshal's service, who is trained in the use of tactical tourniquets and trauma kits. At \$130 per trauma kit, the total cost of \$4,900 was paid for by asset forfeiture funds.

"The cost for each trauma kit is a small price to pay if a deputy is able to save himself or the life of another deputy or citizen. Our agency wants to be able to provide the best equipment possible to our personnel," stated Sheriff Newman.

Sheriff's Office Telephone Numbers

Administration: (276) 676-6000
Investigations: (276) 676-6021
Civil Process: (276) 676-6010
Central Dispatch: (276) 676-6277
Bristol Line: (276) 669-7134
Toll-Free: 1-888-461-0414



Project Lifesaver

In June, the Washington County VA Sheriff's Office hosted a training class to certify four Project Lifesaver Airborne Technicians, two from the Washington County VA Sheriff's Office and two from the Bristol VA Sheriff's Office. This training was funded by a grant from the Alzheimer's Foundation of America.

Project Lifesaver is a program that provides assistance for people who suffer from Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia, as well as children and adults with autism or Down's Syndrome. People with these conditions may have increased risk to become separated from caregivers. When this happens to people who are in our program, Project Lifesaver Teams are prepared to search for and bring these loved ones home to their families.

During the past eight years, the Washington County VA Sheriff's Office cultivated an excellent mutual aid relationship with the PLS team in Bristol, Virginia. When this grant became available, Sheriff Jack Weisenburger and Sheriff Newman felt this would be a wonderful opportunity to expand Project Lifesaver services. The Virginia State Police Med-Flight team graciously agreed to provide their aircraft and personnel for both the training and for future actual Project Lifesaver searches.



Keeping Washington County Schools Safe

“Once a Day - Every Day”

The Washington County Sheriff’s Office continued the “Once a Day – Every Day” school checking program that was started January of 2014. Sheriff’s deputies from the Administrative, Community Services, Patrol, Criminal Investigations, Civil Process, Criminal Warrants, Animal Control and Litter Control visit at least one school every day when school is in session. These visits are in addition to the regular visits by the School Resource and D.A.R.E. Deputies. During academic year 2014-2015, the Sheriff’s Office logged 7,400 school checks. An additional School Resource Officer was also added this year, helping to increase the total of SRO’s working in our county schools to seven.

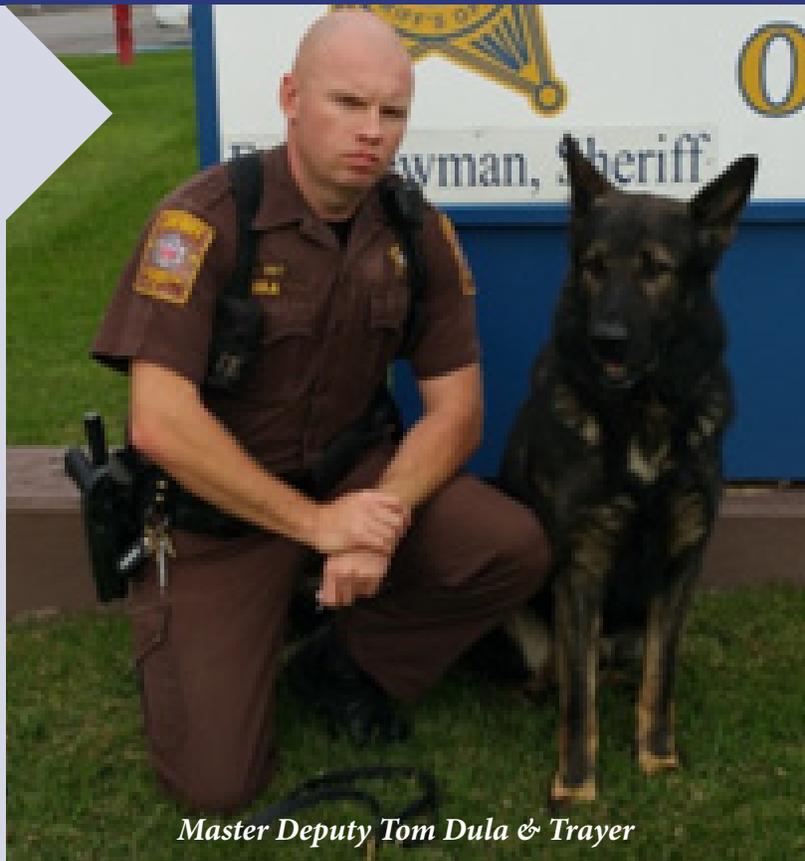


School Resource Officer
Robbie Cruise

D.A.R.E Officer
Brandon Owens

One K-9 Officer Retires - Two Join the Unit

K-9 Officer Blitz was retired this year. Blitz is a 10 year old Belgian Malinois who partnered with senior canine handler Master Deputy Tom Dula. Early this year, Blitz helped Master Deputy Dula train his replacement, K-9 Officer Trayer. Trayer is a two-year-old German Shepherd who was purchased with funds donated by Mrs. Louise Morgan of Abingdon, VA. Originally from the Netherlands, Trayer was trained by Cobra Canine in Sweetwater, TN, and was certified through the Virginia State Police to begin his duties with the Sheriff’s Office on June 9, 2015. Trayer is trained in tracking, building searches, area searches, article searches, agility, aggression control, and obedience.



Master Deputy Tom Dula & Trayer



Master Deputy Erik Hinchey & Bane

K-9 Officer Bane, a Belgian Malinois/German Shepherd mix, joined the Canine Unit in the spring and is paired with Master Deputy Erik Hinchey. Bane was donated by the Lakeland FL. Police Department where he was trained to detect narcotics, such as methamphetamine, cocaine, heroin, ecstasy, and marijuana. He received his certification through the North American Work Dogs Association and has placed in several national detection competitions.



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SERVICES



The Department of Emergency Services works with related agencies and organizations to ensure that the County is prepared for, and able to respond and/or mitigate emergency events. The assurance of public safety is extremely important to both citizens, and the continuity of government and commerce.

Tim Estes, Sr.

Coordinator of

Emergency Management

1 Government Center Place, Suite A

Abingdon, VA 24210

(276) 525-1330

timestes@washcova.com

The Department of Emergency Management is responsible for coordinating emergency services activities within Washington County. A close relationship is maintained between the Department and the volunteer fire and rescue organizations that are assigned emergency response duties throughout the County. The Department is responsible for maintaining a County Emergency Operations Plan and a Hazardous Materials Response Plan. The Department is also the point of contact for the County's enhanced 9-1-1 (E-911) system.

New Coordinator of Emergency Management

Tim Estes, Sr. joined the County in October as the new Coordinator of Emergency Management. Mr. Estes began working in Emergency Services in 1983, with continuous service as either a volunteer or career member ever since. Mr. Estes holds an Associate's Degree in Emergency Medical Services Technology, a Baccalaureate Degree in Fire Administration, and is certified as a Paramedic, Fire Officer IV, and Fire Instructor III.

The Department of Emergency Management's office was relocated from the Public Safety Building to the Government Center Building. Deputy Coordinator Theresa Kingsley-Varble remains at the

Public Safety Building as supervisor for the PSAP/911 Center. Additionally, the Washington County Emergency Operations Plan was updated this year.



PSAP/911 Central Dispatch Center

2015 Highlights:

Dispatchers:	18
911 Emergency Calls:	30,049
Administrative Calls:	124,723

Received State Homeland Security Program Grants

CODE RED[®]

Washington County received several State Homeland Security Program Grants this year. One grant was used to implement CodeRED, a high-speed web-based emergency and mass notification system. Authorized users can deliver critical emergency notifications and communications to the community through phone calls, text messages, emails, social media messages (Facebook, Twitter, RSS, website widgets), or through the public safety alerting application, CodeRED Mobile Alert.

A second grant was used to standardize the County's Portable RIOS kits with the other five in the region. RIOS are a computerized tool that allows interoperable communications between agencies that do not normally communicate on a daily bases.

Emergency Management

14 Volunteer Fire and EMS agencies provide services to Washington County and surrounding communities. Approximately 250 highly trained volunteer firefighters and EMTs, stationed throughout the County, are ready to respond to any emergency situation. Firefighters can receive certification in Firefighter I and II, Fire Instructor, and Fire Officer. Specialized certifications can also be obtained in Technical Rescue and Hazardous Materials Operations. The Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services is responsible for certifying individuals as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), or the more advanced levels of Enhanced, Intermediate, and Paramedic.



- Fire Departments:**
- Abingdon Fire Department
 - Brumley Gap Fire Department
 - Clinch Mountain Fire Department
 - Damascus Fire Department
 - Glade Spring Fire Department
 - Goodson Kinderhook Fire Department
 - Green Springs Fire Department
 - Meadowview Fire Department
 - Mt. Rogers Fire & Rescue
 - Washington County Fire & Rescue

- EMS:**
- Damascus Rescue Squad
 - Glade Spring Life Saving Crew
 - Valley Rescue Squad
 - Washington County Life Saving Crew



RECREATION



Looking for something to do? The Washington County Department of Parks and Recreation provides year-round programming opportunities which serve individuals of all ages. The Washington County Park Authority also manages a public park at South Holston Lake which features a boat ramp, picnic areas, and campsites.

Recreation Department

Keith Owens

Recreation Department

1 Government Center Place, Suite A
Abingdon, VA 24210
(276) 525-1385
kowens@washcova.com

The Department of Recreation works year-round to host a variety of youth and adult recreational programs. These activities include adult and youth leagues, road races, summer day camps, after school child care, and wellness programs for adults and youth.

This department is also responsible for the maintenance and scheduling of events for the two county owned multipurpose parks. Leo "Muscle" Sholes Park is located on Stagecoach Road in Glade Spring. Sholes Park includes an Olympic-sized public swimming pool, three picnic shelters, a dedicated youth softball field, a junior league baseball / softball field, two playgrounds, and many acres of open space for additional expansion.

Beaverdam Creek Park is located on South Shady Avenue in Damascus. Beaverdam Creek Park consists of a lighted youth baseball field, lighted youth softball field, a T-ball field, a multipurpose football/soccer field, restrooms, and parking for spectators.

The Department of Recreation distributes a brochure quarterly through all schools in the County to publicize youth programs and events. Press releases are published in local newspapers and on local cable television to announce program offerings. Information is also listed on the County's website and on Facebook.



Beaverdam Creek Park was Busy, Busy, Busy!

Since opening in April 2011, Beaverdam Creek Park has proven to be a highly utilized sports facility for the citizens of Damascus and Washington County. From late February through June, the park hosts Little League Baseball/Softball practices and games 6 days a week. Later in the year, from August through late October, the local Little Cavs Youth Football program uses the park for team practices. During the Damascus Trail Days in May, many festivities and camping take place on park grounds.

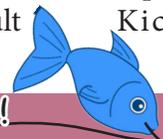


From mid-June through August, Beaverdam Creek Park is home to the Adult Kickball League. Started in 2010 with only four teams, the league has grown tremendously. This year the league consisted of 16 teams, with members comprised of high school and college students, adults, and even grandparents. Some teams were sponsored by local businesses and organizations including: Iron Mountain Crossfit, Fisher Hollow Veterinary Clinic, and Johnston Memorial Hospital.

The highlight of the Adult Kickball League is the Championship Tournament. This year, with 16 teams, the tournament went so long that the last two teams were named co-champions. Congratulations to team We've Got the Runs and Off Constantly, 2015 Adult Kickball League Co-Champions!!!



Here Fishy, Fishy, Fishy!



One Saturday in June, the Recreation Department hosts its annual Kids Only Fishing Day for children ages 4-12. The center pond at the Southwest VA 4-H Center is stocked with beautiful rainbow trout and from 8:30 am until noon, children are allowed to try their luck at catching their limit of 6 fish. This year 28 kids cast their lines into the pond hoping to snag the biggest fish. When it was all said and done, a 20" trout held the title as the biggest fish of the day!!!



British Soccer Camp



From June 15th - 19th, Challenger Sports hosted a British Soccer Camp at Abingdon High School. Kids ages 2-16 years old were able to participate and improve their soccer skills. Each day of the camp, talented and enthusiastic coaches worked with the kids on foot skills, technical drills, and tactical practices. Skills were taught within a framework of character development based on respect, responsibility, integrity, leadership, and sportsmanship.

The Minikickers group gave young kids, ages 2-5, a fun introduction to the very basic elements of soccer through fun games, stories, and music. Older groups participated in small-sided games and coached scrimmages. A daily World Cup Tournament allowed players to learn geography, traditions, and culture of other soccer playing countries.



Recreation Department

Summer Play Days Day Camp

Each summer, the Recreation Department sponsors a series of Day Camps at local schools in Washington County. The Play Days program serves hundreds of local children and their families, providing care for children ages pre-k through 7th grade, Monday through Friday, 7:30 am – 5:30 pm. Activities include daily arts and crafts, games and sports, swimming, and field trips. The cost for the program is only \$50.00 per week!

109 kids were enrolled in the program this summer and enjoyed many grand adventures. The kids came from deep below ground exploring the Appalachian Caverns in Bountville, to out in the wild with the animals of The Creation Kingdom Zoo in Gate City, and then cooled off at the Kingsport Aquatic Center's Outdoor Water Park.



RUN AND BE HAPPY! Annual 5K Benefit Races

This year marked the 32nd running of the Schoolhouse 5K, which averages about 85 runners each year in August. This race benefits the Lauren Elizabeth Cole Scholarship for Parks and Recreation Majors at East Tennessee State University. Lauren's untimely death in 2009 prompted her family and friends to celebrate her remarkable life by establishing this scholarship in her memory.

In recognition of her plans for a career in Parks and Recreation Management, this scholarship endowment helps future students attain their goals.

The Glow Baby, Glow 5k was held for its second year November 14th. While the weather was cool, it did not stop 137 runners from participating in this glow in the dark run.



This race benefits March of Dimes, helping mothers take charge of their health and carry full term babies. November is Prematurity Awareness Month, with November 17th being World Prematurity Day. Every year in the U.S., more than 500,000 babies are born prematurely, over 12,000 of those happen in Virginia!



march of dimes®

Washington County Park Authority



Washington County
Park Authority
1 Government Center Place
Suite A
Abingdon, VA 24210
(276) 628-9677

The Washington County Park Authority owns, operates, and maintains the Washington County Park. The Authority is composed of an eight member Board of Directors appointed district-based by the Washington County Board of Supervisors.

Washington County Park on South Holston Lake is located only 10 miles from Abingdon and provides visitors with a variety of amenities, including a 140 site campground complete with bathhouses and playground, a paved and lighted boat ramp and parking lot, seven picnic shelters, nature trails, fishing, and shoreline swimming.

2015 was a busy year for Washington County Park, as the park experienced an increase in visitors due to the closure of Boone Lake. The Park Authority completed several improvement projects this year including: installation of a laundry facility in the campground for residents and guests, construction of a new, larger dock beside the boat ramp, improved lighting and installation of a security camera in the parking lot, and creation of a flag/memorial display near the main entrance.



Washington County Park Fees

Park Admission Fee:

- \$1.50 / Vehicle
- \$2.00 / Vehicle with boats or trailers

Campsite Rentals:

- \$22.44 / night for RVs (up to 40 feet long)
- \$18.36 / night for Tent Camping

Picnic Shelter Rentals:

- \$35 - \$50, depending on specific shelter

*Washington County Park
is open
April 1st - September 30th*



Washington County Boards & Commissions

Board of Social Services:

The Board of Social Services is the controlling body of the Washington County Department of Social Services. Members of the Board of Social Services have a limit of two full consecutive terms. The Washington County Board of Supervisors appoints the Board of Social Services, to include one Board member appointed from each of the County's seven Election Districts.

Board Members: Rhonda Lusk, Jack Phelps, Kay Poole, Linda Crane, David Cline, Janet Combs, Kathryn Roark

Board of Zoning Appeals:

The Washington County Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) is responsible for hearing and deciding requests for variances from the terms of the County Zoning Ordinance, and for hearing and deciding appeals from determinations made by the Washington County Department of Zoning Administration in the administration of the County Zoning Ordinance. The BZA is composed of five residents of Washington County appointed by the Washington County Circuit Court.

Board Members: Joe Lyle, William Duffy Carmack, Jr., Bruce Dando, Mickey Tyler, Beulah Lambert

Electoral Board:

The Electoral Board shall ascertain from the returns the total votes in the County for each candidate, and for and against each ballot question, and complete the abstract of votes cast at elections. The Washington County Electoral Board is composed of three members appointed by a majority of the circuit judges of the 28th Judicial Circuit. Appointments are based on representation of the two political parties having the highest and next highest number of votes in the Commonwealth of Virginia for Governor at the last preceding gubernatorial election.

Board Members: Louis Dene (Chairman), James Bebout (Vice Chair), Constance Bundy

Public Library Board of Trustees:

The Washington County Library Board of Trustees is responsible for the management and control of the County's free public library system consisting of four branch library facilities in the Town of Damascus, Town of Glade Spring, Mendota and Hayter's Gap Communities, and the main library located in the Town of Abingdon. The Board of Trustees is composed of seven Trustees appointed by the Washington County Board of Supervisors

Board Members: Dan Smith, Debbie Ledbetter, Gary Catron, Darlene Rowland, James Cartwright, Eva Beale, Carol Sims

Planning Commission:

The Washington County Planning Commission is charged with advising the Washington County Board of Supervisors on matters pertaining to the County's zoning and subdivision codes and the County's Comprehensive Plan. The Planning Commission is composed of seven Commissioners appointed by the Board of Supervisors, one Commissioner from each of the County's seven Election Districts.

Board Members: Joe Hutton, Paul Widener, Charlie Hargis, Jr., Bruce Dando, Terry Groseclose, Michael Felty, Mary Ann Compton

School Board:

The Washington County School Board oversees the operations of the County's Public School system. The Washington County School Board is made up of seven elected school board members, one from each of the seven Election Districts.

Board Members: Tom Musick (Chairman), Dr. Douglas Arnold (Vice Chair), Elizabeth Lowe, Danny Ruble, Dayton Owens, Billy Brooks, Terry Fleenor

Regional Boards, Authorities & Services



The **Bristol Virginia Utilities Authority (BVUA)** is the executive body of Bristol Virginia Utilities, providing public water, sewer, electricity and telecommunications services to the City of Bristol Virginia and portions of Washington County. www.bvu-optinet.com

Washington County Representative: Odell Owens

The **Highlands Community Services Board** oversees the delivery of a variety of mental health and substance abuse programs for the City of Bristol, Virginia and Washington County. The Bristol, Virginia City Council and Washington County Board of Supervisors appoint members to the Highlands Community Services Board. www.highlandscsb.org

Washington County Representative: Judy Carrier, Angie Cullop, Randall Eads, Saul Hernandez, Odell Owens, Lisa Seaborn, Phillip Sprinkle



The **Appalachian Juvenile Commission** formulates and interprets the policy and procedures for all operations. They are considered a political sub-division as defined in the Code of Virginia. The Commission reviews and approves the annual budget and audit. The Commission approves any new programs or expansion. Formerly known as the Highlands Juvenile Detention Center Commission, the Commission expanded and was renamed in 2003. www.hjdc.org

Washington County Representative: Doug Mead

The **Southwest Virginia Regional Jail Authority (SWVRJA)**, a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, was formed in May 2001 by the counties of Buchanan, Dickenson, Lee, Russell, Scott, Smyth, Washington, Wise and the City of Norton. Tazewell County joined the SWVRJA in 2005. The SWVRJA is comprised of four correctional facilities which are located in Abingdon, Duffield, Haysi and Tazewell, Virginia. The jails have an average population of 1,700 inmates which consists of both males and females. SWVRJA offers a variety of educational and rehabilitative services to the inmates in their custody.

Washington County Representatives: Odell Owens, Jason Berry, Fred Parker, Sheriff Fred Newman



The **Virginia Highlands Small Business Incubator** Board of Directors serves as the official decision makers for the Incubator. They provide council to the Executive Director, approve all tenants for the Incubator, provide council and advice to tenants as requested, and vote on other business matters at their monthly meetings. www.vhsbi.com

Officially established in July of 1969, the **Mount Rogers Planning District Commission (MRPDC)** is authorized under the Virginia Regional Cooperation Act to serve as one of the twenty-one planning district commissions in the State. The Commission was established for the purpose of promoting orderly and efficient development of economic, physical, and social elements of the region. MRPDC serves the Counties of Bland, Carroll, Grayson, Smyth, Washington, and Wythe and the independent Cities of Bristol and Galax. www.mrpdc.org

Washington County Representatives: Randy Pennington, Bill Canter, Jr.



Regional Boards, Authorities & Services



People Incorporated of Virginia is one of the Commonwealth of Virginia's largest and most successful Community Action Agencies. Now serving Buchanan, Dickenson, Russell, and Washington Counties and the City of Bristol, People Incorporated offers over 32 programs designed to, "give people a hand up, not a hand out." Throughout its long history and to this day, the agency has worked to achieve the same mission: To provide opportunities for low-income people to improve their lives, their families, and their communities. www.peopleinc.net

Washington County Representative: Phillip McCall

Ninth District Development Financing, Inc. meets its objectives to create and retain jobs, promote the region's historical significance and cultural preservation, and attract tourists while supporting and expanding the tourism economy of the Ninth District by providing funding for a diverse set of thriving tourist related businesses including arts, cultural, historical, outdoor adventure, and entertainment venues. www.nddf.org



Washington County Representative: Cherith Marshall



New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Area

The **New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Board (NRV/MR WIB)**, supported by federal and state funds and local service agencies, shows its commitment to the region's quality of life by helping people find jobs and train for better careers. Qualified adults and youths can visit the One-Stop Centers for training, job and career counseling, and other job-related information. The WIB programs and activities carry out the Workforce Investment Act, which was written to address human needs associated with employment in each region. The Board is made up of local leaders and citizens so that all people and their interests are represented. www.nrmrwib.org

Washington County Representative: Dr. James Baker

Virginia's aCorridor consolidates marketing and presents regional demographics, and works with local governments to enhance their economic development programs. The Mount Rogers Development Partnership Inc. was created in 1989 to promote Virginia's aCorridor as a location for new and expanded business. Stretching from the City of Bristol to the City of Galax along Interstates 81 and 77, the aCorridor includes the two cities and Washington, Wythe, Grayson, Carroll and Bland counties.



www.acorridor.com **Washington County Representative: Jason Berry**

DISTRICT THREE GOVERNMENTAL COOPERATIVE

District Three Governmental Cooperative is an agency owned and operated by its member local governments for the benefit of the citizens of Bland, Carroll, Grayson, Smyth, Washington and Wythe counties, and the cities of Bristol and Galax, Virginia. District Three Governmental Cooperative is dedicated to improving the quality of life for our citizens, especially those who are elderly and those who need assistance with transportation. While some of our services are available to all citizens, we focus on serving those people who need us most. Our services are designed to help our citizens to live independently and productively as long as possible. We promote self-sufficiency and family care-giving. www.district-three.org

Washington County Representative: Phillip McCall



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