



Citizen News

Yorktown, Virginia

Vol. 35, No. 2

Summer 2014

Aquaculture/Agriculture Zoning to be Discussed

The Planning Commission will conduct a public information meeting on Wednesday, May 14, 2014, at 7 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room of York Hall in Yorktown to receive public comments on whether changes to existing Zoning Ordinance provisions dealing with **agriculture** and **aquaculture** in the RR-Rural Residential and RC-Resource Conservation zones should be considered. People wishing to speak will have up to three minutes each to present their comments.

The focus of this ongoing discussion involves activities associated with **commercial aquaculture operations**, such as oyster farming. The size of leased oyster grounds is typically a large area, often considerably larger than most residential parcels in York County. Concerns have been raised about the potential negative impacts of **commercial oyster farming** in residentially zoned areas conducted at an intensity level proportionate to the size of those leased grounds, and not to the size of the parcel as would be the case with traditional agriculture. Issues will include whether that land and pier based activity should be:

- allowed to be conducted on a residential property;
- subject to the same Special Use Permit review and approval procedures that are required for other types of home occupations (businesses); and/ or

- subject to minimum lot area, minimum setback, or other requirements.

Also up for discussion is whether any of the existing opportunities and requirements dealing with agriculture should be modified.

The following activities currently permitted on single-family residential properties are **not** at risk:

- **Gardens, orchards, vineyards, beekeeping, and Noncommercial Riparian Shellfish Growing** (160 square feet or less of floats/cages);
- **Backyard chicken-keeping** for a maximum of 16 hens and no roosters;
- **Horsekeeping** on residential property of at least 2 acres in area at a maximum ratio of one (1) horse per 2 acres.

The Board of Supervisors has requested the Planning Commission to also consider relaxing these regulations to **allow** incidental sales of produce such as vegetables, flowers, honey, and eggs as a matter of right.

Three alternative proposals regarding changes to the existing Zoning Ordinance have been forwarded to the Planning

Please see Zoning on page 8

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York County Public Information Office
P.O. Box 532
Yorktown VA 23690-0532

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Board of Supervisors Actions

February 18, 2014

- Approved a Special Use Permit Amendment authorizing the establishment of a 100-Room hotel as a minor expansion at the Marquis.

March 4, 2014

- Requested that the Virginia Department of Transportation proceed with the proposed Penniman Road/Government Road Intersection Realignment Project and to approve the major design features of the project as developed by VDOT.

March 18, 2014

- Approved a Special Use Permit authorizing construction of wastewater treatment plant facilities on two parcels of land located on Waterview Road.
- Approved a Special Use Permit authorizing the establishment of a nine-pump gas station at 5007 Victory Boulevard.
- Approved a Special Use Permit authorizing the establishment of a car wash facility at 4301 George Washington Memorial Highway.

April 1, 2014

- Approved procurement arrangements for the annual audit contract.

April 15, 2014

- Approved a Special Use Permit authorizing a firearms sales and gunsmithing business as a home occupation with on-site customer/client contact in a single-family detached home located at 1213 Old York-Hampton Highway (Route 634).
- Amended Section 24.1705(f) of Chapter 24.1, Zoning, York County Code, to provide an opportunity for a 600-square foot freestanding identification sign to be located on more than one perimeter public highway frontage of a regional shopping center having at least 1,500 feet of Interstate highway frontage.
- Commended and congratulated the 2014 Outstanding Youth of the Year in the categories of Community Service, Compassion, Courage, and Overall Achievement. The students are: Owen Robinson for Community Service, Gabrielle Patrick for Compassion, Erin Baxley for Courage and Kiran Bagalkotkar for Overall Achievement.
- Amended Section 24.1-710(b) of the York County Zoning Ordinance to include "Places of Worship" as a land use which may utilize electronic changeable message or image signs for which the message or image may change as frequently as every eight seconds.

Contact Your Board Member

District 1

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District 2

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District 5

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131 Chinquapin Orchard
Yorktown, VA 23693
(757) 890-3332 (voice mail)
shepperd@yorkcounty.gov

Board Appointments

•Arts Commission

Susan Welteroth

•Historical Committee

James Elliott
John Frankenburg
Daniel Seabolt

If you would like to serve on a board, commission, or committee, please call the County Administrator's office at 890-3320 and request a Board Bank application.

Vehicle Registration Fee

The vehicle registration fees will be included in the first half of your 2014 personal property tax bill, which is due on or before June 25.

Call the Treasurer's Office at 890-3420 for more information.

Taxes due June 25

Citizens should receive the first half of their 2014 personal property and real estate tax bills during the last week of May. The tax bills are due on or before June 25. Taxes are considered late on June 26 and penalty and interest, which are calculated separately on each item, will be assessed. If you do not receive your bill by June 1, you can locate your tax information online at www.yorkcounty.gov (select "Online Services"). Since York County prorates personal property taxes, citizens are taxed for the actual number of months the property was owned for the first half of 2014.

Taxes and vehicle registration fees may be paid by mail or online on the website (select "Online Services"). Taxes may also be paid at the Treasurer's Office or deposited in the Treasurer's drop box at the Finance Building, 120 Alexander Hamilton Boulevard, Yorktown.

The Treasurer's Office is open Monday through Friday from 8:15 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more tax payment information, visit our website or call 890-3420.

DMV2Go Mobile Unit Scheduled to Visit Yorktown Library

DMV2Go is a full-service mobile customer service center that comes to you at convenient locations and conducts any DMV transaction that can be done at your local DMV office to include:

- Applying for or renewing your ID card or driver's license
- Applying for a Veteran ID card
- Obtaining a copy of your driving record
- Obtaining vehicle titles, license plates, decals, transcripts
- Ordering disabled parking placards or plates
- Obtaining fishing and hunting licenses
- Updating your address on your DMV record and/or voter registration card
- And much more!

DMV2Go has scheduled visits to the Yorktown Library, 8500 George Washington Memorial Highway, every other month. The next visits are scheduled for Tuesday, May 20, and Tuesday, July 29, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Yorktown Market Days

Presented by York County and Riverwalk Landing

2014 SATURDAY MARKETS
8AM - 12PM

May 10 - September 27

Themed Markets for 2014

- May 10 *Fitness Market*
- *October 11 *Fall Festival*
- *November 8 *Holiday Open House*
- *December 13 *Holiday Market/Toyland Parade*

*Extended Hours Oct. 11 (8AM-3PM), Nov. & Dec. (9AM-3PM)



WWW.YORKTOWNMARKETDAYS.COM

CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION | 757 890 3500

Dates & times are subject to change without notice.
Rain or Shine! Severe Weather Hotline | 757 890 3520

Local Business Report

by Melissa Davidson, Sr. Business Development Representative, York County Office of Economic Development

Phone - 890-3317

E-mail - econdev@yorkcounty.gov Web - www.yesyorkcounty.com

Businesses in the News

- Williamsburg Alewerks - Takes three titles at U.S. Beer Tasting Championships. Alewerks is located in Ewell Industrial Park off Mooretown Road.
- Two new York County restaurants serve those with special dietary requests - Silt, located in the Village Shops at Kingsmill on Route 60 offers "Farm-to-Table" fresh local goods, and Med Meals 4 You, located in Heritage Square Shopping Center on Route 17, focuses on gluten-free and diabetic-friendly meals.
- Several new businesses held ribbon-cutting ceremonies this quarter, including Quest Diagnostics, 1st Advantage Federal Credit Union, and Eastern Floor Covering. York County welcomes these and all new businesses.

New Grand Opening Guide

The Office of Economic Development (OED) offers free grand opening and ribbon cutting assistance to all York County businesses. These services include assisting with event planning, scheduling speakers, providing the ribbon and large ceremonial scissors, taking event photos, and drafting/distributing a media release announcing the event.

Due to the increase in requests for this service, OED staff recently developed a new brochure that details the process and best practices for these types of celebrations. The brochure is available online at www.YesYorkCounty.com or at the OED office located at 224 Ballard Street in Yorktown.

Business Retention Survey Results

Every two years, the OED sends out a Business Retention survey to a sample of businesses in the county. The purpose of the survey is to identify needs or specific problems impacting the success or possible expansion of York County businesses and to gauge our current business climate.

In January 2014, the OED mailed 760 surveys. 119 responses were received for a 15.7 percent return rate. The main issue, by far, for the respondent's businesses was the current state of the economy, which is a continuing trend from the '08, '10, and '12 surveys, however it has decreased since the '12 survey. Many attributed the lackluster economy to rising costs of doing business, changes in their industry or processes causing increased costs and/or reduced workloads, and changes in consumer and government

spending habits.

A great deal of information was gained from this year's survey, which will be used to help in the retention of York County's businesses and in efforts to improve the overall business environment. These efforts are specifically focused on improving communication to the existing business community about the programs and services offered to them. Emphasis is also being placed on promoting and marketing existing York County businesses to the general public.

To improve this communication, the OED has:

- continually increased the size of our business email distribution list and sent regular updates and e-newsletters to these contacts;
- placed ads in local publications, such as "Citizen News" and "Inside Business;" and
- significantly increased the number of business visits conducted each month.

Each year the number one assistance request is for the OED to provide more marketing opportunities for our existing businesses. In response to the 2012 survey, many new efforts were made to do so, but staff has now taken that a step further and incorporated several new marketing initiatives to help promote our local businesses and train them to do the same:

- added a "Businesses in the News" section to the website;
- created a new Buy Local Website & Marketing Campaign;
- hosted several marketing-specific business seminars and trainings; and
- developed a Social Media Plan (to be implemented Summer 2014).

The report can be viewed at www.YesYorkCounty.com.

Contact Us

If you or anyone you know is interested in establishing, expanding, or relocating a business in York County, or if you have new ideas to improve the county's business environment, please contact us. Don't forget to visit www.YesYorkCounty.com to sign up for our monthly e-newsletter. Visit the new buy local website at www.KeepItInYorkCounty.com for a list of local businesses, events and specials.



302 Dare Rd., Yorktown, Va. 23692 • 757-898-0300 • yorkcountyschools.org

2014 Summer Academies

Elementary School Academy

Dare Elementary School

Open House

June 19, 1 – 2 p.m.

Dates/Time/Location:

June 23 - July 23

7:45 – 11:45 a.m./Monday – Thursday

Middle School Academies

8 a.m. – noon/Monday – Thursday

Grafton High School

- English and Math: June 23 - July 23
- Science: June 23 - July 8
- History/Social Science: July 9 - July 23

High School Academies

8 a.m. – noon/Monday – Thursday

Grafton High School

High School Academy

(Multiple Courses Available)

June 23 - July 24

High School SOL Academy

- English 11/Writing (MC/SP): June 23 – July 9
- English 11/Reading: July 10 – 22
- Earth Science: June 23 - July 7
- Algebra I: July 8 - 22

Virtual High School Summer Academy

- Online Learning
- Summer Academy Computer Lab Available
8 a.m. - noon at GHS

Students within YCSD should visit their school guidance department to receive the necessary forms for Summer Academies. Registration for Summer Academies is available at each school until June 6. Students who have not registered by June 6 must register June 16-June 18, from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the Summer Academy school location.

NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER JUNE 18.

YCSD Calendar

May 26

Memorial Day Holiday

June 10-12

*High Schools Dismiss Early
Elem. & Middle Full Days*

June 12

Last Day of School

June 13

Graduation

YCSD Registration 2014

Are you new to York County or do you have a new kindergartner? In order to register your child with the York County School Division, you must provide the following required records:

1. The child's original certificate of birth (or certified copy)
2. The child's Social Security card
3. A current School Entrance Physical (MCH-213G)
4. An Immunization Certificate
5. Proof of York County residency

Children entering kindergarten must be five years old before Sept. 30. Enrollment requirements and a list of acceptable documents are available at each school and on the York County School Division's website at yorkcountyschools.org.

Teachers of the Year

YCSD would like to congratulate the school- and division-level Teachers of the Year.

YCSD Teacher of the Year

Doug Roper, Tabb High School

Elementary Teacher of the Year

Denise Trainor, Bethel Manor Elementary

Middle School Teacher of the Year

Laura Shaske, Tabb Middle

High School Teacher of the Year

Doug Roper, Tabb High

Melissa Heckle	Coventry Elementary
Tracey Buckley	Mt. Vernon Elementary
Renee Koob	Waller Mill Elementary
Karen Williamson	Grafton Bethel Elementary
Lindsey Cagle	Yorktown Elementary
Amelia Keller	Tabb Elementary
Judy Mitchell	Seaford Elementary
Krystal Kosanovich	Magruder Elementary
Denise Chapman	Dare Elementary
Denise Trainor	Bethel Manor Elementary
Doug Roper	Tabb High
Gary Long	Grafton High
Amanda Collier	York River Academy
Renee Kingan	Bruton High
Amy Hunter	York High
Sarah Healy	Grafton Middle
Laura Shaske	Tabb Middle
Lisa Westlund	Yorktown Middle
Mike Weidinger	Queens Lake Middle

**The 2014-15 school year begins
on Tuesday, September 2nd!**

Graduation 2014

June 12, 2014

at Yorktown Middle School Auditorium
6:00 p.m. -- York River Academy

June 13, 2014

at William and Mary Hall

9:00 a.m. -- Bruton High School
12:00 p.m. -- Tabb High School
3:30 p.m. -- York High School
7:00 p.m. -- Grafton High School

What's Happening @ Your Library

The York County Public Library 2014 Juried Photography Competition is accepting submissions through May 24. Photographers, ages 18 and up, living on the Tidewater Peninsula (York County, Poquoson, Newport News, Hampton, James City County, and Williamsburg) may submit up to three original works completed within the last two years. All styles, techniques and subject matter are eligible except photographs containing graphic content. The first, second and third place winners will be awarded \$150, \$100, and \$75 respectively. The competition application and guidelines are available on the library's website, www.yorkcounty.gov/library. Selected artwork will be on exhibit at the Tabb Library from June 20 to July 11.



David Perry

Author David Perry will speak on Tuesday, June 24 at 10 a.m. at the Yorktown Library. Perry will discuss his debut novel, "The Cyclops Conspiracy," which reached national best-seller status a month after being released in February 2012, and his second novel, "Second Chance," released in November 2013. He is currently at work on the sequel to "The Cyclops Conspiracy" whose working title is "The Cyclops

Revenge." Perry's appearance is sponsored by the Yorktown Book. Visit David Perry's website at www.daveperry.org. For more information, contact the Yorktown Library at 890-5207.

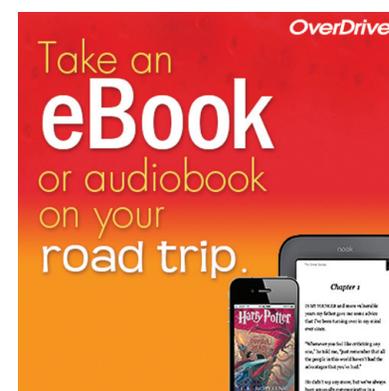
Children, teens and adults are invited to participate in the library's summer reading programs from June 23 through August 1. Registration begins Monday, June 16, at both the Tabb and Yorktown Libraries and online. A list of programs and activities will be available at registration and on the library's website.

Teens, ages 13 and up, are needed to help with the

library's summer reading program. Volunteers are needed from June 16 through August 1. Teens must be available to volunteer at least two hours a day, one day a week, for a minimum of four of the seven weeks. A few volunteers will be asked to assist June 11-12. Volunteers must also attend one of the mandatory training sessions on May 27 at 7 p.m. at the Tabb Library, May 30 at 4 p.m. at the Yorktown Library, or May 31 at 1 p.m. at the Tabb Library. Applications are available in the Youth Services Department at the Tabb and Yorktown Libraries and on the library's website. Applications will be accepted through Friday, May 16.

Getting ready for summer vacation? Be sure to check our eBooks, audiobooks, and digital magazines from your Library! You can browse the collections, borrow with your library card, and enjoy on your computer, tablet, smart phone or eReader device. Titles are available for adults, teens and children. Before you go and while you're away, visit the eCollection on the library's website.

For more information on library programs, visit our website at www.yorkcounty.gov/library, contact the Tabb Library at 890-5120, or the Yorktown Library at 890-5207, or find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/yorkcountypubliclibrary. Visit the Tabb Library at 100 Long Green Boulevard, Yorktown, 23693, or the Yorktown Library at 8500 George Washington Memorial Highway, Yorktown, 23692. Library hours are Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.



Consumer Use Tax - File Online!

You can file and pay your monthly Consumer Use Tax online! It's quick, easy and convenient.

Businesses required to file and pay Consumer Use Tax and the \$2.00 Nightly Room Tax may file and pay online. Log on to www.yorkcounty.gov/revenue, select E-Commissioner Online, and follow the instructions on how to file and make payments.

Reminder: In an effort to save taxpayer dollars, a form for each type of tax was mailed in January. Forms will no longer be printed and mailed each month.

If you need assistance, please call 890-3383; email revofc@yorkcounty.gov; or visit the website, www.yorkcounty.gov/revenue.

Voter Registration Update

June 10 Republican Primary Election

On Tuesday, June 10, a Republican Primary will be held to nominate a candidate for Member, U.S. House of Representatives, for the First Congressional District. The polls will be open 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. A sample ballot is available on the York County Registrar's website, www.yorkcounty.gov/voting.

The deadline to register to vote for the June 10 primary - or to update your address or other registration information - is Monday, May 19.

A partnership between the State Board of Elections and the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles now allows most Virginia residents to apply to register to vote - or update their registration information - online. Residents can take advantage of this service by visiting www.vote.virginia.gov.

Voter registration applications can also be obtained and submitted at the Registrar's Office, Yorktown Library, Tabb Library, and the Griffin-Yeates Center. Applications can also be obtained via the Registrar's website.

Are you Registered to Vote? Do you know where your polling place is?

Through a service provided by the Virginia State Board of Elections, you are now able to check your registration status online. Go to our website at www.yorkcounty.gov/voting and click on "Verify Your Voter Registration Here."

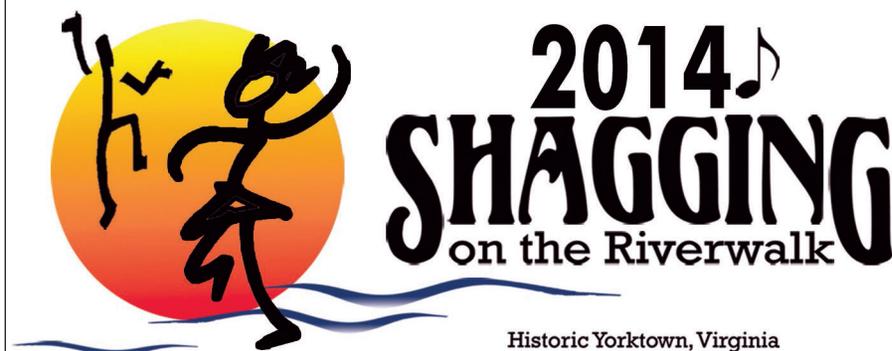
Absentee Voting

You may be able to vote absentee if you are going to be out of town or otherwise unavailable to go to your polling place on June 10. Absentee ballots are already available.

To obtain an absentee ballot, you must complete an absentee ballot application and return it in person, by mail, by fax, or by scanning and emailing it. You can obtain an application by contacting the Registrar's Office or on our website.

The deadline to apply by mail, fax, or email for an absentee ballot is Tuesday, June 3, at 5 p.m. The deadline to apply in person is Saturday, June 7, at 5 p.m. The Registrar's Office will be open on Saturday, June 7, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Registrar's office is located at 224 Ballard Street in historic Yorktown. Phone - 890-3440; Fax - 890-3449; TDD for hearing impaired - 890-3300; Email - registrar@yorkcounty.gov.



Historic Yorktown, Virginia

Kick up your heels at the Yorktown waterfront & enjoy some of the area's top acts playing beach favorites, oldies, and Motown. Bring your dancing shoes for demonstrations and lessons by the Colonial Shag Club. (Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and blankets for seating.)

THURSDAYS 6:30PM - 9:30PM

June 5	Mark Roberts Band
June 12	Carolina Soul Band
June 19	The TFC Band
June 26	Band of OZ
July 10	The Rhondels
July 17	The Main Event Band
July 24	The Holiday Band

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

www.visityorktown.org

or 757.890.3500

Event Weather Hotline: 757.890.3520

Dates and times are subject to change without notice

Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act

On March 21, 2014, President Obama signed into law the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014. This law repeals and modifies certain provisions of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act, which was enacted in 2012, and makes additional program changes.

While FEMA actively works to implement the new law, policyholders are encouraged to maintain and keep current flood insurance policies. Cancelling flood insurance policies now will leave policyholders unprotected during flooding and may cause you to lose important discounts on rates if you need to reinstate coverage in the future.

The new law lowers the recent rate increases on some policies, prevents some future rate increases, and implements a surcharge on all policyholders. The act also repeals certain rate increases that have already gone into effect and provides for refunds to those policyholders.

For more information on the new law and its impact on flood insurance, visit www.fema.gov/flood-insurance-reform.

FEMA is in the process of updating the Flood Insurance Rate Maps. The changes to the maps are projected to become effective in December 2014. The changes to the maps may affect your flood insurance. If you have questions on how your property might be affected, call Connie Bennett, Stormwater Engineer, at 890-3752, or contact your insurance agent.

Servicemembers' Civil Relief Act

The Servicemembers' Civil Relief Act exempts active duty military personnel from personal property tax in any state other than their legal state of residence. Therefore, vehicles titled in an active duty non-resident military person's name(s) will be exempt as long as each owner annually furnishes a Leave & Earnings Statement for the period of time they reside in York County. All vehicles owned by military individuals who claim Virginia as their legal state of residence are subject to personal property tax, regardless of where the vehicle is physically located. Once military personnel separate from active duty status, or retire and stay in York County, each owner must provide a copy of their Form DD214. Vehicles will be subject to a prorated tax.

To apply for this exemption, and for more information, call the Commissioner of the Revenue at 890-3381.

Zoning continued from page 1

Commission by the Board of Supervisors. A detailed explanation and the full text of each of these options can be viewed at www.yorkcounty.gov/Planning.

The options developed for consideration by the Board and the Commission were prompted by legislation adopted in 2014 by the Virginia General Assembly (HB 1089). The new legislation, which takes effect on January 1, 2015, incorporates aquaculture into the existing statute (Code of Virginia section 15.2-2288) that already prohibits localities from requiring Special Use Permit review for agricultural activities in areas zoned as an agricultural district or classification.

It is important to note that the legislation specifically authorizes localities to adopt performance standards such as "setback requirements, minimum area requirements and other requirements that apply to land used for agriculture" (which, as of January 1, 2015, will include aquaculture).

The legislation does not define what constitutes an "agricultural district or classification," and it is debatable whether the County's current RC-Resource Conservation or RR-Rural Residential districts, where agriculture is currently a permitted use, would be deemed to be such. However, if they were, the County would lose the ability to require a Special Use Permit for the land and pier-based aspects of commercial oyster/shellfish aquaculture (e.g., docking work boats / off-loading seafood) when being conducted from property in those two zoning districts, which encompass most of the County's shoreline (e.g., residential areas along the Thorofare, Back Creek, Chisman Creek, Poquoson River, Lamb's Creek and the Chesapeake Bay).

The Board has directed that the Commission review, discuss and report by June 30 its recommendations concerning which, if any, of the alternatives or combinations of them should be formally initiated as a Zoning Ordinance amendment application. The Commission will not be taking any action at the May 14 meeting and anticipates scheduling one or more work sessions prior to the June 30 deadline for its report to the Board.

In addition to the May 14 opportunity to comment, written comments may be addressed to planning@yorkcounty.gov or York County Planning Commission, P.O. Box 532, Yorktown, VA 23690.



York Hall is located at 301 Main Street in historic Yorktown.

York County Waste Management Center

New Curbside Recycling Program Effective June 30

The current regional curbside recycling contract has run its seven year term and will end in June of this year. A new contract, with a new contractor, will take effect on June 30. The new contractor providing the collection and processing services to the region is County Waste (a private solid waste and recycling company not affiliated with any county). Residents of James City County, Poquoson, Williamsburg, and York County are included in this regional curbside recycling program. While York County has already switched to wheeled carts and every other week collection for curbside recycling, the other member communities will be making this change as well. So what changes will York subscribers see?

Additional plastics will be accepted! In addition to the program-wide change to larger carts with every other week collection (which does not apply to York residents), the new contractor will be accepting a wider variety of plastics to include: plastic bottles and jugs, wide-mouth containers such as butter tubs and yogurt cups, clamshell containers such as salad bar and bakery containers, and rigid plastics such as flower pots, pails, and buckets. Many of you have been asking for this and the day is finally here! We are glad to see this addition because increased amounts of materials recycled means less waste sent to landfills. Less waste going to landfills is good for the environment...and our pocketbooks!

Cart size options! All York customers currently have 95 gallon wheeled containers. If you would like a smaller cart, after August 4, County Waste will allow a one-time change to either a 65 gallon or 35 gallon wheeled cart.

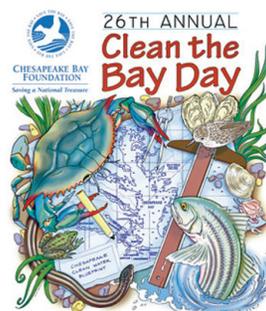
Is my collection day for recycling going to change? Most residents will not have a change in their collection day. The contractor is currently preparing route sheets with the intent of not changing collection days; however, collection days may change for some residents.

How much recycling can I put out? Does it all have to be in the cart? Please attempt to place all recyclables in the cart. If you have too many recyclables, they may be placed

in a paper bag or other container and placed next to the cart for collection. Please do not place recyclables in plastic bags!

Can I bag my recyclables in plastic bags before placing them in the cart? No. Plastic bags are damaging to the equipment used to process recyclable materials. Since the materials go to a single stream processing facility, there is never a need to bag your recyclables, except in the case of shredded paper. Small amounts of shredded paper can be put in paper bags and placed inside your recycling cart. Please return your plastic bags to any participating plastic bag take-back location (many grocery stores participate). Plastic bags can also be taken to any of the Market Days events at Riverwalk Landing.

If you have questions about recycling or other Waste Management programs or would like to subscribe to the county's curbside solid waste collections program, please call 890-3780 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. or through the online "Service Request System" at www.yorkcounty.gov/eds or www.yorkcounty.gov/wastemanagement.



Clean the Bay Day
Saturday, June 7, 2014
9am – 12pm

Interested in volunteering?

Contact Molly Nealer, Recreation
 Supervisor for York County
 @ 757-890-3513 or nealerm@yorkcounty.com

Some Suggested Cleanup Areas

York County Schools, neighborhoods, churches, roadsides, trails, waterways, parks, marinas, creeks and the river. Or...ask us and we will assign your group to a location!

York Launches New Emergency Notification System

York County citizens and businesses can now sign up to receive emergency alerts with new state-of-the-art emergency notification technology. The system, GeoCast® Web™, provided by Cassidian Communications, which also supplies York County's E911 equipment, includes a Self-Registration Portal (SRP) so citizens can easily sign up and be notified in the event of an emergency. All citizens are encouraged to register their contact information. Used extensively by law enforcement, Fire/EMS and emergency management operations worldwide, the GeoCast® Web™ emergency notification system will contact residents by home phone, cell phone, or email. Citizens must register via the SRP located at www.yorkalert.com or www.yorkcounty.gov (click on the "York Alert" logo on the right-hand side of the homepage).

"We are very pleased to announce to residents we are further enhancing our efforts in keeping them safe," said Terry Hall, Chief of Emergency Communications in York

County. "Having this service along with our E911 system gives us unprecedented communications capabilities during any event that could harm citizens. It can also be used to inform

local organizations, such as neighborhood watch groups, to be aware of potentially dangerous situations," said Hall.

The York County Emergency Communications Center will also use Cassidian Communications' The Communicator!® NXT™ solution. This application will enable them to quickly alert and assemble key personnel or first responder teams using every means possible, expediting response and recovery efforts and keeping the community safe.

For more information, email yorkalert@yorkcounty.gov.



Sales Tax Holiday May 25-31

It's smart to get ready for hurricane and flash flooding season, which arrives June 1. And it's smart to save money!

You can do both by shopping for products such as batteries, food storage containers, generators, first aid kits, bottled water, weather radios and more by going shopping the last week of May and save money on a lot of useful items. Virginia's annual Hurricane Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday is May 25 to 31. Before the storms hit, stock up on many supplies for protecting your home and business and you won't have to pay sales tax on them!

New this year, gas-powered chainsaws costing less than \$350 and chainsaw accessories are tax free.

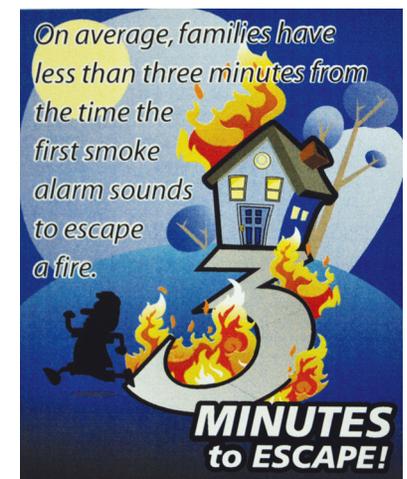
Retail outlets will have information about the tax holiday. For more, visit www.vaemergency.gov and www.ReadyVirginia.gov.

If you do not already have a NOAA All-Hazards Weather Radio, take this opportunity to visit a local electronics retailer and obtain one. A NOAA All-Hazards Weather Radio with Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) when programmed correctly will alert you only of weather and other emergencies for the counties, cities, and/or other areas that you have programmed into the radio.

Smoke Alarms Save Lives!

Home is where most people feel the safest. But it's also where you are most likely to experience a fatal fire. According to the National Fire Prevention Association, 85 percent of all fire fatalities - close to 2,650 people annually - occur in a home. Most fire fatalities happen in the 29 percent of homes that either have inoperable smoke alarms, or no alarms at all!

While three-fourths of U.S. homes have at least one working alarm, the question remains as to whether they have enough alarms. More than 84 million homes - most built prior to 1993 - only have isolated battery- or electric-powered smoke alarms. Millions more do not have an alarm inside of bedrooms. Simply put, residents without a sufficient number of working smoke alarms are under protected and, therefore, at increased risk.



Please see Alarms on page 12



Virginia Cooperative Extension

Virginia Tech • Virginia State University

York County-Poquoson Office, 100 County Drive, P.O. Box 532, Yorktown, Virginia 23690-0532
(757) 890-4940/Fax 890-4033; Email: ex199@vt.edu; Websites: www.yorkcounty.gov/vce; www.ext.vt.edu

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4-H Growing Mums for Profit

The award-winning 4-H Chrysanthemum Project combines the skills of growing plants with the knowledge of how to account for, market, and sell a "product." Youth ages 10 to 15 will receive materials to grow 20 chrysanthemums and will attend five educational sessions (one hour each) throughout the summer. Classes will meet starting in May at 6:30 p.m. at a location to be announced.

Space in this program is limited to 20 participants. Application and registration fee of \$15 must be received before the first class.

Please call 890-4940 if you are interested in this program.

Fall Fescue Lawn Maintenance

Do you know that you will have to renovate the lawn this fall? Did you know that fall is the best season to renovate a fescue lawn? A calendar of renovation clinics will be released soon. Incorporating organic matter, rake level, and seed selection will be discussed in the lawn renovation program. All classes are held from 10 a.m. to noon. Dates TBD. Clinic locations are:

- Grafton True Value Hardware, Route 17
- Ken Matthews Garden Center, Route 17
- Taylor's Do-It Center, Wythe Creek Road (Poquoson)

**Master Gardener Training Application
deadline is July 15! Call 890-4940
or visit www.yorkcounty.gov/vce
for more information.**

Yorktown Market Days

York County Master Gardeners will have a booth at the Yorktown Market Days at Riverwalk Landing. Bring your plant or insect identification questions or concerns, or come and browse the information table, on these Saturdays: May 10 (Fitness Market), June 7, July 5, and September 6 and 20.

Stay Up-to-Date with Extension News

Virginians will celebrate the 100-year anniversary of the national Cooperative Extension system, following Gov. Terry McAuliffe's declaration of May 8, 2014 as Virginia Cooperative Extension Day.



Congress passed the Smith-Lever Act on May 8, 1914, creating the Cooperative Extension Service, a state-by-state national network of educators who extend university based knowledge to the people.

The governor's proclamation acknowledges Extension as a critical component of the three-part land-grant mission at Virginia Tech and Virginia State University, and how it translates science-based research for practical application through local and online learning networks where educators are uniquely available to identify emerging research questions, connect with land-grant university faculty members to find answers, and encourage the application of findings to improve economic and social conditions.

Visit www.yorkcounty.gov, select "Online Services," and then "Online Subscriptions." Select Virginia Cooperative Extension for news.

Virginia Cooperative Extension provides educational programs conducted in workplaces, schools, and communities of Virginians. Research based information from Virginia Tech and Virginia State University is used by Extension Agents and their volunteers to teach people innovative ways to solve problems.

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in any of these programs, please call the York Cooperative Extension Office at 890-4940 to discuss accommodations ten days prior to the event.

2014 Mosquito Season Update

Mosquito season is upon us and York County Mosquito Control is excited to continue and expand our mission to effectively reduce the mosquito annoyance level and threat of associated vector borne diseases in an environmentally conscious manner.

Ground spray services to control adult mosquitoes will be performed using environmentally safe, EPA approved chemicals. Citizens may opt out of ground spray services by completing a citizen "Mosquito Spray Avoidance Request,"



Ask us about mosquito repellent plants.

which can be found on our website at www.yorkcounty.gov/mosquitocontrol. Our mosquito spray hotline - 890-3793 - will be updated daily Monday through Friday after 3 p.m. and will detail what, if any, areas will be sprayed. This information can also be found on our website. In the event an

aerial spray is scheduled, citizens will be notified using the spray hotline and our website. Spray schedules will also be emailed to our email subscribers. To subscribe to our notification list, go to www.yorkcounty.gov, select "Online Services," then "Online Subscriptions." Enter your contact information and select "Mosquito Control Information."

June 22-28 is National Mosquito Control Awareness week; look for our displays around York County public buildings.

Alarms continued from page 10

Recent studies identify that based on construction features and contents, families may have less than three minutes from the time the smoke alarm sounds to escape a fire. The sooner an alarm is heard, the more time there is to respond.

Alarm Installation Tips:

- Install at least one smoke alarm on each level or story of a multi-story dwelling, inside and outside of sleeping areas, in hallways, and living/kitchen areas;
- Since smoke travels up, smoke alarms should be installed on the ceiling or high on a wall.
- Install alarms 20 feet away from stoves, furnaces, water heaters, etc.
- Install alarms 10 feet away from bathrooms or other

We need your help at home! Here is what you can do to help the mosquito control effort:

- Wear long, loose, and light colored clothing along with an insect repellent;
- Clean roof gutters and downspout screens regularly;
- Get rid of old tires, buckets, drums, bottles and any other containers that hold water on your property;
- Fill in or drain low areas in your yard;
- Keep drains, ditches, and culverts clean of weeds and trash so water will drain properly;
- Report major drainage blockages to York County EDS or VDOT;
- Cover trash cans to keep out rainwater;
- Empty wading pools, bird baths, plant pots, or drip trays every week;
- Add sand to outdoor plant pot drip trays to absorb excess water;
- Fill hollow tree stumps or tree rot holes with sand;
- Keep your grass cut and shrubbery well trimmed to reduce adult mosquito hiding areas;
- For low-lying wet areas, ornamental ponds, or rain barrels, apply environmentally friendly larvicides which kill mosquito larvae without damage to humans or wildlife. Larvicide dunks can be obtained FREE of charge from Mosquito Control.

BEEKEEPERS - We want to know about you! If you are a beekeeper, please call our office at 890-3790 to report the location of your hives.

damp, humid areas (steam can set off alarms)

- Do not install in areas where the temperature is below 40 or higher than 100 degrees Fahrenheit.
- The living area smoke alarm should be installed in the living room and/or near the stairway leading to the upper level.
- Smoke alarms should be placed in finished attics.
- If a hallway is more than 30 feet long, install a unit at each end.

If you need smoke alarms or batteries for the alarms but can't afford them, or if you need help testing, checking, or changing the batteries in your alarms, or if you need help on the proper placement of your alarms or need assistance installing alarms, call Fire and Life Safety at 890-3600.