



Virginia Cooperative Extension

Virginia Tech • Virginia State University

The Culpeper Extension Office is located at 101 S. West Street, Culpeper, VA 22701. (Corner of West and Davis) Telephone: (540)727-3435

CULPEPER COUNTY EXTENSION STAFF

Administration:

Cristy Mosley, Unit Coordinator (cmosley1@vt.edu)

Linda Baldwin, Administrative and Fiscal Assistant (lindab75@vt.edu)

Extension Agents:

Cristy Mosley, 4-H Youth Development (cmosley1@vt.edu)

Ashley Appling, Horticulture (ashappling@vt.edu)

Carl Stafford, Agriculture & Natural Resources (ccstaffo@vt.edu)

Courtney Wesner, 4-H Youth Development, Animal Science (wesnerc@vt.edu)

Lenah Nguyen, Family & Consumer Sciences, (lgeer@vt.edu)

Program Assistants:

JoAnna Kilby, 4-H Youth Development (jlclark@vt.edu)

Georgette Mosley, Family Nutrition Program, Youth (gyates@vt.edu)

Other Agents serving Culpeper: ANR – Tim Mize (Fauquier),

Brad Jarvis & Adam Downing (Madison), Kenner Love (Rappahannock);

FCS – Clare Lillard (Orange)

4-H Youth Development

Cristy Mosley, Extension Agent, 4-H Animal Science

JoAnna Kilby, Program Assistant 4-H

It's time to be thinking about joining a 4-H Club. 4-H Club year runs from October 1 – September 30 of each year. 4-H Clubs are open to youth between the ages of 9-18 during the 4-H year. We even have a club for our 4-H Cloverbuds - children ages 5-8.

Here is a list of our clubs with the leader contact information. If you are interested feel free to contact the club leader or call the Culpeper Extension Office at (540) 727-3435.

Animal Science Clubs – Meetings held at the Carver Center

Beef Club – learn about the care, feeding, health and safety of beef animals.

Leaders: Tom and Tricia Russell (540) 399-1201 or trussell@juno.com

Goats 'R' Us Club – learn about the care, feeding, health, grooming and showing of goats.

Leader: Candace Myers (540) 308-5681 or culpepergoatsrus@gmail.com

Livestock Competition Club – learn about and compete in livestock judging, cattle working, and stockmen's. Limited space is available due to team sizes.

Leader: Katie Reames (540)219-5642 or katiereames@gmail.com

Rixeyville Riders Club – emphasis on horse-related education, all riding disciplines welcome. You do not need to own a horse to participate.

Leader: Jody Ramey shohntr3@yahoo.com Some meetings held at local farms.

Sheep Club – learn about the care, feeding, health, and showing of sheep.

Leader: Ashley Hoffman (540) 661-7331 or cedarviewfarmva@gmail.com

Swine Club – learn about the care, feeding, health, and breeding of hogs. Leaders: Michael Brown (540) 222-0997 or michaelo.brown@vafb.com;

Wally Sheads (540) 718-1260 or walter.sheadsjr@gmail.com

Town and Country Critters - Learn about care, feeding, health, and showing of rabbits and poultry. Youth ages 9-18.

Leader: Laurie Hughes laurieandchicks@gmail.com

Cloverbud Club – Ages 5-8 – Meetings held at the Carver Center

The club provides a fun and educational experience that helps children to explore many interests.

Leader: Beth Lineweaver (540) 718-1152 or bbenn89@vt.edu

Gardening Club – NEW CLUB!!! – Meetings held at the Carver Center

Learn about soil science, planting seasons, planting techniques, plant diseases, and much more.

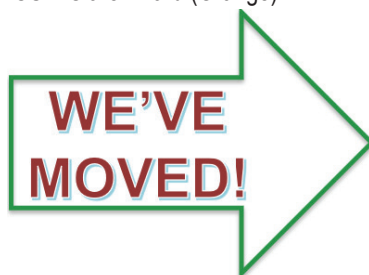
Leader: Lauren Davis laurendavis1010@vt.edu

Cedar Mountain Shooting Sports 4-H Club – Meetings held at the Cedar Mountain Shooting Range - Youth learn safety foremost and marksmanship. Must be 10 years old to join.

New enrollees accepted in October & March

Leader: Michelle Bonnin (540) 937-0578 or michellebonnin2@gmail.com

Please see our Facebook page – <https://www.facebook.com/culpepercounty4H> or our office website: <https://culpeper.ext.vt.edu/>



**You can find us at
The Carver Center
9432 N. James Madison
Hwy.
(Route 15)
Rapidan, VA 22733
(540) 727-3435**

Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS)

Lenah Nguyen, Senior Extension Agent, FCS



After many years of planning and fund-raising, the first phase of the George Washington Carver Food Enterprise Center (GWCFEC) is planning to open its doors by the early fall. The GWCFEC is a shared-use commercial kitchen and food business

entrepreneur incubator aimed at growing food businesses in Culpeper, Fauquier, Rappahannock, Orange, and Madison Counties. We will provide an inspected commercial kitchen for rent, trainings, and expertise in all aspects of food production.

The first phase of the GWCFEC is focused on providing commissary kitchen space for food trucks and caterers. This phase will also create a home for Virginia Cooperative Extension's Stone Soup culinary skills job training and certification program. Finally phase one will allow us to transform produce donations into convenient and nourishing meals for food bank clients with limited cooking equipment.

More information about the George Washington Carver Food Enterprise Center, including information about reserving space in the commercial kitchen can be found here: www.gwcfec.org.

Virginia Cooperative Extension is a partnership of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and local governments. Its programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, military status, or any other basis protected by law.

Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) Carl Stafford, Senior Extension Agent, ANR Animal Science

As I write this article at the beginning of August, farmers are wondering how the remaining days of the growing season will turn out. They are hoping they can grow some pasture for livestock grazing and are preparing to harvest crops and are planning for small grain planting. Small grain variety trials results should be available online if you search for Virginia Extension and then "small grains".

Since spring, farmers have been looking ahead for "fall" planting of perennial grasses intended for hay and or pasture. Thin stands need some help by putting extra seed in place, by making fertility adjustments according to soil test and by suppressing weeds. The ideal time to plant is when soil moisture is adequate starting in mid- August thru September.

And now begins our chance to stockpile growth from fescue stands until early fall. Stockpiled forage is one of our most economical methods of feeding livestock in winter, often coming in at 50% less when compared to harvested feed. Recent calculations in an Extension



Cows grazing stockpile in fall
submitted by Carl Stafford, Senior Extension Agent

training showed this cost as high as \$3.00 per day when using hay and grain. Your cost could be different.

Our standard recommendation for producing stockpiled fescue is to apply 60 to 80 pounds of nitrogen per acre to hayfields targeted for stockpiling or use less when stockpiling an old sod. These sods can release nitrogen

from the decay of organic matter and a special test is needed to give guidance in estimating its potential release. Look up Soil Test Biological Activity or Carbon Respiration Test for more information.

Studies at the Southern Piedmont Research Station in Blackstone by Dr. Chris Teustch, show that fescue pastures can accumulate up to 2500 pounds per acre without adding nitrogen when fertility is at least medium. To obtain this yield you need an active nitrogen cycle to include nitrogen from clover or animal manure and or from decaying organic matter. Realize that for every 1% organic matter there is the potential for up to 1000 lbs. N/acre, but not all is available.

You can plan for more production if you apply nitrogen, and from historic yield data across Virginia, we expect a 1 to 3-ton hay equivalent yield from up to 80 pounds of nitrogen per acre. Recent work in this area shows the cost/benefit is negative with high Nitrogen costs now. You be the judge. Pencil out costs and apply nutrients to fields that will give you a response.

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services, or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact Virginia Cooperative Extension, Culpeper Office, at 540-727-3435 during business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, to discuss accommodations one week prior to this event.



Conservation District Announces Scholarship Recipients

Each year the Culpeper Soil & Water Conservation District awards educational scholarships to students who plan to pursue a career in a conservation related field. Financial assistance is available for eligible students from Culpeper, Greene, Madison, Orange and Rappahannock Counties. Applicants must be full time students enrolled in or who have been accepted to a college undergraduate or graduate program related to soil and water conservation, natural resource management, animal science, environmental science or other related programs.

This year, Madisyn Corron was chosen to receive the annual John H. Boldridge Memorial Scholarship. Madisyn graduated from Eastern View High School. She will attend the University of Mary Washington, where she will major in Agriculture (\$2,000 award).

The Culpeper Soil and Water Conservation District is honored to recognize students for their achievements and wish them well in their future endeavors.

Students Chosen for Summer Camps

Culpeper Soil and Water Conservation District supported two students to attend Camp Woods and Wildlife held June 19-23 at the Holiday Lake 4-H Center in Appomattox, Virginia.

The students representing the District were:

- Lincoln Stuart (Culpeper)
- Hannah Tolson (Culpeper)

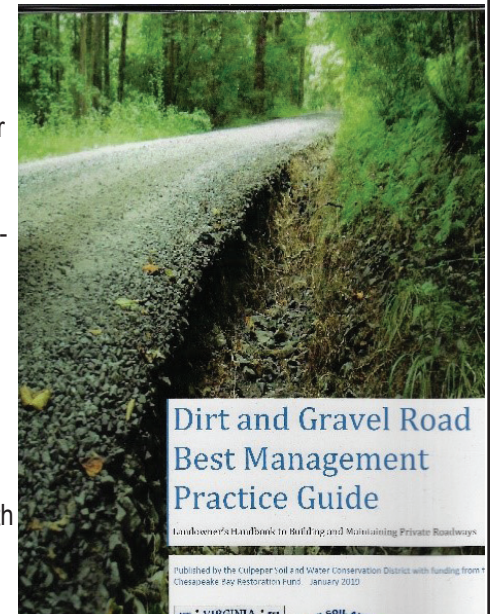
Driveway Maintenance Guide Available

Now is a great time to start maintenance of your road or driveway! Over time, many roads and driveways deteriorate for a variety of reasons: poor initial design or construction, poor maintenance, extreme weather or heavy traffic. In addition to costly repairs, many roads and roadside ditches drain into local streams delivering both sediment and gravel into stream channels. This is destructive to the stream, resulting in loss of stream bottom habitat and channel capacity. Improved maintenance incorporating best management practices (BMPs) can save money and better protect waterways.

Currently available to property owners is the Dirt and Gravel Road BMP Guide, published with funding from the Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund. The guide can be found at the Culpeper Soil and Water Conservation District website (www.culpeperswcd.org) under Publications. Hard copies can be picked up from CSWCD as well as your local Extension office or Building office. For technical assistance, contact Richard Jacobs at 540-825-8591 or RichardJ@culpeperswcd.org.

Culpeper County is represented on the Culpeper SWCD Board of Directors by Elected Directors Tom O'Halloran and Dennis Verhoff as well as Associate Director Bob Williamson.

As always, Culpeper Soil and Water Conservation District is available with cost share for agricultural producers, technical assistance for all residents, hands on classroom/Zoom programs and rain barrels! Contact Stephanie DeNicola at stephanied@culpeperswcd.org or 540-825-8591 for more information.



OPTIONS by *Tiffany N. Diggs, Program Supervisor*

Just like a garden, our youth need to be nurtured and given time to grow. Recently we have had three of our former clients come back to tell us about how they have been doing in their lives and even look to volunteer their time to work with our current clients.

Each one of these individuals has a chosen career path of their interest and we couldn't be prouder of them. We wish them nothing but the best in pursuing their dreams.

One is continuing her education in Criminal Justice and is looking forward to career in Law Enforcement. The other is pursuing a career in the music industry and will be continuing his education in the field. The last individual has an interest in horticulture. He also donated and planted a fig tree in honor of our dearly departed colleague, Wanda.

It is a truly a beautiful thing when past clients come back to let you know the positive impact that you have had on their life. This is the focus of OPTIONS and the reason we do this work. We want to teach our youth skills that will impact their lives not just short-term, but for their futures.

OPTIONS is a County program for youth ages 11-17. OPTIONS staff evaluate and determine a youth's risk of getting into further trouble with the legal system, in school, at home, in the community or with the use of illicit substances. OPTIONS then implements evidence-based programs to assist youth in developing personal skills to become productive, respectful, and responsible members of the community.



Picture of Wanda Anderson



Fig tree donated by former client and planted in memory of Wanda Anderson



People Incorporated is a non-profit with locations across Virginia, including Culpeper. People Inc. is committed to providing opportunities for economically disadvantaged people to reach their goals to enhance their lives, their families, and their communities. You can learn more about our services by reading our **2022 Annual Impact Report**.

Our Culpeper office is located at 233 East Davis St., Suite 100 and 300. Call the office at 833-277-9330, email info@peopleinc.net or visit our website at peopleinc.net to learn more.

Find program updates, events, and community resources by following us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram.



People Inc.'s Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Culpeper needs volunteers to represent the best interests of foster children in court. Contact Rebecca Slone at 276-356-9062 or email rslone@peopleinc.net to learn more about this opportunity.




Empowering Culpeper hosts monthly community food distributions on the third Saturday of every month in Culpeper. They have expanded their services to include personal care and hygiene items, as well as pet food supplies. Visit People Inc.'s Facebook page, call 540-935-0047, or email empoweringculpeper@gmail.com. **If you are interested in volunteering with Empowering Culpeper, reach out to volunteer@peopleinc.net.**




People Incorporated helps ex-offenders reintegrate after incarceration through our Virginia CARES program. Read more about the Virginia Cares program by visiting www.peopleinc.net.

Did you know that People Inc. offers personal loans, business loans, services for ex-offenders, homeless services, and affordable housing in Culpeper? Call the Culpeper Office for more information at 833-277-9330, visit our website or email info@peopleinc.net.



DEMENTIA FRIENDLY CULPEPER

**An initiative of AGING TOGETHER
in partnership with the CULPEPER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

More than 5000 people are currently living with dementia or cognitive impairment in our region. This number is expected to rise 30% by 2025. 

If you are a business in Culpeper, you can become Dementia Friendly with a free, short training session for you and your staff. Being Dementia Friendly means you have a basic understanding of what dementia is and know how to help those living with dementia while they are visiting your organization.



An experienced Aging Together volunteer or staff member will facilitate training. Once complete, your organization will be listed as Dementia Friendly on Aging Together's website and in other promotional materials.

**Good for business.
Good for those living with dementia.
Good for the community.**

540-829-6405 / info@agingtogether.org

Contact us today to learn more about participating in the Dementia Friendly initiative. Be a part of serving those living with dementia!

www.agingtogether.org

Rappahannock Rapidan Health District

by Mary E. Chamberlin
Community Engagement Specialist

August is National Breastfeeding Awareness Month. Breastfeeding gives babies a healthy start in life. Breast milk is one of the best things that your baby needs to grow and develop. It's rich in vitamins, minerals, and nutrients that help your baby grow healthy and strong.

Infants who are breastfed have reduced risks of:

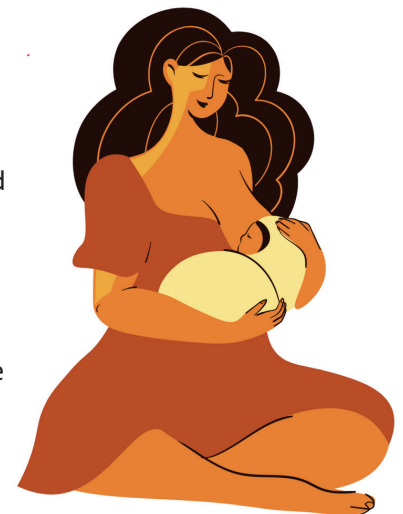
- Asthma
- Obesity
- Type 2 diabetes
- Severe lower respiratory disease
- Ear infections
- Sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS)
- Diarrhea and vomiting

Babies can easily digest breast milk and it's free! Breastfed babies may be sick less often, too, which may even help keep your health costs low. With breastfeeding, the milk is warm and ready to go whenever your baby is hungry. Breastfeeding is not just good for babies, it's good for moms, too! Besides all the benefits for babies, breastfeeding can help lower a mother's risk of:

- High blood pressure
- Type 2 diabetes
- Ovarian cancer
- Breast cancer

Virginia Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) provides nutrition education, breastfeeding promotion and support, supplemental nutritious foods, counseling at WIC clinics, and screening and referrals to other health, welfare, and social services.

To apply for WIC, visit: <https://www.myvawic.org/>



Offered at The



318 South West Street
Culpeper VA 22701
and supported by
Culpeper Human Services

Grief Care ~ Hope and Healing Grief Support Group

Are you grieving the death of a loved one or a friend? We are all different, and we grieve in different ways as well. Loss changes each of us in fundamental ways, and it takes time to discover who we are becoming.

Come join a grief support group led by folks who understand your grief and want to walk with you through the healing process. Whether your loss is recent, or it happened a while ago—everyone is welcome. Join us as we begin a journey of comfort and support; learn how to process grief and begin to move forward with hope.

For more information, contact:

Hans Murdock
hurdock@culpeperbaptist.org
or

Joyce Beales
540-825-8192/grief@culpeperbaptist.org

*Please use Lower Parking Lot & Follow
Directional Signage to Side Entrance*



Welcome Home Baby | Healthy Steps | Parent Education

We are a non-profit program with three **FREE** and **PRIVATE** services to families of Culpeper

Parenting Education Program

Parenting class offered to support parents and caregivers of children ages 2 to 12.

Come and join for an interactive and educational look at active parenting. The classes are held in person 5:30 - 7:30 pm on three evenings of each month.

Contact us to get signed up!

Upcoming Schedule:

September 5, 12, 19
October 10, 17, 24
November & December - NO classes
January 9, 16, 23

Programa de Educación Parental

Para padres de niños de 5 a 12 años.

Una vez que esté registrado, se proporcionará información sobre cómo asistir a la clase, y los materiales GRATUITOS para la clase estarán disponibles para que los recoja.

Fechas de Clase:

Septiembre 14, 21, 28
Octubre 12, 19, 26
Noviembre & Diciembre – sin clase
Enero 11, 18, 25

INSCRIPCIÓN: healthyfamiliesculpeper@gmail.com

Are you or someone you know expecting a baby, or have a newborn? Then Families First – Healthy Families Culpeper is perfect!

Welcome Home Baby – community resource connections & gift bag!

Healthy Steps – ongoing parenting & child development support.

Nuestros servicios también se ofrecen en español.

Call or text us: 540-222-6320

Look for us on Facebook:

Families First – Healthy Families Culpeper

Visit our website:

healthyfamiliesculpeper.org

Email us:

healthyfamiliesculpeper@gmail.com

We are always accepting donations of any kind. Including new or slightly used donations to share with families.



Virginia Housing Home Modification Grants

The disAbility Resource Center (dRC) is a Fredericksburg-based non-profit Center for Independent Living (CIL) that provides services and advocacy promoting independence, empowerment and productivity of people with disabilities. dRC is an agent for Virginia Housing and facilitates two grants for Virginia Housing: Rental Unit Accessibility Modification Grant and Granting Freedom. This valuable resource aids people with disabilities to increase access and independence.

The rental unit modification grant is for tenants living with a disability who earn 80% or less of the area median income and does not cost the landlord. An agreement must be signed by both the landlord and

tenant authorizing the modifications. Granting Freedom provides home modification grants to veterans who have an in-service disability. Recipients of the grant may receive up to \$8,000 in grant assistance.

To learn more about Virginia Housing Grants, please contact Brenda Boggs at 540-373-2559 or email her at bboggs@cildrc.org, Monday-Friday.

The disAbility Resource Center
409 Progress Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401
Phone: 540-373-2559 Relay and Voice 800-648-6324

Culpeper Small Businesses:

We're building. We're growing. We're working for YOU!

The Community Investment Collaborative (CIC) and the Central VA Small Business Development Center (CV SBDC) teams are expanding so that we can serve YOU better!



Meet Christine Caldwell, Workshop & Outreach Coordinator, CIC



Christine Caldwell joins the CIC team as Workshop and Outreach Coordinator for our Culpeper-Orange Workshop this Fall! She has a Masters degree in Business Management from Lasell University and over 20 years in business, organizational, and cultural change management. She is also a former entrepreneur and owner of an immersive crafting studio and is passionate for the revitalization of rural communities and support for small business.

What is something you love about Culpeper or a fun fact you've learned?

Culpeper is vibrant and diverse like the downtown of a major city. There is always something new to do and to discover! The communities around Culpeper are equally hidden gems. They have Americana, small-town vibes that reflect pride in their communities. There is great history to discover. To add to its charm, the

backdrop of Culpeper and the surrounding areas are absolutely beautiful! I am thrilled to support and be an active champion for the community!

When you're in Culpeper, where might we find you?

I am an active supporter of any small business. You will find me shopping in small gift shops, eating in cafes (especially if they have outdoor dining), and checking out any of the local breweries and vineyards. Above all, you will certainly find me anywhere there is live music!

When you're not working with business owners, what do you like to do for fun?

My free time is always spent with my amazing husband and two bull mastiffs. We are usually kayaking the Shenandoah River, hiking the many local trails, discovering new restaurants, or listening to live, local bands. I am also a super-geek when anyone wants to talk about ideas to start a new business!

To reach Christine, email christine@cicville.org or call (434) 218-3481.

Meet Terry Woodworth, Rural Ecosystem Builder, CIC



Terry Woodworth joins the CIC/CV SBDC team as the Rural Ecosystem Builder to engage and grow entrepreneurial support networks throughout the rural counties in GO Virginia Region 9 which are the counties of Nelson, Orange, Louisa, Fluvanna, Greene, Culpeper, Fauquier, and Madison.

Terry has a long history of supporting entrepreneurs in Virginia. After completing his Ph.D. in Microbiology at VCU and a postdoc

at UC Irvine, Terry's focus transitioned to technology-based economic development. He worked 22 years with Virginia's Center for Innovative Technology (now Virginia Innovation Partnership Corporation) providing both direct program support for startups in the Piedmont and Shenandoah Valley region, as well as strategic planning on key industry sectors for the state. More than a decade of private sector experience followed, helping grow a government contracting company, during which he supported the Virginia SBDC network in launching their Innovation Commercialization Assistance Program (ICAP). More recently, Terry engaged with the Virginia Department of Health in its fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, serving as a Case Investigator and COVID Mitigation Specialist with the Blue Ridge Health District. Terry finds joy in encouraging entrepreneurial innovators and bringing people together to apply their combined knowledge, skills, and resources to solve significant problems, impact lives, and contribute to a more just and equitable Commonwealth.

What is something you love about Culpeper or a fun fact you've learned?

My wife and I recently enjoyed a weekend getaway in Culpeper. I loved the mix of old and new - maintaining old architecture while housing new and intriguing

businesses and restaurants in the downtown area. A friendly couple who took our picture at the "LOVE" sign near the train station directed us to some of their favorite eateries and shared the fun fact about the gargoyles to look out for on the tops of various older buildings on Davis and Main streets.

When you're in Culpeper, where might we find you?

We actually stayed at one of the hotels right off of 29, which was inexpensive and yet very hospitable, family-run and friendly! Besides the downtown shops/restaurants, we loved having outdoor time for walking and people/pet watching in Rockwater Park - a beautiful gem that I expect we will return to often. You might also find me occasionally at our office at 803 S. Main Street.

When you're not working with business owners, what do you like to do for fun?

Mostly spending time with family and friends. I'm a big UVA sports fan (especially basketball and baseball). Go Hoos!

What brings you joy?

My family - seeing my children grow into competent and caring adults who love others and are contributing in their various chosen careers/professions. Seeing my amazing wife grow in her "post-child-rearing" efforts supporting local organizations, accounting clients in various positions, and our expanding family of adult children and grands! I find true joy in encouraging the unique value of each person that comes into my life. I appreciate this amazing world we inhabit, and enjoy joining others in applying our combined strengths, knowledge and skills to solve significant problems that positively impact lives and contribute to a more just and equitable community and Commonwealth.

To reach Terry, email terry@cicville.org or call (434) 218-3481.

Learn about CIC + SBDC - How may we help you?!

Community Investment Collaborative offers a wealth of specialized programs to support entrepreneurs along their journey. Our signature program, a 16-week Entrepreneur Workshop, is being hosted in Culpeper-Orange this Fall with hopes to continue in future semesters. Additionally, we offer microloans up to \$50K, a Financial Management Program to help you address the growing needs of your personal and business accounting and finances, mentoring, Small Business Circles or mini business support groups, Office Hours with local professionals who are skilled in specialized competencies, and a coworking space we call the Collaborative.

The Central Virginia SBDC offers online webinars that tackle specific business issues like Starting Your Business, Selling to the Government, Digital Marketing, and more. Please see our Calendar of Events page for our current schedule (cvsbdc.org/calendar-of-events.)

Bottom line? We want to help you and your business succeed! For more information on any of our programs, or to schedule a meeting, contact the Central VA SBDC at (434) 295-8198 or contact@cvsbdc.org and CIC at (434) 218-3481 or info@cicville.org or visit us online at cvsbdc.org and cicville.org.

CULPEPER COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CLERK - CARSON W. BEARD

To the Citizens of Culpeper County,

I am so honored and humbled to serve the community as the Clerk of Court. Thank you all for everything. If anyone has any questions, please feel free to contact me. The Clerk's Office is open from 8:00AM to 4:00PM, Monday through Friday (540) 727-3438.

PUBLIC OFFICE STAFF:

Jennifer L. Weakley, Chief Deputy Clerk
Sylvia Renninger, Administrative Assistant Deputy Clerk
Stacy S. Putnam, Deputy Clerk
Nicole Richardson Fields, Deputy Clerk
Kristen E. Shipe, Deputy Clerk
Shaneil Williams, Deputy Clerk

COURTROOM STAFF:

Stephanie Voss, Deputy Clerk
Courtne Koontz, Deputy Clerk
Helen Casillas, Deputy Clerk
Ashley Fox, Deputy Clerk
Teresa Holliday, Deputy Clerk

INFORMATION:

Please check out the Clerk of Court page on Culpeper County's government website. It contains a lot of helpful information about the office including information about concealed handgun permits, marriage licenses, estate matters, juries, etc. The URL is <https://web.culpepercounty.gov/circuit>. We will continue to post more and more information about the office on this page.

The Culpeper Circuit Court Clerk's Office recently obtained a large plat scanner and printer. The Supreme Court of Virginia's Office of the Executive Secretary (OES) (who's internet and computer system we are on) started a pilot program for the scanning of large plats into our Commonwealth of Virginia Electronic Records System (COVERS). Culpeper was the second Clerk's Office in the Commonwealth to have the scanner installed and fees from Secure Remote Access (SRA), as mentioned in the last quarterly, were used to fund the purchase of the scanner and printer. With the addition of this scanner, large plats will now be able to be scanned and returned immediately to the recorder when someone comes in-person to record the document(s). Before, the large plats had to be mailed to a company for scanning and then once they were returned, they were then mailed to the recorder. This scanner will eliminate that process and make the recording of these large plats much more efficient. In addition, the older large plats, which are yet to be scanned in for digital consumption, will be able to be scanned into COVERS and available via the public Records Management System on the kiosks in our records room. This will also mean that anyone who has a subscription to SRA will also have access to the plats from wherever they log in. I am very excited about this new project and scanner and am glad we are one of the first in the Commonwealth on OES to have this program

Another exciting new feature is if you apply and are granted a Concealed Handgun Permit (CHP), your new permit will now be a plastic card instead of paper. The permit will be a hard plastic similar to a credit card with a signature pane on the back for the permittee to sign. This will eliminate the need to have the paper laminated and the cards will be much more durable. We have also notified every local law enforcement agency of the change, including the Virginia State Police. Remember, if you are a first-time applicant you must appear in-person to apply. You can obtain the application from the Virginia State Police website or you can get one in our office for \$2.00. You must bring your ID and your proof of in-person handgun competency. The fee for such permit is \$50.00 (\$35.00 for Sheriff's Office; \$10.00 Clerk Fee, \$5.00 for State Police). If you are renewing your CHP, you may either come to the office in-person or mail in your completed application (same application and fee as previously mentioned), a copy of your ID, and it helps if we also have a copy of your old permit for the purpose of the background investigation. Once your application is reviewed/approved by the Sheriff's Office, the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, and the Judge, it is then printed on our new card printer and mailed to the address you provided on your application or the self-addressed envelope that you can provide.

Voter Registration and Election Office

New Registrar, Melissa Hart, is a Familiar Face to Culpeper Voters

In June, the Culpeper County Electoral Board appointed Melissa Hart to be the County's new General Registrar and Director of Elections. Melissa is no stranger to the office, having served as the Chief Deputy Registrar since 2007. Melissa has also held state certification as an Elections Official for more than a decade. Melissa's term began July 1 and runs through June 2027.



FALL 2023 ELECTION CALENDAR

Sept. 22 – Early voting begins. We will offer in-person absentee voting at our new office located at **131 N. Main St.** If you can't make it in, you can always call **540-825-0652** to request an absentee ballot application or visit our website: voteinculpeper.info to download one or apply online.

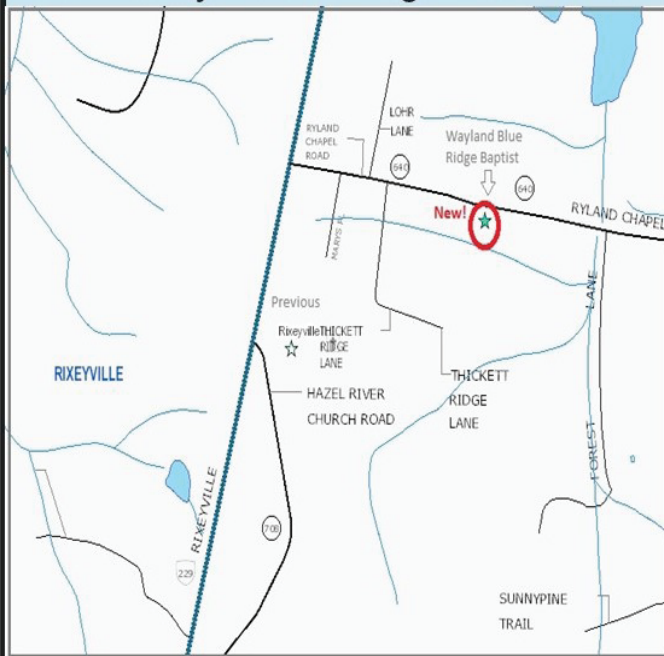
Oct. 16 – The **last day to register to vote** (or to update your registration if you've moved). Please take the time to check your registration before this date. You can do so on our website.

Oct. 27 – The last day to apply for an absentee ballot by mail. We must receive your application that day in order to mail you a ballot.

Oct. 28 & Nov. 4 – We will be open the last two Saturdays before the election from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for voting. Saturday, November 4, is also the last day to vote early.

Nov. 7 – Election Day. All voting at the Precincts. **NO VOTING AT THE OFFICE.** Absentee ballots must be postmarked by this date and received by Nov. 13.

New Rixeyville Polling Place Literally Right Around the Corner



Voters in the **Rixeyville Precinct** (Jefferson District - in the northern part of Culpeper County) will have a new polling place this November 7. Election Day voting will now be held at the **Wayland Blue Ridge Baptist Church** located at **15044 Ryland Chapel Rd.** in Rixeyville. All voters in the precinct also received notice by mail about the change. We hope the new location won't be hard to find as it's very close to the old location (see map to the left).

The Electoral Board would also like to thank the Hazel River Assembly of God Church for their years of service to Culpeper Voters.

WHAT'S ON MY BALLOT?

You might want to give yourself a few extra minutes when you go to vote on Election Day (November 7). Here's a look at the full ballot:

All Culpeper voters will elect:

State Senator,
28th District;

Member, Virginia
House of Delegates,
(District 61 or 62);

Clerk of the Court;

Commissioner of
the Revenue;
Commonwealth's Attorney;
Sheriff;
Treasurer;
Two (2) Directors,
Soil and Water Board.

In addition, voters in the
**West Fairfax, East Fairfax,
Catalpa and Salem** Districts will
elect:

Member,
Board of Supervisors;
Member, School Board.

Finally, **town residents** will elect:

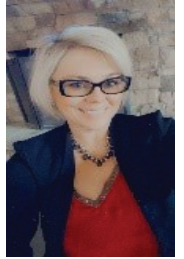
Four (4) members,
Town Council.

CULPEPER COUNTY TREASURER, Missy N. White

Dear Culpeper Citizens,

I hope this issue of the Culpeper Quarterly finds you all well and enjoying your summer! As always, it continues to be my pleasure to serve as your Culpeper County Treasurer. Please do not hesitate to contact my office should you ever need our assistance or have any questions regarding your tax bills.

~Missy N. White



***2023 Culpeper County Real Estate &
Personal Property taxes are due
December 5, 2023***

Tax bills are generated and available online for review and/or payment by the first week of September.

Bills are mailed by USPS no later than October 15th.

If you do not receive a bill or cannot locate your account online, please contact our office for assistance.



❖ **I received my tax bill and it has vehicles/items that I do not own...how do I get this corrected?**

- Culpeper County is a 'prorating' locality so you will be billed for the number of months the vehicle was registered through DMV as garaged in Culpeper County. The number of months you are being billed for is located on the bill.
- The Commissioner of the Revenue handles the assessment of personal property in Culpeper and they are the only ones who can make adjustments and/or corrections to tax bills. Please contact them at 540.727.3443 for assistance. Until any changes are made, you will be responsible for the amount on your bill.

❖ **I have an escrow on my mortgage but still got a Real Estate bill....do I need to pay this bill?**

- No...your bill will indicate 'This bill has been sent to the mortgage company of record'. This copy is for your records. IF your bill does not indicate that it was sent to your mortgage company, please contact them immediately and have them reach out to us to have this corrected in our system.

❖ **Can I call into the office and make my payment over the phone using a credit or debit card?**

- No...for the protection and security of taxpayers' personal information, this office does not accept payment by phone.

Commonwealth's Attorney - Paul Walther

Annual Law Day at Culpeper County and Eastern View High Schools

Each year, in May, my office participates in Law Day at both Culpeper County High School and Eastern View High School; and it is always interesting to see the kinds of questions that students have. Ranging from what to expect when they get a speeding ticket to all the things that change when they turn 18. Many of them are surprised at the types of charges that can be taken out from incidents and ways that evidence can be collected.

As school begins, I wanted to take this opportunity to talk about school / juvenile related crimes.

Probably the most common school related crimes stem from truancy. Parents of truant students will be brought before the court under a violation of compulsory attendance. The Court determines whether the issue rests with the child or the parent, and our office moves forward with charges accordingly. All of this is done in an effort to ensure our students are receiving their education.

When a fight happens at a school the School Resource Officer (SRO) should be notified, and an investigation should be carried out. Some fights, depending on the severity of the injuries sustained can result in criminal charges, most of the time assault and battery. Prosecution or diversion of these charges will depend on the history of the offender.

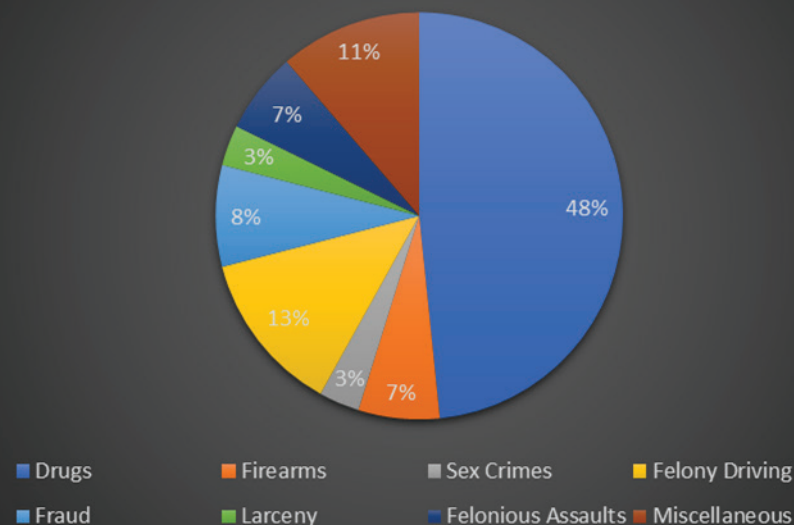
Diversion is the option given to a juvenile and their family to not go to court for a case and instead complete a series of programs and services – this is similar to what one would consider probation. After successful completion of these programs, the case is dismissed. If the juvenile is not successful, then the case will be brought before the court. Diversion can be given as an option for various crimes, not just assault.

Evidence collection for all cases, juvenile or adult, is the same. However, one thing that seems to routinely surprise juveniles is the evidence we can collect from their phones, particularly snapchat. Snapchat markets itself as being a Phone App that once something is sent, and then opened by the recipient, it is gone. While this may be the case for the user, this is not the case for law enforcement agencies. Using subpoenas, search warrants, and specialized tracing technology law enforcement is able to obtain a log of information that was sent between two or more users, which can then be used in court. Have a conversation with your children about using their phones wisely – nothing is ever really gone.

Finally, Should the unthinkable ever happen in our schools we are lucky in this community to know that our law enforcement is prepared. Most of our schools have full-time School Resource Officers and our agencies participate in active shooter training regularly.

We hope the youth of Culpeper County have a safe and successful school year without regular visits to our courts!

April Felony Grand Jury



Employee Spotlight - Elizabeth Cooper

My name is Elizabeth Cooper, and I am an Assistant Commonwealth Attorney here in Culpeper. I live in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley, with my daughter and dog, but have been commuting and working here in Culpeper for a little over a year. I work under the Virginia Services, Training, Officers, and Prosecution Grant position within our office, which is a position that primarily works in the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court and with victims of Domestic Crime.



Prior to coming to Culpeper, I had a private practice in the Shenandoah Valley which focused primarily on Family law. I served as a Guardian ad litem, representing the best interests of children in a majority of my cases. Due to my work in this field, I trained to become a foster parent and eventually adopted my daughter.

I have come to love the community I work with here in Culpeper. I have spent my time focusing on creative ways to get kids into school, creating relationships with our local providers that are frequently involved in Juvenile and Domestic cases, and working with victims to ensure services and support throughout their case. I have also prioritized revamping our Multi-Disciplinary Team concerning sexual assaults on children.

I am passionate about using my law degree to serve our communities here in the Commonwealth, and will continue to serve in that capacity for many years to come. When I am not practicing law, I spend time with my family. I love to cycle, hike, run, ski, spend time on the river or at the beach, and travel when possible.

Rapidan Volunteer Fire Department Co. 10 by President A. Lilly and FF/EMT M. Bentivegna

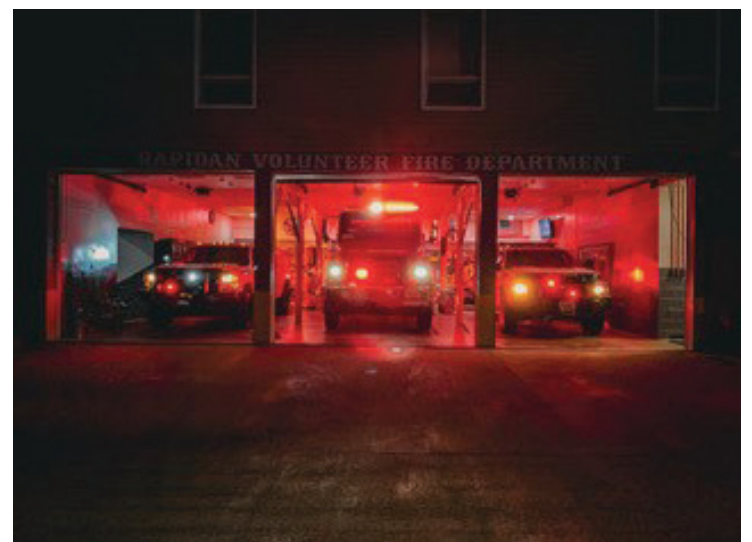
Since 1978, Rapidan volunteers proudly serve the areas of Culpeper, Madison, and Orange counties. What started as a small volunteer house running 8 calls a year, grew exponentially to present day RVFD. The first fire truck serving our department was a 1959 Ford Pumper/Tanker donated by the Mine Run VFD. Since then, we have upgraded to 4 fire pieces, 3 support trucks, and 1 specialty apparatus we acquired in 2016. Our department has 21 volunteers and responds to approximately 180 calls a year.

The Light/Air Unit is Rapidan's specialty apparatus that responds to all the surrounding counties. It has an onboard compressor system that allows an unlimited amount of air capacity to fill cylinders and cascade systems on other apparatus. In addition, it has 5 firefighter's SCBA fill stations that fill within 3 minutes. 50 reserve cylinders are also carried on this truck. Our L/A is equipped with two light towers and countless portable scene lights, it is well positioned for large scale incidents and working fires.

Currently the Light/Air unit is parked outside due to a lack of bays for apparatus in our station. To solve the lack of space, our volunteers are working on drawings with an architect to design an addition and renovations to the current buildings to meet the needs for the future. In the meantime, the department is purchasing a carport as a temporary solution to keep the Light/Air unit out of the weather. The department plans to use the carport for a training area and/or storage when the apparatus can be stored inside.

Our volunteers host several dinners, raffles, and events to fundraise for our building and other needs of our department. We are very grateful for our supporters. Several raffles are also slated for the remainder of 2023.

The Rapidan Volunteer Fire Department is dedicated to serving our community. We are always looking to on-board new support members and active firefighters. Our department offers many incentives for our volunteers. If you are interested in giving back to your community, visit our monthly business meeting on the 1st Tuesday of every month at 7:30 pm. Our station is located at 9729 Locust Dale Rd. Rapidan, Va. 22733. For more information about our department, visit our Facebook page or our website at rapidanfire.com.



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Culpeper Quarterly



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Culpeper Air Fest 23 in 2023! Saturday, October 14th

Once again, the skies over Culpeper County will roar with the thunder of historic and high-performance aircraft this October 14th, along with an expanded program that promises fun for the whole family. Free again to the public this year, the show will thrill with heart-stopping stunts and precision flying performed by historically significant aircraft by some of the nation's best pilots. With a week of spectacular aviation events planned, we are sure that you too will be bitten by the "aviation bug".

Our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) program returns again bigger and better than ever. Running on Wednesday and Thursday the week of the Air Fest, we will see hundreds of 5th grade students from the county. These students will be exposed to aviation related technology exhibits and activities by a number of businesses and organizations. We are very proud of our commitment to educating the next generation about aviation, aviation related fields, and other careers.

"The Culpeper Air Fest is the largest annual event in Culpeper, and we're proud to put on another exciting show for 2023" says Steve Nixon, Culpeper Air Fest Chairman. "We have a great line up planned with all of your favorite performers eager to be back in Culpeper. The show is free thanks to the support of local businesses, sponsors, and our community. We hope to see you there on October 14th."

On Saturday the 14th, our week-long aviation journey will culminate starting at 9 a.m. when gates open. Culpeper Barnstormers will start the flying off with their fabulous model aircraft. Then on to the full-scale show around noon. The show will continue with regular performers such as Bealeton's Flying Circus, Kevin Russo and his team of Jersey Jerks performing in their T-6 Texans, Manfred Radius with his exquisite glider and of course Art Nalls in his sleek, black L-39 Jet and guess what, his 2-seat Harrier will be performing this year as well. Yes, I said 2-seat Harrier. This has been a project of Art and his crew for several years now and we are excited that he has picked Culpeper Air

Fest for her maiden performance. Prepare yourself for an entertaining afternoon of amazing stunts by a variety of pilots.

If you stopped by our booth at Culpeper Fest in June, our Airport Director and her daughter were passing out passports and stickers for this year's show. Bring the passport with you to the show so that you can have some of the show performers and crew sign your passport. How cool is that!

Don't forget about our various vendors and static displays for your viewing enjoyment and remember to bring sunscreen, hearing protection, especially for the little ones, and a chair. Please leave your pups at home as the loud noises tend to startle them. There is no onsite parking for spectators at the airport. Busing will be available from Eastern View High School and Culpeper County High School, free of charge. Check out our FAQs page on our website for how to prepare for your trip to the Air Fest.

In the event of rain or drizzle, the Air Fest will still be excited to host as many activities and acts as we can safely do, but always following direction from FAA and local authorities. There will not be an alternate rain date this year. Stay tuned to our website at www.culpeperairfest.com and social media outlets for updates.

About Culpeper Air Fest

The award-winning Culpeper Air Fest is one of the most exclusive air shows in the country, and is also the largest annual event in Culpeper. It is 100% free to the public, and we've been able to keep it that way with strong support from you, our local community, and our local business sponsors. Our goal is to Honor, Educate, and Entertain.

Learn more at www.CulpeperAirFest.com and follow us on social media (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) for the latest news and updates @CulpeperAirFest #CulpeperAirFest.

Culpeper Regional Airport

12517 Beverly Ford Road, Brandy Station, VA

540-825-8280

<https://culpeperairport.com>