



VIRGINIA: A SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE SURRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
HELD IN THE GENERAL DISTRICT COURTROOM OF THE SURRY COUNTY GOVERNMENT
CENTER ON TUESDAY, JULY 2, 2024, AT 6 PM.

PRESENT: SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.
SUPERVISOR BREYON PIERCE
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM (TIM) CALHOUN
SUPERVISOR AMY DREWRY
SUPERVISOR WALTER HARDY

ABSENT:

ALSO

PRESENT: MS. LOLA PERKINS, COUNTY ATTORNEY
MS. MELISSA ROLLINS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
MR. DAVID HARRISON, DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
MS. DOREATHA PIERCE, COUNTY ADMINISTRATION
MR. DELON BROWN, NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR, IT DIRECTOR
MR. HORACE WADE, PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
MR. MATT WESTHEIMER, BUILDING OFFICIAL
MS. LASONYA WHITE, SURRY/SUSSEX UNIT COORDINATOR
MS. LASHAWN SMITH, SHERIFF'S OFFICE, OFFICE MANAGER
SERGEANT DANIEL FORDHAM, ANIMAL SERVICES
SHERIFF CARLOS TURNER, SURRY COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Invocation

Pastor James M. Harrison of Main Street Baptist Church in Smithfield, Virginia gave the invocation for tonight's meeting.

Call to Order/Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance/Adopt Agenda

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Elliott, who then asked for a moment of silence. Following the moment of silence, he asked those present to stand and recite the pledge of allegiance. Chairperson Elliott asked if there were any questions or corrections relating to the agenda. There being none, Supervisor Drewry made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Supervisor Hardy seconded the motion. All present voted affirmatively. (Approved)

SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.	AYE
SUPERVISOR BREYON PIERCE	AYE
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM (TIM) CALHOUN	AYE
SUPERVISOR AMY DREWRY	AYE

Consent Items

1. Approval of Draft BOS Minutes - June 6, 2024
2. Resolution - Opioid Settlement
3. FY 24 Budget Amendment - Insurance Proceeds
4. Budget Amendment - Reimbursement for Summer Workforce Program
5. Extending Independence Day Holiday
6. FY 25 Budget Amendment - State Revenue - Comp Board Reimbursement (Treasurer and Commissioner of the Revenue)

*Supervisor Elliott read the items listed for consent and asked board members if there were any items that needed to be pulled for discussion. There being none, Supervisor Hardy made a motion to approve the consent items as enumerated. Supervisor Calhoun seconded the motion. All present voted affirmatively. **(Approved)***

New Business

1. MOU-Surry Cooperative Extension & the County of Surry

*Supervisor Pierce made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Surry Virginia Cooperative Extension and the County. Supervisor Calhoun seconded the motion. All present voted affirmatively. **(Approved)***

2. Proposed Solid Waste Disposal Services Agreement

*Supervisor Pierce made a motion to authorize the County Administrator to enter into an agreement per review and approval of the County Attorney to utilize Waste Knot, Inc. to service county-owned facilities at a cost of \$54,660 annually. Supervisor Calhoun seconded the motion. All present voted affirmatively. **(Approved)***

3. Sussex Service Authority Contract - Operation and Maintenance Agreement

*Supervisor Hardy made a motion to authorize the County Administrator to enter into an agreement with the Sussex Service Authority for the administration and maintenance of the county's water utility systems as identified in the contract. Supervisor Drewry seconded the motion. All present voted affirmatively. **(Approved)***

County Administrator's Report

- LaSonya White, Surry/Sussex Unit Coordinator, Virginia Cooperative Extension— Ms. White discussed the county's relationship with Virginia Cooperative Extension and elaborated on some of the activities and services they offer the County.
- Sheriff Turner, Animal Control
- Melissa Rollins, County Administrator
 - Crater Health District Dept – Surry County's first Resource Fair success.
 - Solid Waste Convenience Site - Goodson Path will be closed starting Monday, July 8th for approximately 2 to 3 weeks.
 - Parks and Recreation - Paving has commenced at the rear of the facility.
 - NACo – High-Performance Leadership Academy – Recognized Delon Brown, Director of Information Technology, for his completion of this leadership program.
 - Farmer's Market – Challenges associated with the current model.
 - Dept. of Social Services – Served 250 meals to citizens on June 30th.
 - Surry County's Fireworks Event – July 3rd
 - Crater Planning District Commission – Effective July 1, 2024, Melissa Rollins has been appointed Chair.

(A copy of Mrs. Rollins's report is attached as an integral component of these minutes.)

Public Comments

Lola Perkins, County Attorney, read a portion of the Citizens' Comments guidelines, which can be found in the Board of Supervisors Bylaws on the County's website.

1. Steven Kock, Dendron District – Questions related to County Finances.
2. Robert Chandler, Bacon's Castle District – Elaborated on an email received from a board member.
3. Michael Drewry, Dendron District – Spoke on inclusiveness.
4. Dr. Daniel Shaye, Surry District – Spoke on trust and taking ownership.
5. Carlos Turner, Sheriff – Shared details of upcoming events within the Sheriff's Department.

Board Comments

- Supervisor Drewry
 - Thanked Citizens.
 - Citizen's Comments Rules.
 - Meeting Start Time.

- Supervisor's Roles.
- Collaboration and Inclusion.
- Supervisor Hardy
 - Thanked Sheriff Turner for the Animal Control update and encouraged animal adoption.
 - Thanked Citizens for their participation.
 - Mentioned a few safety tips and laws regarding fireworks.
- Supervisor Calhoun
 - Thanked the Extension Office for their presentation.
 - Meeting Start Time.
 - Thanked the citizens for their participation.
- Supervisor Pierce
 - Thanked the citizens for their participation.
 - Accompany +55 plus citizens.
 - Thanked staff for all they do.
 - Summer Camp Youth.
 - Attended Mark Warner Roundtable.
 - Thanked the Extension Office for their presentation.
- Supervisor Elliott
 - Thanked staff and citizens for their participation.
 - Wished love, peace, and blessings to all the citizens of Surry County.

Closed Session

1. Motion to Enter into Closed Session

Ms. Lola Perkins, County Attorney, advised the need to convene into closed session as permitted by Virginia Code:

§ 2.2-3711(A)(8): To consult with legal counsel employed by a public body regarding specific legal matters involving communications received by the Board of Supervisors requiring the provision of legal advice by such.

§2.2-3711(A)(1): To discuss the assignment, appointment, promotion, performance to motion salary, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of the County involving a board appointee.

Supervisor Hardy made a motion to convene into a closed session. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Drewry and unanimously approved by rollcall.

SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.	AYE
SUPERVISOR BREYON PIERCE	AYE
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM (TIM) CALHOUN	AYE
SUPERVISOR AMY DREWRY	AYE
SUPERVISOR WALTER HARDY	AYE

2. Motion to Return from Closed Session

Ms. Lola Perkins, County Attorney, advised the need to return from the closed session in accordance with Virginia Code 2.2-3712 (D).

The Board returned to open session and certified by roll call vote that in the closed session just concluded, nothing was discussed except the matter or matters specifically identified in the motion to convene in closed session and lawfully permitted to be discussed under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act cited in the motion.

Supervisor Calhoun made a motion to return to the open session. Supervisor Hardy seconded the motion and unanimously approved by rollcall. (Approved)

SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.	AYE
SUPERVISOR BREYON PIERCE	AYE
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM (TIM) CALHOUN	AYE
SUPERVISOR AMY DREWRY	AYE
SUPERVISOR WALTER HARDY	AYE

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, Supervisor Calhoun made a motion that the Board continue their meeting to July 18, 2024, at 5 p.m. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Hardy. All present voted affirmatively. (Approved)

This meeting can be viewed in its entirety on the Surry County Government Website.
<https://www.surrycountyva.gov/387/Watch-A-Meeting>

Administrator's Report

Date: July 2, 2024

1. Thank to the following departments for working with the Crater Health District Dept of Health for the County's first Resource Fair that took place on Friday, June 21st: Surry Economic Development Farmers Market, Dept of Emergency Management, Surry Parks and Recreation, Surry Cooperative Extension, Surr Youth Sports (Cheerleaders) and Dept of Youth and Family Services. They stated that this was the first time they have seen this level of internal collaboration/multi departmental approach for this event that has taken place in other localities. There were several takeaways from a debrief that will help to make next year's event an even greater success. 29 Resource Vendors with a variety of resources for the community from home ownership, dominion energy resources, emergency preparedness kits, smoke alarms, mental health awareness, social security/Medicare resources, free veggies an canned goods, and more.....10 Market Vendors, 10 sports physicals, 75-100 in attendance, 14 volunteers from Fort Gregg Adams, 27 stopped by for the Hidden In Plain Site tent, and 10 gift card giveaways and 15 toy giveaways.
2. The Solid Waste Convenience Site – Goodson Path will be closed starting Monday, July 8th for approximately 2 to 2 ½ weeks for paving and other site improvements to better serve the citizens. Announcements will go out to the media and social media as well as signage at the entrance of the road leading to the site. Along with paving, improvements will be made to the attendant station and removal of a broken shed that is used to store pesticide containers.
3. Parks and Recreation – paving has commenced at the rear of the facility. The main front area will commence after the required site plan is completed. Adjustments for parking for the fireworks has been coordinated.
4. The **NACo High Performance Leadership Academy** is an innovative, completely online 12-week program created to equip frontline county government professionals with practical leadership skills to deliver results for counties and communities. (Congratulations to our Team Member – Delon Brown on year 2 of this achievement).
5. Farmer's Market – we have recognized challenges associated with the current model of our Farmer's market. We have local pop up markets and agri tourism businesses that compete with the market. We are exploring avenues that may include: a trail to encourage locals and visitors to support the various markets in the county, creating a separate entertainment series, bringing the farming community together and other ideas that may be good ones to explore. (Please share ideas).
6. 250 meals were served within an hour of the 300 maximum meals available for the 65+ free meal giveaway sponsored by the Dept of Social Services on June 30th. Citizens lined up as early as 11:00 in anticipation of a delicious hot meal on a hot day! Supervisor Pierce volunteered.
7. Kudos for our 55+ Resource Team for all the events that have taken place and for the Father's Day weekend BBQ and Cookout! Supervisor Calhoun volunteered.

8. July 3rd Fire Works at Parks and Recreation – Bring your Family and Friends, and lawn chairs for food, entertainment, and fun! The Fireworks will usually sound off at 9:30.
9. I have been appointed chair of the Crater Planning District Commission effective July 1, 2024, and looking forward to learning more about the resources available at the PDC to assist Surry with the issues we face as housing, transportation and more. (Supervisor Elliott, Board rep).

SURRY COUNTY BUILDING OFFICIAL'S OFFICE

MONTHLY REPORT

Building Permits Issued for the Month of **MAY 2024**

Total Permits Issued for Surry County Va.

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>VALUE</u>	<u>FEES</u>
New Construction	1	\$ 179,031.00	\$ 382.74
Manufactured Homes.Doublewide	1	\$ 179,031.00	\$ 382.74
S-F Dwelling			
Two Family Dwelling			
Singlewide Mobile Homes			
Commercial			
 Additions/Renovations	 9	 \$ 382,500.00	 \$ 3,420.39
Garage	4	\$ 50,500.00	\$ 759.90
Additions	4	\$ 182,000.00	\$ 798.99
Commercial Addition	1	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 1,861.50
Renovations			
Storage Building/Shed	0	\$ -	\$ -
 Electrical	 7	 \$ 25,219.00	 \$ 1,039.22
 Electrical Commercial	 1		\$ 127.50
 Plumbing	 2	 \$ 14,500.00	 \$ 325.22
 Mechanical	 8	 \$ 83,689.75	 \$ 1,434.11
 Demolition	 1		\$ 147.90
 <u>TOTAL</u>	 28	 \$ 684,939.75	 \$ 6,877.08

INSPECTIONS

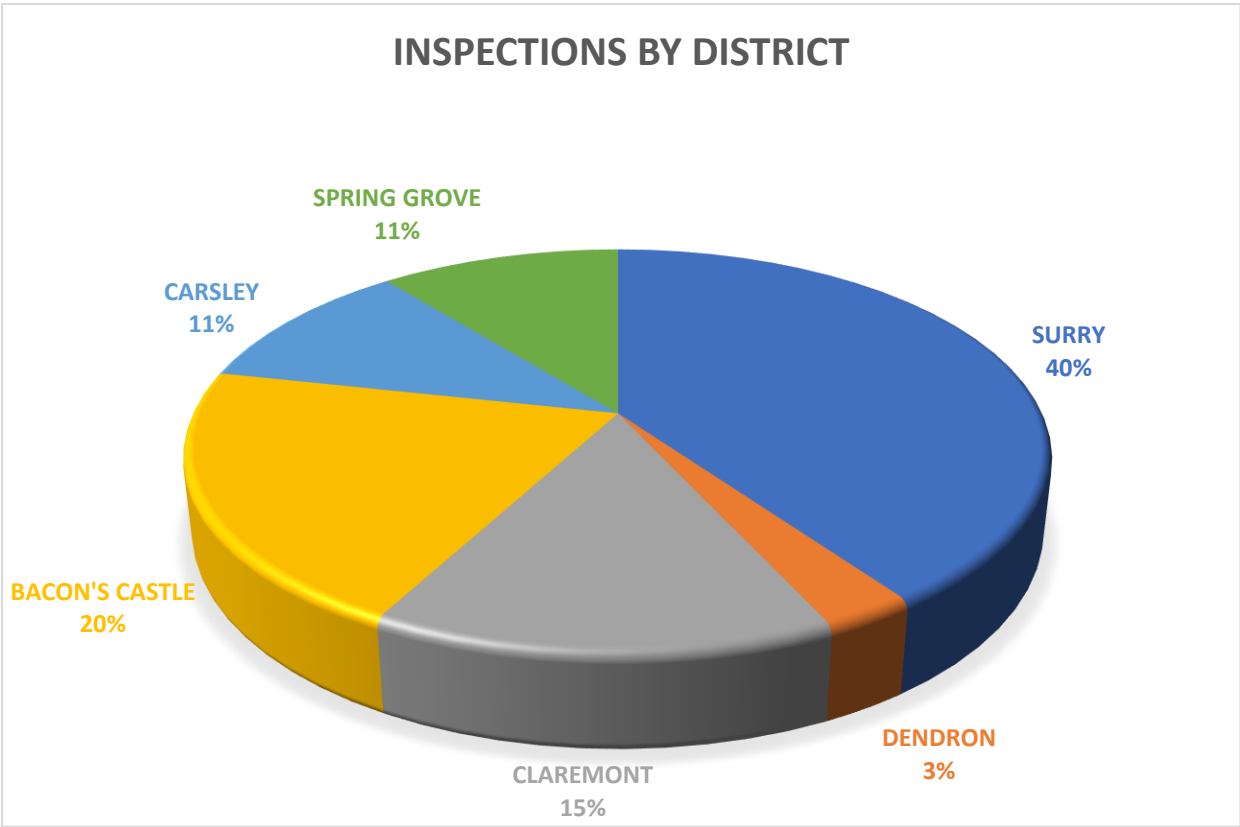
Number of inspections performed 102

Plans Reviewed within 10 business Day 100%

Inspections conducted within 24 hrs. 100%

SURRY COUNTY
INSPECTIONS PERFORMED BY DISTRICT
MAY 2024

DISTRICT	INSPECTIONS
SURRY	41
DENDRON	3
CLAREMONT	15
BACON'S CASTLE	21
CARSLEY	11
SPRING GROVE	11



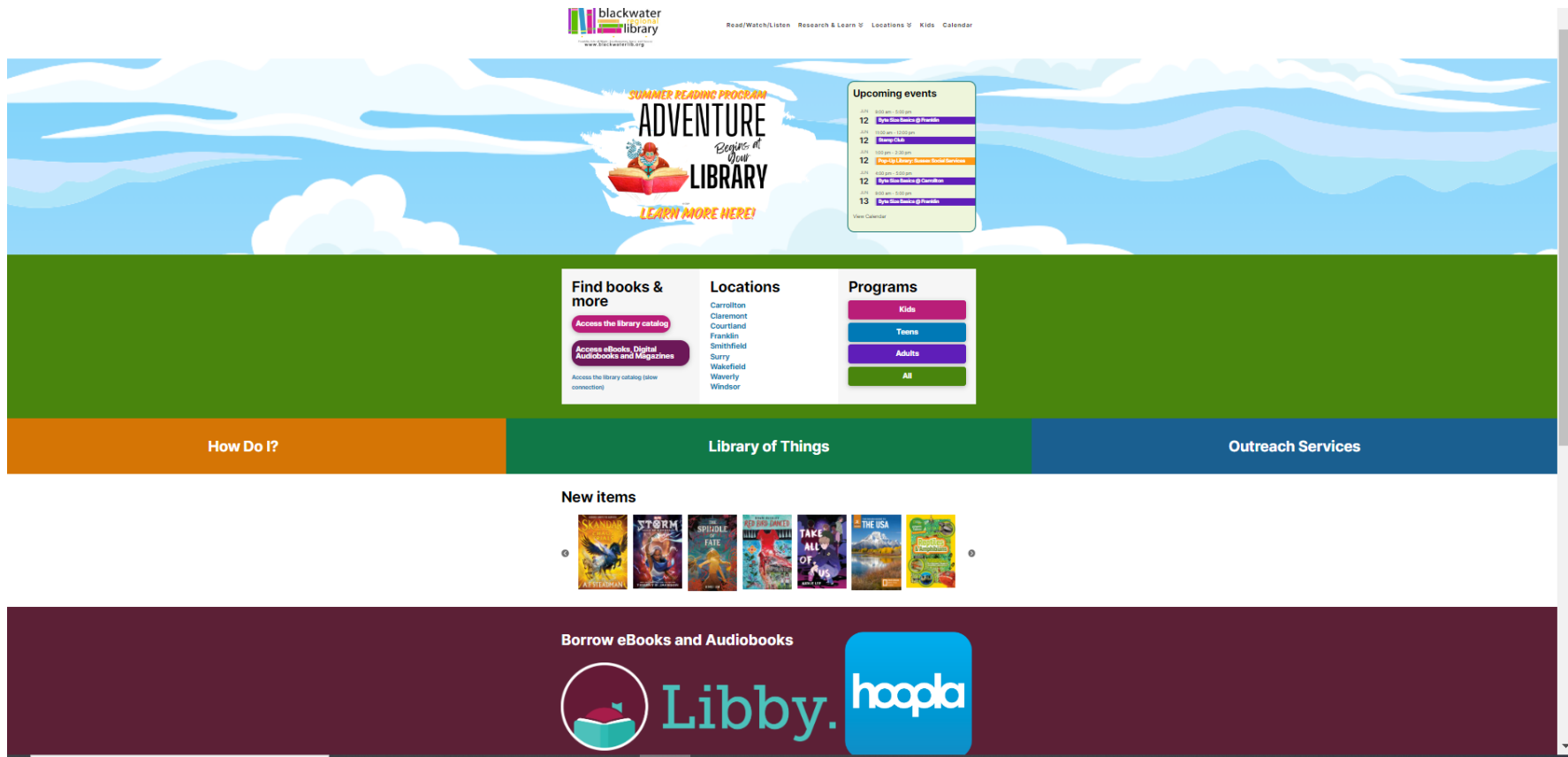


Franklin, Isle of Wight, Southampton, Surry, and Sussex
www.blackwaterlib.org

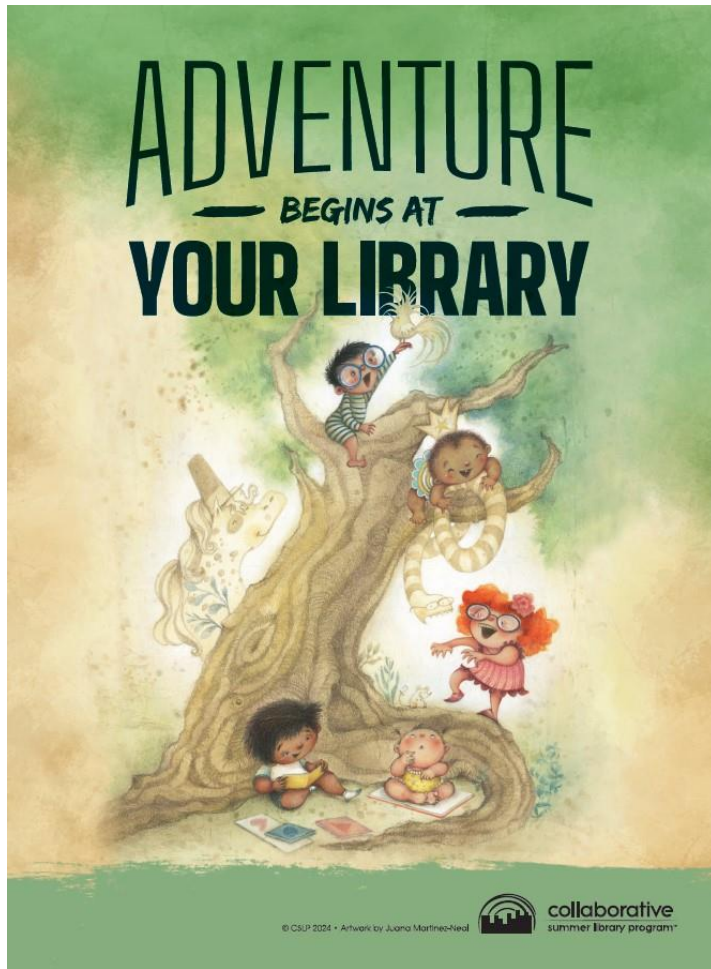
Director's Report

May 2024

New Website Design



Summer Reading Program Launch



- June 24-August 3rd
- Weekly Programs and Events at all locations
- Encourages reading and outdoor activities to keep minds fresh during Summer Break!

City of Franklin



- During the month of May, the Franklin Branch had a good turnout for children's programs as Story Time, Craftsy for Kids, Full STEAM Ahead, Tech Time and PAWS to Read



- As always, our adult programming was business as usual! Our Craftsy group created their own Patriotic Banners and our BRL Threads groups continued to work on their special projects!

Isle of Wight County

- Carrollton branch hosted a variety of fun programming, including a fun Mug Painting for Adult Craftsy
- Smithfield branch hosted Family Fun Night on May 10th with Rainbow Puppets and nearly 50 families were in attendance!
- The library also partnered with Smithfield Tourism Office and other community partners to host a local authors event as part of Smithfield Downtown Arts Festival, which featured ten local authors and over 70 attendees
- Windsor continues to be the home of popular programs in its compact space, and welcomes a friendly group of teens after-school most days!

Between Outreach and In-House programming, 67 programs reaching over 1200 people were delivered in IOW County in May



Southampton County



- Lively programming at the branch for all ages; ranging from Story Times for the littlest to engaging & fun book club and adult crafts program



- Staff braved poor weather at Rawls Museum Arts' ArtMobile (VMFA) Day represented the library.

Surry County



- For Full STEAM Ahead, aspiring young learners explored the secrets of soil and the skill of growing a salsa garden, including planting tomatoes, onions, peppers, and cilantro in the magical space of our library garden!



- Officer Lane from the Surry County Sheriff's Department visited our StoryTime to read attendees during Children's Book Week.
- Claremont branch hosted a popular edition of Craftsy with decorative fairy doors



Sussex County



- Head Start classes came to visit the library for StoryTime, for an educational and fun field trip!

- Waverly Branch Farmers' Market had a great kick-off for the season with a large turnout!



CLARIFYING THE UNLICENSED FARM USE VEHICLE PROGRAM

**FARM
BUREAU**
VIRGINIA®

What did the General Assembly approve in 2023?

The new legislation clarifies and makes improvements to the unlicensed farm use vehicle program administered through the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). These changes work to clearly define the program, how the exemption can be used and limits the collection of personal information.

TO RECEIVE A FARM USE PLACARD:

1. Complete the application at <https://tinyurl.com/dmvmfarmuse>.
2. Present your application, vehicle title and \$15 payment at your local DMV or DMV Select.
3. Receive your placards which are valid for the life of vehicle, but are not transferable.



Farm Use Placard Requirements

Enforcement of changes to the farm use vehicle program begin July 1, 2024.

- **Must be covered under liability insurance.**
 - **Must Be Titled.** Continues the longstanding requirement for a title on any pickup truck, panel truck and SUV obtaining a farm use placard. However, if a title is needed, a separate \$15 titling fee will be imposed, but no sales and use tax would be imposed as long as the vehicle claims the exemption.
 - **Placards are Nontransferable.** Permanent farm use placards issued by DMV are not transferable between vehicles but are valid for the lifetime of the the vehicle and must be displayed in front and rear of vehicle at all times.
- Items Needed for Application:**
1. \$15 application fee per vehicle
 2. Vehicle title
 3. Name of owner or lessee of the vehicle
 4. Approximate farm location and acreage where the vehicle is used
 5. The type of agricultural commodities produced on the farm
 6. Statement signed by the owner or lessee that the vehicle will only be used for the purposes allowed under the farm use exemption
 7. Statement signed by the owner or lessee that the vehicle is an insured motor vehicle

CLARIFYING THE UNLICENSED FARM USE VEHICLE PROGRAM



What specific changes were made?

1. Establishes criteria as follows for certain vehicles claiming the farm use exemption now required to obtain a permanent farm use placard from the DMV:
 - a. Pickup trucks with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of less than or equal to 7,500 pounds;
 - b. Panel trucks with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of less than or equal to 7,500 pounds;AND
 - c. SUVs with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of less than or equal to 7,500 pounds.
2. Trailers, semitrailers and vehicles weighing more than 7,500 pounds must only display a red and white farm use tag if operating under the exemption. These vehicles do NOT need a permanent placard from the DMV.
3. Prohibits the DMV from sharing personal, proprietary information from the placard application with anyone.
4. Clarifies that the vehicle obtaining the farm use placard is exempt from paying sales and use tax.
 - a. However, sales and use tax will be imposed upon the current market value of the vehicle at the time that the vehicle is registered for a nonexempt use or sold to a person who does not qualify for the farm use exemption.
5. Adds to the practices available to a farmer operating a farm use vehicle:
 - a. Stop for a meal.
 - b. Dispose of incidental trash from the farmer's or employee's home along with trash generated on the farm.
6. Using either the permanent placard from the DMV, if required, or a red and white farm use tag, you may travel up to 75 miles, between your tracts of land, to a storage house, packing plant or market.

PENALTIES FOR MISUSE:

A first violation is punishable by a fine of not more than \$250, a second or subsequent violation shall constitute a traffic infraction punishable by a fine of \$250.

ENFORCEMENT BEGINS JULY 1, 2024.

For more information, contact:

Katelyn Rose Jordan
Local & State Advocacy Specialist,
Governmental Relations
Virginia Farm Bureau Federation®
(c) 804.241.4042
(e) katelyn.jordan@vafb.com



PHOTO BY SYDNEY RAE ON UNSPASH

Claiming the Farm Use Exemption and the new 2024 requirements

What is being enforced on July 1, 2024?

In 2023, the Virginia General Assembly passed legislation to clarify, improve, and address past misuse of the unlicensed farm use vehicle program. Beginning July 1, 2024, the following vehicles claiming the Virginia Farm Use Exemption must obtain a permanent placard from your local DMV or DMV Select:

- (i) Pickup trucks with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) less than or equal to 7,500 pounds.
- (ii) Panel trucks with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) less than or equal to 7,500 pounds.

AND

- (iii) SUVs with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) less than or equal to 7,500 pounds.

NOTE: Cars do not qualify for the Virginia Farm Use Exemption

Which vehicles need to display the traditional red and white "Farm Use" tag if used for exempt purposes?

- (i) Vehicles (including pickup and panel trucks) with a GVWR greater than 7,500 pounds.
- (ii) Trailers
- (iii) Semitrailers

NOTE: Cars do not qualify for the Virginia Farm Use Exemption

Where do I find my Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR)?

Issued by the vehicle's manufacturer, the GVWR can be typically found on the Safety Compliance Certification Label inside the driver's side door or "driver's door jamb." This is the maximum weight your vehicle is engineered to safely carry.



Using your Permanent Farm Use Placard

Permanent Farm Use Placards issued by your DMV are **not transferable** between vehicles and are assigned to a specific vehicle upon application. Each qualifying vehicle will need their own separate placards and will be subject to a separate \$15 application fee. Placards must be displayed in front and back of vehicles at all times.

Penalties for misuse

A first violation is punishable by a fine of not more than \$250, a second or subsequent violation shall constitute a traffic infraction punishable by a fine of \$250. § 46.2-613

APPLICABLE VIRGINIA CODE SECTIONS

- § 46.2-613. Infractions relating to registration, licensing & certificates of title; penalties.
- § 46.2-664. Vehicles used for spraying fruit trees & other plants.
- § 46.2-665. Vehicles used for agricultural or horticultural purposes.
- § 46.2-666. Vehicles used for seasonal transportation of farm produce & livestock.
- § 46.2-667. Farm machinery & tractors.
- § 46.2-669. Tractors & similar vehicles owned by sawmill operators.
- § 46.2-670. Vehicles owned by farmers & used to transport certain wood products.
- § 46.2-672. Certain vehicles transporting fertilizer, cotton, or peanuts.
- § 46.2-673. Return trips of exempted farm vehicles.
- § 46.2-684.1. Insurance coverage and proof of insurance for exempted motor vehicles.
- § 46.2-684.2. Permanent farm use placards.

Enforcement begins JULY 1, 2024



A FARMER'S GUIDE: Virginia Farm Use Plates



Enforcement begins JULY 1, 2024



Choose the Farm Use Plate or Placard that's right for you



Farmers in Virginia use vehicles in a variety of ways for their farms. The type of license plates or placards you choose to display on your vehicle determines how the vehicle may be used.

Beginning July 1, 2024, a DMV-issued permanent farm use placard is required for unlicensed (unregistered) farm use panel trucks, pickup trucks, or sport utility vehicles with a GVWR under 7,500 pounds.

Requirements	Standard License Plate	F-Tag Plate	Permanent DMV-Issued Placard Plate	Farm Use Tag
				
Titled with DMV	✓	✓	✓	Varies. See below.
Registered with DMV	✓	✓	✗	✗
Displays DMV-issued Plate/Placard on Vehicle	✓	✓	✓	✗
Needs State Inspection	✓	✓	✗	✗
Must Carry Appropriate Insurance	✓	✓	✓	✓
Use	Unrestricted	Farm use and limited non-farm use	Restricted to farm use	Restricted to farm use
Form to Complete to Apply	VSA 14	VSA 131	VSA 132	✗
Fee to Apply	Varies	½ the registration fee but at least \$15	One-time \$15	N/A

*Not issued by DMV

Titling

Every motor vehicle operated on a highway in Virginia must be titled, except for farm tractors, farm machinery, farm utility vehicles, and farm vehicles with a securely attached machine for spraying fruit trees and plants.

If you don't have a title for your farm use vehicle, you may submit an Affidavit in Lieu of Title Certificate (VSA 12) to request verification of ownership in addition to an Application for Certificate of Title (VSA 17A). Sales and use tax will be collected when you title your vehicle unless the vehicle is an unregistered farm use pickup truck, panel truck, or sport utility vehicle required to obtain a permanent farm use placard.

THE BASICS:

Permanent Farm Use Placards

No vehicle inspection required

§ 46.2-1157 only vehicles requiring inspection are registered vehicles.

Must have liability insurance

§ 46.2-684.1. any motor vehicle, trailer, or semi-trailer that is exempt from motor vehicle registration requirements (like farm use vehicles), must be insured under a general liability policy that includes personal injury liability insurance and property damage liability insurance under a motor vehicle insurance policy or an umbrella or excess insurance policy.

Maximum distance allowance of up to 75 miles

or to a storage house, packing plant, market, or between your tracts of land. While operating a farm use vehicle, a farmer may stop for a meal or dispose of incidental trash from their or an employee's home and trash generated on the farm.

Required to have a title

However, if a title is needed, there will be a separate \$15 titling fee and no sales or use tax will be imposed if purchasing a permanent placard.

DMV and DMV Select

The application is available at DMV, or online at the DMV's website. Print and mail-in options are available.

Items needed for application

The permanent placards are valid for the lifetime of the vehicle, but are **not transferable**.

\$15 application fee per vehicle

Name of owner or lessee of vehicle

Approximate **farm location and acreage where the vehicle is used**; type of agricultural **commodities produced** on the farm

Title for each vehicle requiring placard, or, if title is needed, an additional \$15 titling fee per vehicle

Statements signed by owner or lessee that the vehicle will only be used for the purposes allowed under the Farm Use Exemption AND that the vehicle is insured. TIP: It might be helpful to bring your insurance policy with you.