2015 Achievement Awards Virginia Association of Counties

APPLICATION FORM

All applications must include the following information. Separate applications must be submitted for each eligible program. **Deadline: June 1, 2015.** Please include this application form with electronic entry.

PROGRAM INFORMATION
Locality: County of Pulaski
Program Title: Regional Jail and County Collaboration for Beautification Needs
Program Category: CRIMINAL Justice & Public SAFETY
CONTACT INFORMATION
Name: KAREN T. Thompson
Title: Assistant Co. Administrator.
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SIGNATURE OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
Name: Peter Huber
Title: County Administrator
Signature: Fix Hule

Pulaski County: Community Projects and County Beautification Projects brought to fruition with help of local inmates through our Regional Jail System and County collaboration.

Pulaski County like most counties in the Commonwealth of Virginia juggles projects, manpower and budgets to maintain the buildings and grounds of our county. With limited financial resources to service the ongoing maintenance needs our Schools, Parks and Recreation areas, Municipal Buildings and civic organizations housed in our facilities as well as maintain the roadside details, the Board of Supervisors and Management Team have developed a work sharing relationship with the New River Valley Regional Jail.

The New River Valley Regional Jail completed in 2010, serves seven localities and the Town of Radford Virginia and is physically located in the Town of Dublin, Pulaski County. The work sharing collaboration using local inmates is a significant savings to the County and the location is convenient for provision of services. Use of inmate work sharing began with a "Lake Crew" where inmates removed brush, trees and trash from Claytor Lake. Once realizing the many talents available, inmates were selected for work detail based on their personal talents and work related status. As a regional jail, surrounding localities contribute proportionately to the Regional Jail's operating budget. Pulaski County contributes approximately 30-40% of the jail operating budget and has five inmates assigned to duties in Pulaski County. Some of the duties include working the back of the trash trucks, painting, brick mason work, plastering, mowing, gardening, beautification projects and vehicle detailing. The county provides equipment needed for the jobs and pays when applicable, deputy service to transport and supervise. Following a 2011 tornado in Pulaski County, use of the inmates played a major role in cleaning up neighborhoods while reducing local costs.

The Collaboration of Pulaski County Board of Supervisors and New River Valley Regional Jail is economically successful for Pulaski County as well as the Commonwealth of Virginia in balancing the needs for services and budgetary constraints. During summer peak mowing season, inmates take care of mowing county municipal properties, paint schools when school is out of session, pick up brush and trash on roadsides, assist the local Pulaski Public Service Authority with door to door trash pick- up and maintenance at the local animal shelter.

The Pulaski Board of Supervisors and citizens value the collaborative efforts afforded by the New River Valley Regional Jail partnership and the economic impact receives a lot of "thumbs-up" from local residents.