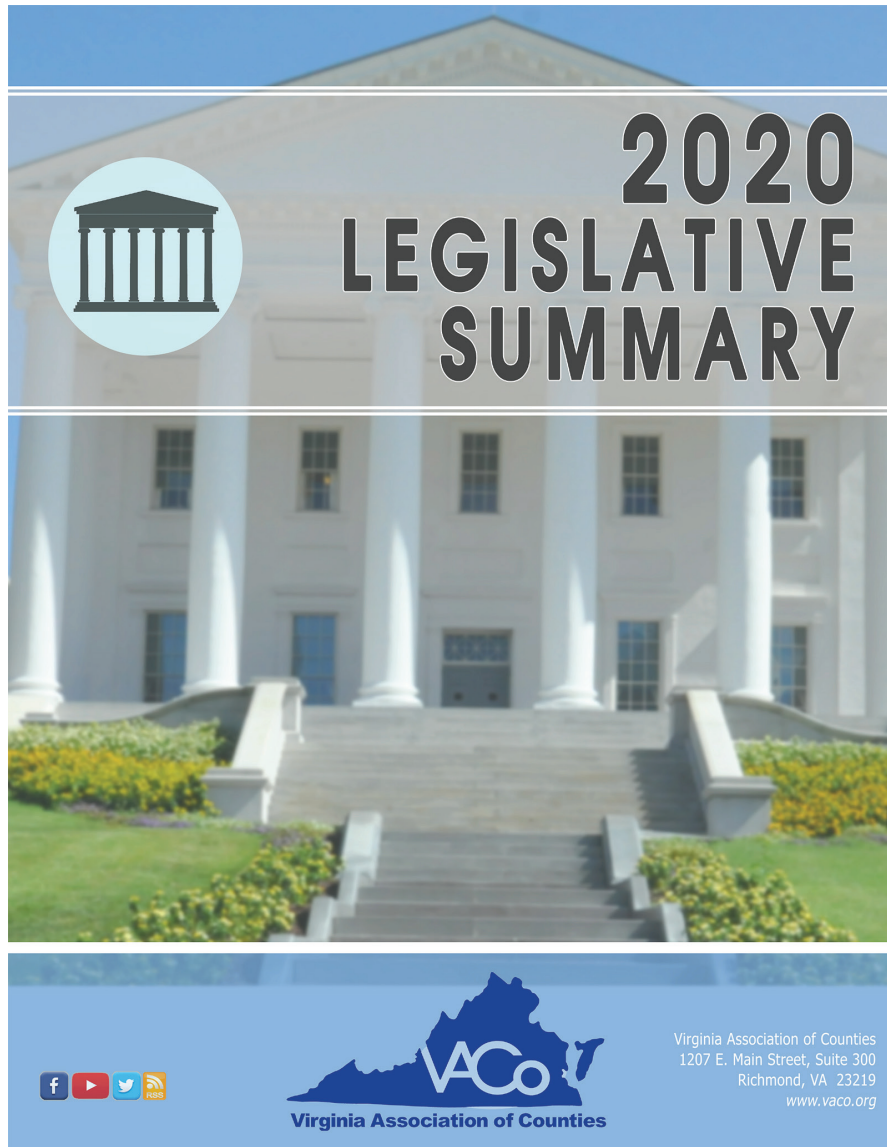


VACo Releases 2020 Legislative Summary



The [Legislative Summary](#) details the actions of the 2020 General Assembly and information on legislation of interest to counties.

This edition contains links to bills through the General Assembly's Legislative Information System. Also included in the document are studies and statistics of importance to counties.

[Read VACo's 2020 Legislative Summary](#)

VACo Contact: [Legislative Team](#)



Counties in VACo Regions 6 and 9 met virtually on May 28 to discuss issues of shared concern regarding the coronavirus pandemic and legislative priorities for the next General Assembly session. VACo is grateful to Senator Creigh Deeds, Delegate Tony Wilt, Delegate Ronnie Campbell, Sarah Hayet, Chief of Staff to Delegate Wendy Gooditis, and Daniel Davies, Legislative Assistant to Delegate Dave LaRock, for their participation in the meeting. Senator Deeds expressed his disappointment that many investments in K-12 education and human services that had been included in the biennium budget when it passed the General Assembly in March are now on hold pending a revenue reforecast; he cautioned attendees that more cuts are likely, with the severity of potential reductions dependent on federal actions to assist the state with revenue losses. He encouraged members to be vocal with their legislators in conveying their needs. Delegate Wilt noted that all levels of government would likely need to focus on their core missions. Delegate Campbell reflected on his concerns about the effects of legislation from the 2020 session on local businesses. Ms. Hayet pointed out that the pandemic has underscored the degree to which broadband access is a necessity, and that expansion of service will continue to be one of Delegate Gooditis's priorities. Mr. Davies told participants that Delegate LaRock looks forward to working with localities in the upcoming special and regular sessions.

Deputy Secretary of Commerce and Trade Cassidy Rasnick provided an update on Forward Virginia, the Governor's plan for reopening the state's economy. As of May 29, the entire state is in Phase One of reopening, and the Administration is monitoring public health data to determine when it would be safe to move into Phase Two; it is expected that the state will spend at least one more week in Phase One. She explained the details of the Governor's executive order regarding face coverings. During the question and answer period, she discussed the Administration's conversations with the business community, pointing out that the nature of the public health crisis limits the state's ability to provide businesses with the regulatory certainty that they would like, but businesses are willing to take precautions necessary to ensure that their customers feel safe.

Attendees participated in a roundtable discussion about top issues in each county. Many participants noted that they were finalizing plans to reopen county facilities to the public. The uncertainty surrounding the state budget continues to be a challenge in developing local budgets, and county representatives also noted that additional guidance and flexibility regarding use of the Coronavirus Relief Fund continues to be needed. The importance of enhancing broadband access was reiterated by almost every speaker; members also raised concerns about inadequate Standards of Quality funding, jail operating costs, and limitations on the use of Children's Services Act funding to support public school special education programs.

VACo thanks our members, sponsors, legislators, and Deputy Secretary Rasnick for a productive meeting.

VACo Contact: [Katie Boyle](#)

VACo hosts Webinar on Utility-Scale Solar Legislation

The screenshot shows a Cisco Webex Meetings interface. At the top, there's a header with the Cisco Webex Meetings logo and a 'Connected' status. Below the header, there's a row of participant icons and names: Virginia A... (Host), Angela Navarro, Steve Bowen, Virginia Associati..., James, and jferrei. The main content area displays a presentation slide titled 'State Electricity Goals Executive Order 43' with the DMME logo. The slide features three columns of goals: '30% by 2030' (Produce 30 percent of Virginia's electricity from renewable energy sources by 2030), '100% by 2050' (Produce 100 percent of Virginia's electricity from carbon-free sources by 2050), and 'Energy Equity' (Achieve energy goals in a just manner that advance social, energy, and environmental equity). A large image of a solar farm is on the right side of the slide.

On May 21, VACo provided a [legislative briefing](https://www.vaco.org/vaco-utility-scale-solar-2020-legislative-summary-webinar) for members (via webinar) on recently adopted Virginia legislation related to utility-scale solar. To view the recording and presentation materials go to <https://www.vaco.org/vaco-utility-scale-solar-2020-legislative-summary-webinar>.

Several bills passed during the 2020 General Assembly Session that become law July 1 will change the landscape on how large-scale solar installations are taxed and permitted by Virginia's counties. The purpose of the legislative briefing is to provide a working understanding of how these changes will affect projects moving forward. Panelists included Delegate Steve Heretick, Delegate Keith Hodges, Deputy Secretary of Commerce and Trade Angela Navarro, DMME Solar Programs Manager Carrie Hearne, Jeffrey Gore with Hefty, Wiley & Gore, and Joe Lerch, VACo Director of Local Government Policy.

VACo Contact: [Joe Lerch, AICP](#)

Early Childcare Resources, Information, and Updates

On May 27, Jenna Conway, Chief School Readiness Officer at the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE), presented a webinar on the state of early childhood education. In addition to recapping changes [enacted](#) during the 2020 General Assembly session that will ultimately consolidate oversight and administration of early childhood programs with VDOE as well as providing updates on the progress of the Federal Preschool Development Grant B-5 ([PDG B-5](#)), Ms. Conway presented on the state of early child care in Virginia as the Commonwealth continues to grapple with the impacts of COVID-19 and the need to ensure quality childcare options for parents providing essential services and returning to work as part of the phased reopening of the state.

As previously [reported](#), the Virginia Department of Social Services ([VDSS](#)) issued updated guidance concerning childcare providers in light of Governor Ralph Northam's phased [approach](#) to lifting certain restrictions on businesses in the Commonwealth. This includes opening childcare facilities to all working families, not just to the children of essential personnel. A [letter](#) from VDSS to childcare providers details the process by which childcare centers may continue operations in Phase I or by which they may reopen. This guidance is meant to ensure the safety of childcare providers and children under their care. The new state [guidelines](#) closely match Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [guidelines](#), and detail enhanced social distancing measures such as limiting capacity to 10 individuals per room, the use of personal protective equipment (PPE), and infection control and sanitation practices. Phase I also allows childcare programs to be made open to all working families, not just children of essential workers. As Governor Northam considers moving towards the start of Phase II, additional childcare guidelines were just released by VDSS and can be read [here](#).

COVID-19 has significantly reduced the capacity of early childcare programs to meet existing needs. Altogether, approximately 2,600 childcare programs are temporarily closed - a loss in capacity of approximately 200,000 early childcare classroom seats. However, 365 programs have indicated that they have a reopening date under the new guidelines.

Early childcare in Virginia relies on a combination of public and private programs. Currently, all public-school preschool and early childhood special education programs (such as the Virginia Preschool Initiative ([VPI](#))) remain closed for the school year. Nearly all [Head Start](#) programs are closed, though some [Early Head Start](#) programs are operating. Childcare operations are allowed to be open and childcare educators are considered [essential](#) personnel. More than 60% of childcare centers and faith-based preschools are closed. Additionally, one in five family day homes are closed. As phased reopening continues, these numbers are expected to improve.

Under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security ([CARES](#)) Act, Virginia received approximately \$70 million out of \$3.5 billion in federal funds through the Child Care and Development Block Grant, which subsidizes child care services to eligible families through vouchers or grants and contracts with child care providers. VDSS has [approved](#) more than 1,900 childcare providers for the CARES Act direct assistance program but financial losses experienced far exceed new federal funding available. Though helpful to subsidizing some childcare expenses, additional federal aid is [needed](#) according to the National Women's Law Center and other [groups](#).

Another area of potential concern is the potential lost learning that coincides with the closure of in-person education programs and other childcare programs. According to VDOE, recent research projects school closures could result in major declines in student learning with math taking a bigger hit than reading; some students could return in the fall with less than 50% of typical learning gains. This has the potential to impact long term development for children, as well as their performance on assessments and by extension, school accreditations. Furthermore, the disparate impact of COVID-19 on vulnerable communities is likely to exacerbate existing inequities in early childhood access, quality, and outcomes, leading to higher opportunity gaps. As the state moves towards full reopening, these will be challenges for educators and policy makers to overcome.

Parents who are in need of child care services should visit Child Care Aware at [VAchildcare.org](#) or call 1-866-KIDS-TLC for an up-to-date list of child care options in their area. Additionally, a map of childcare providers indicating which programs have closed and which are still operating can be found [here](#).

Additional information and guidance from VDSS and VDOE on early childhood care can be found [here](#) and [here](#) respectively. Ms. Conway's webinar can be viewed in full [here](#) and her PowerPoint can be downloaded [here](#).

VACo Contacts: [Jeremy R. Bennett](#) and [Katie Boyle](#)



Visit Northampton County and the LOVE sign in Cape Charles

The LOVEwork in Cape Charles truly reflects the history and community by incorporating materials that represent what Cape Charles is all about. The “L” is made of sea glass and seashells to represent the bayside community. The O is a tractor tire to represent agriculture. The V is made of kayaks to represent outdoor adventure activities and the E is made of crab pots to represent aquaculture. It is right next to the fishing pier and at one end of the public beach on public Town property.

Visitors are encouraged to take photos with the LOVEworks and share with loved ones on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com/VirginiaIsForLovers](https://www.facebook.com/VirginiaIsForLovers) or on Twitter with the special hashtag #LOVEVA.

A complete list of the LOVEwork locations is at www.Virginia.org/LOVE.

SOURCE: [Virginia is for Lovers](https://www.Virginia.org/LOVE)

Become a Certified Supervisor



The Virginia Association of Counties, in partnership with Virginia Tech, offers the Virginia Certified County Supervisors' Program: an opportunity for county supervisors to learn how to more effectively and efficiently lead in their communities.

Since its inception in 2005, 70 supervisors representing more than 40 counties have completed this training program, earning credentials as a certified county supervisor. Of greater importance, each supervisor has gained the insight, perspective, and confidence needed to address the challenges and opportunities of the local governance experience.

VACo slightly revamped the Supervisors' Certification Program to adjust to our current time while enhancing your learning experience. The Managing While Leading: Understanding Your Powers, Duties, and Responsibilities course started via Webex Teleconference on May 29 and will end with another Webex Teleconference or an in-person meeting at the Albemarle County Office Building on July 24.

Between the two classroom sessions - there will be several lunch hour teleconferences to discuss course work, reading materials, current events, local issues, and whatever comes up in conversation.

VACo Contact: [Karie Walker](#)

[Funding Public Services: The Role of Budgeting](#)

[Registration Form](#) | [Register Online](#)

Opening Session | September 4 Albemarle County

Closing Session | November 6 | VACo Training Center

Registration Deadline | August 20

Virginia Retirement System (VRS) Information on Health Insurance Credit Legislation (HB 1513)



Virginia Retirement System

On May 22, Virginia Retirement System (VRS) staff provided VACo and other relevant associations with a webinar detailing provisions of [HB 1513 \(McQuinn\)](#), which was recently enacted by the 2020 General Assembly and requires school divisions to provide a health insurance credit (HIC) of \$1.50 per year of service to non-teacher employees of local school divisions with at least 15 years of credible service. A health insurance credit provides retirees with a reimbursement to assist with the cost of health insurance premiums. Though payments to eligible retirees do not begin until July 1, 2021, VRS is already beginning to work with local governments to plan for the implementation and pre-funding of this legislation.

As previously [reported](#), 37 school divisions currently have opted to provide this HIC to their eligible employees. The legislation as enacted would require the remaining 96 school divisions to provide this HIC to their support personnel, such as cafeteria workers, janitors, bus drivers, etc. As with SOQ salaries, the state and local share of this HIC is determined by the composite index of local ability-to-pay (LCI). The Department of Education estimates an additional state general fund cost of \$976,000 in FY 2021 and \$1,024,000 in FY 2022 to provide funding support for the HIC. The local share of non-participating employers to fund the increase in unfunded liabilities created by this legislation varies by employer but is estimated by VRS to result in average increases of 0.89% of covered payroll.

VRS will work with employers to pre-fund the benefit, which will begin on July 1, 2020 to provide a source of payments in 2021. VRS intends to circulate additional information on the benefit and pre-funding this month through their monthly Employer Update, an on-demand webinar, and a letter to each school division with employer-specific cost information.

More information on HB 1513 and a link to the May 22 webinar presentation can be found [here](#). Additional analysis of VRS-related bills can be found in the [VRS Legislative Summary](#) on the VRS website.

VRS serves more than 723,000 total members, retirees, and beneficiaries and has 459 participating political subdivisions, including 93 counties. The fiduciary net position of the trust fund is \$82.3 billion and as based on assets, is the 19th largest among public and private pension systems in the United States. The VRS Board of Directors will next [meet](#) on June 11 at 1 p.m. VACo staff plan to attend.

VACo Contact: [Jeremy R. Bennett](#)



Broadband Funding Opportunities and Updates

On May 20, the [Commonwealth Connect Coalition](#) recently held its monthly meeting to discuss broadband opportunities and concerns throughout Virginia. Topics of discussion included the use of Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security ([CARES](#)) Act funding by localities for broadband purposes. At the time of the meeting, the Governor's team acknowledged that several CARES Act programs have the potential for broadband use. Part of this funding included \$3.1 billion in federal aid to Virginia through the Coronavirus Relief Fund ([CRF](#)).

Virginia localities were allotted funding through the CRF and have a wide variety of uses for the funds. Potential broadband-related uses discussed during the meeting are included below:

- Expenses for establishing and operating public telemedicine capabilities for COVID-19- related treatment.
- Expenses to facilitate distance learning, including technological improvements, in connection with school closings to enable compliance with COVID-19 precautions.
- Expenses to improve telework capabilities for public employees to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.

Since that time, U.S. Treasury recently released [guidance](#) on use the of CARES Act funds as well as [FAQs](#) detailing use for capital costs and broadband. The following provisions of the FAQs are of particular relevance to broadband:

- **Could Fund payments be used for capital improvement projects that broadly provide potential economic development in a community?**
In general, no. If capital improvement projects are not necessary expenditures incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, then Fund payments may not be used for such projects. However, Fund payments may be used for the expenses of, for example, establishing temporary public medical facilities and other measures to increase COVID-19 treatment capacity or improve mitigation measures, including related construction costs.
- **May recipients use Fund payments to expand rural broadband capacity to assist with distance learning and telework?**
Such expenditures would only be permissible if they are necessary for the public health emergency. The cost of projects that would not be expected to increase capacity to a significant extent until the need for distance learning and telework have passed due to this public health emergency would not be necessary due to the public health emergency and thus would not be eligible uses of Fund payments.
- **May governments retain assets purchased with payments from the Fund?**
Yes, if the purchase of the asset was consistent with the limitations on the eligible use of funds provided by section 601(d) of the Social Security Act."

At this time, we are uncertain how much more clarification will be published the state and federal governments on this issue. The Virginia Local Broadband Network ([VLBN](#)) in conjunction with the Commonwealth Connect Coalition

is planning to host a virtual meeting discussing potential uses of CARES Act funding for broadband. VACo will publish this information once it becomes available. If counties have specific questions that aren't answered by the federal guidance, we encourage them to reach out to their legal counsel for advice.

Additional funding opportunities and resources discussed at the May Commonwealth Connect Coalition Meeting include:

- [Education Stabilization Fund](#) - Various education programs designed to help states, education institutions, and school divisions respond to pandemic education challenges. Funding may potentially be used for broadband related expenditures to promote distance learning.
- [FCC COVID-19 Telehealth Program](#) - FCC grant program providing eligible health care providers support to purchase telecommunications, information services, and connected devices necessary to provide telehealth services to patients in response to the coronavirus pandemic.
- [USDA Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Program](#) - USDA grant program providing rural non-profits, businesses, local governments, tribes, and consortiums support for technology and training necessary for telemedicine and distance learning serving rural residents. \$25 million additional funds were added through the CARES Act. The USDA Virginia team recently conducted a webinar on the program. You can register and view a recorded version of the webinar - [here](#).
- [Virginia Wifi Hotspot Map](#) - Map of public wifi accessible from a vehicle with more than 1,000 locations statewide.
- [Virginia Telecommunication Initiative](#) (VATI) - While infrastructure is unfortunately not a quick fix, it is the most viable solution for the problems this crisis has amplified. DHCD will release the finalized FY21 VATI guidelines in the coming weeks and we encourage all potential applicants to receive application assistance from the VATI team. Contact vati@dhcd.virginia.gov for questions or to schedule technical assistance.

As previously [reported](#), the Commonwealth Connect Coalition has also provided a website of broadband resources related to COVID-19, including updates from the Federal Communication Commission's programs to Keep American's Connected, waiving of Rural Health Care and E-Rate gift rules, \$200 million in CARES Act funding for telehealth services to combat COVID-19. The site also includes links to efforts being undertaken by Internet Service Providers in Virginia and can be found [here](#).

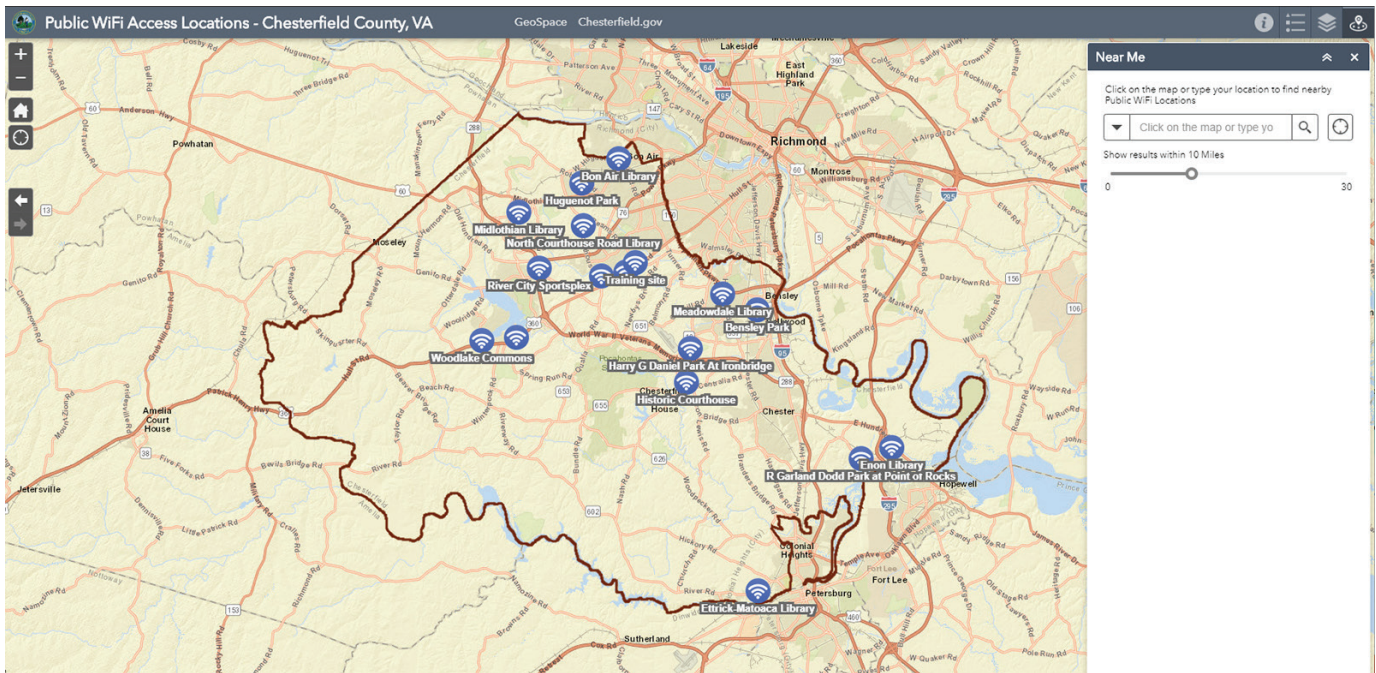
Additionally, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) at the U.S. Department of Commerce recently [updated](#) its database of 57 federal broadband programs, spanning 14 federal agencies. One such funding source includes the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund ([RDOF](#)), which establishes \$20.4 billion in federal funds for reverse auctions of internet spectrum. A May 5 Webinar from the FCC detailing this process can be viewed [here](#).

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- **June 9 - VATI How to Apply Webinar** | Register [here](#)
- **July 13 - Deadline for Letter of Intent for VATI Applications**
- **July 13 - USDA Distance Learning & Telemedicine Program Deadline** | Learn more [here](#)
- **August 17 - VATI Application Deadline**
- **October 22 - Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) Phase I Auction** | Learn more [here](#)

VACo Contacts: [Jeremy R. Bennett](#) and [Joe Lerch, AICP](#)

Chesterfield Unveils Map of Public WiFi Access Locations



Chesterfield County has developed a new website designed to help citizens locate publicly-accessible, county-owned WiFi locations throughout Chesterfield. Featuring an interactive map, the [Public WiFi Access Locations website](#) allows visitors to pinpoint nearby WiFi spots and provides a link to Google Maps directions to each location.

To find a nearby WiFi location, citizens type in an address or click directly on the map to pinpoint a user-defined area of up to a 30-mile radius from that designated point. This defined area is represented by a large, blue circle on the map, which helps to identify the available WiFi locations within that range.

As the COVID-19 pandemic has increased many residents' reliance on reliable internet access, the new website was designed to help create new opportunities for citizens in need. Currently, the map features over a dozen public WiFi locations accessible from outside of county buildings and facilities currently closed to visitors. The new website also provides details on where citizens can park, stand or sit to get the best coverage. For example, the website informs visitors that good WiFi coverage is available at the Historic 1917 Courthouse by parking in the spaces in front of the courthouse.

Chesterfield encourages citizens to continue to follow [social distancing guidelines](#) established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), including remaining at least six feet away from others, avoiding gathering in groups and staying away from crowded places. As facilities reopen to the public, Chesterfield's Department of Information System Technology will update the application with additional publicly-accessible WiFi locations within the county.

Public WiFi connections should always be used with caution, and citizens are urged not to access sensitive personal data such as banking information, medical records or credit card numbers while connected to public WiFi.

To view Chesterfield's new Public WiFi Access Locations website and begin using the interactive map, visit www.chesterfield.gov/wifi.



The Scenic Virginia 2020 Virginia Vistas photo contest is now open. I'm thrilled to share that this year the **Rivers & Waterways category is exclusive to designated Virginia scenic rivers!**

This is a wonderful way to highlight the [50th anniversary](#) of the Virginia Scenic Rivers Program. The annual contest promotes the preservation and protection of our beautiful resources.

I encourage you to submit your photos by the July 31 deadline. Please view the [list of designated scenic rivers](#), and then visit [Scenic Virginia](#) for details and an entry form.

Many thanks to Scenic Virginia for being an excellent partner to the Virginia Scenic Rivers Program!

CONTACT

Lynn Crump, PLA, ASLA
Scenic Resources Coordinator
Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
lynn.crump@dcr.virginia.gov

U.S. Department of Treasury Releases Updated FAQ Document on Use of Coronavirus Relief Fund



On May 28, the U.S. Department of Treasury released an updated list of Frequently Asked Questions regarding use of the Coronavirus Relief Fund dollars provided through the CARES Act. The updated document may be found at [this link](#) and is also posted on [VACo's COVID-19 page](#). New questions and answers in the "Eligible Expenditures" section begin on the bottom of page 6, and new questions and answers in the "Questions Related to Administration of Fund Payments" begin on the top of page 9. Issues addressed in these new questions and answers that are of particular interest to localities include broadband, solid waste disposal, and hazard pay.

VACo has submitted a letter to Secretary of Finance Aubrey Layne requesting additional guidance on several issues that are not addressed in detail in Treasury's Guidance or FAQs, mostly with respect to the types of documentation that the state plans to require from local governments to demonstrate that funds were used for eligible purposes, and will share any additional clarification as it is received.

VACo Contact: [Katie Boyle](#)

Governor Announces Most of Virginia to Enter Phase Two of COVID-19 Re-opening



Forward Virginia

Governor Northam [announced on June 2](#) that, except for Northern Virginia and the City of Richmond, all localities will begin Phase Two of the [Forward Virginia Blueprint](#) for reopening in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Phase Two will provide greater flexibility for restaurants, gyms and outdoor recreation. Additionally, gatherings of up to 50 people will be allowed (currently a maximum of 10 under Phase One guidelines). Because Northern Virginia and Richmond have only been in Phase One for a week, the Governor said they will need more data to analyze before moving these areas into Phase Two. Phase Two guidelines for all business sectors can be accessed at this [website link](#).

VACo Contact: [Joe Lerch, AICP](#)

VACo Achievement Awards Deadline Moved to JULY 1



It's time for the 2020 Achievement Awards Program.

Any county department is eligible to compete so ENTER NOW!

[Achievement Awards submission form](#)

All entries are required to be submitted in electronic form. No paper copy submissions are necessary.

The electronic copy should be a PDF or WORD file. Email entries to Gage Harter at gcharter@vaco.org.
Submissions must be received by July 1, 2020.

Last year we processed 96 entries and selected 26 winners from 21 Counties. VACo presented awards at 21 Board of Supervisors Meetings, recognized winners at the Annual Conference, issued a news release to statewide media and highlighted winning Counties in an Achievement Awards booklet.
The judges for the 2020 Achievement Awards will be announced soon.

VACo has received more than 800 entries over the past decade. Last year's Best Achievement winner was Chesterfield County for its "Chesterfield County Police Experience Program."

VACo encourages all Counties, big and small, to enter the 2020 Achievement Awards Program. Please contact gcharter@vaco.org with questions or for more information.

[Achievement Awards Submission Form](#) | [2019 Achievement Awards Press Release](#)

[Browse all of the 2019 Entries](#) | [2019 Achievement Awards Book](#) | [Past Achievement Award Winners](#)

Are you interested in pursuing a career in local government? Are you wanting to advance within your own organization?

Consider attending the **Graduate Certificate in Local Government Management** Information Session

When: Thursday, June 4, 2020

Where: Zoom Meeting

<https://viriniatech.zoom.us/j/99507377523>

What: Overview of courses, instructors, benefits of the program

Hybrid (Zoom) delivery of courses!

Financial assistance available to employees in Virginia local government!

www.spia.vt.edu

www.cpap.vt.edu



More information?
Contact Dr.
Stephanie Davis,
Program Director
Sddavis@vt.edu



The Graduate Certificate in Local Government Management will be holding a virtual information session on Thursday, June 4, 2020 at 10am. The session (approximately 30 minutes) will provide information on the courses, the instructors, and the benefits of the program. Please note the courses are offered through Zoom and there is financial assistance available for employees of Virginia local government.

<https://www.vaco.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/CPAPJune4InformationSession.pdf>



Save Time and Find More Yield With eConnectDirect®

In a volatile time when interest rates have fallen, it can be difficult for public funds investors to find competitive yields within policy and statutory guidelines. That's why VACo has worked with Associate Member **Multi-Bank Securities, Inc.** since 2015.

MBS offers a proprietary online investment platform, **eConnectDirect®**. This powerful tool lets investors quickly compare offerings from more than 200 dealers, select the most suitable investment in the market and submit their order request online.

"MBS's staff is professional – there's never a hard sales pitch," said Vicky Steinruck, VACo Director of Administration and Finance. "Their eConnectDirect platform has made investing for VACo easier and more efficient. They remit interest promptly, and eConnectDirect generates helpful and easy-to-understand reports."

To learn more about how MBS and eConnectDirect can support your county, please contact Greg Pagans at 866.330.0859 or gpagans@mbssecurities.com.

OPPORTUNITIES AHEAD

Strengthening early childhood systems



ACCESS • QUALITY • FAMILY ENGAGEMENT • COLLABORATION

In March, the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation (VECF), in partnership with the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE), announced a decision to revisit the timeline of upcoming deadlines for key early childhood initiatives, due to the disruption that early childhood programs, personnel, and leaders are experiencing related to the COVID-19 health and economic crises.

Today we are announcing a new timeline for Mixed Delivery grants. Given the capacity for communities to see beyond the current COVID-19 crisis, as demonstrated by the significant number of Letters of Intent (LOIs) submitted from across the state, we will proceed with an application and selection process for Mixed Delivery grants as follows:

- Mixed Delivery Grant (MDG) LOI Q & A Session – June 2, 2020 (9 am) | [Register Here](#)
- Deadline for Regular Submission of MDG LOI – June 8, 2020 (5 pm)
- Review of LOIs – June 9-17, 2020
- Notification to Submit Full Application – June 18, 2020
- Deadline for Submission of Full Application – July 28, 2020 (5 pm)
- Review of Applications – July 29- Mid August, 2020
- Notification of Decisions – Mid August 2020



VECF welcomes submission of any new Mixed Delivery grant LOIs. Please see the [Opportunities Ahead](#) webpage for information about how to submit a new LOI. If your community has already submitted an LOI for Mixed Delivery, no further action is needed unless you would like to make any updates to your original submitted LOI. If so, you may do so prior to the June 8 submission deadline. Please contact Robin Grossman at robin@vecf.org so that she can give you access to the MDG LOI you submitted previously.

Additional details about the Mixed Delivery grant LOI and application process and the updated timeline can be found on VECF's [Opportunities Ahead](#) webpage. VECF will also offer a MDG LOI Q & A session on June 2 at 9am to answer questions about the LOI process. [Register for this session here.](#)

Sincerely,

Kathryn V Glazer

Kathy Glazer | President

Nationwide recognized for service to retirement plan participants and mobile websites

DALBAR, a financial services market research firm, recently announced that Nationwide Retirement has earned the 2019 Plan Participant Service Award for outstanding telephone support to retirement plan participants. This is the sixth consecutive year in which Nationwide was recognized by DALBAR with this distinction.

In addition, DALBAR also ranked Nationwide Retirement Solutions mobile website number one in Mobile InSIGHT1, Dalbar's in-depth review of 45 mobile websites offered by financial service firms. Nationwide's score of 92.9 out of 100 earned the site a Dalbar designation of "Excellent."

"The continued recognition that Nationwide Retirement has received from DALBAR is yet another proof point that demonstrates our commitment to personal service to plan participants and dedication to providing a customer-friendly mobile experience for them," said Eric Stevenson, president of Nationwide Retirement Plans.

In order to earn DALBAR's prestigious Service Award, companies must undergo a thorough and independent year-long audit looking at the quality of contact center interactions. To achieve the Plan Participant Service Award, Nationwide needed to exceed stringent quality thresholds in criteria covering all aspects of the customer experience for both private and public plan participants.

DALBAR Director Brendan Yeager explains, "It is difficult to overstate how important service quality is for retirement plans, and why it should be a key factor in plan sponsors' selection of a plan provider. We are talking about people's retirement, about their financial well-being; having a competent professional to turn to when questions come up is essential."

For the mobile website recognition, DALBAR called out the following that contributed to Nationwide's number one ranking:

- Nationwide Retirement Solutions mobile users can now schedule a meeting with retirement plan specialists quickly and easily.
- Requests for specific types of appointments can be made and the estimated time to complete the call is shared, generally 30 minutes.
- Types of appointments available to participants include: enrollment, financial needs assessment, investment/asset allocation, rollover/account consolidation, and general retirement questions.
- Users can request a text reminder for their appointment 1, 2, 4, 12 or 24 hours in advance.

Learn more about how you can begin working with Nationwide's award-winning retirement plans [here](#).





FLEET MANAGEMENT



DO MORE WITH LESS

Government organizations don't always have the capital to replace aging fleet vehicles at the optimal time. The Enterprise Solution can help you reduce the age of your fleet within your budget by moving you from an owned, buy-and-hold fleet management approach to a more flexible program with a shortened cycle, meaning you can have newer – and safer – vehicles for the same investment (or less).

Your dedicated, local Account Manager will provide a Fleet Cost Analysis showing the financial benefits of replacing vehicles, as well as the sustained average savings once all of your vehicles are newer and more reliable. We'll also help you navigate county, government and municipality approval.

MORE CAPITAL FOR OTHER PROJECTS

Enterprise Fleet Management helps you free up capital for other important projects or initiatives. Leasing provides greater cash flow benefits, and greater savings from reduced maintenance and fuel expenses. By acquiring vehicles with Enterprise Fleet Management, you aren't restricted to public auctions and can take advantage of multiple resale channels for higher returns.

VEHICLE TRACKING AND COMPLIANCE MANAGEMENT

We'll help you make better, easier decisions with data. Our mobile tracking technology and telematics offer insights into which vehicles are underutilized and why, ensuring you're getting the right value out of every vehicle. Track individual performance and driver habits to ensure safety, manage risk and ensure taxpayer-funded vehicles are used appropriately. We can also help you assign and track driver training to reinforce fleet vehicle policies.

REDUCED MAINTENANCE BACKLOG

Often, government organizations and entities face frustrating maintenance backlogs due to the volume of equipment and vehicles needing service, as well as staff shortages at in-house maintenance facilities. While Enterprise won't replace your in-house maintenance facility, we can free up your mechanics' time by taking over maintenance of light-duty vehicles that are often pushed to the back of the line for more mission-critical vehicles and equipment.

Enterprise Fleet Management's Solution is aimed at helping organizations realize that there is an easier, safer way to meet the county's transportation needs that take into account the total cost of vehicle ownership, including factors like maintenance, downtime, fuel efficiency and resale.

Transition your department to new vehicles within your current budget. With predictable fleet expenses and by staying under budget, you'll be able to generate more funds for other services.

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VIRGINIA REPRESENTATIVES

Eddy R Simon

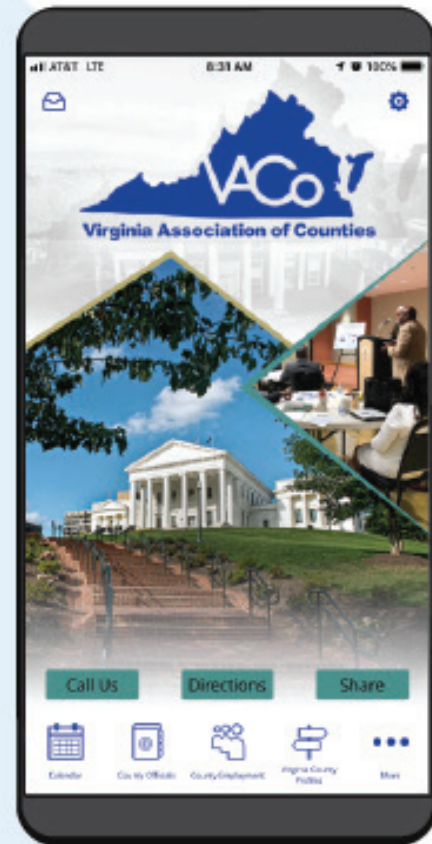
Account Executive
Enterprise Fleet Management
(757) 329-3211 Direct
Eddy.R.Simon@efleets.com

Marty Linsky (Northern Virginia Contact)

Account Executive
Enterprise Fleet Management
(301) 370-7364 Direct
Martin.w.linsky@efleets.com

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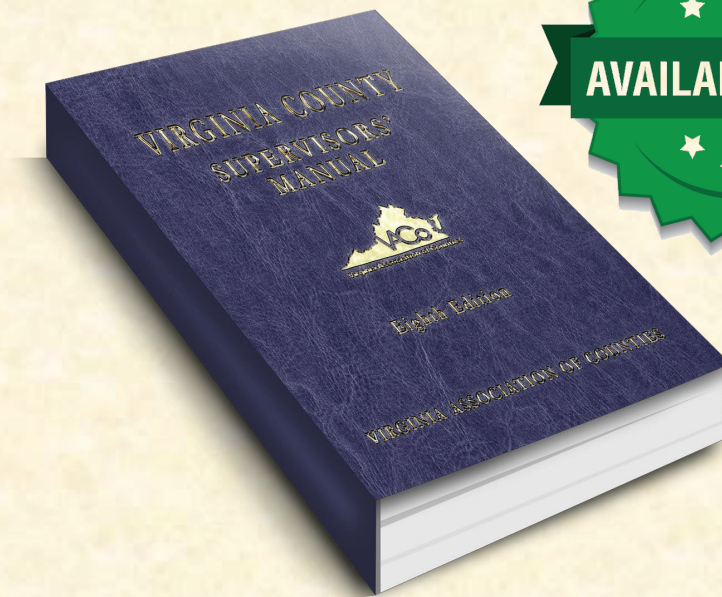
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VIRGINIA COUNTY SUPERVISORS' MANUAL

EIGHTH EDITION, 2019

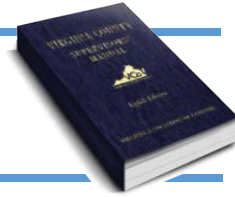


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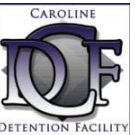
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VACo exists to support county officials and to effectively represent, promote and protect the interests of counties to better serve the people of Virginia.

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