

VACo Releases 2025 Legislative Summary

VACo LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY



2025 First Edition

www.vaco.org

The [Legislative Summary](#) details the actions of the 2025 General Assembly. It also includes information on legislation of interest to counties.

This edition contains links to bills through the General Assembly's Legislative Information System and includes studies and statistics of importance to counties.

[Read VACo's 2025 Legislative Summary](#)

VACo Contact: [Legislative Team](#)

Floyd County's Jerry Boothe named VACo Second Vice President



VACo Executive Committee (from left to right) - President **Ruth Larson**, President-Elect **Victor Angry**, First Vice President **Phil North**, Second Vice President **Jerry Boothe**, Secretary-Treasurer **Don Hart**, and Immediate Past President **Ann Mallek**.

The VACo Board of Directors voted to appoint Floyd County's Jerry Boothe as Second Vice President at the Annual Spring Meeting, which was held this year at James City County - the home of VACo President Ruth Larson.

"It is a honor to be named Second Vice President," Boothe said. "My hope is to be able to contribute to VACo in its work in helping make all the counties of the Commonwealth better places to live, work, and visit."

The VACo Board also voted to appoint Prince William County's Victor Angry to President-Elect and Roanoke County's Phil North to First Vice President. Angry and North were previously serving as First Vice President and Second Vice President, respectively. The moves followed the January passing of President-Elect and Isle of Wight Supervisor William McCarty.

"I want to congratulate Jerry Boothe on becoming VACo Second Vice President. He is going to be an excellent addition to the VACo Executive Committee," VACo Executive Director Dean Lynch said. "Jerry has served admirably on the VACo Board of Directors and has earned an opportunity to lead this organization."

VACo Joins the Alliance for Chesapeake Bay on Exploring Virginia's Waterways Tour!



VACo staff had the pleasure of partaking in the Exploring Virginia's Waterways bus tour which is a two-day peer-to-peer learning exchange for local officials focused on how we can effectively balance economic growth with environmental sustainability to ensure thriving communities and a resilient future for Virginia. The event, hosted by the Local Government Advisory Committee to the Chesapeake Bay Program and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, was an opportunity for local leaders to discuss the challenges their community faces in addressing Clean and Green Growth in Virginia as well as sharing examples of successes and obstacles the other participating officials face.

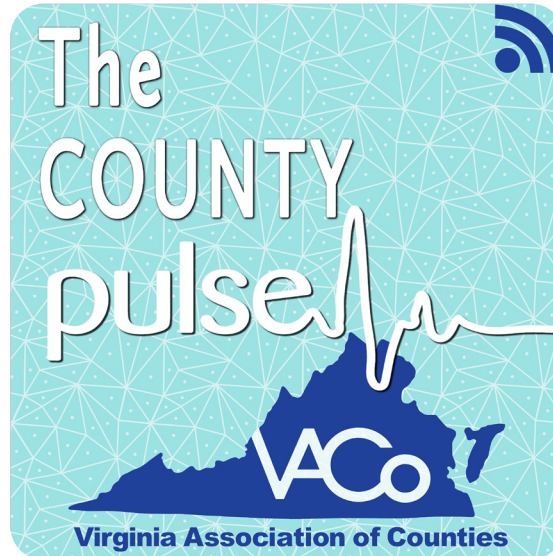
The bus toured an array of different local developments that influence or are related to water quality initiatives such as stormwater projects, examples of stream restoration and living shorelines, rain gardens, green infrastructure and the Sustainable Water Initiative for Tomorrow (SWIFT) Research Center.

The highlight of the bus tour was time spent at the SWIFT Research Center. [SWIFT](#) is an innovative water treatment project in eastern Virginia designed to further protect the region's environment, enhance the sustainability of the region's long-term groundwater supply and help address environmental pressures such as Chesapeake Bay restoration, sea level rise and saltwater intrusion.

SWIFT takes [highly treated water](#) that would otherwise be discharged into the Elizabeth, James or York rivers and puts it through additional rounds of advanced water treatment to meet drinking water quality standards. The SWIFT Water is then added to the [Potomac Aquifer](#), the primary source of groundwater throughout eastern Virginia.

VACo continuously supports and advocates for programs/funding that enhance water quality initiatives such as the Water Quality Improvement Fund and the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund. It was great to be able to see the projects implemented in various localities using funds from the programs mentioned and shows how localities are on the fore front of improving water quality Commonwealth wide. VACo would like to thank the LGAC and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay for hosting us and of course the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for their support.

VACo Contact: [James Hutzler](#)



Season 5

Energy Landscape of Virginia Series with Joe Lerch

Episode 11 | Nuclear Power, Small Modular Reactors, and Fusion



[Listen to the Podcast.](#)

Energy Landscape of Virginia Episode 11 | Nuclear Power, Small Modular Reactors, and Fusion.

In 2023 nuclear power produced approximately one-third of all power from Virginia sources while representing only 12 percent of all generation capacity in the Commonwealth. Dominion Energy operates Virginia's four nuclear units in plants located in Louisa and Surry counties, each with a capacity of more than 900 megawatts in generation. Each unit operates continuously at capacity, only coming off-line temporarily to refuel approximately every 18 months. In this episode, we sat down with Erich Fritz, manager of business development, and Marc Hofmann, manager of nuclear emergency preparedness and licensing with Dominion to learn more about their existing nuclear fleet, their plans for developing small modular reactors, as well as their partnership with Commonwealth Fusion Systems to assist in building Virginia's first commercially operating nuclear fusion reactor.

Where to find out more about topics covered in this episode...

- [Dominion Energy Nuclear Facilities](#)
- [Dominion seeking small nuclear reactor proposals • Virginia Mercury](#)
- [Appalachian Power – SMR Plan](#)
- [Commonwealth Fusion Systems to Build World's First Commercial Fusion Power Plant in Virginia | Commonwealth Fusion Systems](#)
- [California ISO – Today's Outlook for Supply and Renewables](#)

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



Visit Russell County and the Russell County Historic Courthouse

Location: 53 East Main Street / Hendricks Avenue

Built: 1874 – 1875

Style: Classical Revival

Architect: Felix Grundy Ketron of Lebanon

Contractor: Felix Grundy Ketron of Lebanon

Description: The building faces south and is a two story red colored brick and wood structure. The building is located on landscaped grounds in the center of Lebanon and is “T” shaped with a north wing. The south front has a large portico with four white colored columns rising to an ornamented pediment. On the west corner, the building projects slightly. On the center of the roof is a high white colored cupola with white colored dome. The roof is hipped. The building houses the County Circuit Court, County General District Court and County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court of the 29th Judicial Circuit. On the north side is a large addition. Additions were constructed in 1891, 1905 and 1922. The architect in 1922 was Burnett, Dixon & Burnett. A further addition was added in 1958.

SOURCE: [American Courthouses](#)

VACo 2025 REGIONAL MEETINGS

- **REGION 4** | April 28 | Brunswick County
- **REGION 1** | May 7 | Sussex County
- **REGIONS 3&5** | May 12 | Henrico County
- **REGION 6&9** | June 5 | Shenandoah County
- **REGION 10** | June 12 | Pittsylvania County
- **REGION 13** | July 21 | Dickenson County
- **REGION 8** | August 20 | Prince William County
- **REGION 2** | August 27 | Gloucester County
- **REGION 7** | King George County
- **REGIONS 11&12** | Bland County



Performance Contracting 101 with Schneider Electric

What if upgrading your aging infrastructure didn't mean draining your budget—or your patience? Meet *Performance Contracting (PC)*: the superhero of budget-friendly, energy-efficient solutions.

Here's the scoop: PC allows you to address infrastructure challenges strategically by leveraging future energy savings and significant cost reductions to fund your projects with minimal upfront capital investment.

How Does PC Work?

STEP 1

We start with a deep-dive energy audit.

STEP 2

We identify inefficiencies and craft a plan to fix them with guaranteed savings.

STEP 3

Savings offset costs, enabling upgrades with lower upfront investment.

What's in It for You?



Stress-Free Upgrades

Fix your facilities without tapping into reserves.



Energy Savings

Modernize your systems and save big.



Green Goals, Met

Boost sustainability while creating healthier communities.



As the **#1 Energy Services Company (ESCO)** since 2017 (by Guidehouse Insights), we bring decades of experience and a proven track record partnering with counties nationwide to deliver results.

Curious how PC can work for your county?
Let's discuss your project



Abby Weigel
804-248-0523
Abby.Weigel@se.com



Kevin DeLeon
804.517.2819
Kevin.DeLeon@se.com

Economic Development Director Ken McFadyen accepts position as Alleghany County Administrator

By Matt de Simone | Reprinted with permission from the [Fincastle Herald](#)



Botetourt County is set to bid farewell to longtime Economic Development Director Ken McFadyen, as he transitions into a new role as Alleghany County Administrator. The Alleghany County Board of Supervisors unanimously voted to appoint McFadyen during its regular meeting on April 1. He is expected to assume his new position full-time in early June, according a release made by Alleghany County last week.

Since 2016, McFadyen has played a pivotal role in shaping Botetourt County's economic landscape. Under his leadership, seven companies announced plans to locate or expand within the county, resulting in nearly 1,000 new jobs and \$185 million in capital investment. He has also been a strong advocate for small businesses and has worked to expand broadband access to support remote work opportunities.

"I am looking forward to the opportunity to work with the Alleghany County Board of Supervisors to achieve the supervisors' goals in serving the citizens of the county," McFadyen recently said when asked about his new position in Alleghany. "It will be challenging and I am looking forward to applying my 25-plus years of experience in local government and economic development in addressing the community's needs."

[More McFadyen on Next Page](#)

“Botetourt is a wonderful community with lots of assets and resources to be proud of. The people in the community care about their home and it has been clear to me that folks are eager to enhance Botetourt’s quality of life and to protect what makes this such a special place. I also want to thank the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors and Administration for nine, productive years. I am thankful for Botetourt County. My co-workers here with Botetourt County are serving diligently and selflessly to address the needs of the community and to make positive contributions in every respect. I am thankful for them and for the friendships we have made.”

McFadyen believes that Botetourt County’s economic development is in a good position in bringing more new businesses to the county. “Business is booming in Botetourt,” McFadyen continued. “Private sector jobs and wages, particularly in manufacturing, are growing at rates that exceed state and national growth. That says something important about Botetourt being a great place for businesses to locate, grow, and thrive. Anyone who knows me also knows that I often say that everybody is an economic developer. Assisting to attract, keep, and grow a community’s businesses is an all-hands-on-deck exercise and Botetourt County will remain well positioned to succeed in this regard. And, I will continue to support the community in any way I can while serving the supervisors and citizens next door in Alleghany County.”

McFadyen has more than 25 years of experience in local government administration and economic development. Prior to his time in Botetourt, he served as executive director of the Blue Ridge Crossroads Economic Development Authority, which supports Grayson County, the City of Galax, and Carroll County. He has also worked in county and town management roles in North Carolina.

Botetourt County Administrator Gary Larrowe recently shared, “Ken has served well in Botetourt as the director of Economic Development. We are sad to see Ken leave; however, we are excited for him to be able to influence the development of another regional community. Ken has a passion for rural areas and Alleghany will be fortunate to have him at the helm. Growth and development are key elements of a rural community to prosper and Ken has the education, experience and tools to lead well.”

In 2018, he served as president of the Virginia Economic Developers Association and has collaborated with the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, the Virginia General Assembly, and multiple gubernatorial administrations on economic initiatives.

McFadyen earned both his undergraduate degree in history and his master’s in public administration from Appalachian State University. He is an Eagle Scout and a former Rotary Club president. His wife, Melanie McFadyen, is the current Fincastle Town Manager. The couple resides in Botetourt with their two children, Sara, 18, and Conor, 16. In his free time, McFadyen enjoys hiking, camping, and photography.

As Botetourt County prepares for this transition, county officials will begin the process of selecting a new Economic Development director to continue the momentum of business growth and investment in the region.

VACo and Virginia Energy to Host Free Seminar on Energy Programs that Counties Can Implement to Reduce Electricity Costs



On May 20 – VACo and Virginia Energy (Virginia Department of Energy) will host “[Unlocking Energy Savings and Demand Response Opportunities for Local Governments](#).” This hybrid online and in-person event will take place from 9am to 12:30pm at the VACo Training Center, which is located at 1207 East Main Street in downtown Richmond.

The agenda will include an introduction and local government case studies on state-run Energy Savings Performance Contracting and Demand Response programs. [Energy Savings Performance Contracting \(ESPC\)](#) is a budget neutral approach that implements facility improvements using guaranteed energy and water savings to cover financing costs, eliminating the need for capital budget allocations. [Demand Response \(DR\)](#) turns your ability to temporarily reduce electricity usage into revenue. Through this program local governments are paid to reduce energy use during peak demand periods, thereby reducing constraints on the electric grid to provide customer power.

Please [RSVP here](#) to attend in-person (refreshments provided) or online.

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

Happy American Wetlands Month!



Local communities thrive when the environment around them is healthy. Protecting local wetlands leads to improved water quality, better flood control, and reduced shoreline erosion. In turn, these healthy habitats support the local economy. Some of the most valuable sectors of the Virginia economy depend on clean water and thriving wetlands:

- Lucrative commercial fisheries, like blue crab and oyster, annually have an economic value of more than \$200 million
- Outdoor recreation like fishing, boating, wetland-dependent bird hunting, and bird watching adds more than \$9 billion to Virginia's economy each year
- Access to public parks and other natural amenities helps attract and retain a strong workforce and improve the quality of life for residents
- Wetland restoration can protect pastures and cropland, contributing to Virginia's robust agricultural sector

Investing in wetlands is good for business. Wetlands are vital to the health of the Chesapeake Bay and in 2014, the region was calculated to provide at least \$107.2 billion in natural benefits annually. Learn more about how to [conserve wetlands and their valuable benefits](#) at ProtectLocalWaterways.org.

VACo Contact: [James Hutzler](#)

FY2026-2031 Six-Year Improvement Program Spring Meetings – Public Comment

FY2026 Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP) - Public Comment

The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) will be hosting nine in-person public hearings across Virginia to gather feedback on the recommended VDOT and DRPT projects in the Draft FY2026 SYIP.

Please see the schedule below for meeting dates and locations:

RICHMOND ● APRIL 22, 2025 - 4:00PM VDOT Richmond District Hawthorne Auditorium 2430 Pine Forest Drive Colonial Heights, VA 23834	LYNCHBURG ● APRIL 23, 2025 - 4:00PM VDOT Lynchburg District Ramey Auditorium 4303 Campbell Avenue Lynchburg, VA 24501	HAMPTON ROADS ● APRIL 24, 2025 - 4:00PM VDOT Hampton Roads District Auditorium 7511 Burbage Drive Suffolk, VA 23435	FREDERICKSBURG ● MAY 6, 2025 - 4:00PM VDOT Fredericksburg District Auditorium 86 Deacon Road Fredericksburg, VA 22405	CULPEPER ● MAY 7, 2025 - 4:00PM VDOT Culpeper District Auditorium 1601 Orange Road Culpeper, VA 22701
NORTHERN VIRGINIA ● MAY 8, 2025 - 5:00PM VDOT Northern Virginia District 4975 Alliance Drive Fairfax, VA 22030	BRISTOL ● MAY 13, 2025 - 4:00PM Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center One Partnership Circle Abingdon, VA 24210	SALEM ● MAY 14, 2025 - 4:00PM Holiday Inn Valley View 3315 Ordway Drive Roanoke, VA 24017	STAUNTON ● MAY 15, 2025 - 4:00PM Blue Ridge Community College Plecker Center for Continuing Education One College Lane Weyers Cave, VA 24486	

County leaders and the public are invited to share comments on transportation projects that have been recommended for funding in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-2031 Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP). Additionally, pursuant to §33.2-202 of the Code of Virginia, comments will be accepted for new projects valued in excess of \$25 million. The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) will consider your comments as it develops the FY2026-2031 SYIP. The SYIP allocates public funds to highway, road, bridge, rail, bicycle, pedestrian and public transportation projects.

The public is able to provide feedback on the FY2026-2031 SYIP update at the spring meetings for the corresponding VDOT construction district on the dates and times noted above.

Feedback on transportation projects that have been recommended for funding can also be provided by submitting comments through the [online form](#), by email or posted mail by May 21, 2025.

VACo Contact: [James Hutzler](#)

VDOT Financial Impact of Emergency Response from Winter Events 2024-2025 and Budget Revision



COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[In December 2024](#), a briefing was given to the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) that covered the extent of the impact and response efforts to Tropical Storm Helene across parts of Virginia. At the April 2025 meeting of the CTB, VDOT staff [gave a presentation](#) on the overall financial impact of all recent emergency response and requested the VDOT budget be revised to account for excess expenses.

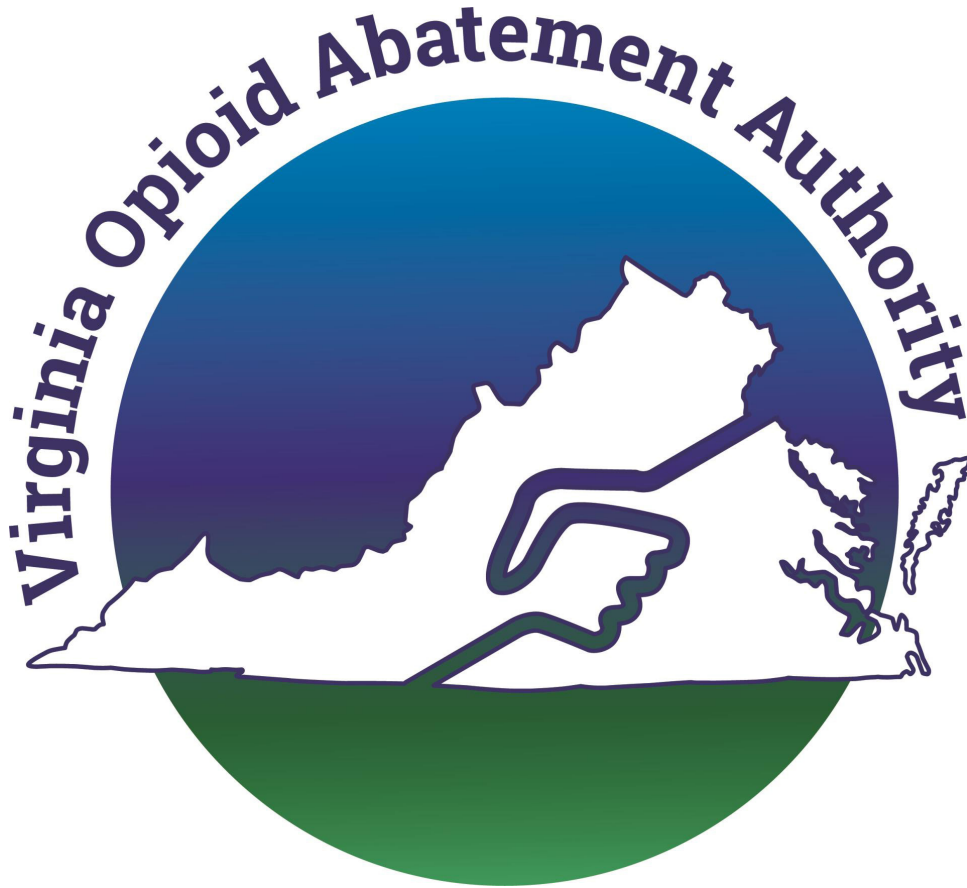
VDOT presented an updated cost estimate of the Tropical Storm Helene emergency response of \$208 million. VDOT also incurred extensive costs for snow, ice and flooding response this past winter season which has a current estimated cost of \$444.8 million. The original VDOT FY25 budget had \$220 million set aside for emergency response efforts. This left the agency with an estimated \$420.3 emergency response deficit.

In late February, VDOT implemented various administrative actions to save money, ultimately identifying \$44.7 million in administrative savings. Other strategies were identified within the Maintenance and Operations Program to cover costs including maintenance saving strategies, delaying or deferring work and applying federal reimbursements from events prior to Helene which totaled \$185 million in savings. This would leave the total remaining deficit to \$190.2 million.

VDOT staff would go on to recommend an interagency loan from the Construction Fund to the Highway Maintenance and Operating Fund, to cover the \$190.2 million remaining deficit and support current spending. VDOT estimates that there is anywhere from \$211 to \$260 million in pending and potential federal reimbursements and will repay the inter-agency loans as these become available.

VDOT would request the CTB approve a revised FY 25 Budget at the meeting stating the inter-agency loan would allow VDOT to end the fiscal year with funding to support necessary expenditures. The CTB approved the revised budget unanimously.

VACo Contact: [James Hutzler](#)



Register now for the **FREE Abatement Academy sessions**

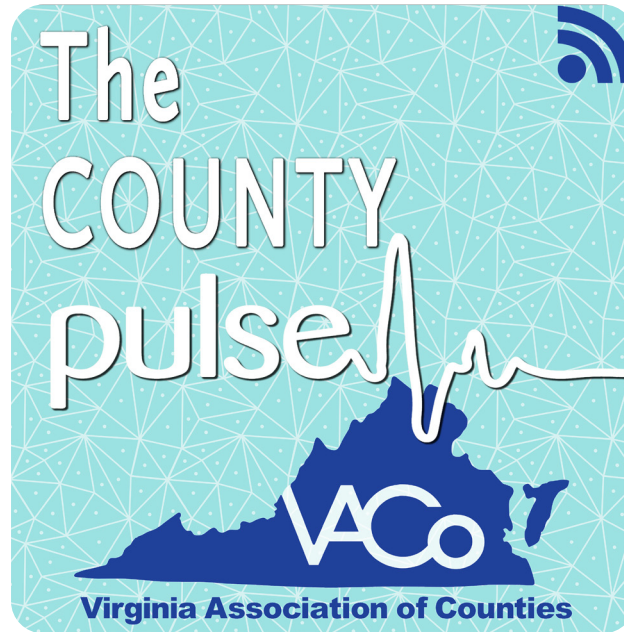
May 22 11:00 am – 12:00 noon

Standing up Mobile Treatment - a “How-To” guide

[Registration](#)

To register for this event, to view recordings of previous webinars, or to participate in a future event -

visit **<https://www.oaa.virginia.gov/abatement-academy/>**



Season 5

Energy Landscape of Virginia Series with Joe Lerch

Episode 10 | Harvesting Excess Heat from Data Centers for Energy – District Energy Systems

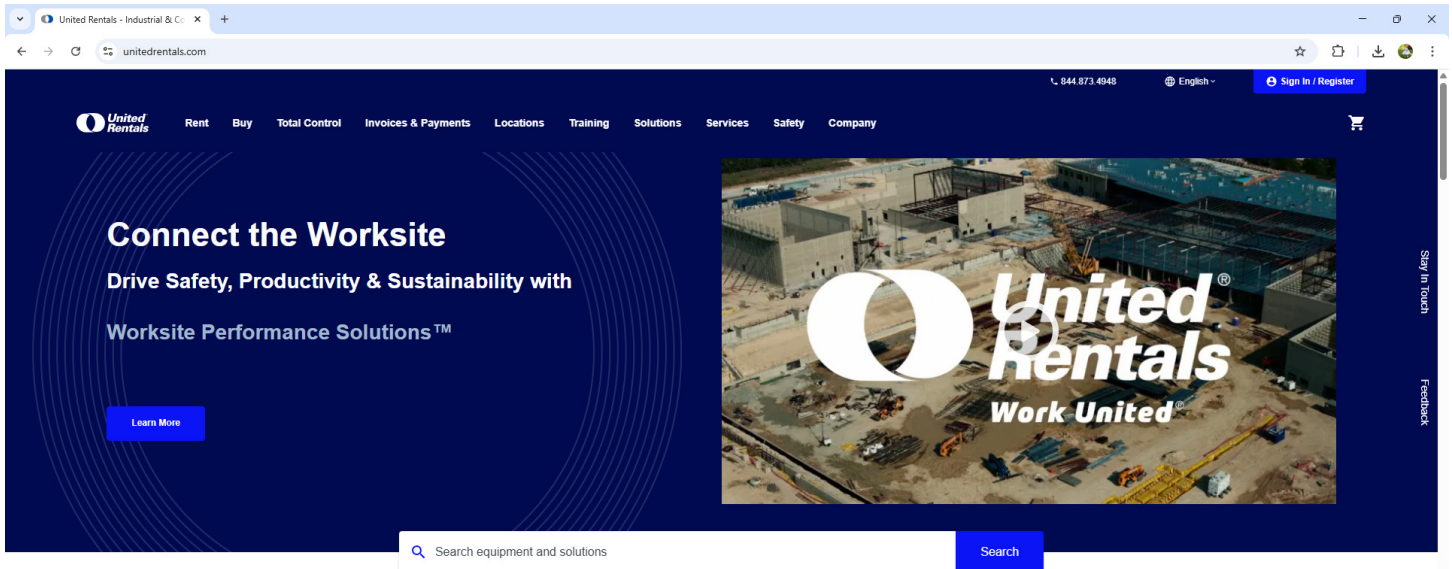


[Listen to the Podcast.](#)

Energy Landscape of Virginia Episode 10 | Harvesting Excess Heat from Data Centers for Energy – District Energy Systems. District Energy Systems are a proven engineering solution that conveys heat between suppliers and users, between or among buildings. Excess heat generated by the multitude of data centers located in Virginia provides an opportunity to supply heat to adjoining uses, thereby reducing overall energy consumption within what is known as a District Energy System. Joe Lerch talks with Executive Director Bob Lazaro, and Senior Regional Planner Dale Medearis with Northern Virginia Regional Commission, about their longstanding work on promoting the use of District Energy Systems as part of an overall energy savings and efficiency strategy for the region. We'll learn how leaders in the data center industry are making this happen, and what local governments can do to facilitate the use of excess heat from their operations. Where to find out more about topics covered in this episode...

- [District Energy Supported by Excess Heat from Data Centers – NVRC Site Visit Markham, Canada](#)
- [District Energy and the Potential for Applications in Northern Virginia – NVRC webinar/ October 22, 2024](#)
- [NVRC Resilience Hub](#)
- [Data Center Proximity to Public Facilities \(interactive map\)](#)
- [District Energy Systems: An Analysis of Virginia Law](#)

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



EQUIPMENT

Quality equipment, ready to go[Popular Equipment](#) [Earthmoving Equipment](#) [Aerial Work Platforms](#) [Forklifts](#) [Material Handling](#)

United Rentals Can Help with Your Construction Projects



5 Essentials Nearly Every Jobsite Needs - United Rentals

Whether you need temporary fencing, portable restrooms, light towers, temporary power or something else, United Rentals is your single-source provider for jobsite equipment and solutions.

www.unitedrentals.com



You are VAcorp

You are not merely a customer of VAcorp; you **are** VAcorp! We are both owned and governed by you – our members! VAcorp is created under 15.2-2700 of the local government code where all assets and surplus belong to the members. In addition, VAcorp is controlled by a Supervisory Board that is elected from and by our members. The Board determines and approves all major risk pool decisions, and as a voting member, you have a voice in the decisions that matter most.

Know Who You Are

Because you are VAcorp itself, we think it is critical that you understand exactly what VAcorp is and why it exists. Many simply think of us as their “insurance carrier” – writing customized coverages and handling claims when they occur – but we are so much more!

Our History

The Birth of Risk Pools

VAcorp is not an insurance company, but rather a Risk Pool.

Unstable economic conditions in the mid-1980s led to a commercial insurance crisis with ballooning premiums and widespread policy cancellations. As a result, Risk Pools began to form as an alternative to volatile traditional carriers, allowing Pool members to exert more control over their coverages and costs. Today, almost all public sector entities throughout the country get their coverage from Risk Pools rather than from commercial insurance companies.

VAcorp's Origin

VAcorp was founded by a handful of Virginia counties in 1993. The ultimate goals of the program were to provide **cost stability**, the most **comprehensive coverages** possible, and **custom services** tailored specifically to the unique needs of our members. While we are pleased by how well our prices compare against the competition, our goal was never to guarantee the lowest cost. Instead, we promised to avoid the wild price swings that we've seen in other providers and provide stable pricing year after year, and that is exactly what we have delivered. VAcorp rates are actually **lower today in 2024 than they were in 1993!**

VAcorp's Growth

Today, VAcorp is the **largest self-insurance risk pool** for public sector entities in the Commonwealth with a membership retention rate of better than 98%. Over the years, we have expanded beyond counties to include municipalities, school divisions, authorities, volunteer fire & rescue companies, state agencies, and non-profits funded by taxpayer dollars. **Over 560 members** have joined VAcorp, including 8 of the 10 largest counties, 8 of the 10 largest cities, and 8 of the 10 largest school divisions. We believe that the extraordinary success of the program can be attributed to our unwavering commitment to our founding principles.

VAcorp Exists to Serve You

VAcorp was created solely to serve Virginia's public sector entities, and from day one until now, we have never lost sight of that purpose. Because we answer only to our members, every decision is designed to benefit the group over the long haul.

VAcorp advocates for local government through a myriad of partnerships with affiliated associations including: VACo, VSBA, VLGMA, VASS, VFGOA, VASBO, LGA, Regional Jail Association, PDC, etc. While there is a cost associated with these partnerships, they add value to the group by aiding in our ability to lobby the General Assembly on behalf of our members.

You may not always see the immediate payoff, but every VAcorp decision is made in alignment with our vision to serve our members and promote the health and longevity of your program.

Take a look at a few of VAcorp's milestones over the years:

- **1993** - VAcorp is established with 12 founding members and less than \$700,000 in annual contribution.
- **1998** - VAcorp terminates service contract with claims administration vendor and hires staff to promote more control and efficiency.
- **1999** - VAcorp offers coverage to K-12 Public Schools across the Commonwealth.
- **2001** - VAcorp begins offering Public Officials Liability coverage in response to VARisk offering limited coverage.
- **2004** - VAcorp begins providing Environmental Liability coverage to all members at no additional cost. Even in 2024, VAcorp is the only provider offering this coverage with a low \$25,000 deductible. Other providers offer this coverage with a \$250,000 deductible.
- **2008** - VAcorp responded to the great recession by freezing rates and providing financial relief with over \$8,000,000 in dividends to members.
- **2011** - VAcorp introduces Line of Duty Act (LODA) coverage, creates the only LODA trust in the state, and absorbs existing LODA losses in response to the state pushing this cost to the local level. VAcorp paid all of its members' 2010 past liability for over \$1,000,000.
- **2013** - VAcorp merges with the VSBA Self-Insurance Group and assumes their liabilities to prevent School Boards from being assessed. This action saves Local Governments in excess of \$5,000,000.
- **2013** - VAcorp becomes the first to offer Cyber Risk coverage in Virginia offering the broadest coverage available to local governments anywhere in the US.
- **2016** - VAcorp offers Student Accident and Catastrophic Accident coverage in order to fill VHSL coverage gaps.
- **2020** - VAcorp provides over \$5,000,000 in rate credits during the COVID pandemic to assist members.
- **2023** - VAcorp includes security risk management coverage (active shooter) for all members (coverage has been included for Schools since 2013).





Equipment Lease-Purchase Financing

Equipment Lease-Purchase Financing is a great tool to make your locality's and school division's budget go further!

Contact us for details.

VML/VACo Equipment Lease-Purchase Financing offers:

- Competitive rates and low closing costs.
- Predictable and level payments.
- Lease terms up to the expected life of the equipment.
- Streamlined process – we handle the details for you.

Budget less in the current year by spreading payments out over the useful life of the equipment – perfect for school buses, fire engines, and police cars.

CONTACT US TODAY

Questions?

Contact Steve Mulroy
804-648-0635

smulroy@valocalfinance.org



Let's Talk Revenue

\$3 Billion & Counting for Local Governments: Maximize the value of your cash with our strategic liquidity solutions.



If you have just 30 minutes to start a conversation, we'd appreciate the opportunity to share (and show) more about the **\$3 Billion+ in new revenue** generated by public entities using our proven solutions—solutions that if we cannot make you money to benefit your bottom line, **cost you nothing**—simple as that.

Just think, what would being able to **fund an entire department** with new revenue mean for your local government **without raising taxes**?

If you can spare a quick 30 minutes to chat, we'd love to share (and show) more about the **value of our team** and services we can provide to your entity.

[START A CONVERSATION TODAY](#)



OneDigital is thrilled to be one of VACo's Premier Partners.

What truly distinguishes OneDigital as a leading **insurance, financial services, and HR consulting advisory firm** is our holistic approach to creating environments that enable people to do their best work and live their best lives. OneDigital understands that counties face rising insurance costs while still struggling to attract/retain talent. This is why we use proprietary software to provide accurate and predictable insurance consulting projections for those core benefits that impact your bottom line and incorporate solutions to improve retention. While voluntary benefits may be the focus of other providers, OneDigital has the expertise in alternative funding strategies, best-in-class analytics, and an in-house actuarial team.

OneDigital has a track record of providing cost-saving solutions to counties. This has been achieved through creative funding strategies, rate holds, and exclusive partnerships with various carriers. One of these exclusive partnerships is through VACORP and Anthem Life. OneDigital is responsible for the inception of the Virginia Local Disability Program (VLDP) which is through the Virginia Retirement System (VRS). Our team of fierce advocates negotiated a 5-year locked rate, including short-term and long-term disability benefits. Your division may already work with us in this capacity, as we currently serve over 270 public sector entities in the VLDP program.



OUR SOLUTIONS FOR EMPLOYERS

MANAGE

Talent Planning
Recruiting
Development & Training

SUPPORT

Benefits & Compensation
Total Wellbeing
Productivity
Retirement Readiness

ENGAGE

Culture
Education & Fiduciary
Literacy
Communications

PROTECT

Compliance
Workplace Safety
Operational Continuity
Cyber Security



Ritter Jonas

Senior Business Development Executive
804.393.2122 | rjonas@onedigital.com



At OneDigital, we harness the power of one to solve complex challenges for businesses and people. Scan the code to the left to watch the video and learn more.

Enter the 2025 VACo Achievement Awards

Deadline is July 1, 2025



Dear **VACo Members** –

It's time for the 2025 Achievement Awards Program. Any county department is eligible to compete so **ENTER NOW!**

[2025 Achievement Awards Submission Form](#)

All entries are required to be submitted in electronic form. No paper copy submissions are necessary. The electronic submissions should be a PDF or WORD file. **Electronic submissions through the link above must be received by July 1, 2025.**

Last year, **[we processed 145 entries](#)** and selected 45 winners from over 30 Counties. VACo presented awards at Board of Supervisors Meetings, recognized winners at the 90th Annual Conference, and issued a news release to statewide media.

The judges for the 2025 Achievement Awards will be announced soon.

VACo has received more than 1,000 entries over the past decade. Last year's Best Achievement winner was **Smyth County** for its "**Smyth Grow**" program.

VACo encourages all Counties, big and small, to enter the 2025 Achievement Awards Program. Please contact **gharter@vaco.org** with questions or for more information.

[Achievement Awards Submission Form](#) | **[Achievement Awards Website](#)**
[2024 Achievement Awards Press Release](#) | **[Past Achievement Award Winners](#)**

Community IMPACT starts here

Life Is On

Schneider
Electric

Introducing Schneider Electric as a New VACo Premier Partner



At Schneider Electric, we're enabling our clients to create best-in-class facilities that deliver a healthy, safe and sustainable future for all. We deliver impact through:



Infrastructure

Our projects can address your deferred maintenance, critical infrastructure, and capital improvement needs with one comprehensive master plan.



Sustainability

Our projects prepare your facilities for a carbon-neutral future with modern, sustainable, and resilient infrastructure.



Funding

Our projects help solve your most difficult financial problems by unlocking unique funding streams like energy and operational savings, grants, generated revenue and economic impact.



**#1 Energy Services
Company (ESCO)** by
Guidehouse Insights.

Let's discuss
your project



Abby Weigel
804-248-0523
Abby.Weigel@se.com



Kevin DeLeon
804.517.2819
Kevin.DeLeon@se.com



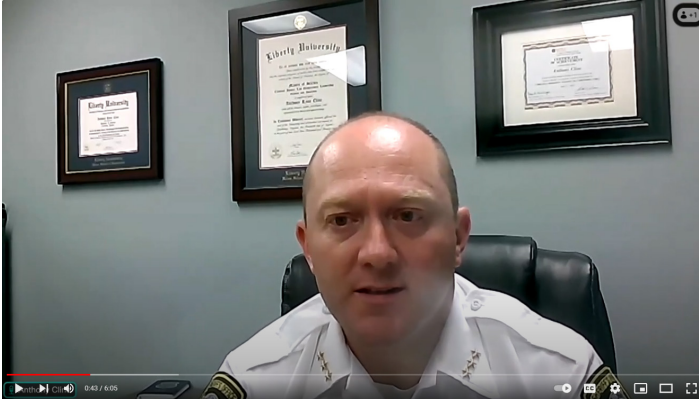
STRATEGIC SUPPORT. PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE. DELIVERED WITH CARE.

KEY SERVICES

BOARD & COUNCIL RETREATS
EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT
FINANCE SUPPORT
GRANT APPLICATION & ADMINISTRATION
HUMAN RESOURCES
INTERIM ASSISTANCE
LAND USE PLANNING & ZONING
ORGANIZATIONAL ASSESSMENT
PUBLIC EDUCATION
PUBLIC OUTREACH & FACILITATION
PUBLIC SAFETY
PUBLIC WORKS
STRATEGIC PLANNING
VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON CONTRACT STAFF

Berkley Group is the go-to consultant for local governments and other public agencies. 100% of our services are dedicated to serving public agencies. We understand local government because we have worked in local government and continue to serve them proudly.

Contact us today at 540-208-5188 or info@bgllc.net for any of your community's needs.



Thank you Wythe County Chief Deputy [Anthony Cline](#) for sharing your experience with Blue Line Solutions!



Thank you Sussex County Sheriff [Ernest Giles](#) for sharing your experience with Blue Line Solutions!

Premier Partner Spotlight

Blue Line Solutions Testimonials

Blue Line Solutions is making a positive impact on communities all over Virginia. In Smyth County - **Blue Line Solutions** recorded during a five-day period that there were 3,530 vehicles traveling through school speed zones at 10mph or higher above the speed limit. That's over 12,000 speeding vehicles a month during school days.

Blue Line Solutions uses information and communications rather than focus on enforcement to reduce speeds in school zones.

During **Blue Line Solutions** Public Information Phase of its program in Smyth County - the number dropped to 213 over a five-day period. That's without writing one ticket. The community heard the problem and reacted to it. During the warning phase - the number dropped to 175. Then during the enforcement phase - it dropped to 72. That's a 98 percent reduction of speeders compared to before the **Blue Line Solutions** program.

"That's absolutely fantastic that we can make a difference in a community," Blue Line Solutions CEO/Founder Mark Hutchinson said.



INTRODUCING A NEW VACo PREMIER PARTNER

Anthony Chapman

National Program Director

NACo Public Promise Procurement

Direct: 804.399.1821

Email: achapman@naco.org

Website: www.publicpromiseprocurement.org

The PPP resource hub is up and available at...

<https://publicpromiseprocurement.org/resourcehub>



The VA250 Mobile Museum: A Classroom on Wheels

Get ready to bring Virginia's history to life! The VA250 Mobile Museum Experience, a hands-on, interactive, and immersive museum on wheels, is coming early 2025. This unique experience will transport students back in time, exploring key stories from every region of the state.

Perfect for:

- **Schools:** Enhance your curriculum with a memorable field trip.
- **Community organizations:** Host a unique event for all ages.
- **Local festivals:** Attract visitors with a fascinating historical exhibit.

Book the museum for your school or community event today! Visit [the VA250 website](#) for more information and to schedule a visit.



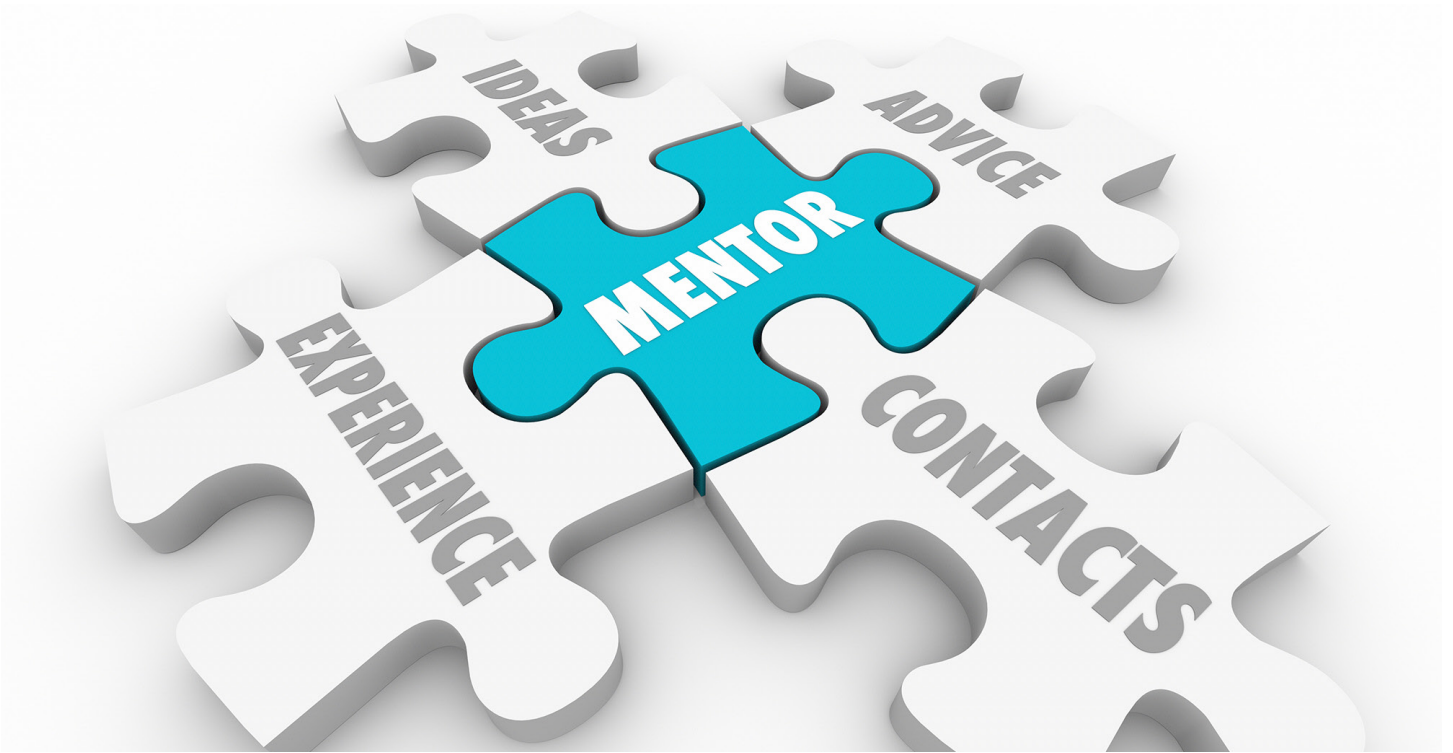
Get your VA250 license plates - now available

Are you ready to show your pride in America's 250th anniversary? The VA250 commemorative license plate is now available for purchase! As a symbol of our nation's rich history and bright future, this limited-edition license plate offers a unique opportunity to drive with a piece of history.

By purchasing a VA250 license plate, you're not only adding a stylish touch to your vehicle, but you're also supporting a worthy cause. A portion of the proceeds from each plate sold will be donated directly to VA250, a non-profit organization dedicated to creating educational programs, events, and exhibits to commemorate America's 250th anniversary.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to own a piece of history and support a great cause. [Visit the Virginia DMV website](#) to purchase your VA250 license plate today.

VACo Seeks to Create Mentorship Program for Supervisors



Dear Members/County Administrators...

VACo is blessed to have many smart and experienced Supervisors. This year we welcomed a slew of newly elected Supervisors, some of whom have expressed interest in being mentored. VACo thrives when Supervisors connect and share experiences and challenges. Therefore, we would like to establish an informal, voluntary mentoring program to offer opportunities for personalized connections among Supervisors.

If you are interested in being a mentor or being connected with a mentor, please contact Karie Walker, kwalker@vaco.org or 804-343-2504.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Karie Walker

Director of Programs and Development
Virginia Association of Counties

Virginia County Supervisors' Manual 8th Edition



AVAILABLE
NOW

Eighth Edition of VACo's *Virginia County Supervisors' Manual* is in stock. The Supervisors' Manual is the number one resource on the framework of county government and the responsibilities of the county board.

ORDER YOUR ALL-NEW VOLUME NOW

ORDER FORM

NAME: _____ TITLE: _____

COUNTY (OR ORGANIZATION): _____

SHIPPING ADDRESS: _____

CITY / STATE / ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Manuals are \$75 for VACo Members. Manuals are \$150 for Non Members.

Number of Copies _____.

Check enclosed for \$_____ Make payable to **VACo Services, Inc.**

If you are paying by credit card, an invoice will be sent you.

Mail completed form to:

Virginia Association of Counties
1207 East Main Street, Suite 300
Richmond, VA 23219-3627

Or FAX form to 804.788.0083 Questions? Call

804.343.2507



The Virginia Association of Counties accepts employment ads in a PDF file or a link to a job site. Please include information for applying, and a link to other important information. Please do not fax your employment ad. VACo members are not charged for placing an employment ad. **The cost is \$100 per ad for non-VACo members.** VACo publishes the ad on its website and mobile app as well as the upcoming County Connections issue. If you have any questions or concerns, please email [Valerie Russell](#).

[CITY ATTORNEY](#) | City of Colonial Heights | Posted April 25

[DIRECTOR OF FINANCE](#) | Lake of the Woods | Allen Austin Inc. | Posted April 25

[ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY](#) | Hanover County | Posted April 24

[PRINCIPAL ENGINEER](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 22

[FINANCIAL SERVICES SPECIALIST II](#) | Campbell County | Posted April 22

[UTILITY PLANT MECHANIC](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 22

[DIRECTOR OF FINANCE](#) | Halifax County | Posted April 22

[MENTAL HEALTH CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICE SUPERVISOR](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 21

[STAFF PSYCHIATRIST](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 21

[CASE MANAGER \(HOUSING CASE MANAGER\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 21

[SENIOR CLINICIAN \(CHILD & ADOLESCENT SERVICES\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 21

[STRUCTURAL BUILDING INSPECTOR](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 21

[SENIOR AUTOMATION TECHNICIAN](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 21

[CASE MANAGER \(SERVICE COORDINATION\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 21

[SEASONAL MAINTENANCE WORKER \(ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 21

[EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES](#) | Spotsylvania County | Posted April 21

[PRINCIPAL ENGINEER \(ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 21

[FAMILY SERVICES SPECIALIST](#) | Montgomery County | Posted April 21

[BENEFIT PROGRAM SPECIALIST I](#) | Montgomery County | Posted April 21

[COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PLAN REVIEWER](#) | Stafford County | Posted April 21

[BUILDING INSPECTIONS SUPERVISOR](#) | Stafford County | Posted April 21

[TRANSPORTATION ENGINEER](#) | Roanoke County | Posted April 21

[PAYROLL COORDINATOR](#) | Culpeper County | Posted April 21

[FINANCE DIRECTOR](#) | Amelia County | Posted April 21

[HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER – PUBLIC SAFETY](#) | Albemarle County | Posted April 15

[ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER INFRASTRUCTURE & CAPITAL PROGRAM DELIVERY](#) | City of Sandy Springs, GA | Posted April 15

[DEPUTY SHERIFF \(ROAD DEPUTY\)](#) | Prince Edward County | Posted April 15

[DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL](#) | City of Harrisonburg | Posted April 15

[SYSTEMS OPERATIONS & GENERATION MANAGER](#) | City of Manassas | Posted April 15

[MHSS EMPLOYMENT SPECIALIST \(EMPLOYMENT TRANSITION SERVICES\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 14

[RESIDENTIAL AIDE \(GALLOWAY\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 14

[SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST \(FINANCIAL OPERATIONS ANALYST\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 14

[RESIDENTIAL AIDE \(PINE FOREST\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 14

[MHSS EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANT \(PART TIME\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 14

[LIBRARY CUSTODIAN \(GENERAL SERVICES/PART TIME\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 14

[EMERGENCY VEHICLE TECHNICIAN](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 14

[SCHOOL BUS TECHNICIAN](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 14

[RADIO ELECTRONICS REPAIR SPECIALIST](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 14

[BUILDING & GROUNDS MULTI SKILLED TRADES WORKER](#) | Prince Edward County | Posted April 14

[HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR – LANDFILL](#) | Prince Edward County | Posted April 14

[PRETRIAL OFFICER – PIEDMONT COURT SERVICES LOCAL PROBATION](#) | Prince Edward County | Posted April 14

[PROBATION OFFICER – PIEDMONT COURT SERVICES LOCAL PROBATION](#) | Prince Edward County | Posted April 14

[DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF THE REVENUE](#) | Prince Edward County | Posted April 14

[COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR](#) | Powhatan County | Posted April 14

[EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES](#) | Spotsylvania County | Posted April 14

[DEPUTY SHERIFF](#) | Madison County | Posted April 11
[CITY ATTORNEY](#) | City of Colonial Heights | Posted April 25

[DIRECTOR OF FINANCE](#) | Lake of the Woods | Allen Austin Inc. | Posted April 25

[ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY](#) | Hanover County | Posted April 24

[PRINCIPAL ENGINEER](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 22

[FINANCIAL SERVICES SPECIALIST II](#) | Campbell County | Posted April 22

[UTILITY PLANT MECHANIC](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 22

[DIRECTOR OF FINANCE](#) | Halifax County | Posted April 22

[MENTAL HEALTH CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICE SUPERVISOR](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 21

[STAFF PSYCHIATRIST](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 21

[CASE MANAGER \(HOUSING CASE MANAGER\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 21

[SENIOR CLINICIAN \(CHILD & ADOLESCENT SERVICES\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 21

[STRUCTURAL BUILDING INSPECTOR](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 21

[SENIOR AUTOMATION TECHNICIAN](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 21

[CASE MANAGER \(SERVICE COORDINATION\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 21

[SEASONAL MAINTENANCE WORKER \(ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 21

[EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES](#) | Spotsylvania County | Posted April 21

[PRINCIPAL ENGINEER \(ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 21

[FAMILY SERVICES SPECIALIST](#) | Montgomery County | Posted April 21

[BENEFIT PROGRAM SPECIALIST I](#) | Montgomery County | Posted April 21

[COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PLAN REVIEWER](#) | Stafford County | Posted April 21

[BUILDING INSPECTIONS SUPERVISOR](#) | Stafford County | Posted April 21

[TRANSPORTATION ENGINEER](#) | Roanoke County | Posted April 21

[PAYROLL COORDINATOR](#) | Culpeper County | Posted April 21

[FINANCE DIRECTOR](#) | Amelia County | Posted April 21

[HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER – PUBLIC SAFETY](#) | Albemarle County | Posted April 15

[ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER INFRASTRUCTURE & CAPITAL PROGRAM DELIVERY](#) | City of Sandy Springs, GA | Posted April 15

[DEPUTY SHERIFF \(ROAD DEPUTY\)](#) | Prince Edward County | Posted April 15

[DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL](#) | City of Harrisonburg | Posted April 15

[SYSTEMS OPERATIONS & GENERATION MANAGER](#) | City of Manassas | Posted April 15

[MHSS EMPLOYMENT SPECIALIST \(EMPLOYMENT TRANSITION SERVICES\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 14

[RESIDENTIAL AIDE \(GALLOWAY\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 14

[SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST \(FINANCIAL OPERATIONS ANALYST\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 14

[RESIDENTIAL AIDE \(PINE FOREST\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 14

[MHSS EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANT \(PART TIME\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 14

[LIBRARY CUSTODIAN \(GENERAL SERVICES/PART TIME\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 14

[EMERGENCY VEHICLE TECHNICIAN](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 14

[SCHOOL BUS TECHNICIAN](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 14

[RADIO ELECTRONICS REPAIR SPECIALIST](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 14

[BUILDING & GROUNDS MULTI SKILLED TRADES WORKER](#) | Prince Edward County | Posted April 14

[HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR – LANDFILL](#) | Prince Edward County | Posted April 14

[PRETRIAL OFFICER – PIEDMONT COURT SERVICES LOCAL PROBATION](#) | Prince Edward County | Posted April 14

[PROBATION OFFICER – PIEDMONT COURT SERVICES LOCAL PROBATION](#) | Prince Edward County | Posted April 14

[DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF THE REVENUE](#) | Prince Edward County | Posted April 14

[EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES](#) | Spotsylvania County | Posted April 14

VALUE OF VACo



ADVOCACY

VACo's lobbying efforts have helped stem the tide of unfunded mandates and have saved Counties millions of dollars every year.



EDUCATION

Our educational programs offer County leaders and staff opportunities to become more effective in their communities.



MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

Some of VACo's best moments are when members convene and work to improve communities all over the Commonwealth.



BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Our business development opportunities offer savings and innovative approaches to delivering services at the County level.

VACo LEADERSHIP



President
Ruth Larson
James City County



President-Elect
Victor S. Angry
Prince William County



First Vice President
Phil C. North
Roanoke County



Second Vice President
Jerry Boothe
Floyd County



Secretary-Treasurer
Donald L. Hart, Jr.
Accomack County



Immediate Past President
Ann H. Mallek
Albemarle County

VACo STAFF

Executive Director | Dean A. Lynch, CAE
Deputy Director | Katie Boyle
Director of Intergovernmental Affairs | Jeremy R. Bennett
General Counsel | Phyllis A. Errico, Esq., CAE
Director of Communications | Anh G. Harter
Government Relations Associate | James Hutzler
Director of Technical Services | John N. Kandris, A+, ACT, CCA
Director of Finance | Sue Klaczynski
Director of Local Government Policy | Joe Lerch, AICP
Administrative Coordinator | Valerie M. Russell
Director of Programs and Development | Karie Walker

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

1207 East Main Street | Suite 300
 Richmond, VA 23219-3627
 Phone: 804.788.6652 | www.vaco.org

County Connections is a semimonthly publication.

