A stylized, abstract illustration of a landscape, possibly a river valley or a mountain range, rendered in shades of blue, green, and yellow. The style is reminiscent of a woodcut or a high-contrast digital print. The illustration is positioned at the bottom of the page, partially obscured by a white curved shape that frames the text above.

ANNUAL REPORT

FY2019

About

RRRC ADAPTS FOCUS AREAS BASED ON THE NEEDS AND PRIORITIES OF THE LOCALITIES SERVED AS WELL AS FUNDING AVAILABILITY. IN 2019, RRRC'S PRIORITIES WERE FOCUSED INTO THE FOLLOWING PROGRAM CATEGORIES: PLANNING, TOURISM, ENVIRONMENTAL, HOUSING, AND TRANSPORTATION.

MANY OF OUR PROGRAMS HAVE THEIR OWN WEB PAGES, SUPPORTING PARTNERS, AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES. LISTED BELOW ARE THE WEB PAGES AND PROGRAM LOGOS MANAGED THROUGH THE COMMISSION.

Staff

PATRICK MAUNEY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MONICA CREEL
PLANNING ASSISTANT

TERRY SNEAD
GRANT ADMINISTRATOR
& FISCAL OFFICER

MICHELLE EDWARDS
ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS
PLANNER II

JOE COSTELLO
REGIONAL PLANNER I

HUNTER BERRY
REGIONAL PLANNER

JENNY BICHÉ
HUMAN SERVICES PROGRAM
MANAGER

COLLEEN VESPERMAN
CENTRAL ENTRY SPECIALIST

KRISTIN LAM PERAZA
TDM COORDINATOR &
MOBILITY MANAGER

Program Sites



WWW.RRREGION.ORG
COMMISSION'S SITE



WWW.FAMS.ORG
FOOTHILLS AREA MOBILITY SYSTEM



WWW.RRCOMMUTE.ORG
COMMUTER TRANSPORTATION



WWW.FOOTHILLSHOUSING.ORG
FOOTHILLS HOUSING NETWORK



WWW.THEVIRGINIAPIEDMONT.ORG
TOURISM



WWW.PURELYPIEDMONT.COM
LOCAL FOOD PROMOTION



TWEED RIVERS TRAIL
crafted in the foothills

WWW.TWEEDRIVERSTRAIL.COM
AGRI-TOURISM



Mission

THE RAPPAHANNOCK-RAPIDAN REGIONAL COMMISSION EXISTS TO SERVE OUR MEMBERS BY PROVIDING PROFESSIONAL PLANNING AND TECHNICAL RESOURCES, A CONCERTED APPROACH TO REGIONAL COOPERATION, PLANNING ASSISTANCE WITH PROGRAM DELIVERY, AND A FORUM FOR THE INTERACTION OF APPOINTED AND ELECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND CITIZEN MEMBERS.

Purpose

“...TO ENCOURAGE AND FACILITATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COOPERATION AND STATE-LOCAL COOPERATION IN ADDRESSING ON A REGIONAL BASIS PROBLEMS OF GREATER THAN LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE. THE COOPERATION RESULTING FROM THIS CHAPTER IS INTENDED TO FACILITATE THE RECOGNITION AND ANALYSIS OF REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND TAKE ACCOUNT OF REGIONAL INFLUENCES IN PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING PUBLIC POLICIES AND SERVICES. THE REGIONAL COMMISSION SHALL ALSO PROMOTE THE ORDERLY AND EFFICIENT DEVELOPMENT OF THE PHYSICAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ELEMENTS OF THE DISTRICT BY PLANNING, AND ENCOURAGING AND ASSISTING LOCALITIES TO PLAN FOR THE FUTURE.” (CODE OF VIRGINIA § 15.2-4207)

Commissioners

ROBERT K. COINER
CHAIR

MEAGHAN TAYLOR
VICE-CHAIR

JERRY WOOD
TREASURER

JOHN EGERTSON & STEVEN L. WALKER
CHRIS HIVELY & MEAGHAN E. TAYLOR
CHRISTOPHER T. BUTLER & PAUL S. MCCULLA
CHRISTOPHER R. MALONE
EVAN H. ‘SKEET’ ASHBY III
BRANDIE SCHAEFFER & JERRY WOOD
JACK HOBBS & CHARLOTTE HOFFMAN
WILLIAM L. LAMAR
JAMES P. CROZIER & R. BRYAN DAVID
ROBERT K. COINER
MARTHA B. ROBY & GREGORY S. WOODS
GARREY W. CURRY JR. & ROGER A. WELCH
FREDERIC CATLIN

CULPEPER COUNTY
TOWN OF CULPEPER
FAUQUIER COUNTY
TOWN OF THE PLAINS
TOWN OF REMINGTON
TOWN OF WARRENTON
MADISON COUNTY
TOWN OF MADISON
ORANGE COUNTY
TOWN OF GORDONSVILLE
TOWN OF ORANGE
RAPPAHANNOCK COUNTY
TOWN OF WASHINGTON

Workshops

HOUSING:

FHN PARTNERED WITH LEGAL AID WORKS, INC. TO HOST 3 WORKSHOPS ON "TENANTS RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES" THAT WERE HELD IN CULPEPER, FAUQUIER AND ORANGE COUNTIES. ATTENDEES WERE PRESENTED WITH AN OVERVIEW OF THEIR RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AS TENANTS AND THEN GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE THEIR SPECIFIC QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

FHN ALSO PARTNERED WITH THE VIRGINIA POVERTY LAW CENTER ON JULY 11, 2019 TO HOST A WORKSHOP ON VIRGINIA'S EVICTION REDUCTION LAWS IN FAUQUIER COUNTY WHERE ATTENDEES GAINED KNOWLEDGE ON THE NEW LAWS DESIGNED TO REDUCE EVICTION RATES THAT WENT INTO EFFECT ON JULY 1, 2019. THE SPEAKER ALSO REVIEWED THE PROVISIONS OF STATE AND FEDERAL FAIR HOUSING LAWS.

TOURISM

WORKSHOPS ON VARIOUS TOPICS DESIGNED TO ASSIST AND SUPPORT AGRI-TOURISM BUSINESSES AND ACTIVITIES IN THE REGION ARE CONTINUALLY HOSTED BY THE REGIONAL TOURISM COMMITTEE. FUNDED IN PART THROUGH RTRC'S USDA FARMER'S MARKET PROMOTIONAL PROGRAM GRANT, THIS YEAR'S WORKSHOPS INCLUDED:

- OWNED, EARNED & PAID: HOW TO MASTER MEDIA & KNOW YOUR AUDIENCE (06.25.2019)

LED BY MEMBERS OF THE REGIONAL TOURISM COMMITTEE, THE WORKSHOP ENABLED PARTICIPANTS TO LEARN BOTH EFFECTIVE AND SUCCESSFUL ONLINE MARKETING STRATEGIES WHILE HAVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO NETWORK WITH OTHER AREA BUSINESSES AND TOURISM PROFESSIONALS. HOSTED AT MORAIS VINEYARDS & WINERY IN BEALETON, VA.

- CONNECTING WITH COMMERCIAL BUYERS (08.07.2019)

LED BY VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SPECIALISTS, THE WORKSHOP INFORMED PARTICIPANTS HOW TO PREPARE FOR NETWORKING EVENTS (I.E. FOOD EXPOS AND TRADE SHOWS), BUILD RELATIONSHIPS WITH COMMERCIAL BUYERS, AND SHARED RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO FIND A MARKET FOR YOUR PRODUCTS. HOSTED AT THE MARKET AT GRELEN IN SOMERSET, VA.



Leadership Awards

RRRC PRESENTS DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP AWARDS TO HENRY LEE AND JUDY CARTER & JOHN MEADOWS

THE RRRC ANNUAL DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP—CITIZEN & GOVERNMENT AWARDS WERE INITIATED IN 2007 TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF MEMBER JURISDICTION CITIZEN AND GOVERNMENT LEADERS WHO HAVE GONE ABOVE AND BEYOND IN THEIR PROMOTION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF ENHANCED REGIONAL COMMUNICATION, COORDINATION, COLLABORATIVE GOVERNANCE AND REGIONAL PLANNING ACROSS THE REGION.



MR. HENRY LEE CARTER AND MRS. JUDY CARTER WERE SELECTED AS RECIPIENTS OF THE REGIONAL LEADERSHIP GOVERNMENT AWARD FOR THEIR MANY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE TOWN OF ORANGE, ORANGE COUNTY, AND THE REGION. THE CARTERS' LEGACY OF STEWARDSHIP AND SERVICE TO THE REGION INCLUDES MRS. CARTER'S 21 YEARS OF SERVICE ON THE ORANGE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD, PIEDMONT REGIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAM, ORANGE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, AND EDUCATION FOUNDATION, AND HER TIRELESS ADVOCACY FOR CHILDREN AND PUBLIC EDUCATION. MR. CARTER SERVED 20 YEARS ON THE TOWN OF ORANGE COUNCIL, INCLUDING FOUR YEARS AS MAYOR, AND HIS LEADERSHIP WAS CRITICAL TO PROJECTS VARYING FROM PUBLIC TRANSIT EXPANSION, WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE TOWNS OF ORANGE AND GORDONSVILLE, AND ROAD IMPROVEMENT AND DOWNTOWN BEAUTIFICATION PROJECTS. THE CARTERS' FOCUS ON COMMUNITY SERVICE, EDUCATION, AND FAMILY WAS THE CORNERSTONE OF THEIR LEADERSHIP IN THE REGION.



MR. JOHN MEADOWS WAS HONORED WITH THE REGIONAL LEADERSHIP CITIZEN AWARD IN RECOGNITION OF HIS PAST AND PRESENT SERVICE ON THE FAUQUIER COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION AND BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS, AND HIS ADVOCACY FOR CROSS-JURISDICTIONAL PLANNING AND COORDINATION BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND ITS NEIGHBORS, AS WELL AS THE THREE TOWNS LOCATED WITHIN FAUQUIER COUNTY. MR. MEADOWS IS A LIFELONG MEMBER AND SUPPORTER OF FAUQUIER COUNTY AND THE REGION AND HAS FOCUSED HIS PLANNING COMMISSION SERVICE ON MOVING FORWARD WHILE PROTECTING RURAL AGRICULTURE AND QUALITY OF LIFE. MR. MEADOWS' SERVICE INCLUDES 20 YEARS ON THE FAUQUIER COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS AND FOR 15 YEARS ON THE FAUQUIER COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION, WHERE HAS BEEN AN ACTIVE CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR ON EACH DURING HIS TENURE.

Hazard Mitigation

THE RAPPAHANNOCK-RAPIDAN REGIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN IDENTIFIES NATURAL HAZARDS LIKELY TO AFFECT THE CITIZENS, ECONOMY, AND INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE RAPPAHANNOCK-RAPIDAN REGION THROUGH HISTORICAL DATA ANALYSIS. IN ADDITION, THE PLAN DEVELOPS HIGH-LEVEL ESTIMATES OF THE POTENTIAL IMPACT OF THE IDENTIFIED NATURAL HAZARDS AND ENABLES PARTICIPATING LOCALITIES TO IDENTIFY MITIGATION STRATEGIES DESIGNED TO REDUCE THE IMPACT OF THESE NATURAL HAZARDS IN THE FUTURE.

OVER THE COURSE OF 15 MONTHS, RRRRC STAFF WORKED COLLABORATIVELY WITH A COMMITTEE INCLUDING PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICIALS, PLANNERS, PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES PERSONNEL, AND LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF TO FORMALLY UPDATE THE PLAN WHICH WAS FORMALLY ADOPTED IN DECEMBER 2018. THE NEWLY UPDATED PLAN ENABLES THE THIRTEEN PARTICIPATING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANT PROGRAMS OFFERED BY THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA).

LOCALITIES 2018 MODERATE & HIGH PRIORITY HAZARD MITIGATION STRATEGY EXAMPLES

- DEVELOP AN EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PLAN FOR THE UPCOMING CHANGES IN FEMA FLOOD MAPPING AND FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAPS (FIRM) FOR PROPERTY OWNERS AND GENERAL PUBLIC
- INCREASE PUBLIC SAFETY AWARENESS IN TRANSPORTATION INITIATIVES
- INSTALL, REPLACE GENERATORS AND/OR RETROFIT FACILITIES TO SERVE AS EMERGENCY SHELTERS
- PREPARE FOR LOSS OF ELECTRICITY AT VULNERABLE FACILITIES
- COORDINATE AND ASSIST WITH EXERCISE AND SCENARIO PLANNING ON AN ANNUAL BASIS
- IDENTIFY/PREPARE EVACUATION ROUTES AND SHELTER LOCATIONS FOR NATURAL OR MAN-MADE DISASTERS
- APPLY FOR AND OBTAIN FUNDING FOR HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION
- WORK WITH LOCAL AND REGIONAL PARTNERS ON WILDFIRE MITIGATION ACTIONS
- UPGRADE COUNTY-WIDE PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO SYSTEM TO A REGIONAL P25 PUBLIC SAFETY GRADE SYSTEM
- UPGRADE INTERNAL GIS TO BE USED FOR EMERGENCY APPLICATIONS
- APPOINT OR ASSIGN A RISK MANAGER TO DEVELOP AN EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAM FOR BUILDING CODE, FIRE CODE, RISK ASSESSMENT, EVACUATION, CONTINUITY
- CONSIDER ACQUISITION, ELEVATION, OR FLOOD-PROOFING OF STRUCTURES WITH REPETITIVE LOSS CLAIMS TO THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM



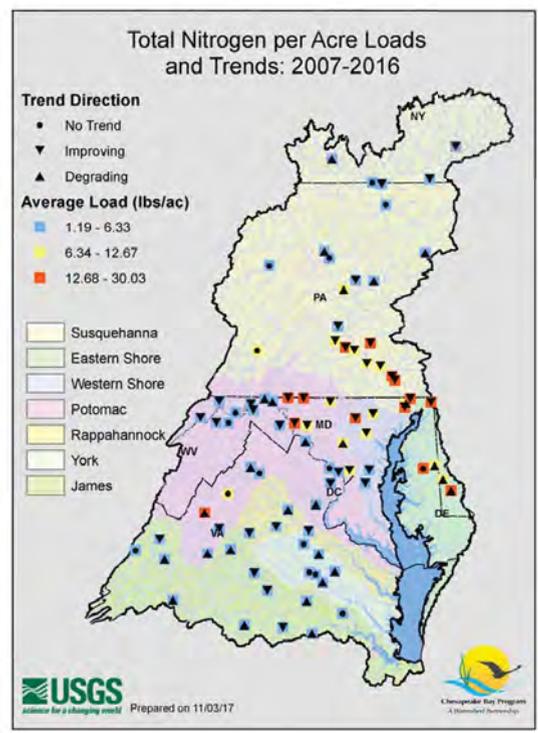
Environmental Planning

CHESAPEAKE BAY WHIP III THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (DEQ), TOGETHER WITH THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION, DEVELOPED THE PHASE III WATERSHED IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (WIP) TO MEET US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) REQUIREMENTS TO REDUCE POLLUTANT LOADS TO THE CHESAPEAKE BAY BY 2025. TO SUPPORT THIS EFFORT, RRRRC COORDINATED THE REGION'S URBAN SECTOR STAKEHOLDER INPUT PROCESS. THIS INCLUDED TOPIC AREAS SUCH AS STORMWATER MANAGEMENT, SEPTIC SYSTEMS, AND URBAN FORESTRY. SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS ADDRESSED AGRICULTURE AND NON-URBAN FORESTRY SEPARATELY THROUGH THEIR CONCURRENT PROCESS.

RRRC COMPILED LISTS OF PROPOSED URBAN BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES, IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES AND RESOURCE NEEDS TO MEET THE REGION'S NITROGEN REDUCTION GOAL. HIGHLIGHTS OF STAKEHOLDERS' RECOMMENDED STRATEGIES INCLUDE:

- DEVELOP A WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE UPPER RAPPAHANNOCK RIVER TO BETTER PRIORITIZE BMP IMPLEMENTATION
- IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE HEALTHY WATERSHED FOREST INITIATIVE
- IMPROVE STREAM MONITORING CAPABILITIES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
- INCREASE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH ON FORESTRY PRACTICES, CONSERVATION LANDSCAPING, SEPTIC MAINTENANCE, COST-SHARE PROGRAMS ETC.
- INCORPORATE WATER QUALITY EDUCATION AND OUTREACH INTO FLOODPLAIN OUTREACH AND OTHER RELATED PROGRAMS
- BETTER TRACKING OF IMPLEMENTED BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES
- EXPAND AND ENCOURAGE USE OF CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAMS
- IMPLEMENT A NO FERTILIZER PLEDGE CAMPAIGN
- ENACT A BAY-WIDE REPORTING REQUIREMENT FOR SEPTIC HAULERS

DEQ THEN AGGREGATED THE REGIONAL INFORMATION FROM EACH PLANNING DISTRICT INTO A STATE LEVEL PLAN, AND SUBMITTED THE DRAFT TO EPA IN APRIL. THE FINAL PLAN WAS RELEASED IN AUGUS 2019. FOLLOWING THE REGION'S WIP III EFFORTS, DEQ CONTRACTED RRRRC TO PROVIDE ON-GOING COORDINATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS FOR IMPLEMENTATION.



Regional Transportation

THE REGIONAL COMMISSION SECURES FEDERAL FUNDING FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF RAIL AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION TO PROVIDE MOBILITY MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE FIVE-COUNTY AREA. THE FOOTHILLS AREA MOBILITY SYSTEM (FAMS) UTILIZES MOBILITY MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES TO ENCOURAGE COLLABORATION, CONDUCT ANALYSIS TO DETERMINE FUNDING PRIORITIES, AND IMPLEMENT TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS. FAMS ALSO SECURES FUNDING AND CONTRACTS SERVICE FOR THE "ONE-CALL" CENTER THAT PROVIDES ACCESSIBLE, EFFICIENT, DEPENDABLE TRANSPORTATION SUPPORT FOR INDIVIDUALS ACROSS THE REGION. IN ADDITION TO INFORMATION AND REFERRAL, FAMS ONE-CALL CENTER SCHEDULES AND COORDINATES 'RIDE REQUESTS' FOR INDIVIDUALS IN NEED OF MEDICAL AND ESSENTIAL TRAVEL, LIAISONS WITH VOLUNTEER DRIVER AGENCIES, AND DISTRIBUTES GAS SUBSIDIES.

IN 2019, FAMS, IMPLEMENTED THE USE OF A CLOUD-BASED DATA SOFTWARE PROGRAM THAT COLLECTS COMPREHENSIVE INFORMATION ON TRANSPORTATION NEEDS. THE PROGRAM SHARES COMPLEX ORIGIN, DESTINATION, MEDICAL REASON, AND DEMOGRAPHIC DATA WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS, STAKEHOLDERS, AND FEDERAL/STATE AGENCIES. IN ADDITION, THE DATA IS ANALYZED TO IDENTIFY SERVICE GAPS, ESTABLISH PRIORITIES, AND INCREASE EFFICIENCY OF SERVICES. THE INFORMATION IS ALSO QUANTIFIED, PROVIDING A FULL PICTURE OF FINANCIAL/COMMUNITY IMPACT OF THE OVERALL MOBILITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM.

Commuter Transportation

COMMUTER SERVICES, FUNDED THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF RAIL AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION, PROVIDES FREE RIDE-MATCHING SERVICES AND GUARANTEED RIDE HOME PROGRAM TO COMMUTERS AS WELL AS A VAN START/SAVE PROGRAM DESIGNED TO SUPPORT AND MAINTAIN VAN POOLS IN THE REGION.

IN FY19, STAFF CONDUCTED OUTREACH ACROSS THE FIVE-COUNTY AREA FOCUSED ON BUILDING AWARENESS AND COLLECTING DATA UTILIZING A NEW 'INTERACTIVE' SURVEY MODEL. SEVERAL PROMOTIONS AND CONTESTS WERE HELD TO BUILD BRAND RELIANCE AND INCREASE ENGAGEMENT. THE PROGRAM ALSO UTILIZED A MULTI-MEDIA STRATEGY FOR ADVERTISING SERVICES, RANGING FROM SOCIAL MEDIA, RADIO, PRINT, DIGITAL ADS, AND MOVIE THEATER COMMERCIALS.



Active Transportation

STAFF HAVE WORKED CLOSELY WITH MULTIPLE LOCALITIES OVER THE LAST FISCAL YEAR TO CREATE A FORMAL ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN.

THE RAPPAHANNOCK-RAPIDAN ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN PROVIDES INFORMATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS THAT GUIDE THE EXPANSION OF A SAFE AND COHESIVE REGIONAL ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM. IN ADDITION, THE PLAN PROVIDES REGIONAL CONTEXT TO LOCAL PLANNING EFFORTS AND IDENTIFIES EXISTING, PLANNED AND NEEDED BICYCLE, PEDESTRIAN, BLUE-WAY AND EQUESTRIAN INFRASTRUCTURE, AND ESTABLISHES LOCAL PRIORITIES AND POTENTIAL LONG-TERM PROJECTS THAT ADVANCE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE REGIONAL ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM.



THE TOWN OF MADISON AND MADISON COUNTY WERE JOINTLY EXPLORING THE POTENTIAL OF ADDING SIDEWALKS TO ENHANCE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AND CREATE NEW CONNECTIONS. THE PURPOSE OF THE REPORT WAS TO IDENTIFY AND ACCURATELY MAP EXISTING SIDEWALK INFRASTRUCTURE, MAINTENANCE NEEDS AND CONNECTIONS THAT ENHANCE SAFETY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL AND QUALITY OF LIFE FOR RESIDENTS AND TOURISTS FOR THE TOWN OF MADISON AND MADISON COUNTY. THE TOWN APPLIED FOR A TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE GRANT TO FUND THE FIRST RECOMMENDED SIDEWALK CONNECTION BETWEEN THE POPLAR RIDGE APARTMENT COMPLEX AND DOLLAR GENERAL.

RRRC WORKED WITH THE TOWN OF GORDONSVILLE TO APPLY FOR A WALKABOUT GRANT OPPORTUNITY AND THE SUBSEQUENT TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT. THE WALKABOUT IS A VDOT GRANT THAT PROVIDES AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS TO EXPERIENCE PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE CONDITIONS, SHARE PERSPECTIVES, AND BUILD CONSENSUS AROUND POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS. THE WALKABOUT REPORT WILL INCLUDE DESCRIPTIONS AND PHOTOS OF THE CONDITIONS OBSERVED DURING THE WALKABOUT. RECOMMENDED INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS ARE ALSO INCLUDED IN THE REPORT. THE WALKABOUT REPORT DATA, MAPS AND RECOMMENDATIONS HELP SUPPORT AND FOCUS FUTURE VDOT GRANT APPLICATIONS INCLUDING TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM AND SMART SCALE APPLICATIONS. SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROJECTS RECEIVE EXTRA POINTS MAKING THEM MORE LIKELY TO BE FUNDED



Housing

FHN PARTNER GROWTH:

THE FHN HAS EXPANDED ITS MEMBERSHIP TO INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES FROM SEVERAL HUMAN SERVICES AGENCIES, NON-PROFITS AND FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS. ELECTIONS WERE HELD ON AUGUST 13, 2019 FOR FY20 AND RESULTED IN JENNY BICHE, RRRRC HUMAN RESOURCES PROGRAM MANAGER BEING APPOINTED AS CHAIR, GINGER MCALISTER, SKYLINE CAP HOUSING DIRECTOR RACHEL HENDERSON BEING APPOINTED AS VICE CHAIR, AND RRCS HOUSING PROGRAM SUPERVISOR BEING APPOINTED SECRETARY. NEW MEMBERS INCLUDE CULPEPER TOWN POLICE, PATH FOUNDATION, CULPEPER HEAT SHELTER, CATHOLIC CHARITIES, VA WORKFORCE CENTER AND THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN SERVICES. THEIR PARTICIPATION HAS HELPED FHN TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THE NEEDS AND GAPS IN SERVICES ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS IN THE REGION. FOR FY19 THE FHN WAS COMPRISED OF 12 VOTING MEMBERS AND 6 NON-VOTING MEMBERS.



CENTRAL ENTRY STATISTICS:

FROM JULY 1, 2108 – JUNE 30, 2019
CENTRAL ENTRY RECEIVED 2,613
INQUIRIES OF WHICH 1,304 HOUSEHOLDS
WERE SCREENED AND CONNECTED TO
INFORMATION AND/OR RESOURCES:

REFERRED TO:

REFERRED TO:	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS:	PERCENTAGE:
RAPID REHOUSING	227	17%
PREVENTION	333	26%
*COMMUNITY RESOURCES IN PD9	474	36%
**OTHER	270	21%

*INCLUDES FAUQUIER DSS GENERAL RELIEF FUND, EMERGENCY SHELTERS, TRANSITIONAL HOUSING, NON-PROFITS AND CHURCHES.

**INCLUDES RESOURCES OUTSIDE OF PD9, LANDLORD LISTINGS, ETC.



Housing

WINTER/SUMMER PIT COUNT SNAP SHOT:

EACH YEAR THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD) REQUIRES LOCALITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN A POINT IN TIME (PIT) COUNT WHERE THE NUMBER OF HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS ARE COUNTED ON A PARTICULAR NIGHT. THIS YEAR THE PIT COUNT WAS CONDUCTED ON JANUARY 23, 2019. HUD DEFINES "HOMELESS" AS ANY INDIVIDUAL SLEEPING IN A PLACE NOT MEANT FOR HABITATION—INCLUDING EMERGENCY SHELTERS, TRANSITIONAL HOUSING, SAFE HAVENS, HOTEL/MOTEL PAID FOR BY A GOVERNMENT AGENCY/CHURCH/NONPROFIT AND THOSE UNSHELTERED (CAR, PARK BENCH, TENT, ETC.).

THIS YEAR, THE FOOTHILLS HOUSING NETWORK ELECTED TO CONDUCT A VOLUNTARY SUMMER POINT IN TIME (PIT) COUNT ON JULY 17, 2019 AND CHOSE TO INCLUDE THOSE INDIVIDUALS LIVING IN HOTELS/MOTELS (INCLUDING THOSE PAID FOR BY THE INDIVIDUAL THEMSELVES) OR DOUBLED UP (LIVING WITH FRIENDS/FAMILY).

WHEN COMPARING THE WINTER AND SUMMER PIT COUNT USING HUD DEFINITION OF "HOMELESS," WHILE THERE WAS ONLY AN 8% INCREASE IN HOMELESS HOUSEHOLDS, THERE WAS A 27% INCREASE IN INDIVIDUALS AND A 49% INCREASE IN HOMELESS CHILDREN.

WHEN FACTORING IN THOSE LIVING IN HOTELS AND/OR DOUBLED UP WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS, THE NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS UNSTABLY HOUSED DURING THE SUMMER PIT COUNT TOTALS 332 INDIVIDUALS INCLUDING 136 CHILDREN.

SURVEY RESULTS IDENTIFIED LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND LIVABLE WAGES AS THE PRIMARY REASONS FOR THEIR CURRENT HOUSING SITUATION.

THE SUMMER PIT COUNT WAS A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT THAT INCLUDED PARTICIPATION AND SUPPORT FROM RRRRC, RAPPAHANNOCK-RAPIDAN COMMUNITY SERVICES, CULPEPER HUMAN SERVICES, FAUQUIER DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, CULPEPER TOWN POLICE, DEPARTMENT OF AGING AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES, PATH FOUNDATION, COMMUNITY TOUCH, CULPEPER HOUSING AND SHELTER SERVICES, FAUQUIER FAMILY SHELTER, SAFE, CULPEPER LIBRARY, MANNA MINISTRY, SEVERAL CHURCHES AND HOTELS/MOTELS.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT RELEASED THE PIT COUNT STANDINGS FOR BOTH THE CONTINUUM OF CARES AND THE STATE OVERALL:

CONTINUUM OF CARE	LOCALITIES	CENSUS	PIT JANUARY 2019
BALANCE OF STATE	12 LOCAL PLANNING GROUPS	1,663,210	761
STATE OF VIRGINIA	ENTIRE STATE	7,947,472	5780
FOOTHILLS HOUSING NETWORK (FHN)	PD9	166,054	170

FOR THE JANUARY 2019 PIT COUNT, FHN HAD THE SECOND HIGHEST NUMBER OF HOMELESS IN THE BALANCE OF STATE AND WAS AMONG HIGHEST IN THE STATE OVERALL.

Local Foods and Agriculture

THE RAPPAHANNOCK-RAPIDAN REGIONAL COMMISSION CONTINUED ITS "PURELY PIEDMONT" MARKETING CAMPAIGN TO PROMOTE THE REGION'S LOCALLY-GROWN FOODS AND BEVERAGES. ADVERTISEMENTS APPEARED AT LOCAL FESTIVALS AND ON BILLBOARDS PROCLAIMING "LOCAL TASTES BETTER," AS WELL AS COMMERCIALS THAT AIRED ON TELEVISION, INTERNET STREAMING SERVICES AND THE CULPEPER MOVIE THEATER.

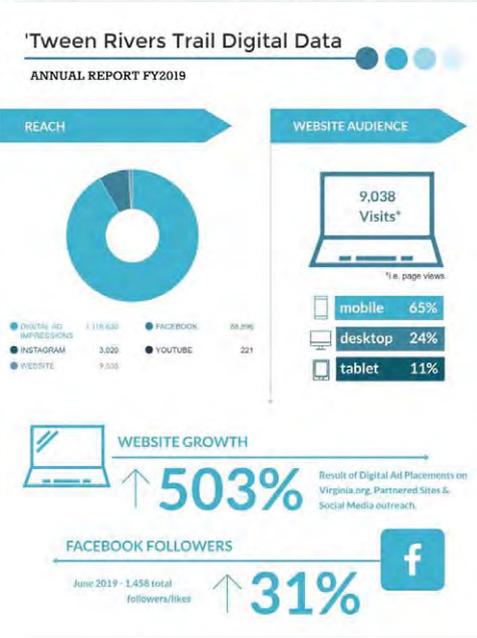
WHILE THE PURELY PIEDMONT REGIONAL LABEL PROGRAM IS NOT QUITE TWO YEARS OLD, IT HAS GROWN TO INCLUDE NEARLY FORTY FARMS AND LOCALLY-GROWN BEVERAGE PRODUCERS. SIMILAR TO THE STATE'S VIRGINIA GROWN PROGRAM, PRODUCERS WHO REGISTER THEIR PRODUCTS WITH THE PROGRAM RECEIVE FREE LABELS WITH THE PURELY PIEDMONT LOGO TO AFFIX TO THEIR PRODUCTS, IN ADDITION TO DIGITAL VERSIONS OF THE LOGO TO INCORPORATE INTO THEIR OWN MARKETING MATERIALS. LOOK FOR THE PURELY PIEDMONT LABEL, VERIFYING THE PRODUCT WAS GROWN IN VIRGINIA'S NORTHERN PIEDMONT.

ADDITIONALLY, THE REGIONAL COMMISSION HAS WORKED WITH THE PATH FOUNDATION TO ORGANIZE REGIONAL FARM TO SCHOOL MEETINGS WITH SCHOOL DISTRICTS, STATE AGENCIES, AND FOOD BUSINESSES. DISCUSSION HAS FOCUSED ON LOCALLY-GROWN FOOD PROCUREMENT AND DISTRIBUTION, WITH THE POTENTIAL OF FORMING A REGIONAL NETWORK. SCHOOL DISTRICTS WERE ALSO SURVEYED TO GAUGE CURRENT PARTICIPATION AND COSTS, AND INFORM FUTURE DISCUSSIONS AT BOTH THE REGIONAL AND STATE LEVEL.



Tourism

TWEEN RIVERS TRAIL



THE REGIONAL TOURISM COMMITTEE WAS AWARDED \$21,012.50 THROUGH A VIRGINIA TOURISM CORPORATION LEVERAGE AND MARKETING PROGRAM GRANT (VTCLMP) IN FEBRUARY OF 2018, ONE OF ONLY 56 IN THE STATE OF VIRGINIA. THE GRANT REQUIRED A 2:1 MATCH (\$42,025) TOTALING \$63,037.50 WHICH HAS BEEN UTILIZED TO CONTINUE MARKETING AND DEVELOPING THE 'TWEEN RIVERS TRAIL AS WELL AS PROMOTE THE REGION'S TOURISM INDUSTRY.

A MIXED MEDIA MARKETING CAMPAIGN CONSISTED OF PRINTED BROCHURES, VIDEOGRAPHY AND PHOTOGRAPHY OF THE REGION AND TRAIL SITES AS WELL AS DIGITAL AND SOCIAL MEDIA ADVERTISING PLACEMENTS IN TARGET MARKETS FOR POTENTIAL VISITORS REACHING NEARLY 100,000 ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND RECEIVING 1.1 MILLION DIGITAL AD IMPRESSIONS. IN 2019, THE TRAIL'S UPDATED WEBSITE HAS RECEIVED 503-PERCENT

GROWTH AND 31-PERCENT INCREASE OF FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS FROM THE MARKETING CAMPAIGN EFFORTS. THERE ARE CURRENTLY 105 BUSINESSES IN THE REGION LISTED AS TRAIL SITES ON THE 'TWEEN RIVERS TRAIL UP FROM NEARLY 80 BUSINESSES LAST YEAR.

THE VIRGINIA PIEDMONT

IN ORDER TO BETTER SERVE POTENTIAL AND RETURNING VISITORS TO THE REGION, THE VIRGINIA PIEDMONT WEBSITE WAS UPDATED TO ENHANCE OUR VISITORS' EXPERIENCE AS WELL AS ENABLE IMPROVED EFFICIENCY TO DIRECT VISITORS TO THE INDIVIDUAL COUNTY OR TOWN PARTNERS' WEBSITES FOR THE MOST CURRENT INFORMATION ON ACTIVITIES IN THEIR RESPECTED COUNTY AND TOWNS.

AS A COMPREHENSIVE OVERVIEW OF OUR REGION'S TOURISM, THE VIRGINIA PIEDMONT WEBSITE SERVES TO INFORM THE PUBLIC OF EACH COUNTY AND TOWN'S UNIQUE TOURISM ACTIVITY OFFERING IN OUR REGION AND INHERENTLY CONNECT THE PUBLIC DIRECTLY TO THE INDIVIDUAL COUNTY OR TOWN FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

Technical Assistance

REGIONAL COMMISSION STAFF CONTINUED TO ENGAGE WITH MEMBER LOCALITIES IN THE PROVISION OF COMPREHENSIVE AND TECHNICAL PLANNING ASSISTANCE THROUGHOUT THE PAST FISCAL YEAR.

IN ADDITION TO ON-CALL PROVISION OF DATA INDICATORS FROM THE U.S. CENSUS BUREAU, VIRGINIA EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION, AND OTHER SOURCES AND GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS) DATA ANALYSIS AND MAPPING, THE COMMISSION ALSO PROVIDES LARGER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS THROUGH AGREEMENTS WITH MEMBER JURISDICTIONS.

FY19 PROJECTS:

*TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION WITH FAUQUIER COUNTY

*CENSUS PUBLIC STATISTICAL AREA PROGRAM (PSAP) COORDINATION FOR CULPEPER, MADISON, ORANGE AND RAPPAHANNOCK COUNTIES AND TOWNS OF CULPEPER, GORDONSVILLE, MADISON, ORANGE, WASHINGTON

*SMALL AREA PLAN COORDINATION WITH CULPEPER COUNTY AND TOWN OF CULPEPER

*UPPER RAPPAHANNOCK WATERSHED PLANNING WITH FAUQUIER COUNTY AND PARTNER AGENCIES

*SIDEWALK INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS FOR TOWN OF GORDONSVILLE

*SIDEWALK INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS FOR TOWN OF MADISON & MADISON COUNTY

*SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE FOR MADISON COUNTY

*COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK PLANNING GRANT ASSISTANCE FOR ORANGE COUNTY

*COMPREHENSIVE PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION WITH TOWN OF WARRENTON

*SMART SCALE APPLICATION ASSISTANCE FOR FAUQUIER COUNTY AND MADISON COUNTY



**RAPPAHANNOCK-RAPIDAN REGIONAL
COMMISSION**
420 SOUTHRIDGE PARKWAY, SUITE 106
CULPEPER, VIRGINIA 22701
540.829.7450

Rappahannock-Rapidan
REGIONAL COMMISSION

@RRRCVA

@FAMSCOMMITTEE

@RRCOMMUTE



WWW.RRREGION.ORG

WWW.FOOTHILLSHOUSING.ORG

WWW.FAMS.ORG

WWW.TWEENRIVERSTRAIL.COM

WWW.THEVIRGINIAPIEDMONT.ORG

WWW.RRCOMMUTE.ORG

WWW.PURELYPIEDMONT.COM



