The heart of Virginia and your gateway to the future.

A great place to live, learn, work, and play!

Photo by Marty Brookhart
Welcome! This 2016 Report to the Citizens of Fluvanna County provides key facts about our County, and highlights some of the many accomplishments during the past year. The 2016 edition was designed and compiled by our Emergency Services Coordinator, Cheryl Elliott, with input from all County offices and agencies. We hope you find this report useful and interesting.

Steven M. Nichols
County Administrator

Fluvanna County Mission
Fluvanna County is committed to providing an excellent quality of life for our citizens and businesses through the delivery of competitive public services and programs in an efficient and effective manner.

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Fluvanna County ... At a Glance
Date Established: 1777
County Seat: Palmyra
Total County Area: 286 square miles
(180,484 acres)
Elevation: 200-550 feet above sea level
Population (2015): 26,014
9,891 households w/ 2.5 persons
41.6 median age w/ 23% over age 60
Major Roadways: I-64
U.S. Highways 15 & 250
State Routes 6 & 53
Major Waterways: James River
Rivanna River
Hardware River
Byrd Creek
Cunningham Creek
Mechanick Creek
Lake Monticello
Major Communities: Columbia, Fork Union, Kents Store, Lake Monticello, Palmyra, Scottsville, Troy, Zion Crossroads
Major Communities: West Central Primary
Central Elementary
Carysbrook Elementary
Fluvanna Middle School
Fluvanna County High School
Pre-K—12 Public School Enrollment: 3,513 (as of Nov. 2016)
Real Estate Tax Rate (2017): $0.907 per $100 (assessed value)
Personal Property Tax Rate (2017): $4.35 per $100 (assessed value)
Number of Fire & Rescue Stations: 5 Fire Stations (Palmyra, Kents Store, Fork Union, Scottsville, and Lake Monticello)
3 Rescue Stations (Palmyra, Kents Store, Scottsville, and Lake Monticello)
Calls for Service: 6,256 emergency calls
(1,854 Fire; 2,644 EMS; 1,758 Law Enforcement)
1,810 911 call volume
Economics: $28,649 per capita income
$63,938 median household income
6.6% persons below poverty line
33.6 min. mean travel time to work
Housing: 93% occupied vs. vacant
82% owner occupied
$215,600 median value
Education: 88.7% HS grad or higher
31.5% Bachelor’s degree or higher

Education in Fluvanna

**The mission of FCPS is for all students to acquire the skills, knowledge, and values needed to reach their highest potential and the confidence to make informed decisions that positively impact their future.**

Fluvanna citizens value education, which is why Fluvanna Public Schools spend the largest portion of the Tax Dollar (36¢ for FY16) on these five Areas of Focus:

**Human Resources:** FCPS will employ and retain a highly qualified, caring staff that are committed to the overall mission and focused on student learning and success.

**Leadership:** FCPS will empower effective leaders to support and shape all stakeholders by inspiring productive dialogue and engagement in the stewardship of all division’s resources.

**Instruction:** FCPS will provide targeted learning experiences that engage, meet individual learning needs, and provide students with the skillset to pursue their passions.

**Diversity and Access:** FCPS will provide each child access to opportunities to reach their full potential.

**Community Partnerships/Stakeholder Involvement:** To acknowledge, increase and sustain, the relationships of the FCPS system within and beyond the Fluvanna county community.

### “Fluco Points of Pride”

- All Fluvanna County Public Schools are fully accredited: one of 39 out of 132 in the state and one of 22 for the past three years.
- 31 FCHS students are named **AP Scholars** for 2015-16 almost a 200% increase from 16 in 2013-14.
- Fluvanna continues to surpass the Nation for **SAT and AP results**.
- **Pre-Engineering Program** is a certified Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Program includes four Dual Enrollment options.
- Operations/Transportation/Food Services-Efficient and Focused-embracing new regulations and vision utilizing locally grown produce/diverse meal plans.

**FLUVANNA COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**State of Imagine - Engaged, Inspired Learning Every Day!**

**Hands-On Fluvanna is the community service day for High School students. This program was highlighted at the VA School Boards Association’s (VSBA) Student Achievement Fair.**

**FLUVANNA COUNTY:**

**Project Highlight: EMS Cost Recovery Program**

Fluvanna County’s EMS Cost Recovery Program is a compassionate model that collects money for system operations from the people who receive services, with the vast majority of the revenues collected directly from Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurance companies. Billing for ambulance transports began in November 2015, after an extensive planning period with stakeholders. For FY16, $250,000 in revenue was budgeted, but the program netted over $387,000. For FY17, $400,000 in revenue was budgeted but over $520,000 is expected to be collected.

According to county ordinance, all fees collected from the cost recovery program must benefit EMS services within the county, meaning “defraying costs and improving services associated with providing emergency medical transport services, including but not limited to capital, facility, vehicle, equipment and supply costs, and professional services.”

Please visit the county website at [www.fluvann-county.org/es](http://www.fluvann-county.org/es) for FAQs, Fee Waiver Form and additional information on the Cost Recovery program.

### Strategic Initiatives Highlights

To fulfill the County Mission Statement, the Board of Supervisors periodically adopts a series of Strategic Initiatives designed to focus Board and staff efforts. For 2016-2017, this report highlights what the County has accomplished in these five areas: Communication, Service Delivery, Economic Development & Tourism, Financial Stewardship & Efficiency, and Project Management.

### Communication

To be effective, the Fluvanna County Board must have a positive and interactive relationship with county residents and be committed to assisting residents gain a greater understanding of county government.

- Created a Community Service Awards Program to allow formal recognition of individuals or groups who, by their personal actions, volunteer efforts, and/or civic or community activities, have made a positive impact in our county.
- Elected Official’s Breakfast for our State Representatives (Sept 2016)
- Local business climate study resulted in Local Business Forum (May 2016)

See back page for County strategies for communicating with residents.
Service Delivery

Reviews how Fluvanna does business and seeks to improve processes, accessibility and systems.

- Improved planning and building inspection procedures, shortening and streamlining the permit processes.
- Implement credit card payments for citizens at all County funds collections points, including Treasurer’s Office, Parks & Rec, and Public Works (for FUSD).
- Improve web-accessibility of all County Personnel Policies.
- Lake Monticello Fire obtains a new ladder fire truck (pictured at right).

Are we efficient and effective? Being efficient is about doing things right. Being effective is about doing the right things.

“How are we doing?”

Conducted Jan-Mar 2017, the results from our brief community survey tell the County what’s going well and where to focus more attention and effort. The survey asked respondents to rate county services and government performance, and to weigh in on priorities supervisors should set for 2017 and beyond.

Quality of Fluvanna County Services - Summary:

- 36% of respondents ranked Fluvanna as a place to Retire.
- 35% ranked Fluvanna as a Great Place to Work.
- 33% ranked Fluvanna as a Place to Raise Children.
- 67% rated the Fluvanna County as a Place to Like.
- 57% ranked County Services with a 9 or 10 on a scale of 1-10. 10 being Excellent.

Pride in our Community

“Hands-on Fluvanna” Parks & Rec orchestrated a community clean up day in conjunction with Earth Day (April 22):

- ~75 volunteers participated.
- Collected 80 bags of trash along route 15 while working in the rain!
- Mulched Carysbrook playground.
- Mulched PG Park playground along with helping dig tree holes along hedgerows.
- Over seeded, strawed and picked up trash along ADA trail at PG Park.
- FCHS Carpentry Club (shed demolition crew) cleaned up the hill behind Commonwealth Attorney’s facility.

Program Highlight: Pleasant Grove Park

New Trail Guide for Pleasant Grove Park completed with the help of the Volunteer Trails Team in March 2016. (Available in Kiosks at the park.)

Dog Park extension:
Project completed by volunteer Matt Kolczynski in July, adding over 47,040 square feet to the three enclosures.

Fitness Trail: Public Works and Parks & Rec constructed a 20-station fitness trail with station equipment donated by Heritage Trail Foundation.

Bike Repair Station:
donated “In Loving Memory of Colonel Jim “Beebo” Bryan” by his family; tools available at the bike station include wrenches, screwdrivers, flat bar, and pump; located at Trail Head near Pole Barn.

Disc Golf Course:
Clearing of trees for fairways has started with 9 holes available for play in August 2017 and additional 9 holes available Spring 2018.

Walter Hussey, Master Gardener, received the 2016 Governor’s Volunteerism and Community Service Award (Apr 18th at the Governor’s Mansion) for planning, mapping out, and implementing the 70-acre Meadow Management Program at Pleasant Grove Park. He was instrumental in developing partnerships with six state agencies and many other organizations to get the project off the ground.
Capitalize on Fluvanna County’s location, heritage, healthy mix of assets, and natural resources to grow, diversify and strengthen the economic well-being of county residents and businesses.

In 2016 the Community Development department (comprised of economic development, planning/zoning and building inspections) was reorganized to strengthen regional collaboration (CVPED, surrounding localities, EDA, Chamber, EDTAC, etc.); to strengthen customer experience in the planning and building processes by streamlining internal procedures; to rejuvenate and actively recruit new business development (restaurant, retail, technology, office and light industrial); to continue to expand Parks & Recreation and community events; and to refocus efforts on tourism (entertainment, heritage, agricultural).

- Created EDTAC – Economic Development and Tourism Advisory Council to assist with website information pages, tourism brochures, and new residents guides (May 2016)
- Celebrated May 2016 as “Virginia Business Appreciation Month” at Community Business Forum
- Fluvanna’s Office of Economic Development partnered with Orange County, Greene County, and Louisa County, Orange Downtown Alliance, Central Virginia small Business Development Center, and Orange County Chamber of Commerce to host a Quad-County Business Summit in October 2016.

Community Planning Areas (CPAs)
Each of the Community Planning areas or CPAs (shown left in cream) have community plans developed to further refine how those areas should grow. Seventy percent of new development is preferred to be in these CPAs. The Comprehensive Plan suggests that:

- Most new growth occurs at Zion Crossroads, which develops into a regional mixed-use center featuring employment centers and a diverse mix of retail opportunities and housing options. The Zion Crossroads Community Planning Area will serve as the county's Urban Development Area, established pursuant to the Code of Virginia, section §15.2-2223.1.
- The current retail centers surrounding Lake Monticello, in the Rivanna community planning area, develop into neighborhood mixed-use centers with smaller-scale retail opportunities and housing options.
- Growth in the courthouse area of Palmyra will be scaled to match that of the surrounding village.
- Fork Union will continue to develop as a village in the core area near Fork Union Military Academy, surrounded by residential neighborhoods.
- Developments in rural areas will be limited to rural housing clusters and limited residential development with a large open-space component.

Program Highlight: Business Spotlight
A new initiative, the Business Spotlight, highlights businesses in Fluvanna with promotions through the county website, in FAN Mail, and in the County Administrator’s Report to the Board of Supervisors.

Highlighted businesses have included:
- Better Living
- Budget Electrical & Mechanical
- Red Rocker Candy
- Cunningham Creek Winery
- Willow Hill Family Farm LLC
- The Golden Fish
- First Run Café
- Jefferson Centre Self Storage
- BBQ Connection
- TOTES McGOATS Body Soaps
- Central Virginia Sporting Clays
- Stayton-Eurell Graphics
- Troy Market Deli Bakery & Penne
- Lane Caterers
- Thistle Gate Vineyard

What’s the Scoop on the Columbia FEMA Mitigation Grant?
- A Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Mitigation Grant of nearly $200K will fund the purchase and demolition of four blighted and substantially damaged structures in the flood plain in Columbia, along with their seven associated parcels.
- The total grant includes about $150K from FEMA federal funds, $40K from VDEM state funds, and $10K from Fluvanna County.
- A new green space amenity will be created for the community and project completion is expected before end of 2017.

Pictured on right are the four structure scheduled for demolition. The map below shows the properties to be acquired through the FEMA grant.
A top priority for Fluvanna is the handling of the County's financial resources and the careful and prudent management of taxpayer funds.

- Identified all sources of revenue the county can use to finance local government programs and services and determined which sources Fluvanna County should utilize.
- Updated and improved web-accessibility of all County Financial Policies.
- 2016 real estate reassessment resulted in ~3.5% increase in real estate values.

### Out of Every Dollar of Local Revenue Collected...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Dollars</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Schools</td>
<td>$32,381,780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health &amp; Welfare</td>
<td>$1,292,652</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Safety</td>
<td>$6,050,098</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-dept.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Works</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital Projects</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic Dev.</td>
<td>$9,100,007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Out of Every Dollar</td>
<td>$66,247,264</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Project Highlight: EnerGov Software

In FY10, the County purchased and implemented "Munis", a comprehensive financial management system. In FY14, the Board of Supervisors approved the purchase of the same system for the Schools. Implementation is targeted for completion by the end of 2017.

In an effort to further integrate and consolidate processes, the County purchased and is in the process of implementing a new comprehensive community development and infrastructure software system that integrates seamlessly with Munis. "EnerGov" will streamline the following County Processes: Plan Review and Submittal, Permitting & Land Management, Licensing & Regulatory Management, and Asset Management.

EnerGov will also allow for collaborative interaction with constituents through EnerGov’s Public Portal. eReviews will allow departments to link the digital review process to GIS which will facilitate a more effective review process.

### FY16 Financial Information

**FY16 Budget — Total Revenues $68,312,005**

- State: $26,350,970 (38%)
- Federal: $2,087,224 (3%)
- Other: $2,598,701 (4%)
- County: $27,281,738 (40%)
- CIP: $1,735,498 (2%)
- Other: $2,018,084 (3%)

**FY16 General Fund — Actual Revenues $46,171,076**

- General Property Tax: $32,381,780 (70%)
- Other Local Taxes: $5,148,405 (18%)
- All Other: $1,378,168 (3%)

- State: $8,186,120 (18%)
- Other Local Taxes: $5,148,405 (18%)
- Other: $1,378,168 (3%)

**Total Debt (as of 06/30/16)**

- School Projects: $37,276,685
- County Projects: $1,735,498
- Parks/Taxer: $2,018,084

**Property Taxes:** $32,381,780

Includes revenues from taxes based on the assessed value of real and personal property owned by businesses, individuals, and public service corporations.

**State Revenue:** $8,186,120

Includes revenues received and designated by the Commonwealth for a specific use by the County.

**Other Local Taxes:** $5,148,405

Includes revenues from such sources as other taxes, permits, fees, fines and charges for service.

**Federal Revenue:** $1,378,168

Includes revenues received and designated by the Federal Government for specific use by the County.

**All Other Sources:** $1,378,168
1 Energy Performance Contracting
Replaces and enhances energy-powered equipment and appliances throughout the buildings and schools in the County.

2 Middle School Renovation
Includes a new HVAC system, roofing, new dropped ceilings, LED lighting, gymnasium flooring and other improvements. To be completed Summer 2017.

3 Route 15 and Route 53 Roundabout Project
Through a VDOT Revenue Sharing Program, constructs a roundabout at the intersection of Route 15 and Route 53. Construction began in the fall of 2016 and the project is scheduled for completion in August 2017. This will be the second roundabout in the County, with one already built at Route 53 and Route 600. A third roundabout is planned to be built by VDOT at Route 53 and Route 618.

4 County-wide Fleet Replacement
In FY13, regularly replaces school buses, Sheriff's patrol vehicles, fire trucks and/or ambulances and various vehicles for Facilities, Building Inspections, Planning, County Administration and the Department of Social Services.

5 County-wide Maintenance, Repair and Replacement (MRR)
There has been continued progress on renovating County government and Fluvanna County Public School buildings, addressing those facilities with known needs within the Capital Improvements Plan and subsequently with funding approved in the budget.

6 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)
Allows the county to build new or expand facilities and services. Includes projects like the Zion Crossroads Water Project, Farm Museum, Public Safety Radio Project, etc. These projects usually cost over $50,000.

What in the world is 5A? Well pump at Morris Well failed and had to be replaced. Pump has been in the well since about 2007, so it’s life cycle was about average for that type of pump. Upon removal of the old pump, it was abundantly clear why it was no longer working. What was not clear, however, was how the particular failure occurred.
James River Water Authority (JRWA) Water System
The James River Water Authority is a 50/50 partnership between Fluvanna and Louisa Counties. This project provides a raw water intake system and pipeline from the James River to serve the long-term water needs of Fluvanna and Louisa County. The project, currently in the design/acquisition phase, will cost ~$8.05 million and take 10-24 months to complete after construction begins.

Zion Crossroads Water and Sewer System
This system will provide water and sewer infrastructure for Fluvanna County’s growth corridor from the intersection of U.S. Route 250/Route 15, going west approximately 3 miles on Route 250 towards Charlottesville and going south approximately 1 mile on Route 15. The design phase was completed in May 2017. The $10 million project will take 18 months to complete after construction begins.

Public Safety Emergency Communications Radio System
Motorola was awarded a $6.6 million contract to build a new P25 trunked public safety radio system for Fluvanna County in 2015. With current reliable radio coverage in only about 35% of the county, a new system has been planned for over 20 years. The contract was amended to build three additional towers (250’-300’) instead of co-locating tower space on commercial towers, which allowed the system to move from a seven-site design to a six-site design. This redesign increased the budget to about $8 million and extended the completion date by eight months (expected completion is August 2017).

Looking ahead to 2017...
- Broadband Taskforce to assess current environment and recommend steps forward for broadband expansion.
- Electronic managing and tracking system for special use permits and subdivisions through new MUNIS module.
- New website design to communicate more efficiently, effectively and economically with Fluvanna residents.
- Energy Project continues to save tax dollars long term.
- New Farm Heritage Museum at Pleasant Grove Park.
- Fluvanna County Master Water and Sewer Service Plan.

By the Numbers...
- 81 Parks & Rec volunteers gave 1,164 hours worth $27,423.84* (first half FY17)
- 81 of Parks & Rec volunteers gave 1,164 hours, valued at $27,423.84
- 14th year of Fluvanna Leadership Development Program (FLDP)
- 387 businesses in Fluvanna with 2,503 employees
- 14th of 54 Million gallons of drinking water produced by FUSD annually.
- 400+ community members hunted eggs at Pleasant Grove (Easter Eggstravaganza)
- 120+ people with library cards
- 400+ attendees at Larsen’s Amazing World of Reptiles (June Library special programs)
- 32 kennel doors installed at Fluvanna SPCA
- Over 7,500 people attended the County Fair
- 23 miles of trails at Pleasant Grove Park
- 54 Facilities owned by the County
- 14th Historical sites in Fluvanna on State and National Registries
- 8th grader, starting in 2012 completed all years in new high school, graduated in 2017
- 108 permits issued for new home construction
- 12th of 133 healthiest localities in Virginia
- 31 FCHS students are AP Scholars for 2015-16
- 180,484 acres in Fluvanna
- 47,040 square feet was added to the Dog Park
- 3,174 Parks, Facility and Equipment Rentals
- 94.4% On-time graduation rate for Fluvanna High School
- 17 feet is flood stage for Rivanna River at Palmyra
- 349 attendees at Larsen’s Amazing World of Reptiles (June Library special programs)
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Fluvanna County wants to hear from you! There are a number of ways to find out what is happening in the community and to let your voice be heard.

Navigating the new County Website

The County website received a major facelift in the Spring 2017, making it more user friendly with easier navigation, streamlined agendas/meetings access, the ability to showcase resident photography highlighting the live, learn, work and play motto.

10 Ways to be Involved...

1. Participate in various surveys, like the 2017 Community Survey (see results on pg. 10) or Broadband Survey.
2. Showcase your photos on the county website.
3. Highlight your business through the County’s “Business Spotlight.”
4. Serve on a board or commission.
5. Give “My Two Cents” about on what’s on your mind.
6. Nominate a staff member for exemplary achievement for the annual P.R.I.D.E. in Service awards.
7. Nominate a community member or group, who has made a positive impact on the County, for a Community Service Award.
8. Get involved with non-profits serving citizens in Fluvanna.
9. Sign up for FAN Mail.
10. Volunteer with a fire department or rescue squad.

Stay Connected with Fluvanna County

There are so many ways to stay connected and share comments about what’s happening in the County.

Deputy Patrick Wood receives the “2016 P.R.I.D.E. in Service” award for saving a man’s life after a gunshot injury.