



May 2020 Update

#NRVStrongerTogether

The New River Valley Regional Commission continues to assist with coordination and provide support where needed as we collectively navigate COVID-19. Along the lines of coordination, the Commission was asked to support the NRV Public Health Task Force in reaching out to partners across the region to identify strategies for transition of our economy and communities. Sub-groups of the task force are working diligently on strategy development currently. The Task Force recently launched a Virtual Town Hall program to share information with the public on a variety of topics including Health Care, First Responders, Local Government, Local/Small Business and Education (K-12, Higher Education). For information about the Virtual Town Hall series, please visit this link <http://montva.com/NRVtownhall> I look forward to serving as moderator for this 6-week series and encourage you to attend to learn about important topics from leaders across the region. The series begins on Wednesday, May 6th at 6:00pm

The Commission is keeping a close eye on resources being made through state and federal funders designed to support economic and community recovery. Three primary funding sources we are tracking include the US Economic Development Administration, Community Development Block Grants and GO Virginia. Potential projects will be developed in coordination with the local government managers and economic development partners across the region. Two CDBG Letters of Intent were submitted recently to support the Regional Drive Through COVID-19 Testing along with Food Security partnerships at Millstone Kitchen.

Lines of communication among leaders across the region are wide open and occurring frequently. For instance, the local government managers and New River Health District meet via conference call three times per week and have been doing so since mid-March. If you see

an opportunity for collaboration particularly for economic/community recovery, please reach out. #NRVStrongerTogether

Floyd CDBG Application

In partnership with Floyd Initiative for Safe Housing (FISH), Floyd County is applying for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds through the Department of Housing and Community Development. FISH, a local, grassroots housing initiative, was formed in 2017 to provide critical home repair for Floyd residents using volunteer labor and donated materials. Their efforts help Floyd County lay the groundwork for a \$1,000,000 county-wide housing rehabilitation grant, to be submitted at the end of April. CDBG funding is now available for scatter-site projects, which best suits the rural nature of Floyd. The County's application is slated to serve 15 low-to-moderate income households with the opportunity to reapply for future rounds of funding.

For further information, please contact Jennifer Wilsie (jwilsie@nrvc.org), 540-639-9313.



Montgomery County Land Use Development Guide

The New River Valley Regional Commission has been working with Montgomery County over the past year to create a land use development guide. Land use classifications are intended to guide development within a community, in order to achieve and maintain quality, livability, and attractiveness. All properties within Montgomery County are designated with a specific land use category. Land use designations recognize existing uses, accommodate orderly growth, protect the natural environment, and identify suitability of development. The land use development guide is being developed in conjunction with the Montgomery Matters campaign as a tool to better communicate types of future development in each of the six villages.

For further information, please contact Nicole Hersch (nicole@nrvc.org), 540-639-9313.



MIXED RESIDENTIAL



DESIGN GUIDELINES

Building Heights



Building Types



Density



#TRASHTAGNRV

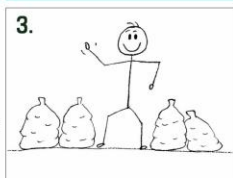
GRAB A FAMILY MEMBER OR GO SOLO



JOIN THE "VIRTUAL" CLEAN-UP COMMUNITY

SOCIAL DISTANCING IS IN

1. Take a photo of a messy, litter ridden landscape.
2. Grab some trash bags (leave your friends at home).
3. Clean-up (wear personal protective gear, gloves, close-toed shoes, sunscreen).
4. Take a selfie with your trash collection.
5. Dispose of your trash bags in an appropriate trash collection bin.
6. Post your photo online using #trashagnrv.
7. Celebrate! you did something great for your community!



Start Teleworking Now.

Visit ridesolutions.org/telework to learn how.

Still Have Questions About Successful Teleworking?

All across the region many businesses and organizations are implementing telework as a strategy to ensure safety to the community and their employees. We are happy to see so many people making a concerted effort to keep their employees safe and still be productive during this public health crisis. Whether you've already implemented an emergency telework program or not, we're here to help businesses troubleshoot the challenges of a new teleworking strategy. We can offer technical assistance and connect

#TrashTagNRV

The New River Valley Regional Commission, in partnership with the New River Watershed Roundtable, recently launched the #TrashTagNRV campaign. Regional watershed clean-ups were cancelled in response to the social isolation requirements

of COVID-19, but folks can still get outside and clean-up on their own. To participate in the #TrashTagNRV campaign follow these simple steps using social media: 1) Post an image of a litter ridden landscape, 2) Accompanying image showing you with your trash bags, post clean-up, 3) Remember to use #TrashTagNRV when you post! Paul Moody, of New River's Edge and ReNew the New Committee in Giles County, was so pleased with the idea of the campaign, he donated 10 weeks worth of prizes. Weekly drawings of a gift certificate for two people to enjoy floating the New River will be held each Monday. The final drawing to be held on June 29th.

For further information, please contact Nicole Hersch (nicole@nrvc.org), 540-639-9313

you to more in-depth resources in the short-term. When the time is right, we'll also work with you to develop post-COVID19 policies to retain the benefits and telework offered and troubleshoot the problem spots.

For further information, please contact Christy Straight (cstraight@nrvc.org) or James Jones (jjones@nrvc.org), 540-639-9313

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