



2025 Annual NRVRC Awards

Help us recognize the people who make an impact in the New River Valley! We need you to nominate worthy candidates for this year's awards program. The Commission is accepting nominations for our regional awards until **August 15th**. Award recipients will be honored in the Fall of 2025. Please click on the links below to nominate candidates for Champion of the Valley (elected/appointed official), Citizen of the Valley, and Friend of the Valley (outside the region).

[Champion of the Valley-Elected/Appointed Official \(nominate here\)](#)

Previous award recipients include:

2014 Mr. Joseph Sheffey

Pulaski County Board of Supervisors, retired

2015 Mr. Rick Boucher

U.S. House of Representatives 1983-2011

2016 Delegate Joseph Yost

12th House District of Virginia 2012-2018

2016 Mr. William Brown

Montgomery County Board of Supervisors, retired

2017 Mr. Chris McKlarney

Giles County Administrator

2018 Ms. Susan Kidd

Town of Narrows

2019 Delegate Nick Rush

7th House District in Virginia

2020 Mr. Chris Tuck

Montgomery County Board of Supervisors, retired

2021 Mr. Craig Meadows

Montgomery County

2021 Ms. Lydeana Martin

Floyd County

2022 Ms. Penny Franklin

Montgomery County School Board

2023 Delegate Jason Ballard

12th House District in Virginia

2023 Mr. Robert Graham

Superintendent Pulaski County Schools

2024 Mr. Jonathan Sweet

Pulaski County Administrator

[Citizen of the Valley \(nominate here\)](#)

Previous award recipients include:

2014 Dr. Charles Steger

Virginia Tech President

2015 Mr. Ken Anderson

CEO, Anderson & Associates, Inc.

2016 Ms. Penelope Kyle, JD

Radford University President

2017 Mr. Woody Crenshaw

Floyd County Entrepreneur

2018 Mr. David Hagan

Business Owner / Investor

2018 Ms. P. Buckley Moss

Artist / Philanthropist

2019 Mr. Raymond Smoot

Community Leader

2020 Mr. Bill Ellenbogen

Community Advocate

2021 Ms. Shelly Fortier

Habitat for Humanity of the NRV

2021 Mr. John Dooley, PHD

Virginia Tech Foundation

2022 Mr. Janaka Casper
Community Housing Partners

2023 Ms. Cathy Hanks
Friends of Peak Creek & New River Conservancy

2024 Dr. Pat Huber
New River Community College

2024 Ms. Sandra Davis
Community Leader

[Friend of the Valley \(nominate here\)](#)

Previous award recipients include:

2016 Mary Moody Northen Foundation
Mountain Lake Lodge

2017 Mr. Bill Shelton
Director of the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development

2019 Mr. John Smolak, III
Appalachian Power

2022 New River Conservancy



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