



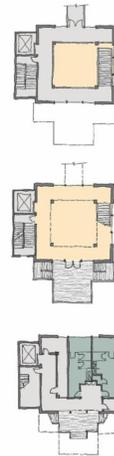
## August 2021 Update

### Giles County Trail Center concept

The Regional Commission is excited to partner with Friends of Southwest Virginia and Giles County on the development of a new River/Trail Center. The project will break ground this Fall on the grounds of historic Mountain Lake property. The Center is anticipated to serve as a nucleus for information on the myriad of outdoor recreation opportunities and services in Giles County. Shuttle services will connect visitors to hiking trails, mountain biking systems, and paddling launch locations throughout the County.

A second phase of the project will create a new trail that connects the Center to Mountain Lake Lodge and the peak of Bald Knob. The Commission is pleased to support this project by assisting with environmental coordination and other regulatory compliance requirements. Within the next year or two, this fantastic outdoor recreation asset will be available in the New River Valley!

For further information, please contact Elijah Sharp ([esharp@nrvrc.org](mailto:esharp@nrvrc.org)) 540-639-9313.





## Business Continuity Team- Workshop Series

The BCT in partnership with the Small Business Development Center will hold a workshop series for business owners/managers/HR personnel on how to make your business resilient beyond COVID-19 on Monday August 16th and Wednesday August 18th from 3:00 to 4:30pm. The workshop on Monday will focus on keeping your data safe (cybersecurity) and the workshop on Wednesday will focus on crisis communication-tips for creating and delivering key messages to your customers, media and other stakeholders. There will be limited seating for in person attendance and unlimited for zoom attendees. Stay tuned for future workshop topics throughout the fall.

For further information or to request specific support, please contact Ashley Briggs ([abriggs@nrvc.org](mailto:abriggs@nrvc.org)) 540-639-9313.

**AUGUST 16TH AND 18TH**  
**3:00 – 4:30PM EST**

**Making Your Business Resilient beyond COVID-19**

Topics to choose from:  
Keeping Your Data Safe {Cyber Security}  
Crisis Communication-tips for creating and delivering key messages  
to your customers, media and other stakeholders

For more information contact:  
Ashley Briggs, MPH  
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[abriggs@nrvc.org](mailto:abriggs@nrvc.org)

Be committed.  
Be well.

# Calfee Community Center Nature Playspace Design Charette

The Regional Commission recently facilitated a design charette held at the future Calfee Community & Cultural Center (CCCC), with the intention to reflect on the past and plan for the future of the outdoor spaces. The future CCCC will be the home of the Chauncey and Lucy Harmon Learning Center, which will offer high quality early childhood education, across income levels. The children served by the center will have two natural outdoor playspaces, designed to foster creativity and an appreciation of nature. Charette participants included past Calfee Training School students, CCCC board members, local educators, parents, government officials, and community members. The afternoon offered an opportunity to reminisce about play at The Calfee Training School, which educated African American children in Pulaski from 1894 to 1966.

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



## Broadband Internet Project in Giles County

PemTel, the Regional Commission, Appalachian Regional Commission, Department of Housing and Community Development, and Giles County have formed a partnership to provide reliable internet to rural areas. Forty-five homes located on Painter's School Rd., Commissary Hill Rd., and Rocky Hollow Rd. will benefit from this project. Area residents will receive access to reliable highspeed broadband. Construction expected to begin in early 2022 will expand coverage by connecting residents to the existing network in the town of Pembroke.

Once the project is completed, broadband speeds are expected to be 25/3 or better. This speed is consistent with Federal Communication Commission's defined broadband classification. The improved internet speeds are intended to enable telework and remote learning activities for those living within the project area.

For further information, please contact Summer Bork ([sbork@nrvc.org](mailto:sbork@nrvc.org)) 540-639-9313.

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