



April 2020 Update

The New River Valley has a long history of working together to improve the lives of those who call the region home. The collective response to COVID-19 in the region over the past several weeks follows suit. Everyday there are new stories emerging from around the region of innovative approaches to address challenges many of us were not considering a little over a month ago.

The Regional Commission continues to provide the backbone coordination role among our members to help them navigate these unprecedented times. Starting three weeks ago, the Commission hosts a conference call three times per week between local government managers and the New River Health District leadership. As a result of the regular conference calls, the Commission prepared a local government policy repository. The local governments are utilizing this resource as they are exploring new policies, programs and innovative ways to navigate the current challenges.

The Regional Commission remains focused on serving our members and partners. If our team can be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to call on us.

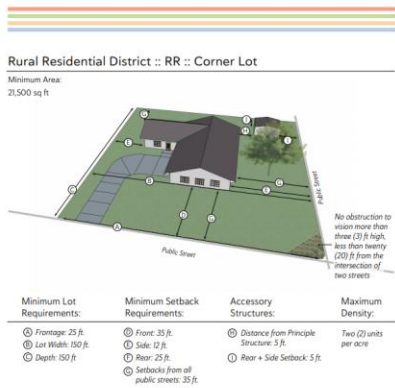
Town of Pulaski Land Development Guide

The Town of Pulaski and New River Valley Regional Commission are in the final phase of developing a Land Development Guide that clearly outlines the development review process and application requirements, and helps applicants understand the Zoning Ordinance. The illustrations in this guide provide descriptions of key zoning requirements and parameters. Example illustration is shown below:

For further information, please contact Aphi Fancon (afancon@nrvc.org), 540-639-9313.

NRVRC hosts CEDS committee for 2020 update process

The NRVRC is in the process of updating the New River Valley Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) document for 2020. The CEDS provides a review of economic data and conditions for NRVRC jurisdictions, identifies goals and strategies that help to address these regional issues, and prioritizes regional economic development projects that the region can undertake to achieve these goals. The CEDS documents from previous years are



available on our website: <http://nrvc.org/what-we-do/economic-development/comprehensive-economic-development-strategy/>.

A key step in updating the CEDS each year is to reconvene the CEDS committee, a group of 25+ volunteers who represent organizations around the New River Valley. [Full Text...](#)

For further information, please contact Patrick O'Brien (pobrien@nrvc.org), 540-639-9313.



RIDE Solutions Bike Valet

If you have cyclists coming to your event, you need bike valet. RIDE Solutions offers a bike valet setup for special events to community groups. This bicycle parking creates an opportunity for your organization to market to cyclists who may wish to ride their bike to your event instead of driving their car. With the dedication of 12x12 space, you can reduce the amount of car traffic and associated parking and offer a distinctive amenity to attendees. RIDE Solutions' staff will deliver the valet, assist with setup and takedown, and train volunteers, with on-call support during the event. The event organizer provides a secured location and volunteers to staff the valet stand for the event.

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

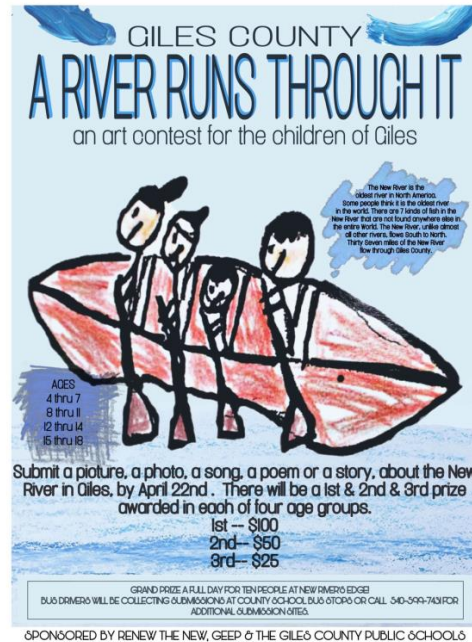




NRV Commerce Park Smooths the Path for New Tenants

Virginia's First RIFA is grading 20 acres at the New River Valley Commerce Park to make a site build-ready for its newest tenant Patton Logistics. Thanks to a \$364,000 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission, it's possible for Virginia's First to prepare an industrial site for the Park's second tenant now and have the facility operational by the last quarter of 2020. Patton Logistics will invest \$12 million and employ 33 people over the next three years. The Commission is providing grant administration for the project.

For further information, please contact Christy Straight (cstriaght@nrvc.org), 540-639-9313



People all over the region are flexing their creativity as we adapt to new ways of doing things in light of COVID-19. Giles County recently launched a creative way to engage kids while they are away from school with an art contest, "A River Runs Through It". Students of all ages will be able to turn in their New River inspired artwork at county school bus stops when lunches are delivered. Children of Giles: submit your picture, photo, song or poem of the New River and enter for a chance to win cash prizes, as well as the Grand Prize, a day at New River's Edge for 10 people!