

GOOCHLAND OBSERVER

Informative Annual Newsletter for the Residents of Goochland County - 2015



Your Government Citizen & Business Services Your Community Transparency How Do I...

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www.goochlandva.us



Let Us Know



My
Government Services



Find Us



Stay Informed



What an amazing summer for Goochland County and the Parks, Recreation and Facilities department! Over 14,000 people celebrated the Fourth of July in the heart of the County and summer camps were at maximum capacity. Parks and Recreation saw a record number of program-registered participants, facility users, and department revenue generated during fiscal year 2015.

Be sure to check out our Program Guides for information on programs, sports, and special County events! Don't miss the annual Fall Festival scheduled for Saturday, October 31st from 12-4 pm and the annual Christmas Tree Lighting scheduled for Friday, December 4th from 6:30- 8 pm.

Park and facility developments are in the works!

*A portion of Leakes Mill Park phase 2 is under construction including a new concession stand and restroom facility. The building should be ready in time for the fall soccer season. Volunteers are hard at work designing and installing new multi-use trails on the north side of the park.

*Work also continues on our East End Trails from Broad to Route 6!

*Efforts are underway for the non-motorized boat ramp for the eastern side of Tucker Park. This 10-12 foot ramp will allow access to the James River from the Goochland side and will serve canoe and kayaking enthusiasts without the intermingling of motorized boating use across the river. An early spring opening is anticipated.

*Matthews Park, a 36 acre community park, is currently under development as well. The park located near the intersection of Haddensville-Fife Road and Matthews Road will consist of a playground, parking space for 10 vehicles, walking trails, and a picnic shelter. A late fall, early spring opening is expected.

<http://goochlandva.us>



County Board of Supervisors

- Susan F. Lascolette (District 1), Chair
susanl@goochlandva.us
- Robert Minnick (District 4), Vice-Chair
rminnick@goochlandva.us
- Manuel Alvarez, Jr. (District 2)
malvarez@goochlandva.us
- Ned S. Creasey (District 3)
ncreasey@goochlandva.us
- Kendall C. Peterson (District 5)
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County Admin Departments

- Board of Supervisors 556-5811
- Building Inspections 556-5815
- Commissioner of Revenue 556-5807
- Community Development 556-5860
- Community Services 556-5400
- County Administration 556-5811
- County Assessor 556-5853
- County Attorney 556-5877
- Economic Development 556-5861
- Environmental Land Development Review 556-5860
- Finance 556-5801
- Goochland Anti-Litter & Recycling Council 556-5850
- GIS office 556-5832
- Health Department 556-5843
- Human Resources 556-5831
- Information Systems 556-5808
- Office on Youth 556-5875
- Parks, Recreation, & Facilities 556-5854
- Planning and Zoning 556-5860
- Public Utilities 556-5835
- Purchasing 556-5802
- Registrar 556-5803
- Social Services 556-5880
- Solid Waste & Recycling 556-5860
- Treasurer's office 556-5806

Susan Lascolette - District 1



Goochland County's future is bright. While national, state, and regional levels of government are unsettled to say the least, we can report that the "state of the county" is great. All measurements indicate a healthy, robust, and financially stable government. Local governments are responsible for providing services and finding ways to pay for them. Our cost for county services (tax rate) has remained steady for many years, even while spending has increased by double digits for education and public safety. We expect that our tax rates will remain low and stable through prudent budgeting and planning.

We anticipate many wonderful improvements in the coming years.

The Hadensville Company 6 Fire Rescue Station construction is underway. We will soon award the construction contract for the Emergency Operations Center. Renovations to Central High School are in committee. A new animal shelter is in the concept stage. Goochland Elementary School will receive needed renovations. We are partnering with the Goochland Historical Society to enhance the Courthouse lawn. We are improving the efficiency and performance of our water and sewer utility system.

Our Strategic Plan lists our core values of: Stewardship, Transparency, Honesty and Integrity, Respect for Others, and Courage. I believe that as long as we adhere to these principles, good things will happen.

The involvement, passion and creativity of our county staff, school district employees, volunteers, board members, business leaders, and community partners is the "secret sauce" that makes Goochland such a special place. Thank you. It is a pleasure serving you.

Bob Minnick - District 4



A huge Thank You! to all the Goochland County residents who generously donate their time and energy by serving the community in so many different ways. It would not be possible to list the entire individual acts of kindness and selfless service by so many, however, what you do does not go unnoticed and the impact is substantial. Thank you again.

Goochland continues to be one of the most attractive places in the region to live, play, and work. Together, the community has rallied around common principles to preserve and enhance the aesthetics and atmosphere of where we live.

For those new to the community, everyone welcomes you to Goochland. I hope you'll join and contribute to the frequent discussions about what is happening in your community and continue to seek out opportunities to serve your fellow residents. If you're a long-time resident, your insights and expertise are critical in shaping the dialogue on many important topics now and in the future.

As my peers have probably indicated in their columns in this newsletter, it has been a high honor to serve as your Supervisor. It has indeed been a unique, once in a lifetime experience, and each day comes with a commitment to serve you in the most effective way possible, to make your local government "work" for you, to protect the community's safety and wellbeing, and to ensure that each decision reached is done so with everyone's interests in mind.

From our family to yours, all the best wishes.



One of the crown... the County was a... Standard & Poor's... is the steady gro... Office and Fire-Re... several years. I re... be there when the... Other notable ac... Master Plan that v... forward. Further... Feasibility' study... Courthouse area... I am also excited... Recreation and th... Park at Maidens C... erfront park inclu... launch on the eas... Finally, the County... this is all thanks a... land. Most of all,... not for you, the ci... Thank you for this... Goochland County



Goochland County Board of Supervisors

Joint Board of Supervisor & School Board Town Hall Meetings in October

District 5	October 8th	7 p.m.	Company 1 Fire
District 2 & 3	October 20th	7 p.m.	Goochland Library
District 4	October 22nd	7 p.m.	Grace Chinese Baptist Church
District 1	October 26th	7 p.m.	Byrd Elementary School

Ned Creasey - District 3

Reflecting back on the past four years and the end of my second term as your Supervisor, it is amazing to see what we have accomplished. As a resident who has lived here for 45+ years, I am proud of the improvements we have made for our fellow citizens.

Everything that has been accomplished is a result of team work between the Board of Supervisors, School Board, elected officials, and County staff. Everyone brought unique skills and abilities to the table enabling us to keep moving forward.

Major achievements occurred in February 2015 when we were assigned the highest credit rating possible of AAA by Moody's Rating Services. Another notable accomplishment was the growth in public safety coverage for both the Sheriff's Office and the Fire Department that has occurred as part of the budget the past four years. We remain committed to ensuring that these services will continue to be the citizens most need them.

Other achievements include the recently completed Utility Plant which will serve as a guide for Utilities Department moving forward. The Utilities Department has begun a 'Courthouse' project that will focus on future wastewater capacity in the future.

Looking about the progress that Goochland County Parks & Recreation and the Friends of Goochland Parks have made at Tucker Crossing. Future improvements planned for the river include an improved parking lot and a kayak and canoe launch on the northern side of Maidens Road.

The budget process has been transparent and smooth; a testament to the teamwork of everyone here in Goochland. None of this could have been accomplished were it not for the citizens, who we serve.

It is an honor and I look forward to continuing to improve Goochland County on your behalf.

Ken Peterson - District 5



Goochland is a wonderful county. And it is my high honor and genuine pleasure to serve on the county Board of Supervisors from District 5. When I joined the Board, we set out to deliver the kind of government all deserve, but few seem to receive. A government that is efficient, effective, transparent and accountable. One that serves the best interest of its constituents.

I am pleased to report we have accomplished much of what we set out to do. We have enhanced the efficient and effective delivery of core government services by investing heavily each year in additional people and equipment for Fire and EMS services, the Sheriff's Office and our public schools, without raising real estate taxes. Our tax rate of 53 cents per \$100 remains among the lowest in the region. Transparency and accountability have been enhanced by live video streaming meetings, posting the County's check registry on line and conducting 35 district level town hall meetings. The County's financial position is the strongest it's been in years. We refinanced our service district debt saving millions of taxpayer dollars, our annual financial audit report was clean, we added to our financial reserves, and earlier this year we earned a AAA credit rating from S&P. This has stimulated economic development and enabled additional investments in the quality of life in Goochland. Of course there is always more to be done. In Goochland, we are blessed with citizens that are engaged in the process; voting in record numbers, volunteering to serve on boards and commissions, and providing valuable input during town hall meetings and public hearings. Thank you for your participation.

Manuel Alvarez - District 2



These four years have been a wonderful experience.

We've had a very good four years. We've been able to accomplish most of what we promised without raising taxes and without cutting services. I promised you as I campaigned with Kevin Hazzard that we would work well with the School Board and we've done that. Each year we've increased funding for schools. In turn, the School Board and administration have been able to do some wonderful things with it. It's been a pleasure working with your School Board and seeing what they have accomplished and the future they are building.

I promised you transparency, but even I didn't think we would hold 35 Town Hall meetings, yet we have and will continue to do so. The refinancing of the Tuckahoe Creek debt and the AAA credit rating set the stage for development to take place where we want it; in

West Creek and Centerville. Not only does the growth help create jobs and opportunities for our citizens; it helps to pay for your investment in water and sewer infrastructure.

The card I left you when I campaigned said that I would "relentlessly pursue high speed internet access" and I have done that. While progress has been slower than I hoped, we've had some success and I am committed to continuing to work to solve this issue. Please stay tuned for more information on this shortly.

We have accomplished a great deal over the last four years, but we couldn't have done it without the creativity, passion and determination of our employees, our county administration, our constitutional officers, and our volunteers, without whom we would not be the community we are. Thanks for everything you do to make our county a great place to live.

I thank you for trusting me with your vote and giving me the honor of serving as your representative.

What's Happening in Economic Development

'The Notch' the newest phase of development in West Creek continues to attract new business. Earlier this year the Medarva building, the first building of the West Creek Medical Park, received its Certificate of Occupancy. The Medarva building is the new home for Virginia Physicians for Women. Currently with 27 physicians and growing, VPFW operates six offices in the Richmond area, including three in the West End. According to their Chief Operating Officer, Ronnie Milligan, "We actively evaluated five different sites before we decided on The Notch at West Creek," "We wanted to be in a high-volume, high-visibility area that was easily accessible and part of a medical park destination. We feel strongly that we have found that at the Notch at West Creek Medical Park." Convenience and quality, all in one compassionate package!

Across Wilkes Ridge Parkway from the Medarva building, the **Retreat at West Creek** is the County's first apartment community is gearing up to start construction on Phase II. Phase II will include three new buildings bringing both Phase I and II of the project to a total of 336 residential units. Upon completion there will be twelve residential buildings, a resort style clubhouse and pool, on-site fitness center, outdoor kitchen and fireplace, media/business center, and walking and jogging trails. The project has been highly acclaimed by the marketplace for its energy efficient construction and upscale design.



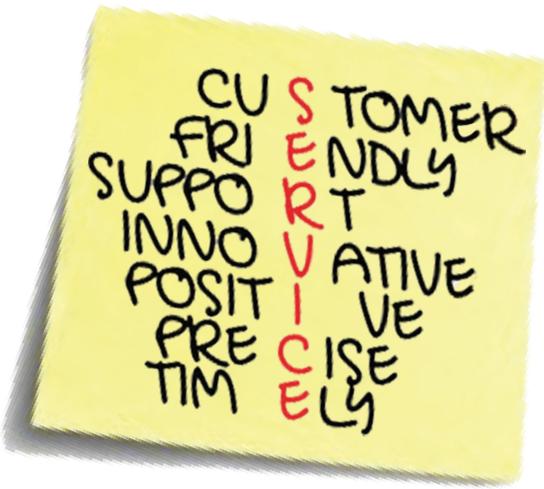
Hardywood Announcement

On Monday July, 20th Goochland County welcomed Hardywood Park Craft Brewery to West Creek. Hardywood, co-founded by business partners Eric McKay and Patrick Murtaugh four years ago as a small brewing operation in Richmond, plans to invest \$28 million over five years to build a state of the art brewing campus and distribution facility. The 60,000-square-foot brewery will be located on 22 acres off West Creek Parkway adjacent to Virginia Farm Bureau. West Creek was chosen out of 150 potential sites and recognized for its easy access, abundant infrastructure, and scenic beauty. "This was the most beautiful site, and perfect with its proximity to the highways and infrastructure, I think it is going to be one of the most beautiful breweries in the country" stated Eric McKay during the announcement with Governor Terry McAuliffe. We are excited to add Hardywood to the list with Lickinghole Creek and Midnight Brewery as nationally recognized, award winning breweries located in the County!



www.goochlandforbusiness.com





New Customer Service Center FOR YOU!

To coincide with the Board's strategic goal of efficient and effective government with an emphasis on customer service, the department of Community Development is implementing a customer service center. The center would provide a "one-stop shop" for citizens and customers who need assistance. The center will be designed such that representatives from the departments of Building Inspections, Planning & Zoning, Environmental & Land Development and Public Utilities will be available in a central location within the customer service center to better assist citizens and customers.

The renovation design phase is currently underway with an estimated construction phase completion date in Spring 2016. In the mean time, be on the lookout for some changes to the current office arrangements during construction. All departments will remain open during the renovations and ready to assist customers and citizens.

Strategic Plan Report Card February 2015 - To be updated Feb. 2016

Indicator/Measure	CY2013 Actual	CY2014 Actual	CY2015 Target
Goal 1: Efficient, effective, and transparent government with emphasis on customer service excellence			
- Competitive Real Estate Tax Rate - Citizen Satisfaction Ratings: Accountability; - Customer Service; Quality of Services	\$0.53 per \$100 N/A	\$0.53 per \$100 N/A	\$0.53 per \$100 90%+ Good - Excellent
Goal 2: Balanced development that contributes to the welfare of the community and preserves its rural character			
- Commercial/Residential Real Estate Ratio - Building Permits (New Residential/Commercial) - New Taxable Commercial Investment - New Commercial Investments within TCSD	17.5%/82.5% R=373, C=210 \$41.5 million \$31.3 Million (75%)	17.8%/82.2% R=366, C=71 \$24.2 million \$6.4 million (26%)	18%/82% R=350, C=100 \$25 million \$12 million (48%)
Goal 3: Excellence in Financial Management			
- Liquidity-General Fund Balance: - Unassigned as percentage of budget - Debt Service-Expenditures as % of Budget - GFOA Certificate for Excellence in Financial Reporting - Credit Rating - Attain Highest Possible	53.30% 9.10% Received N/A	42.20% 6.60% Received AAA - Feb. 2015	40% 5.50% Receive AAA
Goal 4: High quality core services including Education, Public Safety,& Community Health			
- Property Loss Rate (to Fire) - Patrol Area Covered per Deputy - Poverty Rate - Persons Below Poverty Level - EMS Response at or Below Established Standards	\$528,010 56.0 Sq Miles 5.60% N/A	\$459,720 44.3 Sq Miles N/A 45%	<\$500,000 41.1 Sq Miles <5.6% 90%
Goal 5: Positive work environment with a highly qualified, diverse workforce			
- Voluntary Turnover - No. of applicants per position meeting minimum criteria - Diversity of County Workforce: % Minorities	7% 8 9%	13% 12 10%	<10% 15 At least 10%

Goochland County is pleased to present the NEW County website, which can now be accessed at www.goochlandva.gov. Not only has the look and address changed but many other enhancements have been made. Critical considerations when developing the new website were to increase access to the website as well as providing it in an easy to use format. We hope you find the new site appealing.

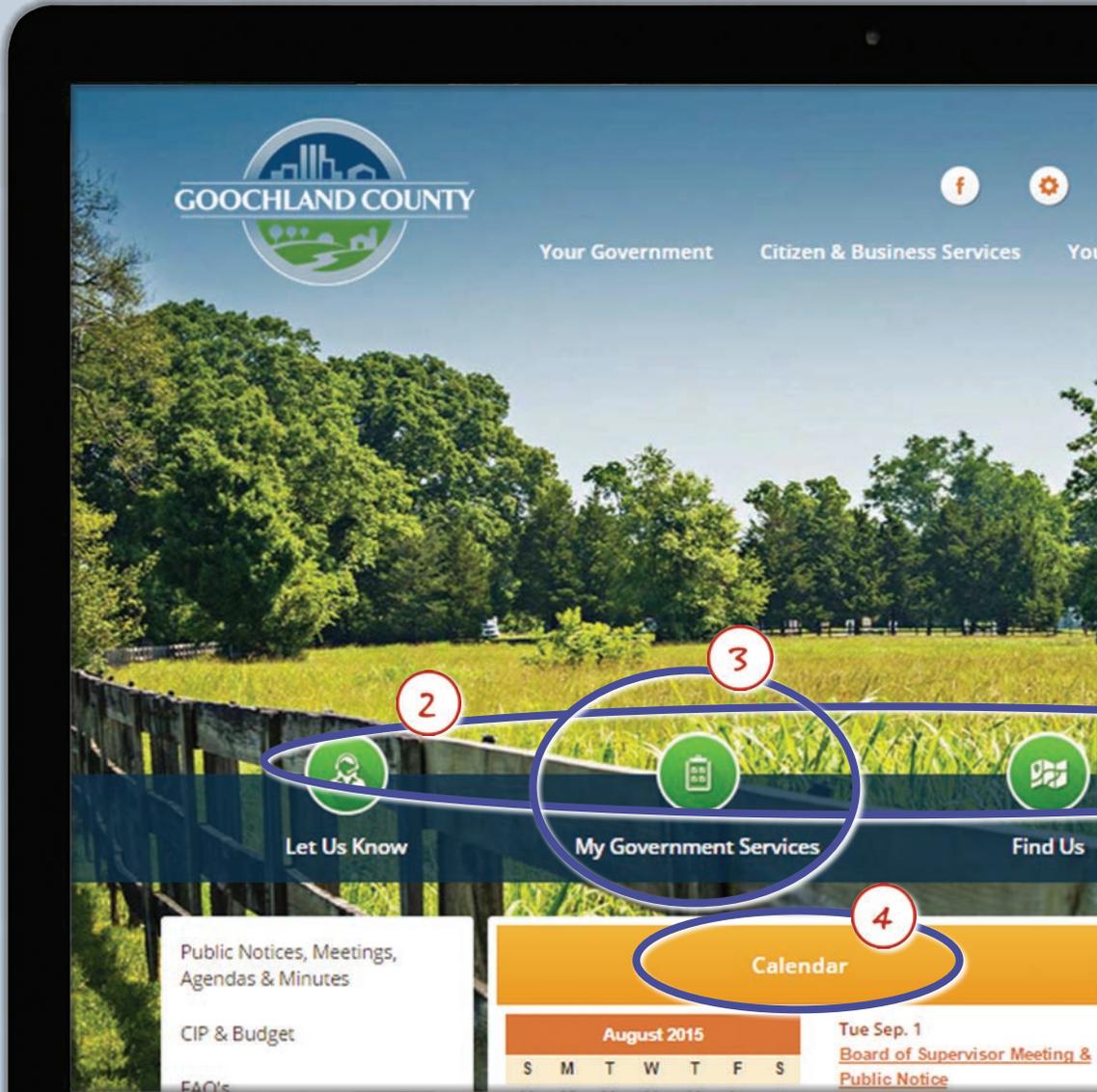
Taking a quick tour around the home page, it is important to point out several key features now present.

Beginning at the top of the home page is a search box that allows users to search the county website for items that host drop-down menus. Starting with the menu headers, the first is [Your Government](#) and partners arranged in a manner that is easy to identify/locate. [Second is Citizen & Business Services](#) and County agencies listings; however, it provides a more narrowed focus to the specific services from the community. The third menu header is the [Your Community](#) section where some of the new features are listed. Several resources that give certain community focused information and opportunities for Citizens to get involved.

The [Transparency](#) menu, [Transparency](#), provides quick access to the most commonly sought after topics. Items such as financial documents, Biosolids information and meeting agendas are quickly accessed through this menu. Finally, the [How Do I... menu](#) is another means by which to quickly direct a citizen to various applications, processes and the proper departments depending on their needs.

Continuing the tour, we focus on the graphic buttons located in the middle of the page that also host some of the newest features.

The [Let Us Know](#) button is an opportunity for citizens to provide feedback to the County through two forms "[How can we serve you better?](#)" and "[Report a Concern](#)". Also in line with providing information to the County the [Stay Informed](#) button provides information to our Citizens. This button takes the user to the [Notify Me](#) section of the website. Here citizens can sign up to have emails or text messages sent to them on various pages, calendars, alerts, news flashes, jobs and bid postings. Both of these features do require the user to have a Goochland County website account. Having such an account increases the usability of the County website. The accounts also provide a means by which the County can also communicate back to the users.



There are so many new and helpful features to the new County website that it is difficult to mention them all in one article. Be sure to visit the new website and explore all it has to offer.

be found at www.goochlandva.us.
been added to the County website.
County resources and information
ing as well as informative.

provided. www.goochlandva.us

quickly for key words. Below that are a list
ent - which is a listing of all County agencies
s Services - which is some repetition of the
m those agencies that are available to the
s are hosted. This menu provides access to
o provide feedback to the County. The fourth



Finally, no matter where you are on the website you will always see the County's logo in the upper left hand corner, which is important because clicking on the logo will always bring you back to the home page.

3 My Government Services button is another new feature to the County website. This is a new GIS based map that provides information on the nearest government services based upon location within the County. To use this application one must type in an address or simply click a spot on the map. Once the location is identified cards will appear that have detailed information about government locations and other designated areas, such as the nearest post office, library or school. This application also shows the Fire stations and voting districts. All are commonly sought after items of information for new and existing residents. This can now be accessed in one easy to use feature.

The new site also works on Apple and Android devices 😊.



4 Further down on the home page is a Calendar that will post information about meetings and events from County agencies. The News Flash section will be used to provide notification of specific events, or other notable items of which citizens need to be aware.

5 Beyond the Home page there are other new features that citizens should find very useful. One such feature is the item called View and Pay Taxes, accessible under the How Do I... menu. On this page is a link to Goochland County's e-Treasure services, which is a portal where citizens and businesses can search and view Real Estate and Personal Property tax information. Both the inquiry and taxes paid sections for Personal Property require a user to have a PIN to access this information. However, the Real Estate information does not.

6 Another important feature is the Community Voice section (found under the Your Community menu) where citizens can post comments much like social media providing a forum for discussion about initiatives and topics for the County to consider.

Central High School Committee at Work



The County is taking steps to bring activities and breathe new life back to the Central High School building.

In late 2014, efforts began to clean and restore the gym portion of the building which included restoring the water system and bathrooms. On Saturday, January 24th, the County officially reopened this portion with a ribbon cutting. These efforts have allowed Parks & Recreation to hold recreational basketball games in the facility once again. Additional improvements are forthcoming.

Shortly after that, a separate Central High School Committee was appointed by the Board of Supervisors

on February 3, 2015. The Committee is charged with evaluating the original and left wing sections of the building and reviewing and evaluating services that could be housed and offered there. Afterwards, the Committee will submit a detailed report or business plan(s) for proposed services that are cost neutral to the County. The report will be presented to the Board by no later than September 6, 2016.

Since March 4, 2015, the Committee has met seven times to discuss a wide range of uses and services for the building. The Committee narrowed down their focus to the areas of Adults, Events, and Youth. Subcommittees have been vetting ideas and suggestions around these categories and will make recommendations. The meetings are held monthly and are open to the public. In the near future they will present an update on their work to Board of Supervisors.

Stay tuned for updates as the future of Central High School continues to evolve.

Goochland Receives

On February 6, 2015, Goochland received its highest credit rating from Poor's Rating Services, placing it in its first-ever top tier as the only small county in the S&P, as currently no county under 60,000 is designated as such. Goochland's consistency is outstanding.

As noted by Board of Supervisors representative Ken Peterson in February, from this rating in many ways, the ability to attract and access to the capital markets on better terms, and a transparent financial health of the



Court House Green

Did you know Goochland's public courthouse square is the most architecturally perfect existence anywhere.

Gibson Worsham - Architect

The Goochland community wide effort to revitalize the land, soon to be designated as a National Historic Landmark. The project envisions the square to reflect three eras, including historic and interpretative signage. The Clerk's Office will be upgraded. The public square will be a walk around its outer perimeter. The square will be populated with interpretative signage of the space and its relationship to the community and tourists will enjoy a walk similar to those found in Williamsburg. The square is a deed part of our past. Spurred by the Pierce House, and the square during our exciting research.

The Historical Society is rapidly becoming a real part of this public - private partnership. The Historical Society is a dream, and its journey is destined to become one of the best for education, visitation and

<http://www.goochlandva.gov>

AAA Credit Rating

Goochland County received the possible of AAA from Standard & (S&P). In receiving the AAA rating, Goochland also becomes the first county in Virginia to be rated AAA by S&P. Other counties with a population of less than 100,000 are not rated AAA. S&P also noted that Goochland County's strong financial performance

Supervisors District 5 representative in February: "Goochland will benefit in many ways, through an enhanced economy, retain businesses, improved markets on very favorable borrowing rates, a clear metric for citizens to track their County".



Goochland County has the best preserved courthouse in Virginia...and we also enjoy the historic Jeffersonian courthouse in excess.

Architectural Historian and Historical Society is leading a project to create a special space in Goochland County Courthouse Green. The full restoration of our stone jail building into museum quality displays is underway. The building typically called the Courthouse Green is being upgraded to become our Visitors Center. The building will be improved to include a history walkway. The History Walk will be a new signage reflecting the history of Goochland County. Students will be able to see the platform and jail stocks, similar to Williamsburg. These features are in the process of being recognized. Special recognition will be made of the Courthouse Green initiative. Significant seed funding in partnership has jump started the project. We want everyone to share in this project. Goochland's Courthouse Green is one of the best front yards in Virginia and a celebration.

www.goochlandhistory.org/

ELECTION 2015

New residents may register to vote as soon as residency is established. Residents who move within the County must also notify the Registrar. Voter registration forms are located at libraries, selected government agencies, and the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). In Virginia, voters do not register by party affiliation.

Voting Deadlines

General Elections - 22 days before election
Primary Elections - 22 days before election

Important Dates

- September 18, 2015 - First Day to Absentee Vote
- October 13, 2015 - Last Day to Register to Vote or Make Changes
- October 24, 2015 - Absentee Voting in the Registrar's Office from 9-5
- October 27, 2015 - Last Day to Apply for an Absentee Ballot by Mail
- October 31, 2015 - Last Day to Apply For an Absentee Ballot in Person. Absentee Voting in the Registrar's Office from 9-5
- November 3, 2015 - General and Special Elections

In Order to Vote

- Resident of VA
- US Citizen
- 18 years old
- Can't be registered to vote in another state
- Not declared mentally incompetent by court of law
- If convicted of a felony, right to vote must be restored before you are permitted to vote.
- Bring a photo ID

Contact Information

General Registrar: [Frances C. Ragland](#)

Office Hours Mon.-Fri. 8:30am-4:30pm

Address: 1800 Sandy Hook Road

Suite 220, PO Box 1013, Goochland, VA 23063

Phone: [556-5803](tel:556-5803) Fax: 556-6323

Visit the Registrar page on the Goochland County Website: www.goochlandva.us

Commonwealth's Attorney

Claiborne H. Stokes, Jr. (R)

Clerk of Circuit Court

Dale W. Agnew (I)
Keith J. Flannagan (R)

Commissioner of Revenue

Ira "Buddy" Bishop IV (R)
Jennifer N. Brown (I)

Sheriff

James L. Agnew (I)

Treasurer

Pamela Cooke Johnson (R)

Board of Supervisors

District 1 - Susan F. Lascolette (R)
District 2 - Manuel Alvarez, Jr. (R)
District 3 - Ned S. Creasey (R)
District 4 - Robert H. Minnick (R)
District 5 - Ken C. Peterson (R)

School Board Member

District 1 - Michael E. Payne
District 2 - W. Kevin Hazzard
District 3 - John L. Lumpkins, Jr.
District 4 - Elizabeth A. Hardy
District 5 - John D. Wright

Soil and Water Conservation Director, Monacan District

Jonathan Lyle
Ronald F. Nuckols

22nd Senate District

Thomas G. Garrett, Jr.

56th House District

Peter F. Farrell

65th House District

R. Lee Ware, Jr.

Rolling on Roads

In cooperation with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), County property owners, and private developers, many road improvements in the County moved forward in the last year:

- Broad Street Road/Hockett Road Intersection: New traffic signal
- Patterson Avenue/Blair Road Intersection: New traffic signal
- Interstate 64 (Centerville Area): Underway - New travel lanes between I-295 and Route 288. Minor improvements to ramps on Ashland Road.
- A comprehensive corridor study of the Broad Street Road and Ashland Road corridors including Route 288 and I-64 interchanges - is complete.
- The County is actively pursuing funding from the regional transportation funding body, the Richmond Area Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), for major improvements at the Route 288/Broad Street Road interchange and the installation of traffic signals at the West Creek Parkway/Patterson Avenue intersection and the I-64/Ashland Road interchange.



Inspire2020

On December 10, 2013, the Goochland School Board approved its 2014-2020 Strategic Plan, Inspire2020. Over 18 months of work with multiple groups of stakeholders—including school leaders, community members, and students—went into the creation of a new vision, a new mission, a set of five core values, and a set of three strategic goals. Check out our website to view our plan, or call for information.

Science and common sense alike have long indicated that an engaged student learns better and takes greater responsibility for his or her education. For Goochland County Public Schools, this means placing our students and the realization of their potential at the center of every choice we make. We believe the PK-12 experience should prepare students for a successful life after high school; moreover, school should engage students such that a love for learning is sparked and stoked, challenges are welcomed and met, and every student's achievement is pursued with urgency and clarity.

We want our students and staff to be known for who they are, not just for what they have accomplished. The members of our organization strive to be role models in order to cultivate in our students the desire to have a positive impact on others.

This fall GCPS will be asking teachers to serve on a planning committee to complete work on a plan for innovative instruction in the county. This plan was mandated by the GCPS strategic plan, Inspire2020, and involves the instructional design and delivery with 1:1 devices. The plan, when complete, will articulate time lines associated with the division's use of project-based learning across all grade levels, conversion to digital content resources, and professional development to support deeper learning with a focus on personalizing the experience students have with learning.

GCPS Tapped by the State as a Leader in Student Assessment

Our school division is taking a balanced approach to student assessment, and the Virginia Department of Education has taken notice. In concert with GCPS's mission to maximize the potential of every student, Goochland teachers and administrators are measuring student learning using a combination of traditional achievement tests, individual student growth measures, and innovative performance assessments, all while reducing the amount of time dedicated to testing. The division's innovative and balanced approach to assessment has been recognized as a blueprint by many.

GCPS was the first division in the Commonwealth to be asked by the Governor's SOL (Standards of Learning) Innovation Task Force to speak to the committee about testing reform. Moreover, our school division recently hosted a statewide professional development conference sponsored by the Virginia Association of School Superintendents, wherein more than 30 Virginia school divisions sent representatives to learn about the division's assessment model.

Goochland Schools Rank Consistently Among the Top

Goochland County Public Schools continues to achieve some of the highest results in the state. Goochland was one of 22 school divisions (of 132) in Virginia to have all of its schools achieve full accreditation for 2014-15. Further, GCPS continues to score in the top three regionally in the areas of reading, writing, mathematics, science, and history, as measured by the state's Standards of Learning (SOL) assessments.

www.gln.d.k12.va.us

Goochland County School Board

Michael E. Payne - District 1
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W. Kevin Hazzard - District 2
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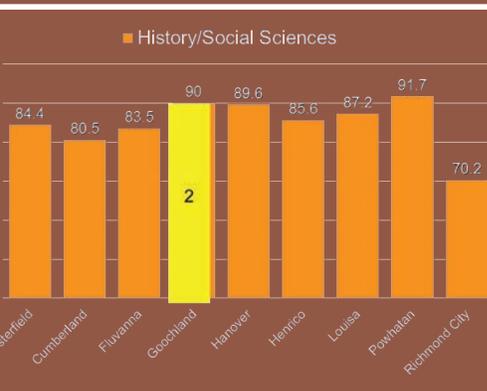
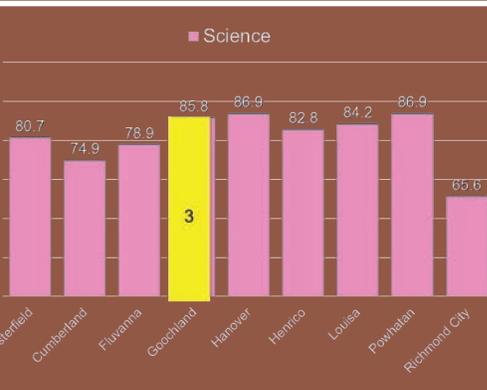
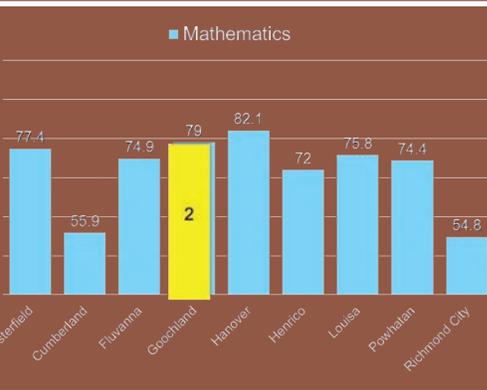
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SOL 2013-14 Pass Rates:
A Division Comparison



GOOCHLAND COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Check out the Goochland Department of Social Services services for Seniors.

The Companion Services Program:

This program is offered with the goal of helping Senior Citizens remain in their homes and to function as independently as possible. It links an elderly or disabled adult with a provider to assist them with their daily living needs. Up to 30 hours of assistance can be approved, there may be a waiting list.

Adult Services:

Adult Services provides preadmission screenings for Medicaid-funded out-of-home placements such as Medicaid-funded nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and adult day care.

Adult Protective Services:

Social Services investigates cases of suspected adult abuse, neglect, and/or exploitation. In addition, they coordinate services with community partners to prevent the recurrence of abuse or neglect.

Energy Assistance Programs:

Fuel Assistance - helps eligible households with the costs of heating their homes.

Crisis Assistance - helps households in heating emergency situations with primary heat security deposits, utility heating bills, repair/replacement of heating equipment, or primary heating fuel.

Cooling Assistance - helps with cooling equipment purchases or repairs and also with the electric bill.

These programs are seasonal; therefore, interested individuals should contact the Goochland Department of Social Services for dates of operation and qualifying information.

Community Action Funding:

Social Services administers the Community Action program in Goochland, which provides a variety of services to income eligible citizens. Individuals (including Senior Adults) can receive assistance with:

- Food Vouchers - Vouchers provide the recipient with access to meats, bread and dairy products, fresh fruits and vegetables, and canned goods; eligible citizens can request a voucher.
- Medical Supplies (must be ordered by a physician) or prescription assistance
- Mortgage or Rental Assistance
- Heating Assistance, including oil, gas and wood
- Electric bills

Senior Law Day:

In partnership with the Capital Area Agency on Aging, this yearly event is offered to Goochland County residents aged 55 and over or anyone with a medical disability to complete legal documents for free with an attorney. The attorneys donate their time and resources. Senior Law Day will take place on November 17th, please call and make an appointment.

Tel: [556-5880](tel:556-5880) www.goochlandva.us/364/Social-Services

Mental Health Resources for Children

Do you or someone you know have a child who struggles with a mental health issue?

The Goochland County Office of Children's Services has established a partnership with the Children's Mental Health Resource Center (CMHRC) to assist families in navigating the mental health system and provide peer support. CMHRC, based at Willow Lawn Shopping Center in Richmond, offers Educational Resources, Primary Care Physician Referral Assistance and Pediatric Consultation.

Additionally, the Family Navigator Program offers parents one-on-one support and periodic education and training on a variety of topics, such as: building resilient families; effective communication skills; natural supports for families; supports and services in Virginia; self-care; and peer support.

In the coming months, The CMHRC and the Office of Children's Services will be developing a web-based resource for families to seek support services right here in Goochland County.

Children's Mental Health Resource Center:

Tel: [447-2124](tel:447-2124)

Email: info@mentalhealth4kids.org

1506 Willow Lawn Drive, Suite 207
Richmond, VA 23230

www.mentalhealth4kids.org



Children's Mental Health
RESOURCE CENTER