



# the Municipal MAILER

SPRING 2024

P.O. Box 246 / 310 Institute  
Street  
Smithfield, VA 23431  
Phone: (757) 365-4200

Town Council Members:

Steven G. Bowman, Mayor  
Valerie Butler, Vice Mayor  
Randy Pack  
Michael Smith  
Jeff Brooks  
Jim Collins  
Raynard Gibbs

Town Manager:  
Michael R. Stallings, Jr.  
(757) 365-4200  
mstallings@smithfieldva.gov

**Town Council meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Smithfield Center, located at 220 N. Church Street, Smithfield, Virginia.**

Check out the town's web site:  
[www.smithfieldva.gov](http://www.smithfieldva.gov)

**Also follow us on Facebook:**

Town of Smithfield  
Smithfield Center  
Smithfield Police Department  
Smithfield & Isle of Wight  
Tourism  
Friends of the Park

## If you Love Our Downtown Keep Coming Around!

Need Help Navigating Downtown?

Follow this map or visit [genuinesmithfieldva.com](http://genuinesmithfieldva.com)

Support our  
**FAMILY-OWNED BUSINESSES**  
during the Cypress Creek  
Bridge Rehabilitation



## Manager's Message

Happy Spring! As we all look forward to warmer and brighter days, I wanted to take a moment and make you all aware that the Town has recently launched a new website! I encourage you to stop by [www.smithfieldva.gov](http://www.smithfieldva.gov) and poke around to see the wonderful site that Civic Plus has helped us create. We hope that this new site will be easier to navigate and will allow you to find information and news easier.

One additional new feature is a live webcam in Windsor Castle Park. This was made possible in partnership with Wavy TV10, Isle of Wight County IT, and the Town of Smithfield. If you watch carefully, you may even see this camera used on Wavy TV10's weather segments!! We are also in the process of having

the bridges throughout Windsor Castle Park rehabbed. For those of you that frequent the park, you know that they were beginning to show their age. We have been blessed with a wonderful contractor, Athens Building Corporation. They have also donated \$25,000 towards the rehab of the remaining bridges in the Park. I hope you find time to get out and take a stroll across these beautiful new bridges!



Michael Stallings  
Town manager

As always, don't hesitate to reach out to me with any thoughts or concerns at [mstallings@smithfieldva.gov](mailto:mstallings@smithfieldva.gov) or 757-365-4200. My door is always open, and I am always willing to sit down and listen to input on how we can keep Smithfield a great place to live, work and play.

# Tax Reminder

**PLEASE READ ALL OF THE INFORMATION BELOW AS IT HIGHLIGHTS IMPORTANT TAX DEADLINES FOR 2024**

**TAX PAYMENTS MUST BE MADE OR POSTMARKED BY THE DUE DATES IN ORDER TO AVOID PENALTIES AND INTEREST. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE TREASURER'S OFFICE AT (757) 365-4276.**

**TAX CUSTOMERS MAY UTILIZE THE DROP BOX LOCATED OUTSIDE OF THE MAIN ENTRANCE AT TOWN HALL FOR PAYMENTS. ALL REAL ESTATE TAX PAYMENTS MUST BE DEPOSITED IN THE DROP BOX BY 5:00 PM ON JUNE 5, 2024. ALL PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS MUST BE DEPOSITED IN THE DROP BOX BY 5:00 PM ON DECEMBER 5, 2024, TO BE CONSIDERED CURRENT.**

## **ON-LINE BILL PAYMENT**

The Town's on-line bill payment system is operating through the Town's website, [www.smithfieldva.gov](http://www.smithfieldva.gov). The link is listed under How Do I? (Pay My Taxes) on the home page of the website. This option may be used to view or pay real estate and personal property taxes. Once you have selected your payment option, please select Dept/Ticket No. as the method for locating your tax ticket information. Also note that the department numbers for 2024 tax bills will be RE2024 and PP2024 for real estate and personal property respectively. A Payment Help section is available if more explanation or assistance is needed.

## **2024 REAL ESTATE TAXES (July 2023 - June 2024)**

All 2024 real estate taxes are due by CLOSE OF BUSINESS (5:00 p.m.) on June 5, 2024. If the tax payment was mailed, the envelope must be postmarked no later than June 5th to be considered current. A minimum \$10.00 or 10% penalty (not to exceed the assessed tax value of the property) will be added to all unpaid balances as of June 6th, 2024. On July 1, 2024, interest will accrue on delinquent balances including penalty at the rate of 10% per annum. Mortgage companies must make a request in writing each year to confirm the billed parcels that they service. Copies of the bills are sent to property owners as well as mortgage companies. To avoid duplicate payments or late fees, taxpayers should confirm with their mortgage companies that all payments due (including refuse collection) have been processed by the due

date. The real estate tax rate is \$0.16 per \$100.

## **REFUSE COLLECTION FEE**

A refuse collection fee of \$72.12 has been added to real estate bills for all locations receiving refuse pickup through the Town contract.

## **2024 PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES**

Personal property taxes are also due on December 5. Payments must be postmarked or remitted by CLOSE OF BUSINESS (5:00 p.m.) on the due date. A minimum \$10.00 or 10% penalty (not to exceed the assessed tax value of the property) will be added to all unpaid balances as of December 6, 2024. On January 1, 2025, interest will accrue on delinquent balances including penalty at the rate of 10% per annum. Taxpayers are not relieved of the responsibility for payment by the due date if they do not receive their tax bills in the mail. Town clerks are on hand to assist with this information should a bill become lost or is undeliverable. Please note that the personal property tax rate on qualifying vehicles and equipment is \$1 per \$100 of assessment value for 2024. The tax rates for mobile homes are (\$0.16 per \$100) and machinery and tools are (\$0.15 per \$100).

## **2024 PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF**

The Town receives a lump sum payment of \$240,794.89 for personal property tax relief from the State. Because this payment does not change or account for growth, the Town must recalculate its car tax relief rate annually to collect 100% of its allowable billing. The tax relief rate for 2023 was 38%. The tax relief rate for 2024 will be determined after the data file is converted in the Town's legacy system.

## **VEHICLE LICENSE TAX**

The vehicle license tax is shown in a separate column on the personal property tax bill. This tax is then added to the total tax for each vehicle.

## **BUSINESS LICENSES DUE APRIL 15, 2024**

Business Licenses are due each year on April 15. A 10% penalty will be added to those purchased after the due date, and interest at the rate of 10% per annum will be added as of May 1. A copy of the applicant's Schedule C is required as backup for reported gross receipts. New businesses may contact the Treasurer's office at any time during the year for purchase of a business license. The first year's license may be based on estimated gross receipts.

# Letter from the Mayor

Have you ever wondered how, on national holidays, American flags seem to mysteriously appear along our streets? I have asked that question to numerous folks and the answer is that most really do not know. Well, I am proud to provide the answer. But first, a little background.

There are many service organizations in Smithfield that make our lives better. As mayor, I need to be careful not to call out each with their own individual niche, lest I leave one out. But, rest assured, all undertake admirable causes.

This brings me back to the flag initiative.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Smithfield Post 8545, is the organization that is responsible for the placement of the flags across our wonderful town on special days. It truly is a labor of love and patriotism.

Several months ago, I offered a member of the V.F.W. my time to volunteer with the flag placement. This organization is special to me. My father was a member of the V.F.W. post in Hopewell, Virginia when I was a child in the mid 1960's. Membership in this organization is limited to a select group. Their eligibility requirement is service in a war, campaign, or expedition on foreign soil or in hostile waters. Simply put, yet truly special. My father served in the Signal Corps of the United States Army after the Korean War but before Viet Nam. His duty station was Heidelberg, Germany. As a result of his military service, he instilled a great sense of patriotism in me.

A few days before President's Day, I was taken up on the offer to help. I met a true patriot, Mr. Bob Dolensky at the Post Headquarters. He is a member and officer of the Post. His pickup was loaded with about forty flags. We set out on our assigned route on South Church Street. We scratched around the grass in front of multiple businesses in search of the two inch of grass covered PVC pipe that had been hammered flush in the ground so we could place the symbol of our great nation in remembrance of the holiday and those who had paid the ultimate sacrifice. We had a great time talking about service, local issues, and the betterment of the community. I was truly humbled by the experience and felt Dad was with me in patriotic spirit and gave special context to their mission.

Should you desire to have a flag placed in front of your residence or business, please contact the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 8545. Their phone number is 757-542-5785. The annual cost of a flag is \$45.00 a year for all national holidays (the flags cost the Post \$42.00 each). These great veterans will install an unobtrusive piece of PVC pipe and the flag on pole each national holiday. I have two at the entrance of my driveway. They do not disrupt the landscaping or cause any utility issues.

Let us show our gratitude to those that gave so much and continue to demonstrate to all what a great community Smithfield truly is. Let's pave the Town with the spirit of patriotism by enrolling in the annual V.F.W. flag program. May God bless you all and thank you for the privilege and honor as serving as your mayor.

Steve



## INTERESTED IN SERVING YOUR COMMUNITY

A Talent Bank has been established to compile a list of interested citizens, willing to serve on Smithfield's Planning Commission, Board of Historic and Architectural Review, and/or Board of Zoning Appeals when vacancies become available. If you are interested in serving your community, please complete a Talent Bank form and submit it to the Town Manager's Office so that we have you information on file. If you have any questions, please feel free to give Town Clerk, Lesley King, a call at 757-365-9506 or email her at [lking@smithfieldva.gov](mailto:lking@smithfieldva.gov)

# Important Good to Know Messages

The Town of Smithfield would like to remind everyone to trim grass, bushes and/or trees around water meters and fire hydrants which are located on your property. A 5' radius is required around all fire hydrants; these items need to be visible and accessible at all times.

The Town of Smithfield does not allow any item to be placed outside the Refuse Container for pick up except during special events such as Spring & Fall Cleanup Days. Just keep in mind, if it is not in the container with the lid shut it will not be picked up and should be taken to the many area convenience centers which are free to all county residents, or you may also hire someone to remove items for you. Bay Disposal does offer this service, however there will be a charge that you will be responsible for, along with setting up an appointment with them for pick up.

If you have questions, they can be reached at 757-857-9700.

Recycling is also available at the 8 local convenience centers. These items can be combined and dumped. See the Isle of Wight County website for locations and items allowed.

[www.co.isle-of-wight.va.us/departments/solid\\_waste/recycling\\_program.php](http://www.co.isle-of-wight.va.us/departments/solid_waste/recycling_program.php)

If you need a new container, just call Bay Disposal 757-857-9700.

There is no charge for new containers, they just ask that the old container be accessible for pick up when they deliver the new one. However, if an additional container is needed there will be a charge and you will need to set up an account with Bay.

As spring approaches, we will begin to bag grass clippings. Bay Disposal will pick up a maximum of 10 bags per week per location and this takes place every Wednesday. If you have tree limbs, they cannot be any larger than 4' long and 3" in diameter. They will also have to be bundle together. These items do not get picked up by the big garbage truck, but rather by a pickup and trailer. Call Bay Disposal at 757-857-9700 to be added to the next upcoming pickup. All appointments need to be scheduled prior to the end of the business day on Friday to get on the upcoming Wednesday schedule.

**NOTE: DO NOT PLACE ITEMS ON THE CURB WITHOUT AN APPOINTMENT**

Also concerning placement and removal of Refuse containers.

Below is the Town Code that explains your requirements as a citizen of the Town of Smithfield.

-Failure to meet these requirements could result in Civil and/or Criminal Penalties.

## **Sec. 66-40. - Placement for collection; removal after collection.**

(a)

Receptacles containing garbage to be collected by the town or its agent shall be placed on the premises at the curb nearest to the rear or side entrance to such premises, if collection is to be made from the rear or side, or at some convenient place near the front entrance at the curb, if collection is to be made from the front. Receptacles shall be placed at the pickup site after 6:00 p.m. the day prior to scheduled collection.

(b)

All receptacles in which garbage is placed and set out for removal shall, after they have been emptied, be removed by the persons to whom they belong on the day on which they are emptied. No garbage receptacle shall be set out on the street, at the curb or sidewalk again until the evening prior to the next succeeding day on which garbage is to be removed.

# 2024 Community Cleanup Days

Bay Disposal and Recycling will provide free pick-up service for your old furniture, appliances, TV's, stereos, carpets, and lawn maintenance equipment such as lawnmowers, weed eaters, etc. (equipment must be free of oil and gas) for Town residents on the following Saturdays:

## DATE OF SERVICE AND AREA OF TOWN

### **SATURDAY, MAY 4 & OCTOBER 19:**

All areas north and west of Cypress Creek and the Pagan River (including River Oaks, Goose Hill Creek, Jericho Estates, Cypress Creek, Riverview, Lakeside, Historical District, Jersey Park, West Main Street, etc.)

### **SATURDAY, MAY 11 & OCTOBER 12:**

All areas on the south side of town including both sides of South Church Street and east of Cypress Creek (including Waterford Oaks, Willow Oaks, Aspen Woods, Scots Landing, Pinehurst, Smithfield Manor, Grimesland, etc.)

### **SATURDAY, MAY 18 & OCTOBER 26:**

All areas east and north of South Church Street and both sides of Battery Park Road (includes Rising Star, Wellington Estates, Moone Plantation, Smithfield Forest, John Rolfe Estates, Croatan Landing, Moonefield, Pagan Point, Red Point Heights, Deer Run, Villas, Church Square, Lakeview Cove etc.)

Everything to be picked up must be at the street side no later than 6:30 AM. The trucks will not be able to drive into your yard to pick up any items. Please call Bay Disposal and Recycling at 857-9700 with any questions about Community Clean Up Days.

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE: BAY DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING WILL NOT PICK UP YARD DEBRIS OR TREE LIMBS (larger than 3" in diameter or longer than 4 feet) OR STRUCTURAL DEBRIS SUCH AS USED LUMBER, ROOFING, SIDING, ETC. Leaves or other yard trimmings must be placed in bags. Limbs must be tied and bundled.**

### **OTHER ITEMS THAT WILL NOT BE PICKED UP: TIRES, COMPUTERS, PAINTS, BATTERIES, GAS CYLINDERS, OIL, ASBESTOS, ANIMAL CARCASSES AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.**

NOTE: The Isle of Wight Transfer Station, 13191 Foursquare Road, Smithfield no longer takes any hazardous materials. They will recycle used motor oil at this location. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday from 8am to 3pm and Saturday from 8am to 12pm. You may reach the IOW Transfer Station at 961-3874.

The Suffolk Transfer Station on #1 Bob Foeller Drive, Suffolk will take hazardous materials. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday from 8am to 4pm and Saturday from 8am to 12pm. You may reach the Suffolk Transfer Station at 961-3683. You will be asked to provide an ID or utility bill as proof of residency.

Michael Stallings  
Town Manager

# Code Compliance Corner

Spring 2024

Hello again to all Smithfield residents from your Code Compliance Inspector, Joseph Reish. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Smithfield residents for doing their part in keeping the Town looking Great,

**Building Numbers** - Some of the houses and businesses in Smithfield may not have visible street/ building numbers. Every building in Town is required to have building numbers that are attached to the house and are visible from the road. Not having building numbers makes it harder for emergency services to locate you in the event of an emergency and is also a violation of Town Code.



**Recreational Vehicle Parking** - If you own an RVs and/or RV trailer, please be sure not to park your RV or RV trailer in your front yard and/or front driveway. Parking an RV and/or RV trailer in your front yard and/or front driveway is not only a safety concern and is also a violation of Town Ordinance.



**Grass Height Violation Fines** - Spring is here, and summer is just around the corner, which makes this the perfect time to let everyone know about the grass height violation fines. Town code chapter 86-1 now includes civil penalty fines for repeat offenders of the town grass height code. The amended section of Town Code 86-1 now reads as follows; "In the case of subsequent violations not arising from the same set of facts within twelve months of an initial violation, a civil penalty shall be imposed on the property owner, whether the subsequent violation is remedied by the owner or his agent, or the Town or their agent. The first subsequent violation within twelve months of the initial violation shall garner a civil penalty of \$100.00; the second, a civil penalty of \$150.00; the third and all additional subsequent violations within twelve months of the initial violation shall garner a civil penalty of \$200.00 each." Please keep your grass mowed so these fines don't have to be used, and a big thanks to everyone who works hard to keep their yards and properties looking good.

**Residing in the Historic District** - If you reside or own property in the historic district, please be sure to get approval before making any changes to your historic property. Any change in color, style, or material on the exterior of a house or building in the historic district requires Board of Historic and Architectural Review approval before making changes. Town Staff is happy to assist you with obtaining the proper approvals, and if needed, permits for your project. Please feel free to contact the Community Development and Planning Department at 757-365-4200 if you have any questions or concerns about a historic property.

Thanks again, Joseph R. Reish, Code Compliance Inspector

**HOW TO —**   
**KEEP HEALTHY, CLOG-FREE DRAINS**

**Your toilet is not a trash can.**  
Keep wipes, cotton swabs, feminine hygiene products and other trash out of your toilet. Your pipes will thank you.



askHRgreen.org [#askHRgreen](https://askHRgreen.org)

# Do you have Sprinklers or an Irrigation System?

## HERE IS WHAT TO EXPECT FOR 2024:

- If you have ANY work done to your sprinkler system, you MUST have it tested when the work is complete, a passing test report MUST be submitted to the Compliance Administrator at the email information located below.
- If you have already received a letter for the inspection request of your Backflow Prevention Device, please be aware that your inspection report deadline is approaching! Have your inspection report in by July 5, 2024 to avoid further action.
- If you have not received your Backflow Prevention Device Inspection request, they will be sent out in July with the deadline of November 11, 2024.
- It is REQUIRED that your Irrigation company uses a STATE CERTIFIED BACKFLOW TESTER through DPOR. Please check credentials BEFORE any work is completed and ask for a completed test report for your records.
- If you should have any further questions about this article please email the Compliance Administrator at [cdaughtrey@smithfieldva.gov](mailto:cdaughtrey@smithfieldva.gov)



## FOG CLOGS

Never pour fats, oils or grease down the drain.



FOG is any material, either liquid or solid, composed of fats, oils, or grease from an animal or vegetable source.

FOG builds up on pipe walls and blocks flow, causing wastewater to back up and flow out of manholes, or even back into homes and businesses. When this happens, it is called a Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO). It requires costly cleanup which can result in increased sewer rates and may be hazardous to human health or to the environment.

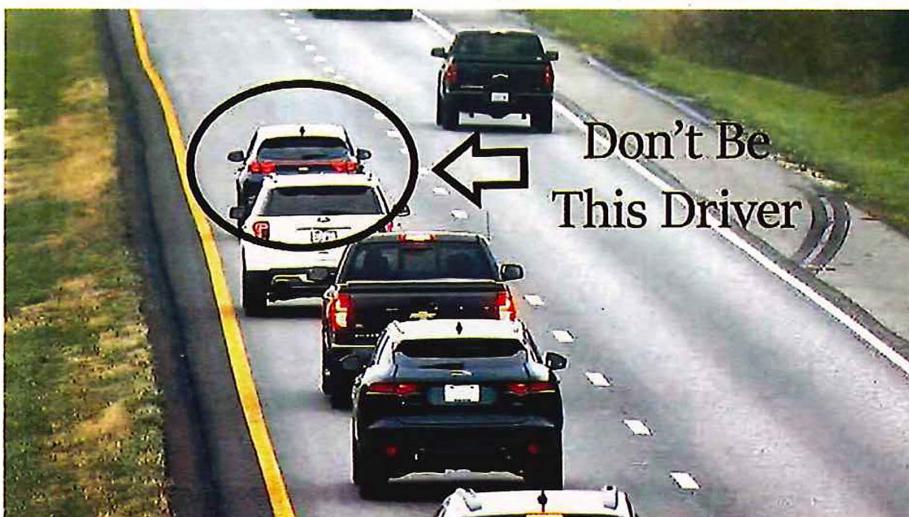
## HERE IS HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- Use strainers in your sink drains to catch food scraps and other solids; empty strainer contents into the trash.
- “Dry Wipe” all pots, pans, and plates contents into the trash prior to washing. This helps prevent the buildup of grease in your sewer lines and the town’s sewer lines. Therefore, preventing backup into your home caused by clogged pipes.
- When cooking with oil (i.e. frying) in addition to dry wiping; if oil is still hot, pour contents into heat safe container and allow to cool. Once cooled and solidified, dispose of the FOG safely by placing into the trash.

## IT'S THAT SIMPLE!

For any questions regarding this article please email the Compliance Administrator at [cdaughtrey@smithfieldva.gov](mailto:cdaughtrey@smithfieldva.gov) or by phone at (757) 365-4200.

# The Smithfield Police Department THIN BLUE LINE



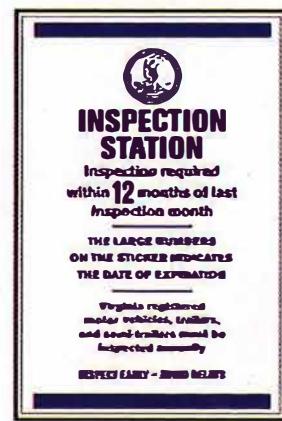
Don't Be  
This Driver

## Virginia Law §46.2-804

Any vehicle proceeding at less than the normal speed of traffic, shall be driven in the lane nearest the right edge or right curb of the highway except when overtaking and passing another vehicle or in preparation for a left turn.

## Virginia Law §46.2-1157: Inspection of Motor Vehicle Required

- A- The Owner or operator shall submit the vehicle for inspection by an official inspection station.
- C- Each day after failure to complying with the law shall constitute a separate offense.
- E- The offense is secondary until the first day of the fourth month. If a vehicle is stopped for a separate legal reason the officer may write for an expired inspection prior to the first day of the fourth month.



**Town Ordinance:**  
Section 78-135  
(15)- Parking  
Prohibited in  
Specified Places  
Smithfield Police  
Department has  
seen a increase of  
fire lane violations  
in the last six  
months. Legal  
signs are posted  
in all fire lanes  
prohibiting parking

and standing.

A fire lane parking violation shall be  
punishable by a fine of \$250.

**Virginia Law §46.2-846 (2)** Required  
positions and method  
of turning at  
intersections.  
Left turns on two-way  
roadways:  
At any intersection  
where traffic is  
permitted to move in  
both directions, an  
approach for a left turn  
shall be made from the  
right half of the roadway  
and as close as possible  
to the roadway's center  
line.



# Kayaks and Pups in the Park

**Windsor Castle Park Self-Service Kayak Kiosk  
open April through October  
7 days a week, from dawn to dusk every day**

The new self-service kayak kiosk allows patrons to rent when they want for however long they want.

When ready to paddle-  
go to the kiosk,  
download the RentFun app  
and follow the prompts to start your rental.

This summer the kiosk will offer 8 single kayaks.  
The rate is \$25 for 2 hours, and \$15 for each  
additional hour.

Rental includes life vest and paddle.



## PUPS IN THE PARK

With warmer weather on the way, pet owners are reminded that dogs must be leashed in public and are not allowed to run loose in public parks. Residents who would like to allow their dog to run off leash may do so at the open to the public dog park.

### Windsor Castle Bark Park

Windsor Castle Bark Park has one side open to all visitors and the other side is for registered users exclusively. This helps folks visiting our beautiful little town by giving them a place their fur babies can burn off some energy without having to worry with registration. And our registered users will continue to have a place dedicated for their use. WC Park loves its pup pals!!!

Residents are also reminded to be courteous of other park users and clean up behind your dogs. There are numerous doggie stations setup around the park for your convenience.



# Museum Events

## FORT HUGER WALKING TOUR

**2 P.M. SATURDAY, APRIL 6TH & JUNE 8TH, 2024**

Visit this Civil War fort and learn the significance of this gateway to the Confederate capital. Tour meets at Fort Huger, 15080 Talcott Terrace, Smithfield.



## WINDSOR CASTLE WALKING TOUR

2 p.m. Sunday, April 7th, May 5th & June 2nd, 2024

From the site's pre-colonial existence to the present day, Windsor Castle tells the fascinating history of the development of Smithfield. Join us for this walking tour through history as we explore the house and several of the outbuildings. Meet on the front steps of Windsor Castle, 301 Jericho Road, Smithfield. \$5 per person. To reserve your spot: [www.windsorcastlepark.com/walkingtours.html](http://www.windsorcastlepark.com/walkingtours.html).

## 1864 BATTLE OF SMITHFIELD LECTURE AND WALKING TOUR

**2 P.M. SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2024**

Join us for a 160th anniversary recounting of "the Town of Smithfield's most dramatic event." This two-day engagement between Union and Confederate troops saw artillery and musket fire reverberating up and down Main Street eventually resulting in the destruction of the US Army Gunboat Smith Briggs. Meet your guide at the museum for a brief overview of this Civil War battle as well as a walk along Main Street to several sites associated with the significant events from January 30 to February 2, 1864.

## LUNCH & LEARN: VMI IN THE CIVIL WAR

**12:30 P.M. WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2024**

Most people are only familiar with Virginia Military Institute's role at the Battle of New Market, but the Corps of Cadets performed a number of duties throughout the course of the war. This brief lecture explains how VMI came to be a key element of the State's defensive organization and examines the different roles it performed from the war's beginning to its very end. Our lecturer is Peter Underwood, a Suffolk native, VMI graduate, retired Marine Corps officer, history professor at the U.S. Naval Academy and professor of policy and strategy at the U.S. Naval War College.



## LUNCH & LEARN: FLAGS OVER ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY

**12:30 P.M. FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2024**

Today is National Flag Day. Join us as we present the various official and unofficial flags observed flying in our county. You are invited to bring one (or more) flags you think we may have missed.

## BOOKWORM DISCOVERIES AT WINDSOR CASTLE PARK

**2-3 P.M. TUESDAY, MAY 28TH & JUNE 25TH, 2024**

Join the Blackwater Regional Library and Isle of Wight County Museum at Windsor Castle Park for outdoor programming featuring themes of agriculture, nature and bugs! This fun and free opportunity to learn a little local history with STEAM themes while enjoying some fresh air and the chance to check out some books is perfect for bookworms of all ages. Theme: Cows/Dairy/Milk. Meet in the pole barn next to Windsor Castle, 301 Jericho Road. Dressing as a bookworm is optional but encouraged! For more information, [www.blackwaterlib.org](http://www.blackwaterlib.org) or 757-356-1223.



## DRAWING DAY

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday, May 16, 2024

Whatever your medium, Drawing Day is the day dedicated to the artist inside all of us. Pack your pencil, charcoals or crayons for your visit to the museum today to sketch something on display. Share your creations with us on social media. Free admission for all artists – professional, aspiring or beginners.

## SUBSCRIBE TO THE MUSEUM'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL!

Be sure to subscribe to the Isle of Wight County Museum's YouTube channel to learn more about the history of Isle of Wight County. Check out all the episodes of BEHIND THESE WALLS, MY ISLE and a myriad of lectures you may have missed!

<https://www.youtube.com/@IsleOfWightCountyMuseum>



# Community Events

The Smithfield Farmers Market season begins Saturday April 6, 2024. All markets are held 9 am to 12:30 p. m. in the BSV parking lot at 115 Main Street in Smithfield. Enjoy shopping for seasonal produce, plants, meats, flowers, hot foods, crafts and more. Live music too! For more information email [sdooley@iwus.net](mailto:sdooley@iwus.net).



The Pickers Market season begins April 13, 2024, and is held on 2nd Saturdays April to November.

Free admission. Held from 9 am to 1 pm in the parking lot next to the Visitor Center at 315 Main Street (behind When Pigs Fly). Shop for vintage wares and treasures from about 8-10 vendors monthly.



The Spring Country Vintage Market will be held Saturday, April 20, 2024 at the Isle of Wight County Fairgrounds located at 21311 Courthouse Hwy., Windsor, VA 23487.



Event hours are 8 am to 3 pm. Early bird entry is \$10 and begins at 8 am. Regular admission begins at 10 am and is \$5 in advance or \$7 at the gate. Children 6 and under are free. Tickets available in March. Parking is free. Handicap parking will be available at Gate 2.

The Smithfield Ruritans will hold a car show at the event and entry into the vintage market includes the car show. 75+ vendors will be selling vintage wares, antiques, crafts, and food. Live music will also be offered. For more details visit the Smithfield Vintage Market Facebook page or visit the website at [www.genuinesmithfieldva.com](http://www.genuinesmithfieldva.com) or call 757.357.5182.

The 3rd Annual Art Fest will be held Saturday, May 18 from 9 am to 4 pm along Main Street.

Free admission. Enjoy a juried art show, fine craft, literary arts and performing arts, plus enjoy food, music and children's activities at this family friendly event.

For information on any of these events visit [www.genuinesmithfieldva.com](http://www.genuinesmithfieldva.com) or call 757.357.5182.

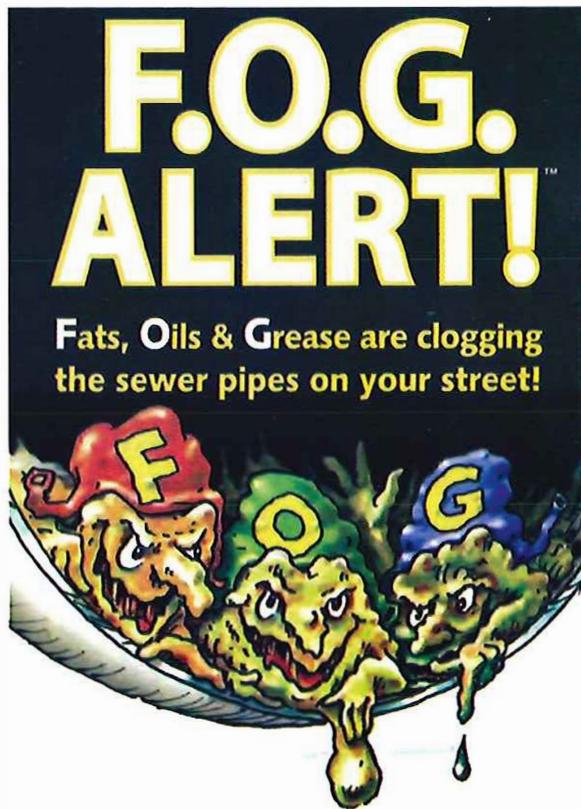


## F.O.G. RECOMMENDATION

These days more people are staying home, so more people are also cooking at home. Being at home comes with household chores like washing dishes, using a dishwasher, and using the garbage disposal. Are you aware of the damage this could be causing to your pipes, sewer lines, pump stations, and ultimately the environment? It is so important to be aware of what you are putting into your drains! Fats, Oils and Grease will consume your pipes, solidifying around the insides, clumping together causing slow drainage, leaks, bursting pipes and ultimately leading to costly bills of repair. The first step to aid your pipes, is to recognize the hazards you are putting down the drain. Believe it or not, there is some sort of Fats, Oils and Grease in most things we eat. The second step to aid your pipes, is to combat those fats, oils and grease from reaching the drain in the first place.

- Use strainers in your sink to catch food scraps and other solids, empty the strainer contents into the trash.
- Use a paper towel or cloth to wipe all pots, pans, and plate contents into the trash prior to washing or rinsing.
- When cooking with any kind of oil (i.e. fryer oil) in addition to dry wiping; if the oil is still hot, pour contents into a heat safe container and allow to cool. Once cooled and solidified, dispose by safely placing into the trash. YOUR DRAINS AND PIPES WILL THANK YOU!

For any questions regarding this article please email the Compliance Administrator at [cdaughtrey@smithfieldva.gov](mailto:cdaughtrey@smithfieldva.gov) or by phone at (757) 365-4200.



## Important Dates to Remember

(All Town meetings are held at 220 North Church Street at the Smithfield Center)

1st Tuesday—Town Council Meeting—6:30 p.m.

2nd Tuesday—Planning Commission—6:30 p.m.

3rd Tuesday—Board of Historic & Architectural Review—6:30 p.m.

3rd Tuesday—Board of Zoning Appeals—7:30 p.m.

4th Monday of each Month—Town Council Committee Meetings beginning at 3:00 and are held at the Smithfield Center. For any meeting changes and for important informational updates visit the Town's website @ [www.smithfieldva.gov](http://www.smithfieldva.gov)

### HOLIDAYS—TOWN OFFICE CLOSED

Monday, May 27th —Town Offices Closed in Observance of Memorial Day

Wednesday, June 19th—Town Offices Closed in Observance of Juneteenth Day

Thursday, July 4th - Town Offices Closed in Observance of Independence Day

Monday, September 2nd —Town Offices Closed in Observance of Labor Day

Monday, October 14th —Town Offices Closed in Observance of Columbus Day

Tuesday, November 5th— Town Offices Closed in Observance of Election Day

Monday, November 11th—Town Offices Closed in Observance of Veterans Day

### PLANNING COMMISSION

Julia B. Hillegass, Chair  
Bill Davidson, Vice Chair  
Randy Pack  
Virginia "Gigi" Smith  
Thomas C. Pope  
Charles F. Bryan  
James Yoko

### BOARD OF HISTORIC REVIEW

Trey Gwaltney, Chair  
Julia Hillegass, Vice Chair  
Russell Hill  
Justin Hornback  
Judith Lally  
Leigh Abbott Leaman  
Julie Hess

### BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

Faye Seeley, Chair  
Gregory Brown, Vice Chair  
Gene Monroe  
Beth Haywood  
Nick Hess