



## Henrico earns top rating for fire protection

*Homeowners, businesses could see lower insurance rates*

**H**enrico County has earned the highest-possible rating from the Insurance Services Office (ISO), a distinction that strengthens the county's economic development position and could qualify homeowners and businesses for lower property insurance premiums.

Henrico received a Class 1 rating in ISO's Public Protection Classification Program. The rating is based on a comprehensive review of the county's emergency communications; fire equip-

ment, personnel and training; water supply; and fire-prevention efforts, including inspections and code enforcement.

Henrico is the first county in the country to have both a Class 1 ISO rating and a fire department accredited by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International.

"Protecting residents and their homes and businesses is the highest priority of Henrico County and the Division of Fire," County Man-

ager John A. Vithoulkas said. "This Class 1 rating from the Insurance Services Office is great news for our entire community. It reflects our high quality of life, our commitment to excellence in public service and our drive to build a stronger county as we grow."

Henrico scored 95.66 points on a 105.5-point scale during a review this spring, well above the 90-point threshold to qualify as Class 1.

The county previously rated Class 3 based on a score of 73.48 from 2011. Henrico's classification reflects the relative low risk of fire losses in both developed and rural areas of the county.

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The rear of Libbie Mill Library features large cantilevered windows overlooking a pedestrian plaza and 2-acre lake. Henrico's newest library opened Oct. 30.

## County cuts the ribbon for Libbie Mill Library

*Henrico's first 'urban' library features modern design, high-tech services*

**L**ibbie Mill Library is open for business.

County officials dedicated the library, located in central Henrico in the Brookland District, in a ceremony Oct. 29. The facility officially opened its doors the following morning.

County Manager John A. Vithoulkas thanked the crowd of several hundred people attending the dedication.

"It is clear that you hold libraries in high esteem," he said, noting that Henrico voters approved funding for the project in a 2005 bond referendum.

"Because of your votes, our community now welcomes this new, state-of-the-art library," he said. "I thank each of you for making this happen."

The Varina Area Library, another facility approved by county voters in the 2005 bond referendum, is under construction and is expected to open in the spring.

### Community centerpiece

Henrico's first newly built library since Twin Hickory Area Library opened in 2007, Libbie Mill Library also is the county's first to open in a non-suburban setting, capitalizing on the mixed-use development trend to offer residents a new option for using county libraries.

"This is the first urban library that we've built," said Gerald M. McKenna, director of Henrico County Public Library, noting its

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## Classification helps county, residents, businesses

The superior rating provides another superlative that will help differentiate Henrico from other localities as officials work to attract new businesses and investment, said Gary R. McLaren, executive director of the Henrico Economic Development Authority.

“Added together, our AAA bond rating, our competitive tax structure, our excellent school system, our pro-business government, and now our ISO Class 1 rating all speak to the unique place Henrico County has become,” he said.

The rating also could help residents and businesses by reducing their costs for property insurance. Insurance companies use ISO or similar classification services to establish their rates, which are also based on such other factors as the age of the building and roof and whether a protection system is installed.

Residents, businesses and property owners should notify their insurance company of Henrico’s improved ISO rating to see if it might result in lower costs of coverage, said Capt. Daniel E. Rosenbaum, a public information officer for Fire who completed the county’s ISO survey.

Insurance companies have found a correlation between a community’s investment in fire protection and future fire losses. In general, that means property owners in areas with better ISO ratings represent a lower risk and therefore qualify for lower insurance rates.

In Henrico’s case, the county



Officials announced Henrico’s Class 1 rating from the Insurance Services Office in September at Firehouse 12 on West End Drive. Fire Chief Anthony E. McDowell (at lectern) and County Manager John A. Vithoukas (far right) addressed the news media and other guests, including members of the Division of Fire.

invests continually to make sure its fire services remain strong as the population grows. In 2005, Henrico voters overwhelmingly approved a bond package for a series of fire station and facilities projects. Since then, the county has built or renovated four firehouses, with an additional station underway and another in the planning stages.

Henrico’s new ISO rating is not likely to reduce the county’s costs of insuring its buildings and facilities because the county government is self-insured with a \$1 million deductible on purchased coverage that protects against a catastrophic loss, said Brian Parker, Henrico’s risk manager.

The Class 1 rating is more likely to help residents and businesses with lower deductibles, anywhere from \$250 to \$10,000 per claim, he said.

## Rating puts Henrico in elite company

ISO has reviewed 48,754 communities and fire districts across the United States. Only 132, or 0.3 percent, have earned a Class 1 rating. In Virginia, four out of 765 communities and fire districts, or 0.5 percent, hold a Class 1 rating: Henrico, Fairfax County and the cities of Charlottesville and Newport News.

“The Division of Fire takes great pride in helping Henrico achieve this superior rating from the Insurance Services Office,” Fire Chief Anthony E. McDowell said.

“This accomplishment and the division’s accreditation by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International are tributes to the training, professionalism and commitment of the men and women of our department and the support we enjoy from

the community, including the Board of Supervisors, other county leaders and, especially, Henrico residents.”

The Division of Fire provides fire protection and suppression services as well as emergency medical services. With 548 employees and a \$52.7 million annual operating budget, the department logged nearly 44,000 calls for service, including 733 fire calls, during fiscal 2014-15.

The department operates 20 firehouses across the county’s 244 square miles and is served by a modern emergency communications system, with enhanced 911 capabilities and computer-aided dispatch facilities, plus an extensive water-distribution system that includes more than 12,500 hydrants. ■

For information, go to [henrico.us/fire](http://henrico.us/fire).

**LIBRARY continued from page 1** location at the heart of the Libbie Mill-Midtown development.

“Our other libraries are suburban facilities designed with automobile access in mind,” he said. “Folks will be walking to this library, and that foot traffic will only increase as Libbie Mill-Midtown grows.”

The three-story library, at 2100 Libbie Lake East St., is a focal point of the 80-acre community under construction in an area generally

bordered by Staples Mill and Bethlehem roads and West Broad Street. When completed, the development will feature hundreds of single-family homes and apartments as well as restaurants, shops and offices laid out in a pedestrian-friendly, town-square design.

Built in a little more than 14 months, the library is one of the first facilities to open in the community, joining a Southern Season specialty food store and a handful of offices.

Gumenick Properties, developer of the Libbie Mill-Midtown project, donated the 3.3-acre site for the library through an agreement with the county.

Libbie Mill Library boasts more than 39,900 square feet on its first two floors, with another 20,000 square feet of space available on the unfinished third floor for future expansion. The library nearly doubles the size of Dumbarton Area Library, which closed earlier in October after serving the area since 1976.

Libbie Mill will be operated by a full-time equivalent staff of 29, including 14 employees from Dumbarton library. The facility is open 66 hours each week: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Although the library and its environs have been designed with the pedestrian in mind, visitors who drive will find ample parking.

The energy-efficient facility was built in accordance with standards

set by the U.S. Green Building Council's program for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED). Henrico is seeking LEED Silver certification for the library.

The project's \$30.6 million cost covers construction, furnishings and materials.

### **Inviting space, modern features**

The opening-day collection featured 67,000 physical items including books, audiobooks and DVDs in addition to a large collection of electronic books available online.

The physical collection is smaller than one previously maintained at Dumbarton Area Library, McKenna said, adding that the library subscribes to an electronic magazine service as well.

"The idea is to have the books that people want," he said.

Visitors to the library "will be wowed," McKenna said, describing the design as "refined industrial architecture" with concrete floors, blackened interior steel, decorative wood paneling, glass-walled interior meeting and reading rooms, a variety of modern lighting treatments and high ceilings.

"This is a very attractive, inviting building and a very welcoming space," he said, citing features such as short shelving units — none taller than 5½ feet — with light fixtures incorporated into the book stacks.

"The lighting makes the collection pop," McKenna said.

Patrons can enjoy a variety of comfortable seating options, many of which are positioned in reading rooms that take advantage of large cantilevered windows and glass panels along the building's back wall. The north-facing windows afford views of a pedestrian plaza with a walking path, wooden deck and brick and grass terrace that descends to a 2-acre, man-made lake.

"It's a delightful place for folks to sit down, read and enjoy the water," McKenna said.

Visitors can study the county's evolution at the Henrico Heritage Wall, an interactive multimedia display that tracks more than 400 years of county history through the lives

of eight individuals.

The library also offers a café with vending machines, as well as wireless Internet access buildingwide; 100 computers and tablets available for public use; a meeting room with updated technology and capacity for 95 people; six study rooms; a drive-up service window; and internal and external automated book returns.

### **Spaces for all ages**

Like other county libraries, Libbie Mill provides dedicated spaces for its broad range of users, with age-appropriate collections, technology and amenities. A children's area features a story-time room and reading garden. The general-interest area includes a "quiet" reading room, a collaboration area and plenty of lake-view seating.

The area set aside for teenagers represents a departure from the layout of other county libraries, McKenna said.

"We've separated the teens completely from the children's area," he said. "We've learned from experience that they need to have their own, distinct space."

Teenagers at Libbie Mill can enjoy their own collaboration and study spaces for homework and group projects. They also will be located near the library's digital media lab — a high-tech room designed to help patrons create

content with Photoshop and advanced video- and audio-editing software, a podcast recording station, video camera, green screen and 3-D printers.

The digital media lab is much more than a standard classroom computer lab, McKenna said.

"This lab is intended to help our customers capture and create new stuff," McKenna said. "We want folks to be able to do different things in that space. That's what teens are interested in — they want to create something of their own."

Henrico County Public Library cardholders can reserve time in the lab.

### **Foot traffic**

McKenna anticipates Libbie Mill Library will receive more than 1,000 visitors daily at the outset of its operations, with the number increasing as the development of Libbie Mill-Midtown progresses. He noted a reciprocal effect as the library in turn generates activity within the community.

"We're expecting more and more folks will be walking over to the library all the time," he said. ■

*For more information about Libbie Mill Library, including programs, room reservations and other services, go to [henricolibrary.org/libbiemill](http://henricolibrary.org/libbiemill) or call (804) 290-9000.*



*The \$30.6 million Libbie Mill Library includes a digital media lab, a multimedia wall depicting Henrico history and a 67,000-item collection. Officials dedicated the library in a ceremony Oct. 29.*

## **Prepared for winter weather**

***Public Works ready to deploy crews, contractors, sand, salt to clear roads***

**H**enrico County will be ready for whatever snow, ice or other wintry mess comes this way.

The Department of Public Works is replenishing and expanding its supply of road salt to about 25,000 tons, which will be stored at four domes across the county. The county used about half of its 20,000-ton supply last winter.

As the temperatures begin to drop, a larger-than-usual amount of salt — about 6,000 tons — will be stored at a dome now under construction at the depot on Dabbs House Road.

"We've made the supply a little bit bigger to accommodate the demand out there" in eastern Henrico, said Jamie Massey, Public Works' road construction and maintenance supervisor.

Depending on the amount of snow and other precipitation, Public Works is prepared to deploy county crews plus contractors in 12-hour shifts that run 24 hours per day, seven days per week. That can mean as many as 120 trucks and other heavy equipment working to clear the roads.

"Everybody's dialed up," Massey said. "We're expecting no less than we got last year. We just have to see what Mother Nature throws at us."

### **Job 1: Clearing high-traffic roads**

With any winter storm, Public Works focuses first on high-traffic roads — arterials and collectors, such as Laburnum Avenue and Parham Road. The goal is to clear these "priority one" roads to bare pavement as quickly as possible — often within 24 to 48 hours — to help residents return to work and be able to reach hospitals, schools and other government facilities.

"Once we've achieved bare pavement, we move onto the secondaries, **SNOW continued on page 6**

# County offers options for leaf disposal

Henrico's leaf-collection efforts for 2015-16 are underway, with several free and paid options available to residents.

The county's program, operated jointly by the departments of Public Utilities and Public Works, earned a 2015 Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties. Henrico picked up more than 9,000 tons of leaves in the residential collection program last year.

## Free bagged collection, drop-off until Feb. 7

Residents can consult the map below for dates for the free, curbside pickup of bagged leaves in their area. The map also can be viewed at [henrico.us/services/bagged-leaf-collection](http://henrico.us/services/bagged-leaf-collection) by following the link for "Map of Leaf Collection Areas."

The program will continue through Feb. 7. County crews will remove bagged leaves once per street during the designated weeks; residents can expect two collections before the program ends.

Residents living in areas A-E do not need to schedule pickup. However, residents living outside these areas should call (804) 727-8770 to arrange collection.

Public Utilities asks residents to follow these guidelines when bagging leaves:

- Bags should contain only leaves, without debris and garbage.
- Bags should be placed curbside or at the edge of your street by 7 a.m. Monday of pickup week; the county cannot provide a specific day for collection.
- Bags must be accessible from the street; county crews are not authorized to enter your property.
- There is no limit to the number of bags you can place curbside.
- Bags should not block traffic lanes, parking or drainage ditches.

In addition to the pickup service, residents can drop their bagged leaves at no cost through Feb. 7 at the Charles City Road Public Use Area, 2075 Charles City Road; and the Springfield Road Public Use Area, 10600 Fords Country Lane.

After Feb. 7, the cost for disposing bagged leaves at these sites is \$3 per visit. Public-use areas accept loose leaves and other vegetative yard waste free of charge throughout the year.

Henrico's public-use areas are open daily from 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. except for Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas and New Year's Day. More information is available at [henrico.us/utility/solid-waste](http://henrico.us/utility/solid-waste).

## Vacuum service available

Don't want to bag your leaves this year? Henrico also offers a vacuuming program. The \$30 service is available through Dec. 31 and again from Feb. 29 to March 25.

The leaf-vacuuming program pauses in January and most of February to allow the county to direct crews, trucks and other resources to snow-removal efforts.

Residents can order the vacuum service at [henrico.us/utility](http://henrico.us/utility) or by calling (804) 501-4275. Before ordering, residents should ensure that:

- Loose leaves are accessible from the street's edge.
- Leaves are free of trash, sticks and other debris.
- Leaves do not block traffic lanes, parking or drainage ditches.

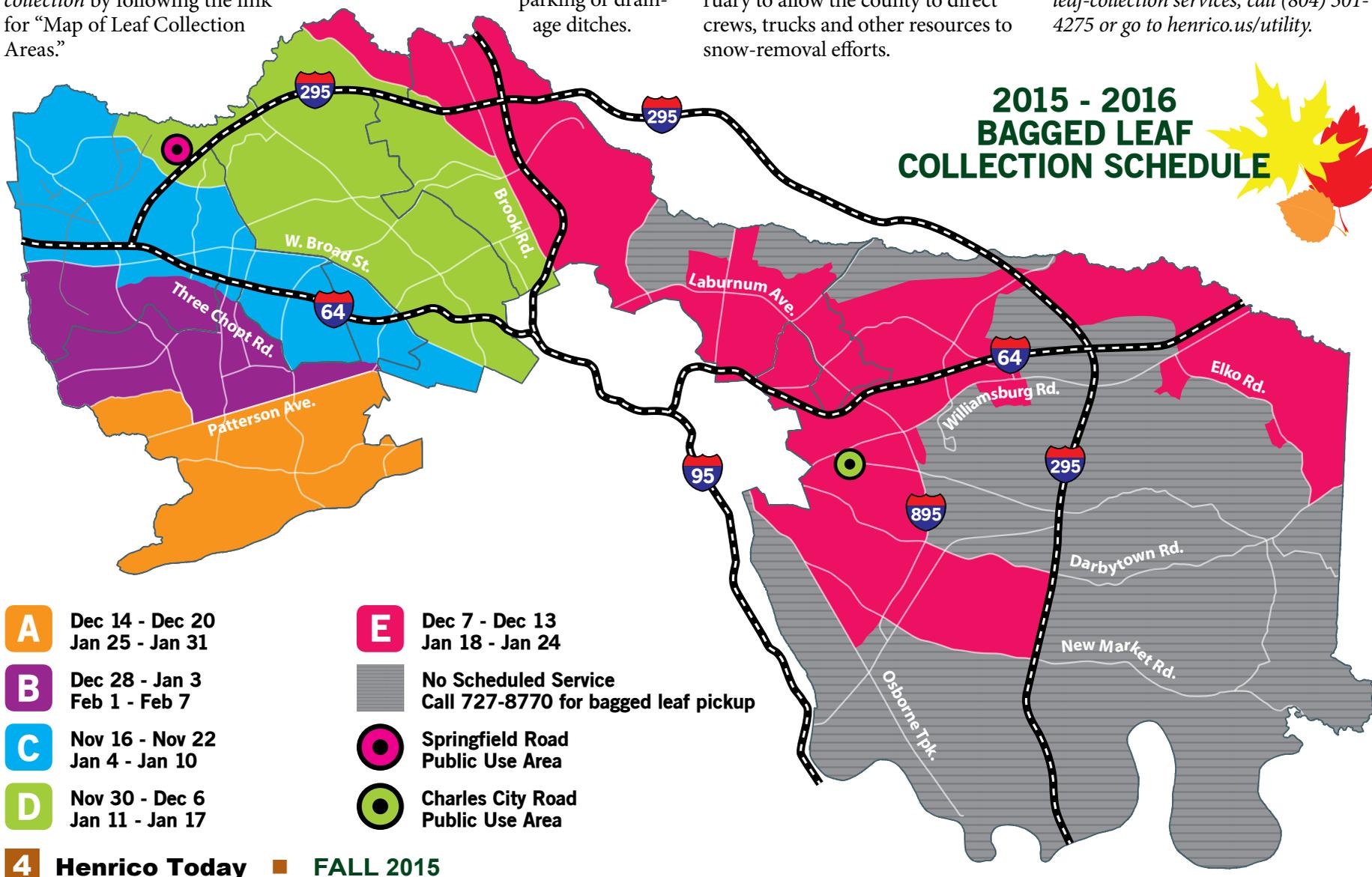
## Do-it-yourself mulch

Want to recycle your leaves into mulch or compost? Henrico's Extension office can help you turn this year's piles into next year's fertilizer. Call (804) 501-5160 for information.

## No burning

One disposal option not available to most residents is burning; it is illegal to burn leaves in much of the county. For information, contact the Fire Marshal's office at (804) 501-4900. ■

For more information about Henrico's leaf-collection services, call (804) 501-4275 or go to [henrico.us/utility](http://henrico.us/utility).



Comcast  
channel 17

# HCTV SCHEDULE

Verizon  
channel 39

Watch HCTV programs streamed live at [henrico.us](http://henrico.us). For program descriptions or more information, go to [henrico.us/pr](http://henrico.us/pr).



### Even Hours

Midnight, 2 a.m., 4 a.m., 6 a.m.,  
8 a.m., 10 a.m., Noon, 2 p.m.,  
4 p.m., 6 p.m., 8 p.m., 10 p.m.

### Odd Hours

1 a.m., 3 a.m., 5 a.m., 7 a.m.,  
9 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m.,  
5 p.m., 7 p.m., 9 p.m., 11 p.m.

Date Range	Days	Even Hours	Odd Hours
		Midnight, 2 a.m., 4 a.m., 6 a.m., 8 a.m., 10 a.m., Noon, 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m., 8 p.m., 10 p.m.	1 a.m., 3 a.m., 5 a.m., 7 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 7 p.m., 9 p.m., 11 p.m.
NOV 16 THROUGH NOV 22	Mon Wed Fri Sun	<b>Giving Thanks: The History and Origins of Thanksgiving</b> — mins TBD	<b>Water, Clean and Clear: Henrico's Water Treatment Facility</b> — 17 mins
	Tue Thu Sat	<b>Strumming up the Past: Henrico's Bluegrass Music</b> — 24 mins	<b>Henrico's Wild Side: Living with Creatures Among Us</b> — 16 mins
NOV 23 THROUGH NOV 29	Mon Wed Fri Sun	<b>Connecting Communities: Four Bridges Leading into Henrico</b> — 16 mins	<b>Airwaves of Yesteryear: Early Television in Central Virginia</b> — 30 mins
	Tue Thu Sat	<b>Mother Maybelle and The Carter Sisters: The Henrico Years</b> — 29 mins	<b>Curtain Call: A History of the Henrico Theatre</b> — 25 mins
NOV 30 THROUGH DEC 6	Mon Wed Fri Sun	<b>A New Beginning: Inside Henrico Drug Court</b> — 19 mins	<b>Crystal Clear: The Water Reclamation Facility</b> — 21 mins
	Tue Thu Sat	<b>Adoption Celebrations: A Moment in Time</b> — 25 mins	<b>Cashell Donahoe: A Gentleman and a Scholar</b> — 18 mins
DEC 7 THROUGH DEC 13	Mon Wed Fri Sun	<b>Taking Flight: Stories of Modern Virginia Aviation</b> — 51 mins	<b>Driving Force: Henrico's Traffic Safety Unit</b> — 27 mins
	Tue Thu Sat	<b>You are Not Alone: Breaking the Stigma of Mental Illness</b> — 27 mins	<b>Taking to the Sky: First Ladies in Aviation</b> — 26 mins
DEC 14 THROUGH DEC 20	Mon Wed Fri Sun	<b>Police and Fire Chaplains</b> — mins TBD	<b>Learning the Henrico Way: Inside the County's Internship Program</b> — 18 mins
	Tue Thu Sat	<b>Richard Evelyn Byrd: Admiral of the Antarctic</b> — 27 mins	<b>Ready to Respond: Police and Fire Rescue at Richmond International Airport</b> — 25 mins
DEC 21 THROUGH DEC 27	Mon Wed Fri Sun	<b>A Henrico Holiday</b> — mins TBD	<b>Newspapers, Apples and Politics: The Harry F. Byrd Story</b> — 27 mins
	Tue Thu Sat	<b>A Day in the Life: A Reenactment of the Battle at New Market Heights</b> — 22 mins	<b>Historic Henrico Churches: Windows to Our Past</b> — 28 mins

# Homeowner tax relief expanded

Seniors, disabled residents could qualify for \$3,000 exemption

**H**enrico County has restored its real estate tax relief program for seniors and disabled homeowners after weathering budgetary challenges caused by the Great Recession.

Effective Jan. 1, qualifying residents will be able to receive a real estate tax exemption of up to \$3,000 per year, an increase from the current \$2,500 level.

The Real Estate Advantage Program (REAP) is available to homeowners who are at least 65 years old or permanently and totally disabled with an annual income of \$67,000 or less and a net worth of \$350,000 or less.

The Board of Supervisors voted in October to set REAP's maximum

exemption at \$3,000 for 2016, which means participants will pay no real estate taxes up to that amount.

The average exemption last year was \$1,150. REAP participants also qualify for the county's free bulky waste pickup and leaf vacuum service.

REAP's maximum exemption had been \$3,000 as recently as 2013. Faced with revenue losses caused by the Great Recession, Henrico reduced the exemption to \$1,500 in 2014 and then adjusted it to \$2,500 in 2015 as revenues strengthened.

"Henrico is pleased to restore REAP to prerecession levels to provide the greatest possible tax relief to residents, particularly longtime taxpayers now living on fixed incomes," County Manager John A. Vithoulkas said. "We appreciate their patience and understanding, and are happy to now offer the full benefit as a way to say 'thank you' for choosing Henrico as your home."

The Board of Supervisors planned for the \$3,000 exemption

this spring when it approved a budget for fiscal 2015-16.

About 6,400 households are expected to receive \$8.2 million in combined tax relief in 2016, according to projections by the Department of Finance. Through August, nearly 6,000 households had qualified for \$7.6 million in relief in 2015.

Henrico awards one of the highest amounts of tax relief among localities in the state, according to totals from 2013 or 2014 compiled by the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service at the University of Virginia.

Henrico's \$7.8 million in relief trails the totals of Fairfax County (\$25.2 million) and the city of Virginia Beach (\$12.7 million), but exceeds those of Chesterfield County (\$3.8 million) and the city of Chesapeake (\$3.5 million), according to the data.

"I think REAP is a great benefit for living in a great county," said Billy Walton, Henrico's personal property tax supervisor.

Finance will be working

through early next year to make sure homeowners are aware of the program and the need to apply or certify their eligibility.

The department's outreach efforts include presentations to community groups as well as advertisements, brochures and other notices to catch the attention of residents who may qualify.

"Many of these people have lived in Henrico County for a long time and they've paid taxes. They're on a fixed income," said Debbie Oxenreider, a manager in Finance who helps administer REAP.

Applications are due April 1, although first-time applications and hardship cases are reviewed through Dec. 31. ■

*For information on REAP, call (804) 501-4263, go online to [henrico.us/finance](http://henrico.us/finance) or visit the Department of Finance at the Henrico County Government Center, 4301 E. Parham Road, or the Eastern Government Center, 3820 Nine Mile Road.*



*Henrico will be ready for any kind of winter wallop. The Department of Public Works is replenishing and expanding its supply of salt so roads can be made safe for driving as soon as possible after a storm.*

## SNOW continued from page 3

which are in the neighborhoods, and go from there," Massey said.

Public Works focuses on making these lesser-travelled streets passable. That means they can be driven with caution but may not be clear of snow and ice.

While Henrico is responsible for maintaining roads in the county, the Virginia Department of Transporta-

tion also plays a vital role. VDOT maintains all interstates, highways and primary roads, including Broad Street, Brook Road, Williamsburg Road, Patterson Avenue and New Market Road.

Overall, the county maintains more than 3,400 lane miles of road — the third highest total among governmental entities in the state behind the Commonwealth of Vir-

ginia and the city of Virginia Beach.

Public Works typically spreads salt or a salt-sand mixture once snow or other precipitation begins to accumulate on road surfaces. These applications promote melting and help create a slushy mix that can be plowed more easily.

The department also uses a deicing compound, magnesium chloride, in subfreezing temperatures.

Public Works uses these supplies only when necessary, recognizing their impact on the environment, Massey said.

"It just depends on the event," he said. "Last year, we had back-to-back-to-back events. That dictates how much you'll use."

## Vacuum leaf service will pause for snow removal

As it has done the past two years, Public Works will suspend its leaf-vacuum service for about eight weeks in January and February to make sure its fleet of heavy trucks and other equipment will be ready for snow removal. The county's bagged leaf collection program will continue without interruption during this period.

Public Works does not budget for snow removal each year. Instead, it draws whatever funds are needed from the county's general road maintenance budget — an amount that totals \$46.5 million this year.

Last year, Henrico spent \$2.5 million on snow removal, which included costs for personnel, contractors, supplies and equipment. ■

# RECREATION ROUNDUP

**Fri, Nov 20:**

## **The Currys in Concert**

Enjoy the acoustic, harmony-rich performance by this family trio. Reservations required; tickets \$10. *Henrico Theatre. 7 p.m. Info: 324-4491.*

**Thu, Dec 3:**

## **Henrico Community Band Holiday Concert**

*The Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen. 7:30 p.m. Info: 501-5859.*

**Sat, Dec 5:**

## **17th Annual Tree Lighting**

Celebrate the season with a bonfire, holiday music, refreshments, St. Nick and a 60-foot cedar. *The Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen. 4:30-6:30 p.m. Info: 343-3506.*

**Mon, Dec 7:**

## **Henrico Concert Band Holiday Concert**

*Henrico Theatre. 7:30 p.m. Info: 328-4491.*

**Tue & Wed, Dec 8 & 9:**

## **On-the-Air Radio Players**

Be a part of the studio audience for the live performance of the old-time radio show, "Stay Tuned for Christmas." *The Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen. 7:30 p.m. Info: 501-5138.*

**Sat, Dec 12:**

## **James River Parade of Lights**

Sail into the season with a lighted boat parade, holiday music and other activities. The Toy Parade begins the festivities at 3 p.m. *Osborne Park and Boat Landing. 4-8 p.m. Info: 343-3506.*



*Meadow Farm will host lantern tours Dec. 19.*

**Sat, Dec 19:**

## **Christmas with Susan Greenbaum and KOS**

Enjoy holiday favorites by the popular local performers. Reservations required; tickets \$5. *Henrico Theatre. 4 & 7 p.m. Info: 328-4491.*

**Sat, Dec 19:**

## **Meadow Farm Holiday Lantern Tours**

Costumed living historians lead groups through a candlelit history of classic

Christmas carols. Tours leave every 15 minutes from the Orientation Center. *Meadow Farm Museum. 5:30-8 p.m. Info: 501-2130.*

**Fri, Jan 22:**

## **M-Pact in Concert**

The cutting-edge, vocal-music trailblazer performs an array of popular tunes using only his voice. Reservations required; tickets \$10. *Henrico Theatre. 7 p.m. Info: 328-4491.*

## **Tue, Jan 26: Big Band Concert featuring The Continentals**

*Hermitage High School Auditorium. 7-9 p.m. Info: 501-5138.*

**Sat, Jan 30:**

## **Get Your Laugh On**

Enjoy an evening of good, clean comedy with instructor Kelly Alan Doane and the Encore Comedy Club. Advance registration required; tickets \$5. Ages 18 and older. *Deep Run Recreation Center. 7-8:30 p.m. Info: 652-1427.*

*Programs are free and open to everyone except where noted. For additional activities, see "Program Guide," our catalog of events and classes, available at [henrico.us/rec](http://henrico.us/rec), Henrico libraries and by calling (804) 501-PARK (7275).*

# LIBRARY LINEUP

**Mon, Nov 23:**

## **Thanksgiving Reading**

Librarian Mike Hatchett will read Truman Capote's holiday story, "The Thanksgiving Visitor." *Fairfield Area Library. 7-8:30 p.m. Info: 290-9300.*

**Thu, Dec 3:**

## **Short Pump Symphonette Holiday Concert**

*Glen Allen Branch Library. 7-8:15 p.m. Info: 290-9500.*

**Thu, Dec 3:**

## **Seasonal Music**

Bob Wadsworth will play holiday music on his dulcimer. *Tuckahoe Area Library. 7-8 p.m. Info: 290-9130.*

**Mon, Dec 7:**

## **Holiday Concert**

Joshua Allen will offer a selection of traditional songs. *Fairfield Area Library. 7-8:30 p.m. Info: 290-9300.*

**Tue, Dec 8:**

## **All Ages Holiday Craft-a-thon**

Create a gift or decoration and refuel with a holiday snack. *North Park Branch Library. 6-7 p.m. Info: 290-9700.*

**Wed, Dec 9:**

## **Christmas Party**

Celebrate the season with stories from Mrs. Claus, a craft, refreshments and a visit from Santa, too! *Varina Branch Library. 7-7:45 p.m. Info: 290-9800.*

**Sat, Dec 12:**

## **Klezmer Concert**

Klezmer'Or'Ami'im will perform old-world Eastern European folk music with roots in the Jewish culture. *Libbie Mill Library. 3-4 p.m. Info: 290-9400.*

**Tue, Dec 15:**

## **Holiday Party**

Play games, make crafts and meet Santa! *Fairfield Area Library. 7-8 p.m. Info: 290-9300.*

**Thu, Dec 17:**

## **American Youth Harp Ensemble Holiday Concert**

*Twin Hickory Area Library. 2-3 p.m. Info: 290-9200.*

**Mon, Dec 21:**

## **Holiday Jazz with Johnny Long**

*Fairfield Area Library. 7-8:30 p.m. Info: 290-9300.*

**Mon, Jan 11:**

## **Minecraft Unplugged**

Enjoy family activities and crafts based on the popular video game. Ages 5 and older. *Tuckahoe Area Library. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Info: 290-9132.*

## **Wed, Jan 13: Basic Digital Photography Workshop**

Learn about taking, downloading, emailing and posting photos with a digital camera. Registration required. *Twin Hickory Area Library. 7-8:30 p.m. Info: 290-9200.*

## **Sat, Feb 6: A Virtual Tour of Maggie Walker's Richmond**

Park Ranger Ben Anderson presents sites including her birthplace, church, department store, bank and home. *Glen Allen Branch Library. 2-3:30 p.m. Info: 290-9500.*

## **African Drumming**

Ages 5-11; registration required. **Mon, Feb 8:** *Fairfield Area Library. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Info: 290-9300;*

**Mon, Feb 15:** *Sandston Branch Library. 2-4 p.m. Info: 290-9900.*

## **Tue, Feb 9: Hip Hop Youth Empowerment Workshop**

Young people can learn to use their knowledge and creativity to make a positive impact on the world through hip hop culture. Ages 12-18. *Fairfield Area Library. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Info: 290-9300.*

## **Feb. 16-24: Story Drama Workshop**

Join Virginia Repertory Theatre teachers for this acting workshop designed to complement the upcoming Children's Theatre production, "Croaker: The Frog Prince." Ages 3-5; registration required. *Check [henricolibrary.org](http://henricolibrary.org) for times and locations.*

*Events are free and open to everyone except where noted. For more information go to [henricolibrary.org/events](http://henricolibrary.org/events).*

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## Quick Reference Telephone Numbers

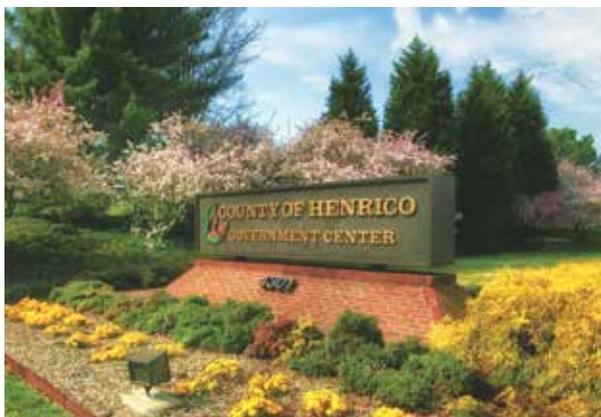
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# Henrico TODAY

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