



HENRICO COUNTY VIRGINIA

August 2009

August 31, 2009

CONTACT: Mike Jennings, Traffic Engineer

PHONE: 501-4397

Henrico Public Works advises motorists to plan for heavy traffic Sept. 11-12 for NASCAR

In preparation for the upcoming Virginia 529 College Savings 250 and Chew Rock & Roll 400 NASCAR events at Richmond International Raceway (RIR), the Henrico County Department of Public Works will modify traffic patterns on major routes to the raceway on Friday, Sept. 11 and Saturday, Sept. 12. The temporary changes should help minimize traffic congestion during the races.

Motorists should expect extremely heavy traffic and delays all day Friday and Saturday in the raceway area, especially from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. before the races and from 10:15 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. after the races.

The Henrico Division of Police will have officers on duty to direct traffic around the area before and after the races. Police encourage race fans and other motorists to consult message boards on interstate highways and roadways approaching RIR for traffic information. WRVA 1140 AM will broadcast traffic reports as well.

The following traffic patterns will be in effect Sept. 12 during peak hours:

Carolina Avenue between Laburnum and Azalea avenues will be one-way inbound before the race and one-way outbound after the race. Access to businesses along Carolina Avenue will be maintained from Laburnum Avenue.

Meadowbridge Road between the Henrico/Hanover county line and Azalea Avenue will be one-way southbound beginning at approximately 9 a.m. and continuing until the race starts.

Meadowbridge Road north of Azalea Avenue will close to northbound traffic; however, in Hanover County it will remain a two-way road at all times.

After the race, Laburnum Avenue between Carolina Avenue and Mechanicsville Turnpike will be one-way eastbound. Two-way traffic will be maintained westbound from Carolina Avenue.

After the race, Meadowbridge Road north of Azalea Avenue will be one-way northbound between Azalea Avenue and Atlee Road, beginning at approximately 10 p.m. and continuing until race traffic is dispersed.

After the race, three lanes on Azalea Avenue between Richmond-Henrico Turnpike and Henrico High School will be routed westbound and one lane eastbound. This change will require all median crossovers on Azalea Avenue between Richmond-Henrico Turnpike and Henrico High School to close at approximately 10 p.m. until race traffic is dispersed. Police will assist motorists turning from Azalea Avenue to Thrush Lane and Pony Farm Drive.

While these traffic patterns are in effect, median crossovers on Laburnum Avenue will be closed between North Avenue and Mechanicsville Turnpike, except at Pilots Lane and Austin Avenue. Only right turns will be permitted to and from Laburnum Avenue. Police will be positioned at these intersections before and after the race to assist motorists turning onto or crossing Laburnum Avenue.

On-street parking on major routes to RIR is prohibited each day. Additional parking will be available Sept. 12 for \$6 at the Richmond Coliseum parking deck on North Seventh Street. Free shuttle bus service to and from RIR will be provided beginning at 1 p.m. Parking also will be available at the Showplace on Mechanicsville Turnpike beginning at 11 a.m., \$5 per car and \$25 per recreational vehicle; free shuttle bus service to RIR will be provided.

The Henrico Division of Police has recommended the following routes for traffic approaching the raceway Sept. 11-12:

From the east (Hampton Roads area) – Follow Interstate 64 west to Interstate 295 north (Exit 200). Follow Interstate 295 north and exit onto Mechanicsville Turnpike west (Exit 37B). Follow Mechanicsville Turnpike to Laburnum Avenue. Turn right and proceed to the raceway.

From the east (Route 360) - Approach Richmond on Route 360 west (Mechanicsville Turnpike), cross Interstate 295, and continue west to Laburnum Avenue. Turn right and proceed to the raceway.

From the east (local traffic) - Follow Interstate 64 west and take the Laburnum Avenue exit (Exit 195). Turn right and proceed to the raceway.

From the north - Follow Interstate 95 south to the Interstate 295 east interchange (marked "To Norfolk - Williamsburg"). Follow Interstate 295 east and exit onto Meadowbridge Road west (Exit 38B). Follow Meadowbridge Road (Richmond-Henrico Turnpike) and proceed to the raceway.

From the north (local traffic) - Use Route 1 (Brook Road) to Azalea Avenue. Turn left onto Azalea Avenue and proceed to the raceway.

From the west - Follow Interstate 64 east to the Interstate 295 south interchange (Exit 177). Follow Interstate 295 south and exit onto Meadowbridge Road west (Exit 38B). Follow Meadowbridge Road (Richmond-Henrico Turnpike) and proceed to the raceway.

From the west (local traffic) - Follow Interstate 64 east to the Powhite Parkway/Laburnum Avenue exit. Take the Laburnum Avenue exit, turn left and proceed to the raceway.

From the south - Follow Interstate 95 north to the interchange with Interstate 295 south of Petersburg. Follow Interstate 295 north and exit onto Mechanicsville Turnpike (Exit 37B). Follow Mechanicsville Turnpike to Laburnum Avenue. Turn right and proceed to the raceway.

From the south (local traffic) - Follow Interstate 95 north to the Interstate 64 east interchange (Exit 75). Follow Interstate 64 to Route 360 east (Mechanicsville Turnpike). Follow Route 360 east to Laburnum Avenue. Turn left and proceed to the raceway.

August 26, 2009

CONTACT: Teddy Martin, Extension Technician

PHONE: 501-5160

Free Henrico Extension lawn care seminars set for Sept. 8-10

The Henrico County Extension Office will conclude its free, year-round seminar series Sept. 8-10 with a program on fall and winter lawn care. The seminars are scheduled for 7-8:30 p.m. each night at the following locations (each seminar will feature the same program): Tuesday, Sept. 8, Sandston Branch Library, 23 E.

Williamsburg Road; Wednesday, Sept. 9, Tuckahoe Area Library, 1901 Starling Drive; and Thursday, Sept. 10, Twin Hickory Area Library, 5001 Twin Hickory Road.

"Winterizing Your Lawn" will explain steps that can be taken in the fall to help lawns survive the winter and get ready for a healthy spring. Participants will learn about aerating, seeding, applying lime and other topics. In addition, participants can bring samples for identification and discussion.

"Winterizing Your Lawn" is open to the public. Each seminar will be led by an Extension staff member or a Henrico Master Gardener. Pre-registration is encouraged. Call 501-5160 to register or to obtain additional information.

August 14, 2009

CONTACT: Paul N. Proto, Director, General Services

PHONE: 501-4957

Henrico expands outreach programs for SWAM businesses

Henrico County's ongoing efforts to enhance opportunities for small, women- and minority-owned (SWAM) companies to do business with the county's general government and public schools agencies yielded significant results during the 2009 fiscal year, which ended June 30.

Henrico's business with SWAM firms totaled \$114.5 million in FY 09, a record amount. That represented 36 percent of the competitive contracts for goods, services and construction for all county agencies, including schools.

The county's third annual SWAM business fair, Henrico County Connections, nearly tripled in size. Held in April at an off-site location for the first time to accommodate the increased interest, the event was designed to inform and guide SWAM firms wanting to become county vendors. This year, representatives of more than 400 companies from seven states and Washington, D.C. attended. In addition to 16 participating county agencies, the event included more than a dozen state agencies and business resource organizations as well as four other metropolitan-area localities. The region's largest SWAM business event, Henrico County Connections received a 2009 Achievement Award for regional collaboration from the Virginia Association of Counties.

The event was organized by the county's first supplier relations coordinator, a position added to Henrico's staff in November to facilitate the comprehensive SWAM program. The supplier relations coordinator has served as a key resource for SWAM firms, providing training on how to conduct business with the county and enhancing their access to the competitive procurement process.

For more information about Henrico's SWAM program, contact Supplier Relations Coordinator Marvis Marshall at 501-5689.

August 12, 2009

CONTACT: Lisa Sanderson, Extension Agent

PHONE: 501-5160

Henrico Extension 'green' fall lawn care seminars set for Aug. 18-20

The Henrico County Extension Office will introduce its new seminar series, "Living Greener in Henrico County," Aug. 18-20 with a program on techniques for environmentally sound lawn and garden care in the fall. The free seminars are scheduled for 7-8:30 p.m. each night at the following locations (each program will feature the same information): Tuesday, Aug. 18, Dumbarton Area Library, 6800 Staples Mill Road; Wednesday, Aug. 19, Varina Branch Library, 2001 Library Road; and Thursday, Aug. 20, Tuckahoe Area Library, 1901 Starling Drive.

"Fall Cleanup -- Fall 'Green' Up" will cover a variety of topics including methods for conserving water in the garden; proper installation and maintenance of plants in the fall; cool-season lawn care; and reducing use of garden chemicals. The program also will provide information on Extension's free pesticide disposal program, set for Aug. 28.

The seminars are open to the public; pre-registration is encouraged. Call 501-5160 to register or to obtain additional information.

August 10, 2009

CONTACT: Patricia Hill, Ph.D., Prevention Manager, Henrico Area Mental Health and Retardation Services

PHONE: 222-2607

The Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control will award a 2009 Community Coalitions Grant to Henrico Area Mental Health Prevention Services and the Too Smart 2 Start Coalition during a ceremony 10 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 11 at the Henrico Area Mental Health and Retardation Services East Center office, 4825 S. Laburnum Ave.

The Too Smart 2 Start Coalition will use the grant to expand its community-level work to prevent underage drinking in Henrico by implementing the nationally recognized program, "Parents Who Host Lose the Most." The coalition is a partnership between several county agencies, private agencies, businesses, school resources, law enforcement, community leaders, parents, youth and others.

Call 222-2607 for more information.

August 7, 2009

CONTACT: Susan Hill, Case Manager, Henrico CASA

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Henrico CASA seeks volunteers for child advocacy program

The Henrico Court Appointed Special Advocates program (CASA) is seeking volunteers to serve as advocates for abused and neglected children in Henrico's court system.

Henrico CASA will conduct a free, six-week training program for volunteers from 6-9 p.m. each Monday and Wednesday beginning Monday, Sept. 21 at its office in the Hungary Spring Office Park, 3001 Hungary Spring Road. Applicants will undergo interviews, background and reference checks.

To apply or to obtain additional information, contact Susan Hill at 501-1670, e-mail hill29@co.henrico.va.us or log on to www.henricocasa.org by Friday, Sept. 4.

CASA volunteers represent the best interests of a victimized child in the court system. They come from a variety of educational and professional backgrounds; legal experience is not required. Qualifying participants will learn to conduct interviews, research and investigate cases, provide written reports for judges and assist child welfare professionals and case attorneys.

Last year, volunteers served as advocates for 258 children, donating some 8,575 hours to their cases.

Henrico CASA is a private, nonprofit organization that works closely with the county's Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. For more information, log on to the [CASA Web site](#).

August 3, 2009

CONTACT: Barry Lawrence, Clerk, Board of Supervisors

PHONE: 501-4318

Henrico programs win awards from statewide association

Henrico County has received two Achievement awards from the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo), honoring innovative programs recently implemented by the county. The awards will be presented at the 2009 VACo annual conference in November.

The VACo Achievement Awards program recognizes model local government initiatives in categories ranging from criminal justice and public safety to information technology and community development. The association received 72 entries for the 2009 contest, naming 15 winners. VACo represents local governments at the state and federal levels and provides a resource network for planning and implementing new ideas and technologies.

Henrico programs received awards in the following categories:

"Electronic Waste Recycling," environmental; Henrico partnered with Central Virginia Waste Management Authority and Ukrop's Supermarkets to lower costs and increase participation at special events designed to recycle televisions, computers, fax machines and other electronic devices. Since beginning in 2007, the program has recycled more than 200,000 pounds of electronic materials; attendance at events has increased 400 percent while costs have decreased.

"Regional Supplier Conference (SWAM)," regional collaboration; as part of an outreach effort to small, women and minority businesses, the county held its first SWAM supplier conference, Henrico County Connections, in 2007. The event has expanded to include other localities from the metropolitan region. Representatives from more than 400 SWAM suppliers attended this year's one-day event, meeting with officials from dozens of agencies, making contacts and learning about doing business with Henrico and other local governments.

August 3, 2009

CONTACT: Karen Carter, County Agent

PHONE: 501-5160

Free pesticide disposal available Aug. 28 at Henrico's Springfield Landfill

The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) and the Henrico County Extension Office will offer a free pesticide disposal program from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 28 at the Springfield Road Landfill, 10600 Fords Country Lane. Homeowners, agricultural producers, pesticide dealers, golf courses, pest control companies and others can bring their unwanted, outdated or banned pesticides for safe disposal.

"This is one of the very few opportunities homeowners have to get rid of their unused pesticides for free," said Henrico County Agent Karen Carter. "Pesticide disposal is prohibitively expensive if you contract for the service individually."

Carter encouraged residents and businesses to take advantage of the VDACS program – it will not be offered in the region again until 2014. Similar disposal events are scheduled for Aug. 25 in Petersburg and Aug. 27 in New Kent County.

The disposal program will accept agriculture, commercial and homeowner pesticides; weed and feeds; pesticide rinsates; and pesticide dilutions. It will not accept pesticide-contaminated materials, motor oil, paint, fuel, fertilizer, biological or medical waste or other chemicals.

Participants should submit a registration form before delivering pesticides to the collection site. Forms are available at Henrico libraries and on the VDACS Web site at www.vdacs.virginia.gov.

For more information, contact Henrico Extension at 501-5160.

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