



HENRICO COUNTY VIRGINIA

MARCH 2015

March 17, 2015

CONTACT: Karen F. Carter, Horticulture Extension Agent, Henrico County office of the Virginia Cooperative Extension
PHONE: (804) 501-5160

Henrico Extension to offer lawn care workshop

The Henrico County office of Virginia Cooperative Extension will offer a free workshop at three locations of the Henrico County Public Library this spring to explain how to grow a healthy lawn without harming the environment.

The Get SMART with Lawn Care workshop will be held Monday, March 30 at North Park Branch Library, 8508 Franconia Road; Tuesday, March 31 at Sandston Branch Library, 23 E. Williamsburg Road; and Thursday, April 2 at Twin Hickory Area Library, 5001 Twin Hickory Road. Each session will start at 7 p.m.

The SMART Lawns program is designed to share practical ways to control weeds, increase turf density and prevent diseases using organic or conventional products. The workshop will explain the five concepts of SMART turf management — Soil conditions, Measuring, Aerating, Right fertilizer and Trouble-free maintenance.

Each workshop session is open to the public, but registration in advance is encouraged. Extension also will be accepting applications for its SMART Lawns program, which provides Henrico residents with customized plans for growing attractive, healthy lawns.

To register for a workshop session or to receive an application for the SMART Lawns program, call (804) 501-5160 or send an email to cmitchell@vt.edu. For information, go to www.henrico.us/extension.

March 16, 2015

CONTACT: Shirley Lyons, Program Manager, Henrico Area Mental Health & Developmental Services
PHONE: (804) 262-6665, ext. 8803

Henrico salutes accomplishments of individuals with developmental disabilities

Henrico Area Mental Health & Developmental Services will sponsor an ice cream social Friday, March 27 to recognize Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month and to celebrate the achievements and successes of people with developmental disabilities.

The event, which is free and open to the public, will be held from 1:15 to 2:30 p.m. at Hermitage Enterprises, 8247 Hermitage Road. Festivities will include presentations highlighting individuals and their talents, hopes, dreams and accomplishments.

Hermitage Enterprises works with local employers to promote the hiring of individuals who have developmental disabilities and live in Henrico, New Kent and Charles City counties. The individuals also serve various organizations as volunteers. For information about Hermitage Enterprises and its programs, call Shirley Lyons at (804) 262-6665, ext. 8803.

Gov. Terry McAuliffe has declared March as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in Virginia. Nearly 150,000 adults and children across the state have developmental disabilities.

As part of the statewide observance, Henrico Area Mental Health & Developmental Services supports greater awareness of people's abilities and similarities, and promotes employment and residential opportunities that more fully integrate individuals with developmental disabilities into the community.

March 12, 2015

CONTACT: David M. Sacks, Community Development Manager, Department of Community Revitalization

PHONE: (804) 501-7611

Henrico sets final hearing on community development needs for March 26

Henrico County will hold a final public hearing Thursday, March 26 to help guide the county's use of federal housing and community development funds over the next five years.

The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. in room 2031 of the Henrico County Training Center, 7701 E. Parham Road. The hearing had been scheduled for Feb. 26 but was canceled due to winter weather.

Henrico will use the input of residents and others to prepare the Fiscal Year 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan and an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. The plan will establish priorities for the use of federal Community Development Block Grant Program, HOME Investment Partnerships Program and Emergency Solutions Grant Program funds. Henrico will submit the plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development this summer, pending approval by the Board of Supervisors.

Henrico receives more than \$2 million in the federal funding annually for services, programs, facilities and other assistance to low- and moderate-income residents, as well as people who are homeless or have other special needs. The funds have supported a variety of initiatives, including housing improvements, home purchase assistance, neighborhood recreation facilities and after-school programs.

For information, call (804) 501-7640 or go to www.henrico.us/revit. The webpage includes a link to an online survey. To request a special accommodation at the meeting, call (804) 501-7640 by March 24.

March 6, 2015

CONTACT: Kendra J.K. Young, Extension Agent, Henrico County office of the Virginia Cooperative Extension

PHONE: (804) 501-5160

Registration for Henrico Junior 4-H summer camp begins with March 28 open house

The Henrico County office of the Virginia Cooperative Extension will hold an open house Saturday, March 28 to begin accepting registrations for the 2015 Henrico County Junior 4-H Camp.

The open house will be held from 9 a.m. to noon in the Extension office at the Human Services Building, 8600 Dixon Powers Drive. The residential camp, which is open to boys and girls ages 9 through 14, will be held July 20-24 at the Jamestown 4-H Educational Center, near Williamsburg.

Early registration is strongly encouraged because space is limited and many classes fill quickly. The cost of the camp is \$242 and includes a T-shirt, lodging, meals, programs, instructional class materials and transportation by chartered bus. Scholarship assistance may be available. Registration forms are available at henrico.us/extension and may be submitted at the open house or by mail.

The Junior 4-H Camp provides youths with a fun learning environment while they make friends and discover the outdoors. Activities include swimming, archery, sailing, canoeing, basketball, forestry, marine science, volleyball, shooting sports, fishing, robotics, campfires and crafts. The camp's theme for 2015 is "Road Trip!"

The Jamestown 4-H Educational Center occupies 16 acres of woods and open spaces along the James River. Amenities include air-conditioned lodges and cabins, archery and rifle ranges, a swimming pool, a floating dock, a ropes course and an amphitheater.

Accredited by the American Camp Association, the camp is operated by adult and teen counselors and a staff that includes lifeguards, recreational leaders, a dietician and a medical attendant. Parent volunteers are needed. For information, call (804) 501-5160, send an email to henrico4-h@vt.edu or go to henrico.us/extension.

March 5, 2015

CONTACT: Linda Leigh, Executive Assistant, Henrico County Board of Supervisors
PHONE: (804) 501-4208

Fairfield meeting March 18 to detail Cobbs Creek Reservoir plans

Fairfield District Supervisor Frank J. Thornton will hold a constituent meeting Wednesday, March 18 to provide an update on plans for the Cobbs Creek Reservoir, a regional water supply that will be designed to serve Henrico County's water needs for the next 50 years.

The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at the Eastern Henrico Recreation Center, 1440 N. Laburnum Ave.

County Manager John A. Vithoukas and representatives of the Department of Public Utilities will join Thornton for the discussion and will answer questions.

For information, call (804) 501-4208.

March 3, 2015

CONTACT: Joseph P. Casey, Deputy County Manager for Administration
PHONE: (804) 501-4288

Registration for Henrico Citizens Academy opens March 23

Henrico residents can get a firsthand, comprehensive look at county operations and services at the 2015 Henrico Citizens Academy, scheduled for six sessions in April and May.

The free, 15-hour program will take place from 6:30 to 9 p.m. each Thursday from April 23 to May 28. Residents can register at connect.henricorecandparks.com beginning Monday, March 23. They also can sign up at the Division of Recreation and Parks office in the Human Services Building, 8600 Dixon Powers Drive.

The academy is open to 35 residents, with space reserved for seven individuals from each of Henrico's five magisterial districts. Participants must be 18 or older. Residents placed on a waiting list from the 2014 academy will be offered a position in the upcoming program.

Classes are led by Henrico officials and staff and take place at a different county facility each week. Classes typically feature a presentation and discussion, facility tours, equipment demonstrations and other activities. Topics include community and economic development; human services; public safety; libraries, finance and recreation and parks; and schools.

"Local government has a more direct impact on the lives of residents than any other level of government," said Deputy County Manager for Administration Joseph P. Casey. "The Citizens Academy gives our residents insight into the full scope of operations and services Henrico County provides every day."

Casey noted that academy alumni will have the opportunity to remain engaged and provide further assistance to the county.

For more information call (804) 501-4370 or email kle@henrico.us.
