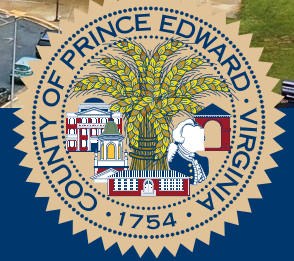




Photo: George Burruss of Burruss Farmscapes

Prince Edward County 2025 Annual Report



POPULATION
22,276

MEDIAN AGE
32.3

MEDIAN HOME VALUE
\$299,900

POVERTY RATE
25.1%

**THIRD
LOWEST**
REAL ESTATE TAX RATE
OF 95 COUNTIES IN VA
39 CENTS
PER \$100 OF ASSESSED VALUATION

Prince Edward County was established in Southern Virginia in 1754. Today we stand at the crossroads of the closing days of the American Civil War and the birthplace of America's fight for civil rights in education. Home to 22,000 residents, the

County offers a rural, progressive lifestyle; two institutions of higher education; a vibrant arts and cultural community; a flourishing downtown shopping district; and a rich abundance of college athletics and outdoor recreational offerings.

A Message from the Board Chair



Victor (Bill) Jenkins, Chair
Prince Edward County
Board of Supervisors

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors and County staff, I am pleased to present the 2025 Annual Report to the residents of Prince Edward County.

It remains the vision of the Board to guide a progressive, diverse, and inclusive county—one that honors its heritage while working

collaboratively with its citizens to achieve economic prosperity, educational excellence, lasting public safety, and responsible fiscal stewardship.

Over the past year, we have made meaningful progress on the County's 2025–2027 Capital Improvement Plan. Construction is underway on the renovation of Prince Edward County Elementary School, a project scheduled for completion in spring 2027. We have also completed a new landfill cell and are in the process of upgrading the County's emergency radio

communication system. Renovation of the Worsham Convenience Site is well underway. Planning has commenced for a new Prince Edward County Animal Shelter, which will be funded by revenue from the County's contract with the ICA facility.

In addition to these public infrastructure investments, our local economy continues to grow. We welcomed several new commercial projects, including Wawa, Harbor Freight, Five Pillars Meats, and Flagstop Car Wash. These investments are a sign of continued confidence in our community.

Other significant accomplishments this year include the adoption of "PEC2045: *Forward Together*"—the County's new Comprehensive Plan—and the successful consolidation of the Emergency Communications (911) Center with the Town of Farmville. Both of these are important steps toward improved coordination and long-term planning.

As this annual report outlines, Prince Edward County continues to move forward—addressing critical facility needs and promoting growth with a focus on long-term fiscal responsibility.

Vision

A progressive, diverse, and inclusive County that honors its heritage and collaborates with its residents to achieve prosperity, educational excellence, and lasting public safety while ensuring fiscal responsibility.

Mission

The mission of the Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County is to represent all residents, provide leadership, create vision, and set policy to accomplish positive change and planned growth as well as providing essential services, enhancing the quality of life, and maintaining fiscal responsibility.

Capital Improvement Plan



Elementary School Renovation

The comprehensive revitalization of Prince Edward County Elementary School is well underway, with significant progress made since the bid was awarded to Lynchburg-based English Construction in October 2024. Following a groundbreaking ceremony in November 2024, the project is now in full swing. Demolition of the two oldest buildings (E and F) is complete, making way for a new 21,800-square-foot addition that will house the school's new main entry. Construction has moved into its next phase, with steel frames and new roofing now in place. The renovations remain focused on improving safety and security, the instructional environment, and site circulation. Updated mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and modern finishes will also be installed. The entire project is on schedule for completion by March 2027.



Convenience Site Updates

The County's initiative to upgrade its convenience sites has advanced significantly. The first major phase of improvements at the Rice site has been completed, resulting in an expanded and reconfigured facility with new paving, fencing, and a modern leachate collection system. Building on this success, the Worsham Convenience Site is now undergoing a comprehensive upgrade. This project includes new paving, signage, LED lighting, and a grade-separated area for the disposal of large items. To ensure continuity of service during the estimated six-month construction period, a temporary drop-off site was established. Looking to the future, the County's long-term capital improvement plan includes a \$1 million project to upgrade and consolidate the Prospect and Tuggle convenience sites, which is currently recommended for the 2027/2028 budget.

Animal Shelter Update

The replacement of the County Animal Shelter remains a top priority for the County. The existing facility is too small for the need in the community and is now failing to meet all state regulations. In recent years, the number of animals housed at the shelter has skyrocketed and places additional pressure on the staff. The County has identified a potential location for a new shelter and is in the process of designing a new facility to meet the future needs of the community.



SEE THE
COMPLETE
CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENT
PLAN

Our Community—by the Numbers



100,118

Tourism social
media reach



6,528

Fire & EMS calls
for services



9,384

Sheriff calls
for services



71,120

Library books
borrowed



28

New homes built



100

Jobs created by
IDA projects



370

Miles of broadband
installed



17

County historic
landmarks



4,559

Tons of recycled material
kept out of landfill



134

Marriage licenses
issued



13,575

Acres of public
recreational land



501,100

County social
media reach

Tax Dollar Transparency: Where Every Cent Counts



*Note: Federal pass-through funding of \$33,558,549 for ICA Farmville operations was excluded from Total County Expenditures above.

Grants Awarded | \$1,411,419 Total Grant Funds Received

Economic Development & Tourism		Courts & Operations		Public Safety	
Virginia Broadband Affordability and Adoption Planning	\$175,000	Elections - Purchase of ePoll Books	\$41,164	Assistance to Firefighters Grant – for Radio System	\$990,761
VA250 Celebrating VA's History: A Look at Prince Edward County	\$10,000	Virginia Litter Prevention & Recycling Program Activities	\$11,294	Byrne Justice Assistance Grant	\$3,200
Virginia Tourism Corporation	\$10,000	Virginia GIS Maintenance Grant	\$5,000	VA Opioid Abatement Grant - Counseling and Treatment	\$50,000
				VA Opioid Abatement Grant - Treatment and Long-Term Recovery	\$115,000



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Follow Farmville-Prince Edward
 Emergency Communications
www.facebook.com/fpecc

Awards, Accolades & Certifications



2025 Best Places to Work in Virginia

Prince Edward County was named one of the “2025 Best Places to Work in Virginia” by Virginia Business Magazine and was the only local government to receive this recognition. Prince Edward County offers a supportive, inclusive, and professional work environment where employees can thrive. The County values teamwork, open communication, and professional development, empowering staff to grow their skills and contribute to the community. Employees benefit from a competitive package that includes health insurance, a Virginia Retirement System plan, and recognition programs such as Employee of the Month, service awards, and holiday celebrations.

Top Bass Fishing Destination

According to the 2025 Virginia Reservoirs Largemouth Bass Fishing Ranking Report from Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources, Prince Edward County is *home to two of Virginia's top five largemouth bass fishing spots*.

3rd Consecutive VACo Achievement Award

In recognition of its innovative partnership with Longwood University, Prince Edward County received a *2025 VACo Achievement Award*. The partnership directly engaged students in the community planning process on the topic of the County's forecasted population decline. Students provided recommendations to attract the working-age population through strategies to improve quality-of-life, facilitate workforce development, and reduce housing costs. Recommendations and strategies developed by the students were ultimately included in the County's recent Comprehensive Plan, *PEC 2045: Forward Together*.

Professional Certifications

Ariel Witmer, Chief Deputy Animal Control Officer, and **Caitlyn Moore**, Deputy Animal Control Officer, each earned their Firearms Endorsement from the Department of Criminal Justice Services after completing the required handgun and shotgun training requirements.

Professional Certifications - continued

Mackenzie Tate, CPT, Senior Permit Technician (Department of Community Development), has recently earned multiple professional certifications and contributed to advancing her field:

- Certification for Building Inspection-Residential from the Virginia Building Code Academy
- Certification for Program Administrator, Erosion, & Sediment Control from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
- Certification for Local Appeals Board Secretary-Guide to Appeals Process from the Department of Housing & Community Development
- Completed specialized training in Fire-Rated Construction in R2 Wood Frame Structures
- Co-founded the Permit Technician of Central Virginia Continuing Education Work Group

Dayle Anderson, Accounts Payable/Human Resources Associate (Finance Department), has enhanced her expertise through earning:

- Certificate of Achievement as an Accredited Payables Specialist from the Institute of Finance and Management
- Certification as an Accounts Payable Specialist from Virginia Wesleyan University

Notable Accomplishments



Tourism Marketing Plan

The Prince Edward County Tourism council and staff completed a comprehensive tourism marketing plan. The plan directs marketing efforts to attract more visitors and boost the local economy by increasing spending on lodging, dining, and local businesses. Key audiences include Virginia residents within a two-to-three-hour drive, families seeking weekend getaways, and parents of college students at Longwood and Hampden-Sydney. The plan emphasizes the importance of leveraging local visitors as ambassadors and using a variety of communication channels, including social media and a new website, to engage both local and external audiences.



Heartland Regional Visitors Center New Exhibit

Prince Edward County's Heartland Regional Visitor Center unveiled its new exhibit, “Celebrating Virginia's History: A Look at Prince Edward County.” As part of the VA250 initiative, the exhibit explores with the County's founding in 1754 and traces its roles in the American Revolution, the Civil War, and the Civil Rights Movement. Through interactive videos, articles, and stories, the exhibit showcases the rich and diverse moments that shaped Prince Edward County and the contributions its citizens have made to Virginia.



Economic Development Strategic Plan

A collaborative effort led by a Steering Committee comprising county residents and business leaders, the County's Industrial Development Authority Board and county staff has completed the 2025 Prince Edward County Economic Development Plan. The Plan provides an in-depth analysis of local economic conditions and broader market trends, identifies strategies to attract new industries, and provides clear action steps for building a stronger economy, workforce, and community.



Landfill Expansion

In April 2025, the Prince Edward County Landfill opened its newest solid waste cell. Cell F spans 3.4 acres and provides capacity for approximately 370,000 cubic yards of solid waste. Based on current intake and compaction rates, this expansion extends the landfill's useful life by an estimated twelve years.



County Six-Year Plan

During the 2025 construction season, VDOT will advance three projects identified in the County's Six-Year Plan, including resurfacing and drainage upgrades on segments of the following secondary roads: Rice Creek Road (RT 647), Quail Crossing Road (RT 611) and Junction Canal Road (RT 682).

Comprehensive Plan



PEC2045: Forward Together is the County's official long-range planning document. It sets a 20-year vision for how land will be used and developed, addressing transportation, housing, parks, community services, economic development, and more. The Comp Plan serves as a guide for the Board of Supervisors, County staff, developers, and residents. While not regulatory, it supports informed decision-making and provides a foundation for evaluating land use, zoning, and development proposals. PEC2045 is a living document—reviewed every five years with community input and designed to reflect shared goals and values.

Learn more and explore the full plan by scanning our QR code.



Contact Us!

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