

Pulaski County Citizen Newsletter April - June 2025 Vol. XIV Issue 2

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Message from Pulaski County Sheriff's Office

Warmer weather is just around the corner and I'm very thankful for that. Like most folks, spring cleaning awaits, and that includes a laundry list of tasks to complete. Be safe doing this work and remember that all sorts of critters will be starting to move around. Also keep in mind that scammers will be out trying to talk you into all sorts of home repairs or improvements, but in the end, they either don't do the work or the work they do is shoddy. Don't let them pressure you into making decisions quickly. If you have any questions at all, just call us, Pulaski County Sheriff's Office is available any time day or night to assist however we can.

Sheriff Mike Worrell





Pulaski County Parks and Recreation is pleased to share the 2025 Spring Brochure and our many exciting seasonal offerings. Don't skip a single page – you'll want to see it all!

2025 PCPR Spring Brochure

- 27 Pulaski County Clubs, including new offerings like Intro to Sports for our 3 and 4 year old friends and Adult Ballet.
- Important Spring Sports Info including upcoming registration deadlines on March 3rd!
- Evelyn Alexander Waterpark Relaunch Sneak Peak!
- Summer Sports Preview including our new NFL Flag Football League!
- Summer Camps Preview including Randolph Park Summer Camp info!

Club registrations open 02/27/25. Register quickly. Clubs with limited registration spots will fill fast! Call us with questions @ 540.994.2622.

We can't wait to do this next season with YOU!



Chair's Corner

One Bag Challenge — "Pick it Up Pulaski"

After a lot of "trash talk," the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors and the Pulaski County School Board are partnering with the Pulaski County Sheriff's Office, the Town of Pulaski, the Town of Dublin, Friends of Peak Creek, Friends of Claytor Lake, T. G. Howard, New River Conservancy, the New River Valley Fine Arts Center, and Pulaski County Library to challenge our community to "Pick it Up Pulaski" during the One Bag Challenge beginning March 1st through June 30th. We challenge each citizen in Pulaski County to pick up a minimum of one bag of trash. In addition to individuals, we are challenging departments, businesses, clubs, organizations, and nonprofits.

Each year when we begin this project, the first question is, "Why are inmates from the Regional Jail not used for this purpose?" The answer is simple: Due to sentencing restrictions and regulations beyond our control, inmate labor is very limited and rarely available. Litter is an ongoing problem and is a result of the carelessness of some citizens and others visiting our great County. While some litter may be unintentionally caused, the vast majority is indeed a result of people breaking the law and their lack of care or concern for our environment.

Participants are asked to take a photo along with their bag(s) and send it with the number of bags, location picked up, and contact information to Laura Walters, Chair, Pulaski County Board of Supervisors, at lwalters@pulaskicounty.org. or text to 540-230-6272. Photos will be posted on the County's Clean Community Council website and social media platforms to recognize those citizens setting a great example by displaying their Pulaski County Pride in our community by helping keep our County clean. Bags and trash collected in the County may be left on the roadside for VDOT pick up (Bags must be Orange), taken to county drop sites (with proper customer authorization), or one or two may be put out with your garbage for collection. Participants could win a \$100 VISA Gift Card for their photo submissions! One entry for each full bag of trash collected will be entered into a monthly drawing held at the Board of Supervisors and School Board meetings with three prizes drawn monthly.

The Pulaski County Board of Supervisors and the School Board are pleased to announce a jointly sponsored \$1000 scholarship for a winning essay on "Littering is Harmful: Why Your Community is Your Responsibility Too" or for completion of a social media project, (e.g., #OneBagChallenge #PickItUpPulaski). Get details from the Board of Supervisors or the School Board Offices or online at the Boards' websites and social media pages. For our younger 4th and 5th Grade students, there will be a poster contest for artwork depicting the theme of: "Pick It Up Pulaski". For our K-3rd Grade Elementary Students, there will be a coloring contest. Winners in these categories will receive a gift basket. This artwork will be displayed by the Fine Arts Center at the Pulaski County Innovation Center in April and May culminating with a reception (Date TBA) to honor the winners. Pulaski and Dublin Libraries will provide additional educational displays and activities to educate our citizens about littering, recycling, and the environmental effects of litter.

Our Pulaski County Sheriff's Office will be educating citizens through social media and increased enforcement of littering. Special attention will be given to uncovered hauling and unsecured loads, acts of illegal dumping, and motorists or pedestrians improperly tossing out litter, including cigarette butts. The Board of Supervisors and the Sheriff's Office are adopting a Zero Tolerance policy for littering.

Participants can pick up reflective safety vests, gloves, trash pickers, and trash bags at the County Administration Building, located at 143 Third Street N.W., in Pulaski. You may also contact your respective Board of Supervisor or School Board member to get supplies.

Please remember littering is illegal and totally unnecessary. We want to keep our County clean and welcoming. Thank you in advance to citizens who participate in the "One Bag Challenge" or any future efforts to clean up the community. Also, keep in mind that safety is the first priority in this challenge, so please use caution when working around moving vehicles along the roadways. Let the Challenge begin! #Pick it Up Pulaski!

Laura Walters, Chair, Ingles District Pulaski County Board of Supervisors

Commissioner of the Revenue Office Reminders

52 W. Main Street, Suite 200 Pulaski, VA 24301 Open M-F, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (540) 980-7750, Personal Property Dept. (540) 980-7753, Real Estate Dept.

- We provide FREE Virginia Income Tax filing assistance and Accelerated Refund screenings. Bring your ID, Federal Tax Return, and necessary tax documents to our office by the May 1st deadline for assistance.
- If you own real estate in Pulaski County (excluding the Town of Pulaski) <u>and provide temporary lodging for transients similar to a hotel, you are required to collect and submit Transient Occupancy Taxes to our office.</u> Contact Deputy Commissioner, Sabrina Bishop at (540) 980-7750 for more details.
- Businesses are required to report all business personal property each year by the <u>May 1st deadline</u>. These yellow forms are mailed out at the beginning of each year for completion. If you have reporting questions or cannot locate your copy, contact our personal property team at (540) 980-7750.
- January 1 assessments are conducted uniformly, as required by state law, using industry pricing guides. Adjustments through the appeals process are not made simply because a property owner does not agree with the assessment. If there are errors or discrepancies found, contact our office immediately.
- The Commissioner of the Revenue Office was created in 1786 by the Commonwealth of Virginia to assist you and answer your tax questions. If our office does not administer the tax, we will try to help find an answer. We are here to serve.

Kim Matthews, Master COR.



2025 2nd Quarter

April, May, June

First Friday Listening Rooms

These free concerts are at the Fine Arts Center. There are light refreshments and a cash bar. A \$5 donation is suggested.

April 4: Scuffletown with Matty Metcalf **May 2:** American Roots (John and Fred Benfield)

Save the date!

We're planning our Rhythm by the Rails music, food, and art festival. It will happen on Saturday, August 9 from 3-9 p.m. in Jackson Park and will feature Noah Spencer, as seen on "The Voice."

View or Participate in our Upcoming Exhibits

A new exhibit, Polarity, opens on Saturday, April 5 with an Opening Reception on Thursday, April 10. This exhibit encourages artists to explore contrasts, and challenge that opposites are at odds but can actually coexist, evolve, and strengthen one another.

Our call to local artists for our annual *Menagerie exhibit will open* on May 17.

Creative Club

Do you have children between the ages of 5 and 12 who want to explore art? Join our FREE Creative Club and enjoy a monthly art workshop. The Creative Club runs from September through May. Details are on our website at FACNRV.org/classes.



Friends of Peak Creek will have their Annual Spring Peak Creek Cleanup on April 5 from 10 AM to 1 PM. Meet at 41 NE First Street (the parking lot behind the Senior Center) in Pulaski. Please wear appropriate clothing and shoes. All cleanup equipment will be supplied as well as snacks, drinks and lunch.



Mark your calendars everyone!

The New River Valley Fair will be held July 28 - August 2, 2025 at the Dublin Fairgrounds. Gates open at 5:00 p.m. Monday—Friday and 2:00 p.m. on Saturday.

This year's theme is:
"Pigs, Pies and Carnival Rides"

NRV Fair 2025