

# MONTHLY UPDATE

January 2020



Where Ordinary Ends... *Bedford Begins!*

# Table of Contents

## 2 Community & Public Engagement

- 2 - Message from the County Administrator
- 3 - Update on Wireless Broadband Initiative
- 4 - Upcoming Public Hearings & Convenience Site/Landfill Information
- 6 - Meeting Calendars for the Board of Supervisors, the Economic Development Authority, and the Planning Commission

## 8 Departmental Updates

- 8 - Community Development
- 9 - Economic Development
- 11 - E-911 Communications
- 13 - Fire & Rescue
- 15 - Human Resources
- 16 - Parks & Recreation
- 17 - Public Library System
- 18 - Department of Social Services
- 21 - Tourism

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### Board of Supervisors

John Sharp, Chair, District 4  
Charla Bansley, Vice-Chair, District 3  
Mickey Johnson, District 1  
Edgar Tuck, District 2  
Tommy Scott, District 5  
Bob Davis, District 6  
Tammy Parker, District 7

### County Administration

Robert Hiss, County Administrator  
Amanda Kaufman, Deputy County Administrator  
Patrick Skelley, County Attorney

### Contact Us

Main Tel: (540) 586-7601  
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[www.bedfordcountyva.gov](http://www.bedfordcountyva.gov)  
122 E. Main Street, Suite 202  
Bedford, VA 24523

## A Message from the County Administrator

**2020 promises to be a very busy year.** The County started many projects and initiatives in 2019 that will culminate in 2020 while also diligently plan for the future. Here are some major items that will impact the work of the county employees and result in changes to the status quo.

- **Broadband** – After years of planning, several projects are moving quickly. Comcast will continue their work around Smith Mountain Lake. Although their project won't be fully finished until early 2021, many Bedford County neighborhoods will receive service in 2020. Additionally, the County's wireless broadband project is chugging along as several towers sites are currently under construction. Even with a few delays, Briscnet service is expected to be available in summer 2020.
- **New London Shell Building** – The New London business park has received many visits by interested industries over the past year. The 40,000 s.f. shell building has served as an additional draw to this property. It will be completed and ready for purchase or lease by mid-March with the access road completed by late April.
- **Transfer Station** – Since the current landfill cell will be full earlier than anticipated, the existing transfer station facility is in need of renovation and expansion so we can haul waste to another facility. The transfer station is scheduled to go out to bid over the next month. Once a bid is awarded for the work, it is anticipated to take 5 months to construct resulting in it becoming operational in late summer 2020.
- **Parks and Rec** – Bedford County recently purchased 47 acres of park land off Venhorst Drive in Bedford. The previous owner did a fantastic job of building fishing ponds, walking/biking trails, Frisbee golf course, and a beautiful multi-purpose outdoor picnic shelter. Staff is working to get this property ready to officially open to the public which is anticipated to occur this summer. The County will also finish paving the much needed additional parking lot at the County gym which will occur once the winter weather breaks.
- **Technology** – The County has a couple legacy software programs that desperately need replaced as they don't function well in a modern organization. We will switch over from an antiquated financial and accounting system (over 20 years old) to a much more robust program offered thru Tyler/MUNIS. This will allow for a more efficient system of running payrolls, paying bills, producing a budget, tracking assets, and general accounting. The recently approved Computer Aided Dispatch and associated public safety records management system offered thru SOMA Technologies will also replace an antiquated program. Again, this will allow our 911 operators and public safety departments to operate in more efficient environment.
- **Building permits and plans review** – Immediately before Thanksgiving, Community Development unveiled a new online permitting program and began accepting credit card payments. This has already proven popular. The next step in their automation process is to have online, real-time plans reviewed. This program offered thru Energov will streamline the process of the respective reviewing agencies and offer more immediate feedback to applicants.



There are many other initiatives there are too many list to fit on this one page, but some others include early/advanced voting opportunities for the November election, completion of Corporate Park Drive, and breathing apparatuses for fire departments. All in all, 2020 is shaping up to be a year of progress as our organization gains more efficiencies resulting in better services to our citizens. While all this is happening, other good ideas will emerge that deserve attention and we will always have our eye on future opportunities.

*Kalt Hein*

## BROADBAND UPDATE

The Bedford County Broadband Initiative continues to progress across the twelve sites in the community, as pictured below.

The objective of this project is to address the digital divide, where over 50% of the County is unserved or underserved by broadband. Upon completion, it is anticipated that over 95% of residents will have access to high speed internet.

This project is made possible through leveraging significant grant dollars to supplement the County's overall capital investment of just under \$2.2M:

1. The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development awarded \$1,040,000 through a Virginia Telecommunication Initiative grant.
2. The Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission awarded \$670,500 in grant dollars.

While you may currently be noticing the County's contractor, Blue Ridge Towers, working hard on several of these sites, this project is ultimately a system and will not be operational until all construction is complete. The date of completion has shifted back slightly and is currently estimated to be mid-August 2020.

### Project Site Updates:

**Big Island:** Tower stack scheduled for late January

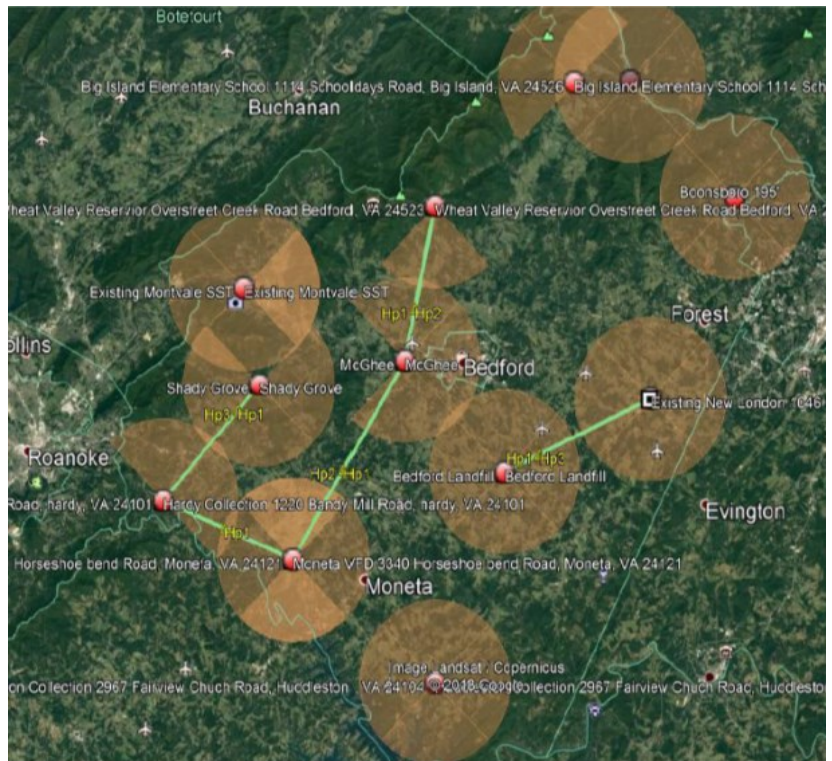
**Big Island Elementary:** Tower construction complete

**Boonsboro:** Site civil and construction work has commenced; tower construction to be complete in February

**Hardy:** Tower site being moved 27 feet to avoid fall zone complications

**Huddleston:** Civil work complete; drill caisson work commenced week of January 11

**Shady Grove:** Civil work complete; drill caisson work commenced week of January 11



If you are a resident of Bedford County and are curious as to whether you will be covered by this service, you can inquire via the following link: [tinyurl.com/BedfordBroadband](https://tinyurl.com/BedfordBroadband)

# Upcoming Public Hearings

## Planning Commission:

Notice is hereby given that the Bedford County Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 7:00 pm regarding the following rezoning, special use permit, and proffer amendment applications:

- **Rezoning Application #RZ050002** is a request by Seven Hills Enterprises, LLC (George V. Rowe) to modify Proffers #3 and #4 that were accepted in association with the Bellevue Terrace Rezoning approved on February 14, 2005. Proffer #3 currently states “No home shall be permitted to be constructed on any lot that contains less than 3,000 square-feet of finished living space for a two story house, or 2,500 feet for a one story house”. The applicant is proposing to amend Proffer #3 by adding the following sentence “For Lots 114-11-1 through 7 and lot 114-11-11 the minimum home square footage shall be 2000 square feet for a two-story home and 1600 square feet for a one-story home”. Proffer #4 currently states “Architectural standards for all homes and accessory structures are to be primarily brick or stone, with Hardi Plank or similar cement fiber siding product covering less than half of the building exterior. Architectural grade shingles or better roof material must be used. There shall be no exposed concrete CMU foundations. Homes shall be of a generally traditional appearance, in keeping with other finer homes in the area”. The applicant is proposing to amend Proffer #4 by adding the following sentence “For Lots 114-11-1 through 7 and lot 114-11-11 vinyl siding is allowed as an exterior finish”. The proposed changes would apply to the eight (8) remaining lots owned by Seven Hills Enterprises, LLC. These lots are located in the Agricultural Village Center (AV) zoning district. Tax Map Numbers: 114-A-82, 114-11-1, 114-11-2, 114-11-3, 114-11-4, 114-11-5, 114-11-6, 114-11-7, 114-11-8, 114-11-9, 114-11-10, 114-11-11 and 114-11-12.
- **Rezoning Application #RZ19-0001** is a request by Gumtree, LLC to rezone Tax Map Number 100-A-12A by removing the Historic Overlay (HO) district from the property. The future land use designation for the subject property is “Agricultural/Natural Resource Stewardship” in the 2030 Bedford County Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map. The purpose of the Historic Overlay district is to recognize, preserve, and encourage the continued appropriate development of historic resources in designated areas by establishing standards for development and allowable uses that will insure such development. While much of the area in these districts may remain virtually unchanged other sections may need to change to serve the best interest of the area and its environs and the surrounding property owners. Typical uses within this district include restoration and reconstruction of historic structures, related residential, educational, administrative, maintenance, public assembly, festival activities, and limited supporting commercial activities. The applicant is proposing to develop the subject parcel with a driving range (“Commercial Outdoor Sports and Recreation” use). The property is located on Gumtree Road, adjacent to the Colonial Hills Golf Course (1926 Gumtree Road) to the north and 1770 Gumtree Road to the south and is 8 acres in size, according to Bedford County Real Estate information. The subject property is currently owned by Gumtree, LLC and is presently zoned Planned Commercial Development (PCD) district with Historic Overlay (HO) district. Voluntary proffers have not been offered by the applicant.

# Upcoming Public Hearings

## **Planning Commission** *(continued)*:

The Bedford County Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 7:00 pm regarding the following rezoning, special use permit, and proffer amendment applications:

- **Special Use Permit Application #SU19-0001** is a request by Kenneth & Jennifer Musana to allow a “Conference Center” use on 46.15 total acres (three parcels), zoned Agricultural Rural Preserve (AP) district, for a wedding venue. The properties are located off Camden Road (adjoining addresses 2766 and 2640 Camden Road) approximately one (1) mile from Big Island Highway (Route 501). Tax Map #s 16-2-2, 16-2-3, and 16-A-4A.
- **Special Use Permit Application #SU19-0002** is a request by Gumtree, LLC to allow a “Commercial Outdoor Sports and Recreation” use on an 8-acre parcel, zoned Planned Commercial Development (PCD) district with Historic Overlay (HO) district, for a golf driving range. The property is located on Gumtree Road, adjacent to the Colonial Hills Golf Course (1926 Gumtree Road) and 1770 Gumtree Road. Tax Map #100-A-12A.

The Planning Commission public hearing will be held in the Bedford County Administration Building Boardroom, 122 E. Main St., Bedford, VA. Copies of the applications are available for public inspection at the offices of the County Administrator and at the Department of Community Development located in the Bedford County Administration Building, 122 E. Main St., Bedford, VA., telephone 540-586-7616. Persons affected may appear and will be provided opportunity to present their views.

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## **Board of Zoning Appeals**

On Tuesday, January 28, 2020, at 7:00 pm, in the Boardroom of the Bedford County Administration Building, 122 E. Main St., Bedford, VA, the Board of Zoning Appeals will hear an appeal of the zoning administrator’s decision of the enforcement of home occupation permit use and design standards from the Zoning Ordinance.

# 2020 Meeting Calendar

## Board of Supervisors:

|                  |                        |   |
|------------------|------------------------|---|
| <b>January</b>   | <b>13<sup>th</sup></b> | Organizational and Regular Meeting (Worksession 5:00 - 6:30 pm: Landfill)   |
|                  | <b>27<sup>th</sup></b> | Worksession 5:00 pm (VDOT & Lynchburg Regional Airport); Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm                               |
|                  | <b>30<sup>th</sup></b> | C.I.P. Joint Meeting with School Board at 5:00 pm,<br>Special Meeting (closed session) at 7:00 pm                 |
| <b>February</b>  | <b>10<sup>th</sup></b> | Worksession beginning at 5:00 pm (CAFR and budget goals)  |
|                  | <b>24<sup>th</sup></b> | Annual dinner with the Extension Office at 6:00 pm; Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm                                    |
| <b>March</b>     | <b>9<sup>th</sup></b>  | Budget Work Session beginning at 5:00 pm - Revenue Estimates and Budget “Big Rocks”                               |
|                  | <b>16<sup>th</sup></b> | Budget Work Session beginning at 5:00 pm – Questions follow-up & new positions                                    |
|                  | <b>23<sup>rd</sup></b> | Budget Work Session from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm; Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm   |
| <b>April</b>     | <b>6<sup>th</sup></b>  | Budget Work Session beginning at 5:00 pm  |
|                  | <b>13<sup>th</sup></b> | Worksession 5:00 pm (topic TBD) Public Hearing Tax Rate at 7:00 pm (if needed)                                    |
|                  | <b>20<sup>th</sup></b> | Budget Work Session beginning at 5:00 pm (if needed)  |
|                  | <b>27<sup>th</sup></b> | Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm (Budget Public Hearing and Tax Rate Adoption)  |
| <b>May</b>       | <b>11<sup>th</sup></b> | Work Session with VDOT at 5:00 pm; VDOT Public Hearing on 6-Year Plan at 6:00 pm                                  |
|                  | <b>26<sup>th</sup></b> | Regular Meeting – Adopt Budget ( <i>Tuesday</i> ) at 7:00 pm  |
| <b>June</b>      | <b>8<sup>th</sup></b>  | Work Session beginning at 5:00 pm (topic TBD)   |
|                  | <b>22<sup>nd</sup></b> | Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm  |
| <b>July</b>      | <b>13<sup>th</sup></b> | Work Session beginning at 5:00 (topic TBD)  |
|                  | <b>27<sup>th</sup></b> | Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm  |
| <b>August</b>    | <b>10<sup>th</sup></b> | Work Session from 5:00 – 6:30 pm; (VDOT and topic TBD),<br>Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm ( <i>Adopt PPTRA Rate</i> ) |
|                  | <b>14<sup>th</sup></b> | Work Session beginning at 5:00 pm (topic TBD)   |
| <b>September</b> | <b>14<sup>th</sup></b> | Work Session beginning at 5:00 pm (topic TBD)   |
|                  | <b>28<sup>th</sup></b> | Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm  |
| <b>October</b>   | <b>13<sup>th</sup></b> | Annual Joint Meeting with EDA beginning at 5:00 pm ( <i>Tuesday</i> )   |
|                  | <b>26<sup>th</sup></b> | Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm  |
| <b>November</b>  | <b>9<sup>th</sup></b>  | Worksession beginning at 5:00 pm (VDOT)   |
|                  | <b>23<sup>rd</sup></b> | Regular Meeting   |
| <b>December</b>  | <b>14<sup>th</sup></b> | Work Session 5:00 pm; Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm  |

The Board of Supervisors meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 5:00 pm, and the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 7:00 pm (unless otherwise noted) for Regular Board Meetings in the Boardroom of the Bedford County Administration Office, 122 E. Main Street, Bedford, Virginia. Worksessions are held at 5:00 pm on the same day as the first Regular Meeting of every month (unless otherwise noted). Board information, agendas, minutes, etc., can be found [HERE](#).

## Planning Commission:

- January 21, 2020

The Planning Commission meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Bedford County Administration Building Boardroom at 122 East Main Street, Bedford, Virginia.

# 2020 Meeting Calendar

## Economic Development Authority:

|                  |    |  |
|------------------|----|--|
| <b>January</b>   | 9  | Regular Meeting (Thursday)                                   |
| <b>February</b>  | 6  | Organizational Meeting (Thursday)                            |
| <b>March</b>     | 5  | Regular Meeting (Thursday)                                   |
| <b>April</b>     | 2  | Regular Meeting (Thursday)                                   |
| <b>May</b>       | 7  | Regular Meeting (Thursday)                                   |
| <b>June</b>      | 4  | Regular Meeting (Thursday)                                   |
| <b>July</b>      | 2  | Regular Meeting (Thursday)                                   |
| <b>August</b>    | 6  | Regular Meeting (Thursday)                                   |
| <b>September</b> | 3  | Regular Meeting (Thursday)                                   |
| <b>October</b>   | 13 | Joint Meeting w/Board of Supervisors ( <b>Tue.</b> – 5 p.m.) |
| <b>November</b>  | 5  | Regular Meeting (Thursday)                                   |
| <b>December</b>  | 3  | Regular Meeting (Thursday)                                   |

## 2021

|                |   |                            |
|----------------|---|----------------------------|
| <b>January</b> | 7 | Regular Meeting (Thursday) |
|----------------|---|----------------------------|

All *regular meetings* are held at 5:30 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors Meeting Room unless otherwise noted.

The annual joint meeting with the Board of Supervisors will be held at 5:00 p.m. in the Ground Floor Training Room. Short EDA Business Meeting to immediately follow, if needed. The Economic Development Authority reserves the right to modify this schedule as necessary. Special meetings, such as a Planning Day may be added as necessary.

## Agricultural Economic Development Advisory Board:

|                  |   |                                    |         |
|------------------|---|------------------------------------|---------|
| <b>January</b>   | 8 | Organizational Meeting (Wednesday) | 7:00 pm |
| <b>February</b>  | 5 | Regular Meeting (Wednesday)        | 7:00 pm |
| <b>March</b>     | 4 | Regular Meeting (Wednesday)        | 7:00 pm |
| <b>April</b>     | 1 | Regular Meeting (Wednesday)        | 7:30 pm |
| <b>May</b>       | 6 | Regular Meeting (Wednesday)        | 7:30 pm |
| <b>June</b>      | 3 | Regular Meeting (Wednesday)        | 7:30 pm |
| <b>July</b>      | 1 | Regular Meeting (Wednesday)        | 7:30 pm |
| <b>August</b>    | 5 | Regular Meeting (Wednesday)        | 7:30 pm |
| <b>September</b> | 2 | Regular Meeting (Wednesday)        | 7:30 pm |
| <b>October</b>   | 7 | Regular Meeting (Wednesday)        | 7:30 pm |
| <b>November</b>  | 4 | Regular Meeting (Wednesday)        | 7:00 pm |
| <b>December</b>  | 2 | Regular Meeting (Wednesday)        | 7:00 pm |

Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm from April to October; and 7:00 pm from November to March. When a holiday falls on the first Wednesday, the meetings are generally held the following Wednesday. Meetings are held in the Peaks Rooms of the Parks and Rec/Coop Extension Building (Falling Creek Center), 1257 County Farm Road, Bedford, Virginia unless otherwise noted. See [Calendar](#) for latest information. You can find the agendas and minutes from each meeting on our [Ag Board Agendas & Minutes](#) page.



Department of  
**Community Development**

December 2019 Data

**PLANNING & ZONING DIVISION:**

- \*Residential Building/Zoning Permits – 44
- \*Commercial Building/Zoning Permits - 4
- Subdivision Plats Received – 19 Minor - 0 Major
- Site Plans Received - 15
- Outdoor Gathering Temporary Permits - 0
- Rezoning Applications Received - 1
- Special Use Applications Received - 2
- Variance/Appeals - 0
- Special Review Projects - 0
- Solid Waste Complaints - 4
- Solid Waste Site Visit Follow Ups – 9
- Zoning Complaints - 4
- Zoning Site Visit Follow Ups – 8

**TRC (Technical Review Committee):**

- 1) Musana Conference Center (wedding venue)
- 2) Building 14 Gables at Spring Creek
- 3) Living Water Properties LLC (office space)
- 4) Iglesia De Las Americas (Church of Americas)
- 5) Jeffersons Poplar Forest (trailheads parking and parking expansion and museum shop)

*\*Due to new software system stats will be calculated differently*

**GREGG ZODY, DIRECTOR**

**Contact Information:**

County Administration Building  
122 E. Main Street  
Suite G-03  
Bedford, VA 24523

[website](#)

**Phone:** (540) 586-7616

**Fax:** (540) 586-7616

**Office Hours:**

Monday - Friday  
8:30 am - 5:00 pm

**BUILDING DIVISION:**

**VALUATION OF CONSTRUCTION:**

**December 2019**

\$10,298,999.23

**December 2018**

\$9,902,763.54

**Year-to-Date**

**(2019)** \$79,935,386.38

**(2018)** \$69,432,457.49

**TOTAL INSPECTIONS:**

1,138 (December 2019)

1,412 (December 2018)

**Permits Issued:**

(YTD FY 2019) = 852

(YTD FY 2018) = 723

**Plans Reviewed\*:**

Land Disturbing: 37

Building: 50

Zoning: 64

**FEES COLLECTED:**

**December 2019**

Total Receipts      \$14,734.13

**December 2018**

Total Receipts      \$9,288.53

Office of  
**Economic Development**

The Office of Economic Development is currently working with local companies to discuss workforce needs and ways to connect them with talent for open positions. We met with Sam Moore Furniture in Bedford and Innerspec in Forest last week and pulled in regional and state organizations to assist various companies.

**New CTE Academy at CVCC to open this Fall**

Central Virginia Community College (CVCC) recently announced a grant award to the college that will provide an opportunity for students to earn a skill based credential to meet specific employer in-demand job requirements beginning in Fall 2020. CVCC’s award of the Get Skilled, Get a Job, Give Back Initiative, or G3 Capacity Building Grant, will be used to support planning efforts for a regional Career and Technical Education (CTE) Academy for dual-enrollment students, recent high school graduates, as well as unemployed or underemployed adults to earn credentials for targeted industry employment sectors. Some of these employment areas include *information technology, computer science, healthcare, manufacturing and trades, and public safety*. Read the *News & Advance* article [here](#).

**Staff joins in for VEDA Day at the General Assembly**

On January 13-14, staff participated in Virginia Economic Development Association’s VEDA Day at the General Assembly. It’s an honor to tell the stories of business development throughout Bedford County and the region and share with legislators how they can help impact the growth of our companies. Thank you to the following Virginia delegates and senators who met with us to discuss various bills that impact economic development: Del. Kathy Byron, Sen. Steve Newman, Del. Wendell Walker, Del. Terry Austin, Sen. Mark Peake, and Del. Ronnie Campbell. It was an informative, constructive day discussing workforce solutions, new jobs, transportation, broadband, and issues that affect our diverse business community.

*Left to right: Victoria Hanson of Amherst County, Delegate Wendell Walker, Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance CEO Megan Lucas, Delegate Kathy Byron, and Traci Blido, Bedford County Economic Development Director.*



TRACI BLIDO, DIRECTOR

Contact Information:  
 County Administration Building  
 122 E. Main Street  
 Suite 202  
 Bedford, VA 24523

[website](#)

Phone: (540) 587-5670

Office Hours:  
 Monday - Friday  
 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

You can follow Bedford County Economic Development on



Office of  
**Economic Development**

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### Shell Building is getting visits

The construction of the 40,000 square-foot EDA [Shell Building](#) in the New London Business and Technology Center park is coming along nicely and is scheduled to be finished toward the end of March. We have had several prospective companies visiting Bedford County in the past two weeks, including two from overseas looking for an existing building for manufacturing. Special thanks goes to the Virginia Tobacco Commission for helping underwrite the costs of constructing the shell building which is aimed at attracting new jobs and investment to Bedford County.

### High School industry tours planned

The Bedford ONE (Offering New Experiences) student tour dates for the remainder of this school year include:

- February 24 – Sam Moore Furniture and Blue Ridge Optics
- March 17 – Framatome and Innerspec Technologies
- April 7 – U.S. Pipe

The Bedford County EDA and the Office of Economic Development supports these tours that help prepare Bedford County high school students for the workforce. Follow us on social media to see pictures from these tours and stay up-to-date with our activities:

- <https://www.facebook.com/bedfordecondev/>
- <https://www.instagram.com/bedfordcoecondev/>
- <https://twitter.com/BedfordEconDev>

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TRACI BLIDO, DIRECTOR

Contact Information:  
County Administration Building  
122 E. Main Street  
Suite 202  
Bedford, VA 24523

[website](#)

Phone: (540) 587-5670

Office Hours:  
Monday - Friday  
8:30 am - 5:00 pm

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You can follow Bedford County Economic Development on



# E-911 Communications

## MYTHS ABOUT 9-1-1

**Dialing a special number (112, \*77, or #77) will get you to 9-1-1 even if your phone can't get a signal.**

**FALSE.** If you are on a cell phone and you cannot get signal, you can't dial 9-1-1, with or without a special number.

**If you get pulled over, dialing a special number (112, \*77, or #77) will get you directly to the dispatch center so you can verify that the officer is legitimate and not an impostor.**

**FALSE.** In some states, there are special numbers you can use instead of 9-1-1 to contact the highway patrol or state police. The only number that works throughout the U.S. that will always reach a dispatch center in your area is 9-1-1. If you are concerned that someone may be impersonating an officer or if you are concerned for your safety during a traffic stop, dial 9-1-1.

**If you dial 9-1-1, the dispatch center will know exactly where you are.**

**Sometimes True.** How likely this is to be true depends:

- If you call 9-1-1 from a **traditional wired telephone**, chances are very good that the call center will be able to determine your address. Database errors do occasionally cause false locations to be displayed, and if you move and take your telephone number with you there is sometimes a delay between the time of the move and the time that the phone company updates your address in the database.
- If you call 9-1-1 from a phone on a **switchboard system**, it depends on the type of system. Some switchboard systems are set up to show the 9-1-1 operator the specific location of the extension you're using. Some only show a generic address for the switchboard system. In some cases, that may not even be the correct address.
- If you call 9-1-1 from a **cell phone**, it depends on a number of factors. Most 9-1-1 call centers can receive latitude and longitude from 9-1-1 callers using cell phones, but not all cell phone 9-1-1 calls will deliver them. Some wireless companies attempt to determine the caller's location using a Global Positioning System chip in the caller's cell phone, but this doesn't work very well indoors. Other wireless companies triangulate the caller's location using cell tower signals, but this doesn't work as well in rural areas where there are fewer cell towers. Neither of these methods are 100% accurate. The result is that cell phones calls to 9-1-1 may or may not deliver the caller's location to the call center, and if it does it may not always be correct.
- If you call 9-1-1 from a **Voice-over-Internet-Protocol** phone, the dispatch center will receive the address you last registered with your provider. If you entered your address incorrectly or if you have moved your phone since you last updated your address, the call may be delivered to the wrong dispatch center and will display the incorrect or outdated address.
- As a rule, always be prepared to give your location verbally to the 9-1-1 call taker.

JEFF JOHNSON, MANAGER

Contact Information:  
Bedford County Sheriff's Office  
1345 Falling Creek Road  
Bedford, VA 24523

[website](#)

Office Hours:  
24/7

Department of  
**E-911 Communications**

**MYTHS ABOUT 9-1-1** *continued*

**Anything you tell a 9-1-1 operator is confidential.**

**FALSE.** Every state has different open records laws, but generally speaking 9-1-1 calls are recorded, are considered public record, and can be requested by the media or members of the public. In Colorado, dispatch centers are allowed to withhold 9-1-1 recordings under certain circumstances, but there is no guarantee that your 9-1-1 call will be held as confidential.

**You can send text messages to 9-1-1.**

**SOMETIMES TRUE.** Text-to-911 service is becoming available in Virginia little by little. Text-to-911 service is not available in Bedford County.

JEFF JOHNSON, MANAGER

Contact Information:  
 Bedford County Sheriff's Office  
 1345 Falling Creek Road  
 Bedford, VA 24523

[website](#)

Office Hours:  
 24/7

| CALLS FOR SERVICE     |         |            |
|-----------------------|---------|------------|
| TYPE                  | CURRENT | 2019 TOTAL |
| EMS                   | 779     | 8975       |
| FIRE                  | 254     | 3278       |
| SHERIFF               | 3090    | 41630      |
| UTILITIES             | 217     | 2817       |
| TOWN PD               | 936     | 11554      |
| OTHER LAW             | 390     | 4903       |
| COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL | 248     | 3613       |
| OTHER                 | 488     | 6298       |
| WARRANTS PROCESSED    | 465     | 6780       |
| PHONE CALLS           |         |            |
| TYPE                  | CURRENT | 2019 TOTAL |
| WIRELESS 911          | 2284    | 26690      |
| WIRELINE 911          | 349     | 4546       |
| ADMIN                 | 10553   | 140892     |
| TOTAL                 | 13186   | 172128     |

Department of  
**Fire & Rescue**

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## Board of Supervisors C.I.P. Enhances Capacity of Local Volunteer Fire Companies in the Acquisition of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) to Meet Current NFPA Standards

Within the next month, ten Volunteer Fire Companies (VFC) and Bedford County Fire & Rescue career units will each receive nine current standard Scott X3 pro SCBA. This BOS funded initiative is the culmination of several years of CIP funding, research and development in collaboration with the volunteer community. Industry standards and requirements periodically change, often based on after-action reports where firefighters have lost their lives or been injured.

Based on available funding, each participating VFC was authorized nine SCBA with additional masks and required secondary bottle. Matching 10% funding for the initiative from each participating agency allows for added buying power and an increased sense of collaboration, as all parties truly have skin in the game. Total project financial obligation is just under \$700,000.

This program does not replace every SCBA in the system. However, based on available funding and current system utilization, it was determined to be reasonable and appropriate in meeting the current need.

Programs such as this highlight a number of issues currently faced. The ever-increasing cost of Emergency Services equipment as technology and mandates increase; limited funding for all facets of the fire and rescue community, (career and volunteer); and the ongoing need for assessment and discussion in the cost-benefit analysis of equipment versus financial resources committed.

Deputy Chief Johnston has worked extensively with the vendor and representatives of each of the VFC's to ensure that accurate numbers and all associated information has been communicated on this initiative. She will be coordinating the local delivery and field deployment in coming months.

It is worth noting that, due to the structure of this program and Board of Supervisors funding, the individual Volunteer Fire Companies financial buy-in of just under \$7,000 totaled less than the individual cost of one pack (had they independently negotiated and funded their own replacement program). This is a clear benefit to a system-wide approach to emergency service delivery.

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JACK JONES, JR., CHIEF

Contact Information:  
1185 Turning Point Road  
Bedford, VA 24523

[website](#)

Phone: (540) 587-0700

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Department of  
**Fire & Rescue**

## THANK YOU!

The Department of Fire & Rescue was recently the beneficiary of a donation of a Stryker Stretcher Power Lift device.

The group representing the former Bedford Life-Saving Crew, which is now endeavoring to perform philanthropic efforts to aid the community, provided nearly \$40,000 for the purchase and installation of this very important piece of life-saving equipment. This device aids with the lifting and lowering of a stretcher to reduce the strain and injuries often associated with EMS providers.

As we endeavor to provide Power Lift devices to stretchers on medic units across the county, gifts such as this are a phenomenal demonstration of the continued goodwill of our partners in the volunteer community. This Power Lift device was installed on BCo.FR Medic 14-1, which runs out of the Bedford Avenue Station and is one of the busiest stations in the system. Deputy Chief Blankenship coordinated this donation and provided oversight of the acquisition and installation.

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JACK JONES, JR., CHIEF

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Department of  
**Human Resources**

**Current Recruitment**

The County of Bedford, Virginia is an equal opportunity employer. All applicants and employees shall be afforded equal opportunity in all aspects of employment without regard to race, sex, color, national origin, religion, age, otherwise qualified persons with disabilities, or any other factor protected by law.

If needed, please contact the Human Resources office to request reasonable accommodation in completing a job application.

Apply online at [www.bedfordcountyva.gov/jobs](http://www.bedfordcountyva.gov/jobs). Candidates may also apply in person at the Bedford County Administration Building, 122 East Main Street, Suite 202 Bedford, VA 24523.

[Bedford County Employment Application](#)

DAWN FIELDS, DIRECTOR

Contact Information:  
 County Administration Building  
 122 E. Main Street  
 Bedford, VA 24523

[website](#)

Phone: (540) 586-7601  
 Fax: (540) 586-0406

Office Hours:  
 Monday - Friday  
 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

| Position:                          | Department:                | Vacancies:            |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| EMT and ALS / Firefighter          | Emergency Services         | Full Time / Part Time |
| Certified Nursing Assistants (CNA) | Nursing Home               | Full Time / Part Time |
| Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)     | Nursing Home               | Part Time             |
| Collection Center Attendant        | Public Works – Solid Waste | Part Time             |
| Equipment Operator                 | Public Works – Solid Waste | Full Time             |
| Communications Officer             | 911 Center                 | Full Time / Part Time |
| Financial Analyst                  | Administration / Finance   | Full Time             |
| Network Administrator              | Administration / IT        | Full Time             |
| Deputy Sheriff                     | Sheriff's Office           | Full Time             |



Department of  
**Parks & Recreation**

**GOOD NEWS:**

**Basketball Season begins**

Practices for Bedford County Parks and Recreation basketball began in December. 138 total teams across the County begin games on Saturday January 4th. Team totals are as follows:

- 21 - 5/6 year olds
- 30 - 7/8 year olds
- 35 - 9/10 year olds
- 30 - 11/12 year olds
- 8 - 13/14 year olds
- 14 - 15-18 year olds

**Breakfast with Santa**

Bedford County Parks and Recreation held the annual Breakfast with Santa event on Saturday, December 14 at the English Meadows Elks Home Campus. Over 150 children attended the event where breakfast was served and children had the opportunity to visit with Santa and see the decorations inside and outside the Elks Home. Hundreds of servings of canned food goods were collected and donated to a local charity.

WYATT WOODY, DIRECTOR

Contact Information:  
1257 County Farm Road  
Bedford, VA 24523

[website](#)

Phone: (540) 586-7682

Office Hours:  
Monday - Friday  
8:30 am - 5:00 pm

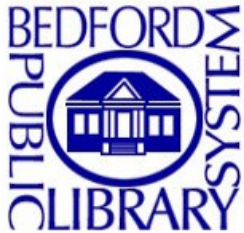


Bedford

# Public Library System

## New Year - New You?

Whether your New Year's resolutions include being healthier, saving money, finding a new job or enriching your life by learning a new language or skill, the Bedford Public Library can help, for free!



**1. Be healthier** - The library has over 2500 cookbooks (<https://collection.bplsonline.org/>) that are filled with inspiring recipe ideas and another 300 cookbooks available for download to your tablet or phone. Use them to checkout a new way to cook healthy foods or learn about a new diet trend. In January, the Moneta Library will be offering a healthy living, 21 day kick start program. The Montvale Library operates a community garden and is starting a weekly chair yoga class on Thursday afternoons. Keep an eye out for other healthy living programs (<https://www.bplsonline.org/calendar/>), all offered for free from your local public library.



CENTRAL REGION

**2. Enriching your life** and moving ahead in your job - Whether your learning pace is slow or fast, look to the library to offer free educational and general life enriching books, classes, and online resources. Universal Class (<https://www.bplsonline.org/diglib/>)

offers continuing education credits (CUE) for all 500 online class selections ranging in topics from hobby-related classes to professional education classes in business budgeting, effective communications and other career-related "soft skills". The library also has a partnership with the Central Region Virginia Career Works program (<https://www.vcwcentralregion.com/>). By appointment, their onsite career navigators are available to help you find a new job in the new year, even if you have a barrier to employment, and often with paid training opportunities. When you are ready to take that dream vacation, the library can help you get a passport or perhaps you just want to read about all those far away places. With your library card, you have access to over 300,000 books, many of them featuring exotic destinations. For all the "would-be-writers" out there, the Moneta library is offering a writing and publishing workshop in January and the Big Island library hosts a monthly writers group you can join.

**3. Saving money** - See how much cash your local library can save you in monthly entertainment costs, cellular/Internet costs, meeting space costs, and more using this library value calculator ([https://www.swissarmylibrarian.net/librarycalculator/valuecalc\\_popup.html](https://www.swissarmylibrarian.net/librarycalculator/valuecalc_popup.html)). When tax season approaches, don't forget that the library partners with AARP to offer free tax prep on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at Bedford Central. Join the Moneta or Central library for free Saturday movie matinees each month or bring the kids to monthly video game afternoons and special STEM programs to keep them entertained after school. Other special programs in January include a family escape room adventure at the Forest Library on January 14, a paint pouring party (family craft program) at Central on January 18 and much more. See our monthly newsletter for all the upcoming events you can attend, for some free, family entertainment options (<https://mailchi.mp/b51a728aa94e/january2020>).

JENNY NOVALIS, DIRECTOR

Contact Information:

[website](#)

Bedford Central Library  
321 N. Bridge Street  
Bedford, VA 24523  
(540)-586-8911

Big Island Library  
1111 Schooldays Road  
Big Island, VA 24526  
(540) 425-7000

Forest Library  
15583 Forest Road  
Forest, VA 24551  
(540) 425-7002

Moneta/SML Library  
13641 Moneta Road  
Moneta, VA 24121  
(540) 425-7004

Montvale Library  
11575 Lynchburg Salem  
Tnpk.  
Montvale, VA 24122  
(540) 425-7006

Stewartsville Library  
45 Cascade Drive  
Vinton, VA 24179  
(540) 425-7008

Department of  
**Social Services**

**Bedford County, DSS - Christmas Parade Float**

As a first time effort, Bedford County Department of Social Services entered a float in the Bedford Parade on December 7, 2019. This was an Agency wide effort that brought the staff together to decorate and or participate in the day of the event. The theme of the Parade was Celebrate Love and the staff wanted the float to exhibit LOVE and Christmas cheer. All of the ornaments on the trees were hand painted by children in the community and DSS employees. It was a special day of outreach that made great memories. The float won 2nd place and 1st place for the Most Holiday Spirit.

ANDY CRAWFORD, DIRECTOR

Contact Information:

119 E. Main St.  
Bedford, VA 24523

[website](#)

Phone: (540) 586-7750

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday  
8:30 am - 5:00 pm



## Department of Social Services

### Bedford County, DSS - Santa on a Firetruck

Bedford County Department of Social Services has sponsored Santa on a Firetruck for the last three years. On December 14, 2019, the Department, in conjunction with Bedford County Fire and EMS, visited neighborhoods to deliver donated hams, turkeys, toys and treat bags. This year the Department decided to make stockings for the elderly in those communities as well. A competition was held in the Department to raise items for the items needed for the stockings. The committee was overwhelmed by the response where over 6,800 items were donated. 115 stockings were filled and 180 additional adult bags were filled to be handed out to those we met and had the opportunity to share. Joy and fun were had by all!

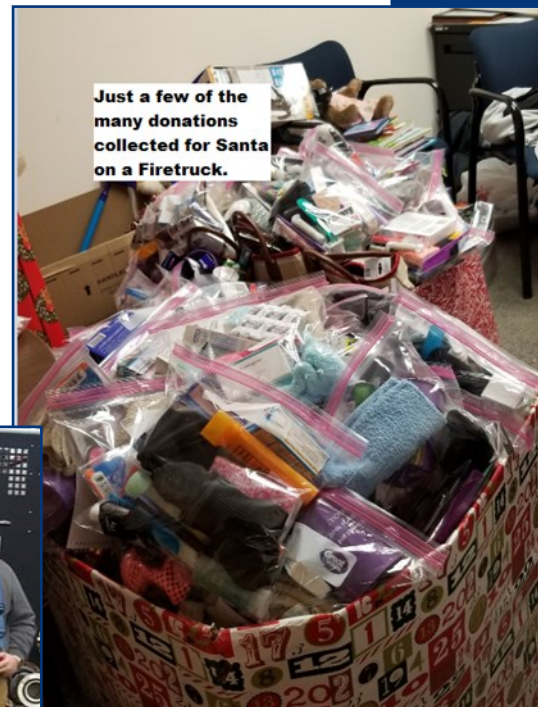
ANDY CRAWFORD, DIRECTOR

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119 E. Main St.  
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Office Hours:  
Monday - Friday  
8:30 am - 5:00 pm



Department of  
**Social Services**

### Bedford County, DSS - Christmas Assistance

Bedford County Department of Social Services, with the help of 68 sponsors that included private citizens, businesses and churches, was able to provide Christmas Assistance in the form of presents and food boxes to 78 elderly or disabled persons and 147 children in Bedford County. All gifts were delivered the week before Christmas by Bedford DSS interns.

### Bedford County, DSS - Shop with a Cop

Bedford County Department of Social Services for the 7<sup>th</sup> year, partnered with the Town of Bedford Police for Shop with Cop. This national program, partners children with a Law Enforcement Officer and they are able to go shopping at Walmart for \$100 of clothes and toys. Town Police Department, Bedford County Sheriff's Office, Conservation Police, Virginia State Police and Bedford Probation and Parole all participated and 40 children were sponsored from private citizens and local businesses.

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# Department of Tourism

The staff and volunteers at the Bedford Area Welcome Center and Department of Tourism want to thank the 30 organizations and businesses that participated in this year's Festival of Trees, "Celebrate Love". A record number of visitors came through the Welcome Center during the event, totaling more 8,500!

The votes have been counted, and the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival of Trees raised a total of \$6,638 for charity, an almost 30% increase over last year's amount and the highest total ever in the history for the event. Visitors had the opportunity to vote for \$1.00, which means there were 6,638 votes! For the first time ever, two trees had almost 700 votes each, the P.E.O. (Philanthropic Educational Organization) tree and the GFWC Bedford Woman's Club tree. While the Festival of Trees is not a contest to see who gets the most votes, it is important to remember that all votes equate to dollars raised and donated to local charities and causes. "The primary focus of this event is to give back to the community. We want to create a fun and festive place for people to come during the holidays, while also bringing awareness to local organizations and providing an opportunity to give back," stated Nicole Johnson, Director of Tourism. All money raised will be distributed among the charities that were chosen by the participating businesses and organizations.

"Feedback we received about the event from both the participants and visitors was very positive," said Michelle Crumpacker, Administrative Manager for the Welcome Center and also event organizer for Festival of Trees. She added, "Many people took advantage of the extended hours in December, and on the last late night, December 20, we had more than 600 people come through which is our highest one night total."



"We did all of our traditional methods of event advertising, including print, radio, television, and online, but this year also had radio advertising on WNRN out of Charlottesville which helped us reach a new audience. The Virginia Tourism Corporation also included it in one of their travel posts. More people also engaged with the Facebook event page than in previous years. The event page reached more than 66,000 and had more than 5,000 responses," said Nicole Johnson.

*Santa with Welcome Center employees Dee Dee Blake (left) and Robin Braxton (right).*

NICOLE JOHNSON, DIRECTOR

Contact Information:  
Bedford Area Welcome Center  
816 Burks Hill Road  
Bedford, VA 24523

[website](#)

Phone: (540) 587-5681  
Toll Free: 1-877-447-3257  
Fax: (540) 587-5983

Office Hours:  
Monday - Friday  
8:30 am - 5:00 pm



# Department of Tourism



*The Clauses with Volunteers Billie Bryant, Debbie Mullins, Yolanda Adams & Trish Schlegel*



*Santa , Mrs. Claus, & child*



*Santa with Michelle Crumpacker,  
Festival of Trees organizer*



*Santa with Volunteers Bill Watts and Jim Hedrick*

NICOLE JOHNSON, DIRECTOR

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## Department of Tourism

In addition to viewing the trees, a scavenger hunt was available for children, and almost 1,500 participated this year (almost 500 more than last year!) Santa and Mrs. Claus visited with 287 children during the three nights they were at the event. "It was good to see so many young people enjoying the event. Our hope is that they will want to visit every year," said Anita Dengel, Visitor Services and Volunteer Coordinator at the Welcome Center.

Welcome Center volunteers contributed much time and energy to this project and worked closely with staff members. "Many are excited to know what this year's theme will be, so to tie-in with the start of a new decade we have decided on **Christmas through the Decades**," said Michelle Crumpacker. "Here is a great opportunity to be creative and have some fun with the theme, and we can't wait to see what people come up with," she added. To participate, there is an application process, and the event is limited to 30 trees. To be notified when applications become available, please contact Michelle Crumpacker with your name, business, and contact information at [mcrumpacker@bedfordcountyva.gov](mailto:mcrumpacker@bedfordcountyva.gov).

The Welcome Center had a record-breaking 8,159 visitors in December, up from 6,703 last year. This is the highest visitation record for December since the Welcome Center opened in 2004! The **total** number of people visiting the Welcome Center in 2019 was 62,745, which is the highest annual visitation since 2004, when the Welcome Center opened for business. We celebrated our 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year!

In December, Destination Bedford was a sponsor of the Bedford YMCA 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Peaks of Otter Christmas Classic 5K, Bedford Christmas Parade, Christmas in Centertown & Tree Lighting Event, Effulgent Productions' "All is Bright" Community Christmas Pageant, and the "Diamonds on Ice" ice skating event hosted by DJ Showtime. The Welcome Center also hosted the Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce "Networking Before Nine" event on December 10 with 42 people in attendance.

The tourism office produces a monthly event e-newsletter which is a great way to find out about upcoming events. To be added to the email list, sign up on the home page of [www.DestinationBedfordVA.com](http://www.DestinationBedfordVA.com). The January e-newsletter is available [here](#). In addition to the events in the newsletter, Poplar Forest is now open for [Winter Weekends](#). On January 30, 5-7 p.m., the Welcome Center will host the Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce "[Business After Hours – New Member Market](#)" and this event is free and open to the public.

The tourism office manages three Facebook pages – [Destination Bedford VA](#), [Bedford Area Welcome Center](#) and [Bedford Wine Trail](#). If you are on Facebook, please "like" and follow these pages. We are also on [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [TripAdvisor](#).

NICOLE JOHNSON, DIRECTOR

Contact Information:  
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## The Bedford Area Welcome Center **LOVES** their Volunteers!

We need you...



If you are outgoing, enjoy speaking with visitors from all over the world, and are knowledgeable about Bedford area attractions and events, this opportunity is for you!

This position provides support in the Bedford Area Welcome Center. Our volunteers greet visitors and provide information about the area, sell gift store merchandise, and answer visitor inquiries both in-person and by phone.

We are open 7 days a week from 9AM to 5PM.

Volunteer shifts are 9AM to 1PM and 1PM to 5PM.

You can volunteer as little as eight hours (two shifts) per month.



*Every day is a beautiful day to be in Bedford –  
will you consider joining our awesome team of volunteers?*

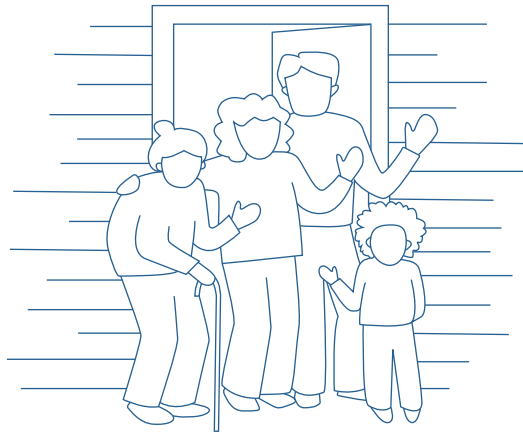
For more information, contact Anita Dengel, (540) 587-5681,  
[adengel@bedfordcountyva.gov](mailto:adengel@bedfordcountyva.gov)

# CENSUS 101: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The 2020 Census is closer than you think!  
Here's a quick refresher of what it is and why it's essential that everyone is counted.

## Everyone counts.

The census counts every person living in the U.S. once, only once, and in the right place.



## It's about fair representation.

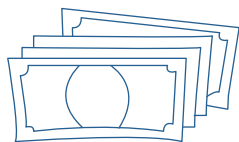
Every 10 years, the results of the census are used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets.



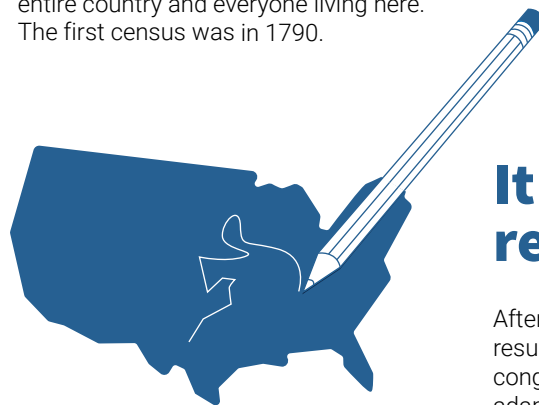
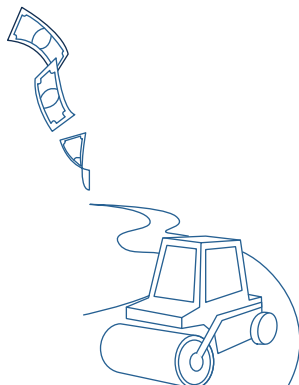
## It's in the Constitution.

The U.S. Constitution requires a census every 10 years. The census covers the entire country and everyone living here. The first census was in 1790.

## It means \$675 billion.



Census data determine how more than \$675 billion are spent, supporting your state, county and community's vital programs.

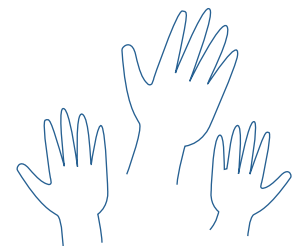


## It's about redistricting.

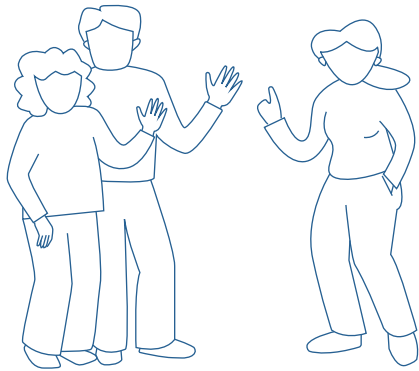
After each census, state officials use the results to redraw the boundaries of their congressional and state legislative districts, adapting to population shifts.

## Taking part is your civic duty.

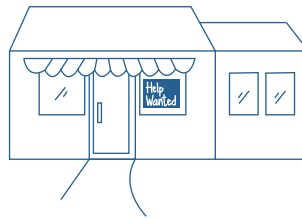
Completing the census is required: it's a way to participate in our democracy and say "I COUNT!"



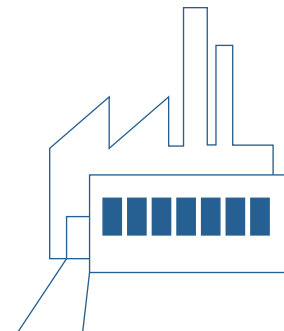
# Census data are being used all around you.



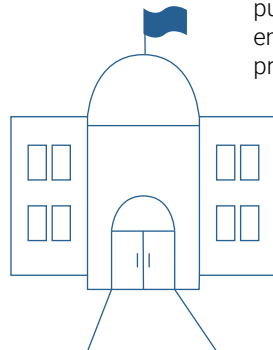
Residents use the census to support community initiatives involving legislation, quality-of-life and consumer advocacy.



Businesses use census data to decide where to build factories, offices and stores, which create jobs.



Local governments use the census for public safety and emergency preparedness.



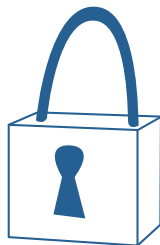
Real estate developers use the census to build new homes and revitalize old neighborhoods.



# Your data are confidential.

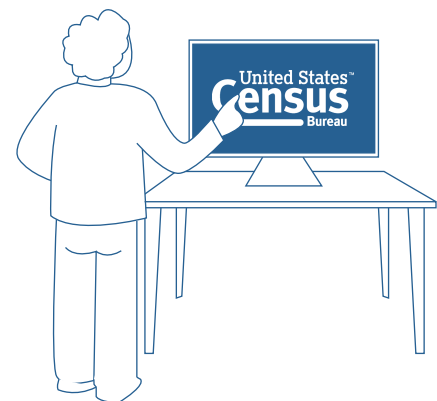
Federal law protects your census responses. Your answers can only be used to produce statistics.

By law we cannot share your information with immigration enforcement agencies, law enforcement agencies, or allow it to be used to determine your eligibility for government benefits.



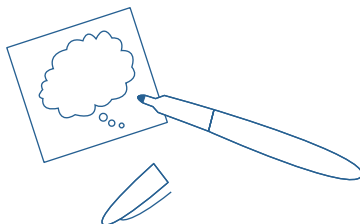
# 2020 will be easier than ever.

In 2020, you will be able to respond to the census online.



# You can help.

You are the expert—we need your ideas on the best way to make sure everyone in your community gets counted.



United States<sup>™</sup>  
**Census**  
Bureau

U.S. Department of Commerce  
Economics and Statistics Administration  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU  
[census.gov](https://www.census.gov)

FIND OUT HOW TO HELP AT  
[CENSUS.GOV/PARTNERS](https://www.census.gov/partners)