



**VAPDC 2014 Summer Conference & Annual Meeting**  
**July 24-26, 2014**  
**EFFICIENCY THROUGH REGIONALISM**  
Williamsburg Lodge, Williamsburg, Virginia

**SESSION DESCRIPTIONS**

**THURSDAY, JULY 24, 2014**

1:45 pm – 3:00 pm

**Session I: *From the Mountains to the Shore—Addressing Virginia's Environmental Challenges on a Regional Basis*, Tidewater Room**

Learn how PDCs are working with state agencies to address environmental challenges on a regional basis through cost-saving and collaborative efforts. You'll hear from Natural Resources Secretary Molly Ward and DEQ Director David Paylor and others about the State's new long range planning initiative as well as water supply planning and storm water management programs. You'll also hear how one PDC worked with DEQ on their Water Supply Planning initiative, saving thousands of dollars for their local governments and maximizing finite resources.

**MODERATED BY:** Bonnie Riedesel, Executive Director, Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission

**PANEL:**

- ∇ The Honorable Molly Ward, Secretary of Natural Resources, Commonwealth of Virginia
- ∇ David Paylor, Director, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
- ∇ Scott Kudlas, Director, Office of Water Supply, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
- ∇ Martha Shickle, Executive Director, Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission
- ∇ Ross Pickford, Conservation Concepts

3:30 pm – 4:45 pm

**Session II: *From the Mountains to the Shore—Will We Ever Be Connected?* Tidewater Room**

Learn how the PDCs, working with the state are addressing the technology challenges being encountered for rural as well as urban communities. You will hear from Secretary of Technology Karen Jackson on Virginia's Technology Plan over the coming years. Sandie Terry, Program Manager for the Center for Innovative Technology (CIT) will address how every community in the state can find Broadband success while Seth White, Executive Board member of Cumberland Plateau Planning District Commission and Skip Skinner, Executive Director of the LENOWISCO will highlight how Broadband is becoming a reality in their regions.

**MODERATED BY:** Wayne Strickland, Executive Director, Roanoke Valley-Allegheny Regional Commission

**PANEL:**

- ∇ The Honorable Karen Jackson, Secretary of Technology, Commonwealth of Virginia
- ∇ Sandie Terry, Program Manager, Broadband, Virginia's Center for Innovative Technology
- ∇ Skip Skinner, Executive Director, LENOWISCO Planning District Commission

**FRIDAY, JULY 25, 2014**

9:00 am – 10:00 am

**Session III: *From the Mountains to the Shore: Preserving and Protecting Virginia's Natural and Cultural Assets***

**MODERATED BY:** Robert Crum, Executive Director, Richmond Regional Planning District Commission

**Part 1: *2013 Virginia Outdoors Plan: A Tool for Local and Regional Planning***

Virginia's official guide for the planning of public outdoor recreation and land conservation has been revised and is now available online. The Virginia Outdoors Plan, which is updated every five years, highlights the beautiful natural resources and historical attractions Virginia has to offer. Planning District Commissions and Regional Councils assisted in the development of this statewide plan. Each regional office was heavily involved in getting stakeholder input, organizing public meetings and reviewing regional chapters and establishing featured projects for benchmarking. This cooperative planning effort is an excellent example of how PDCs support state agencies in efficiently implementing state-wide programs important to the regions. This is the 10th plan to be produced since the 1965 publication of "Virginia's Common Wealth," the first comprehensive study of Virginia's outdoor recreation facilities and resources. It is the first to be completely paperless, and its publication marks the debut of VOP Mapper, a user-friendly online tool for mapping outdoor recreation resources and conserved lands. This session will preview the plan and provide insight for upcoming regional meetings.

▽ Janit Llewellyn, Environmental Program Planner, Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation

**Part 2: *Virginia's Statewide Comprehensive Preservation Plan: Ensuring that Virginia's Historic Places Remain a Vital Part of Our Communities' Future***

For generations, the tangible reminders of our shared history have helped to shape the character and civic identity of Virginia's communities. They provide homes for families, businesses and public institutions. They draw visitors from around the nation and the world. Rehabilitating historic buildings infuses private investment back into local communities. Over the next several months, the Department of Historic Resources, along with other preservation partners, will be looking at the issues shaping how we see and use historic resources—and building an action plan that will help ensure that they remain strong building blocks for a vibrant future.

▽ Dr. Catherine Slusser, Senior Policy Analyst, Virginia Department of Historic Resources

10:30 am – 11:45 am

**Session IV: *From the Mountains to the Shore: Enhancing Virginia's Economy through Regional Tourism Initiatives*, Tidewater Room**

Learn how PDC's, working with local, state and federal governments and agencies, have supported the creation of several new tourism initiatives that are creating economic opportunities in some of the State's most rural communities. You'll hear Mary Rae Carter speak about the McAuliffe administration's emphasis on tourism and entrepreneurship as economic drivers in the State's efforts to promote tourism development throughout the Commonwealth. DHCD, VTC and PDC representatives will talk specifically about initiatives in Southwest, Southside and the Shenandoah Valley and the CEO of Colonial Williamsburg will talk about perhaps the State's best known tourism destination, Colonial Williamsburg.

**MODERATED BY:** Jim Baldwin, Executive Director, Cumberland Plateau Planning District Commission

**PANEL:**

- ▽ Mary Rae Carter, Special Advisor for Rural Partnerships, Office of the Secretary of Commerce and Trade, Commonwealth of Virginia
- ▽ Todd Christensen, Executive Director, Southwest Virginia Cultural Heritage Foundation
- ▽ Sandra F. Tanner, TMP, Tourism Development Specialist-Southside Region, Virginia Tourism Corporation
- ▽ Colin Campbell, President & CEO, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation
- ▽ Bonnie Riedesel, Executive Director, Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission

1:30 pm – 2:45 pm

**Session V: *From the Mountains to the Shore—Securing Virginia's Workforce*, Tidewater Room**

**MODERATED BY:** Mark Gibb, Executive Director, Northern Virginia Regional Commission

**PANEL:**

- ▽ Elizabeth Creamer, Advisor for Workforce Development, Office of the Secretary of Commerce and Trade, Commonwealth of Virginia
- ▽ Janet Clarke, Supervisor, Loudoun County & Commissioner, Northern Virginia Regional Commission
- ▽ Bob Crum, Executive Director, Richmond Regional Planning District Commission

**SATURDAY, JULY 26, 2014**

8:30 am – 10:00 am

**Professional Development Workshop: *Cloud Based Technology – It's Advantage to You and Your Local Governments*, Tidewater Room AB**

All local governments now have access to technology that was previously unaffordable. With the advent of cloud computing the need to purchase costly IT equipment, services and applications is eliminated. Learn about the advantages of cloud computing and why local governments of all sizes should evaluate the cloud when looking at upgrading their IT needs.

**MODERATED BY:** Tim Ware, Executive Director, George Washington Regional Commission

- ▽ Dale Graver, Director of Business Development, VC3