

2004 JAMES CITY COUNTY

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“WE WORK IN
PARTNERSHIP WITH
ALL CITIZENS TO
ACHIEVE A QUALITY
COMMUNITY.”

PROGRESS REPORT

A SPECIAL REPORT FOR
JAMES CITY COUNTY
CITIZENS.



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

The past 12 months were full of successes and challenges for your County government. Successes with the completion of our award-winning Comprehensive Plan Update and challenges brought on by the visit of Hurricane Isabel.

The destruction left behind by Isabel was a mammoth task to collect and dispose. More than 515,000 cubic yards of debris were removed by County contractors after the storm. County staff worked countless hours overseeing all contractor activities, ensuring proper cleanup and billing, and receiving all the appropriate reimbursements from FEMA and State sources. When all the costs were counted, we spent \$8.2 million on storm-related expenses, of which 92 percent was reimbursed by Federal and State sources.

Isabel also tested your County's emergency management plan and management structure. The "lessons learned" will be incorporated in future planning and budgeting, making us ready for the challenges ahead.

Thank you to the many citizens who participated in the update of the County's Comprehensive Plan. The public input process won the President's Award from the Virginia Municipal League and was featured on the cover of its statewide publication.

Your County's future looks bright for economic development. Two corporate citizens, Wal-Mart and Wythe Will, recently announced plans for expansion and a fast-growing national wood flooring retailer has acquired the former John Deere building and plans to move its national headquarters here.

Enhancements continue at the Warhill Sports Complex. With the success of the Cal Ripken 10-year-old World Series, sights are set on how to make James City County home to sports competition that will bolster our community's tourism industry. On the drawing board are plans for an up to 4,000-seat sports stadium that will not only serve as the home field for high school football, but will attract State and National youth sports championship games.

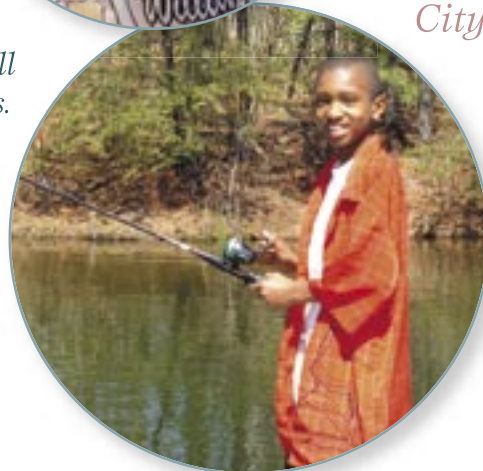
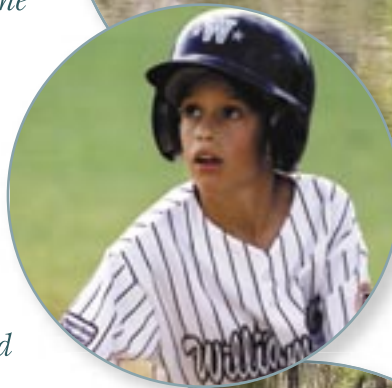
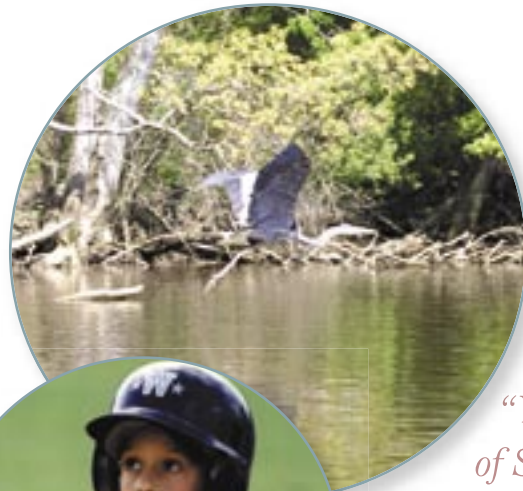
Your Board of Supervisors is committed to preserving the quality of life we all love about James City County while giving citizens value for their investment of tax dollars.



Bruce C. Goodson
Chairman, James City County Board of Supervisors



2004 Board of Supervisors. Andy Bradshaw of Stonehouse District (front left to right), Jay Harrison of Berkeley District, and John McGlennon of Jamestown District. Chairman Bruce Goodson of Roberts District (left, standing) and Vice Chairman Michael Brown of Powhatan District.



"Your Board of Supervisors is committed to preserving the quality of life we all love about James City County..."

JAMES CITY COUNTY 2004 GOALS:

- I. Balance Service Demands With Available Resources
- II. Enhance The Character Of The Community
- III. Ensure Broad-Based Citizen Involvement In Decision Making
- IV. Promote A Healthy Community

AWARD-WINNING PROGRAMS

- Powhatan Creek Park and Blueway: National Association of County Parks & Recreation Officials' (NACPRO) Class I Award in the Park and Recreation's Facility category.
- 2003 Comprehensive Plan Update: Virginia Municipal League's 2003 President's Award for Entrepreneurial Government.
- Environmental Division: Chesapeake Bay Partner Community's Gold Level award from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region III Chesapeake Bay Program Office.
- Parks & Recreation: National Association of Counties (NACo) 2004 Achievement Award for Beyond the Bell.
- Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Program: NACo 2004 Achievement Award.

REGIONAL EFFORTS

- The Board of Supervisors requested that a bond referendum question be placed on the November 2004 ballot seeking voter approval for \$39.8 million to construct a third high school off Centerville Road on the Warhill Tract.
- The Board of Supervisors approved a gift of nearly 74 acres of land to Thomas Nelson Community College for the planned Historic Triangle Campus off Centerville Road on the Warhill Tract.



Powhatan Creek Park



Williamsburg Regional Library

- A regional project to share criminal data with 16 other Hampton Roads jurisdictions and with Federal information systems has been hailed as a model for information sharing for homeland security.
 - Bus ridership of Williamsburg Area Transport (WAT) increased 43 percent or 517,000 passenger trips over last year's figures. WAT also partnered with the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation and National Park Service to offer special summer shuttle services.
- The Williamsburg Regional Library received \$8,000 in grants from area organizations and won six State and National awards for programs and leadership.

HURRICANE ISABEL RESPONSE

Hurricane Isabel swept through the County last September 18. The total storm cost for the County alone was more than \$8.2 million. At a glance:

- The County's Emergency Operations Center, staffed by County departments, area agencies and School personnel, was activated for 16 days, the longest known emergency operations in the County's history.
- Police, Fire, and EMS personnel responded to hundreds of calls for assistance, including some evacuations.
- More than 40,000 pounds of ice and 72,000 bottles of water were distributed during the weeks following Isabel.
- Shelter was provided to 268 people during the first week after the storm at the James City/Williamsburg Community Center.
- 515,000 cubic yards of storm debris were collected and disposed of under a regional contract.



- 1,628 families were approved for Disaster Food Stamps after the hurricane. This totaled 4,855 individuals, who received a total of \$565,935 in benefits.

- James City received Federal grants totaling \$6.2 million and State funds of approximately \$1.37 million in reimbursements to assist with cleanup expenses associated with Hurricane Isabel.

- \$25,000 Hurricane Isabel Debris Removal Assistance Grant from Williamsburg Community Health Foundation provided assistance to more than 24 income eligible County citizens.



BALANCE SERVICE DEMANDS WITH AVAILABLE RESOURCES

Federal, State, and local grants totaling more than \$10.7 million helped offset the County's costs for damages and cleanup associated with Hurricane Isabel, police training, youth programs, environmental efforts and more. Highlights include:

- Community Development's Section 8 Housing, \$977,415 to assist with indoor plumbing rehabilitation for low-income families.
- Community Services, \$8,050, Historic Triangle Substance Abuse Coalition, to implement a Strengthening Families Program.
- Development Management, \$25,000, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for the construction of a bioretention basin, and \$65,000, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, Lower Skiffe's Creek Watershed Management Plan and Builders for the Bay Program.
- Fire/EMS, \$199,834, U.S. Department of Justice through the Virginia Department of Emergency Management to assist in preparing to respond to weapons of mass destruction incidents.
- James City County's Historical Commission, \$75,000, Virginia Department of Transportation, to relocate the historic Norge train depot to the James City County Library site on Croaker Road.

BALANCE SERVICE DEMANDS WITH AVAILABLE RESOURCES *continued*

- James City Service Authority, \$15,000, Department of Environmental Quality, to assist homeowners who properly abandon their old, unused wells.

- Parks and Recreation, \$51,200 from the National Park Service through the Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network for refurbishing the boat ramp, constructing a floating pier, and installing signs at Powhatan Creek Park and Blueway. The Department of Criminal Justice Services awarded \$56,465 for Beyond the Bell. A Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation grant of \$53,592 to complete a trail at the James City/Williamsburg Community Center.

- Police, \$249,998, Virginia Department of Emergency Management to purchase detection, monitoring, and personal protection equipment for homeland security. Federal grants included \$90,000 to hire three officers to enhance general security and increase homeland security efforts.



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Animal Control	253-1800	Police (non-emergency)	253-1800
Business Licenses	253-6698	Real Estate Assessments	253-6650
Commissioner of Revenue	253-6695	Recycling	565-4000
County Administration	253-6728	Social Services	259-3100 or 259-3105
Fire (non-emergency)	220-0626	Solid Waste Management	565-0971
James City Service Authority,	253-6805	Treasurer	253-6705
.	253-6800 (billing) & 566-0112 (after hours)	Voter Registration and Elections	253-6868
JC/W Community Center	259-4200	W/JCC Schools Central Office	253-6777
Parks & Recreation	259-3200	Williamsburg Regional Library	259-4040

ENHANCE THE CHARACTER OF THE COMMUNITY

- James City County ranked 48th of best counties surveyed nationwide in a quality of life study by American City Business Journals Inc., a chain of 41 local business newspapers.

- Local designers, landscapers, irrigation companies, and nurseries participated in a “*Let’s be Water Smart Landscape Challenge*” contest.

- The Protecting Resources in Delicate Environments (PRIDE) Program, which helps educate citizens on the importance of watershed protection, installed a rain garden at a local church, and partnered with Parks and Recreation and the James River Association to enhance water quality and the watershed at Powhatan Creek.

- Funding was set aside for Freedom Park, site of one of the oldest free black settlements in America, in preparation for the Jamestown 2007 event. The earmarked money will be used for an interpretive building project at the Park, located at Longhill and Centerville roads.

- Chickahominy Riverfront Park received improvements, including a new floating pier and boat ramp.



*Freedom Park
on opening day.*

ENSURE BROAD-BASED CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT

• The Year of the Volunteer program recognized the 80,000 volunteer hours donated by approximately 200 volunteers in 2004. The value of their donation is estimated at \$1.34 million.



• Neighborhood Connections began the celebration of its 10th anniversary of serving County citizens. Over the past decade, some 128 neighborhoods have joined this county-wide resource initiative.

• After a yearlong citizen update process, the Board of Supervisors adopted the 2003 Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Map. Citizen participation through surveys and town meetings was the cornerstone of this successful process. The plan is available on CD, in hard copy and online at www.jccEgov.com.

• The latest technology for the live broadcasting of public meetings was incorporated into the new office building at the County complex on Mounts Bay Road.

Building F also houses Financial and Management

Services, Human Resources, Real Estate Assessments, Purchasing, Information Resources Management, and Communications.



PROMOTE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY

• Homeland security took center stage as police officers completed training on hazardous materials, terrorism awareness, and extremist groups. Officers also received Project Lifesaver training to help locate Alzheimer's patients if they wander from home or a care facility.

• Police received State certification to train officers at the Police Department instead of having to travel to the regional academy.

• Construction on the replacement station for Fire Station # 2 in the Roberts District is expected to be completed this fall. The new building will provide more space for Fire and EMS crews as well as space for police officers assigned to the area.

An improving economy helped to spur business expansions and relocations representing combined taxable capital investment of \$50 million, which will equate to approximately \$450,000 in annual local property tax revenues and 533 new jobs. New announcements include:



• Wal-Mart acquired an additional 243 acres for a \$28.5 million expansion of its import distribution center at GreenMount Industrial Park.

• Wythe Will Distributing is building a \$4.5 million, 110,000-square-foot facility in Stonehouse Commerce Park where it will employ an additional 55 workers over the next few years.

• Nicewood Enterprises, Inc. acquired an existing 40,000-square-foot manufacturing facility and expects to invest \$2.4 million and create an additional 23 new jobs at Stonehouse Commerce Park.

• Lumber Liquidators will move its headquarters, manufacturing, and distribution operations here, and is expected to bring up to 300 jobs. The hardwood flooring company acquired an existing 309,000-square-foot building and will bring \$4.5 million in equipment to its new home in Stonehouse Commerce Park.

PROMOTE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY *continued*

- Coresix Precision Glass, a manufacturer of optical quality glass components for equipment, is constructing a \$2.1 million, 30,000-square-foot facility in James River Commerce Center. It employs 30 workers.

Previously announced expansions that became operational during this fiscal year include:

- AVID Medical's \$3.5 million expansion in Stonehouse Commerce Park.
- Keystone Automotive built a \$2.8 million, 50,000-square-foot facility in James River Commerce Center.



- The movie "The New World" being partly filmed in James City County will generate an estimated \$11 million in regional spending.
- The Women/Minority-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Conference was hosted by the County's Office of Economic Development and its Industrial Development Authority along with York County and the City of Williamsburg.
- The Youth Advisory Council, which consists of student members, volunteered 126 hours of service in support of County events and community service projects. The Council also hosted a cable show and completed a survey.
- STRIVE, a prevention program for at-risk youth, served a record 139 youth through academic assistance, tutoring programs, recreation activities, and referrals to community resources.
- The first Adoption Day Celebration held this past December thanked adoptive parents for their commitment and love.
- To improve radio communications and expand the coverage area between James City and York counties, a regional 800 MHz trunked radio system is currently being installed. When the system becomes operational in early 2005, the counties will share the 20-channel system to connect police and fire departments and other agencies by hand-held radios.
- The Builders for the Bay program, which encourages better site design principles, was started by the County along with the Center for Watershed Protection and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay. A roundtable process brings together County staff, State agencies, developers and local interest groups.
- A bioretention demonstration project built at the Williamsburg/James City County Courthouse will help reduce pollution from stormwater runoff.
- The Yarmouth Creek Watershed Management Plan, which will protect and preserve this important natural resource, was approved.



- The James City Service Authority retrofitted public sewer in the Kristiansand neighborhood. Six small independent well facilities serving small neighborhoods in Stonehouse District were upgraded. A new sewer force main between Toano and Anderson's Corner improved sewer service in the Toano area. The \$2.5 million project to improve water and sewer systems in the First Colony neighborhood is progressing.
- The Five Forks Groundwater Treatment Facility will produce 2.5 million gallons of water per day by early 2005, when Phase I of construction is completed.
- The Ironbound Square neighborhood received park improvements from volunteers who helped install a new playground.

Postal Patron

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FY 2004 • JULY 2003-JUNE 2004

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