

# Cumberland County

A Virginia's Heartland Community

## An Invitation

Cumberland County invites you to experience "Virginia's Heartland," an area rich in tradition and resources. A close neighbor to Virginia's state capitol, Cumberland offers the perfect blend of a peaceful, rural setting with easy accessibility to Virginia's nearby metropolitan areas.



*Opportunities abound in Cumberland, one of Richmond's closest neighbors!*

Cumberland  
County

*Discover More Inside!*

Pg. 1- Location & Economy

Pg. 2- Government Services & Utility

Pg. 3- Education

Pg. 4 - Recreation & Tourism

Pg. 5- Tax Information



## Location

[Click Here For Google Map](#)

Located in the central Piedmont area of Virginia, Cumberland County is situated near a number of the state's largest metropolitan areas.



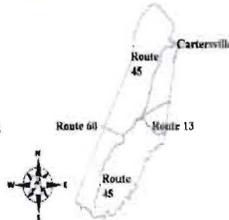
Richmond: 40 miles

Charlottesville: 55 miles

Lynchburg: 58 miles

Hampton Roads: 130 miles

Washington: 145 miles



## Agriculture



- 280 farms in Cumberland County.
- Poultry and beef cattle are the major agricultural operations.
- Cumberland County ranks sixth in the state for poultry production.

## Topography



Total acreage: 186,880

Square mileage: 292

Physiographic province: Piedmont

Topography: Level to slight slopes

## Climate

[Click Here For Current Conditions](#)

Generally mild winters and warm summers.

Weather reporting site: Cumberland

Annual average rainfall: 42.93"

Annual average snowfall: 16.80"

Prevailing winds: SE, SW (warm)

Annual average temperature: 56.1F

January average: 37F

July average: 77F

## History



Cumberland County was formed from Goochland County by an act of the Virginia Assembly in 1749 and named for the Duke of Cumberland, second son of King George II. On April 22, 1776, Cumberland led the Colonies in calling for independence from Britain. This is recorded as the first positive call for American Independence issued by a governmental body. One of the last battles of the Civil War was fought at the historic "High Bridge," which spans the Appomattox River from Cumberland to Prince Edward County. This historic railroad bridge was built in 1864 with brick piers supporting a wooden superstructure, which was partially burned during the Civil War. These now stand overshadowed by their 1914 steel counterparts, which until recently, were in use for freight trains. General Robert E. Lee received Grant's first communication concerning the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia while camping at Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Both of these sites are included in the driving tour of the Route of Lee's Retreat, which follows the final campaign of the Civil War from Petersburg to Appomattox.

## Population

1970 census: 6,179

1980 census: 7,881

1990 census: 7,825

2000 census: 9,015

**2008 estimate: 9,820**

[Click here for 2000 census information.](#)

## Employment

- Issued 650 business licenses in 2009.
- Employment is concentrated in:
  - manufacturing
  - retail trade
  - services
  - construction
  - public administration
  - agriculture
  - forestry
- Cumberland County has a civilian labor force of 4,604 people. The surrounding Labor Area is 102,788 people. Virginia is a strong right-to-work state.

## Finance



There are two financial institutions, Central Virginia Bank and Branch Banking and Trust (BB&T), with 3 locations that serve the residents of Cumberland County.

## Communications

**Telephone:** Verizon and Embarq

**Newspapers:** *The Farmville Herald*, a bi-weekly; and the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, a morning daily.

**Radio:** WVHL AM/FM Farmville; WFLO AM/FM Farmville; WPAK AM Farmville; WXJK FM Farmville; WBNN Dillwyn; and WSVS Crewe.

**Television:** The four major networks and public television are received from the Richmond area. Cable television services are also available.

**Parcel:** UPS, Federal Express, DHL, and U.S. Mail Express.

## Transportation



**Roads:** U.S. primary route 60 bisects the county east-west. State primary routes 13 and 45 accommodate other traffic.

Cumberland County is within close proximity to several major highways and interstates:

- I-64...10.7 miles
- I-295...25.5 miles
- I-195...32.6 miles
- I-95...33.3 miles
- I-85...39.0 miles

*\*Measurements taken from county border.*

**Air:**

- **Richmond International Airport** (60Miles) offers daily flights by nine airlines
- **Lynchburg Regional Airport** (64Miles) offers 7 daily flights via two airlines.
- **The Farmville Municipal Airport** has a 4,400 foot paved, lighted runway. Located in Cumberland County, the airport provides hangars and tie downs and is staffed from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. with full maintenance service, aircraft rental and sales, and student training available.

**Bus:** Trailways, Greyhound, Farmville Area Bus, and Piedmont Area Transit.

**Waterways:** Deepwater port facilities are located in Richmond on the James River (25 foot channel) and in Hampton Roads (45 foot channel). **Port of Virginia.**

**Motor Freight Carriers:** Approximately 25 trucking firms serve the area.



## Government Services

Cumberland County is governed by a five-member board of supervisors. A county administrator handles daily operations.

[Cumberland County Website](#)

### Volunteer Fire Departments

Three volunteer fire departments provide fire protection:

- Cartersville Volunteer Fire Department
- Cumberland Volunteer Fire Department
- Randolph Volunteer Fire Department



### Volunteer Rescue Squads

There are two rescue squads in Cumberland County.:

- Cartersville Volunteer Rescue Squad (ALS Capabilities)
- Cumberland Volunteer Rescue Squad
- The Randolph District receives rescue squad service from the Cumberland County Volunteer Rescue Squad and Prince Edward County.



## Utilities

### Electricity:

- Dominion Virginia Power serves the more urbanized areas of the county and Cartersville.
- Central Virginia Electric Cooperative serves the northern area.
- Southside Electric Cooperative serves the southeastern area.



### Water:

- A public water system serves the Court House area, including the school and a number of residents and businesses along the Route 60 corridor.
- The town of Farmville water system provides water for the community of Jackson Heights, the portion of Farmville located in Cumberland.
- The remaining population obtains water from privately owned wells or springs.

A privately owned water supply serves to the Lakeside Village subdivision in Cartersville.

### Sewerage:

- A public sewerage system serves the Cumberland Court House area of the county, a portion of Route 45 South, and the Jackson Heights area near Farmville.
- The effluent is treated at the Farmville wastewater treatment plant.

### Solid Waste Disposal:

Three transfer stations serve the county:

- Hamilton transfer station on Route 690
- Madison transfer station on Route 728
- Randolph transfer station on Route 45 South
- All accept household waste, white goods and recyclables.
- Tires, brush and construction debris are accepted at Madison.
- All transfer stations are open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. **Closed Wednesday & Sunday.**

## Emergency Services

### Sheriff's Department

Police protection is provided by a sheriff's office. Coverage is also provided by Virginia State Police.



## Family Services

**The Department of Social Services**, with a director and staff of 16, offers temporary financial assistance, medical assistance, and a variety of supportive services to citizens in need. Among the supportive services offered are the Food Stamp program, commodity foods, and assistance with emergency needs for children, adults and families.

## Medical

Cumberland county offers Centra Cumberland Medical Center, a centrally located physicians office with a pharmacy conveniently located next door.

### Centra Southside Community Hospital

A 116-bed, full-service hospital located in Farmville. It offers 24-hour physician emergency services, an intensive/coronary care unit, surgery, obstetrics, pediatrics, physical/occupational therapy, radiology, pathology and home health care.

### Cumberland County Health Department

Offers a variety of medical and educational services for all ages. Flu shots

## Chamber of Commerce

Cumberland County is a member of the [Farmville Chamber of Commerce](#) serving the local businesses in the area.

## Business Opportunities

**The Cumberland Industrial Development Authority (IDA)** was established in 1994 by the County of Cumberland. The goal of the Cumberland IDA is to institute new businesses in the county and to help them progress successfully.

The Cumberland County Industrial Development Authority is actively working with new businesses looking to locate in the county. The IDA is also working with existing businesses to enhance their opportunities.





## Education

**Vision Statement:** The Cumberland County School System will be a model rural school system that serves as the educational and resource center for the community.

**Mission Statement:** To inspire and prepare all students with the confidence, courage, and competence to achieve their dreams; contribute to community; and engage in a lifetime of learning.

Cumberland County Public Schools educates approximately 1,509 students in three schools;

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Cumberland County Elementary School (grades pre-kindergarten-5th)</u></li> <li>• <u>Cumberland Middle School (grades 6th-8th)</u></li> <li>• <u>Cumberland High School (grades 9th-12th)</u></li> </ul>	<p><b>2009-2010 Enrollment</b></p> <p>Students: 1,509</p> <p>Number of 2008-2009 high school graduates: 121</p>	<p>Teachers: 132</p> <p>Number of Advanced Diplomas: 72</p>
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Cumberland County Public Schools is a model, rural school division that promotes the academic success of each student through quality instruction. The school division has dramatically improved the academic performance of students in grades PK-12 through innovative and research-based programs designed to promote excellence in academic achievement. All three schools are fully accredited by meeting or exceeding the Standards of Learning (SOL) benchmarks established by the Virginia Department of Education. Staff development has been implemented to consider the needs of the whole child including the child's academic, emotional, physical, and social well-being. Approximately 112 instructional staff members are working toward preparing students for our global technologically-advanced society. We are at the forefront of technology, from our fiber-optic networks, technology labs and classroom computers to individual laptops for students at the high school level.

Cumberland County Public Schools offer quality programs such as :

Pre-K 3 and 4 year old program,  
Cortez History and Math (high middle schools)  
Saxon math  
Personalized Learning Communities  
21st Century summer school bridge programs

Reading Mastery  
Elementary Spanish program  
GEAR-UP  
Laptop initiative



Dual enrollment classes are offered in conjunction with Southside Virginia and J. Sargeant Reynolds Community Colleges for college credit. In addition, each year, students are selected to attend school part of the day at the Governor's School for Global Economics & Technology at Longwood University and the Pre-Engineering Academy located at the Amelia-Nottoway Career and Technical Center. Students in the ADVANCE program are afforded the opportunity to earn an associates degree and a high school diploma concurrently. These offerings are in addition to a full spectrum of courses in academic and career and technical areas. The Cumberland school system is also competitive in academic achievement results, sports, extra-curricular activities, teacher salaries, attendance rates and

Cumberland is also home to New Life Christian Academy, a private school offering grades k-12.



## Higher Education

### Southside Virginia Community College

Southside Virginia Community College, with main campuses located in Alberta and Keysville, offers courses at the Luther P. Jackson Center and the Cumberland Community Center in Cumberland County. The course offerings include continuing education opportunities for individuals and workforce training and skills development for regional employers.

### Middle College

Southside Virginia Community College opened a Middle College at the Cumberland Community Center in August 2007. This program provides young adults between the ages of 18 and 24, who separated from high school without a diploma, an opportunity to prepare for postsecondary training and the workforce. Students simultaneously pursue a GED, workforce readiness preparation, and community college courses.

### Longwood University

Located in the Town of Farmville Longwood University offers bachelor's and master's degrees in multiple fields of study.

### Hampden Sydney College

Located in Prince Edward County, Hampden Sydney College is a selective institution for men with multiple programs of study in liberal arts degree programs.





## Community Facilities



**Public Library:** Located on Route 60 in the Court House area, the library contains over 17,000 volumes, videos/DVDs, and access to high-speed and wireless internet services.:

- Hours of operation Monday and -Friday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday 9a.m.-6p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Sunday, closed.

**Churches:** More than 30 churches offer religious services in the county.

### Cumberland Community Center

The Cumberland Community Center is located at the intersection of U.S. Route 60 and Route 45 in the central part of the county. The center is currently home to:

- [Southside Virginia Community College](#)
- [Department of Social Services](#)
- [Bear Creek Academy](#)
- Cumberland County Department of Recreation
- Cumberland County Clothes Closet
- Meals on Wheels
- Christmas Mother

[Click Here For The Community Center Directory Map](#)



## Recreation

Swimming, tennis, golf and ball field facilities are locally maintained. The county offers a public recreational program. A very active Dixie Youth League is offered to children of the county, along with a varied sports program for adults.

Outdoor recreation is abundant in Cumberland featuring two State Parks:



### Bear Creek Lake State Park & Cumberland State Forest

Cumberland State Forest, Bear Creek Lake is the perfect getaway for the outdoor enthusiast. Activities center on the park's 40-acre lake complete with a boat launch, fishing pier, boat rentals and swimming beach. The park offers camping, cabins, a meeting facility, an archery range, lakeside picnicking, playgrounds, hiking and access to a 14-mile multi-use trail in the state forest.



### High Bridge Trail State Park

Photo courtesy of Mr. Woodfin Luggon

High Bridge Trail State Park is a multi-use trail ideally suited for hiking, bicycling and horseback riding. Its centerpiece is the majestic High Bridge, which is more than 2,400 feet long and 160 feet above the Appomattox River. The bridge was built in 1853 as part of the South Side Railroad. Four miles of the linear park were opened to the public Aug. 22, 2008, and 12 more miles were opened on June 6, 2009.



### James River

The James River runs along the northern edge of the county near Cartersville and separates Cumberland from Goochland as a natural boundary. A public boat landing is available. The James River is a great location for swimming, fishing, picnics, cooling off on hot summer days and is an all around fun experience for the entire family.



### Farmville Municipal Golf Course

A 9-hole golf course, Olympic-size swimming pool and clubhouse facilities. It is located adjacent to the [Farmville Regional Airport](#)

## Cultural:

### Local Festivals

- A "Patriot Day" festival, held annually on the 3rd Saturday in April in the Court House area, celebrates the county's place in history.

The "Fourth of July Celebration" has become a tradition at Cartersville. For years, it has attracted festival-goers of all ages from miles around. Cartersville is also featured as an overnight stop in the annual Batteau Festival on the James River in July.

### Hampden-Sydney & Longwood University

Nearby Hampden-Sydney College and Longwood University provide such cultural offerings as plays, musical performances, forums, lecture series, performing arts series and festivals, and the Longwood Center for the Visual Arts.

### Theatre

There is one [multiplex theatre](#) and one [amateur theatre](#) located in Farmville.

### Nearby Amusement & Attractions

Within a two-hour drive are [Kings Dominion Amusement Park](#), [Wintergreen Ski Resort](#), [Busch Gardens Theme Park](#) and the [Blue Ridge Mountains](#).



## Historical Places of Interest:

### Lee's Retreat Driving Tour

The trail is comprised of 25 stops with detailed audio and visual interpretation at each site. The self-guided driving tour allows you to enjoy the trail at your own pace.



### Civil Rights In Educational Heritage Trail Tour

The trail is comprised of 41 sites with detailed interpretation and photos at each location. The self-guided driving tour allows you to enjoy the trail at your own pace.



### Cumberland State Forest

Cumberland State Forest offers many natural pleasures including: wildlife watching, hiking, biking or riding horseback along 16 miles of forest trails, canoeing, camping and swimming. Four well stocked lakes, and the Willis River runs through the forest land as well. Visit Oak Hill Cemetery and read the epitaph of Charles Irving Thornton written by Charles Dickens in 1842; one of only two he wrote. Also, a historical marker on the homestead site of Revolutionary War hero Jesse Thomas tells of his heroic ride on his horse "Fearnought" through the night to warn the American patriots of approaching British forces.



### Historic Cartersville

Take a self guided walking tour of historic downtown Cartersville along the James River in Cumberland County. Maps are available by contacting the Cumberland County Department of Community Development at 804-492-9175 or by visiting our website.

## Lodging & Accommodations



**Bear Creek Lake State Park** offers the rustic charm of log cabins with the convenience of modern amenities. The cabins offer a quiet retreat on the lake, and can host a family get away or supply accommodations for large parties and gatherings. Camp sites are also available.

There are various motels and inns conveniently located in the nearby town of [Farmville](#).