July 2020 Update

NRVRC Board Member Transitions

At the New River Valley Regional Commission meeting on June 25th, the Board of Directors celebrated the contributions of Jaime Radcliffe who is leaving the board effective June 30, 2020. Mr. Radcliffe served on the Commission two years (2018-2020) representing the Town of Pulaski. He was recognized during the June meeting and presented with a token of appreciation containing his dates of service to the region.

The Commission also welcomed a new board member, Linda DeVito Kuchenbuch, who joined the board July 1, 2020, representing Floyd County.

Visit NRV Photo Showcase

The five tourism offices around the region are collaborating to build a new regional tourism website focused on “Visit NRV”. Before launching the site, the Visit NRV Photo Showcase will be collecting the community’s favorite photos to be included on the new website. To submit your favorite photos and review the full list of rules, visit https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VisitNRV.
For further information, please contact James Jones (jjones@nrvrc.org), 540-639-9313.

The NRVRC is in the process of updating the New River Valley Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) document for 2020. The CEDS provides a review of economic data and conditions for NRVRC jurisdictions, identifies goals and strategies that help to addresses these regional issues, and prioritizes regional economic development projects that the region can undertake to achieve these goals. The CEDS documents from previous years are available on our website: [http://nrvrc.org/what-we-do/economic-development/comprehensive-economic-development-strategy/](http://nrvrc.org/what-we-do/economic-development/comprehensive-economic-development-strategy/).

**Full Article**

For further information, please contact Patrick O’Brien (pobrien@nrvrc.org), 540-639-9313.

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**Ticks and Lyme Disease**

It’s summer and we are now deep in the heart of tick season. As with every year, we are expected to have an increase in the number of tick-borne diseases in Virginia. And, as with every year, all localities within the New River Valley are likely to be in the top 10 Virginia counties and cities for Lyme disease infections per capita. It is important to take preventative measures to protect yourself and your family against ticks, especially during the current state of emergency. Some of these measures include:

- Staying away from brushy areas and places with deep leaf litter
- Using flea & tick preventative medication on any pets that spend time outside
- Wearing light-colored clothing outdoors
- Thoroughly checking your body every time you come back indoors
For more information on tick prevention and making your outdoor spaces less attractive to ticks, please visit https://www.nrvroadtowellness.com/lyme-disease.

For more information contact Kristie Warack (kwarack@nrvrc.org), 540-639-9313.