

Greenbrier, WV: Greenbrier County Sports Complex & Park Conceptual Master Plan

Greenbrier County does not have satisfactory athletic fields for play or hosting local and regional events. The goal is to implement a park that benefits residents, families, youth and visitors and improve quality of life by supporting the economic and environmental sustainability of the County. The County seeks to construct a sports facility upon 100 acres, which were donated for the purpose for providing a place for both active and passive recreation. The county envisions creating the premier recreational facility in Greenbrier County and eastern West Virginia. This park would contain a sports complex with baseball, softball, and soccer fields. CDAC is working with a stakeholders group to develop a conceptual master plan for the site.

Russell County, VA: Russell County Fairgrounds Commercial Building Conceptual Design for Upgrades & Addition and Master Tree Planting Plan (VA Dept of Forestry Grant)

One of the best known seasonal activities in the southwest VA region is the Russell County Fair and Horse Show, which has been voted the best fair in the state of Virginia for 14 years. It attracts around 11,000 visitors per day and typically features an array of around 300 activities. The Commercial Building is one of the key buildings on the site and is especially in need of upgrading. CDAC is working with the Russell County Fair Association (RCFA) to develop concepts for adding onto the structure so that it can more effectively serve the fair and community groups. CDAC will also develop a tree master plan for the site. Professor Kevin Jones from the School of Architecture and Design at VT will lead the student team.

Statewide: Lost Communities of Virginia Driving Tours

In the spirit of the award-winning *Lost Communities of Virginia* book, we are developing driving tour brochures for 4-5 county regions in the Commonwealth. You'll drive backroads, passing through small, once-thriving communities with suggested stops at places that tell stories of the places, provide unique cultural experiences, and patronize local businesses that exemplify the ideals of the tour through their buildings, landscapes, or history. The tours connect to major highways so you can drive as much or as little as you like in a day or a weekend visit.



Covering the counties of Appomattox, Campbell, Charlotte, Halifax, and Pittsylvania, the *Lost Communities of Virginia* Southside Driving Tour brochure is now available on our website for download. We are currently seeking a partnership to print the brochure for distribution at local visitor centers and venues. The *Lost Communities of Virginia* Backroads of Southwest Virginia Driving Tour brochure covering Carroll, Montgomery, Pulaski, and Wythe Counties will be available on our website and in print this summer. You can connect to the brochures on our website here: cdac.arch.vt.edu/tour.html

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CDAC believes every community deserves quality design that promotes a healthy, sustainable way of life.

CDAC is an outreach center in the College of Architecture and Urban Studies, that assists communities, civic groups, and nonprofit organizations in improving their natural and built environments through research, community engagement, and interdisciplinary design. We provide opportunities for students to engage with communities, connecting university knowledge with real world experience. CDAC believes every community deserves quality design that promotes a healthy, sustainable way of life. This design philosophy is reflected in projects such as trails for health and fitness, parks for outdoor relaxation, outdoor learning environments, and plantings to reduce erosion and stormwater runoff. CDAC's work focuses on landscape architecture, architecture, interior design, and planning.

Since its humble beginnings in 1988 through a grant from the U. S. Department of Education's Fund for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education, the Design Center has assisted over 280 communities throughout Virginia, Kentucky, North Carolina, and Tennessee.

Recent grants have included Forestry Competitive Grants (FCG) and an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) grant. The FCG project is to assist Appalachian communities in VA, KY, & NC develop conceptual plans that conserve, protect, and enhance community natural resources. The EPA grant will allow CDAC to help communities plan for redevelopment of brownfield sites.

Meet the Staff



Elizabeth Gilboy
Director
egilboy@vt.edu



Maxine Lyons
Office Manager
lyons@vt.edu



Kim Steika
Communications and Outreach Manager
ksteika@vt.edu



Terri Fisher
Lost Communities of Virginia
Project Manager
tlfisher@vt.edu



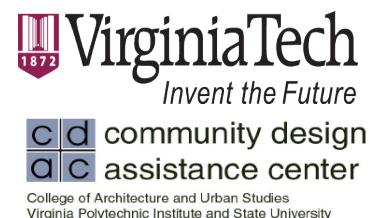
Daphne Williams
Landscape Designer
daphnea@vt.edu



Patricia Stroud
Landscape Designer
pbs16@vt.edu



Andrea Thomas
GIS Technician
andrea2@vt.edu



Community Design Assistance Center
101 South Main Street, Suite 2
Blacksburg, VA 24061

Phone: 540/231-5644
Fax: 540/231-6089
www.cdac.arch.vt.edu

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In honor, memory, and celebration of the life of Paul Revell
of the Virginia Department of Forestry

In honor, memory, and celebration of the life of Paul Revell, CDAC would like to take a moment to recognize this tremendous partner: a champion of urban forests, environmental stewardship, community enhancement, catalytic change, partnerships, and connections.

CDAC worked with Paul Revell and the Virginia Department of Forestry (DOF) since 1999. In that time, over 80 community projects have been funded through the Urban & Community Forestry grant program, potentially impacting over 500,000 people. The grants have totaled over \$600,000 and enabled communities to leverage over \$8,720,000 in grants and additional funding (that we are aware of). That means for every \$1 spent in grant funds, \$14 in additional funding was leveraged! In 1994, Paul was appointed Statewide Urban and Community Forestry Coordinator, a position he held until he retired in 2015.



Paul,
Your legacy is rich,
expansive, and meaningful.

CDAC Receives EPA Brownfields Assessment Grants



CDAC was awarded an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) grant to assess brownfield sites in southwest Virginia. CDAC is working with communities to develop conceptual plans for redevelopment of the sites. Cleaning up these brownfields and reinvesting in contaminated properties can increase local tax bases, facilitate job growth, utilize existing infrastructure, take development pressures off of undeveloped, open land, and both improve and protect the environment. CDAC plans to work with six to nine communities. Assessment of a site does not commit the community to clean-up. The first community CDAC worked with was St. Paul to develop a conceptual design that helps reduce stormwater runoff from a small contaminated site that is currently running to the Clinch River and endangering sensitive wildlife.

As Urban and Community Forestry Coordinator, Paul helped several organizations implement significant projects, including greenways, landscape designs, streetscapes, parks, and open spaces.

As noted in his obituary: Paul was the past president of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of International Society of Arboriculture and received that organization’s True Professional Award in 2015. He also served for several years on the National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council, and helped with the initial funding of the Clinch River Valley Initiative. He received numerous awards and recognition from organizations across Virginia, including the Keep Virginia Beautiful Award, the Southern Group of State Foresters Urban Forestry Award, the National Association of State Foresters Urban Forestry Award, the International Society of Arboriculture True Professional of Arboriculture Award, the VNRLI Gerald P. McCarthy Award for Leadership in Environmental Conflict Resolution, the Clinch River Valley Initiative Partner of the Year Award, and the CDAC Celebrated Collaborator (2008). Each award is a testament to Paul’s hard work, dedication, commitment, innovation, creativity, public service, and good humor in the face of daunting challenges.

London, KY: Downtown Walking Trail
Conceptual Design (KY Division of Forestry Grant)



The City of London, London Downtown, and the London Tree Board wanted to create a more walk-friendly greenspace area throughout the City of London. CDAC worked with the community to create a designated 1-2 mile downtown walking trail. The trail guides people throughout the downtown district, creates an atmosphere downtown that makes visitors want to linger, and showcases the community as a destination to explore.

Dayton, VA: Dayton/Silver Lake Greenway
Conceptual Master Plan (VA Dept of Forestry Grant)



The Town of Dayton, with a population of a little over 1,500, is one of the oldest settled communities in Rockingham County. A large portion of the land surrounding the town limits is agriculture maintained by a combination of Plain People, various sects of Mennonite groups, and conventional farmers. Within the town limits are resources of significant cultural and historic value. CDAC worked with the Town of Dayton and the community to develop a conceptual master plan for a multi-use greenway that traverses through a variety of areas in Dayton and connects various community assets throughout town and within the downtown district to Silver Lake.

South Boston, VA: First Baptist Church Learning
Area and Garden Conceptual Design (VA Dept of Forestry Grant)



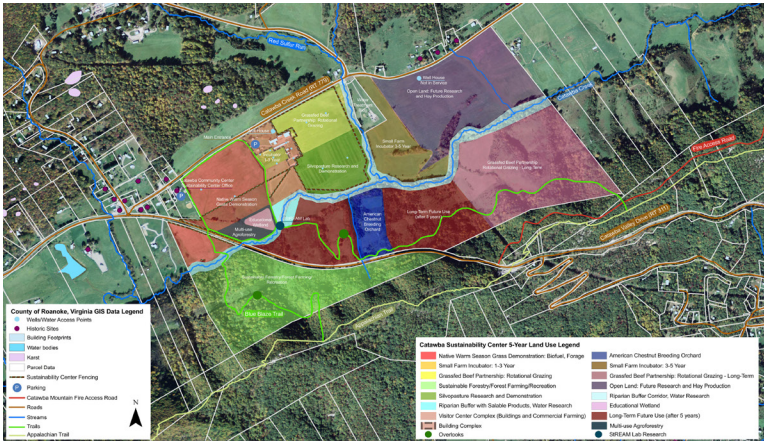
The First Baptist Weekday School is a child care/ preschool facility operated by the First Baptist Church (FBC) in South Boston. The preschool program includes a daycare for children ages 2-5 and the after school program includes children ages kindergarten to 5th grade. FBC wanted to create an outdoor learning area/garden that weaves new and existing educational and religious programs and provides a space for education, play, recreation, friendly gatherings, performances, prayer, church meetings, and gardening. CDAC worked with the church community to develop a conceptual master plan that included such elements as a sensory/flower/vegetable garden and outdoor learning lab, natural play areas, an outdoor performance area, and an outdoor chapel area.

North Wilkesboro, NC: West Park Medical
Complex Conceptual Master Plan (NC Forest Service)



The Health Foundation is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of residents in Wilkes County. They purchased a declining strip shopping center in N Wilkesboro that rests on 28 acres and converted it into a medical park. The Health Foundation envisions the West Park Medical Complex as a model landscape that expresses healthy eating and healthy living. Open space, trails, and signage would transform the parking lot and surrounding landscape. These amenities would be available to patients, visitors, employees, and the community’s residents. CDAC worked with The Health Foundation and the community to develop a conceptual master plan for the site. The project was funded by the North Carolina Forest Service (NCFS) Urban & Community Forestry Program.

Catawba VA: Catawba Sustainability Center
Land Use Plan Update (VA Dept of Forestry Grant)



The Catawba Sustainability Center (CSC) is located on a former 377 acre dairy/beef farm on Catawba Creek Road in the Catawba Valley in Roanoke County. Historically, the CSC employed nearby residents to provide meat and dairy products to the staff and patients at the Catawba Tuberculosis Hospital and later the Sanitarium. Most of the farm buildings were constructed in the early 1920s. Others were added in the 1940s and 1950s. In 1988, the hospital transferred 377 acres of its land holdings to Virginia Tech. The CSC is now taking steps to meet current and future needs by becoming a showcase for university engagement and education. CDAC recently assisted a stakeholders group in updating their land use plan.