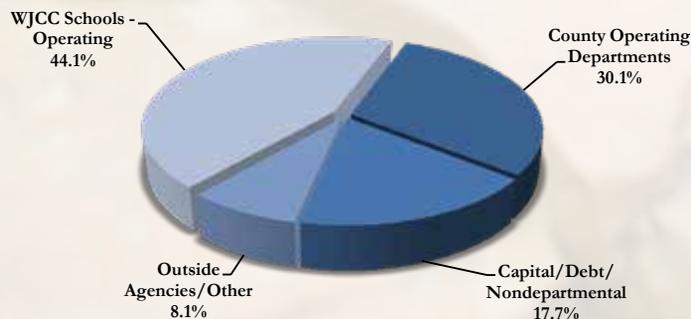


We hope you will find this FY2014 Annual Report a useful snapshot of the many County services and projects funded by your tax dollars. As we reflect on the past year and look forward to the next, the Board of Supervisors is committed to sustain the quality of life we have enjoyed in James City County. Last year was no exception as we saw growth in our sports tourism initiatives, affirmation of our AAA bond rating, positive results from our Comprehensive Plan citizen's survey and the opening of many new businesses. The FY14 fiscal year was challenging and eventful as we continued the delicate balance between revenue and expenses to maintain services in the community. To learn more about County accomplishments and highlights, visit jamescitycountyva.gov.

Mary Jones, Board Chair, January 2014 - present
John McGlennon, Board Chair, July 2013 - January 2014

- Standards and Poor (S&P) Rating Services affirmed the County's AAA and AA+ **bond rating** for its general and appropriation-backed obligations for the next two years.
- Introduced a **new media streaming format** optimized for viewing JCC TV live and recent public meetings on mobile devices.
- The Virginia Tech Center for Survey Research conducted a **survey** of 606 residents regarding a variety of County initiatives, services and issues:
 - More than 8 in 10 residents rate services as either excellent or good.
 - 72% said the level in services in relation to taxes paid was either excellent or good.
 - 73% said they felt very satisfied or somewhat satisfied with the level of communications received from the County about services and other community issues.

FY2014 ACTUAL GENERAL FUND SPENDING BY CATEGORY



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



15 businesses celebrated ribbon cuttings in the County in FY14, including:

- Jamestown Discovery Boat Tours
- Emily's Donuts & Café
- Sears Hometown Store
- Petco

- Citizens representing 32 neighborhoods formed the [Neighborhood Leadership Forum](#) (NLF) coordinated by the Civic Engagement Coordinator. The NLF is a series of education and networking sessions between citizens and County departments.
- The Police Department launched [Coffee with a Cop](#) where citizens are able to meet with Police in an informal neutral space to discuss community issues, build relationships and drink coffee.
- In recognition of [Manufacturing Day](#), local students visited County businesses: Walmart Import Distribution Center, Ball Corporation and Printpack, Inc. The students were able to see advanced technology first-hand and learn about the skills needed to qualify for high-paying and fulfilling careers.
- The [Board of Supervisors](#) and [Economic Development Authority](#) recognized [Robertson Liebler Development Group](#) at the 20th annual Celebration of Business as the 2013 recipient of the Captain John Smith Award. The annual award is presented to a business, organization or individual for exemplary contributions in the James City County business community.
- A new [regional 911 data system](#) allows County, City of Williamsburg and York County 911 dispatchers to simultaneously receive fire or EMS calls regardless of location. The network was made possible by two State grants.
- The County received platinum-level certification in the [2013 Go Green Government Challenge](#). The Challenge, a Virginia Municipal League initiative, is a friendly competition among local governments to encourage the implementation of specific environmental policies and practical actions that reduce carbon emissions.

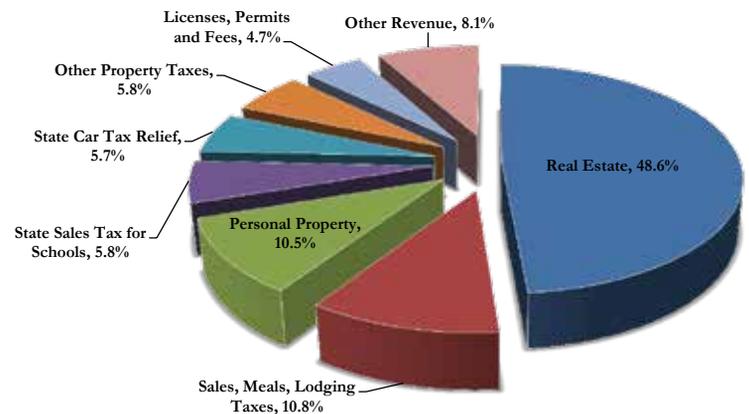
Two large sporting events brought thousands of athletes and their families to the area.

- More than 900 athletes participated in the Revolution 3 (REV3) Williamsburg Triathlon, a nationally recognized sporting event sanctioned by USA Triathlon.
- The National Softball Association's Virginia State Championships were held on fields throughout the area. 143 teams from 17 states participated.



- Julie McKercher was selected as the Communications Center Director of the Year for 2013 by the Virginia Chapter of the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials. McKercher has served as Director of the County's Emergency Communications Division since 2006.
- Verizon Wireless customers can now send a text message to 911 when they are in range of a cell tower located in the County. [Text to 911](#) is intended primarily for the hearing impaired and for those unable to make a voice call or in the instance of a home invasion or abduction.
- The Police Department's [traffic safety programs](#) received first place in the 2012 National Law Enforcement Challenge and the Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge. The Department was also awarded the Commonwealth Award which recognizes the best overall traffic safety programs in Virginia regardless of the size.
- Three County initiatives received top honors from the Virginia Recreation and Park Society. The [Powhatan Creek Trail](#) was named Best New Facility-Parks, Playgrounds, Blueways, Greenways or Trails; [Holiday Skating](#) in New Town was awarded Best New Program; and the [Williamsburg Botanical Garden](#) in [Freedom Park](#) received the Distinguished Private Sector Award.
- [Mid County Park](#) reopened in August. To meet ADA guidelines for public-use playgrounds, the new Kidsburg features two separate play areas – one for ages 2-5 and another for ages 5-12. A new park office was constructed with improved restroom facilities, a vending area and a small meeting room.
- The James River Community Center was renamed to the [Abram Frink Jr. Community Center](#) in honor of his service on the Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission and Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission. Frink was the first African-American man to serve as the Chairman of a governing body in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

FY2014 ACTUAL GENERAL FUND SOURCES OF REVENUE BY CATEGORY





MORE COUNTY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

In addition to this County-wide annual report, several departments produce their own reports. They are available at jamescitycountyva.gov/annualreports.

- As part of the County's greenway system, an existing [multipurpose trail](#) was paved providing better accessibility from the Freedom Park entrance road to the Jolly Pond Road Trail. The trail crosses Colby Swamp using a recycled 70-foot span wooden-decked steel bridge that had previously been used as a connection over the Lake Powell spillway. The project also addressed one of the highest priorities of the Gordon's Creek Watershed Management Plan.
- The County partnered with The Arc of the Virginia Peninsula to offer a free daily [e-recycling program](#) at the Jolly Pond Convenience Center. A majority of the individuals who disassemble the computers in Arc's Transition to Work program are students with disabilities who graduate from the special education classroom to successful employment.
- Norge Elementary students are working with the [Clean County Commission](#) to promote cafeteria recycling and reduce solid waste. As a result, the typical 15 bags of trash produced during an average lunchtime have been reduced to three bags of trash; two bags of co-mingled recycling; and a half bag of drink pouches and Terracycle.
- Housing and infrastructure conditions in the Forest Heights Community were improved with funding from a Community Development Block Grant, the County, an EPA Climate Showcase grant and Peninsula Habitat for Humanity and Housing Partnerships, Inc.
- The completed [Longhill Road Corridor Study](#) addresses increased traffic volume, congestion and safety issues on this major community corridor. After extensive technical analysis and a public engagement process, recommendations were made for future configuration.
- Toward 2035: Leading the Way – the County's [Comprehensive Plan update](#) began this year based on methodology adopted by the Board of Supervisors. After four months of community outreach and engagement, a summary of public input will be used to help develop policy recommendations.
- The [Thinking Rural](#) initiative included mail and electronic surveys and community meetings to gather feedback about rural lands, community preferences and policies. The final report was shared with the Board of Supervisors in March.

The FY2014 Annual Report was produced by the James City County Communications Department.

- Jody Puckett and Renee Dallman, editors
- Gene Canova, graphic designer



jamescitycountyva.gov/news
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