



REGION **11**
Region 2000

Introduction

Recreation Region 2000 includes the counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford and Campbell, the cities of Bedford and Lynchburg, and the towns of Altavista, Amherst, Appomattox, Brookneal and Pamplin City. While predominant land use is agricultural, the area has lovely scenic viewsheds. Citizens and visitors seeking recreation have parks, lakes and rivers and a multitude of cultural and historic to choose from.

Regional Focus

Table 11.1 Most-Needed Outdoor Recreation Opportunities

Region 2000 Recreational Planning Region

activity	% of households in	
	region	state
Natural areas	59	54
Parks	50	49
Historic areas	49	39
Water access	43	43
Trails	41	43
Scenic drives (driving for pleasure)	32	29
Playing fields, sports and golf facilities	19	22

Source: 2017 Virginia Outdoors Demand Survey.



Family Reunion | Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation

Table 11.2 Top 10 Outdoor Recreation Activities By Participation

Region 2000 Recreational Planning Region

activity	% household
Visiting natural areas	68
Driving for pleasure	61
Walking for pleasure	59
Visiting parks (local, state & national)	49
Swimming/outdoor pool	46
Sunbathing/relaxing on a beach	37
Freshwater fishing	35
Outdoor festivals (music festivals, outdoor-themed festivals, extreme sports festivals, etc.)	33
Visiting historic areas	31
Viewing scenery	30

Source: 2017 Virginia Outdoors Demand Survey.

Visit www.dcr.virginia.gov/vop to view regional participation rates for more than 100 activities.

Regional Featured Projects

To be considered a regional featured project, a project must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Has statewide or regional significance.
- Addresses top statewide or regional needs identified by the Virginia Outdoors Demand Survey.
- Has involvement and support from multiple jurisdictions in the region.
- Able to be initiated within the next five years.

Featured projects for Region 2000:

- Implement the James River Heritage Trail to include land and river access points.
- Implement the Staunton River Water Trail to include access points and land trails adjacent to the river.
- Develop the Appomattox Heritage and Recreational Trail.

- Increase pedestrian and bicycle access within community centers throughout the region to increase opportunities for short non-motorized trips.
- Expand the participation and coordination of Live Healthy/Work Healthy initiatives within recreational, land use and community planning.
- Initiate a plan that explores watercraft portage around the dams on the James River starting at Snowden and within the city limits of Lynchburg.

Outdoor Recreation Economic Impact

Table 11.3 Per-Capita Spending on Parks and Recreation

Region 2000 Recreational Planning Region

locality	dollars
Amherst County	16.85
Appomattox County	14.76
Bedford County	16.72
Campbell County	13.19
City of Bedford	4.42
City of Lynchburg	40.00
Statewide	71.09

Source: Virginia Auditor of Public Accounts, "Comparative Report on Local Government Revenues and Expenditures," 2016.



Fall Leaves | Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation

Table 11.4 Virginia State Parks 2017 Attendance and Economic Impact

Region 2000 Recreational Planning Region

state park	location	overnight visitors	day-use visitors	total visitors	economic impact
Holliday Lake	Appomattox, Buckingham counties	16,734	33,201	49,935	\$1.9M
Smith Mountain Lake	Bedford, Franklin counties	41,861	471,099	512,960	\$11.1M

Source: Virginia State Parks

Regional Health

Table 11.5 Health Trends

Region 2000 Recreational Planning Region

locality	adult smoking (% of adults)	adult obesity (% of adults with BMI over 30)	physical inactivity (% of adults age 20 or over reporting no leisure time/physical activity)	access to exercise opportunities (% population with adequate access to locations for physical activity)	air pollution – particulate matter (micrograms per cubic meter)
Amherst County	16	29	30	60	8.8
Appomattox County	17	29	26	55	8.5
Bedford County	15	33	24	62	9.3
Campbell County	17	32	25	62	9.1
City of Lynchburg	20	27	21	78	8.8
Statewide	17	27	21	81	8.7

Source: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Outdoor Recreation Interface with Virginia Tourism

The Virginia State Tourism Plan was completed by Virginia Tourism Corp. in March 2013. In 2017, Virginia Tourism compiled “Nature & Outdoors” recommendations in Appendix 13 for each recreation planning region.

Regional Historic Resources

The early history of Region 2000 was focused on trade and transportation, bringing raw materials and resources via canal from the mountains to the markets in the eastern part of the state. This area also contains the summer retreat of Thomas Jefferson, Poplar Forest, as well as the small village of Appomattox Court House that witnessed the end to the bloodshed of the American Civil War with the surrender of Lee’s Army of Northern Virginia in April 1865. While this region contains urban centers such as Lynchburg, much of the area retains a rural character with rolling hills and mountains, farms, woodlands, and open fields and pasture. Many historic farmsteads and communities include both manor houses and the homes of enslaved persons and tenants, and extensive evidence for indigenous occupation prior to European settlement can be found.

Appropriate conservation activities may include installation of highway markers to commemorate historic locations and events, placement of historic properties on the Virginia Landmarks Register or National Register of Historic Places and placement of historic

preservation and open space easements. Conservation targets include: 19th century farmsteads, 19th and early 20th century dwellings and commercial buildings/districts; historic schools and churches; Civil War battlefields; historic transportation routes and crossroads, sites and properties associated with enslaved persons/communities; and significant prehistoric habitation sites. Information about historic buildings, structures and archaeological sites is maintained in the permanent files of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and is available to local planners.

Table 11.6 Regional Historic Resources

Region 2000 Recreational Planning Region

resource	location
Appomattox Court House Battlefield	Appomattox County
Pamplin Pipe Factory	Pamplin City
Bedford Historic Meeting House	Bedford County
Old City Cemetery	City of Lynchburg
Bear Mountain Indian School	Amherst County

Source: Virginia Department of Historic Resources



Fishing at Holliday Lake State Park | Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation

Land Conservation

Table 11.7 Conserved Lands

Region 2000 Recreational Planning Region

locality	easement acres	ownership acres
Amherst County	8,608.08	59,658.34
Appomattox County	5,706.35	12,051.12
Bedford County	14,090.84	30,765.87
Campbell County	12,261.28	1,037.97
City of Bedford	57.22	0.00
City of Lynchburg	122.37	583.94
Total	144,943.39	

Source: Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation Protected Lands Inventory.

Natural Area Preserves and Natural Heritage Resources

Region 2000 is one of two districts in Virginia without a state natural area preserve. However, the district has a number of rare species populations and significant natural communities. Some highlights include a population of the Virginia endemic Kankakee globe mallow, three of the few Virginia Piedmont populations of the federally endangered smooth coneflower, the only two caves documented on the eastern side of Virginia’s Blue Ridge, and several stream reaches supporting rare species of mussels and fish.

DCR recommends that conservation activities and land protection efforts in the region focus on unprotected Essential Conservation Sites and all unprotected portions of Natural Area Preserve resiliency areas. Secondly, strategic land conservation should expand upon existing managed areas and seek connectivity via protecting and/or managing intact ecological cores and natural vegetation cover between currently protected lands. Finally, attention on remaining unprotected natural heritage resources within the region should be considered on a case-by-case basis.

The appropriate conservation activities and methods of protection will vary with each site but may include placing the site on Virginia's Registry of Natural Areas; developing a voluntary management agreement with the landowner; securing a conservation easement through a local land trust; acquiring the site through a locality or local land trust; dedicating the site as a natural area preserve with the current owner; or acquiring the site as a state-owned natural area preserve.

Conservation targets of special significance in the region include:

- Habitat for the globally rare Kankakee globe mallow and the federally endangered smooth coneflower.
- Riparian areas in watersheds that support the federally endangered Roanoke logperch and other rare aquatic species.
- Riverside prairies.

Information about the location of conservation sites and the natural heritage resources they contain, as well as management assistance, is available to local planners from DCR's Natural Heritage Program. For more on the Natural Heritage Program, see Chapter 11 and Appendix 11.

Table 11.8 Natural Heritage Resources

Region 2000 Recreational Planning Region

Number of occurrences of rare species and significant natural communities	136
Number of different rare species and significant community types (natural heritage elements)	95
Number of globally rare natural heritage elements	29
Number of species listed as federally endangered or threatened	6
Number of species listed as state endangered or threatened	8
Number of terrestrial conservation sites identified by DCR	30
Number of conservation sites with little or no protection	17
Number of partially protected conservation sites	7
Number of well protected conservation sites	6

Information as of Feb. 28, 2018. Source: Virginia Natural Heritage Program