

*Claytor Sunrise. Photo by Kimber Simmons, courtesy of Scenic Virginia.*

# REGION 4

## *New River Valley*

### MAP ICON KEY

 VOP Mapper

 Data explorer

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## Introduction

The New River Valley Planning District is in the Ridge and Valley Province of Virginia. It comprises Floyd, Giles, Montgomery and Pulaski counties, and the city of Radford. The region lies between West Virginia on the west and the Blue Ridge Parkway on the east. National forest lands blanket the ridges while picturesque farms and towns dot the New River Valley. The character of the region is influenced by the New River, an American Heritage River, providing high-quality fishing and swimming opportunities. Claytor Lake, a hydroelectric power impoundment on the New River, provides opportunities for power boating, sailing, water skiing, fishing and other water sports.

The U.S. Census Bureau reports the region had a population of 178,237 in 2010, comprising 2.23 percent of Virginia's population. Approximately 20 percent of the region's population is Radford University and Virginia Tech students. The population is projected to be 191,328 by 2020 if the 7.34 percent growth rate continues. Growth rates varied across the region from a decrease of 0.73 percent in Pulaski County to an increase of 11.40 percent in Montgomery County. To compare population and population change by locality in Virginia, see the [2010 Census Total Population Maps](#).

## Regional focus

Through the 2011 Virginia Outdoors Demand Survey, input from public meetings and partnerships with local and regional staff, four priority considerations for the Virginia Outdoors Plan emerged: opportunities for outdoor recreation, economics, health and wellness, and land conservation. Valuable information related to regions across the Commonwealth was gained during public input sessions. The following section summarizes thoughts and strategies specific to this region.

**Health:** Citizens cited the need for bikeable and walkable communities and opportunities to learn to swim at community aquatics centers, and the desire to ensure land development follows best management practices to protect water resources.

**Youth:** There is interest in expanding the use of technology to make outdoor recreation more appealing. Incorporating outdoor education in the classroom and Standards of Learning is a regional interest. The public desires partnerships between organizations and schools to get youth out-of-doors.

**Trails:** All types ranging from mountain biking to walking and hiking are needed, especially trails connecting residential areas and recreational facilities with employment centers. Multiuse trail etiquette awareness, safety and trail maintenance are important.

**Water access:** There is a need for additional nonmotorized public water access, specifically kayak and canoe launches.

**Land conservation:** Protection of key viewsheds is a regional priority. As land is developed, green-infrastructure strategies including land conservation are desirable.

**Table 4.1 Most-needed outdoor recreation**

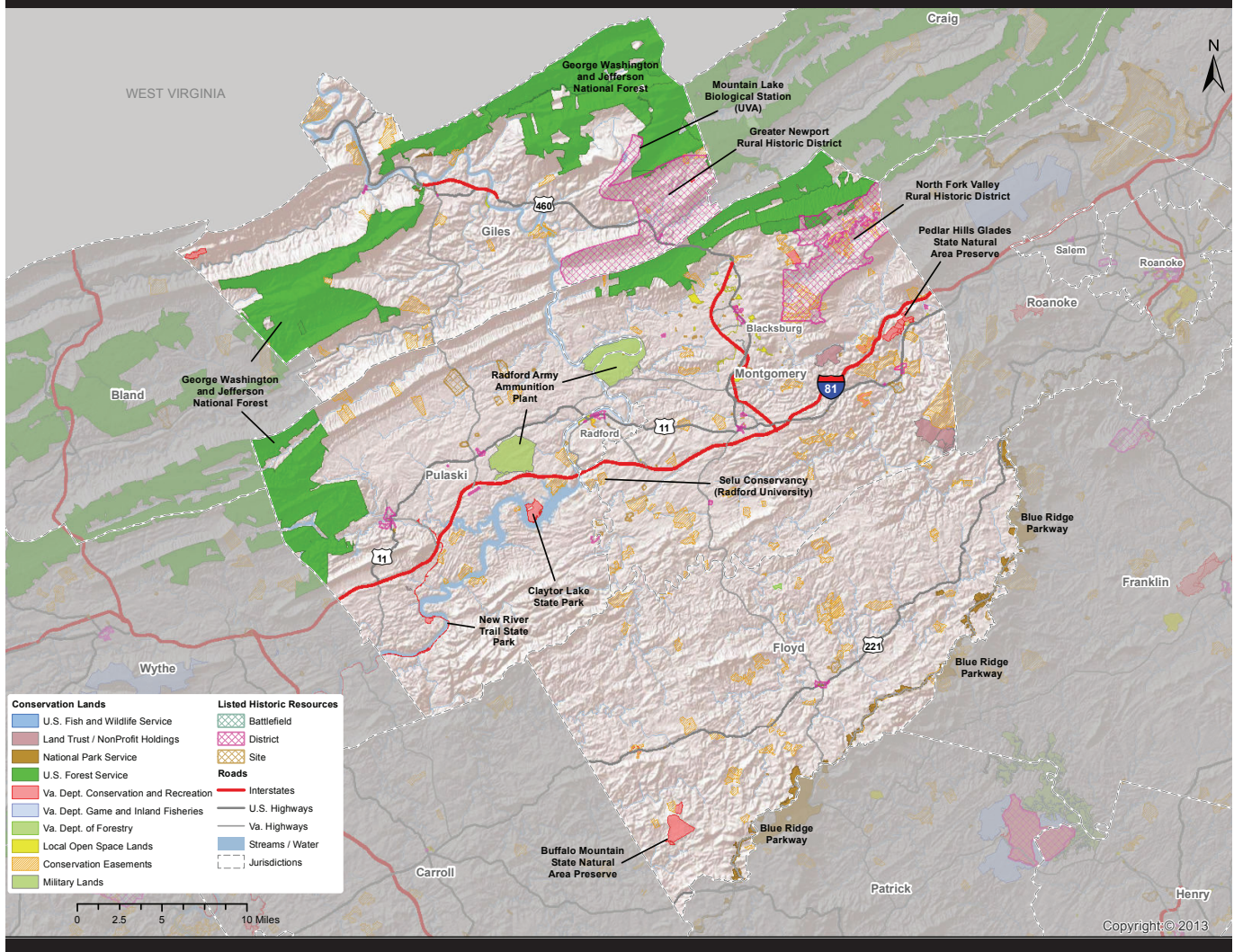
*New River Valley Recreational Planning Region*

activity	% of households in	
	region	state
Trails for hiking and walking	71	68
Public access to state waters for fishing, swimming and beach use	64	60
Natural areas	56	55
Public access to state waters for nonmotorized boating (canoeing or kayaking)	52	46
Historic areas	48	51
Public pools	46	38
Trails for bicycling	46	54
Trails for wildlife watching and nature study	45	45
Playing fields for outdoor sports (softball, baseball, football and soccer)	30	40
Outdoor playing courts for tennis and basketball	29	32
Trails for horseback riding	23	22
Public access to state waters for motorized boating	21	22
Trails for motorized off-road vehicles	20	17
Other	8	6

*Source: 2011 Virginia Outdoors Demand Survey.*



Map 4.1 Conservation lands



## Land conservation

Comments from public meeting participants about land conservation included:

- More green space is needed in urban areas.
- The Appalachian Trail viewshed should be protected.
- The Virginia Department of Transportation should build roads with viewshed in mind and not build at all in some areas.

### Regional land conservation highlights

- The Appalachian Trail Conservancy is actively working with partners to protect more than 250 acres in Giles County for the relocation of a section of the Appalachian Trail in the New River Valley.
- The Virginia Outdoors Foundation has defined a Special Project Area for Catawba Valley in Montgomery and Roanoke counties.

**Table 4.2 Conserved lands***New River Valley Recreational Planning Region*

locality	acres	type
City of Radford	149.00	Easement
City of Radford	84.67	Ownership
Floyd County	6,791.93	Easement
Floyd County	6,632.77	Ownership
Giles County	4,988.02	Easement
Giles County	65,347.55	Ownership
Montgomery County	13,905.36	Easement
Montgomery County	23,430.90	Ownership
Pulaski County	3,132.33	Easement
Pulaski County	20,032.48	Ownership
<b>Total</b>	<b>144,495.00</b>	

*Source: Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation.*

Regional and local organizations and agencies should support land protection efforts on priority lands, as identified by conservation partners in the region. Lands for protection may include those located adjacent to rivers and tributaries, national and state park and forest lands, other parks and natural areas, core battlefield areas, properties on the state and national historic registers, and state scenic byways. For more information about prioritizing land conservation, see Chapter 5, Conservation Planning.

**Land trusts operating in the region:**

Appalachian Trail Conservancy, New River Land Trust, Blue Ridge Land Conservancy, Virginia Outdoors Foundation, Virginia Department of Forestry, The Nature Conservancy, Trust for Public Land, and The Conservation Fund.

**Outdoor recreation**

Through the Virginia Outdoors Demand Survey and public meetings, citizens expressed interest in access to hiking and

*Paddling the New River. Photo by New River Valley Planning District.*

bicycling trails, and water access for swimming, boating and fishing. Other top needs include access to natural areas and pools.

All municipalities in the New River Valley region have local parks and recreation departments.

**Table 4.3 Per-capita spending on parks and recreation***New River Valley Recreational Planning Region*

locality	dollars
Floyd County	15.85
Giles County	41.40
Montgomery County	8.61
Pulaski County	19.45
Town of Blacksburg	56.74
Town of Christiansburg	168.12
Town of Pulaski	69.00
City of Radford	66.42
Statewide	62.81

*Source: Virginia Auditor of Public Accounts, "Comparative Report on Local Government Revenues and Expenditures," 2011.***Economic impact**

The region recognizes the importance of trails and outdoor recreation to economic prosperity and sustainability of resources. Agritourism is a growing economic contributor that's increasing awareness of the agriculture economy and supporting future farming.

The New River Valley Planning District Commission's green-infrastructure resources inventory helps to identify and conserve the region's natural and cultural assets.

According to the Virginia Tourism Corp., domestic travel to the region generated more than \$231 million in 2011, or approximately 1.14 percent of statewide travel expenditures. This is an increase of 8.7 percent over 2010 expenditures.

Appalachian Spring is an innovative partnership that promotes tourism, business growth and community development related to Southwest Virginia's world-class outdoor recreation opportunities and natural resources. The Southwest Virginia Cultural Heritage Foundation manages this effort.

**Table 4.4 Virginia State Parks 2013 attendance and economic impact***New River Valley Recreational Planning Region*

state park	location	overnight visitors	day-use visitors	total visitors	economic impact
Claytor Lake	Pulaski County	63,469	211,820	275,289	\$8,149,295
New River Trail	Carroll, Grayson, Pulaski, Wythe counties; town of Galax	7,534	940,931	948,465	\$15,619,946

*Source: Virginia State Parks.*

### Health and wellness

According to the County Health Rankings and Roadmaps program, physically inactive adults and children in poverty are a health factor in this region. The region's percentage of physically inactive adults (25 percent) is slightly greater than the statewide percentage (24 percent). Percentages of inactive adults range from 21 percent in Montgomery County to 29 percent in Giles County.

Programs for creating healthy living are especially important in areas with high rates of poverty. According to the County Health Rankings and Roadmaps program, more than 10 percent of children in the following counties live in poverty: Floyd (20 percent), Giles (19 percent), Montgomery (17 percent) and Pulaski (23 percent).

Public meeting comments about health and wellness:

- Provide safe access between neighborhoods, schools and outdoor recreational facilities.
- Promote, connect and expose youths to the outdoors, including increased use of technology in outdoor recreation.
- Provide recreational access and programming for youths and parents.
- Increase the number of biking and walking facilities that link close-to-home facilities and activities.
- Provide safe trail crossings at public roads.

### 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.
- Is able to be initiated within the next five years.

### Featured projects for the New River Valley region

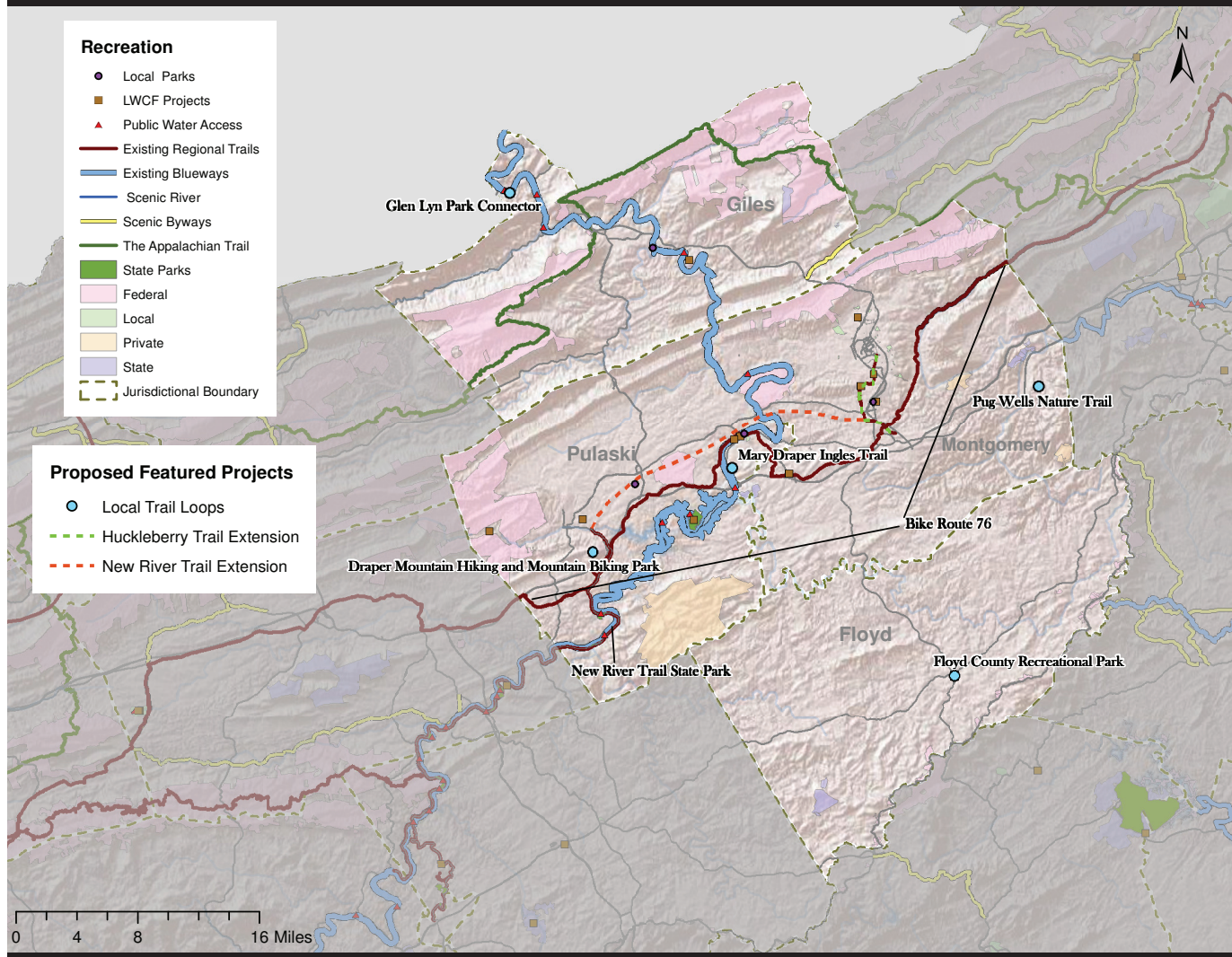
- Extend the Huckleberry Trail to Pandapas Pond and the Christiansburg Recreation Center in Montgomery County.
- Extend the New River Trail from the existing terminus in the town of Pulaski, east toward Randolph Park near Dublin.
- Construct the Floyd County Parks and Recreation hiking trail loop.
- Construct the Pug Wells Natural Trail as an ADA-accessible recreational trail at Eastern Montgomery Park in Montgomery County.
- Construct the Glen Lyn Park Connector as an ADA-accessible trail from the town of Glen Lyn, under U.S. Route 460, to the Glen Lyn Park and Dr. F.D. Morse Trail, located along the New River.
- Develop the Mary Draper Ingles Trail, located in the city of Radford.
- Construct the recreational Draper Mountain Hiking and Mountain Biking Park on publicly owned portions of Draper Mountain in Pulaski County.

### Local parks and recreation projects

- Maintain Pulaski County's Harry DeHaven Park on Claytor Lake to provide public access and other recreational activities.
- The Castle Rock Public Recreation Area in Giles County should improve the swimming pool, acquire additional land, provide access to the New River and add support facilities.



Map 4.2 New River Valley featured projects



- Maintain Pulaski County's Randolph Park in Dublin to provide a variety of recreational activities and sports.
- Maintain the city of Radford's Bisset Park along the New River to provide athletic facilities, playgrounds, access to the New River and miles of multiuse trails.
- Expand the Radford Riverway Trail into west Radford toward Forest Avenue and loop back to the existing Sundell Drive terminus.
- As part of the Floyd Heritage Pathways, develop ADA-compliant pedestrian facilities with signage to connect key activity areas in downtown Floyd.
- Develop a multipurpose trail extension with multiple access points, a pedestrian-only trail with connections to the nature park trail system at the Ellett Valley Recreational Area, just south of Blacksburg.
- Continue to develop the Coal Miners Heritage Park, a 30-acre tract in Montgomery County that once housed a mining tippie, hotel, general store and residences for coal miners.
- Continue to develop the multiuse Gatewood Park, operated by the town of Pulaski's Parks and Recreation Department for fishing, boating, picnicking, camping and trail use.

**New River Valley regional parks**

- Mid County Park in Montgomery County is a 90-acre park that has a variety of facilities, including a swimming pool, picnic areas, play fields and nature trails.
- The Ellett Nature Area is a 106-acre conservation area that offers a variety of trails and nature-study opportunities.
- The Gatewood Reservoir site offers boating, fishing, camping, trail and nature-study opportunities in Pulaski County.
- Randolph Park offers a wide variety of active recreation facilities.

**Water access**

- The New River Initiative is an integrated watershed protection effort to preserve this American Heritage River — renowned for its wildlife and recreation opportunities. The New River connects six rural Virginia communities that are collaborating with the New River Community Partners to build regional recreation capacity. Collaborative efforts should continue to accomplish regionally significant projects.
- Pearisburg should continue the development of Whitt River Bend Park as a component of the New River Blueway.
- Access sites for boating, water sports and trout streams are needed on the New River, Little River, Big Reed Island, Wolf Creek, Craig Creek and along stretches of major streams.

**Regional partners and plans**

- Partners in Rivers provides portage access around Byllesby and Buck Dams.
- The 2011 New River Valley Bikeway, Walkway, Blueway Plan recognizes blueways on the Roanoke River, Peak Creek and the Little River.



*Rappelling the rock face. Photo by New River Planning District.*

**Trails and greenways*****Multistate trails or routes***

Trails recognized under the National Trails System Act include the Appalachian National Scenic Trail. Other multistate trails include U.S. Bike Route 76 and the Great Eastern Trail.

***Statewide trunkline trails***

- The National Park Service manages the Appalachian National Scenic Trail, which runs along the Blue Ridge. Appalachian Trail Conservancy member groups manage and maintain the trail. Collaborative management of the trail comes in part from Pearisburg, an official Appalachian Trail Community, and the Trails to Every Classroom program. Regional and local efforts should continue to protect the setting and viewsheds along the trail to preserve the experience of a footpath in the wilderness.
- Sections of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail need additional protection and improvement. The planned crossing at the New River in Giles County should be constructed. Special attention should be paid to protecting the setting of the trail corridor as it crosses the New River Valley.
- Continue work on the relocation of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail from an unprotected corridor to a permanent location between the New River and Peters Mountain near Pearisburg.
- Provide safety improvements for the crossing of Route 311 to McAfee Knob to allow for safe crossings by pedestrians.
- Complete the development of the Great Eastern Trail through the Allegheny and Blue Ridge Mountains to link existing trails from central Alabama to central New York. The Great Eastern Trail Association and the U.S. Forest Service are collaborating to permit the route through Virginia. The alignment through the New River Valley will most likely follow the Appalachian Trail alignment and provide a potential spur into Bluestone Park in West Virginia.
- Close the gaps in the proposed Virginia Mountain Bike Trail to offer a long-distance trail experience.
- Provide across-the-region connections that link existing trail systems and ultimately incorporate them into the Beaches to Bluegrass Trail.



**Regional trails**

- Link the Huckleberry Trail to Pandapas Pond in the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests.
- Trail advocacy groups in Radford are expanding trails developed by the Radford Pathways Project into a comprehensive trails network anchored by trails in Bisset and Wildwood parks.
- Develop a connector trail joining the New River Trail with the Huckleberry Trail.
- Support development of the Ellett Valley Loop Trail linking Ellett Park and the Ellett Springs along Cedar Run with the industrial park and Smart Road in Montgomery County.
- The town of Floyd and the Rocky Knob Recreation Area on the Blue Ridge Parkway should be connected with a multipurpose trail as shown in the Floyd County Trails Plan.

Regional Trails-Bikeway-Walkway Project Clearinghouse.

**Bike routes**

- Interstate Bike Route 76 should be studied to determine if the route is appropriately located. Improve safety for cyclists along the route and replace missing signs.
- Continue to expand the Hokie Bikeways system for recreation and commuting.
- Continue to develop shared road corridors to connect multiple points of interest along Routes 8, 11, 42, 61, 114 and 221.

The Regional Bikeway-Walkway Committee is working to make cycling and walking easier throughout the region.

**Other trails**

- The trails at Rocky Knob, a portion of which is a designated National Scenic Trail, should continue to be maintained and open to the public.
- The Mountain Lake Conservatory's trails are located in Giles County, and Mountain Lake features more than 2,600 acres for hikers, cross-country skiers and mountain bikers to explore. These trails should continue to be maintained and open to the public.

**Thematic driving tours**

There has been tremendous interest in thematic driving tours. These include heritage-based tours, agricultural or product-based tours, and nature-based tours such as the Virginia Birding and Wildlife Trail and Fish Virginia First. The Virginia Tourism Corp. maintains a [list](#) of Virginia's scenic drives.

- Additional signage and interpretation are needed along the Wilderness Road, the 'Round the Mountain Artisan Trail and the Crooked Road: Virginia's Heritage Music Trail.
- Continue development of the Virginia Cave and Karst Trail to educate the public about karst resources.

**Historic and landscape resources**

The New River Valley region is rich with history. As indicated by the 2011 Virginia Outdoors Demand Survey, visiting historic sites is the fourth most popular recreational activity in this region. The valley's historic heritage is a source of pride for residents and a growing impetus for tourist travel. To date, several historic districts and numerous structures have been designated on the National Register of Historic Places.

- Local and regional organizations should ensure that countywide historic and architectural resource surveys are completed.
- Remnants of the Great Valley Road, the Ingles' Ferry site in Pulaski County and the Ingles family farm are extant components of the Mary Draper Ingles story. While portions of the historic properties have been protected with conservation and preservation easements, additional lands still need to be protected.
- Views from the Blue Ridge Parkway and the Appalachian Trail should be protected.

**Scenic resources**

The following scenic resources were identified through Virginia Outdoors Plan public meetings or in collaboration with Scenic Virginia, a private, nonprofit organization that is building a registry of Virginia places of significant scenic beauty.

- Blue Ridge Parkway, a National Scenic Byway and All-American Road
- Bent Mountain in Roanoke County
- Buffalo Mountain in Floyd County
- Draper Mountain overlook along Route 11, south of Pulaski
- Salt Pond Mountain at Mountain Lake in Giles County



- New River
- Great Eastern Trail
- New River Trail State Park
- Appalachian Trail

### Scenic highways and Virginia byways

VDOT provides information about the [Virginia Byways Program](#), along with a scenic roads [map](#).

The following are potential Virginia byways and should be evaluated to determine if they qualify for designation:

- Route 8 from town of Floyd to the Patrick County line in Floyd County
- Route 693 and Route 672 from Route 8 in Montgomery County to Interstate 81 near Pulaski
- Route 635 in Giles County from the New River to White Rocks and the West Virginia line
- Route 61 in Giles and Bland counties from Narrows to Rocky Gap
- Route 730 in Giles and Bland counties from Staffordsville to Route 460
- Route 601 in Giles County from Newport to Captain
- Route 100 in Bland and Pulaski counties from Pearisburg to Dublin
- Route 653 in Giles County from Route 460 to Paint Bank

The [Blue Ridge Parkway](#) is one of three designated [All-American Roads](#) in Virginia. It connects Shenandoah National Park with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in North Carolina. As the nation's longest rural parkway, it showcases the southern Appalachian Mountains' diverse history and scenic views.

### Scenic rivers

There are no designated [state scenic rivers](#) in the New River Valley region.

The following river segments have been evaluated and qualify for Virginia scenic river designation:

- Little River from Route 8 to New River in Floyd and Montgomery counties

- New River from Claytor Dam to the West Virginia line in Giles, Montgomery and Pulaski counties
- Walker Creek from the Russell County line to the New River
- Big Reed Island Creek from the Pulaski County line to New River

The following river segments are potential Virginia scenic rivers and should be evaluated to determine suitability for designation:

- Craig Creek from its headwaters to the Montgomery County line
- Little Stony Creek from its headwaters to the New River in Giles County
- Big Stony Creek from its headwaters to the New River in Giles County
- Sinking Creek from Route 680 to the New River
- Cripple Creek from Speedwell to the New River

## Federal programs

### National parks

- Protection of the Blue Ridge Parkway's viewsheds and adjacent land use is crucial to the park's long-term viability. The National Park Service is working with Patrick and Floyd counties and others to expand and enhance the Rocky Knob Recreation Area.

### National forests

The George Washington and Jefferson National Forests – Eastern Divide Ranger District provides much of the public open space and dispersed recreational opportunities in the region. Facilities have been upgraded at Pandapas Pond and Cascades recreation areas.

- The USDA Forest Service has developed the Glen Alton property in Giles County to provide wildlife viewing opportunities and meet environmental education needs in the region.
- White Pines Horse Camp has been decommissioned and replaced with White Cedar Horse Camp. The new area is located outside the riparian area and provides overnight accommodations for surrounding trails.

## U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

- The Corps of Engineers administers the Bluestone Dam in West Virginia and its reservoir system on the New River. Approximately 1,100 acres of this project's easement lands are in Virginia and some are leased to the town of Glen Lyn. This land represents almost seven miles of public riverfront along both banks of this high-quality recreational river. The corps should conduct an analysis of these lands to determine how to make them available for public recreational use and ensure proper management.

## State facilities and programs

### State parks

A master plan has been developed for the following state parks in this region. The master plan outlines proposed, phased facility development in each park.

Claytor Lake State Park (472 acres) is located in Pulaski County.

Recommendations:

- Construct a new park administration building.
- Upgrade and widen Ben H. Bolen Drive to the cabin area.
- Renovate beach facilities.

New River Trail State Park (1,371 acres) is a 57-mile rail-to-trail park that crosses through Grayson, Carroll, Wythe and Pulaski counties.

Recommendations:

- Renovate the Foster Falls Hotel Complex and parsonage.
- Develop a picnic area at Foster Falls with shelter, restroom and parking.
- Develop Phase 1 recommendations for Horseshoe Bend, Big Reed Island, Double Shoals and Hiwassee Island development nodes.
- Develop the Mark E. Hufeisen Horse Complex to include well and septic system, restrooms, shower and parking.
- Upgrade safety at all road crossings.
- Work with Carroll County to close Route 737 from Bylesby Power House to Grayson Station and develop parking and car-top launch.

## State natural area preserves and natural heritage resources

The New River Valley spans an ecologically diverse area. The northern half of the region is underlain by limestone and other calcium-rich geology, which supports karst topography, characterized by caves, sinkholes and sinking streams. Below ground, these areas harbor many rare cave-dwelling species and above ground many rare plants and unusual plant communities. One of the world's rarest plants, Peters Mountain Mallow, is confined to a single mountain within this region. The southern half of the district features seepage wetlands that are home to the globally rare bog turtle, as well as Buffalo Mountain, which features a variety of rare plant communities.

DCR recommends that all unprotected conservation sites, and all unprotected portions of partially protected sites, be targeted for future land conservation efforts. The appropriate method 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 include:

- Protection of significant caves and karst areas.
- Protection and improvement of water quality for globally rare aquatic communities.
- Protection of terrestrial limestone communities.
- Protection of significant wetlands in Floyd County.
- Protection of additional lands around existing natural area preserves.
- Establishment of a public access point and hiking trails at Pedlar Hills Glades Natural Area Preserve.
- Establishment of segments of the Virginia Cave and Karst Trail on public lands with significant karst areas.

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 staff. For information about the Natural Heritage Program, see Chapter 9.

**Table 4.5 Natural area preserves**

*New River Valley Recreational Planning Region*

preserve name	owner	locality
Buffalo Mountain	DCR	Floyd County
Camp Branch Wetlands	Private	Floyd County
Chestnut Creek Wetland	DCR	Floyd County
Chestnut Ridge	Private	Giles County
Clover Hollow	DCR	Giles County
Mill Creek Springs	The Nature Conservancy	Montgomery County
Pedlar Hills Glades	DCR and private	Montgomery County
Sweet Springs	Private	Montgomery County

Source: Virginia Natural Heritage Program.

**Table 4.6 Natural heritage resources**

*New River Valley Recreational Planning Region*

Number of occurrences of rare species and significant natural communities	595
Number of different rare species and significant community types (natural heritage elements)	223
Number of globally rare natural heritage elements	94
Number of species listed as federally endangered or threatened	9
Number of species listed as state endangered or threatened	23
Number of conservation sites identified by DCR	121
Number of conservation sites with some protection	69
Number of conservation sites with more than 65% of area with some protection	26
Number of adequately protected conservation sites	20

Source: Virginia Natural Heritage Program.

Data as of July 1, 2012.

## Other state lands

- The New River Community College in Pulaski County has 100 acres of land that may be suitable for the development of additional recreational facilities.
- Virginia Tech owns several parcels within the region that should be evaluated to determine the viability of providing outdoor recreation and education to the public. These properties are Kentland Farms, Whitethorne Plantation and the Fishburn Tract.
- Radford University owns properties fronting on the New River and the Little River, which should be evaluated for their recreational potential and trail connections to the region.

## Private sector

Within the New River Valley region, possible entrepreneurial opportunities exist for the establishment of outfitter services for canoeing and kayaking, boat launches, canoe-in campgrounds, multi-field sports complexes and swimming pools. Public lands also offer opportunities for adventure sports, hiking and backcountry camping.

- Private landowners might consider fee-based hunting, fishing and boating access.
- Claytor Lake Dam, operated by Appalachian Power, provides the only power boating, sailing, jet skiing and water skiing opportunities in the region.
- Provide opportunities for public recreational access to large Boy Scout holding in Pulaski County.



Spelunking in the New River Valley. Photo by New River Valley Planning District.



## Website directory

New River Valley Planning District  
<http://www.nrvpdc.org/>

U.S. Census Total Population Maps for Virginia  
<http://www.census.gov/geo/www/maps/2010pop/2010popmaps.html>

County Health Rankings and Roadmaps Virginia Data  
<http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/virginia/2012/measures/factors/24/map>

Huckleberry Trail  
<http://www.blacksburg.gov/Index.aspx?page=808>

New River Trail  
[http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state\\_parks/new.shtml](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state_parks/new.shtml)

Floyd County Parks and Recreation hiking trail loop  
<http://www.floydcountyparks.org/>

New River Natural and Cultural Assets  
<http://www.nrvpdc.org/GreenInfrastructure/greeninfrastructure.html>

Virginia Tourism Corp., economic impact of travel  
<http://www.vatc.org/research/economicimpact/>

Special Project Area for Catawba Valley in Montgomery and Roanoke counties  
<http://www.virginiaoutdoorsfoundation.org/vof-special-project-areas/catawba-valley-special-project-area/>

Partners in Rivers  
<http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/fishing/waterbodies/display.asp?id=163&section=maps>

2011 New River Valley Bikeway, Walkway, Blueway Plan  
<http://www.nrvpdc.org/Transportation/bwwwbw.html>

Appalachian National Scenic Trail  
<http://www.nps.gov/appa/index.htm>

Appalachian Trail Conservancy  
<http://www.appalachiantrail.org/>

Trails to Every Classroom program  
<http://www.appalachiantrail.org/what-we-do/youth-education/trail-to-every-classroom>

Great Eastern Trail  
<http://www.greateastertrail.net/index.html>

Interstate Bike Route 76  
[http://www.virginiadot.org/programs/united\\_states\\_bicycle\\_route\\_1\\_and\\_76\\_in\\_virginia.asp](http://www.virginiadot.org/programs/united_states_bicycle_route_1_and_76_in_virginia.asp)

Rocky Knob  
<http://www.blueridgeparkway.org/v.php?pg=111>

Mountain Lake Conservatory's trails  
<http://www.mtnlakeconservancy.org/recreation-hiking.html>

Virginia Birding and Wildlife Trail  
<http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/vbwt/>

Fish Virginia First  
<http://www.fishvirginiafirst.com/>

Wilderness Road  
<http://www.virginia.org/wildernessroad/>

Round the Mountain Artisan Trails  
<http://www.roundthemountain.org/>

Crooked Road: Virginia's Heritage Music Trail  
<http://thecrookedroad.org/>

Virginia Cave and Karst Trail  
[http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural\\_heritage/karsthome.shtml](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/karsthome.shtml)

Mary Draper Ingles story  
<http://www.nps.gov/neri/historyculture/mary-draper-ingles.htm>

Scenic Virginia  
<http://www.scenicvirginia.org/>

Blue Ridge Parkway  
<http://www.blueridgeparkway.org/index.php>

Claytor Lake Dam,  
<http://claytorlakeonline.com/>