

Stafford County

2013 Year in Review



Stafford In the Headlines

Bond Rating Upgrades to AA+

Stafford Launches 311 Call Service

*Business Picking Up Along U.S. 17
Corridor in Stafford*

Stafford Luring Larger Retailers

*Stafford Approves School Budget
With Raises for Staff*

*No Tax Increases Planned in
Stafford*

*Hampton Inn Growing as
Stafford's U.S. 1 Corridor Thrives*

Stafford Plant to Add 350 Jobs

*Stafford Supervisors Zero Three
Taxes, Pass \$253 M Budget*

*Stafford Civil War Park To Open
This Month*

*Stafford Building Permits at Eight-
Year High*

Stafford's Economy is Back

*Stafford and Prince William
County Schools Receive Awards*

**Stafford County 2013
Year in Review**

Board's Priorities for the Community



Fiscal Responsibility and Reducing the Tax Burden

Public Safety

Education

Economic Development

Infrastructure

Service Excellence

**Stafford County 2013
Year in Review**

Stafford 2013 Highlights



Bond Rating Upgraded to AA+

Board Zeroes Three Taxes

Retail Picking Up

Stafford Civil War Park Opens

Groundbreaking for Chichester and Embrey Mill Parks

Renovations at Elementary Schools

Additional School Resource Officers

Mobile App Launched

311 Center Wins Awards

Planning for 350th Anniversary

**Stafford County 2013
Year in Review**



Fiscal Responsibility: Bond Rating Upgraded



Fitch Rating Service: AA to AA+

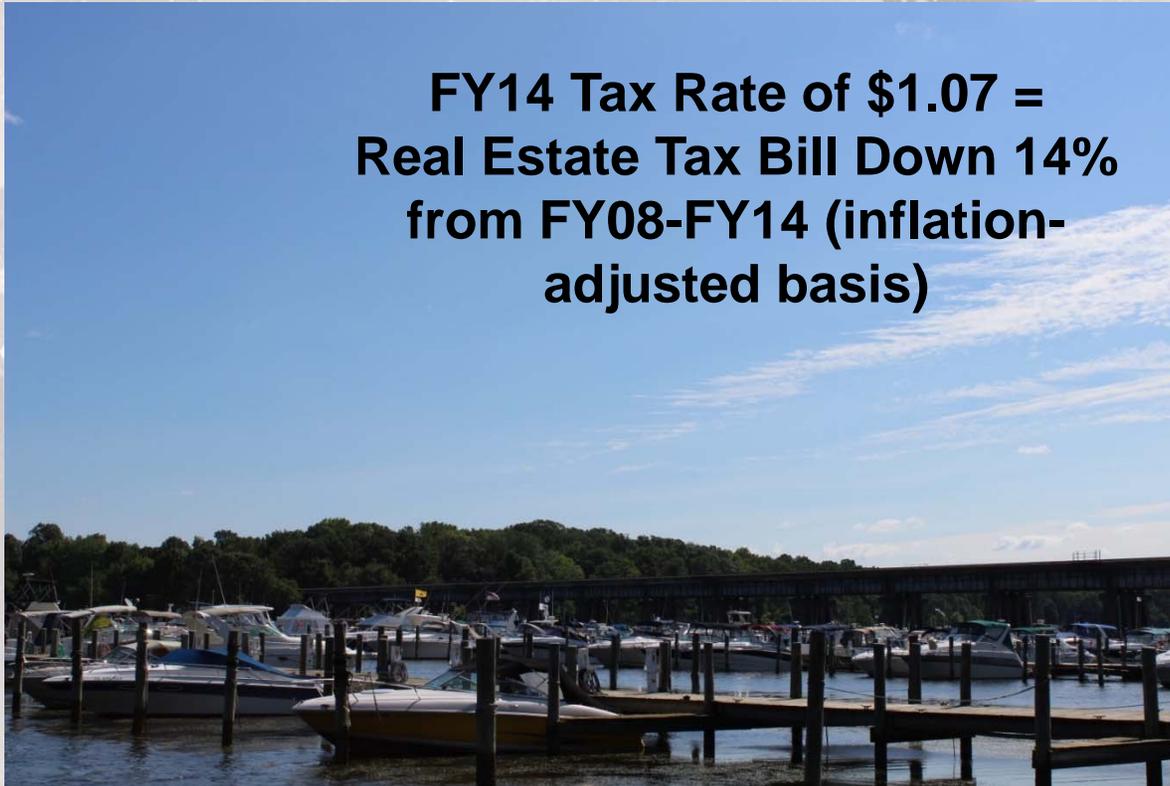
Standard and Poor's: AA to AA+

**Moody's: Affirmed the County's Aa2 bond rating,
upgraded outlook from Stable to Positive.**

**Stafford County 2013
Year in Review**

Reducing the Tax Burden – Historic Tax Reductions

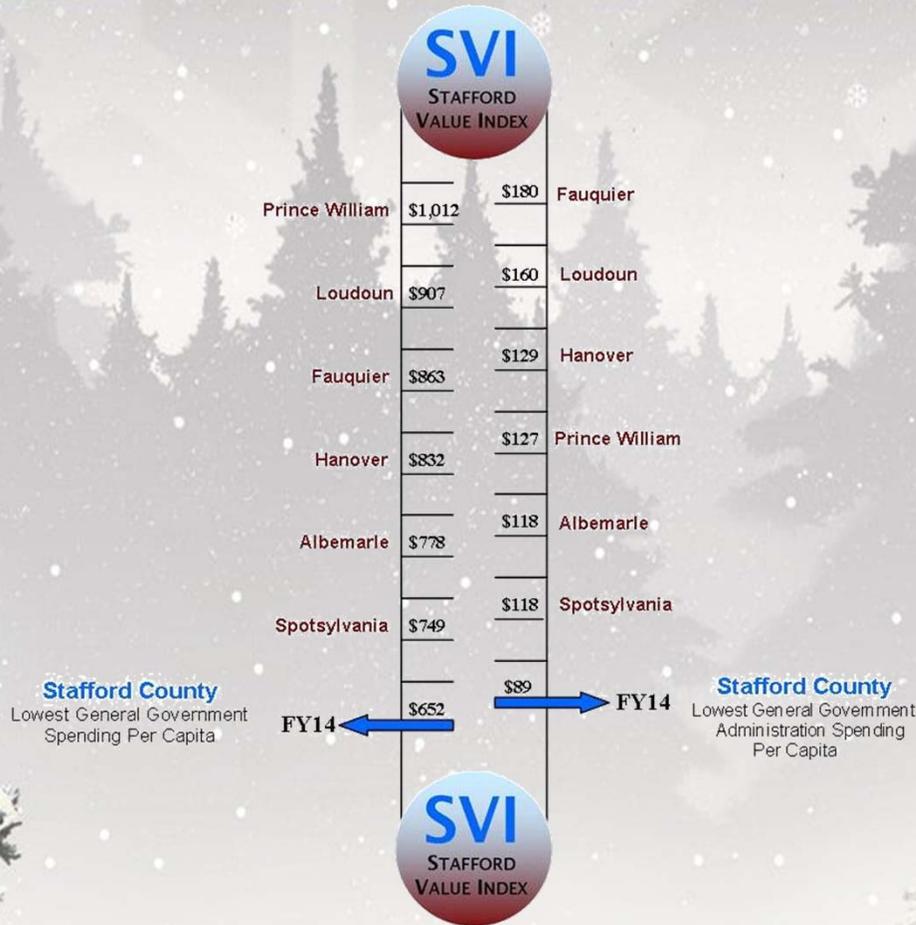
**FY14 Tax Rate of \$1.07 =
Real Estate Tax Bill Down 14%
from FY08-FY14 (inflation-
adjusted basis)**



**The Board eliminated the boat tax, the
machinery and tools tax, and the common
carrier tax.**

**Stafford County 2013
Year in Review**

Fiscal Responsibility – Best Value for Services!



Stafford has the lowest per capita cost among peer localities

**Stafford County 2013
Year in Review**

Public Safety: Calls for Service

❑ Sheriff's Office

❑ Law Enforcement CAD Incidents: 137,834

❑ Emergency Communications: 276,331

❑ Total 9-1-1 Calls: 47,098

❑ Administrative Calls: 140,004

❑ Outgoing Calls: 89,229

❑ Fire & Rescue Department

❑ Fire: 2,420

❑ EMS: 11,196

❑ Public Service: 593

Public Safety: Rescue 911!



The Board funded a new Computer Aided Dispatch system, vehicles and Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus

**Stafford County 2013
Year in Review**

Public Safety: Fire and Rescue

- ❑ Recruit Class 7 Graduated in May
- ❑ Completed Volunteer Recruit Academy
- ❑ Processed over 200 volunteer applications
- ❑ More than 375 employees trained in CPR (includes County employees, Fire and Rescue and Sheriff's Office)
- ❑ Revision and Adoption of the County's Emergency Operation Plan
- ❑ Provided 20 AEDs to Sheriff's Department from a Rescue Squad Assistance Fund Grant



**Stafford County 2013
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Public Safety: Fire and Rescue

- ❑ Operation Warm provided more than 150 needy students with new donated coats
- ❑ Donated more than \$38,000 to MDA through Fill the Boot campaign
- ❑ Partnered with Stafford Schools with the “Stuff the Bus” and Backpack programs
- ❑ Smoke Alarm Program provided alarms to more than 250 residents
- ❑ Conducted 200 public education programs in the schools, civic and senior organizations
- ❑ Fire Marshal’s staff conducted Holiday Safety Program
- ❑ Emergency Management completed training for 15 CERT volunteers
- ❑ Hosted the IAFC Collaboration Exercise



**Stafford County 2013
Year in Review**

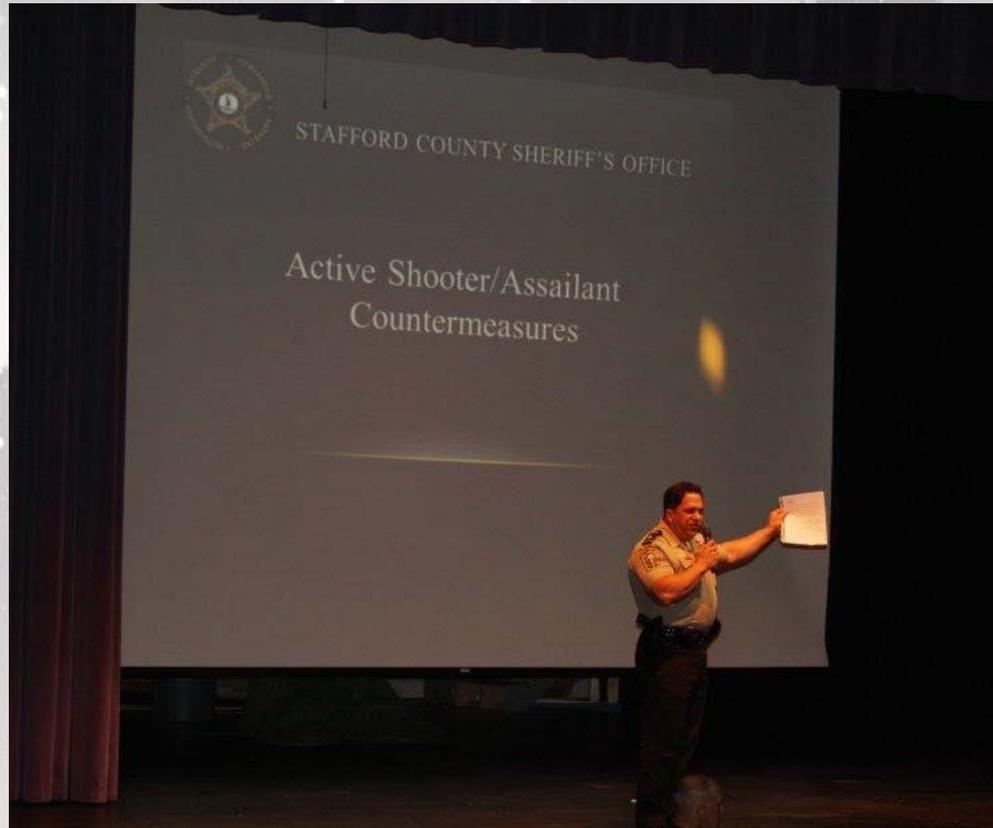
Public Safety: Focus on Kids



New full-time school resource officers in every middle school

**Stafford County 2013
Year in Review**

Public Safety: Training for Schools



The school staff is receiving ongoing “active shooter” training by the Sheriff’s Office.

**Stafford County 2013
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Education: Gwyneth's Law – Saving Lives!



The Board's Gwyneth's Law Working Group was successful in the passage of HB2028 "Gwyneth's Law." Currently, the schools have 170 trained certified CPR instructors, more than 600 employees certified in CPR and more than 2,000 trained in CPR.

**Stafford County 2013
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Education: Investing in Our Children!



- Stafford Elementary renovations
- Grafton Elementary School renovations
- Stafford High School Rebuild

**Stafford County 2013
Year in Review**

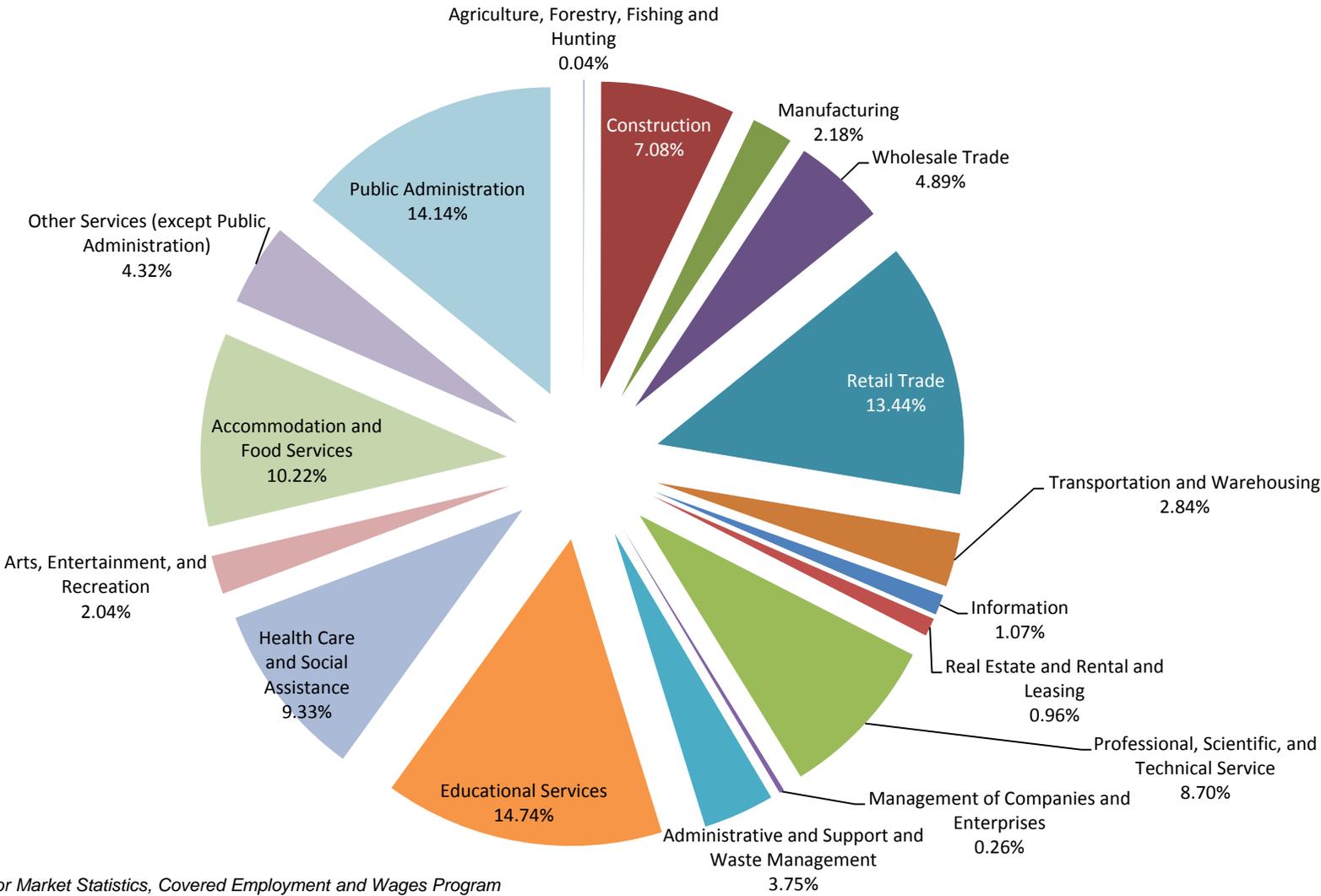
Education: Private Day School Joint Committee



The Board and the School Board are working together on enhancements to services of the Heather Empfield Public Day School

Stafford County 2013
Year in Review

Economic Development: Diverse Tax Base



Source: Labor Market Statistics, Covered Employment and Wages Program

Stafford County 2013 Year in Review

Economic Development & Tourism

In the last five years, 2008 to 2013, business growth is up, employment has risen and the average weekly wage has increased.

- ❑ The number of businesses has gone from 2,242 to 2,340, an increase of 4.37%
- ❑ 4,220 new jobs have been created, increasing employment in Stafford County by 11.96%.
- ❑ The average weekly wage has risen by 8.25%.

4,220 new jobs!



**Stafford County 2013
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Economic Development & Tourism

- ❑ Land acquired for Stafford Technology and Research Park
- ❑ New terminal at Stafford Regional Airport Underway



- ❑ Approximately 400,000 square feet of commercial space either completed or under construction in 2013
- ❑ New SBA HUBZone Certification
- ❑ Hosted several community meetings/functions (JLUS, HubZone, Sequestration, etc.)

**Stafford County 2013
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Economic Development & Tourism

- ❑ Person-to-person visits with more than 100 local and perspective companies
- ❑ New Greencore facility will create 350 new jobs.
- ❑ Constellation for Business program assisted more than 100 companies in job creation and business growth.
- ❑ 3 new hotels open
- ❑ New Countywide Branding Standards established



**Stafford County 2013
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Economic Development & Tourism

- ❑ New Stafford businesses and expansions announced or completed:
 - ✓ Greencore, TrustComm, Access Eye Center Corporate HQ, Germanna Community College, Panera Bread, North Stafford Farmers Market, Goodyear, Merchants, WaWa, Walgreens, Embrey Mills, Santa Fe Car Wash, Anthony Williams law offices, Aldi and others.



- ❑ Economic Development and Tourism Websites continue to grow www.GoStaffordVA.com and www.TourStaffordVA.com (and Facebook sites growing as well!)
- ❑ Began installation of Wayfinding signs

**Stafford County 2013
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Infrastructure: Record Breaking Projects!

The County currently has more than 31 community capital projects underway, more than at any other time in our history!



- ❑ Improved parking lot and maintenance yard area at Smith Lake Park
- ❑ Grand opening of Stafford Civil War Park
- ❑ Bid and constructed Embrey Mill Athletic Fields - Phase 1
- ❑ Completed preliminary engineering work for Duff McDuff Green Park property

- ❑ Began construction of Chichester Park baseball/softball complex
- ❑ Began renovation of Curtis Park Pool
- ❑ Submitted the Indoor Recreation Facility at Embrey Mill plans for building permits.

**Stafford County 2013
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Infrastructure: Record Breaking Projects!

- ❑ Began design of Belmont Ferry Farm Trail Phase 4, Woodstream trail, and 350th Celebration Stage at Pratt Park
- ❑ Completed renovations at Government Center and Rowser Building (judge's chambers, fire alarm system, roof and gutters, AC units and elevators)
- ❑ Completed the Gateway clean-up of the Garrisonville Road/Route 1 intersection
- ❑ Renovated St. Clair Brooks Park 70 foot diamond field
- ❑ Renovated Autumn Ridge diamond field
- ❑ Converted Widewater Elementary rectangle field to Bermuda in partnership with SASA



Infrastructure: Record Breaking Projects!

- Renovated 70' baseball field at Brooks Park
- Converted soccer field #1 at Duff Green Park to Bermuda grass
- Upgraded trails at Willowmere Park to be ADA compliant
- Restored the historical well at the Stafford Courthouse
- Installed new roof on Shelton's Cottage
- Redesigned the competitive gym to comply with ADA requirements and work more efficiently for the gymnasts



**Stafford County 2013
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Infrastructure: Record Breaking Projects!

- ❑ Completed Sidewalk Construction along Stafford Market Place and Staffordboro Boulevard
- ❑ Awarded a Construction Contract for the road improvements along Mt. View Road
- ❑ Executed a PPTA agreement for the design and construction of improvements to Truslow Road and Garrisonville Road
- ❑ Completed the VDOT and FHWA approval process for the plans to complete the Streetscape project
- ❑ Obtained \$25,000 in grant funding from the Department of Environmental Quality to support stormwater projects



**Stafford County 2013
Year in Review**

Infrastructure: Record Breaking Projects!



- ❑ Little Falls Run Wastewater Treatment Facility - Platinum Peak Performance Award from the National Association of Municipal Wastewater Agencies
- ❑ Aquia Wastewater Treatment Facility received second consecutive Gold Peak Performance Award
- ❑ Continued construction of the new Rocky Pen Run Reservoir

**Stafford County 2013
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Infrastructure: Progress on Transportation Bond Projects



Poplar Road Improvement Project

Safety improvements are underway on voter-approved bond projects at Mountain View Road, Brooke Road, and Poplar Road.

**Stafford County 2013
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Service Excellence: Human Services



Children Referred:

- Social Services: 68
- Stafford Schools: 84
- DJJ: 25
- RACSB: 11
- Parent Referral: 8
- Interagency Referral: 2
- Foster Care Prevention: 2
- Total Children Served: 200

- Plan for Human Services Adopted by the Board of Supervisors
- Youth Engaged in Stafford program in its 2nd year.
- "Best Buds" Mentoring Program in its 2nd year.
- Safety Net program established and receiving donations via the web.

**Stafford County 2013
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Service Excellence: Social Services

Child Protective Services Complaints Investigated	
2013	546
2012	603
2011	542
2010	521
2009	515
Increase from 2009 to 2013	6%

Food Stamp Households Served	
2013	4,024
2012	3,701
2011	3,363
2010	2,942
2009	2,203
Increase from 2009 to 2013	82.7%

**Stafford County 2013
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Service Excellence

We enhanced online payment options allowing citizens to pay utilities, personal property taxes, real estates taxes, and buy dog tags online. This has resulted in less visits and calls to the Administration Center, allowing citizens to conduct business more efficiently on their own computer.



- ❑ Visitors to the Administration Center = 45,290 (- 10%)
- ❑ Visitors to the Judicial Center = 18,478 (+ 21%)
- ❑ Phone calls received (311 Center and Government Center) = 22,040 (- 20%)
- ❑ Total Hours of Service by Volunteers = 36,164 (+ 56%)
- ❑ Value of Volunteer Hours = \$940,264 (+ 56%)
- ❑ Number of Live Chats = 1,045 (+ 7%)

Service Excellence

- ❑ Third Grade Tours: 7 County Elementary Schools, 800 students
- ❑ Student Government Day: 5 County High Schools, 80 Students
- ❑ Citizens Academy: 43 Citizens participated
- ❑ United Way Day of Caring: 21 Stafford employees participated
- ❑ 498 Items for Board Packages
- ❑ 419 Board Resolutions
- ❑ 59 Ordinances
- ❑ 40 Proclamations
- ❑ 781 Follow-up Items from Board Meetings
- ❑ 138 Press Releases
- ❑ Website Total Visits: 1,048,427
- ❑ Webpage Views: 3,160,445



**Stafford County 2013
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Service Excellence: “There’s an app for that!”



Stafford debuted a new app for smart phones to improve customer service.

Service Excellence: 311 Awards



**Stafford's 311 Center won National Association of
Counties and Virginia Association of Counties
Achievement Awards!**

**Stafford County 2013
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Service Excellence: Volunteers



Stafford's volunteers provided a total of 36,164 hours in FY13 for a savings of \$940,264.00 w/ benefits. This is equivalent to 17.4 FTEs.

**Stafford County 2013
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Service Excellence: National Press



Doing the Right Thing

How Stafford County, Virginia, turned a tragedy into a community triumph
By Anthony Romanello, ICMA-CM

TAKEAWAYS

- › Sometimes localities are faced with problems they've never had before and that have no ready answers. Showing courage and leadership during stressful situations is the mark of good government.
- › Engaging the community and stepping up to help can turn a bad situation into good community relations.
- › Doing the right thing is always the best thing to do.

BEFORE

The magazine cover features a main photograph of a residential area with a large landslide in the foreground. A circular inset photograph shows a closer view of the landslide damage to a house's foundation. The word 'BEFORE' is written vertically at the bottom right of the inset, with a red arrow pointing from the inset to the main image.

Stafford received national press in ICMA's Public Management magazine for help two families in the Austin Ridge subdivision recover after a landslide destroyed the back of their homes.

Stafford County 2013
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Service Excellence: 350th Anniversary Fundraising



**Stafford has raised \$802,451 toward our
\$1 million goal!**

**Stafford County 2013
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Stafford County: Coming Attractions



Courthouse Area Streetscape Improvements

**Stafford County 2013
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Stafford County: In the Pipeline

2014	
· Chichester Park	· Opening of Crow's Nest Nature Preserve
· Grafton Village Elementary School Renovation	· Interstate 95 Express Lanes from Garrisonville Road to Beltway
· Rocky Pen Run Reservoir	· Staffordboro Commuter Parking Lot
· Trailblazing Signs	· Route 17 Widening
· Curtis Park Pool Renovations	· Courthouse Streetscape
2015	
· Mountain View Road Improvements, Phase I	· Poplar Road Improvements, Phase I
· The Park at Embrey Mill	· Belmont-Ferry Farm Trail, Phase 4, Pratt Park to the Chatham Bridge
· Mountain View Road Improvements, Phase II	· Poplar Road Improvements, Phases II and III
· Indoor Recreation Facility - Park at Embrey Mill	· Falmouth Intersection Improvements
· Garrisonville Road/Onville Road Turn Lane Improvement	· Stafford High
2016	
· Truslow Road Improvements	· Garrisonville Road Widening
· Brooke Road Safety Improvements	· Enon Road
· Ferry Road	· Courthouse Road West

Projects are listed under the year they should be completed. The color of the text indicates current progress: blue means under design and black means under construction. Red denotes a VDOT project.

Stafford County 2013 Year in Review

Stafford County: Coming Attractions

Major 350th Events of 2014

January 4 — Celebrate Stafford 350! Stafford Marketplace

May 3 — Founder's Day Parade. Courthouse Area.

June 25th — Unveiling of Celebration Stage at Pratt Park

October 18 — "Wings and Wheels." Stafford Regional Airport

November 1 — "Trail to Freedom Tour." Rowser Building



**350th Anniversary Celebration Starts
January 4th, 2014!**

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Get Ready for 2014!



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