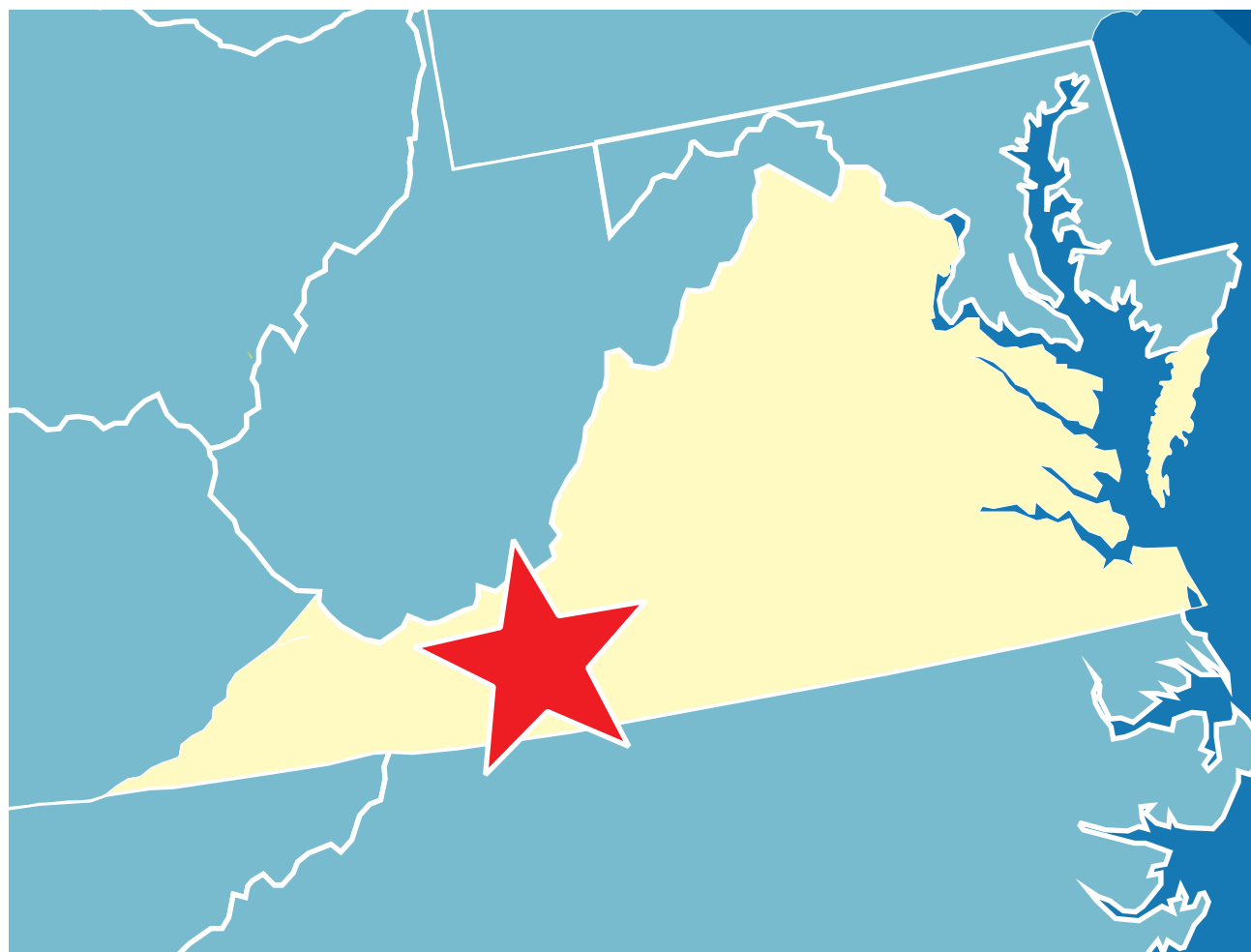




# Blacksburg & Christiansburg

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY VIRGINIA



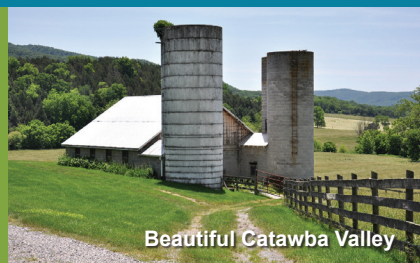
PROGRESSIVE COMMUNITY | TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN ECONOMY | THE GREAT OUTDOORS



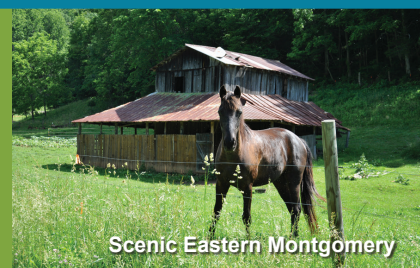
# PROGRESSIVE COMMUNITY



Hokie Football at Lane Stadium



Beautiful Catawba Valley



Scenic Eastern Montgomery



Christiansburg Aquatic Center



Moss Arts Center at Virginia Tech

# progre

**Montgomery County, Virginia** is a progressive, technology-driven community with an abundance of outdoor amenities. Our small-town charm, natural beauty and urban appeal make us an attractive place for families, young professionals, and active retirees.

**Blacksburg and Christiansburg** – the second and fourth largest towns in Virginia – offer all the luxuries you would expect to find in a metropolitan area. There's great shopping and dining, an emerging arts and music scene, vibrant neighborhoods and an award-winning transit system. Numerous quaint villages surrounding the towns offer the beauty and serenity of the Montgomery County countryside with all the conveniences of an urbanized area nearby.

**Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech)** – an internationally renowned research university in vibrant downtown Blacksburg – fosters a culture of creativity and innovation that spurs entrepreneurship and a thriving technology-driven economy.

**Nestled between the Blue Ridge and Alleghany Mountains**, the scenic landscape of Montgomery County and the surrounding region inspire an active lifestyle. Whether it's hiking, biking or kayaking, there are ample opportunities to enjoy the great outdoors.

## Community Accolades

- #1 **"Best Place in the U.S. to Raise Kids"** (Bloomberg Business, 2016)
- 7th **"Best City for Singles"** (FindTheHome, 2016)
- Top 25 **"Best Place to Retire"** (Forbes, 2016)
- 3rd **"Happiest City in Virginia"** (Only in Your State, 2016)
- #1 **"Best Southern College Town"** (Garden and Gun, 2016)
- 7th **"Most Secure Small Place to Live in the U.S."** (Farmers Insurance Group, 2014)
- 63rd **"Best Green Place to Live in America"** (Country Home Magazine, 2007)
- See full list at [YesMontgomeryVA.org/Accolades](http://YesMontgomeryVA.org/Accolades)



↓Charlotte, NC 2.5hr ↑Washington, DC 4hr →Richmond, VA 3.5hr ←Nashville, TN 6.5hr



# technology driven eco



## Rising Technology Hub

With a world-class university and research park, visionary entrepreneurs and an innovative workforce, our community is quickly gaining an international reputation as a high-tech hot spot.

- A **"Top Tech Hub"** - named one of the top tech hubs in Virginia (Southern Business & Development, 2016)
- A top 50 **"Best Place to Live and Launch"** in the U.S. for our "mix of business advantages and lifestyle appeal" (CNN Money, 2008)
- Local technology companies have been recognized by **R&D Magazine** (R&D 100 Awards), **Inc. Magazine** (Inc. 500/5000 List), **Fierce BioTech** (Fierce 15 Awards), **CNN Money** (10 Largest Venture Capital Deals of Q2 2011 List), **Virginia Chamber of Commerce** (Fantastic 50 Awards) and **Virginia Business** (Best Places to Work in Virginia List), to name a few
- Area businesses recieved **\$2.7 million in Small Business Innovation Research awards** in 2015 (U.S. Small Business Administration)
- Strong **regional technology council with over 200 member organizations** (Roanoke-Blacksburg Technology Council) and active **angel group with more than 30 accredited investors** (460 Angels)

## Talented, Innovative, Cost-Effective Workforce

With our award-winning quality of life and close proximity to numerous colleges and universities, we've developed one of the most educated talent pools in the country.

- 4th in the nation for **"Prime Workforce"** in the study of Leading Locations (Area Development, 2016)
- 3rd **"Best State for Workforce Education and Experience"**, including being 1st in **"Employment in IT Occupations"** (CRN, 2013)
- New River Community College ranked as a **"Top Community College for Workforce Training in Virginia"** (Southern Business & Development, 2009)
- **10,000+ students graduate annually** from area colleges and universities, including Virginia Tech, Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine, Radford University and New River Community College

## Pro-Business Environment

With our lower cost of doing business, access to talent, inventory of available sites and targeted incentive programs, Montgomery County, Virginia is the place for business.

- 5th **"Best Small City for Jobs"** (Forbes, 2012)
- A **"5-Star Business Opportunity Metro"** (Expansion Management, 2006)
- Virginia the **"Best State for Business"** in 2009, 2008, 2007 and 2006, places 2nd in 2011 and 2010, and places 7th in 2015 (Forbes)
- Virginia the **"Top State for Business"** in 2011, 2009, and 2007 - places second in 2010 and 2008, and places 12th in 2015 (CNBC)

## Strategic Location

Centrally located in the Mid-Atlantic region of the United States along Interstate 81, we are within a day's drive of major markets in the Northeast, Southeast and Midwest.

- **4 hrs or less** – Washington, DC (North); Charlotte, NC (South); Richmond, VA (East)
- **6 to 8 hrs** – New York, NY (North); Atlanta, GA (South); Norfolk, VA (East);

The **Roanoke-Blacksburg Regional Airport (ROA)** offers daily passenger air service in and out of our region to several U.S. cities, including: Atlanta, GA.; Charlotte, NC; Chicago, IL; Detroit, MI; Philadelphia, PA. New York, NY; Orlando, FL; Tampa, FL; and Washington, DC. We are also located within a 3 hours drive of two international airports, including: Charlotte Douglas International Airport, NC and Washington Dulles International Airport





# onomy

Home to Virginia Tech and a growing number of technology-based companies, Montgomery County is an emerging hot spot for innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship. Our unique combination of assets allow for a diversity of business sectors to thrive here, including: information technologies, advanced manufacturing, biosciences, polymers and materials, defense technologies, and renewable energy. Learn more at [YesMontgomeryVA.org/DoingBusiness](http://YesMontgomeryVA.org/DoingBusiness)



230-acre business park in Christiansburg



Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center



TORC Robotics exhibits at the 2016 AUVSI Trade Show

## World-Class Research Park

The Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center (CRC) is a 230-acre research/business park located adjacent to the Virginia Tech campus in Blacksburg. Businesses located in the CRC benefit from its quality business services and park amenities. VT KnowledgeWorks – the CRC's business acceleration program - aids companies prior to and after launch and hosts several entrepreneurship events throughout the year.

- Home to over **180 technology-based companies and research centers** that employ 3,000+ people
- 33 buildings totaling **over 1.2 million square feet of Class A office and lab space** with plans to expand
- Named the **"Outstanding Research/Science Park"** - globally - in 2010 (Association of University Research Parks)



Goodwin Hall, Virginia Tech

## Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University – Virginia Tech

Virginia Tech – located in downtown Blacksburg - offers 240 undergraduate and graduate degree programs to more than 30,000 students. The university also manages a research portfolio of over \$500 million and has an excellent history of collaborating with business and industry.

- **Top 40 Research University** (National Science Foundation, 2015)
- Top 25 school for **"Best-Qualified Graduates"** (The Wall Street Journal, 2010)
- **"Patent Power"** ranks 10th globally among universities (IEEE Spectrum, 2010)
- Virginia Tech E-Club named a **"Top 50 University Entrepreneurship Club"** (FledgeWing, 2011)
- **College of Engineering programs rank 21st** (U.S. News & World Report, 2016)

## Strategic Research Priorities

Virginia Tech has identified four strategic research focus areas that take advantage of existing university strengths, including:

- Energy, Environment, and Materials and Sensors
- Innovative Technologies and Complex Systems, including Business and Manufacturing, Communication, Information Technology and Transportation
- Health, Food, and Nutrition, including Biosciences and Biotechnology
- Social and Individual Transformation

## Major Research Institutes and Centers

- Center for High-End Computing Systems
- Center for High Performance Manufacturing
- Fralin Life Science Institute
- Institute for Creativity, Arts and Technology
- Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science
- Robotics & Mechanisms Laboratory
- Biocomplexity Institute
- Virginia Tech Carilion Medical Research Institute
- Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (Smart Road)



Teaches kids how to program



# the great outdoor

Home to some 19,000 acres of the Jefferson National Forest, over 20 miles of the New River – the oldest river in North America – and the award-winning Huckleberry Trail, Montgomery County and the surrounding region offer plenty of opportunities to enjoy the great outdoors. Learn more at [YesMontgomeryVA.org/Outdoors](http://YesMontgomeryVA.org/Outdoors).

## Outside

- Top 10 “Dream Town” to work, play and live the Outside lifestyle. “A high-tech gem in the heart of the Blue Ridge, where the whitewater is Class V and the singletrack is off the charts.” (©Outside Magazine, 2001)

## VIRGINIA BUSINESS

[www.VirginiaBusiness.com](http://www.VirginiaBusiness.com)

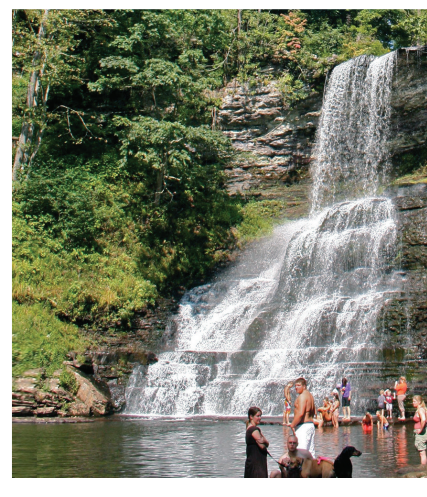
- “National magazines have called it a dream town because it offers a wide range of outdoor recreation opportunities and a large number of high paying technology jobs.” (Virginia Business, Blacksburg offers outdoor adventure and technology jobs, 2008).



Running on the Huckleberry Trail



Fishing at Claytor Lake





## BlueRidge<sup>COUNTRY</sup>

Exploring the Mountains of the South

(Blue Ridge Country magazine, Best of the Mountains)

- Pandapas Pond - 20+ miles of singletrack that traverses Brush and Gap mountains in Jefferson National Forest - named **"Best Hike to Take the Dog Along"** (2013)
- Blacksburg - College town located in the New River Valley - named **"Best Mountain Town"** (2013)
- New River - the oldest river in North America - named **"Best Canoeing River"** and **"Best Fishing Lake/River"** (2013)
- Several Montgomery County outdoor amenities made the list for **"Blue Ridge Outdoor Bucket List"** including: New River Junction (tubing), Appalachian Trail (hiking), New River Trail State Park (biking) and the New River (canoeing/kayaking) (2011)



Cascade Falls



Huckleberry Trail



New River





Brochure and more  
available online at  
[YesMontgomeryVA.org](http://YesMontgomeryVA.org)

**Photography:** Several of the photographs used throughout this publication are courtesy of VTCRC, Kevin Byrd, Montgomery County Regional Tourism, Montgomery County Public Information, Downtown Blacksburg Inc, Virginia Tech, HokieSports.com, Moss Arts Center, and Sinkland Farm



Interested in starting, expanding or locating a business  
in Montgomery County, Virginia? If so, contact:

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**Email:** [info@yesmontgomeryva.org](mailto:info@yesmontgomeryva.org)

**Office:** (540) 382-5732 | **Toll Free:** (866) 270-9185

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