

## An exciting array of activities awaits you in Amherst County:



Parks & Lakes

Amherst is home to 7 county parks, with amenities including picnic areas, playgrounds, three lakes, and access to the James River



WINERY & ORCHARD

Tastings, tours, pick-your-own: sample the bounty of Amherst right at the source.



### OUTDOOR SPORTS

With hiking, biking and ATV trails, hang-gliding, fishing, and superb golf courses, Amherst is truly the great outdoors.



### Museums

Immerse yourself in history and heritage in the County's two historical museums and three art galleries.



FAIRS & FESTIVALS

Whether it's spring, summer, or fall, you'll find a lively special community event to enjoy.



#### SHOPPING

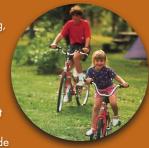
Antiques, gifts, keepsakes and collectibles are all waiting to be discovered in Amherst's shops and boutiques.





# Come Play and Enjoy!

Whether you enjoy golfing, hiking, biking, boating, camping, fishing, swimming, sightseeing or even hang-gliding, leave the walls behind you and come to Amherst County in Central Virginia. Come outside and play!



You'll find lakes, trails, fairways and festivals, all set against the beautiful backdrop of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

For those who prefer indoor pursuits, Amherst also offers museums, historical sites, art galleries, quaint shops, and casual dining.





## Parks & Lakes

Some of the best places to play in Amherst County are our many parks. Within the county's 7 parks, you can fish, picnic, or let the kids frolic on a playground. The beautiful Blue Ridge Parkway at the northwestern edge of the county also offers many sites for picnicking.

The county's parks include:

- MILL CREEK LAKE a sprawling, 190-acre watershed lake with boat ramp (no gas engines), grills, picnic tables, restrooms, playground.
- STONEHOUSE CREEK LAKE PARK a 41-acre lake with boat ramp (no gas engines), picnic pavilion, grills, playground, restrooms.
- THRASHERS CREEK LAKE PARK a 36-acre lake with picnic tables, grills, restrooms, playground.
- MONACAN PARK offers a dock and boat ramp into the James River, pavilion, playground, restrooms.

(Park locations shown on the map at the front of this brochure. State fishing license required. Sorry, swimming not permitted in county lakes. For more info, call 434-946-9371.)

## Fairs & Festivals

There are special events taking place around the county throughout the year (check our Web site for details), and four annual events that draw thousands of visitors:

APPLE HARVEST FESTIVAL
Third weekend in October
at Amherst County High
School in the Town of
Amherst. Everything apples,
plus a huge craft bazaar. Free admission.
(434) 845-5606 or (434) 847-7435

#### CLIFFORD SORGHUM FESTIVAL

First weekend in October at Clifford Ruritan Park (Rt. 610, off Rt. 29). Sorghum molasses, Brunswick stew, amusements, crafts, country music, jousting. Free admission. (434) 946-7141.

#### Monacan Pow Wow

Monacan Indian Nation gathers for this annual event held the third weekend in May. Demonstrations, crafts, and dancing. Admission fee. For location and information call (434) 946-0389

#### VIRGINIA WINE & GARLIC FESTIVAL

Held the second weekend in October at Rebec Vineyards (Rt. 29 S). Everything garlic, local wines, continuous entertainment for adults and children. Admission fee. (434) 946-5168. www.rebecwinery.com/vwgf.htm





## **Outdoor Sports**

Who says vacations have to be relaxing? If you prefer pastimes with a little more adrenaline, Amherst County is an ideal destination. Come outside and enjoy high-energy activities like these:

#### HIKING AND BIKING

Whether you like to experience trails on two feet or two wheels, Amherst County has hundreds of miles of pathways for you to explore. Enjoy anything from a leisurely scenic stroll to a grueling mountain bike ride.

- THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL Watch closely for roadside signs marking trailheads off Route 60 in the Northwest corner of the county. Some nearby paved parking is available.
- GEORGE WASHINGTON NATIONAL FOREST This vast preserve is home to some of the most formidable hiking and mountain bike paths.
- THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY Numerous scenic overlooks, well-marked trails, and convenient parking areas await you along the parkway.

- James River Heritage Trail The blacktop hiking and biking trail is accessible from the Blackwater Creek Trail at the Lynchburg riverfront. Take the footbridge across the James River for another 1.5 mile path.
- SWEET BRIAR COLLEGE The gently rolling grounds of Sweet Briar College include several nature trails that are open to the public.
- MOUNT PLEASANT SCENIC AREA A highlight here is the 4.8-mile Henry Lanum Memorial Trail, a scenic loop reaching elevations of more than 4,000 feet.

#### GOLF

You'll need more than a day to golf Amherst County, with three courses to sharpen your skills. Our newest fairways are the fabulous Sam Snead Signature Course at Poplar Grove – recognized by Golf Digest as one of America's best new courses.

- Poplar Grove 127 Tavern Lane (434) 946-9933 www.poplargrovegolf.com
- Winton Hwy. 151, Clifford (434) 946-7336
- Shadow Ridge Route 60 (434) 946-2008

#### **ATV** TRAILS

Strap on your helmet and hang on tight for more than 20 miles of ATV trails that will put both man and machine to the test. For more information, contact the Forest Service at (540) 291-2188.

#### Hang-Gliding

If hang-gliding off of a sheer mountain side is more your speed, Amherst County has that, too. You'll need to make arrangements ahead of time...but you'll be rewarded with a true bird's-eye view of Amherst's extraordinary scenery. (434) 841-0074 or (434) 401-3434 www.buffaloridgeairsports.com or highpeakhanggliding@davismick.com

#### CAMPING

Amherst's campgrounds include amenities ranging from playgrounds to restaurants, so you can find the perfect spot to pitch a tent or park your RV year 'round.



 Wildwood Campground (434) 299-5228 www.wildwoodcampground.com

 Outdoor Escape RV (camper rentals) (434) 946-7846 www.outdoorescaperv.com

For further information about outdoor activities in Amherst call Parks & Recreation: (434) 946-9371





# Shopping

Amherst County offers a range of shopping experiences that bring you a refreshing change of pace from routine mall merchandise. There's even a well-appointed bookstore and gift shop open to the public on the campus of Sweet Briar College.

- A&A Supply (archery & sporting goods) (434) 946-7668
- Back in the Past Antiques & Collectibles 115 Faulconerville Dr. (434) 946-9999
- Hardings Clocks (gifts)
   2265 S. Amherst Highway (434) 946-7386
   www.hardingsclocks.com
- Hill House Interiors (gifts)
   163 South Main Street (434) 946-7314
- House Pendleton (art gallery)
   618 Lexington Turnpike (434) 946-2226
- Lou's Antiques & Collectibles
   2101 and 3362 S. Amherst Highway,
   105 Second Street (434) 946-0599

- Mill Ridge Gifts 3747 S. Amherst Highway (434) 258-2589
- Otter Creek Restaurant & Gift Shop Blue Ridge Pkwy/MP 60 (434) 299-5862
- S'Amanda's (natural foods, gifts, accessories) 167 Faulconerville Dr. (434) 258-2589 www.samandas.net
- Vintage on Main (antiques & gifts) 192 S. Main (434) 946-5800 www.vintageonmain.com
- Windows Doors & More (decor & gifts)
   194 Main Street (434) 946-5001
- Ye Olde Antique Station 4196 S. Amherst Highway (434) 929-5710

For a more current list of specific businesses, consult our Web site—and plan your Amherst shopping excursion.

## Museums & Galleries

#### HISTORICAL

Two museums in Amherst offer distinct perspectives of the County's history. The exhibits of the AMHERST COUNTY MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY provide glimpses of the County's culture reaching back to its earliest days. (434) 946-9068 www.members.aol.com/achmuseum

The MONACAN INDIAN MUSEUM gives the viewers new insights into the experience of this indigenous nation. The site includes a century-old Indian Mission church and an original log cabin school house used by the tribe until the 1960s. (434) 946-5391

www.monacannation.com/museum.shtml

### FINE ARTS

Art lovers will be inspired by three public galleries on the grounds of Sweet Briar College. See noteworthy traveling exhibitions, innovative student works, and pieces from the college's extensive collection. www.sbc.edu





# Winery & Orchard

Virginia is well-known for apples and fine wines, and Amherst County gives you the chance to have a taste of both.

#### REBEC VINEYARDS

This working vineyard welcomes you with an on-premises shop offering tastings, gifts, and a full selection of the vineyard's wines. 2229 N. Amherst Highway (434) 946-5168 www.rebecwinery.com

#### Morris Orchard

Come in the spring to enjoy the splendor of the orchard in bloom. Come in the summer for peaches and blueberries. And come in the fall for the pleasure of picking your own apples, straight from the tree. You'll also enjoy visiting the gift shop and petting zoo!

226 Tobacco Row Lane (434) 929-2401 (Closed January-March.)

# **Accommodations & Dining**

For an experience that is unique to Amherst, consider a Bed & Breakfast in a stately historic home with mountain views...enjoy a stay at a picturesque "home away from home"...or make a reservation at the gracious Florence Ellston Inn on the campus of Sweet Briar College.

- Florence Elston Inn (434) 381-6207
- Naked Creek Farm (434) 946-9064
- Rockmill Farm Bed & Breakfast (434) 277-5099
- Farmhouse at Morris Orchard (434) 929-2401

### OTHER ACCOMMODATIONS

- Amherst Inn (434) 946-7641
- Best Value Inns & Suites (434) 845-7041
- Knights Inn (434) 929-6506
- Thomas Motor Inn (434) 845-7843

For a current list of specific businesses, consult our Web site—and plan your stay.

#### DINING

- Berkley's Grill (434) 929-4008
- Briar Patch Restaurant (434) 946-2249
- Dogwood Cafe (434) 946-0001
- Dudley's Family Style Restaurant (434) 845-5345
- La Carreta (434) 846-6079
- Original Italian Pizza (434) 929-0244
- Panda House Restaurant (434) 845-8899
- Silver Pig BBQ (434) 846-5676
- Smitty's Place (434) 946-5425
- Traveler's Restaurant (434) 946-9792
- What a Blessing (434) 946-0330

