



**Virginia Cooperative Extension**

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# Situation Analysis Report



## Nelson County

# 2018

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## Introduction

The Virginia Cooperative Extension - Nelson County faculty and staff conducted a comprehensive situation analysis during the calendar year 2018. This process incorporated Unit Profile data, two community surveys distributed online and to the community, and interviews with Nelson County residents and Extension stakeholders. Questions within the surveys offered residents an opportunity to identify the top issues facing Nelson County. During interviews with community members we also allowed them to elaborate on what they felt Extension's role would be in addressing the issues. At the time of this narrative the Nelson County office does not have an Extension Leadership Council. As a result, unit agents and staff worked together to summarize and prioritize issues.

## Unit Profile

Nelson County is in the central part of Virginia, situated along Route 29 between Lynchburg and Charlottesville (Figures 1 and 2). Nelson County was named for Thomas Nelson, Governor of Virginia from June to November 1781. It was formed in 1807 from Amherst County. Oak Ridge, birthplace of William Cabell Rives and later the residence of Thomas Fortune Ryan, is located near Lovingston, the county seat, which is approximately 35 miles south of Charlottesville and 33 miles north of Lynchburg. The area of the county is 471 square miles.



Figure 1: Nelson County, VA area location map.



Figure 2: VDOT map illustrating major roadways and towns in Nelson County, VA.

Nelson County is part of the Charlottesville Metropolitan Statistical Area which also includes the counties of Albemarle, Buckingham, Fluvanna, and Greene as well as Charlottesville City. Nelson County is known for its large number of craft breweries and wineries as well as Wintergreen Ski Resort. The County was also made famous to outsiders because it was the setting of the television show *The Waltons* and draws many tourists to Nelson County every year.

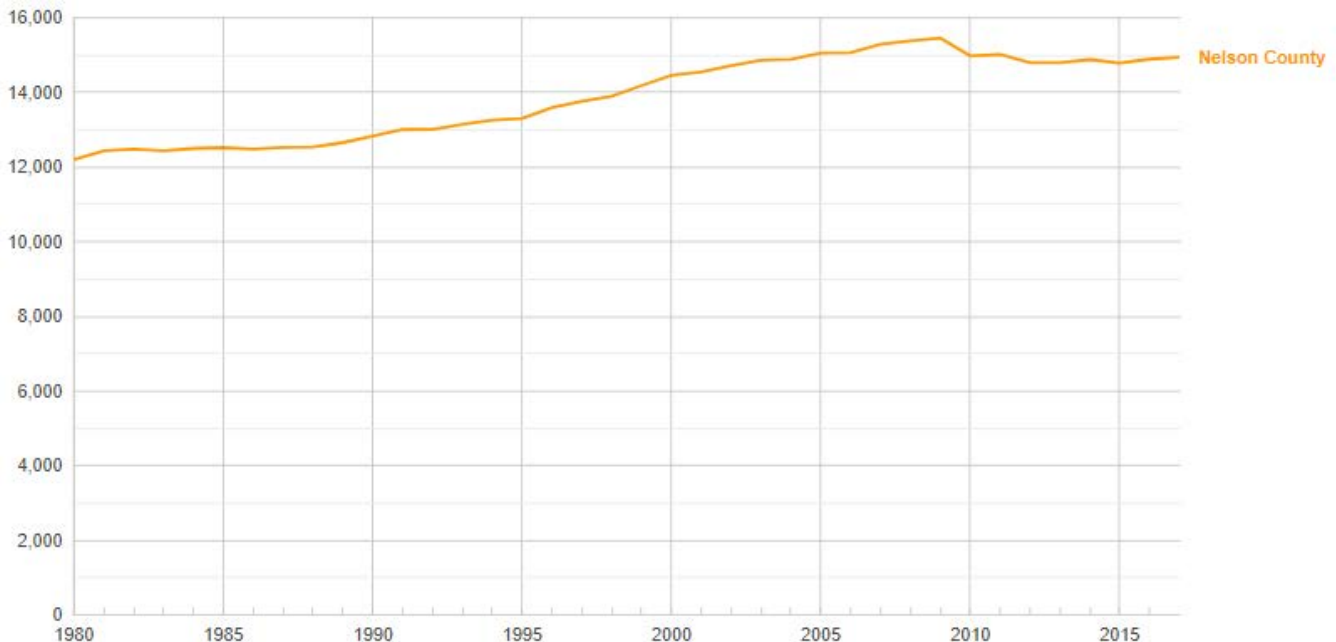
Unit profile data was provided to each Unit office by the VCE Program Development and Support office. Themes covered included a demographic summary, agricultural summary, health summary, educational summary, and business and employment summary, which correspond to the four VCE program areas. The major trends are outlined below.

### Demographic Summary

There has not been an official Census since 2010. The following data was compiled via the American Community Survey (ACS) which was posted to the US Census website which they use for data estimates in between official Census reports.

In 2017, as estimated by the US Census, Nelson County's total population was 14,493 individuals, a decline of 75 residents from 2011. The number of children less than four years of age decreased 17.8% to 618, while the number of youths between ages five and 19 (the 4-H eligible range) decreased by 2.6% to 2,393. The number of individuals ages 20 to 64 declined by 8.8% to 7,989. The population aged 65 and older increased by 29.4% to 3,943. There are estimated 7,224 males and 7,639 females in the county.

### Total Population by Year in Nelson County, Virginia (Data from U.S. Census Bureau)



The overall population by race was consistent from 2013 to 2017. Most residents are white (81.4%) followed by black or African American (11.9%) and Hispanic (4.3%) and Asian (0.7%). Data estimates in the 2017 ACS indicate that 33 Native Americans now reside in Nelson County; none were counted in 2007. Approximately 1,110 veterans live in Nelson County as of 2017.

Despite the decline in population, the number of housing units increased to 10,087 in 2017 from 9,957 in 2013. The number of vacant housing units was 3,564 in 2017 from 3,553 in 2013. Nelson County's median household income in 2017 was \$53,834 (compared to Virginia median household income of \$71,535), and mean household income was \$73,677 (compared to Virginia mean household income of \$94,229). The US Census also reports that the 2017 United States median income was \$59,039. Approximately, 13.2% of the population are living below the poverty line.

There were approximately 6,523 households in Nelson County as of the 2010 Census. Of these households 26.6% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 10.9% were 64 years and older living alone, 25.9% were individuals living alone in general, and 47.8% of households were occupied by married couples. The average household size was 2.26. The population density as of 2010 was 31.9 people per square mile.

### **Agricultural Summary**

Agricultural data compares the 2012 agriculture census to the 2007 figures, which represents the most recent information available at the time the data sets were compiled. During this period the total number of Nelson County farms decreased very slightly from 462 to 455, while the total acreage in farms increased from 73,148 to 79,981. The average farm size hence increased from 158 to 176 acres. The number of farms less than 10 acres in size doubled from 8 to 16. Farms from 10 to 49 acres in size increased from 122 to 147 (20%), the number of farms in the 50 to 179 acre size range stayed consistent. Women as principal operators of farms made up 80 of the 455 reported farms in the county. There were 648 white farm operators followed by 11 black or African American, 4 Asian, and 18 Hispanic or Latino operators.

Overall most farms in the county are producing products fruits, nursery plants, vegetables, and cattle. Total cropland reported declined by 41% while the cattle inventory increased by 7%. Farm expenses increased by 63%. The market value of agricultural products sold increased significantly from \$12,445,000 in 2007 to \$15,807,000 in 2012. It was an average increase of \$34,740 per farm.

### **Health Summary**

From the center of the county which is the town of Lovingston are two hospitals to the North: University of Virginia Hospital & Martha Jefferson Hospital and two hospitals to the South: Lynchburg General Hospital & Virginia Baptist Hospital. From Lovingston all are a 30-45 minute drive. Also in the county there are a few private practice health care providers but the most popular is Blue Ridge Medical Center located in Arrington. It is a 501(c)3 non-profit federally qualified health center and level III patient-centered medical home. Region Ten and the Thomas Jefferson Health District Offer services in Nelson County. The county no longer has a nursing/rehabilitation facility for elderly individuals.

According to data pulled from [countyhealthrankings.org](http://countyhealthrankings.org) for the year of 2017 Nelson County ranked 84 in the state for mortality. Data estimates approximately 8,400 premature deaths occur (age-adjusted years of potential life lost before age 75 per 100,000 population). The top causes of pre-mature death before the age of 75 include cancer and heart disease according to the CDC.

The health summary data for Nelson County compared 2013 statistics with 2017. Adult obesity has increased from 26% to 30%. 42% of children are raised in single-parent households in 2017 versus 31% from 2013. 22% of residents indicated that they were physically inactive and 56% did not feel they had access to exercise opportunities potentially due to the lack of a formal recreation center in the county. Although only 2% reported limited access to healthy foods, 50% of the restaurants in Nelson County are estimated to be fast food restaurants. Approximately 19% of adults and 10% of children in the county are not insured. On a positive note, the teen birth rate declined from 37 births per 1,000 teenage females to 28 out of 1000.

### **Educational Summary**

During the 2017-18 school year Nelson County Public Schools enrolled 1,882 students. There are two elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school. Another 154 students were homeschooled during this year. The other schools in the county are Afton Christian School and North Branch School which taught another 166 students but it is unknown if all of those students are from Nelson County. These education enrollment statistics were consistent with population trends.

Of the public school population 73.2% are White, 13.1% Black, 8% Hispanic or Latino, 5% Multiracial, and .5% Asian. 15% of students are reported to have disabilities, 52.4% are considered economically disadvantaged, and 3.2% are English Language Learners.

In 2018 out of the 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade classes only five students formally dropped out of school which was slightly lower than the average across the state. The graduation rate was 92.4%. 14.62% of students are dual enrolled in community college courses and 7.7% are enrolled in Advanced Placement classes. 50% of students choose to enroll in postsecondary education within 16 months of graduation.

### **Business and Employment Summary**

The 2017 business and employment summary from Virginia Employment Commission data indicates that there are approximately 2,000 businesses in Nelson County that employ 3,969 people, for an average of 3.5 employees per business. Just over half of the businesses are classified as being in the service industry, and these employ 44% of the workers in Nelson County. Approximately three-fourths of the jobs in Nelson County are located within the service industry, government, manufacturing, construction, and retail industries. Agriculture contains approximately 100 businesses that employ about 291 people. Nationwide, service and retail

industries are also the first and second ranked employers. On a national scale, the ag industry employment is significantly less, as a percentage of the total, than Nelson County. Agriculture does have the highest employee turnover rate vs. other areas of employment in the county. The largest employers in the county are Wintergreen Resort, Nelson County School Board, the County of Nelson, and various wineries and breweries.

The unemployment rate for Nelson County in 2017 was 3.2% which is slightly lower than the national average of 3.9%.

Approximately, 4,755 of Nelson County residents commute out of the county for work and about 2,086 people commute into the county to work. Unsurprisingly most out-commuters are working in the Albemarle/Charlottesville or Amherst/Lynchburg areas. Some even commute as far as Fairfax County.

## Community and Resident Perspectives

The Unit Coordinator utilized suggested survey tools that we already developed and posted in Qualtrics and focused on the distribution of the survey and key informant interviews. The community surveys were posted on the county government's website and on Facebook. Other office faculty and staff helped in the distribution of the survey and helped compile a list of key-informants to interview. The surveys were also distributed via email to every county government and school system employee. We got 45 responses to our multiple-option survey and 20 responses to our open-ended question survey. Of the respondents 58% were female and 42% were male. 47% of respondents said they were familiar with Virginia Cooperative Extension.

In the survey the majority of individuals chose to complete respondents were asked to rate importance of 51 issues on a scale from (1) very unimportant to (5) very important. Participants could also choose a "no opinion" option and could list up to 3 additional issues under an "other" option. Respondents were then asked: "For the issues you rated very important, please select your top 5 and provide additional information." The table on page 7 provides the mean score for each of the 51 issues. Issues are organized into program area categories for clarity.

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Mean</b>
<b>Agriculture</b>	
Agriculture Marketing	3.81
Agriculture Production/Profitability	4.03
Agriculture Sustainability/Preservation	4.1
Alternative Agriculture	3.81
Animals/Livestock	3.89
Farm Transition	3.79
Horticulture	3.94
Invasive Species	3.88
Land Use	3.83
Local Food Systems	4
Pests/Pesticides	3.7
Public Awareness of Agriculture	3.64
<b>Youth Development</b>	
Before and After School Issues	3.92
Leadership	4.06
Life Skills/Decision Making for Youth	4.22
School Dropout	3.86
Science and Technology	3.8
Teen Community Involvement	4.22
Teen Leadership	4.14
Youth Activities	4.11
Youth Nutrition	4.08
Youth Violence	3.84
Youth Volunteers	4.11
<b>Home Family and Finance</b>	
Adult Nutrition	3.72
Aging Population	3.83
Child Development	4.35
Chronic Disease	3.66
Consumer Issues	3.84
Dependent Care	4.03
Finances/Financial Management	3.97
Food Safety/Preservation	3.94
Food Security/Anti-Hunger Efforts	3.95
Health	4.06
Healthy Food Access	4.05
Housing/Home	3.87
Long Term Care	3.89
Nutrition	3.89
Obesity	3.89
Parenting	4.31
<b>Environment</b>	
Energy	3.92
Environment	4.13
Natural Resource Production/Profitability	3.57
Water Quality/Quantity	4.15
Wildlife	4
<b>Community Viability</b>	
Careers	4.14
Community Planning	3.95
Community Services	4.11
Local Government	3.72
Poverty	4.03
Small Business/Entrepreneurs	4

## Priority Issues

Based on the unit profile and resident perspectives from the survey data and key-informant interviews, the following top priority issues were identified for Nelson County.

### Issue 1: Youth Development and Well-Being

Nelson County residents participating in interviews and surveys overwhelmingly ranked issues surrounding youth development as their priority issue. Most adults do see the tremendous value that youth play in our society and future. Even in the remaining identified priority issues youth play a role in almost all of them. Our unit profile shows us that our youth are obtaining an education, but when you put our graduates on the national stage they are having issues climbing the socio-economic ladder. Even before graduation youth are hitting walls on potential opportunities within the county. Nelson County doesn't have a formal recreation center and communication on youth programs that are happening are difficult to distribute. Teachers that were interviewed said they felt their students were being pulled many directions by academic subjects and sports but they felt their students wouldn't be prepared for the 'real world'. When I asked what this meant they offered examples of things like paying taxes, understanding renting/mortgages, navigating student loans, etc. Also many parents and teachers stated they felt youth today were very short-sighted and unrealistic about careers and college. Older community members frequently felt youth are not staying in the community after graduation because of the lack of things for them to do. Data from our unit profile backs up that statement.

#### Comments from the community needs assessment:

"The teen community involvement is extremely important. We need to keep our youth busy, learning and experiencing, exploring and being optimistic about their opportunities in the future. I think it's imperative in their development."

"Many children and teens do not receive parenting that teaches them responsibility and good decision making that will result in healthy living, education and/or skills required for a career or employment resulting in being able to support a healthy lifestyle for oneself and dependents. Drug use is high among teens and adults in Nelson County. I wish our community leaders as well as parents would support alternative youth activities in addition to sports, i.e. the arts, 4-H, church youth activities, library resources, etc."

This is an issue that the 4-H program has been addressing in smaller pieces thus far. Something our office has encountered as a barrier to the issue is that there are a lot of community partners along with the school system that don't have a central way to communicate with each other and plan. If this was solved we would have a better idea of what resources we have as a community and could plan stronger programs in partnership with each other. We also might be able to cross-advertise resources and programs to our different audiences to reach an overall greater population of youth.



In addition, through this community survey we can clearly see the need for more life skills and career development for youth. While we run in-school, afterschool, and summer programs already we want to be more specific with the programs we run in the future to address these needs. Reality Store and other financial curriculum/programs would clearly address some of the expressed issues here. It could be good to do a survey of what youth feel they want and need to succeed and what programs they would take if they were offered.

## **Issue 2: Community Health**

The unit profile alone shows that Nelson County's population can be healthier. Since our last situational analysis our obesity and early mortality rate have risen. We also have an aging population that have many specialized health and education needs. In addition, many of our families are economically disadvantaged or in poverty and are struggling with necessities for their children. Finally, opioid and other drug abuse is on the rise in Nelson County and our nation in the last 5 years especially. These are very different reasons community health was identified as an issue. Because of how differing the reasons are this issue is complex and multifaceted.

### Comments from the community needs assessment:

"Poverty and nutrition. Working in the Nelson County School System I encounter this ever day! So many of our children are going home daily with little to no, nutritious food to eat and a lot are caring for themselves and younger siblings."

"I feel like there needs to be more instructional and safe things for the children in our community. I see WAY TOO much drug use and so forth in our schools at such a young age now I feel there needs to be other opinions for them that would possibly steer them away from the violence and drugs."

"Health is the umbrella for a lot of these issues, so approaching it holistically to consider what contributes to overall health and well-being would be the priority issue to address a lot of these other issues."

One of the best ways that Extension can play a role in assisting with this massive issue of community health is to start helping connect resources. The lack of a communication network between community organizations is really holding everyone back from doing more. If community partners are unaware of what other resources exist and what they might be able to offer then we are not able to do our best to help our community. Connecting everyone in a newsletter, listserv, or quarterly meeting would be a good start.

Extension can also offer some educational programs directly to the community that might help individual issues such as obesity or opioid dependence. Currently our 4-H program is implementing the Teen Cuisine Program in the school and the Food Challenge program to clubs. In addition, the office can start offering vegetable and fruit gardening classes as well

as adult healthy cooking and home food preservation classes. Statewide there are educational programs being tested to curb the opioid epidemic. We hope to be able to offer those in Nelson County as well one day.

### **Issue 3: Community Planning and Sustainability**

It was commonly expressed through the surveys and interviews with informants on many different topics that a concern was youth are leaving the county and not moving back. Our population data from our unit profile backs that up as well. We have lower school enrollment, lower amounts of children under 5 years of age, and a decreasing number of people between the ages of 20-64. When asked why they felt the county had this issue many of the reasons surrounded the idea of poor community planning.

There were some key issues that really stood out about community planning. The first was the lack of fast, reliable, and cheap internet. Most of the county has to rely on satellite based internet services and/or unreliable cell phone services that don't pick up signal frequently. Most adults felt this frustration themselves but acknowledged that the younger generation will see this as a reason not to move back to the county because it is an amenity they cannot live without. A local real estate agent interviewed said "The world is evolving and when new families are looking to move they would turn down the perfect house and life in Nelson County because there isn't reliable internet access."

Two other issues identified that feed off each other are a lack of available jobs and a perceived lack of things to do. Many of the jobs that community offer are mostly in government, agriculture, retail, and service industries. As outlined in our unit profile data often many people have to commute to other counties and cities to work. This also leads to many people spending their money in those other localities. Without money flowing into our economy locally we can't support more needed businesses. Because people aren't spending time and money locally businesses don't see an opportunity for success in Nelson County creating the need for people to seek jobs outside of the county. This has created quite the conundrum for our local government which they have diligently been trying to come up with solutions for and is an issue for many rural communities.

Another issue is many people seem to move to Nelson County because of the small town feel, beautiful scenery, and lack of development. However, as seen in the quotes from the community needs assessment below this actually has created another issue. Community members say they would like see more jobs, businesses, and families come to the county but they also say they want to avoid urban development, maintain the scenery, and stay true to rural roots. Unfortunately, it seems to be hard to find a practical solution that is balance between the two.

Comments from the community needs assessment:

“Community planning, because all out young people are leaving because there are no local jobs which means they have to drive an hour to work a decent job. We need to have a reason for them to stay local while maintaining as much of the beauty of the county as possible.”

“Lack of retail shopping establishments. We often travel to Charlottesville or Waynesboro and would rather spend our money closer to home. But we moved to Nelson County to avoid urban development. Just wish the local economy could support things like hardware stores, grocery stores, restaurants, etc.”

“Very few career opportunities to keep young people in the area. We need to provide more options for people who want to move to Nelson. I hear people talk about how much they love Nelson and would give anything to live there but they just cannot handle the hour drive to Charlottesville, Lynchburg or Waynesboro for a decent paying job. We need to allow a few larger employers into the area that can provide some jobs for young families. Make sure that these places are companies that can build away from the main stretches of "scenic" Nelson to maintain our quaint tourism income but realistically it is what we need.”

Many of these issues are very complex and out of scope for Extension at this time. We can continue to try to advocate to our youth what career possibilities are within Nelson County and the advantages of living in a rural area. We can also point families in the direction of valuable community resources such as our public library which offers portable wi-fi hotspots for check outs to community members. In addition, our county government has been tirelessly working with Central Virginia Electric Cooperative to expand wired internet options to the whole county. We are also offering programs here locally that provide youth and adults with things to do that are in their own back yard. We will help work with the county on making progress on this important issue in whatever way they ask.

#### **Issue 4: Agricultural Sustainability**

When farmers and agricultural stakeholders in the county were interviewed about their perceived top issues facing Nelson County they were worried about the sustainability and longevity of agriculture and farming. Farmers said they felt that because farming is becoming less profitable over time there is less interest in new farms and old farms are having a difficult time transitioning ownership. Current farm owners said they are currently struggling with finding qualified skilled labor for farm jobs. Some of this has included a lack of educational opportunities for potential workers. In addition, farmers felt that youth are not given the opportunity to explore agricultural education due to being stretched too many ways with more scholarly academics. In addition, they also mentioned the impact of younger people choosing to either move out or not come back after post-secondary education. Due to this they have a limited workforce pool. Because more and more youth are not interested in employment in the

agricultural sector they are worried about the loss of a rural tradition and the potential for land development to occur where farms once were.

Comments from the community needs assessment:

“Profitability in agriculture. If it is not profitable, there will be no more farms and the land will be developed.”

“Farm transition, older land rich farmers have limited means to transition to future farmers who lack capital.”

There are actually a number of things being done right within the county already to address this issue. For instance, while farmers may perceive that schools are not highlighting the importance of agricultural education, Nelson County has one of the top performing FFA programs in the state. Students can enroll in FFA and ag-based classes in middle school through high school. VCE and 4-H also offer agriculture education to youth through in-school enrichment, short-term programs and workshops, clubs, and day-camps.

Virginia Cooperative Extension provides a lot of agricultural education programs for farm owners and workers. Successful programs include fruit school, pesticide management classes, orchard meetings, and soil and plant testing for farms. We would like to offer more programs on farm transition, farm start-up, specialty crops, organic production, and other various issues. However, our current ANR agent is only a 50% appointment and specializes in animal science so there is a limit to what we can provide without the assistance of neighboring counties VCE faculty. Our current ANR agent could use more training to be able to offer the desired programs above. We will continue to seek out feedback on this issue from local partners such as our Farm Bureau, FFA chapter, and farmer’s market.

### **Issue 5: Environment**

Finally, a large number of survey and interview respondents considered issues that impact the environment to be a priority. Since our last situation analysis the county has been faced with the potential of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline coming through community. Residents have been vocal with their opinion of the pipeline project with a number of our respondents viewing it as a potential environmental problem. A number of Virginia Master Naturalists interviewed had concerns not only about water quality but also about a number of at-risk native plant and animal species that are in the proposed path of the ACP.

In addition, community members have ongoing complaints about agricultural and development-related impacts on water quality. Water quality in general is very important not just for the obvious reason of it is need for drinking to residents. Nelson County has a high amount of wineries, breweries, and distilleries that are helping sustain our local economy through jobs and agritourism. These local businesses depend on water quality to make their products. In regards to drinking water the EPA estimates that over 90% of Nelson County

residents get their drinking water from directly or indirectly from streams that only flow seasonally, or after rain, or from headwaters. Many residents and business owners are left with questions as to what is happening to our water supply.

Agricultural stakeholders' primary environmental concerns were flooding/droughts, invasive species, plant blights, and erosion of farmland. Nelson County has seen an influx of invasive bug species like the Emerald Ash Borer and stink bugs. Local landscapers have also reported problems with boxwood blight.

Comments from the community needs assessment:

“(Regarding drinking water quality) I have neighbors that have low flow and quality issues in their home's water. I'm lucky enough to have a deep well with close proximity to the river depth. I think education on both issues would be a help to diagnose and treat these problems.”

“River Water Quality is an issue. Run off from farms, breweries, and developments is turning the Rockfish muddy. No telling what the quality of the water is now.”

“Addressing the effect of agriculture on our land and water. Laws to keep cattle out of the streams, and save our lands from bio-solids application, and other fertilizers. Pipeline and related issues and negative effects on water and land. Also help with invasive plants (like kudzu and Asian stilt grass) and invasive insects (stink bugs).”

Extension can be particularly helpful for many of the above listed issues. While Extension does not have any input into potential development of ACP we recognize that our community members are concerned about the potential impact it would have. Many of our Virginia Master Naturalist have been good problem solvers for their own issues by helping conservation efforts of local plants and animals in the proposed pipeline path. They have chosen volunteer projects that rehome plants and animals in that region. VMN volunteers have also been helping educate the community about the many unique species that Nelson County is home to.

As far as the concern of water quality in the county the Extension office has periodically offered a well-water testing program. This allows community members to submit samples of water and receive recommendations on how to fix any issues with water quality. In order to prevent source water contamination Extension can point farmers and businesses to the resources of our Soil and Water Conservation office. They have many grants and educational programs that help farmers and businesses prevent runoff into local water sources.

VCE is also instrumental in identifying and recommending remedies for blights and invasive species. Many VCE specialists have been working hard to identify problems like the Emerald Ash Borer, boxwood blight, and giant hogweed. The VCE office works to educate the community on what these invasive species and diseases look like so we can take early action to prevent them from spreading. VCE offers plant and insect identification to the public on a daily basis. We also offer soil analysis to commercial and home and garden growers.

## Appendices

### Appendix 1: Nelson County Community Survey

The purpose of this survey is to gather information about issues in Nelson County. Please take a couple of minutes to share your opinions. The results of this survey will help in shaping Virginia Cooperative Extension programs in Nelson County. The survey is completely anonymous.

Please rate the importance of the following issues in UNIT.

	Very Unimportant (1)	Somewhat Unimportant (2)	Neither Unimportant nor Important (3)	Somewhat Important (4)	Very Important (5)	No Opinion (6)
Adult Nutrition (1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Aging Population (2)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Agriculture Marketing (3)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Agriculture Production/Profitability (4)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Agriculture Sustainability/Preservation (5)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Alternative Agriculture (6)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Animals/Livestock (7)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Before and After School Issues (8)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Careers (9)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Child Development (10)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Chronic Disease (11)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community Planning (12)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community Services (13)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Consumer Issues (14)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dependent Care (15)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Energy (16)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Environment (17)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Farm Transition (18)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Finances/Financial Management (19)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Food Security/Anti-Hunger Efforts (20)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Food Safety/Preservation (21)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Health (22)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Healthy Food Access (23)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Horticulture (24)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Housing/Home (25)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Invasive Species (26)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Land Use (27)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Leadership (28)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Life Skills/Decision Making for Youth (29)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Local Food Systems (30)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Local Government (31)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Long Term Care (32)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Natural Resource Production/Profitability (33)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Nutrition (34)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Obesity (35)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Parenting (36)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pests/Pesticides (37)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Poverty (38)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Public Awareness of Agriculture (39)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
School Dropout (40)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Science and Technology (41)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Small Business/Entrepreneurs (42)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Teen Community Involvement (43)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Teen Leadership (44)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Water Quality/Quantity (45)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wildlife (46)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Youth Activities (47)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Youth Nutrition (48)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Youth Violence (49)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Youth Volunteers (50)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (51)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (52)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (53)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q2 "For the issues you rated very important, please select your top 5 and provide additional information."

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Q3 How familiar are you with Virginia Cooperative Extension?

- Not familiar at all
- Somewhat familiar
- Familiar
- Very familiar

Please tell us about yourself (the person completing the survey). These questions are optional.

Q4 What is your sex?

- Female
- Male

Q5 Which of the following describes your highest level of education?

- Less than high school
- Some high school
- High school graduate/GED



- Some college
- College graduate
- Some graduate work
- Master's degree
- Doctorate degree

Q6 In which category is your current age?

- 18-29
- 30-39
- 40-49
- 50-59
- 60-64
- 65+

Q7 How many individuals reside in your home?

	0 (1)	1 (2)	2 (3)	3 (4)	4 (5)	5 (6)	6 or more (7)
Adults (18 years and older)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Children (17 years and younger)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q8 Does your household:

	No (1)	Yes (2)	Sometimes (3)	I don't know (4)
Qualify for SNAP?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Receive SNAP?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q9 How many years have you lived at your current address?

- 0 - 3
- 4 - 6
- 7 - 10
- 11 - 15

- 16 - 25
- More than 25

Q10 Which category best describes your ethnicity?

- Hispanic or Latino
- Not Hispanic or Latino

Q11 Which category best describes your race?

- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White
- Other \_\_\_\_\_