## The Mountains are Calling

## DIRECTOR OF WATER \& SEWER GREENE COUNTY, VIRGINIA

## Greene County, Virginia

The County of Greene, Virginia, seeks a highly qualfied professional to serve as the next Director of the Water and Sewer Department. This individual will lead the Department, under the direction of the County Administrator.

This recruitment profile offers information about the community, government, and priorities of the Board of Supervisors. Additionally, the profile includes information about desired qualifications for this position, which will remain open until filled. Initial review of the applications will begin June 23, 2024.

To be considered, submit a cover letter, resume, County Application, salary requirements, and professional references to Lisa Roach, Director of Human Resources via email to lroach@gcva.us or by mail to P.O. Box 358, Stanardsville, VA 22973. All applicants' information will be kept with the strictest confidence.

## Greene County is an Equal Opportunity Employer



Greene County, nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Central Virginia, is a great place to call home. Established in 1838, Greene County is home to one of only four entrances to Shenandoah National Park's famed Skyline Drive (known as "America's Favorite Drive). The County seat is the historic Town of Stanardsville, founded in 1794.

Greene County, Virginia is a fast growing community between Northern Virginia and Charlottesville. Ruckersville sits at the crossroads of two major thoroughfares: U.S. 29 and U.S. 33. Greene County is only 100 miles south of Washington, D.C., 21 miles north of the City of Charlottesville, and 80 miles west of Virginia's capital, Richmond. Greene is also close to Interstates 64 and 81, and is only four miles from the Charlottesville/Albemarle Airport.

Greene County has utilized smart growth through its Comprehensive Plan which has maintained a good quality of life for residents, preserved the County's rural character, and encouraged econommic development. Greene's residents are a diverse mix, from newcomers to those whose families have been here for multiple generations, yet they all sharea strong sense of community.

The County population of 21,000 is approximately $81 \%$ White, $8 \%$ African American, 8\% Hispanic and 3\% Asian. The median household income is $\$ 81,338$ and the poverty rate is $8.4 \%$. Within the County, employment is focused on natural resource extraction, retail services, government, and schools. Much of its workforce commutes to the City of Charlottesville or Albemarle.

## HISTORY

On August 29, 1716, Lieutenant Governor Alexander Spotswood set out west from Richmond to the mountains with 63 men and 73 horses. Evidence indicates that they crossed the Blue Ridge at Swift Run Gap, traveling through what is now Greene County. Legend has it that Spotswood gave each of his men a golden horsehoe, hence the golden horsehoe in the County seal. No known golden horsehoe has ever been found.

In 1864, the Union Army planned and carried out a diversionary drive through Greene County to Charlottesville to disrupt Confederate communications, destroy bridges and mills, and generally divert Confederate attention from the important action at Richmond. Union General George Custer was in charge of 1,500 soldiers who stopped in Stanardsville on March 1, 1864, long enough to destroy the Confederate Supply Depot there and plunder public buildings, all the while holding the men of Stanardsville hostage. Custer's troops went on their merry way south but met a small Confederate force stationed at Rio Hill that pushed the Union forces into retreat. Union and Confederate forces were in sporadic contact until the Union forces attempted to cross the Rapidan River into Madison County. On that spot was a skirmish now called the "Battle of Stanardsville." Following the relatively brief battle, Custer continued his retreat having accomplished his mission.

In the late 1920s and 1930s, the Commonwealth of Virginia used the power of eminent domain to acquire land for donation to the Federal government in order to create Shenandoah National Park. From 1,081 individual tracts of land, over 500 families and individuals were displaced from their homes so that the park could be established. The Blue Ridge Heritage Project (right) acknowledges and honors the people whose sacrifices made it possible for us to have the Shenandoah National Park to enjoy.


## EDUCATION

Greene County Public Schools is governed by an elected five-member School Board that meets monthly. The division's Central Office is located in the Town of Stanardsville. Greene County Public Schools serves roughly 2,900 students from pre-Kindergarten through 12th-grade. There are six school buildings: Nathanael Greene Primary School; Nathanael Greene Elementary School; Ruckersville Elementary School; William Monroe Middle School; William Monroe High School; and the Greene County Technical Education Center. All schools are accredited and William Monroe High School consistently exceeds the state average for graduation rates. Additionally, also in the Town of Stanardsville, is a satellite campus for Piedmont Virginia Community College.

Students can dual enroll, with some courses offered at the high school itself, and graduate with their Associate Degree at the same time they receive their high school diploma.

The Blue Ridge Virtual Governor's School (BRVGS) is a regional program for more than 600 academically motivated, high-ability high school students from the counties of Fluvanna, Goochland, Greene, Louisa, Madison, Nelson and Orange. Courses emphasize connections between disciplines, real-world situations, collaboration, integration of technology, and innovative approaches to learning. These courses, in combination with advanced courses at each participating high school and college-level offerings, work together to provide a rigorous course of study for BRVGS students.


## GOVERNANCE

Greene County is governed by a five-member Board of Supervisors, one elected from each of the four magisterial districts and one elected at-large. Board members serve four year, staggered terms. The Board is the legislative policy-making body for the County.

The County Administrator is the Chief Executive Officer for the County, appointed by the Board of Supervisors, and directs and supervises day-to-day operations of all County departments and agencies that are under the direct control of the Board. It is the County Administrator who oversees the implementation of policies set by the Board and ensures that they are carried out. The Administrator is the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, as well as the official liaison to the five County Consitutional Officers, the Judiciary, and State and Regional agencies. The Consitutional Officers-Clerk of Court,
the Commissioner of Revenue, the Commonwealth's Attorney, the Sheriff, and the Treasurer-are elected by County residents. They are not accountable to the Board of Supervisors, but work closely with the Board and County Administrator to serve the community.

Greene County provides services to the community including: planning and zoning, building inspection, stormwater management and erosion control, animal control, EMS, parks and recreation programs, waste management through a collection and recycling center, and social services. The Sheriff's Office is responsible for law enforcement and volunteers serve at the County's three fire departments. The Greene County Library, located in Stanardsville, is a branch of the Jefferson-Madison Regional Library and the building also houses a senior center. The County has an active Economic Development and Tourism program.

## Challenges \& Opportunities

Greene County took over management and operations of the water and sewer system from a multi-county authority in June 2023. There are many opportunities to make a difference for the right candidate.

Expand and codify policies and procedures for the new department.

Conduct and maintain a thorough inventory of the full water and sewer system infrastructure.

Responsible for capital projects that are necessary to secure a long term water supply for Greene County.

Greene County has applied for Federal grants for the construction of a water reservoir and the replacement of 80-year-old infrastructure in the Town of Stanardsville, including improved water mains and the construction of a water tower.

Evaluate and create a feasible plan to modernize existing water meter network.

Oversee the planned shut down of the Greene County Wastewater Treatment Plant in Stanardsville to transfer flows to the existing Rapidan Wastewater Treatment Plant in Ruckersville.

## POSITION PROFILE

## The ideal candidate will have...

-A Bachelor's Degree or Master's Degree in engineering or related field.
-3-5 years in engineering or related field.
-Experience in an executive senior management team, operation, and maintenance of a public utility is preferred.
-Experience with fiscal responsibilities including budget preparation and administration, capital improvement programs, and strategic planning.
-Experience working with a boardgoverned utility is preferred.
-Integrity, leading in an honest and ethical fashion in all encounters.
-Excellent communication skills to develop and maintain relationships with citizens, the Supervisors, the School Board, the School Superintendent, the Constitutional Officers, and the County staff.

## The ideal candidate will be...

-A visionary with strong project management skills.
-Approchable, with strong leadership skills.
-Ethical and transparent with Board of Supervisors members, the community, and the staff.
-Responsive to citizens' concerns and issues.
-County residency is not required, but must live within 60 miles of service area (after appointment) to respond promptly to emergencies.
-A problem-solver who is proactive and responsive to issues as they arise.
-Skilled in developing an annual budget.


## BENEFITS \& COMPENSATION

Compensation for the position will be competitive, depending on the applicant's experience and qualifications.

The successful candidate will be offered a generous benefits package that includes participation in the Virginia Retirement System (VRS), health insurance coverage, paid time off, deferred compensation, professional development support, and other benefits as identified in the negotiated employment contract.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

The position will be open until filled, but initial review of candidates will take place beginning June 23, 2024.
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