



Local Roots, Global Reach

# ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY, VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## PRESS RELEASE

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## COUNTY RECOGNIZES NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WEEK CELEBRATION – MAY 9-15, 2021

*Isle of Wight County joins cities and counties nationwide to increase awareness of the work economic developers do and the positive impact they have on local economies*

Isle of Wight, Virginia (May 9, 2021) - Isle of Wight County Economic Development is marking National Economic Development Week from May 9-15, 2021 to celebrate the positive contributions economic development makes to localities and regions across the Commonwealth.

Economic development and the role of the profession contributes positively to many aspects of our communities, including the following:

- Policies that government undertakes to meet broad economic objectives including inflation control, high employment, and sustainable growth.
- Policies and programs to provide services such as managing industrial/business parks, ensuring transportation networks are of high quality, and providing medical access to the disadvantaged.
- Policies and programs explicitly directed at improving the business climate through specific efforts, business finance, marketing, neighborhood development, business retention and expansion, technology transfer, real estate development and others.

“Working to sustain and grow the County and regional economy to benefit our citizens is truly a team effort,” said Richard L. “Dick” Grice, Chairman, Isle of Wight County Board of Supervisors. “I applaud all of the professionals in economic development who are striving to support and assist existing business owners, as well as to attract new businesses into their communities.”

Now in its sixth year, National Economic Development Week was created by the International Economic Development Council (IEDC), a professional membership organization for economic developers, in 2016 to recognize the unique role that economic development has in creating vibrant communities with strong economies. Communities throughout the United States and Canada have recognized the week through official proclamations, local community events, and informational campaigns online and through social media.

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The United States Economic Development Administration (EDA) has also previously issued a statement commemorating Economic Development Week. To learn more about Economic Development Week, visit [IEDC online](#).

Isle of Wight County Economic Development is joining with Virginia's only professional organization for economic developers, the Virginia Economic Developers Association (VEDA) to celebrate Economic Development Week. VEDA is a member-based professional organization committed to providing training and development; networking opportunities; and serving as the voice of the economic development community, creating economic opportunity and prosperity for the Commonwealth of Virginia. VEDA's membership is comprised of more than 520 economic development professionals from across the Commonwealth.

### ABOUT ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Economic Development's mission is to attract, retain and expand new business investment in Isle of Wight County and to provide quality employment opportunities for County citizens. By attracting new industry sectors, the department seeks to diversify the County's economic base.

The department provides staff assistance to the Economic Development Authority (EDA), administers the Enterprise Zone Program, assists and supports small businesses in myriad ways and provides funding to the Hampton Roads Alliance and the Hampton Roads Small Business Development Center (HRSBDC). The department also assists the local farming and agricultural community. Overall, the Department of Economic Development is committed to creating a business-friendly environment where businesses can grow and prosper.

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