Brief History

2004 – 2026

A 100% Volunteer Organization to improve the quality of Life in Floyd and its environs.

PARTNERSHIP FOR FLOYD

Gabby Pastore (president); Kamala Bauers (VP), Barbara Pleasant ($$); Dede McGrath (sec), Jane Cundiff (communications)

Revitalize Downtown. 2004 – 2007

Partnership for Floyd wrote grants, organized, designed and worked with

Community
Historical Society
Town of Floyd









From Cracked sidewalks to alcoves, store facades, restrooms, parking, Trails & Jacksonville cemetery restored.

Warren G. Lineberry Community Park 2006-2014





Truly a community effort.





Fund raisers and Thousands of volunteer hours organized by PFF







2009 – present. PFF sponsored **Earth Day and Earth Month events.**



















2013-2014

To The Last Drop

An excellent, timeless documentary about the geology and biology of Floyd Water.

- Lydeana Martin organized
- Paid for by PFF
- Helped stop the pipeline
- (free on YOUTUBE)

2017, 2018, 2023

- **Floyd County Health Fairs –** with over 70 health care professionals inviting our community to learn about health care in Floyd.



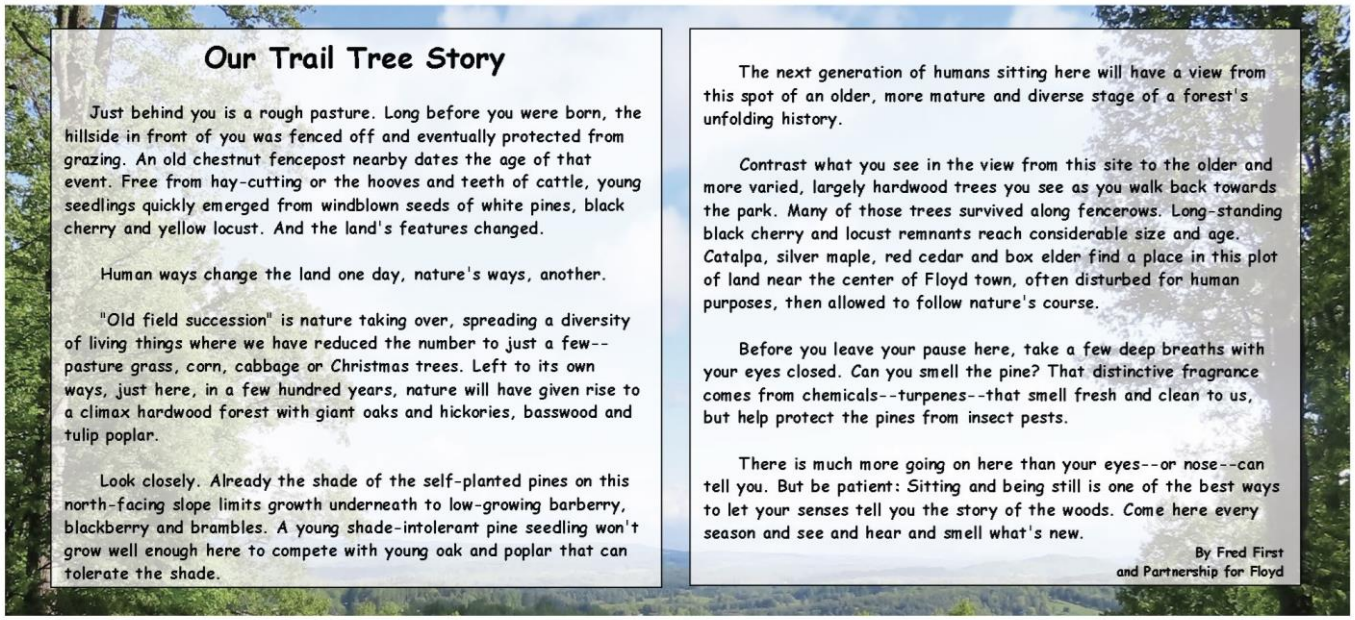
2015 to present = Trails near the Town of Floyd

The Park to Library Trail

A short walk at the back of the park.

A trail of Tree Stories.





Our Trail Tree Story

Just behind you is a rough pasture. Long before you were born, the hillside in front of you was fenced off and eventually protected from grazing. An old chestnut fencepost nearby dates the age of that event. Free from hay-cutting or the hooves and teeth of cattle, young seedlings quickly emerged from windblown seeds of white pines, black cherry and yellow locust. And the land's features changed.

Human ways change the land one day, nature's ways, another.

"Old field succession" is nature taking over, spreading a diversity of living things where we have reduced the number to just a few--pasture grass, corn, cabbage or Christmas trees. Left to its own ways, just here, in a few hundred years, nature will have given rise to a climax hardwood forest with giant oaks and hickories, basswood and tulip poplar.

Look closely. Already the shade of the self-planted pines on this north-facing slope limits growth underneath to low-growing barberry, blackberry and brambles. A young shade-intolerant pine seedling won't grow well enough here to compete with young oak and poplar that can tolerate the shade.

The next generation of humans sitting here will have a view from this spot of an older, more mature and diverse stage of a forest's unfolding history.

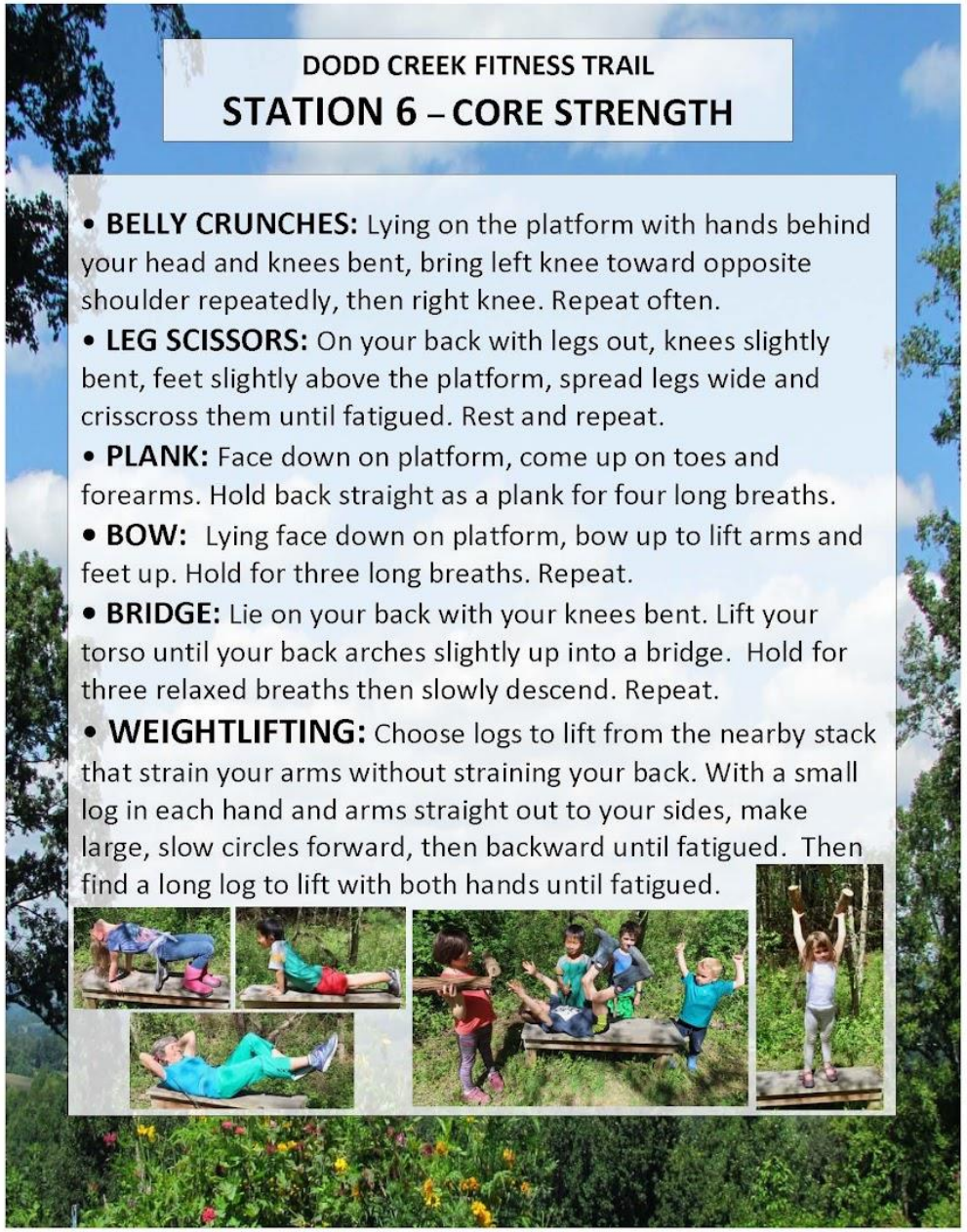
Contrast what you see in the view from this site to the older and more varied, largely hardwood trees you see as you walk back towards the park. Many of those trees survived along fencerows. Long-standing black cherry and locust remnants reach considerable size and age. Catalpa, silver maple, red cedar and box elder find a place in this plot of land near the center of Floyd town, often disturbed for human purposes, then allowed to follow nature's course.

Before you leave your pause here, take a few deep breaths with your eyes closed. Can you smell the pine? That distinctive fragrance comes from chemicals--turpenes--that smell fresh and clean to us, but help protect the pines from insect pests.

There is much more going on here than your eyes--or nose--can tell you. But be patient: Sitting and being still is one of the best ways to let your senses tell you the story of the woods. Come here every season and see and hear and smell what's new.

By Fred First
and Partnership for Floyd







The Dodd Creek Trail

A Nature and Exercise Trail

1.25 miles at the back of the County Recreation Park, just north of town.

Dodd Creek Trail

An Educational Nature Trail







PFF designed, built and supported – by volunteers!



SPRING WILDFLOWERS OF FLOYD COUNTY

Spring is an important time as the web of life awakens from winter sleep. Bees and other insects emerge hungry and in need of nectar. Flowers are brightly colored or scented to attract these pollinators. Plants need their insect friends to spread pollen between their flowers so fruit and seed will be produced and more plants can be born each year.

Some wild plants might be edible but make SURE to have an expert help you identify any plant before you taste it. Some plants can make you quite sick!

*DANDELION: "Ahhh, there she is, my first meal in Springtime, my friend, the bright yellow dandelion," says the bee, quite hungry after her winter sleep. Dandelions can grow almost anywhere, in any season, and they feed many types of pollinators. Some people like to eat a few flowers and leaves in salad, or added to tea, though they are bitter. The leaves vary in size and shape. Pick the seed heads when they are puffy white, and blow to help the wind spread the flowers.

*VIOLETS: Violet flowers pop up all over in spring, especially in lightly shaded areas. The flowers, leaves and even the roots of these small plants are eaten by lots of animals, including us!

*CHICKWEED: Chickweed loves cool weather and may even stay green through the winter. It grows close to the ground in a mat and its tiny five split-petaled white flowers have a special star-like pattern. The stringy stems stretch a little bit when you pull them apart. Many animals and humans like the mild flavor of these healthy green leaves and flowers.

*BUTTERFLY WEED: This bright yellow-orange flower stands about two feet high and attracts and feeds many butterflies. The milky sap can make you sick if you eat it. It does not like to be transplanted so it is nice to protect it where you see it growing wild.

*BLACKBERRY: The sweet smell of the five petaled white blackberry flowers fill the air in spring. They attract insects to drink their nectar and spread the pollen so blackberry fruits will be available in summer to feed animals and spread the seed. The thorns on the plants and even on the leaves make picking them a little prickly. The ripe berries are tasty and healthy if the plants are living in a clean place a distance from roads. The leaves can be a healthy addition to tea.

*DOGWOOD: If you look very closely you can see the actual dogwood flowers are in a very tiny yellow-green clump in the center of four large white flower bracts. It is here that the red berries will form in late fall for the birds to feast before winter. There are many moth and butterfly caterpillars that grow up by eating dogwood leaves.

*SPICEBUSH: The tiny yellow flowers appear in early spring before the leaves open. Scratch a small stem with your thumbnail, smell the sweet spiciness and you will know how spicebush got its name. Native Americans used a few leaves and the red berries in tea and to flavor their food. Spicebush prefers moist woodsy areas, like down near the river.

*AUTUMN OLIVE: These bushes can take over an empty field and are often called "invasive." They can grow where land has been damaged. The leaves are silvery on the back. The tiny yellow flowers provide lots of nectar for pollinators and the late fall berries are enjoyed by all kinds of critters, including people. It can improve the soil by fixing nitrogen. If left alone for many years, eventually, slowly, a natural forest will move in to take over. They are growing all over this area. See if you can find one!

Children's Nature Art With Blue Mountain School

Murals on the restroom on the playground at the Recreation Park. PFF supported.







Earth Day Trees

From 2023 to present

Hundreds of Sapling trees
with protective tubes sold below cost each spring.
PFF organized and supported.



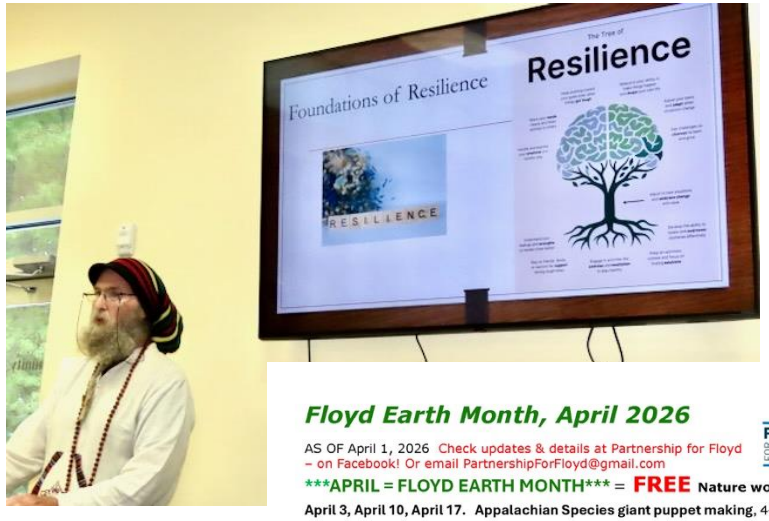




Floyd Earth MONTH Events

One day is simply not enough!









Floyd Earth Month, April 2026

PARTNERSHIP FOR FLOYD

AS OF April 1, 2026 Check updates & details at Partnership for Floyd – on Facebook! Or email PartnershipForFloyd@gmail.com

APRIL = FLOYD EARTH MONTH = **FREE** Nature workshops

April 3, April 10, April 17. Appalachian Species giant puppet making, 4-6:30, 110 W. Main Street. Behind Finn Graphics. Free supplies to make puppets for Earth Day parade.

April 4 Saturday Birding & Nature Hike, 10 AM with Master Naturalist Michael Williams & Tom Brody, on the Little River. Pass 602 Gallimore Ln & Park before bridge.

April 10, Friday, Spikenard Honeybee Sanctuary – Dandelion festival. 11-6. https://spikenardfarm.org/product/dandelion-day/

April 11, Saturday Landscape Design at Floyd Library 1:00 – 2:30 , Come learn sustainable landscaping practices with Anni Ellis. Anni's forte is on garden, landscape and hardscape design. https://mfrl.libcal.com/event/16452897

April 12, Sunday. 3:00-4:30. Hike the Dodd Creek Trail with Master Naturalist Michael Williams, Biologist Tom Brody and Jane Cundiff's Wild Garden Club. Learn about our local habitat, and wild edible and poisonous plants along the way. 281 Park Dr. NE

April 15, Wednesday, 10 AM. Nature and Birding hike near the Parkway, Lower Rock Castle Creek Trail. with Master Naturalist Michael Williams and Tom Brody. https://dwr.virginia.gov/vbwt/sites/lower-rock-castle-creek-trail/

April 18, Saturday, Earth Day Celebration in Lineberry Park with the ***Appalachian Species Giant Puppet Parade*** and local nature organizations. 10–2.

April 19 – Sunday 3:00. Wild Gardener Earth Day Celebration and POTLUCK

April 22, EARTH DAY! 10 AM Nature and Birding hike with Master Naturalist Michael Williams and Tom Brody on the Little River. Drive past 602 Gallimore Ln and park before the bridge.

April 22, EARTH DAY! Wednesday, **6pm free beans, rice and conversation**! 6:45 movie – ***"Water is Love"*** – Sustain Floyd film at Floyd Center for the Arts. Inspiring stories of regenerative ecosystem design to create water retention in communities around the world.

April 25, Saturday 9AM. "Save our Stream" search for macro invertebrates to determine water quality in a stretch of the Little River. Michael Williams, Master Naturalist leading. Drive past 602 Gallimore Ln and park before the bridge. RSVP**miwilli6@vt.edu.

April 26, Sunday, Community Resilience Through Herbalism- Floyd Library 3:00-4:30. Ed Skopal of I-TAL Acres, Growing and making your own apothecary. https://mfrl.libcal.com/event/16452881





Flower Power!!

A Volunteer Community Effort





















Helping Pollinators.
Planting and maintaining
Smiles all year long!

PFF organized and supported

Floyd Get to Know Your Neighbors Campaign 2025



After recent disasters, it is clear that getting to know our neighbors is important, especially in a rural area where some services may be unavailable. A neighborhood watch system can save lives. **Good neighbors may be our best hope in an emergency and a key to a Happy, Safe, Resilient Community.**

Some Floyd Neighborly Tips

- **Be visible and friendly:** Take frequent walks down your road or stop your car and wave and chat with people you see. Smiles are contagious!
- **Help the Elderly –** they may have more time, good stories and advice. Contact Floyd Sherrif program "Rise and Shine" to check on elderly and disabled living alone. Ask the Sherrif if you might help someone near you?
- **Ask for advice**. Especially ask advice on how to get to know neighbors and how to BE a good neighbor! Ask about neighborhood history, traditions, nature, gardens and what services people use.
- **Respect their space (and privacy):** Understand that country living often attracts people who value solitude.
- **Topics to avoid** = politics, religion, and personal finances.
- **Share your bounty:** Share your garden produce. Offer a plate of cookies. This is a classic country gesture of goodwill.
- **Host a casual gathering:** Start with just a couple neighbors. Work together to host a small neighborhood potluck. Perhaps work with a local church or business to host a larger gathering.
- **Start a private neighborhood Facebook page.** Where you can share information of events, of services needed and offered or problems.

Spread the Word!

Get to Know Your Floyd Neighbors Campaign 2025

For a Happier, Safer Floyd Community!

Sponsored by Partnership for Floyd. https://partnershipforfloyd.org/

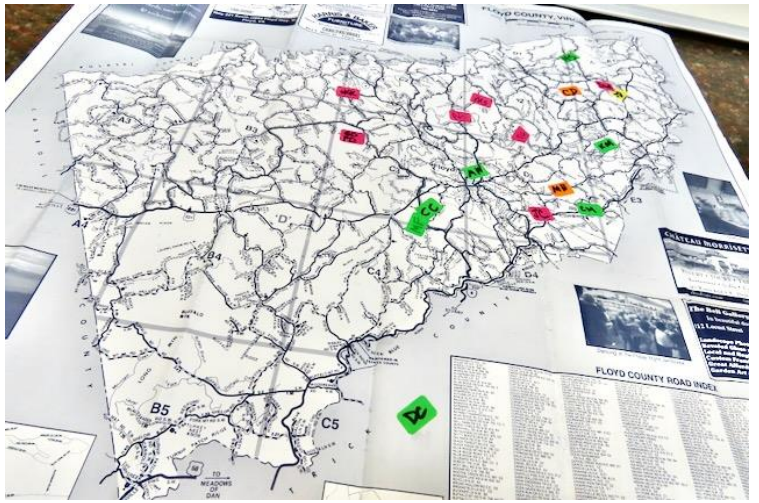
For more Rural Skills info email - PartnershipForFloyd@gmail.com

PARTNERSHIP FOR FLOYD

Get to Know Your Neighbors!

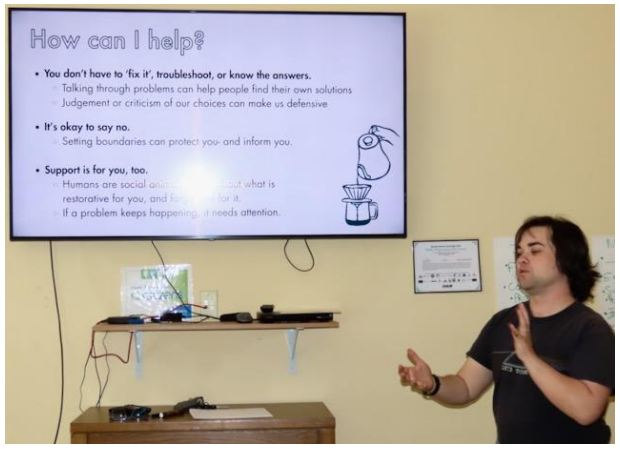
For a safer , more resilient community.

A PFF Initiative for Floyd.





Rural Skills Events All Year Long!











"Rural Skills" Calendar of Events Aug – Oct 2026

Events are constantly being added. So please check your email for details and updates! PartnershipForFloyd@gmail.com

August – Floyd has just accepted a **"Bee City"** designation! Would you like to get involved? For an exciting opportunity to help improve the environmental quality of our area – please contact Alex Tuchman at Spikenard. alex.t@spikenardfarm.org

Aug 15, Saturday I-Tal Acres - 'Thieves Secret' Tincture Making Workshop Workshop $29 per person Contact italacres@gmail.com

Aug 29, Wild Gardeners tour the home, gardens and trails of **Jasmina and Scott,** with a **POTLUCK!** email janewildgarden@gmail.com for details

September 12, 12-2, $29 Making LIBERTY TEA for Kidneys & Urinary Tract Featuring Goldenrod Tincture Making Workshop by I-Tal Nursery at the Floyd EcoVillage Farm Store. Contact italacres@gmail.com

Saturday September 12, 4-6pm. Plant Propagation Workshop $29 at I-TAL Acres Medicinal Herb Farm & Apothecary, Contact italacres@gmail.com

Sept 13, SUNDAY = Paul & Ada Kitchen's home and gardens on the Little River. **Garden Club POTLUCK!** email janewildgarden@gmail.com for details

Sep 19 Saturday = Floyd Emergency Preparedness Fair
11-3, EcoVillage. FREE Community service event. Learn from the experts! Free prizes! More info at partnershipforfloyd.org



Sept 25-27 Learning from the Bees conference! An international conference on healthy bee keeping held right here in Floyd! www.learningfromthebees.org

Oct 3, Saturday, Herbal Infused Oils & Salve Making Class by I-Tal Acres at the Floyd EcoVillage, $29. Contact italacres@gmail.com

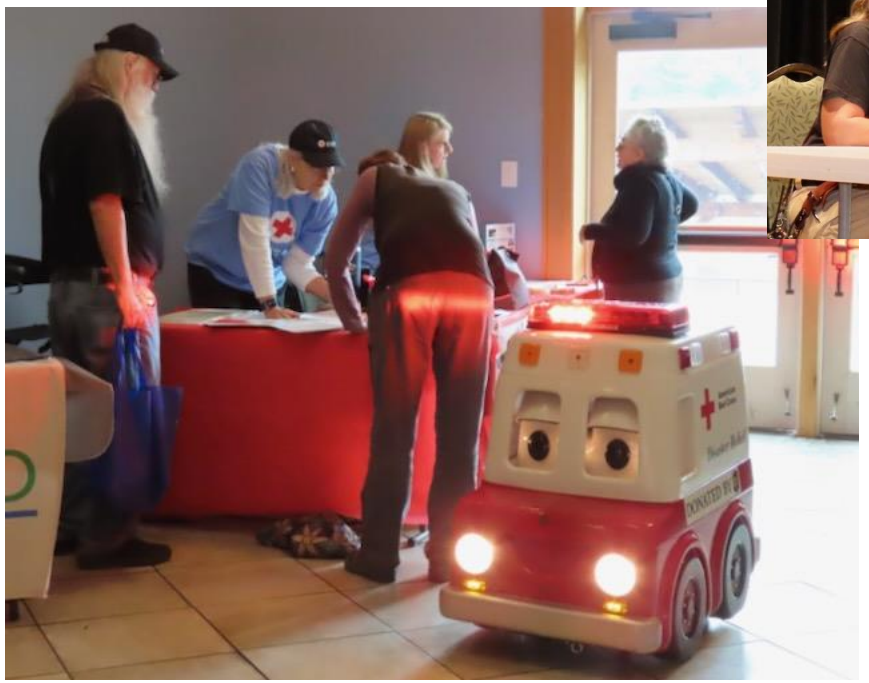
Oct 17, Saturday Free Spikenard Bee Sanctuary Tour with the **Wild Garden Club. And a POTLUCK.** email janewildgarden@gmail.com for details.

Emergency Preparedness Fairs

Organized & supported annually by PFF















2026





Floyd Emergency Preparedness Fair

PROVIDERS for September 19, 2026
EcoVillage Event Center, 11-3.
FREE Community Service event

LOBBY = 911 Emergency Services
+ PFF info + prize tables

-Partnership for Floyd + prizes tables, Gabby Pastore
-Sheriff - Michael Clemmons
-Fire Dept - Dustin Thomas (Floyd Emergency coordinator)
-EMS, Ambulance. - Dustin Thomas (Floyd Emergency coordinator)
-Red Cross, Jordan Brown with Ernie robot car
-Red Cross Ham radio operators, van with equipment –Marty Rosendale; and Floyd ham operators- Rima Forrest Sulzen;

MAIN ROOM and stage presentations.

-New River Health District Public Health Emergency Coordinator, Beverly Hill
-Medical Reserve Corps
-Floyd Extension - Dawn Barnes, Jon Vest
-NRV Community Services, Ferletta D. Martinez
-Women's Resource Center, Emil Jude Morris
-WIN Care, Floyd Emergency Clinic - Pamela Logan
-VA Child Care - Phillip Norman
-Dept of Social Services –Jason Tolkaz, April Meade
-Citizens COOP - Tina Osborne
-AirMedCare Network - Carilion – John Crocker

CAFÉ CORNER.

Food and drinks available all day – for donation.

-Master Naturalist, Michael Williams
-Food Storage for Emergencies, Dawn Gifford
-Whiskers and Tails Veterinary Clinic, Peter Smith



2026 schedule
Second Annual FLOYD
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FAIR

11:00	**Doors open to the public.** Activities and conversations at 20 tables will go on simultaneously all day with presentations on stage. Food and drinks available all day for donation.
	PRIZES! Adults and teens entering **BEFORE 1PM**, can choose one free gift while they last and receive 3 free tickets to win emergency equipment.
11:05 **On stage**	**WELCOME! Opening ceremony with Mike Mitchell and Floyd Music School.**
11:25 **On stage**	**PANEL: Everbridge notification system and the daily workings of our Floyd Emergency Services.** Daniel Lowry and Dustin Thomas – Floyd Emergency Coordinators and Kim Chiddo, county administrator
12:00	***LUNCH, LEARN, SING!*** ***Get to know our Emergency Providers!*** Food & drinks available in the café all day – for donations. ***Join the musicians at the pavilion outside to play and sing together!***
1:15 **On stage**	**Environmental Emergencies Are Health Emergencies** Pamela Logan of Floyd WIN Care Emergency Clinic
1:40 **On stage**	**PANEL: Call 911? Floyd First Responders.** What advice do they have for us? The Stories and problems they face. Sherrif, Ambulance, Fire, 911
2:00	Drawings for prizes will be posted at the front table by 2:00 and must be claimed by 3:10
2:20 **On stage**	**Building an Emergency Preparedness Kit -** Beverly Hill, NRV Emergency Health Services
3:00	**Doors close to the public.**

Free Door Prizes for 2026 Emergency Preparedness Fair

Sponsored by Partnership for Floyd

150 items will be given to adults & teens starting at 11:00. While they last.







Headlamp LED rechargeable

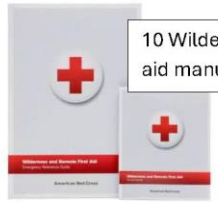
Adults & teens who enter between 11 and 1:00 will be given 3 free raffle tickets to win prizes below.



10 Winter Auto emergency kits



10 kits



10 Wilderness first aid manuals



10 LifeStraw 10cup water filter for bacteria++



10 Radio /flashlights, AM,FM, NOAA weather, shortwave, hand crank, solar, USB charger.



2 Portable 300W Bluetti Solar Generator Elite 30V2. including solar panel.

PartnershipForFloyd.org

Join us !

PARTNERSHIP FOR FLOYD



bitly

PartnershipForFloyd@gmail.com

Get on our email list for event calendars and meeting notices!