

Dumfries Town Council 2020 Vision

DUMFRIES

“Small Town, Big Difference”

Our Small Town is . . .

- The oldest, continuously chartered Town in Virginia with history in progress
- A pedestrian friendly, accessible, diverse community that provides a safe, inclusive, interactive, and stimulating living environment
- A relaxing, restorative, beautiful, green-minded Town with unmatched community benefits
- A town that truly cares for community, where we work together and neighborliness prevails
- A town that has a creative roadmap to its future

By 2020, our roadmap will include the following:

Nurturing Community

The Town of Dumfries is a community where neighbors care about each other. The Town offers a variety of housing choices for young adults, growing families and empty-nesters. Local shopping, banking, and restaurants enhance our feeling of community. Our citizens enjoy our fine restaurants, activities in our parks and our revitalized “old port.” The spiritual anchor for our community can be found in the many churches in Dumfries and surrounding areas. To live in Dumfries is to experience a rare slice of Americana.

Strong Foundations

The Town of Dumfries has a solid investment in its community. A vibrant Main Street supports a pedestrian friendly shopping district while traffic flows smoothly and effortlessly through and about the Town. Walkers, joggers, and cyclists move easily from place to place while transit provides an alternative for those so inclined. Town buildings present a solid and welcoming visage to citizens and visitors. Public spaces support a host of uses. Underground utilities, attractive street lighting, and appropriate signage and gateways support the pleasing image for all who enter or live here.

People Supporting People

Dumfries cares for its citizens. A wide array of programs and facilities serve the recreational and cultural needs of citizens of all ages. Concerts, festivals, and special events celebrate our community and embrace our rich cultural diversity. Dumfries is ever expanding its “In the Park” program. Neighbors care for one another. Our children thrive in a safe and healthy atmosphere. The Town staff is appropriately sized to provide friendly, accessible, professional and efficient services, supporting the Town’s position as the small town location of choice in Northern Virginia.

Environmental Commitment Enhances Our Beauty

Dumfries and its citizens have a compelling multilevel commitment to the environment, resulting in one of the healthiest and most beautiful small towns in Virginia. Its Green Council investigates, studies, and

provides continual guidance to citizens, businesses, and civic leaders on alternative energy initiatives. Citizen commitment is the key to our growing success. Recycling programs divert the majority of materials from entering the waste stream and help to protect the Town's environment. Storm water is handled in a sensitive manner, supporting the Town's strong environmental ethic.

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The Green Council is effective in working with Town citizens to test and introduce energy efficient low wattage off grid systems to reduce our Town's dependence on the U.S. grid infrastructure, reducing our impact on the fragile environment. Today, Dumfries is "green certified" by the State and enjoys a leadership role among state and county governments because of our well-established environmental commitment.

Come Play in Dumfries; Come Stay in Dumfries

The Town of Dumfries offers a wide range of events and services directed at providing opportunities for our youth, seniors, and the citizenry at large. Through public and private partnerships with County government, faith based organizations and the business community, a summer youth employment program and a targeted internship program offer work experience and vocational training for our youth. These entities also collaborate to offer college scholarships to high achieving graduating high school seniors. A unique partnership with the businesses in the region offers the citizens of Dumfries a membership in the Town with "member benefits." Residents in good standing with a Dumfries Membership card receive discounts at area businesses. The citizens of Dumfries are proud of its diversity and inclusiveness that encourage active participation of all its peoples.

Progressive History Continues to Develop

Dumfries, Virginia's first Town, continues to enhance its rich cultural traditions. Since the early part of the current century, Dumfries has become a destination point for local area residents and visitors to the Northern Virginia area. Among the attractions in the 1,000 acres making up the Town are the Weems-Botts Museum, the Henderson House, and the Williams Ordinary as well as Civil War encampments, and the Dumfries Cemetery containing gravesites from the late 1600s. The Dumfries wharf area, which during its heyday was the second largest tobacco seaport on the east coast, is included in a fantastic Town walking tour. The quaint antique shops along Main Street stand ready to surprise every shopper looking for bargains. The Town's creative website provides a virtual experience that entreats visitors to understand our history and the progressive opportunities and rich quality of life that is afforded our residents. Oral histories collected from generations of Town residents are another source of local history. It's a safe bet that you'll better understand our nation's future by examining Dumfries' evolving past.