



The Jerdone Islander

March 2025

Official Publication of Jerdone Island Association, Inc. in Louisa County Virginia.
Visit JerdoneIsland.org for more information.



It's that time of year again, February 15 through April 30. Know the burning laws!



FIRE & EMS

VIRGINIA'S 4 P.M. BURN LAW STARTS FEBRUARY 15

Late winter and early spring are particularly high-risk times for fires due to dry conditions, winds and dormant vegetation. Each year from February 15 to April 30, Virginia enforces a 4 p.m. Burn Law to reduce the risk of wildfires. However, even outside this timeframe when the risk is predictable, the Virginia Department of Forestry uses a fire danger rating system to evaluate conditions – including weather, fuel moisture, and wind speed – that impact the likelihood of wildfires.

Virginia's 4 p.m. Burn Law

This law prohibits open-air burning before 4 p.m. if the fire is within 300 feet of woodland or dry grass. After 4 p.m., anyone burning must remain vigilant, have proper firefighting tools on hand, and ensure the fire is completely out before leaving the area.

Daily Fire Danger Rating System

Ranging from Low to Extreme, this rating system helps citizens make informed decisions about burning debris or conducting controlled burns. See the readiness classes to the right and before lighting any fire, always check the daily rating on the [Department of Forestry website](#) to determine if conditions are safe.

Controlled Burn Fire Safety Tips

By following guidelines and respecting fire laws, we can help prevent wildfires and protect homes, forests, and wildlife. Stay safe and burn responsibly by:

- Checking the fire danger rating before burning
- Avoiding burning on windy or dry days
- Always having water and tools nearby to control the fire
- Never leaving a fire unattended
- Calling 911 immediately if a fire spreads out of control



Readiness Class Day Definitions

The image of the sign above is a reflection of the daily evaluation of conditions. The specific readiness class day measures used by the Virginia Department of Forestry are defined below:

Class 1 – LOW Fire Danger

No appreciable fire activity.
Fires do not ignite readily.

Fires that do start spread slowly and often burn irregularly.

Class 2 – MODERATE Fire Danger

Occasional fire activity.

Fires can start from most accidental causes; number of starts generally low.

Fires burn at low to moderate rates; heavy fuel concentrations may burn hot.

Fires usually controlled in initial attack phase.

Class 3 – HIGH Fire Danger

Normal fire season activity.

Fires start easily from most causes.

Fires burn at moderate to fast rates; control can be difficult if control action is not started promptly.

Class 4 – VERY HIGH Fire Danger

Above normal fire activity and/or conditions.

Fires start readily and spread rapidly.

Control of head fires may be difficult to impossible until fire behavior factors change.

Class 5 – EXTREME Fire Danger

Severe fire conditions.

Fires often escape initial attack. Direct attack of fires virtually impossible.

Fire behavior is erratic; resistance to control is high. Fires are not usually controlled until burning conditions subside.

Potential for fire disaster is high.

Multiple fire starts are likely.

2025 Annual Assessments

Just a reminder that Annual Assessment payments are due, in full, by March 31, 2025.

Proud to be Cuckoo!



Two of the finalists in the Proud To Be Cuckoo Recognition Night hosted by Cuckoo District Supervisor, Christopher McCotter, are Jerdone Islanders!

Congratulations to Nicole Perry, Bumpass Mail Carrier Extraordinaire and Carol DeZorzi, Tireless Louisa Clean Volunteer.



Supervisors toughen penalties for roaming dogs

Dog owners who allow their canines to roam could be subject to a criminal conviction under tough new rules approved by the board of supervisors on Tuesday night.

The board held a public hearing and voted unanimously to amend county code to address ongoing issues with dogs running at large. A dog is considered running at large when it's "roaming or running off the property of its owner or custodian and not under its owner's or custodian's immediate control," according to state and county code.

Under the new rules, allowing a dog to run at large "shall constitute" a Class 4 misdemeanor on the first offense. A second violation within one year of a conviction for the first violation "shall constitute" a Class 2 misdemeanor. A third or subsequent violation within two years of conviction for the second or subsequent violation "shall constitute" a Class 1 misdemeanor.

A Class 4 misdemeanor is punishable by a maximum \$250 fine. A Class 2 misdemeanor is punishable by up to six months in jail and/or up to a \$1,000 fine while a Class 1 misdemeanor is punishable by up to a year in jail and/or a maximum \$2,500 fine, per state code.



MARCH READING, WRITING & MORE!

Write In Louisa - Write In Louisa invites writers and aspiring writers ages 18+ to join them **March 5** at 2 p.m. at Louisa Arts Center for a special event led newspaper columnist, blogger, songwriter and retired Earth science teacher Randy Holladay. Enjoy an afternoon of creativity in a relaxed environment. Register at louisaarts.org/write-in-louisa. You may also get updates by [following Write In Louisa on Facebook](#). For questions, email WriteInLouisa@gmail.com or call Katherine Gotthardt at 703-300-8495.

Local Authors Book Expo - The Write In Louisa Local Authors Book Expo is coming to Louisa Arts Center Sunday, April 6. A few spaces are left for authors who wish to have tables. This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase your talents and gain local and regional exposure. Donation is only \$10 + 10% commission on sales the day of the event. For information and to secure a spot, email WriteInLouisa@gmail.com.

Things to do at Louisa County Library

881 Davis Highway, Mineral

For more information contact the library at (540) 894-5853 or visit jml.org/br-louisa.

Writers Unite Friday, Feb. 27, March 27 from 4 to 5 p.m.

Join the Louisa County Library for an informal gathering of those who like to write or would like to begin writing. The group meets to fourth Thursday of each month to read, write, share, play writing games and discuss writing habits and strategies. The club is appropriate for teenagers and adults.

Chair yoga Mondays, March, 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

This class for adults offers the opportunity for gentle stretching, strengthening, and relaxation. Ideal for those who want a softer, slow-paced yoga experience.

Monday Afternoon Games Mondays, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, from 1 to 4 p.m.

Spend your Monday afternoons at the library with other adults playing a game with friends, or make new friends while playing cards, Scrabble or other board games.

Bring Your Own Craft Wednesdays, March 5, 12, 19, 26, from 1 to 3:45 p.m.

BYOC is an open workshop for people who do any kind of handicraft. Come to share ideas, show off your work and get another crafter's eye and perception. Chat and meet with your neighbors while you work on your craft project. All levels of crafting experience welcome.

Tuesday Afternoon Book Club Tuesday, March 25, from 4 to 5 p.m.

Join fellow readers for an afternoon of lively book discussion. The March book is "Chesapeake Requiem," by Earl Swift.

Upcoming Events

- March 1, 3:00 - 6:00 pm – Pig Roast at Jerdone Island Common Area
- March 1, 12:00 pm - Mardi Gras at Coyote Hole
- March 1, 8:00 am - Culpeper Downtown Carnival
- March 8, 1:00 - 5:30 pm - Living Off the Land Expo at 1015 Davis Hwy, Mineral
- March 10, 11:00 am - Coffee & Canvas Acrylic Shamrock at The Avenue Art House in Louisa
- March 15, 12:00 pm - St. Patrick's Day HOOLEY at Coyote Hole
- March 15, 11:00 am - Shamrock Shenanigans at Southern Revere Cellars
- March 21, 7:00 pm - Pints & Predictions - Adam Stone's Mind Reading, Hypnosis, and Magic Show at Log Home Brewing Company
- March 22, 10:00 am - March into Spring Family Festival at Callie Opie's Orchard
- April 5, 11:00 am - Annual Holly Grove Day at 155 Factory Mill Lane Bumpass
- April 19, 11:00 am - Beaverdam Wine Festival at Pops Country Store Museum
- April 26, 10:00 am - Annual Heritage Day at 214 Fredericksburg Ave, Louisa
- May 3, 11:00 am - Serenity Day at Serenity Farm Equine Sanctuary
- May 4, 12-4:00 pm - Spring Car Show at Coyote Hole
- March 22, 10:00 am - March into Spring Family Festival at Callie Opie's Orchard
- March 29, 9:00 am - Spring Market at Piedmont Christian School
- June 7, 4:00 pm - Jack Jouett Day Festival at Souther Revere Cellars Louisa
- June 7, 10:00 am - Ashland Strawberry Faire at 500 Henry St., Ashland
- June 21, 2-7:00 pm - Crab Fest at Lake Anna Winery
- July 31 - Aug 2 - Louisa County Fair at Walton Park

Events at Louisa Arts Center tickets:

<https://www.tix.com/ticket-sales/louisaartslist/7011>

Every Wednesday 6:00 pm - Bingo at Coyote Hole

Every First Friday 8:00 pm - Lake Anna Comedy Night at Coyote Hole

Every Third Friday 7:00 pm - Free Line Dancing Lessons at Coyote Hole

Every Sunday 12:00 pm - Bingo at the Louisa Moose Lodge

Do you have some news or events to share? Email us at theboard@jerdoneisland.org with a subject line of "newsletter" or post it in the non affiliated public Jerdone Island Lake Anna Facebook group which is privately administered.