



Page County

Board of Supervisors

County Government Center • 103 South Court Street • Luray, VA 22835

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Agenda

Work Session

Board Room – 2nd Floor

March 2, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order

- Invocation/Moment of Silence (District 3)
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Microphone Reminder

Proposed Amendments to the Nuisance Ordinance

Cassie Richards (p. 2)

Update on the Short-Term Rental Subcommittee

Ryan Cubbage

Resolution in Opposition to Proposed HB 1374 and HB 1377
Relating to the Virginia Military Institute

Chairman Thomas (p. 7)

Discussion of a Potential Resolution Against Planned
Congressional Redistricting

Michael Helm

Adjourn



COUNTY OF PAGE

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Board of Supervisors:

Clifton "Bucky" Thomas – Chairman - At-Large
Jeremy Baldwin – District I
Allen Louderback – District 2
Ryan Cabbage – District 3
Susan Kile – District 4
Jeff Vaughan – District 5

County Administrator:

Amity Moler

TO: Page County Board of Supervisors
FROM: Cassie Richards, Zoning Administrator II
SUBJECT: Introduction for proposed Amendments- Ch. 80 *Nuisances*
DATE: February 24, 2026

SUMMARY:

Multiple amendments related to Chapter 80 Nuisances of the Page County Code

BACKGROUND:

At the December 1, 2025 Board of Supervisors work session, Chapter 80 (Nuisances), of the Page County Code was discussed. The Board directed staff to review the chapter, consider potential revisions, and return with proposed updates for further Board consideration. At the January 20, 2026 Board of Supervisors regular meeting, Chapter 80 (Nuisances), of the Page County Code was introduced. After introduction the Board directed staff to further review for potential revisions, and return with proposed updates for further Board consideration.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS:

Staff is proposing the attached text amendments to § 80 (Nuisances), including § 80-1 (Definitions), § 80-7 (adding modified language) and § 80-9 (updated penalty language).

MOTION(S):

I move that the Board of Supervisors hold a public hearing on the attached Page County Code amendments at the April 6, 2026 Work Session Meeting, and direct staff to provide adequate notice of such hearing in accordance with Section 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia.

OR

I move an alternative motion.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- Draft amendments dated 02/17/2026

Chapter 80

NUISANCES

§ 80-1.	Definitions.	§ 80-6.	Maintenance of nuisances prohibited.
§ 80-2.	Deposit of noxious matter and junk restricted.	§ 80-7.	Investigation of violations; service of notice.
§ 80-3.	Placement in containers.	§ 80-8.	Failure to comply.
§ 80-4.	Deposit of garbage.	§ 80-9.	Violations and penalties.
§ 80-5.	Rodent infestation		
§ 80-5.1.	Poultry.		

[HISTORY: Adopted by the of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Page 11-16-2004. Amendments noted where applicable.]

GENERAL REFERENCES

Abandoned vehicles — See Ch. 115.

§ 80-1. Definitions.

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

GARBAGE — Any refuse or solid waste resulting from the domestic or commercial preparation and/or consumption of food.

JUNK — Any discarded, dismantled, inoperable, or unused material, item, machinery or equipment that is no longer suited for its intended use whether or not such materials, items, machinery or equipment may be turned to some minor, incidental or other use; provided, however, that any materials, items, machinery or equipment which the owner proves is in the actual process of repair for future operation or use and which is intended for bona fide future use shall not be included within this definition.

For purposes of this definition, the term “Junk” includes, but is not limited to:

- Inoperable or abandoned motor vehicles, vehicle parts, tires, or equipment not currently registered or not capable of lawful operation;
- Worn-out, dismantled, or unused machinery or equipment parts;
- Discarded appliances, furniture, containers, or household materials;
- Scrap metal, scrap materials or salvage items; and
- Construction debris or demolition materials not associated with an active, permitted construction project.

For purposes of this definition, the term does not include:

- Agricultural equipment, implements, or materials actively used in, or reasonably intended for use in, a bona fide agricultural, silvicultural, or farming operation, including seasonal or intermittently used equipment;

- Farm-related scrap or materials customarily accumulated in connection with bona fide and active agricultural operations;
- Materials lawfully stored as part of a permitted business, including licensed salvage, recycling, or junkyard operations; or
- Items clearly accessory and incidental to a permitted agricultural use, and maintained in a manner consistent therewith.

NOXIOUS MATTER — Any substance, matter, material, or accumulation that is offensive, putrid, unsanitary, hazardous, or otherwise injurious to health or comfort, including garbage, refuse, waste, animal carcasses, stagnant liquids, or materials conducive to vermin infestation. **NUISANCE** — Includes but is not limited to that which vexes or creates a health or safety hazard or that which, by its use or existence, creates injury or damage to others.

OWNER — Any person who has a right of property in poultry, keeps or harbors poultry, has poultry in his/her care or acts as custodian of poultry. [Added 6-20-2006]

PEST — Any organism that exists under circumstances that make it deleterious to man or the environment if it is any vertebrate animal other than man; or any invertebrate animal, such as any insect, other arthropod, nematode, or mollusk, such as a slug or snail, but excluding any internal parasite of living man or other living animals; or any plant growing where not wanted, such as any moss, alga, liverwort, fungus, or other plant of any higher order, and any plant part such as a root; or any bacterium, virus, or other microorganisms, except for those on or in living man or other living animals and those on or in processed food or processed animal feed, beverages, drugs, as defined in provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act at 21 USC § 321(g) (i), and cosmetics, as defined in provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act at 21 USC § 321(i). Any organism classified as endangered, threatened, or otherwise protected under federal or state laws shall not be deemed a pest for the purposes of this chapter.

POULTRY — Includes all domestic fowl or game birds raised in the County. [Added 6-20-2006]

ROAMING AT LARGE — Poultry shall be deemed to be roaming at large while roaming off the property where housed or kept, and not under its owner's or custodian's immediate and continuous supervision or control.[Added 6-20-2006]

RODENT — Relatively small gnawing animals having a single pair of constantly growing incisor teeth specialized for gnawing.

RESPONSIBLE PARTY — Includes but is not limited to the owner, occupier, or possessor of the premises where the nuisance is located, the owner or agent of the owner of the material which escaped, spilled, or was released and the owner or agent of the owner who was transporting or otherwise responsible for such material and whose acts or negligence caused such public nuisance.

§ 80-2. Deposit of noxious matter and junk restricted.

It shall also be unlawful to throw, deposit or dump any paper, trash, rubbish, ashes, garbage, junk or offensive matter on any public highway or right-of-way or on any public property not otherwise operated as an approved collection point for disposal in a sanitary landfill.

It shall be unlawful for any person to dump, deposit, place, throw, discard, store, or permit the accumulation of any junk, refuse, or noxious matter:

- a. Upon any public highway, right-of-way, park, or other public property not otherwise operated as an approved collection point for disposal in a sanitary landfill.
- b. Upon private property not owned or lawfully controlled by such person;

- c. Upon property owned or controlled by such person in such matter or quantity as to create a nuisance;
- d. Upon property owned or controlled by such person in such quantity or in such a manner as to: create a fire, health or safety hazard; emit offensive odors; attract insects or rodents; result in leakage or discharge of harmful substances into soil, groundwater, or surface water; or create a nuisance.

§ 80-3. Placement in containers.

- A. All containers for the storage of matter (as referred to in § 80-2) or any other litter or solid waste shall completely confine the matter, shall be rodentproof and insect proof and shall be kept in an inoffensive sanitary condition.
- B. Persons placing litter, matter (as referred to in § 80-2) or other solid waste in public or private receptacles shall do so as to prevent it from being carried or deposited by the elements upon any public or private property.

§ 80-4. Deposit of garbage.

It shall be unlawful for any person to cause or allow garbage to accumulate on his/her premises, whereby a nuisance or health hazard is created. It shall also be unlawful for any person to deposit garbage on property belonging to another, either public or private, other than at a sanitary landfill permitted by the Department of Environmental Quality.

§ 80-5. Rodent infestation

No pest or rodent infestation shall remain on any property within the County. If, in the opinion of the County Administrator or designee, an infestation occurs which constitutes a public nuisance or a menace to public health or safety, he/she may order the rodents/pests controlled at the expense of the owner of the property.

§ 80-5.1. Poultry. [Added 6-20-2006]

No poultry shall be allowed to roam at large outside the area where housed or kept by the owners within the County. If, in the opinion of the County Administrator or designee, poultry roaming at large is determined to constitute a public nuisance or a menace to public health or safety, the County Administrator or designee may order the poultry controlled at the expense of the owner or removed.

§ 80-6. Maintenance of nuisances prohibited.

It shall be unlawful for any person to cause or maintain a public nuisance not otherwise provided for in this chapter.

§ 80-7. Investigation of violations; service of notice.

The County Administrator or designee may investigate any possible violation of this chapter. If ~~he or she~~ **they** determines that a violation of any provision of this chapter has occurred, ~~he or she shall~~, **they shall** notify the violator to comply within a time specified in the notice—, **not to exceed fifteen (15) days after receipt of the notice.** Such notice shall be in writing and delivered **by the county sheriff's department**, or mailed, **by certified mail**, to the last known address of the violator. **If the party responsible for the violation is other than the owner of the property, a copy of the notice letter shall be delivered to them by certified mail.** It shall be unlawful for any person to fail to comply with such notice.

§ 80-8. Failure to comply.

Should the recipient of the notice, as provided in § 80-7, fail or refuse or neglect to comply therewith within the time specified therein, then such person shall be deemed to be in violation of this chapter and subject to penalties as hereinafter provided.

§ 80-9. Violations and penalties.

~~If, after such reasonable notice as the County Administrator or designee may prescribe, the owner or owners, occupant or occupants, of the property or premises affected by the provisions of this section shall fail to abate or obviate the condition or nuisance, the County Administrator or designee may do so and charge and collect the cost thereof from the owner or owners, occupant or occupants of the property affected in any manner provided by law for the collection of state or local taxes. Every charge authorized by this section with which the owners of any such property shall have been assessed and remains unpaid shall constitute a lien against such property. In addition to the penalties hereinabove stated, a person found guilty of a violation of the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor.~~

Any person, firm or corporation violating any section of this chapter shall be deemed guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor for each day during which the nuisance or health or safety hazard is allowed to exist.

In addition to the criminal penalties, in the event the owner or responsible party fails to abate or obviate the condition or nuisance, the county may, after reasonable notice, have the condition or nuisance abated and charge and collect the cost thereof from the owner or owners of such property. Such costs may be collected by the County as taxes are collected. Every charge authorized by this section with which the owners of any such property shall have been assessed and remains unpaid shall constitute a lien against such property. All such liens shall remain a personal obligation of the owner of the property at the time the liens were imposed.

DRAFT 2/21/2025

RESOLUTION

REGARDING OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED HOUSE BILL 1374, WHICH WOULD AMEND AND RENACT § 23.1-2501 OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA, RELATING TO THE VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE; BOARD OF VISITORS; MEMBERSHIP

WHEREAS, House Bill 1374 has been introduced in the 2026 General Assembly Session, which, in sum, fundamentally and substantially changes the Board of Visitors of the Virginia Military Institute and eliminates the requirement for any VMI alumni to serve on the Board while significantly limiting the number of alumni/ae that can serve to eliminate any majority; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 1374 increases the number of required non-alumni board members who may have no experience with, nor support VMI, its founding principles, honor code; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 1374 reduces the number of required Virginia residents who serve on the Board to create the opportunity that control of VMI will be by a majority of members who are neither Virginians nor VMI Alumni/ae; and

WHEREAS, the VMI board serves the vital role of hiring and evaluating superintendents, reviewing disciplinary appeals, setting strategic direction, influencing funding priorities, determining long-term institutional posture, and ultimately, the structure, application, oversight, operation, and existence of the Honor Code, Honor System, Ratline, Corps System, and Class System; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Military Institute (hereinafter VMI) was founded in 1839 as America's first state-sponsored and supported military college and is the oldest public senior military college in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in 1839, Lexington and Rockbridge County citizens, led by an esteemed Lexington resident and native son of Virginia, developed the foundational design and principles of VMI, which they later gained Commonwealth approval to implement, establishing the citizen-soldier model later adopted nationally; and

WHEREAS, in keeping with its founding principles and unlike any other Senior Military College in the United States, VMI enrolls cadets only, awards bachelor's degrees exclusively, and grants degrees in disciplines in engineering, science, and the liberal arts; and

WHEREAS, VMI has produced approximately 26,000 graduates during its 186 years of existence, many of whom have served the United States of America, the U.S. Navy, U.S. Army, U.S. Air Force, and the U.S. Marine Corps, including over 285 graduates who have obtained the rank of general or flag officer; and

WHEREAS, VMI is the only Virginia Institution of Higher education with a State Cadet program that graduates citizen-soldiers to work directly for the Commonwealth and benefit all citizens and has produced leaders in the military, education, medicine, law, and engineering; and

WHEREAS, VMI, as a treasured part of the history of the Commonwealth of Virginia, has more than earned the right to govern itself under its own Board of Visitors as it has done for over 186 years; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Governor Campbell (D) opined in 1839 warning of implementing changes to VMI motivated by the political ideologies of the day vice the best interests of Virginia, "...as time goes on the experimenting and compromising with fundamental and unchanging principles of discipline become ever more costly with loss of efficiency and just at the time they are most needed to make of the Institute a model for the country as a whole which is suffering sorely from progressive education."; and

WHEREAS, VMI and the VMI Family are essential parts of Page County's society and economy whose future and governance should not be conducted from afar by those who have no stake in the County, its residents, or businesses; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Page County, Virginia, Board of Supervisors hereby expresses and affirms its strong opposition to House Bill 1374, which amends Title 23.1 of the Code of Virginia to dissolve the VMI Board of Visitors and place VMI under the governance of the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University, and urges the General Assembly to reject said legislation, in any form a copy of which is attached hereto.

This Resolution was adopted by the Page County Board of Supervisors on this 2nd day of March 2026.

Clifton Thomas, Chairman

Amity Moler, Clerk

RESOLUTION

IN RE: OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED HOUSE BILL 1377, WHICH WOULD CREATE A TASK FORCE TO EXAMINE HIGHER EDUCATION AT THE INSTITUTE

WHEREAS, House Bill 1377 has been introduced in the 2026 General Assembly Session, which in sum creates a task force to determine whether the Virginia Military Institute should be fundamentally changed, continue to be a state-sponsored institution of higher education in the Commonwealth of Virginia, or be consolidated into other Virginia institutions; and

WHEREAS, HB1377's adversarial framing asserts contested historical and cultural conclusions, including accusations of treason, and conclusions that VMI and its cadets committed treason against the United States with such language dividing Virginians instead of uniting us; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force does not include any Department of War representation to assess that impact, nor any Department of Justice Civil Rights Division to assess the racial, nor any Department of Education representatives to investigate gender and Title IX are within Federal responsibilities and not the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 State Investigation of VMI cited in House Bill 1377 found no explicit racist or sexist policies, no overt Honor Court bias, full Title IX compliance, and minority retention rates exceeding peer group schools in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Task Force questions the replaceability of a federally integrated military institution,

WHEREAS, the Virginia Military Institute (hereinafter VMI) was founded in 1839 as America's first state-sponsored and supported military college and is the oldest public senior military college in the United States.

WHEREAS, the concept and design of VMI and its founding principles were developed and adopted by the citizens of Lexington, Virginia, in Rockbridge County in 1839 led by an esteemed Lexington, Virginia, resident and a native son of Virginia, and later became the standard of the citizen-soldier throughout the United States,

WHEREAS, in keeping with its founding principles and unlike any other Senior Military College in the United States, VMI enrolls cadets only, awards bachelor's degrees exclusively, and grants degrees in disciplines in engineering, science, and the liberal arts; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Military Institute has produced approximately 26,000 graduates during its 186 years of existence, many of whom have served the United States of America in the U.S. Navy, U.S. Army, U.S. Air Force, and the U.S. Marine Corps, including over 285 graduates who have obtained the rank of general or flag officer; and

WHEREAS, VMI is the only Virginia Institution of Higher education with a State Cadet program that graduates citizen-soldiers to work directly for the Commonwealth and benefit all citizens, and has produced leaders in the military, medicine, law, education, engineering, and business; and

WHEREAS, VMI and the VMI Family are treasured and essential parts of Page County's and Virginia's society and economy; and

WHEREAS, VMI has more than proven itself worthy of the Commonwealth of Virginia's investment of public funds in producing citizen-soldiers who have served the Commonwealth and the Republic of the United States of America for over 186 years; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Page County, Virginia Board of Supervisors that it states and confirms its strong opposition to the House Bill 1377 in any form which proposes to create a task force to investigate and "examine" VMI as well as retains a requirement that the task force assess whether other public institutions could "replace the role of VMI", and if VMI should continue to be a state-sponsored institution of higher education in the Commonwealth of Virginia so as to preserve a direct analytic pathway to defunding the Institute and accordingly urges the General Assembly to reject said legislation, a copy of which is attached to this resolution.

This Resolution was adopted by the Page County Board of Supervisors on this 2nd day of March 2026.

Clifton Thomas, Chairman

Amity Moler, Clerk