

# HAMPTON ROADS

Agricultural Research and Extension Center



The Hampton Roads AREC (HRAREC) addresses water management, pest control, and production practices for horticultural crops and landscapes.

Faculty members work closely with the Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association, the Virginia Turfgrass Council, AmericanHort, and the Virginia Strawberry Growers Association, among others. Master Gardener volunteers help maintain the arboretum, butterfly garden, tree trail, and 10 other demonstration gardens that are open to the public.

A plant pathologist addresses boxwood blight and tactics to reduce disease inoculum in recycled irrigation water. A horticulturist utilizes rain gardens and other sustainable techniques to demonstrate water management in landscape settings. Modeling and managing urban stormwater for cities and watersheds in Virginia is a top priority for the AREC's water engineer. An entomologist addresses new insect pests that target nursery crops, while a weed scientist conducts research to control troublesome weed species in ornamentals, turfgrass, and fruit production. Specific areas of focus by the HRAREC's small fruit specialist include biofumigation, variety evaluation, season extension, and supplementary nutrient applications on strawberry and blackberry.



Station entomologist Dr. Alejandro Del-Pozo monitors the seasonal activity of key pests in both turf and nursery settings, including the annual bluegrass weevil, ambrosia and red headed flea beetles, and the Japanese maple scale. His program provides science-based solutions to implement IPM techniques for the ornamental and turfgrass industries .

## PARTNER WITH US

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hampton-roads](http://www.arec.vaes.vt.edu/arec/hampton-roads)



Mr. Bobby Dyer, mayor of Virginia Beach, dedicated the new pollinator garden at the research station during the turfgrass field day. The mayor toured the HRAREC during his visit, declaring that the HRAREC was a valuable resource to the city and a hidden gem.



"I appreciate the work that our small fruit specialist does on strawberry variety evaluation and fumigation alternatives"- George Snead, Braehead Farm, Fredericksburg, VA.



# HAMPTON ROADS AREC AT A GLANCE



## DISCIPLINES

- Nursery crops
- Pest management
- Small fruit production
- Stormwater management
- Turfgrass maintenance

## INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES

- Anaerobic soil disinfestation
- Digital image analysis
- Solar-heated greenhouse
- Stormwater modeling
- Use of drones

## FACILITIES

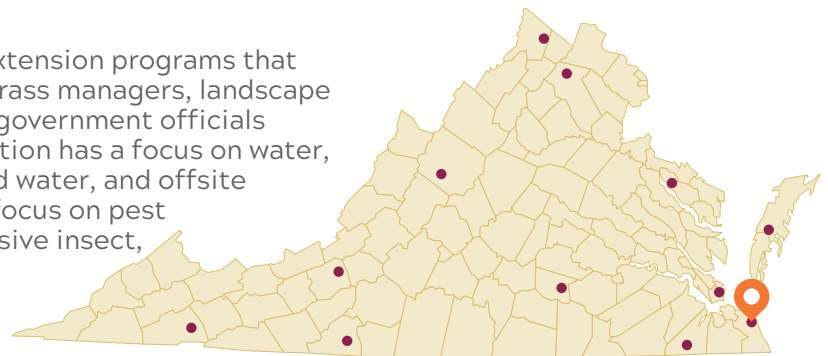
- 7 laboratories
- 7 greenhouses
- 3 classrooms
- Container and field research areas

## INDUSTRY PARTNERS

- Nursery industry
- Lawn care
- Landscape industry
- Strawberry producers
- City governments

## ABOUT THE HAMPTON ROADS AREC

The Hampton Roads AREC conducts research and extension programs that benefit container and field nursery producers, turfgrass managers, landscape maintenance firms, small fruit producers, and local government officials addressing urban stormwater management. The station has a focus on water, including stormwater modeling, diseases in recycled water, and offsite movement of nutrients. Station faculty also have a focus on pest management in horticultural crops, addressing invasive insect, disease, and weed pests.



## A COLLABORATIVE NETWORK

The ARECs are a network of 11 centers strategically located throughout the state that emphasize close working relationships between Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, Virginia Cooperative Extension, and the industries the work with. The mission of the system is to engage in innovative, leading-edge research to discover new scientific knowledge and create and disseminate science-based applications that ensure the wise use of agricultural, natural, and community resources while enhancing quality of life.

Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, or any other basis protected by law. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Virginia State University, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. Edwin J. Jones, Director, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg; M. Ray McKinnie, Administrator, 1890 Extension Program, Virginia State University, Petersburg



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