

Transportation and Accessibility

Almost three-quarters of the nation's major markets are within one day's drive of the New River Valley. Roughly half of both the nation's population and its manufacturing industries are within a 600 mile radius of the Valley. Excellent rail service and the interstate highway system places the New River Valley in a good position to take advantage of eastern regional markets. Table 38 lists various major metro areas on the east coast, and in southern and central markets, with the mileage and the approximate travel time to each from the New River Valley. Figure 25 shows the Valley's relationship to various markets.

Table 38
Miles and Travel Time to Major
Metro Areas on East Coast from the New River Valley

CITY	MILES	HOURS
Atlanta, Georgia	403	8.1
Boston, Massachusetts	753	15.1
Charleston, South Carolina	359	7.2
Chicago, Illinois	692	13.8
Cincinnati, Ohio	402	8
New Orleans, Louisiana	816	16.3
New York, New York	525	10.5
Norfolk, Virginia	310	6.2
Richmond, Virginia	230	4.6
St. Louis, Missouri	656	13.1
Charlotte, North Carolina	155	3
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	325	6.5
Knoxville, Tennessee	233	4.5
Washington, D.C.	292	5.8
Source: AAA of Virginia.		

Figure 25
Interstates of the Eastern United States



Highways

The New River Valley has a well-developed highway system. Interstate 81 travels through the counties of Pulaski and Montgomery and is centrally located within the Valley, allowing for relatively easy access to most localities. Route 11 parallels the I-81 corridor through Pulaski and Montgomery Counties. Route 100 connects Giles County with Interstate 81 and Pulaski County. Route 460 provides Giles County with easy access to Blacksburg and Montgomery County and vice-versa. Route 8 connects Floyd County with Interstate 81 and Montgomery County. Route 221 connects Floyd County with Roanoke County and the City of Roanoke. Interstates 81 and 77 intersect at a point about one half hour south of Pulaski County, thus placing three-quarters of the nation's major markets within a day's drive of the New River Valley.

Public Transit

Blacksburg Transit (BT) which is operated by the Town of Blacksburg in conjunction with Virginia Tech provides daily bus service along several bus routes around Blacksburg. Extended routes, known as the Two Town Trolley provide service to the New River Valley Mall and the Town of Christiansburg. For further information, please visit <http://www.btransit.org>.

Radford University (RU) currently operates a transit service in Radford along the Tyler Avenue / Third Avenue corridor between RU / Downtown / Main Street and the Food Lion Shopping Center (located on Tyler Avenue) and Downtown Radford / Radford University dorms to Pulaski County Walmart. For further information, please visit <http://www.radford.edu/~parking.index/html>.

SmartWay Bus (Valley Metro) links the Roanoke and New River Valleys and provides service between Roanoke and the Blacksburg/Christiansburg areas, Monday through Saturday. For further information, please visit <http://www.smartwaybus.com>.

Bus and Limousine Service

Transportation to and from Roanoke Regional Airport is provided by Roanoke Airport Limousine Service and the SmartWay Bus (\$3.00 fare). Home Ride of VA. Inc., provides weekend and holiday bus service between Virginia Tech/Radford University and Northern Virginia, Richmond, and the Tidewater area.

Motor Freight Carriers

Table 39 on the following page contains a list of motor freight carriers from Roanoke, Virginia to Bristol, Virginia.

Table 39
Motor Freight Carriers

Location	Phone No.	Location	Phone No.
Roanoke, VA		Christiansburg, VA	
Greenwood Motor Lines	540-343-6435	Dunn Rite Trucking LLC	540-449-6996
American Freightways, Inc.	540-362-3660	Eagle Transport Co. Inc.	540-382-7276
Lawson Logistics	540-344-9266		
J&M Intermodal	540-345-1849	Moneta, VA	
Distran Services Inc.	540-777-0279	Johnson WP Equipment & Materials	540-890-4269
Nationwide Express	540-981-9003		
De-Haven Transportation	540-265-1193	Hillsville, VA	
Yellow Transportation	540-982-2255	Barker Leasing	276-728-2931
Saia Motor Freight	540-345-8794	E&L Trucking	276-730-0006
ABF Freight System Inc.	540-366-3666		
B & S Transportation Service	540-992-2404	Galax, VA	
Direct Express	540-774-8795	Galyean Leasing, Inc.	276-236-9957
Central Transport	540-342-3127		
Con-Way Southern Express	540-563-9404	Dublin, VA	
4 Way Pallet Service	540-427-0743	AT Services	540-674-6418
Old Dominion Freight	540-343-1580	Camrett Dedicated Logistics Inc	540-674-8827
Overnite	540-563-4000	Transportation Services Unlimited	540-674-5121
Roadway Express	540-982-8352	Tri-State Motor Freight Transit Co.	540-674-4900
Hammond Trucking	540-427-1108		
Pjax Trucking	540-342-3619	Draper, VA	
Security Transport	540-977-5521	BIR Transport Company	540-980-7530
Hatcher Trucking	540-345-9833		
Sky One, Inc.	888-375-6167	Max Meadows, VA	
Wilson Trucking	540-345-0975	Consolidated Freightway Sales	276-637-6061
Winns Hauling Inc.	540-343-4119	Estes Express Lines Inc.	276-637-4437
Shorewood Packaging	540-344-1800		
Southeastern Freight Lines	540-345-9422	Elliston, VA	
STEFI Enterprises	1-800-526-2044	Houston Motor Express	540-268-1095
Sundown Express	540-772-0886		
Riley Trucking	540-345-9027	Abingdon, VA	
		L.T. Hart Transportation	276-676-4539
Salem, VA		Maumee Express	276-628-1156
Montgomery HM Trucking Co., Inc.	540-389-0836		
Bayse Transportation Service	540-389-5421	Wytheville, VA	
Greenwood Motor Lines	540-380-3363	ABF Freight System	276-228-5426
Hot Z Transport	540-375-6501	Conway Southern Express	276-228-2506
Watkins Motor lines	540-380-4686	Carl L. Jonas	276-228-6609
Camrett Dedicated Logistics	540-375-3800	Roadway Express	276-228-8692
		Bristol, VA	
		Vannoy Trucking	276-466-5451
		Triple R Trucking	276-466-4600
Source: Verizon Yellow Pages 2006.			

Package Delivery Services

Parcel delivery is provided by United Parcel Service (UPS), Emery Worldwide, Airborne Express, Federal Express, and the United States Postal Service. United Parcel Service has a terminal (and drop-off facility for walk-in customers) located at Dublin in Pulaski County. Federal Express maintains a customer service/drop-off facility for walk-in customers in Christiansburg. Federal Express and UPS maintain pickup points throughout the region.

Railroads

As indicated in Figure 27, Norfolk Southern (NS) Railway provides rail service for most of the New River Valley. The NS system extends over more than 21,600 miles of track in 22 states, primarily in the Southeast, Midwest and the Province of Ontario, Canada. Direct rail connections are provided to all major rail carriers. For area businesses, switching services are provided daily. Container on flat car (COFC) and trailer on flat car (TOFC) service is offered with loading/unloading at Front Royal, Virginia, and Charlotte and Greensboro, North Carolina. Passenger service is available via Amtrak in Clifton Forge and Lynchburg.

Airports

Three airports serve the New River Valley, two of which are located in the Valley itself. The New River Valley Airport, located two miles north of Dublin in Pulaski County, offers a 6,200 foot runway with a full instrument landing system and an automated weather observation system. Services available there include maintenance, charter service, and aircraft rental.

The Virginia Tech Airport/Montgomery Executive Airport, located in Blacksburg in Montgomery County, has a 4,539 foot runway capable of handling corporate jets, and also has facilities for private planes.

The third airport is the Roanoke Regional Airport. As of March 2006, passenger service at Roanoke Regional featured 35 departures daily. Airlines serving the airport include: U.S. Airways Express, United Express, Northwest AirlinK, Delta Connection, and Allegiant Air. Non-stop flights are available to the following destinations/hubs: Atlanta, Charlotte, Chicago, Cincinnati, Detroit, New York (LGA), Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Washington (Dulles).

General aviation services include aircraft maintenance, storage, and air charters.

New River Valley Foreign Trade Zone and Customs Port of Entry

With a goal of strengthening/retaining existing business and industry while attracting new businesses which compliment and diversify the region's economy, the New River Valley Economic Development Alliance in 1997 began pursuing development of a Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) and Customs Port of Entry (POE) in the New River Valley.

The official designations were made in 1999. FTZ No. 238 and Customs POE No. 1481 are located at the New River Valley Airport near Dublin. Effective June 29, 2005, approximately six years later, Congressman Boucher proudly recognized the designation of the New River Valley International Airport from a "user-fee airport" to an officially designated federal "Port of Entry." The new designation for the Port of Entry at the New River Valley International Airport will ensure that the Customs Office will continue to operate while relieving a burden which had been placed on the surrounding communities.

Manufacturers in the New River Valley and surrounding regions may participate in the FTZ by having their sites designated as special purpose subzones of the New River Valley FTZ. Subzone benefits for private businesses can include: cash flow savings; elimination of duties for merchandise exported from a subzone; and reduction of duties in some cases for merchandise sold for use in the United States.

Customs Port of Entry No. 1481. Businesses do not have to be FTZ participants to use the Customs POE located adjacent to the FTZ at the New River Valley Airport. Manufacturers and businesses are able to benefit from the convenience of a local Customs POE. Customs clearances/entries can be completed here in the New River Valley rather than waiting for such transactions at congested, high-volume ports. A full-time Senior Customs Officer staffs the U.S. Customs Service Port office at the New River Valley International Airport.

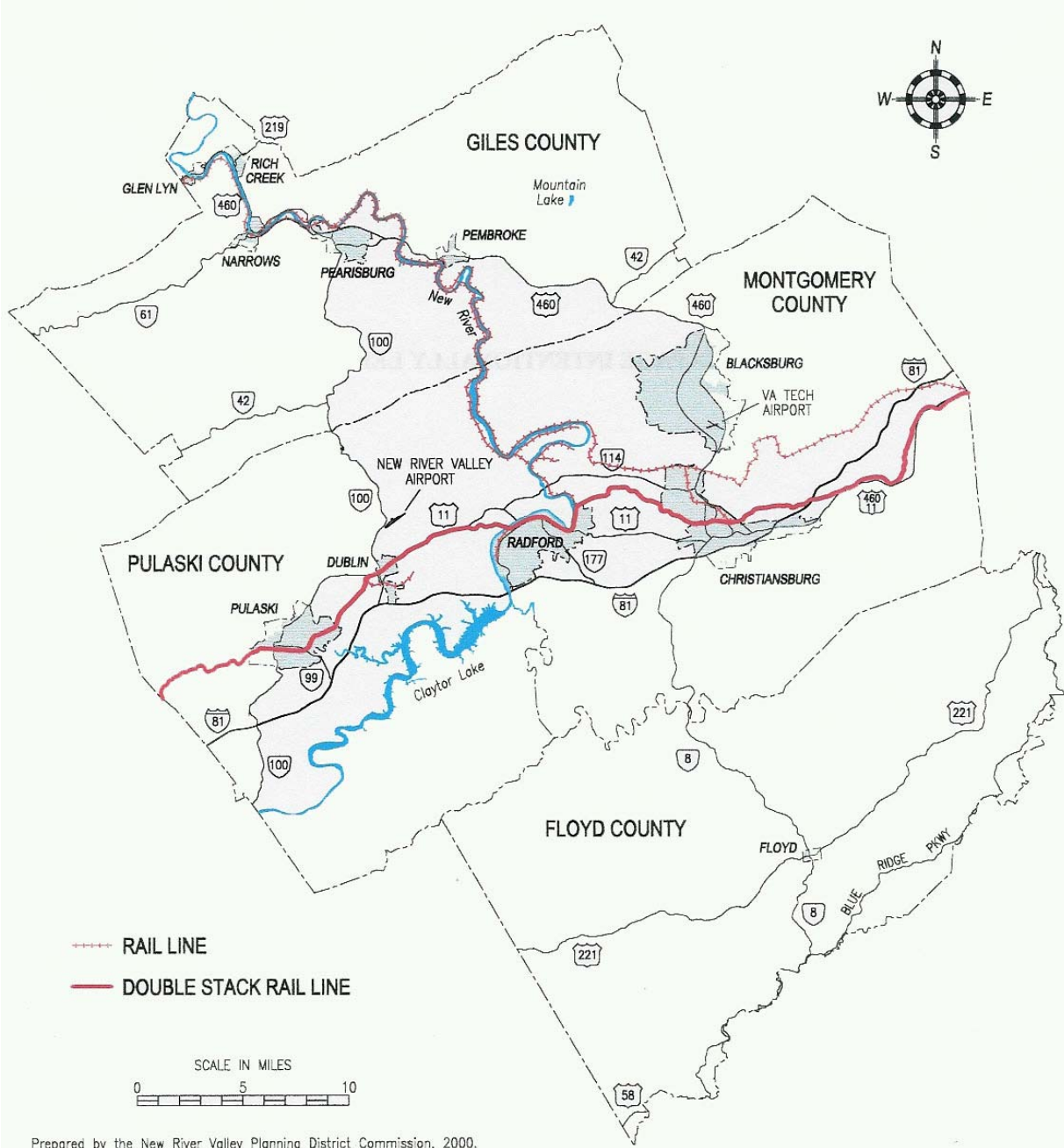
For more information about using the New River Valley Customs POE, call the Port office at (540) 674-4414.

How FTZs Work. FTZs are treated, for the purposes of the tariff laws and Customs entry procedures, as being outside the Customs territory of the United States. Under FTZ procedures, foreign and domestic merchandise may be admitted into zones for operations such as storage, exhibition, assembly, manufacture and processing, without being subject to formal Customs entry procedures, the payment of Customs duties or the payment of federal excise taxes.

When merchandise is removed from a foreign trade zone, Customs duties are eliminated if the goods are then exported from the United States. If the merchandise is formally entered into the U.S. commerce, Customs duties and excise taxes are due at the time of transfer from the foreign trade zone.

For merchandise that is manufactured in a foreign trade zone with permission of the Foreign Trade Zones Board, the importer may elect to pay Customs duty at the rate of either the finished product or its foreign components, whichever is lower. In this manner, use of a foreign trade zone can result in the reduction of Customs duty owed by companies that manufacture products in a FTZ. The legal authority to establish foreign trade zones is found in the *U.S. Foreign Trade Zones Act of 1934* (19 U.S.C. 81 a-u) and its implementing Foreign Trade Zones Board Regulations (15 CFR Part 400) and U.S. Customs Service Regulations (19 CFR Part 146). Designation as a foreign trade zone is granted by the Foreign Trade Zones Board, which is an independent agency housed within the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Figure 26
Rail Lines in the New River Valley



Prepared by the New River Valley Planning District Commission, 2000.
 Base map: 1990 TIGER Mapping, US Bureau of the Census.