

UNIQUE JURIED ARTS & CRAFTS

Saturdays: 9 am - 5 pm • Sundays: 9 am - 4 pm

MONTEREY: Highland High & Elementary School Gyms*, Courthouse Lawn, The Barn at Monterey Inn, & The Highland Center*

MCDOWELL: Stonewall Ruritan Building

*A \$5 admission charge at entry includes a collectible keychain & provides access to the Arts & Crafts Shows in the gyms & The Highland Center daytime entertainment & crafts. Ages 12 & under FREE!

PANCAKE & BUCKWHEAT MEALS

BLUE GRASS: Blue Grass Ruritan Building - Blue Grass Valley Road (Rt. 640), 7 miles north of Monterey • 7:30 am - 3 pm **CARDS ACCEPTED**

BOLAR: Bolar Ruritan Club - 15 miles south of Monterey at the intersection of Rt. 220 & Rt. 607 • 7 am - 2 pm **CASH/CHECK ONLY**

MCDOWELL: Stonewall Ruritan Building - Intersection of Rt. 250 & Bullpasture River Road (Rt. 678) • 7 am - 4 pm **CASH/CHECK ONLY**

MONTEREY: Highland County Public Schools - Myers-Moon Road off Rt. 250 • 8 am - 4 pm **CASH/CHECK ONLY**

MORE SPECIAL FOOD OFFERINGS

MCDOWELL: Stonewall Ruritan Building: Baked goods, maple products, kettle corn, pork rinds • **McDowell Firehouse:** Trout, BBQ chicken, country ham dinners, ham sandwiches

MONTEREY: North Water Street Food Court: Food trucks • Mill Gap Ruritans, behind The Highlander off Rt. 220: Famous maple doughnuts • **Main & Side Streets:** Monterey Lions Club

pork rinds, food vendors • **School:** Middle School Bazaar, FFA milkshakes, Cheer & Dance Team • **The Highland Center**

FOOD OPTIONS ALSO AVAILABLE AT MOST SUGAR CAMPS

RESTAURANTS IN MONTEREY

Claire's Cakes & Café: Maple lattes, hot chocolate, maple baked goods, breakfast, & lunch with vegan, gluten-free & dairy-free options

The Curly Maple: Restored general store, local provisions, grab-n-go breakfast sandwiches, gourmet coffee, Maple bacon BLT, brisket nachos, gluten-free options

Monterey Inn: Brunch options, Saturday dinner by reservation, artisans & crafters in The Barn behind the Monterey Inn

High's Restaurant: BBQ, fried shrimp, BBB pork chops (BBQ, Bacon, & Blackberries), fried trout, country fried steak, soup, salad, desserts

Highlander: **New!** Pizza, subs, fried chicken, souvenirs, treats by Susanna's Confections, Highland County Visitor Center

Sponsored by the Highland County Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 223, Monterey, VA 24465

(540) 468-2550 • director@highlandcounty.org

Events & hours subject to change • Photos courtesy Crisp Pics LLC & Laura Honaker

Join us again next year! March 14-15 & 21-22, 2026

FACEBOOK.COM/HIGHLANDCOUNTY

ENTERTAINMENT

MONTEREY: The Highland Center off Spruce Street
Sponsored by The Highland County Arts Council

Saturday, March 8

Southern Rail Express (Bluegrass) - \$5 or keychain, **10 am & 2 pm**

Furnace Mountain Band (Acoustic) - \$15 (\$5 off with keychain), **5 pm**

Sunday, March 9

Jack Dunlap (Bluegrass) - \$5 or keychain, **10 am & 2 pm**

Saturday, March 15

Mill Creek Cronies - \$5 or keychain, **10 am**

Square Dance with Ellen and Eugene Ratcliffe

alongside music by Mill Creek Cronies - \$5 or keychain, **2 pm**

Sunday, March 16

Hi-Horse Cloggers - \$5 or keychain, **10 am**

Little Switzerland Cloggers - \$5 or keychain, **2 pm**

ADDITIONAL POINTS OF INTEREST

BLUE GRASS

Blue Grass Mercantile - Brunswick stew, BBQ, local products

MCDOWELL

Hazy Hollow Farm - Farm tours, Angus beef, barn quilts, apparel

Highland County Museum - Exhibits on the Battle of McDowell, Uniquely Highland, There's An App for That, & Quilts of Highland

MEADOWDALE

The Church at the Old Oak - Arts & crafts, baked goods

Highland Barn Quilts - Studio tours with Margie Boesch • Closed Sundays

MONTEREY

Art on Main at 3rd Space - Gallery, artists' studio & workshop space

B&L's Mountain Safe Transportation - **New!** Free shuttle to Monterey attractions starting from the Monterey Stockyard

Big Fish Cider, Co. - Award-winning local cider & tasting room

Charles Pinckney Jones Museum - Restored historic house museum

Fast Break - Pizza, snacks, fuel

Gutshall's Exxon - Propane, tire repair, 24-hour fuel

Highland County Girl Scouts - Indoor dining with baked potatoes, baked goods, chili, & drinks at Monterey Presbyterian Church

Highland Inn - Learn about our historic renovation

Highland Roots Market - Syrup, cinnamon rolls, local goods, natural grocery

Rockingham Cooperative - Farm store • Closed Sundays

The Gallery of Highland - Selling local art & books all year

The Highland Center - Entertainment, local art, food

The Rock Shop at Heart & Soul - Gemstone mining for kids, local artisans

Twice is Nice - Gently-used clothing for the whole family

Visitor Center - **New!** Browse local info inside The Highlander

RT. 220 NORTH

Ginseng Mountain Store - "New time" country store, crafts, gifts

Rexrode's Country Store - Deli, pizza, breads, maple products, fuel

Virginia Trout Company - Feed the fish! Trout sandwiches, frozen fillets

RT. 220 SOUTH

Valley AeroSpace Team - March 8th model rocket launch (3/15 rain date)

HIGHLANDCOUNTY.ORG

Virginia's
Sweetest
Event of the
Year!



65TH ANNUAL

HIGHLAND COUNTY MAPLE FESTIVAL

March 8-9 & 15-16, 2025

Free Maple Sugar Camp Tours

Unique Arts & Crafts Vendors

Delicious Food

HIGHLANDCOUNTY.ORG



**VIRGINIA
IS FOR
MAPLE SYRUP
LOVERS**



Since 1959, Highland County, Virginia has welcomed visitors to tour real maple sugar camps for a cultural and culinary adventure!

Designated a **Local Legacy** by the Library of Congress in 1999 and the **official maple festival of Virginia** by the Governor in 2014, the tradition continues every second and third weekend in March. Join us for free sugar camp tours, pancake and buckwheat cake meals, famous maple doughnuts, unique vendors, live entertainment, and memories in our rural mountain community.

Layered clothing and boots are recommended, as weather can vary in March. Stay up to date at highlandcounty.org. **Have fun at our award-winning COUNTY-WIDE festival!**

1 PUFFENBARGER'S SUGAR ORCHARD

17 Maple Syrup Lane, Blue Grass

On Rt. 637 (Maple Sugar Road) southwest of Blue Grass is Puffenbarger's Sugar Orchard. A vacuum pump is used to increase the flow of sugar water, and miles of plastic tubing make it easier to gather. The process of maple syrup-making is started by reverse osmosis and finished by oil-fired evaporators. Syrup and food available. Owners: Doug & Terri Puffenbarger. Sat & Sun: 8 am - 5 pm

2 LAUREL FORK SAPSUCKERS

10677 Mountain Turnpike, Hightown

Located 10 miles west of Monterey on Rt. 250 off Clay Hise Lane, Laurel Fork Sapsuckers is a family-run sugar camp and Virginia's 2019 Tree Farm of the Year recipient. Enjoy a 3/4 mile loop trail with interpretative signs explaining maple syrup research projects and forest management practices used to increase syrup yields. View various wood-fired methods of evaporating sugar water into maple syrup, including traditional and modern. Food is available with vegetarian options, as well as maple syrup, infused syrups, maple vinegar, ramp salt, and apple butter. Free samples are available. Owners: Ronnie & Sandy Moyers. Sat: 9 am - 5 pm, Sun: 9 am - 4 pm **CASH/CHECK ONLY**

3 MILL GAP FARMS

2760 Mill Gap Road, Monterey

Located within sight of Duff's Sugar House, Mill Gap Farms is the first and only producer that is certified Organic by the USDA in Virginia. Anything but old-fashioned, they utilize the latest technology from Vermont and Quebec, including electronic monitoring of their maple trees, to produce delicious maple syrup. At the family farm, you can visit Merino, Finn, and Suffolk sheep along with chickens, alpacas, cattle, ducks, and turkeys. Enjoy their fresh organic coffee, roasted on their farm, along with maple cotton candy and a beautiful view of the southern Blue Grass Valley. Owners: Kevin & Emily Conner. Sat: 9 am - 5 pm, Sun: 9 am - 3 pm

4 DUFF'S SUGAR HOUSE

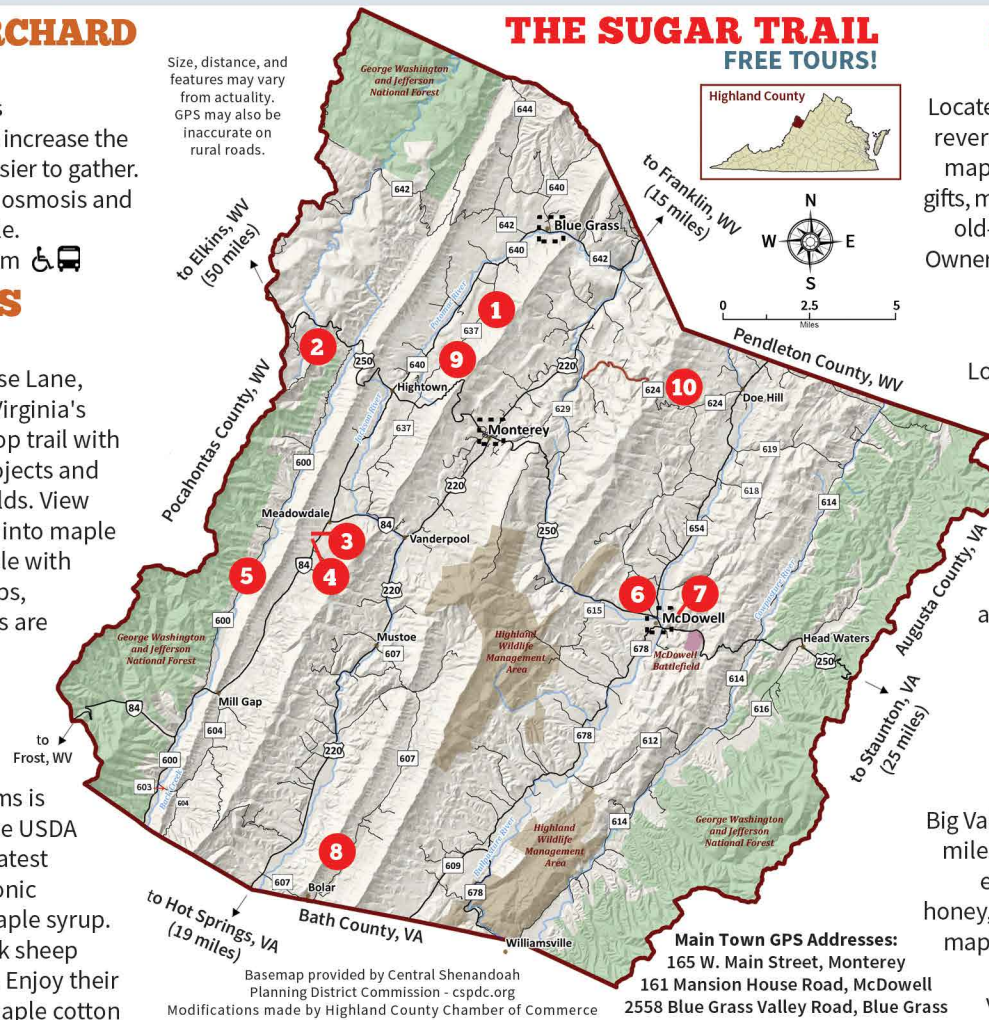
3118 Mill Gap Road, Monterey

Located at Fair Lawn Farm southwest of Monterey (4 miles south on Rt. 220, then 3 miles west on Rt. 84), Duff's Sugar House is a small, family-run old-time sugar house where the trees are still "opened" by hand and the sugar water collected in buckets. Cooking is done in a wood-fired open pan and finished in an iron kettle. Hands-on participation is encouraged. Enjoy hickory and dandelion syrups, as well as onsite milled cornmeal and grits from **Crooked Spur Farm**. Owners: Tim & Terry Duff. Sat & Sun: 9 am - 5 pm

= Wheelchair accessible = Tour buses welcome

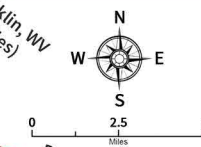
ADDITIONAL SUGAR STOP
Bruce's Syrup & Candies - Main Street, Monterey

Scan to visit us online!
Learn more about attractions
like the Sounding Knob Fire Tower or
Barn Quilt Trail at highlandcounty.org



THE SUGAR TRAIL

FREE TOURS!



SUGAR TREE COUNTRY STORE

185 Mansion House Road, McDowell

Located near the center of McDowell, this operation employs a modern reverse osmosis concentrator and oil-fired evaporator. View antique maple-producing tools on display. This country store features local gifts, maple products, apple butter, birch syrup, pottery, jams, cookbooks, old-fashioned homemade bar soap, handmade rugs, and much more. Owners: Glenn & Fern Heatwole. Sat: 9 am - 5 pm, **Closed Sundays**

TONOLOWAY FARM

9943 Highland Turnpike, McDowell

Located on the steep slopes of Bullpasture Mountain, Tonoloway Farm is famous for tapping black walnut trees in addition to producing hickory syrup, apple cider syrup, and classic maple syrup for a diverse taste of our Appalachian forests. Tonoloway's unique sugaring workshop is constructed of heavy timbers from the surrounding forests, and visitors are welcome to hike on the farm and enjoy panoramic mountain views over McDowell. Limited parking is available onsite, with plenty of additional parking along Rt. 250 for those ready to enjoy a short hike to the sugar house. Owners: Christoph & Lauren Herby. Sat: 9 am - 5 pm, Sun: 9 am - 4 pm

SOUTHERNMOST MAPLE

7738 Big Valley Road, Bolar

Located 15 miles south of Monterey on Rt. 607 (off Rt. 220 on Big Valley Road,) sugar water is gathered with hundreds of buckets and miles of plastic tubing that funnel the sugar water into a piggyback evaporator. A rustic country store carries maple products, flour, honey, jellies, and baked goods. Food includes maple pit-cooked BBQ, maple doughnuts, and pork skins. Enjoy breakfast with buckwheat cakes and pancakes, lunch, and dinner with inside seating, vendors and crafts, and bluegrass music at noon on Saturdays. Food options are available Fridays. There are indoor restrooms. Owners: Mike Puffenbarger & family. Sat: 8 am - 6 pm, **Closed Sundays**

REXRODE'S SUGAR ORCHARD

1564 Maple Sugar Road, Monterey

Located north of Hightown on Rt. 637 (Maple Sugar Road), Rexrode's Sugar Orchard features large maple trees over 200-years-old. The Rexrodes use the wood-fired "open pan" system of evaporation with miles of plastic tubing to gather the sugar water for their maple products. Owner: Derek Rexrode. Sat: 9 am - 5 pm, Sun: 9 am - 4 pm **CASH/CHECK ONLY**

EAGLE'S SUGAR CAMP

5503 Jack Mountain Road, Doe Hill

Follow signs to Eagle's Sugar Camp, located north of McDowell (off Rt. 654 on Jack Mountain Road) in Doe Hill. Syrup producers for more than 222 years, the Eagles still use open-pan, wood-fired evaporators, as well as the latest advanced computerized oil-fired evaporators. Observe sugar water collected in buckets. Browse local arts & crafts, local honey, maple products, buckwheat, cornmeal, and baked goods. Enjoy home-cooked food, as well as maple-glazed doughnuts. Owners: Jay & Betty Eagle. Sat & Sun: 8 am - 5 pm **CASH/CHECK ONLY**