



Frequently Asked Questions

Who can submit an application?

Present residents, previous residents or those with a family or other connection to Isle of Wight County, Virginia.

What can be exhibited?

Anything with an interesting story. It does not need to relate to Isle of Wight County history.

The museum does reserve the right to refuse volatile items, human remains and other items at assessment. Any number of the objects may be withdrawn from exhibition at any time by the curator.

How many objects can I exhibit?

Your objects must fit into a space measuring:

- 60 inches long
- 28 inches deep
- 19 inches high

Will my objects be safe?

The Isle of Wight County Museum will exercise the same care and respect with your objects as it does in the safekeeping of comparable property of its own.

Objects will be exhibited in a secure case with a plexiglass covering in a climate-controlled environment away from direct sunlight.

Objects will be exhibited at the curator's discretion. No permanent changes will be made to the items, nor will conservation be performed. The museum may offer suggestions on how to care for your objects.

Will my objects be insured?

Loaned items will be insured as part of Isle of Wight County's museum insurance policy. The owners may choose to additionally insure the loaned items with their own insurance company.

Can I exhibit my artwork?

We love artwork, but this exhibit is meant for items which have been collected by you.

103 Main Street
Smithfield, VA 23430
(757) 356-1014
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How long will my objects be on exhibit?

Objects will be loaned to the museum for a period of 4 months. Objects will remain in the possession of the Isle of Wight County Museum for the duration of the loan period – with an additional amount of time for receiving, assessment and returning them to the owner.

What happens after I submit my application?

The museum will contact you to acknowledge your application. If your objects are selected, the museum's curator will contact you and make an appointment to assess them. Once paperwork is in place, the curator will work with you to create the exhibit and determine the best time for installation.

There's paperwork?

The owner will sign loan paperwork when the objects are delivered to the museum. Both the owner and the museum will retain copies.

How will my objects be returned?

On a date pre-agreed upon by both the museum and the owner, objects will be returned.

Objects will be returned only to the owner unless the museum is notified in writing to the contrary. If the legal ownership of the object(s) shall change during the pendency of this loan - whether by reason of death, sale, insolvency, gift or otherwise - the new owner may, prior to its return, be required to establish his legal right to receive the objects by proof satisfactory to the museum.

Items not collected within one year of the pre-agreed upon date will become the property of the Isle of Wight County Museum.

Will my objects be seen outside of the museum?

Before, during or after the exhibit, objects may be photographed, videographed, telecast and reproduced for publicity or educational purposes and for illustration in catalogues or other publications.

The museum assumes the right to examine the objects by all modern photographic or technological means available.

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