

# TAP INTO

ALL THAT HIGHLAND HAS TO OFFER

Photo Courtesy of Doug Puffenbarger

## 1. Puffenbarger's Sugar Orchard

is located on Maple Sugar Road in the heart of the Blue Grass Valley. The Puffenbarger family carries on its family heritage by bottling pure Virginia Maple Syrup from the same sugarbush that their grandfathers tapped for many years. They currently use a vacuum gathering system, a reverse osmosis machine and an oil-fired evaporator to process "sugar water" into sweet maple syrup!  
www.puffenbargersugarorchard.com  
17 Maple Syrup Lane, Blue Grass  
540-474-5712  
puffenbargersmaple@gmail.com

## 2. Laurel Fork Sapsuckers

is a family-run sugar camp that you can join for high elevation views of western Highland County and a tour of the maple syrup making process. They have used materials from their farm, as well as equipment from the county that folks used over 100 years ago, to build their sugar camp and event structure. They will show you the history and progression of the maple syrup industry through four different cooking methods. Enjoy a self-guided hike on their certified Tree Farm after the tour!

www.laurelforksapsuckers.com  
10677 Mountain Turnpike, Hightown  
540-290-1676  
laurelforksapsuckers@yahoo.com

## 3. Mill Gap Farms

is the only producer in Virginia who is certified Organic by the USDA. They utilize the latest technology from Vermont and Quebec to produce their maple syrup. At the farm, you can visit Merino, Finn, and Suffolk sheep, along with chickens and alpacas. You can even stay in their cottage to enjoy the peace and expansive views of Highland County.

www.millgapfarms.com  
2760 Mill Gap Road, Monterey  
540-468-2882  
kevin@millgapfarms.com

## 4. 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. Get an up-close look at how syrup used to be made, and feel free to tour a 19th-century farm.

www.comehometofairlawnfarm.com  
3118 Mill Gap Road, Monterey  
540-468-3094  
tjduff@htcnet.org

## 5. Back Creek Farms

is a traditional sugar making operation which has taken a modern twist! The Lowry family has been making maple syrup since before the Civil War, and they still use the open pan passed down from Pat Lowry's great-grandmother. In addition to pure maple syrup, they also barrel-age their syrup (bourbon, whiskey, rye) and work at continually coming up with new infusions to tempt your palate. They produce hickory syrup, too!

www.welcometobackcreek.com  
7781 Upper Back Creek Road, Monterey  
540-499-2302  
info@welcometobackcreek.com

## 7. Bruce's Syrup and Candies

is located on the Folks Family Farm up on the mountain that overlooks the beautiful Blue Grass Valley, where maple syrup and products have been produced for over 50 years. Advancing beyond just old-fashioned buckets and kettles in the early days, they now utilize a vacuum system, reverse osmosis, state-of-the-art evaporator, filtration and bottling equipment.

www.brucessyrupandcandies.com  
824 Folks Drive, Blue Grass  
540-474-5661  
brucesmaple@yahoo.com

# COLLECT ALL 7 STAMPS

AND RECEIVE YOUR FREE PASSPORT GIFT

OFFER GOOD WHILE SUPPLIES LAST



\*Once completed, cut and mail this postcard or bring by the Highland County Chamber of Commerce office at 61 Highland Center Drive in Monterey

virginiamaplesyrup.com

NAME _____	T-SHIRT SIZE: S,M,L,XXL _____
ADDRESS (CITY, STATE, ZIP) _____	
_____	
EMAIL _____	PHONE _____

1 THE MAPLE	2 THE VIRGINIA MAPLE	3 THE VIRGINIA MAPLE
4 S RAIL	5 S RAIL	6 S RAIL
7 S RAIL		

virginiamaplesyrup.com



# Virginia's Sweet Spot, HIGHLAND COUNTY, is waiting for you to explore!

Take an extended road trip through this rural mountain community to learn more about the tradition of making maple syrup. 7 unique local sugar camps await you year-round! Here's how to participate:

- Pick up your passport at Visitor Centers and businesses across Virginia or at a local sugar camp
- Contact a maple producer to schedule your tour\*
- Visit a sugar camp to tour their operation, learn about their unique process, and taste some of their delicious pure maple syrup
- Once the tour is over, get a custom stamp on your passport
- Collect all 7 stamps to get your free Highland County Virginia Maple Syrup Trail gift, which includes a t-shirt and bumper sticker!
- You don't have to visit all sugar camps in one trip - take your time and enjoy the experience no matter the season!

\*Each sugar camp has its own hours and touring times. Participants in the Trail are responsible for reaching out to schedule tours with each camp in advance. Passport tours will not be available during the two weeks and weekends in March of the annual Highland County Maple Festival. Other blackout dates may apply.

**ATTENTION:** Under Virginia law, there is no liability for an injury to or death of a participant in an agritourism activity conducted at these agritourism locations if such injury or death results from the inherent risks of the agritourism activity. Inherent risks of agritourism activities include, among others, risks of injury inherent to land, equipment, and animals, as well as the potential for you to act in a negligent manner that may contribute to your injury or death. You are assuming the risk of participating in this agritourism activity.

Thank you to the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Specialty Crop Block Grant 301-19-039 "Expanding Livelihood Options for Virginia Land Owners through Tree Syrup"

## WHAT TO EXPECT:

- *A culinary experience for the entire family*
- *Traditional and modern syrup-making techniques*
- *Free taste of syrup at each sugar camp*
- *Opportunities to purchase syrup and gifts*
- *Beautiful, expansive scenic views*
- *Farm life and entrepreneurial insights*
- *Hospitality and captivating stories*



Getty Images

Discover local events and learn more at  
**[virginiamaplesyrup.com](http://virginiamaplesyrup.com)**

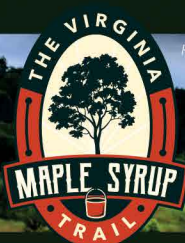


Photo Courtesy of Doug Puffenbarger



**YOUR PASSPORT ON THE VIRGINIA MAPLE SYRUP TRAIL BEGINS IN HIGHLAND COUNTY**

THE VIRGINIA MAPLE SYRUP TRAIL  
P.O. BOX 223  
MONTEREY, VA 24465

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

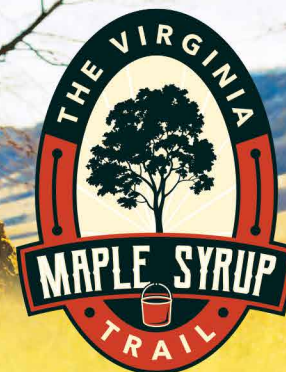
Photo Courtesy of Doug Puffenbarger

**VIRGINIA  
IS FOR  
MAPLE SYRUP  
LOVERS**



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**P A S S P O R T**