



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: Carolyn Coleman
Carolyn.Coleman@vhda.com
Ph: 804-343-5749

**VHDA'S FREE HOMEOWNERSHIP CLASS HELPS
FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYERS IN HAMPTON ROADS IN SEPTEMBER**

*Sign Up at www.vhda.com/freeclass for In-Person
or Online Classes at a Location Near You*

When Tara, a single mother living in Fredericksburg, VA, decided to buy her first home, the first step she took was taking a free first-time homebuyer class offered by VHDA. "The first-time homebuyer class prepared me to be a homebuyer by allowing me to get everything in order," she said. "I learned tons of information from VHDA's first time homebuyer class, including how to improve your credit score and to see if this was really a good decision for me or not. There's so much information to know when buying a home – without this class, I would have been lost."

Are you wondering how to navigate the home buying process but don't know where to begin? The Virginia Housing Development Authority and local nonprofits are offering free homeownership education classes throughout September 2011 in the Hampton Roads region.

In addition to helping home buyers understand the home buying process, the completion of a homeownership education class is now required of all borrowers before applying for a VHDA home loan.

Attend one of the many free sessions below to learn about the advantages of homeownership.

CHESAPEAKE

- September 10, 2011 from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at Mount Lebanon Missionary Baptist Church, 215 Las Gaviotas Blvd. For more information, contact Jeff Washington 757-376-7280.

**VHDA Homeownership Education
Class Topics**

- Personal Finance
- Credit Issues
- Role of Lenders
- Role of Real Estate Agents
- The Closing Process
- Home Inspection

Sign up at www.vhda.com/freeclass

- MORE -

- September 13, 2011 from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. and September 15, 2011 from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at Chesapeake RHA, 1468 S. Military Highway. For more information, contact Arthurine Peacock 757-233-6403. **You must attend both classes.**
- September 27, 2011 from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. and September 29, 2011 from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at Chesapeake RHA, 1468 S. Military Highway. For more information, contact Romaunda Scott-Mitnaul 757-233-6900. **You must attend both classes.**

HAMPTON

- September 19, 2011 from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. and September 20, 2011 from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at Hampton RHA, 1 South Armistead. For more information, contact Monique Jackson 757-727-1111. **You must attend both classes.**
- September 21, 2011 from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. and September 22, 2011 from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at CCCS of Hampton Roads, 2021 Cunningham Drive, Suite 400. For more information, contact Michelle McRae 757-826-2227. **You must attend both classes.**

NEWPORT NEWS

- September 13, 2011 from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. and September 15, 2011 from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at Clark Center, 392 Maple Avenue. For more information, contact Dorothy Buchanan 757-643-4086. **You must attend both classes.**
- September 27, 2011 from 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Newport News Shipyard (Navy), 4101 Washington Avenue. For more information, contact Freida Stallard 757-688-6289. **Open to valid military I.D. cardholders: Active duty personnel, reservists, National Guard, retirees, veterans and dependants.**

NORFOLK

- September 10, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Janef Library, 5900 E. Virginia Beach Boulevard #124. For more information, contact Yvonne Thompson 757-652-7526.
- September 13, 2011 from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. and September 15, 2011 from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing/HOMENET, 201 Granby Street. For more information, contact Sydney Pettyford 757-314-4202. **You must attend both classes.**
- September 22, 2011 from 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Little Creek Amphibious Base, 1450 D Street. For more information, contact Lisa Clark-Mary Spear-Dean Brassington 757-462-7563. **Open to valid military I.D. cardholders: Active duty personnel, reservists, National Guard, retirees, veterans and dependants.**

PORTSMOUTH

- September 10, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Urban League of Hampton Roads, 3225 High Street. For more information, contact Ernest Rolland 757-627-0864.

- MORE -

- September 10, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church, 2714 Frederick Boulevard. For more information, contact Kimberly Williams 757-399-0925.
- September 24, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Churchland Branch Library, 4934 High Street, West. For more information, contact Sheila Campbell 757-483-9160.

SUFFOLK

- September 17, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Suffolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority, 530 East Pinner Street. For more information, contact Sherri Wilson 757-539-2100, ex. 305.

VIRGINIA BEACH

- September 7, 2011 from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. and September 9, 2011 from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Beach Ford, 2717 Virginia Beach Boulevard. For more information, contact Robert Ashburner, Jr. 757-652-5851. **You must attend both classes.**
- September 13, 2011 from 5:45 p.m. – 8:45 p.m. and September 15, 2011 from 5:45 p.m. – 8:45 p.m. at Virginia Beach Community Development Corporation, 2400 Potters Road. For more information, contact Tanisha Davis 757-463-9516. **You must attend both classes.**
- September 17, 2011 from 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at NAACP Headquarters Office, 868 N. Newtown Road, Building D., #870. For more information, contact Gayle Lynch 757-285-1205.
- September 17, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Beach Ford, 2717 Virginia Beach Boulevard. For more information, contact Robert Ashburner, Jr. 757-652-5851.
- September 20, 2011 from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. and September 22, 2011 from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Beach Ford, 2717 Virginia Beach Boulevard. For more information, contact Robert Ashburner, Jr. 757-652-5851.

For a complete listing of VHDA's Homeownership Classes, please visit www.vhda.com/freeclass. A complete listing is also available in Spanish at www.clasegratisvhda.com. Please call in advance to ensure homeownership classes have not been cancelled.

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