



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**July 25, 2011**

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***VHDA'S FREE HOMEOWNERSHIP CLASS HELPS  
FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYERS IN NORTHERN VIRGINIA IN AUGUST***

*Sign Up at [www.vhda.com/freeclass](http://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 August 2011 in the Northern Virginia 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.

**ARLINGTON**

- August 27, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Walter Reed Center, 2909 South 16th Street. For more information, contact Karen Serfis 703-527-3854.

**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](http://www.vhda.com/freeclass)***

**- MORE -**

- August 27, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at AHOME - Spanish Class, 4975 Columbia Pike. For more information, contact Ritha Gutierrez 703-527-3854. **This class is taught exclusively in Spanish.**

#### **FAIRFAX**

- August 27, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at Northern Virginia Association of Realtors, 8407 Pennell Street, Lower Level Training Room. For more information, contact Song Hutchins 301-760-7636.

#### **FALLS CHURCH**

- August 20, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Hispanic Committee Of Virginia, 5827 Columbia Pike, Suite 200. For more information, contact Jhoanna Zurita 703-671-5666, ext. 16. **This class is taught exclusively in Spanish.**

#### **FREDERICKSBURG**

- August 16, 2011 from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. and August 18, 2011 from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at Central Virginia Housing Coalition, 208 Hudgins Road. For more information, contact Brian Phelps 540-604-9943. **You must attend both classes.**

#### **MANASSAS**

- August 13, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Virginia Cooperative Extension, 8033 Ashton Ave, Suite 105. For more information, contact Terre Beopple 703-792-4765.

#### **STERLING**

- August 29, 2011 from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. and August 31, 2011 from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place. For more information, contact Chris Vogel 703-777-0353. **You must attend both classes.**

#### **WOODBRIIDGE**

- August 20, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Ferlazzo Building, 15941 Donald Curtis Drive. For more information, contact Charlene Watkins-Byrd 703-580-8838.
- August 20, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Ferlazzo Building (Virginia Cooperative Extension), 15941 Donald Curtis Drive. For more information, contact Terre Boepple 703-792-4765.

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

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