

NVLYC Report (27 May 2026):

The Northern VA Lions Youth Camp continues to serve scouting groups, church groups, and community organizations with outdoor adventure type activities in a Shenandoah Valley mountain camp setting. Campers numbered more than 1000 individuals and adults this past year. New facilities include the Arcola Learning Center and a new bath house which greatly improves the conditions at the camp.

In the past year, we have installed new roofs, siding, insulation and flooring on several cabins as a result of a generous community grant provided by Home Depot. The caretaker's cottage has been renovated with a new kitchen, main floor and basement rooms, with new siding and front deck. The youth camp website is undergoing an update and renovation to improve the camper registration process and make new information more accessible for website viewers.

To celebrate Earth Day in spring 2026, Clifton Lions and Montclair Lions club volunteers cleared excess tree branches and foliage along the camp access road and ditches. The floor of the Pavilion was water pressure-washed. Upcoming expenses include road repairs and gravel purchases to maintain access for the camp facilities.

NVLYC board members hosted visitors from the VA School for the Deaf and Blind (VSDB) to view the camp facilities. This initiative was due to 1stDG Chuck Schwab reaching out to the VSDB staff to form a partnership with VA Lions to benefit their students and to cooperate with the new Lions Listen Up program. The VSDB staff would like to schedule camp days for their students in the Fall.

Finally, PCC Phil Schrack is retiring at the end of June 2026. He has held numerous youth camp board positions and has been the camp scheduler for many years. His contributions to the youth camp have been significant and his legacy will continue for the benefit of all future youth camp board members as well as for the enjoyment of all future campers. He will be truly missed.