May 9, 2024
Issue 13

Website Modernization Program

The Commonwealth of Virginia (COV) website modernization program was created to ensure all state websites provide an accessible, trusted and secure experience for all Virginians. Specifically, the program looks to aid agencies in meeting the COV web standards.

Visit the web hub

Accessibility training

Let's keep the good times rolling! We still have plenty of seats for Frontier and the Accessible Virginia training platform. Earn those certifications in accessible web development, design and content creation!

As mentioned in the last newsletter, sign-ups have been posted for our VITA-led webinars as well: **https://events.vita.virginia.gov/chooseSession?MeetingID=160**

Join Anna Hall and Michelle Pinsky at the next training on **Wednesday, May 29, at 10 a.m.** to learn about content audits and why they are critical for keeping your websites up-to-date and relevant.

The previous webinars were recorded and are now available online if you missed them: **https://www.developer.virginia.gov/training/**.

StateScoop 50

We did it! I don't know which of you stuffed the ballot box, but the website modernization program is one of the winners for the State IT Innovation of the Year award!

https://statescoop.com/list/announcing-the-winners-of-the-2024-statescoop-50-awards/

All the thanks go to you all, of course! While we tried to provide the resources, you all did the hard work. The collaboration, teamwork, reduction in issues, and overall increase in accessibility and quality across all your websites! There is much to be proud of, so make sure your

agencies know your hard work is being recognized. Thank you all so much!

User testing

It's finally here! VITA has an account with UserTesting (**https://www.usertesting.com/**) so we can help you with real human insights and feedback on your current websites and redesigns.

Reach out today to schedule time with Anna and Michelle. They will work with you to identify your goals, target audience and test plan. They will initiate tests with UserTesting and provide the results as soon as they are available.

This should be an invaluable tool for getting real input on how people interact with your websites. Let's get started!

Web systems standards update

The Attorney General recently signed a final rule under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) recognizing the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 standard.

VITA's Web System Standard is based in part on WCAG 2.0. With the ADA Title II update. VITA is updating our standard as well.

Head to the online review and comment application (ORCA) (**https://orca.vita.virginia.gov/**) to review the updates and leave any comments or feedback. The public comment period will run through **Tuesday, May 28**.

There are a handful of rules that were added or updated to reflect WCAG 2.1, and your feedback is appreciated as always!

eGov contracts

As a reminder, Manny Liban, our eGov service manager, has amended our contracts with AISN and SiteVision. Their service options now include

web remediation pricing available to agencies not currently hosted or serviced by the vendors.

Learn more about eGov services, and review the AISN and SiteVision pricing tables here: **https://www.vita.virginia.gov/technology-services/catalog-services/egov-services/**

Those of you currently using eGov services should have received a survey request from Manny. Please respond to that survey, as your feedback will help us continue to mature and adapt those services to your needs!

If you have any questions about eGov services, please email Manny at **manuel.liban@vita.virginia.gov**.

Web modernization office hours

The next office hours opportunity is June 12 at 10 a.m. Office hours are a judgement-free zone for content owners, web developers and communications professionals to ask questions regarding Siteimprove's features and score, content tweaking and accessibility, and UX and web accessibility.

Sessions are held by VITA's UX designer, Michelle Pinsky and VITA's UX content strategist, Anna Hall. Join them on Teams here:

Click here to join the meeting
Or call in (audio only)
434-230-0065
Conference ID: 634 571 329#

Next Steps

• Request access to Siteimprove Frontier and the Accessible Virginia training platforming using the **WebMod Software Request form**.
• Sign up for web modernization training topics at **https://events.vita.virginia.gov/**.

- Review and leave any feedback to the proposed updates to the Web Systems Standard at **https://orca.vita.virginia.gov/**.
- Contact **webmod@vita.virginia.gov** to ask about UserTesting, request any specific training topics, or for any other questions or comments.

If you have questions or would like to be added to the distribution list for this newsletter, please contact **webmod@vita.virginia.gov**.

VA | **Website Modernization**
An official program of the Commonwealth of Virginia

VIRGINIA IT AGENCY