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## Weekly Watershed Announcements April 13, 2018

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Thank you for your continued support of the Middle James Roundtable (MJRT)!

If you have information that you would like shared in the MJRT weekly announcements, please send it to [dur24@henrico.us](mailto:dur24@henrico.us).

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### In The News

#### States will have to account for climate change in clean-up plans

(*Bay Journal*)



States in the Chesapeake Bay watershed have agreed to write plans later this year that will acknowledge the extent to which climate change will require significantly more work in the future to clean up the Chesapeake Bay.

To read the full article by Karl Blankenship, click [here](#).

### Upcoming Events

#### Project Clean Stream (*Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay*)

(April 13-June 9, 2018)



Help pick up trash from local streams, creeks, rivers, parks, and neighborhoods. To sign up for an existing cleanup, or to register a cleanup, see

<https://www.allianceforthebay.org/our-work/key-program-focuses/building-stewardship/project-clean-stream/>

#### A Taste of the James

(April 15 2018 - 4-7pm)



Williamsburg, VA – This event aims to create awareness for the James River Association (JRA) and provide financial support for JRA programs. Food, including seafood; beverages; and a live and silent auction will be available. For more information and to purchase tickets, see <https://jrava.org/whats-happening/a-taste-of-the-james/>. Proceeds support

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**Save the Oysters**  
(April 21, 2018)



RICHMOND, Va. (WRIC) – Want to be a part of restoring shells back to the Chesapeake Bay, on Earth Day? The Virginia Oyster Shell Recycling Program (VOSRP) is looking for volunteers that will help on Saturday, April 21, at the VCU Rice Rivers Center.

Volunteers will bag cured oyster shells. They will then be seeded with larval oysters and returned to the Chesapeake as part of the restoration program. They plan to have a shift from 9 a.m. to noon, and one from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Registration is required because space is limited.

Please RSVP to Cindy Andrews, VOSRP Richmond Region Coordinator, at [candrews@vcu.edu](mailto:candrews@vcu.edu). Cindy will send you the final details and direct you to the registration page.

Plan to wear appropriate work clothing and closed toed shoes. A light BBQ lunch will be provided.

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**VWEA Stormwater Committee Presents: The Changing World of Stormwater**  
(April 26, 2018)



Join us on April 26, 2018 at the Westin Hotel in Richmond for our Annual Spring Seminar as we discuss the impacts of more frequent, intense storm events and sea level rise on resiliency planning efforts across the nation and here at home in Virginia. The speakers will provide a national, regional and local perspective on this timely issue.

For more information and how to register, click [here](#).

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**Rain Barrel Workshops**  
(May 10 and June 28, 2018)



Join Henricopolis Soil and Water Conservation District for it's Spring 2018 Rain Barrel Workshops.

**May 10, 2018** at the Varina Library, 1875 New Market Road. To register for this workshop, click [here](#).

**June 28, 2018** at the Henrico Human Services Building, 8600 Dixon Powers Drive. To register for this workshop, click [here](#).

For more information on our workshops, click [here](#).

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**Rain Barrel Workshops**  
(Multiple dates in May and June 2018)



Join James River Soil and Water Conservation District and Chesterfield

Environmental Engineering for our Annual Rain Barrel Workshop. Create a customizable Rain Barrel to help keep your garden green all summer long. Conservation starts in your own backyard!

Click here for more information and to register:  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/o/james-river-swcd-17107705488>

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### **James River Association Treeathlon** (May 19, 2018)



The James River Association, in partnership with the Robert E Lee and Thomas Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation Districts, will be planting 3,000 trees at farms along various tributaries of the James River this spring as part of the [James River Tree-athlon!](#) If you love our River, join us to protect the James by volunteering to help plant the native tree seedlings.

The plantings are at various properties within Albemarle, Amherst, and Nelson Counties. As a thank you to our volunteers, on May 19, 2018 we will host a James River Tree-Athlon Thank You Event at [James River Adventures](#) in Lynchburg. This fun day on the river will include lunch and a 6 mile paddle trip or 3 mile tubing trip. Each volunteer that participates in a tree planting day during James River Tree-Athlon will receive one voucher for a free river trip to be used at the event or at a later date.

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### **Festival of the River** (June 8-10, 2018)



Brown's Island, Richmond, VA – Festival highlights will include contemporary art installations, performances under the Richmond Symphony's "Big Tent," cleanups along and around the River and family-friendly environmental education activities. For more information, see <https://www.richmondsymphony.com/who-we-are/media-press-kit/save-date-festival-river-three-days-music-art-environment-big-tent-browns-island-june-8-10-2018/>. Hosted by The City of Richmond, Venture Richmond, the Richmond Symphony, VCU Institute for Contemporary Art, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, 1708 Gallery, James River Association, Capital Region Collaborative and other partners.

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

### **Volunteer Opportunity** (Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay)



Are you interested in learning more about your local stream? The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay needs volunteers to collect important data on streams in Virginia. Through the River Trends program we will provide training and supplies. All you have to do is commit to attending a training and monitoring a site once a month.

You'll be analyzing water to collect data on core parameters such as dissolved oxygen, temperature, pH, water clarity and bacteria. All of these test will be performed in the field using kits and equipment provided to you.

Next training date TBD. For more information, contact Amy Hagerdon at 804-793-8786 or [ahagerdon@allianceforthebay.org](mailto:ahagerdon@allianceforthebay.org).

## **Grant Opportunities**

### **Virginia Conservation Assistance Program** (Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts)



This program provides incentive payments for several Best Management Practices such as rain gardens, cisterns, green roofs, and conservation landscaping. This program is now available to the entire Chesapeake Bay watershed.

See <http://vaswcd.org/vcap> for an overview or contact VCAP Coordinator Kevin Mclean at [kevin.mclean@vaswcd.org](mailto:kevin.mclean@vaswcd.org) for more information.

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