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Weekly Watershed Announcements June 2, 2017

In This Issue

[In The News](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Grant Opportunities](#)

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.

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In The News

James River Park System To Include Vauxhall Island (Richmond Outside)



A planned expansion of the James River Park System - and its conservation easement - is advancing, with Richmond's City Council set to approve an ordinance for the acceptance of grant funds from the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation that will allow for the transfer of Vauxhall Island to municipal ownership.

To read the full article by Andy Thompson, click [here](#).

Advocates: Bay Cleanup Progressing, But More Work To Do

(Charlottesville Tomorrow)



A partnership created over 30 years ago to restore water quality and replenish aquatic life in the Chesapeake Bay is halfway through a landmark effort to reduce pollution that has choked the world's third-largest estuary.

"The bay and the watershed are responding because of thousands of actions by our farmers, by our municipalities and homeowners," said Rich Batiuk, associate director for science, analysis and implementation for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Batiuk was one of several speakers at the 8th annual conference of the Choose Clean Water Coalition held in Charlottesville this week.

To read the full article by Sean Tubbs, click [here](#).

Upcoming Events

James River Rundown (June 24-25, 2017)



The James River Rundown is a series of canoe, kayak, and SUP races running through the heart of Virginia on the scenic James River. Competitors race through weather, natural features, and fatigue to reach the finish line at Goochland County's Tucker Park. The James River Association is organizing a two-day 120-mile race, 50-mile race, 25-mile race, and a 5-mile fun float this year.

Click [here](#) to register for the James River Rundown.

Films On The Floodwall (September 13, 2017)



Submit a film to be screened at Films on the Floodwall! Films on the Floodwall is a free community film screening organized by the James River Advisory Council, James River Outdoor Coalition, and James River Association during James River Week in September. The event is held at Diversity Park in the James River Park System and films are projected onto the floodwall. Local filmmakers are encouraged to submit original films to be screened at the event.

[Click here](#) for more information about Films on the Floodwall.

6th Annual VMI STEM Education Conference - Inspiring Teachers (October 3-4, 2017)



The VMI STEM Education Conference gathers educators and administrators who work with students in grades 3-8 across Virginia for professional development, enrichment, and fun.

Call for Presentations: <http://www.vmi.edu/about/center-for-leadership-and-ethics/conferences/stem/call-for-presentations/>

Attendee Registration: <http://www.vmi.edu/about/center-for-leadership-and-ethics/conferences/stem/registration/>

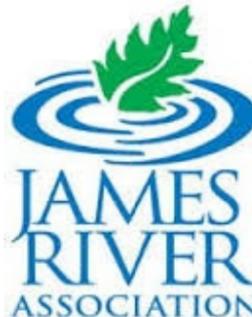
Virginia Environmental Education Conference (October 10-12, 2017)



V.A.E.E. is proud to announce the 2017 Virginia Environmental Education Annual Conference October 10th, 11th & 12th, 2017 at the Northern Virginia 4-H Educational Center in Front Royal, VA.

This year's conference will feature many exciting events including the annual member meeting for the Virginia Association for Environmental Education, as well as Keynote Speaker Dr. Peter Marra, author of the book *Cat Wars*. Wednesday will showcase an exciting array of hands-on concurrent sessions. Thursday, the final day of the conference, has been reserved for a great selection of field trips in the Front Royal area.

James River Association News (May-July 2017)



++ **How Do You River? Paddle Series** - May to October, 2017 - Interpretative paddle trips will be offered on multiple dates at five different locations. For more information and to register, see <https://jrava.org/whats-happening/interpretive-paddle-series-2/>.

++ **27th Annual Westover Lawn Party** - June 3, 2017 (2-4pm) - Westover Plantation, Charles City, VA – This fundraiser for the JRA centers on family and educational activities, live entertainment, food and both a silent and live auction. For more information, see <https://jrava.org/whats-happening/westover-lawn-party/>.

++ **2017 James River Rundown** - June 24-25, 2017 - This series of canoe, kayak, and SUP races run through the heart of Virginia on the James River. This year's event will include a two-day 120 mile race, a 50 mile race, and a 5 mile float. For more information, see <http://www.jamesriverrundown.org/>.

++ **James River Splash & Dash** - July 15, 2017 - Richmond, VA - This 6K trail run or 1 mile walk includes a flat water tube across the James River. For more information and to register, see <http://www.jrsplashanddash.org/>.

Center for Watershed Protection Webcasts (May-October, 2017)



For more information on all upcoming webcasts and to register, see <http://www.cwp.org/webcasts/>.

- ++ May 17, 2017 (1-2:30pm ET) - Nutrient Trading
- ++ June 21, 2017 (1-2:30 pm ET) - Making Urban Trees Count
- ++ September 13, 2017 (1-2:30pm ET) - Stream Restoration: Where Are We Now?
- ++ October 18, 2017 (1-2:30pm ET) - Bringing Better Site Design into the 21st Century

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 Bay coordinator Kevin Mclean at kevin.mclean@vaswcd.org for more information.

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