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Weekly Watershed Announcements December 21, 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.

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In The News

Ten Virginia farms awarded for efforts to improve water quality (VA Department of Conservation and Recreation)



RICHMOND - The Virginia Clean Water Farm Grand Basin Awards are presented each year to farmers or farm owners who are doing exceptional work to protect soil and water resources. One winner is selected from each of Virginia's 10 major river basins.

The awards are sponsored by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation in partnership with Virginia's 47 soil and water conservation districts. Awards were presented last week during the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts annual meeting in Roanoke.

"These farms represent the best in conservation farming in Virginia," DCR Director Clyde Cristman said. "These producers are enhancing their operations and improving conditions for people who live downstream by voluntarily implementing practices such as stream fencing, cover crops, riparian buffers, nutrient management plans and more."

To read the full article by Julie Buchanan, click [here](#).

Virginia Governor Northam proposes more money for a cleaner Chesapeake Bay (The Washington Post)

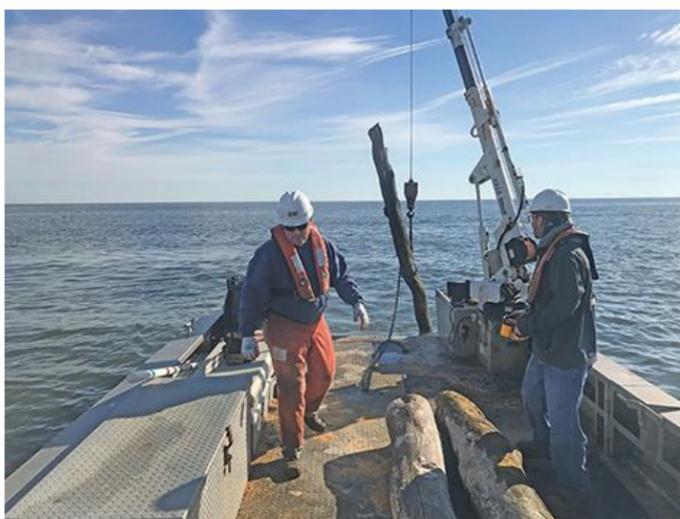


RICHMOND - Gov. Ralph Northam on Wednesday called for "historic" investments in a cleaner Chesapeake Bay, proposing a five-year plan that he said would represent the largest investment ever in Virginia's water quality.

Northam (D) said his plan would help farmers as well as urban and suburban communities limit runoff that pollutes the bay, boost staff at the Department of Environmental Quality and add funding for land conservation.

To read the full article by Laura Vozzella, click [here](#).

Months after storms, Chesapeake debris cleanup presses on (Bay Journal)



From his perch several hundred feet away aboard a small barge, John Gallagher began giving orders to his crew. Not much needed to be said. By now, the actions of the other three men had become almost automatic.

"Here's a good example of what the debris looks like in here," said Gallagher, head of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources' hydrographic operations. "This is right off the channel."

To read the full article by Jeremy Cox, click [here](#).

Upcoming Events

Wild and Scenic Film Festival (Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay)



Wild and Scenic Film Festival
The Science Museum of Virginia, 2500 W Broad St, Richmond, VA 23220
January 24th, 2019, 5:30 - 9:30 p.m.
[Purchase your tickets here!](#)

The Wild & Scenic Film Festival works with environmental groups across the globe to host the film festival as a way to outreach into their communities and bring together a diverse audience. The goal is to use film to inspire. [To keep up to date on the event and films we will be screening, check out the event Facebook page](#)

2019 Virginia Environmental Education Conference (February 7-9, 2018)



Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
February 7-9, 2019
For more information and to register, see <https://vaeewildapricot.org/conference/>

30th Annual Environment Virginia Symposium (Virginia Military Institute)



30th Annual Environment Virginia Symposium
Tuesday-Thursday, 26-28 March 2019
Learn more, visit the Website:
[Environment Virginia Symposium](#)

Grant Opportunities

eco-Tech Grants (Captain Planet Foundation)



Grants up to \$2,500 are offered to engage children in inquiry-based, STEM-related projects that leverage technology and/or use nature-based design to address environmental problems in local communities. To learn more, see

Five Star & Urban Waters Restoration Grant (National Fish & Wildlife Foundation)



Full Proposal Due Date: Thursday, January 31, 2019

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and the Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC), in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and others, are soliciting applications for the 2019 Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration program. The Five Star and Urban Waters program will award approximately \$1.7 million in grants.

This grant program seeks to develop community capacity to sustain local natural resources for future generations by providing modest financial assistance to diverse local partnerships focused on improving water quality, watersheds and the species and habitats they support. Projects may include a variety of ecological improvements along with targeted community outreach, education and stewardship. Ecological improvements may include wetland, riparian, forest and coastal habitat restoration; wildlife conservation, community tree canopy enhancement, water quality monitoring and green infrastructure best management practices for managing run-off. Projects should also increase access to the benefits of nature, reduce the impact of environmental hazards and engage local communities, particularly underserved communities, in project planning, outreach and implementation.

For more information, visit: <https://www.nfwf.org/fivestar/Pages/2019rfp.aspx>

Mini Environmental Education Grant (Chesapeake Bay Trust)



Funds are available to schools, organizations, and agencies to support educating students about their local environment and how they can become stewards and have an impact in their community. The program funds up to \$5,000 for Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience (MWEE) projects. Funds can cover field trips, fieldwork, transportation, substitute fees, supplies for student projects, etc. The next deadline is January 10, 2019. For more information, see <https://cbtrust.org/grants/environmental-education-mini/>.

Job Opportunities

Director of Stormwater and Resource Protection Division (James City County)



Open until filled. For information and to apply visit: --

<https://jobs.jamescitycountyva.gov/applications/externalapplicants/login/default.aspx>
and search "stormwater".

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