

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in the Middle James Roundtable. Don't forget to add dur24@henrico.us to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

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Weekly Watershed Announcements February 2, 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

Conflicting- but correct- reports on Bay dead zones from Maryland and Virginia were a matter of timing
(*Bay Journal*)



It was quite a surprise: Two reports on Chesapeake Bay dissolved oxygen levels in 2017 came to starkly different conclusions.

The [Maryland Department of Natural Resources](#) reported improvements and a vastly reduced dead zone. The [Virginia Institute of Marine Science](#) found oxygen conditions at their worst since 2014.

Scientists at both organizations were caught off guard last fall when the seemingly contradictory findings were released within a few weeks of each other and sent them scrambling to analyze the cause.

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

Eastern Henrico land conservation deal finalized
(*Richmond Times-Dispatch*)



A local nonprofit has closed on a massive land conservation deal in eastern Henrico County.

The Capital Region Land Conservancy announced it had closed Thursday on the 871-acre Malvern Hill Farm in Henrico County's Varina District in a \$6.6 million deal. Plans call for the tract to be maintained as green space for the public to eventually enjoy.

To read the full article by Michael O'Connor, click [here](#).

Upcoming Events

2018 Natural Connections Educators Conference
(*March 14-16, 2018*)



This three-day collaborative conference provides valuable professional development opportunities for PreK-6th grade educators, administrators, and pre-service teachers. Join your colleagues for inspiring opportunities to make natural connections using interdisciplinary teaching approaches. Presenters model ways to blend science, social studies, language arts, and math standards for authentic learning experiences.

Session descriptions and registration: www.lewisginter.org.

2018 Virginia Water Monitoring Council Conference (March 21, 2018)

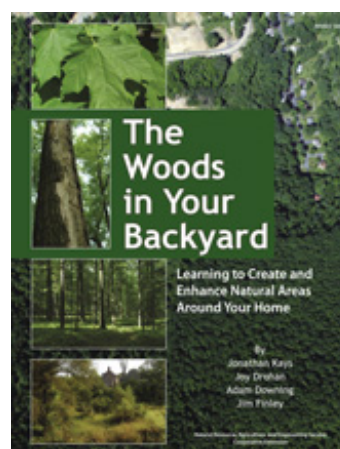


Make plans to attend the 2018 Virginia Water Monitoring Council Conference on March 21, 2018! The conference will be held at the Henrico County Training Center, 7701 E. Parham Road, Henrico.

Also consider being an exhibitor or sponsor of the conference. Please help spread the word about our upcoming conference. If you have questions, contact the conference coordinator, Katie Register, by calling Clean Virginia Waterways at 434-395-2602 or emailing registerkm@Longwood.edu.

For more information and to register, see the conference website: <http://www.vwmc.vwrrc.vt.edu/conference/>.

Woods in Your Backyard Workshop: Hanover County (March 24, 2018)



Small lots are a big deal. The vast majority of landowners in Virginia own less than 10 acres. By enhancing wooded areas or creating natural areas on your lot, you can enjoy recreation, aesthetics, wildlife and improved water quality and the air you breathe. Owners of even just a few acres can make a positive difference in their environment through planning and implementing simple stewardship practices learned at this workshop.

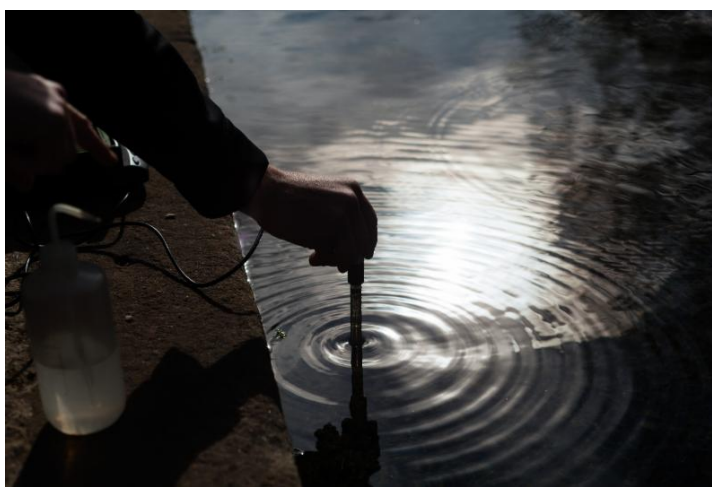
This workshop is held by the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay and the Forests for the Bay program, in partnership with the Virginia Department of Forestry and Hanover-Cardine Soil and Water Conservation District.

March 24, 2018, 8:30am-4:00pm
Room 401, Smyth Hall
Virginia Public Safety Training Center
7093 Broad Neck Road
Hanover, VA

Registration is required for this workshop. Click this link to register: <https://allianceforthebay.wufoo.com/forms/z1z01dvl0ybrurd/>. Registration is \$20/individual and \$10 for each additional person registered. Lunch will be provided. Each registrant will also receive a *Woods in Your Backyard* resource guide.

If you have any questions, please contact Jenny McGarvey at (804) 977-1657 or jmcgarvey@allianceforthebay.org.

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 tests 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.

Volunteer Opportunity

(Henricopolis Soil & Water Conservation District)



Learn how you can restore and protect Henrico's waters by collecting samples and carrying out scientific tests once a month. Join our Henrico Area Water Quality Samplers (HAWQS) Team on March 3, 2018 at Libbie Mill Library Conference Room from 9:15am. to 12pm. Registration is required. Equipment and supplies are provided, Monitoring is open to all ages. Contact Stacey at 804-501-5289 or hew001@henrico.us for more information.

Click [here](#) to register online.

Grant Opportunities

Funding Opportunity For Nonpoint Source Implementation Projects

(VA Department of Environmental Quality)



The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality's Office of Watershed Programs is making federal Section 319(h) grant funding available to support Nonpoint Source (NPS) implementation projects that will result in advancement of NPS pollution goals and milestones provided in eligible TMDL implementation plans or watershed based plans (IPs). Eligible implementation plan areas are provided in Table 1.

The purpose of the 2018-2019 Virginia Section 319(h) TMDL Implementation Program Request for Applications (RFA) is to establish a priority list of TMDL implementation projects. Projects on this list will be developed into sub-award agreements as funding becomes available in 2018 and 2019. The complete RFA package can be downloaded from the Department of Environmental Quality.

(DEQ) Nonpoint Source Grant Funding web page at:
<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Water/CleanWaterFinancingAssistance/NonpointSourceFunding.aspx>.

OR directly from:

http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/Water/NonpointSource/NPSRFA/2018_DEQ-NPSTMDL-RFA.pdf

Funding is available to support two different categories of projects. Requests for funding must identify the applicable category.

- Category 1 - New Implementation Projects: Duration up to 36 months, award range \$100,000 - \$400,000.
- Category 2 - Continuing Implementation Projects: Duration up to 36 months, award range \$100,000 - \$400,000.

The Deadline for applications is 11:59 pm, Friday, February 9, 2018.

General questions regarding this request for applications, Section 319(h) and NPS implementation should be directed to NPS Program Coordinator, Nicole Sandberg, (804) 698-4043 or NPS Grant and Data Coordinator, Lars Bolton, (804) 698-4435 or npsgrants@deq.virginia.gov (email subject line: NPS Implementation RFA Question). Specific questions regarding local activity should be directed to the identified Nonpoint Source Coordinator or regional contact person for each of the DEQ Regional Offices. Coverage areas for each

Regional Office can be found here:

Piedmont Regional Office:

Katie Ranger, kaitlin.Ranger@deq.virginia.gov, (804) 527-5018;

Tidewater Regional Office:

Kristie Britt, Kristie.Britt@deq.virginia.gov, (757) 518-2153;

Northern Regional Office:

Dave Evans, David.Evans@deq.virginia.gov, (703) 583-3835;

Valley Regional Office:

Nesha McRae, Nesha.Mcrae@deq.virginia.gov, (540) 574-7850;

Blue Ridge Regional Office:

James Moneymaker, James.Moneymaker@deq.virginia.gov, (540) 562-6738;

Southwest Regional Office:

Stephanie Kreps; Stephanie.Kreps@deq.virginia.gov, (276) 676-4803

Five Star And Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program 2018 Request For Proposals

(Environmental Protection Agency)



Full Proposal Due Date: Wednesday, January 31, 2018 by 11:59 PM Eastern Time

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the Wildlife Habitat Council, in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, USDA Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, FedEx, and Southern Company are pleased to solicit applications for the 2018 Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration program. The Five Star and Urban Waters program will award approximately \$2 million in grants nationwide.

Interested, but not sure if your project qualifies?

Projects include a variety of ecological improvements along with targeted community outreach, education and stewardship. Ecological improvements may include one or more of the following: wetland, riparian, forest and coastal habitat restoration; wildlife conservation, community tree canopy enhancement, water quality monitoring and stormwater management. 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.

Still interested, but not sure how to apply?

Go directly to the grant program website at

<http://www.nfwf.org/fivestar/Pages/2018rfp.aspx> where you can find:

- The full "Request for Proposals"
- A "Tip Sheet" that walks you through the application process and describes what is needed for each question/information prompt. This "how to" document is extremely helpful and thorough

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 for more information.

Job Opportunities

Various Positions

(Virginia Department of Environmental Quality)



Virginia DEQ is seeking to fill the following positions:

Water Supply Planner (#P4302)

MS4 Coordinator & Water Permit Writer (P#0146)

The closing date is February 9, 2018. For more information and to apply, visit <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/AboutUs/Employment/DEQJobs.aspx>.

