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Weekly Watershed Announcements January 18, 2019

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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

Government Shutdown Impacts Bay Access, Water Safety (Chesapeake Bay Magazine)



The longest federal government shutdown in U.S. history is taking its toll on the entire country, but especially on our national treasure, the Chesapeake Bay.

It's been more than 24 days since 800,000 workers were furloughed or forced to work without pay. The partial shutdown began December 22, 2018, when last-minute negotiations in Congress failed to end the budget standoff that largely centers around President Donald Trump's \$5.7 billion plan for a wall at the United States' southern border.

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

"Grasses for the Masses" initiative back for spring (Inside NOVA)



The Chesapeake Bay Foundation will hold introductory meetings for its 2019 "Grasses for the Masses" initiative on Jan. 31 and Feb. 2 at the Fairlington Community Center.

Volunteers will grow wild celery grasses from seed in trays submerged in tubs through the late spring, when the grasses will be transported to locations near the Potomac, James, Rappahannock and Chickahominy rivers.

"Underwater grasses are essential to a healthy, vibrant Chesapeake Bay," said Gabby Troutman, grass-roots coordinator for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. "The 'Grasses for the Masses' program is a fun way for people of all ages to take a hands-on approach to protecting Virginia's rivers and the Chesapeake Bay."

To read the full article, 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, 2019)



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

Paint Out Pollution in Chesterfield
(James River Association)



Friday, February 22, 2019
10am-1pm
Rain Date - March 1

This is a unique volunteer opportunity to create awareness with art! Paint Out Pollution is a project that increases public awareness of stormwater pollution and celebrates the native plant and animal species that call the James River home.

The James River Association, Art on Wheels, and Chesterfield County are looking for 25 volunteers to install art on storm drains using spray paint and stencils. Volunteers should meet at the Community Development Building at 9800 Government Center Parkway, Chesterfield 23832. From there, we will split into teams. Please contact volunteer@jrava.org with any questions.

To register, go to <https://form.jotform.com/90066635292964>

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 <https://captainplanetfoundation.org/grants/ecotech/>. Funded with ongoing support from Voya Financial Foundation through Captain Planet Foundation.

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>

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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