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## Weekly Watershed Announcements January 24, 2020

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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

#### **36 years after first Bay Agreement, its restoration is still a pipe dream**

*(Bay Journal)*



December 9 marked the 36th anniversary of the signing of the first Bay Agreement at George Mason University in Virginia.

As a state senator serving on the Chesapeake Bay Commission, I joined 700 Bay enthusiasts as witnesses. The one-page Chesapeake Bay Agreement was signed by Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania's governors, DC's mayor, and the head of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, all of whom solemnly pledged to restore the Bay. I was also a member of a workgroup that recommended legislative actions for each signer that would aid the Bay's restoration, including a phosphate detergent ban that I sponsored and was enacted in 1985.

To read the full article by Gerald W. Winegrad, click [here](#).

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#### **Chesapeake Bay Foundation calls cutback of waterway protections "assault on environment"**

*(13 News Now)*



The Trump administration made a major announcement Thursday, rolling back Clean Water Act policies that give federal protections to certain waterways in the U.S.

Millions of miles of arroyos, streams and wetlands will no longer be protected in a move that the EPA Administration and the President claim lifts unnecessary burdens for infrastructure and business development and farmers. It's something President Trump has promised to do since arriving in office.

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

## Upcoming Events

### **Save the Date: Virginia Association for Environmental Education Annual Conference**

*(February 26-28, 2020)*



This year's conference theme "EE for EverybodEE" is a celebration and call to action to make environmental education accessible to everyone in the Commonwealth. Featuring workshops, networking, field trips and a day and a half of concurrent session VAEE 2020 promises to be our most exciting conference yet!

The 2020 Virginia Environmental Education Conference will be held at the Florence Elston Inn & Conference Center at Sweet Briar College in Amherst, Virginia from Wednesday, February 26th to Friday, February 28th.

For more information, go to <https://vae.wildapricot.org/VAEE2020/>.

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### **James River Buffer Program**

*(February-April and November-December)*



This is a program that is carried out jointly between the Virginia Department of Forestry and the James River Association. Hoping to spread the word and help people manage non-point source pollution within the James River Watershed through a riparian buffer installation program which has very flexible guidelines.

To find out more, click here [James River Buffer Program](#).

## Grant Opportunities

### 2020 Chesapeake B-WET Grant Program (NOAA)



**Informational Webinars: January 14, 2020 (2pm) and January 31, 2020 (11am); Applications due: March, 6 2020** -- The Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) grant program solicits proposals that support two priority areas under Capacity Building for MWEEs (Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience): (1) Statewide K-12 Environmental Literacy Initiatives (to advance state efforts toward systemic MWEE implementation at the school district level) and (2) Regional MWEE Network Building Initiative (to support the development of systemic MWEEs in school districts and the networking of these school districts, their partners, and the larger environmental education community). To register for a webinar, visit <https://forms.gle/z4eVxcEkEshs0mT87>. For more information on the program, see <https://www.grants.gov/> (search Opportunity Number: "NOAA-NMFS-HCPO-2020-2006338") or contact Elise Trelegan ([elise.trelegan@noaa.gov](mailto:elise.trelegan@noaa.gov); 410-226-1015). Offered through the NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office.

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