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Weekly Watershed Announcements May 17, 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

Chesapeake blue crab population grows despite 2018's rains (Bay Journal)



Last year's never-ending loop of storms may have rattled the Chesapeake Bay's ecosystem, but it didn't scuttle the estuary's blue crab population.

Results from the annual, Baywide winter crab survey, released May 6, showed a 60% increase in the crustacean's numbers over 2018. At 594 million crabs, it was the highest count since 2012.

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

Availability Of And Public Comment On Virginia's Draft Phase III Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan (VA Department of Environmental Quality)



The Office of the Virginia Secretary of Natural Resources, through the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), announces the release of Virginia's Draft Phase III Watershed Implementation Plan for meeting the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (the Draft Phase III WIP) for public review and comment.

The comment period is now open and will end June 7, 2019. The draft can be found on [DEQ's Phase III WIP website](#).

Written Comments:

Written comments on the Draft Phase III WIP can be submitted by any of the three methods listed below. Please include the name and mailing address (or e-mail address) of the commenter.

1. E-mail: chesbayplan@DEQ.Virginia.gov
2. Postal mail: DEQ, ATTN: Chesbayplan, P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, VA 23218
3. Hand-delivery: DEQ, ATTN: Chesbayplan, 1111 East Main Street, Richmond, VA 23219 (Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., except on state holidays and any other days on which state offices in the Richmond area are closed)

WIP WEBINAR:

A webinar will be held on May 13, 2019, at 9 a.m., and repeated at 6 p.m., to share information about the Draft Phase III WIP. The webinar will provide an overview of the plan and provide information about the comment submittal process. During the webinar, the public is invited to ask questions, which will be answered in the order they are received as time allows. All questions will be compiled and addressed in a Frequently Asked Questions document that will be available with the final WIP. The webinar will be recorded and available for future viewing on DEQ's Phase III WIP website.

To register for the 9 a.m. webinar on May 13, visit <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1461104016153487873> (if the link does not open, please copy and paste the link into your browser).

To register for the 6 p.m. webinar on May 13, visit <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1788373652161109249> (if the link does not open, please copy and paste the link into your browser).

Upcoming Events

Inside TREES Summer Camp

(Department of Sustainable Biomaterials at VA Tech)



The target audience is women and minority high school students from rural regions. Provides a college-life experience and explores wood science, forestry, engineering, and design through hands-on active learning. All expenses, except transportation to and from Virginia Tech and personal items, will be covered for accepted students.

For more information, see <https://sbio.vt.edu/SummerCamp.html>. Provided by the Department of Sustainable Biomaterials at Virginia Tech.

31st Annual Clean the Bay Day (Chesapeake Bay Foundation)



The 31st annual Clean the Bay Day is happening on June 1, 2019 from 9am-12pm. Clean-up events are happening all around the state. This short, three-hour annual event has a massive cumulative impact. Since 1989, Clean the Bay Day has engaged over 158,200 volunteers, who have removed approximately 6.64 million pounds of debris from nearly 7,750 miles of shoreline in Virginia!

Use the link below to find out more about the event, clean-up locations, participation sign-up, and volunteer opportunities:
<https://www.cbf.org/events/clean-the-bay-day/>

2019 Chesapeake Watershed Forum-Request for Proposals (Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay)



The 2019 Chesapeake Watershed Forum Planning Committee is now accepting session and field experience proposals!

The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay's 14th Annual Forum will be held November 15 - 17, 2019 in Shepherdstown, WV, and will reach over 400 restoration and protection practitioners to inspire and empower local action towards a healthier Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Our theme, "Better Together: Diverse and Innovative Collaborations for the Chesapeake Watershed," intends to highlight collaborative models from the Chesapeake Bay watershed that accelerate the protection and restoration of its lands and waters.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 11:59 PM on Friday, May 24, 2019

Submit here: <https://www.allianceforthebay.org/our-work/key-program-focuses/networking-education/chesapeake-watershed-forum/>

Well Water Testing (Virginia Cooperative Extension-Henrico)



What's in YOUR water? Did you know that private water supplies like wells and springs are unregulated? It is the responsibility of the homeowner to regularly

test water quality, maintain the water system, and address any problems. Affordable, confidential water testing and education will be offered through the Virginia Cooperative Extension offices in Henrico County. Participation is voluntary and confidential.

Water samples collected by participating homeowners will be analyzed for 14 parameters, including bacteria, metals, nitrate and hardness at a cost of \$60. Results and water system care and maintenance information will be shared at an information meeting. All information is kept strictly confidential and results are reported only to the homeowner. See program flyer (<https://blogs.ext.vt.edu/henricohort/files/2019/03/2019WellWaterTestingClinic.pdf>) for dates and locations and registration information!

For more information about the Virginia Household Water Quality Program, as well as many resources relevant to private water systems, please visit www.wellwater.bse.vt.edu.

Job Opportunities

Virginia Conservation Assistance Program Assistant Coordinator (Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts)



The Virginia Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts (VASWCD) is currently accepting applications for its full-time Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP) Assistant Coordinator position. Primary job responsibilities include receiving and reviewing project applications on a monthly basis, acting as liaison with district field staff, providing ongoing program and policy guidance for participating districts, assisting with onboarding of new district VCAP staff, managing project and grant files, leading ongoing improvements to program procedures and documentation, assisting with training programs and outreach events, presenting applications and project status updates to the VCAP Steering Committee, and providing ongoing assistance to the VASWCD Executive Director and VCAP Coordinator with program growth, management and promotion.

To apply for this opportunity, applicants must submit a (1) cover letter indicating relevant education and experience, (2) resume, as well as a completed (3) VASWCD application. A resume in lieu of a completed application will not be accepted. Applications should be submitted electronically to kendall.tyree@vaswcd.org. The deadline for the submission of applications is June 7, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.

The full job description, required application, and other details are available at www.vaswcd.org/employment. Questions should be directed to the VASWCD Executive Director, Dr. Kendall Tyree. The VASWCD is an equal opportunity employer.

Part-Time RiverTrends Program Assistant (Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay)



The Alliance is seeking an enthusiastic person with knowledge of basic chemical and physical water quality monitoring and volunteer management to coordinate the RiverTrends program. The position will work with and manage the network of volunteers that collect monitoring data throughout Virginia to ensure the quality of data collected.

For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

Water Resources Engineer (Ecosystem Services)



Ecosystem Services is seeking a full-time Water Resources Engineer for our Charlottesville, VA office. This position has an anticipated start date of June 1, 2019.

For information visit the Ecosystems website at: <https://ecosystems-services.us/immediate-opening-for-a-water-resources-engineer/>

Interested candidates should send a cover letter and résumé via e-mail to our Business Administrator, Jackson Simmons at jackson@ecosystems-services.us. No phone calls, please. Qualified candidates will be contacted to schedule a phone or in-person interview.

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