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Weekly Watershed Announcements November 10, 2017

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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

After Decades Of Progress, James River Earns a B- In Latest Report (*Bay Journal*)



The James River has come a long way in the last 40 years, when it was once so polluted that the state outlawed fishing in its waters. And, in the decade since the James River Association began tracking its progress, recovery has continued for Virginia's largest source of drinking water and major tributary to the Chesapeake Bay.

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

Report: State Of The James (*James River Association*)



This assessment of the health of the river is published every two years. The report is designed to examine the status and trends of indicators in four categories - Fish and Wildlife, Habitat, Pollution Reductions, and Protection and Restoration Actions. To access the report, see <https://jrava.org/about-the-james-river/state-of-the-james/>. Published by the James River Association.

Upcoming Events

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality Training & Certification



DEQ's 2018 Stormwater and Erosion training schedules have been posted. Continuing education classes will be open for enrollment on November 13. Certification classes are available now.

Virginia Waterways Cleanup Events

(Various dates: September 1-November 11, 2017)



This statewide event is part of the Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup. This event cleans waterways across Virginia and collects data about trash & litter in waterways. Volunteers and site captains are needed. To learn about a cleanup event near you or to learn more about being a site captain, see <http://www.longwood.edu/cleanva/CleanupEvents2017.html>. Additional events are expected to be added to the website. Organized by Clean Virginia Waterways.

Virginia Association of Wetland Professionals Fall Meeting

(November 16, 2017)



Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens, Richmond, VA. This meeting will focus on state and federal laws, regulations, and policies across Virginia. Speakers will include regulators and other staff from a number of different state and federal agencies and local environmental lawyers. More information will be coming soon at <https://www.facebook.com/vawp.org/>.

Grant Opportunities

Chesapeake Bay Trust Environmental Education

(Chesapeake Bay Trust)



Applications are accepted from non-profits, state and local agencies, education institutions, community associations, and faith-based organizations for grants that build and/or expand pre-K through 12 environmental literacy programs using the Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences (MWEEs) model. MWEEs are investigations into local environmental issues that include both learning in the classroom and learning outdoors and culminate in students addressing their issue through action projects in their community.

For more information on the program and how to apply, see <https://cbtrust.org/environmental-education-2/>. Direct questions to Tara Baker at tbaker@cbtrust.org. Offered by the Chesapeake Bay Trust. Application deadline is 5pm on December 8, 2017.

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.

INFORMATIONAL WEBINAR - Wednesday, Nov. 15 at 2pm - 3:30pm

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/2018fp.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.
- A webinar opportunity on Wednesday, Nov. 15 at 2pm-3:30pmat which you can interact with experts who can answer questions and you can learn about the 2018 Five Star and Urban Waters program including program priorities, funding availability and application review criteria. Register today.

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 Mdean at kevin.mdean@vaswcd.org for more information.

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