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Weekly Watershed Announcements September 25, 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.

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In the News

Governor Northam Releases Statement On Suit Against EPA on Chesapeake Bay

(ShoreDailyNews.com)



RICHMOND-Governor Ralph Northam, who serves as chair of the Chesapeake Executive Council, issued the following statement today after Virginia joined Delaware, Maryland, the District of Columbia in filing suit against the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for its failure to enforce the terms of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement which require partner states to reduce their pollution levels in the allotted time frame.

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

James River Gets \$1 Million for Living Shorelines

(Chesapeake Bay Magazine)



The James River is getting a sizable piece of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) record-breaking \$18 million in Bay grants, which Bay Bulletin told you about earlier this month.

The James River Association (JRA) has been awarded a \$1 million grant for water quality improvements along the James River through its Living Shorelines Collaborative, thanks to EPA, the National Fish and Wildlife Federation (NFWF) and the Chesapeake Bay Program.

The grant through NFWF's Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction program will fund living shoreline training, monitoring, and outreach efforts as well as by investing in the Living Shorelines Collaborative. For example, JRA will partner with the Colonial Soil and Water Conservation District to install 940 linear feet of living shorelines on agricultural land along the James River.

The Living Shorelines Collaborative is a group of regional and state partners working together to restore sections of the tidal James River and its tributaries through construction of living shorelines, a "green infrastructure" technique that stabilizes shorelines using natural materials and native vegetation to build resilience against storms, reduce erosion, and protect marsh areas.

Partners include the Elizabeth River Project, Wetlands Watch, the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, the Colonial Soil & Water Conservation District, the Department of Conservation and Recreation - Shoreline Erosion Advisory Service (DCR-SEAS), the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, and Dialogue + Design.

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

Upcoming Events

CBF Virtual VoiCes Class
(Chesapeake Bay Foundation)



CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION

Saving a National Treasure

Registration is now open for a clean water stewardship course offered online by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) for residents of Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. The annual course provides in-depth online sessions on environmental issues, preparing participants to advocate for clean water in local waterways.

VoiCeS (Volunteers as Chesapeake Stewards) classes will be held on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., from October 6 through November 17, except for Nov. 3. The sessions feature speakers from CBF and other regional organizations.

Course topics include:

- * Causes and solutions for pollution to your local waters and the Chesapeake Bay;
- * Local geography and ecology;
- * Environmental justice;
- * Local river and Chesapeake Bay science and fisheries;
- * Urban and rural pollution issues, and;
- * How you can play an important role in restoring your local rivers and the Chesapeake Bay.

The course will include one to two hours of pre-recorded videos to watch at any point in the week. The weekly live online classes will provide an overview of key topics and Q&A with expert speakers. A field trip will be held for each region at a later date when we can safely gather.

Following the course, participants are encouraged to perform a minimum 20 hours of clean water volunteer service. Successful graduates receive CBF's designation as a "Chesapeake Steward." Space is limited, registration is available on a first come first served basis online using the links below:

[Virginia](#)
[Maryland](#)
[Pennsylvania](#)

A \$25 fee per household will cover the costs of materials. Given the financial challenges many people are facing this year, a limited number of spaces are available for those who cannot pay the registration fee at this time. For more information, contact Gabby Troutman at gtroutman@cbf.org

Project Learning Tree to Offer Fall Workshops
(Virginia Department of Forestry)



Due to a generous grant from the Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation, Virginia Project Learning Tree is able to offer these blended online workshops this Fall. Click [here](#) to see the offerings and how to register.

Connect with the James - Various dates in August-October 2020

(James River Association)



The James River Association is offering guided paddle sessions and other river events in Richmond, Hopewell and James City County.. For more information and to register for an event, visit <https://thejamesriver.org/whats-happening/connect-with-the-james/>. Offered through the James River Association (JRA).

Job Opportunities

Biosolids Specialist

(Department of Environmental Quality)



The Department of Environmental Quality is seeking a biosolids specialist position, working out of the DEQ Central Office in Richmond. This position will perform both permitting and inspection duties related to biosolids..

Full Details and application instructions may be accessed at the following link: <https://virginiajobs.peopleadmin.com/postings/188928>.

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