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Weekly Watershed Announcements June 9, 2017

In This Issue

[In The News](#)

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

James River Heats Up Along With The Weather (*Richmond Times-Dispatch*)



The James River will be a popular place to cool down during our hot summer weather, but the water will be warming up, too.

The temperature of the river doesn't rise and fall as quickly as the air temperature does, but they do change in tandem.

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

Don't Eat The Fish: Push To Study Toxins in Local Waters (*cville.com*)



Quillback carpsucker. Flathead catfish. Gizzard shad. American eel. Carp. If you catch one of these in the James River, you're better off throwing it back in.

Danny Hodge, a visiting fisherman recently stationed on the James, did just that when he says he reeled in a 20-pound catfish last month.

"I wouldn't eat none of them," he says, standing on the riverbank in Scottsville. With a tackle box to his left and a fishing pole gripped in his right hand, he says the warning signs about contaminated fish (there's no threat to swimmers) posted around the river worry him.

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

Chesapeake Bay Watershed States Call For Federal Support (*Associated Press*)



Leaders of states in the Chesapeake Bay watershed called Thursday for continued federal support of the nation's largest estuary.

The Chesapeake Executive Council signed a resolution urging federal support and also elected Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan as its new chairman.

"As a lifelong Marylander who has always had a love for the Chesapeake Bay, as a governor, and now as a chairman of this Chesapeake Executive Council, I will remain passionately committed to this cause," Hogan, a Republican, said in a statement. "As we all look ahead, I believe that successful Bay restoration must include innovative financing, transparent public-private partnerships, and market-based solutions that drive costs down and promote new technologies."

The council's resolution comes after President Donald Trump eliminated funding for the Chesapeake Bay Program in his initial budget proposal. Congress restored the \$73 million, but the president's initial proposal has angered bay supporters, who are worried about future budget actions.

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

Upcoming Events

James River Rundown (June 24-25, 2017)



The James River Rundown is a series of canoe, kayak, and SUP races running through the heart of Virginia on the scenic James River. Competitors race through weather, natural features, and fatigue to reach the finish line at Goochland County's Tucker Park. The James River Association is organizing a two-day 120-mile race, 50-mile race, 25-mile race, and a 5-mile fun float this year.

Click [here](#) to register for the James River Rundown.

Public Meeting and Comment Period: Amendments to the WQMP for the James River Basin (Public Comment Period: June 12-July 12, 2017) (Public Meeting: June 28, 2017)



Public Meeting: June 28, 2017 (10am) - DEQ Office, 629 East Main Street, Richmond, VA – The State Water Control Board is seeking written and oral comments from interested parties on amendments to the Water Quality Management Planning Regulation (WQMP) for the James River Basin nitrogen and phosphorus waste load allocations to restore the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal rivers (9VAC25-720-60 C). For more information, see <http://townhall.virginia.gov/ViewNotice.cfm?GNID=712>. Direct comments and questions to William Norris at william.norris@deq.virginia.gov.

Films On The Floodwall (September 13, 2017)



Submit a film to be screened at Films on the Floodwall! Films on the Floodwall is a free community film screening organized by the James River Advisory Council, James River Outdoor Coalition, and James River Association during James River Week in September. The event is held at Diversity Park in the James River Park System and films are projected onto the floodwall. Local filmmakers are encouraged to submit original films to be screened at the event.

[Click here](#) for more information about Films on the Floodwall.

6th Annual VMI STEM Education Conference - Inspiring Teachers

(October 3-4, 2017)



The VMI STEM Education Conference gathers educators and administrators who work with students in grades 3-8 across Virginia for professional development, enrichment, and fun.

Call for Presentations: <http://www.vmi.edu/about/center-for-leadership-and-ethics/conferences/stem/call-for-presentations/>

Attendee Registration: <http://www.vmi.edu/about/center-for-leadership-and-ethics/conferences/stem/registration/>

Virginia Environmental Education Conference

(October 10-12, 2017)



V.A.E.E. is proud to announce the 2017 Virginia Environmental Education Annual Conference October 10th, 11th & 12th, 2017 at the Northern Virginia 4-H Educational Center in Front Royal, VA.

This year's conference will feature many exciting events including the annual member meeting for the Virginia Association for Environmental Education, as well as Keynote Speaker Dr. Peter Marra, author of the book *Cat Wars*. Wednesday will showcase an exciting array of hands-on concurrent sessions. Thursday, the final day of the conference, has been reserved for a great selection of field trips in the Front Royal area.

James River Association News

(May-July 2017)



++ **How Do You River? Paddle Series** - May to October, 2017 - Interpretative paddle trips will be offered on multiple dates at five different locations. For more information and to register, see <https://jrava.org/whats-happening/interpretive-paddle-series-2/>.

++ **27th Annual Westover Lawn Party** - June 3, 2017 (2-4pm) - Westover Plantation, Charles City, VA – This fundraiser for the JRA centers on family and educational activities, live entertainment, food and both a silent and live auction. For more information, see <https://jrava.org/whats-happening/westover-lawn-party/>.

++ **2017 James River Rundown** - June 24-25, 2017 - This series of canoe, kayak, and SUP races run through the heart of Virginia on the James River. This year's event will include a two-day 120 mile race, a 50 mile race, and a 5 mile float. For more information, see <http://www.jamesriverrundown.org/>.

++ **James River Splash & Dash** - July 15, 2017 - Richmond, VA - This 6K trail run or 1 mile walk includes a flat water tube across the James River. For more information and to register, see <http://www.jrsplashanddash.org/>.

Center for Watershed Protection Webcasts

(May-October, 2017)



For more information on all upcoming webcasts and to register, see <http://www.cwp.org/webcasts/>.

++ May 17, 2017 (1-2:30pm ET) - Nutrient Trading

++ June 21, 2017 (1-2:30 pm ET) - Making Urban Trees Count

++ September 13, 2017 (1-2:30pm ET) - Stream Restoration: Where Are We Now?

Grant Opportunities

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 Bay coordinator Kevin Mclean at kevin.mclean@vaswcd.org for more information.

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