



Foundation for Virginia's Natural Resources

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PROJECT CATALOG

The following project listing offers a brief summary of the requests the Foundation has received that require funding. We encourage you to take a look at the description of the projects and find a project which may be of specific interest to you. We appreciate any and all support to the Foundation and its goals to protect and enhance Virginia's sustainable natural resources.

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT FOR THE FOUNDATION




FVNR has been trying to carry out the important task of making effective environmental education and outreach programs in Virginia more sustainable. We were established by the state legislature in 2005, but, to date, we have had no monetary support from the General Assembly.

To achieve our goals and implement our mission, we need part-time administrative assistance and need to hire consultants with expertise in marketing, Web site development and non-profit development. We have a carefully considered strategy and a strong, committed board. Contributions are tax deductible under IRS rule 170(c). Our goal is to find approximately \$75,000 to carry out our goals for this year. Please contact Chairman Jay Gilliam if you would like to know more about this opportunity.

Total Investment: \$75,000

PROVIDE MONITORING MATERIALS FOR THE LEESVILLE LAKE ASSOCIATION (LVLA) - ROANOKE RIVER WATERSHED

The primary goals of the project are to:

-  Supplement the water quality data collected by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Since Leesville Lake was transferred to the DEQ SWRO, it is on a six-year rotation for water monitoring. The current rotation ended in 2006, so DEQ will not monitor Leesville Lake water quality again until 2012. In addition, there are too few DEQ monitoring stations to get an adequate understanding of bacteria levels in the lake.
-  Enhance public awareness of water quality issues by getting volunteers involved in water monitoring and publicizing the water monitoring project and its results.
-  Continue the LVLA Citizen Water Quality Monitoring Project that was initiated in 2007.

Total Investment: \$1,780

COWPASTURE RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION (CRPA) – CITIZEN MONITORING PROGRAM - UPPER JAMES RIVER WATERSHED






CRPA hopes to continue to expand its water quality monitoring program by training additional volunteers; purchasing monitoring supplies and equipment, and increasing the number of sites and water quality parameters monitored. CRPA has an excellent group of VASOS biological monitors and has begun to branch out into bacterial sampling using coliscan kits. This support would assist in strengthening both of these methods and allow for additional chemical methods to be added.

Total Investment: \$1,400

CLAYTOR NATURE STUDY CENTER OF LYNCHBURG COLLEGE WILL ESTABLISH AND LEAD A CENTRAL VIRGINIA ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ALLIANCE - MIDDLE JAMES AND ROANOKE RIVER WATERSHED

The Central Virginia Environmental Education Alliance (CVEEA) was established to facilitate inter-institutional and interdisciplinary environmental education efforts in Central Virginia. This region of the state has long been considered a “black hole” of environmental activities – a view that belies the fact that there are many dedicated and successful environmental educators in this region who have enriched the lives and increased the environmental awareness of citizens of all ages through their formal and non-formal education programs. This view results from several factors, including their own lack of promotion and the need for a mechanism to coordinate environmental education activities at a regional level.

The CVEEA will catalyze environmental education in the region by linking the educational efforts of Lynchburg College faculty and staff with the faculty of other local colleges and public and private K-12 institutions; staff of federal and state agencies, and non-profit organizations with a mandate for environmental education, with the volunteer service offered by the Greater Lynchburg Environmental Network and the Virginia Master Naturalist Central Virginia Chapter, in the outdoor classroom environmental education programs offered at the Claytor Nature Study Center of Lynchburg College, and other sites in the Roanoke and Middle James watersheds. Their goals are:

-  Establish a database of formal and non-formal environmental educators in the region, and volunteers that wish to support those programs.
-  Establish a mentoring program between Lynchburg College faculty and volunteer non-formal educators in K-12 environmental education, who will not only increase the skill set of these volunteers, but increase the staffing and efficiency of delivery of outdoor environmental education programs to K-12 groups.
-  Bring Claytor Nature Study Center K-12 environmental curricula into accordance with NAAEE standards, and closer alignment with Virginia Standards of Learning.
-  Deliver high-quality environmental education programs to the regions K-12 children through partnered teaching between Lynchburg College faculty and staff, other formal educators, and local volunteers in the Virginia Master Naturalist program;
-  Facilitate the establishment and maintenance of a regional environmental educator directory with the Greater Lynchburg Environmental Network.

The overarching goal of this proposal is to increase equal employment opportunities for youth and adults in a region of the Commonwealth where greater awareness and enthusiasm for environmental stewardship will have significant impact on water quality, land use and environmental policy.








Total Funds Needed: \$4,683

FRIENDS OF CHESTERFIELD'S RIVERFRONT – ESTABLISH A CITIZEN'S MONITORING PROGRAM CALLED WATERTRENDS - JAMES RIVER WATERSHED

Friends of Chesterfield's Riverfront (Friends) and the Chesterfield County Office of Water Quality (OWQ) will work in partnership to expand and promote a joint citizen monitoring program in the county called Chesterfield WaterTrends. This new program will expand current citizen monitoring efforts in Chesterfield County and will merge the programs of Friends and the OWQ. Friends and the OWQ have been managing separate, but similar, volunteer monitoring programs in Chesterfield County for approximately eight years. Currently, volunteers for Friends perform chemical monitoring at seven stream sites. OWQ volunteers chemically monitor seven lakes and/or participate in physical stream assessments.

Through the Chesterfield WaterTrends program, volunteers in Chesterfield County will have more opportunities for training on monitoring methods; centralized trainings in the county, and more feedback and interaction from the coordinators and volunteers. Chesterfield WaterTrends will establish a centralized volunteer network for water quality monitoring in Chesterfield County.

In particular, the objectives for the Chesterfield WaterTrends program are as follows:

-  Promote the Chesterfield WaterTrends program managed in partnership by Friends and the OWQ;
-  Sustain Friends' established monitoring sites (seven stream sites monitored for chemical parameters and located throughout the county in the James River watershed);
-  Sustain the OWQ's lake monitoring sites;
-  Expand and develop the Chesterfield WaterTrends citizen monitoring program by incorporating bacterial monitoring and physical habitat assessments;
-  Upgrade the physical habitat assessment data collection procedures to the SOS Low Gradient Habitat Assessment tool (based upon the EPA Rapid Bioassessment Protocols);
-  Engage additional citizen volunteers in the Chesterfield WaterTrends program, and
-  Provide the citizens of Chesterfield County with water quality data and information on citizen monitoring on a watershed basis.

Total Investment: \$6,031

NATURE CAMP FOUNDATION - SCHOLARSHIPS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS DEVELOPMENT - UPPER JAMES RIVER WATERSHED

The primary goals of the project are to:

-  Encourage youth to attend Nature Camp and Develop a relationship with other organizations in Virginia.

- Provide education and teach good stewardship of the Earth through exploration of nature, hiking and outdoor games.

Total Investment: \$2,500

NATURAL BRIDGE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT (NATURAL BRIDGE SWCD) - SUPPORT AND SUSTAIN ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION STAFF POSITION - *UPPER JAMES RIVER WATERSHED*

The primary goals of the project are to:

- Maintain and keep the infrastructure in place to deliver conservation education within the district.
- Sustain and safeguard the educational/outreach aspect of the position of a newly hired staff member.

Total Investment: \$19,200

FRIENDS OF THE RUSSELL FORK - OUTDOOR CLASSROOM FOR SANDLICK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND HAYSI HIGH SCHOOL - *RUSSELL FORK WATERSHED*

The primary goals of the project are to:

- Construct an outdoor classroom that will be available to two schools, Sandlick Elementary School and Haysi High School.
- Teach students firsthand about local environmental issues
- Promote environmental education by providing students with hands-on learning experiences.

Total Investment: \$4,800

RAPPAHANNOCK-RAPIDAN REGIONAL COMMISSION - CANINE WASTE MANAGEMENT DEMONSTRATION PROJECT - *RAPPAHANNOCK WATERSHED*

The primary goals of the project are to:

- Develop a kennel waste demonstration project and educational materials to promote responsible kennel waste management and reduce or eliminate identified impacts to surface water.
- Installation of pet waste management stations in public parks.
- Distribute educational materials to veterinary offices, boarding facilities, hunt kennels and town and county dog licensing offices.

Total Investment: \$50,372

FRIENDS OF THE RAPPAHANNOCK (FOR) - MACROINVERTEBRATE MONITORING AND CITIZEN EDUCATION IN THE CENTRAL RAPPAHANNOCK RIVER BASIN - *RAPPAHANNOCK WATERSHED*

The primary goals of the project are to:

- Provide for environmental education that will increase public awareness and knowledge about the Rappahannock River, its tributaries and the Chesapeake Bay.
- Build upon the Friends of the Rappahannock's current ongoing volunteer monitoring program by reinstating macroinvertebrate monitoring as a technique employed and to add monitoring sites in the Central Rappahannock basin.
- Collect high quality and scientifically useful water quality data in the Central Rappahannock region by Citizen volunteers.
- Enhance and improve FOR's existing youth education program.

Total Investment: \$8,628

SHERANDO HIGH SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE CLASS - THREE DAY TRIP TO SMITH ISLAND FOR 11TH AND 12TH GRADE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE STUDENTS - *CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED*

The primary goals of the project are to:

- Expose students to a unique and near extinct way of life on the Island and take part in experiences they might never get to otherwise.
- Teach students to conserve their water usage as to not deplete the aquifer that provides the town's water supply.
- Teach students to work together in small groups to prepare each meal and to clean the bunk houses before they leave.
- Investigate and study wildlife and water quality in the Bay.

Total Investment: \$3,850

EASTERN SHORE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT (ESSWCD) - WATERSHED WALK AT THE ONANCOCK HARBORFEST - *CHESAPEAKE BAY AND ATLANTIC OCEAN WATERSHEDS*

The primary goals of the project are to:

- Coordinate a community-wide environmental outreach program at a popular festival on the Chesapeake Bay at Onancock Harbor for the citizens of the Eastern Shore.
- Educate adults and children about their local watersheds and highlight the work of the Eastern Shore Environmental Education Council which is a network of environmental educational organizations that partners on improving the community's environmental literacy.

- Help students meet the following Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL's)
- Help the schools of Northampton and Accomack Counties meet the goal of exposing all students to the econological value and rich heritage of the Chesapeake Bay and its importance to our natural heritage, wildlife, and communities.

Total Investment: \$2,520

APPALACHIAN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT/LEARNING LANDSCAPES - LEARNING LANDSCAPES (SCHOOL-BASED OUTDOOR CLASSROOMS) - *HOLSTON WATERSHED*

The primary goals of the project are to:







- Increase utilization of the outdoor classrooms at the eight current Learning Landscapes schools by expanding the involvement of teachers at each school, and increasing the number of community volunteers involved.
- Provide an annual training workshop focused on how to utilize outdoor classrooms to teachers around the region.
- Provide periodic support to teachers, including written resource materials and "team teaching" as they increase their use of Learning Landscapes in their own classrooms.
- Work with community and civic groups to develop 6-10 volunteers helping to maintain the outdoor classroom and mentor students.
- Cultivate 4-5 student mentors, primary High School and College aged, to help teach and mentor children.
- Coordinate Community Scholar Volunteers in the Middle and High Schools to connect elementary and middle schools' outdoor classrooms with building, teaching and maintenance projects.
- Conduct 5-10 community presentations each year to build awareness of and support for Learning Landscapes and outdoor classrooms more broadly.

Total Investment: \$30,000

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY, VIRGINIA IMPORTANT BIRD AREAS (IBA) PROGRAM - COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND CONSERVATION ON VIRGINIA IMPORTANT BIRD AREAS, WHERE LAND AND BIRD CONSERVATION MEET - *POTOMAC-SHENANDOAH, RAPPAHANNOCK, YORK, JAMES, NEW, TENNESSEE, BIG SANDY WATERSHEDS*

The primary goals of the project are to:


- Engaging people to conserve birds and their habitats.
- Identifying and conserving a network of sites across the Commonwealth that are essential for sustaining populations of birds as well as conserving the broader biodiversity of the state.
- Empower people to conserve what they are passionate about.

-  Build upon the solid foundation of volunteer events and citizen science monitoring by offering 5 volunteer events in 2010, in partnership with landowners and managers at the state, federal, and local government level along with other conservation non-profits.
-  Engage volunteers in on-the-ground habitat management and improvement activities aimed at maintaining or improving the quality of Important Bird Areas for the species that depend upon them.
-  Deploy trained citizen scientists to collect data on high priority species such as golden-winged warbler, Cerulean warbler, Northern Bobwhite quail, Rusty blackbird, Black rail, Least tern and Saltmarsh Sparrow.
-  Supplement the water quality data collected by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Since Leesville Lake was transferred to the DEQ SWRO, it is on a six-year rotation for water monitoring. The current rotation ended in 2006, so DEQ will not monitor Leesville Lake water quality again until 2012. In addition, there are too few DEQ monitoring stations to get an adequate understanding of bacteria levels in the lake.
-  Enhance public awareness of water quality issues by getting volunteers involved in water monitoring and publicizing the water monitoring project and its results.
-  Continue the LVLA Citizen Water Quality Monitoring Project that was initiated in 2007.

Total Investment: \$61,050

VARINA HIGH SCHOOL - STORM WATER RUN-OFF SAMPLING IN THE JAMES RIVER AND ITS TRIBUTARIES - JAMES RIVER/CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED



The primary goals of the project are to:

-  Teach students hands-on approach to determine both season water quality changes and the effects of storm water run-off on the James River by sampling the James River seasonally, and by processing samples of storm water after three storm events during the school year.

Total Investment: \$2,000

LORIEN WOOD (PRIVATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL) - 6TH GRADE CLASS TRIP TO PORT ISOBEL - CHESAPEAKE WATERSHED

The primary goals of the project are to:

-  Attend 3-day program for student groups to learn about ocean, bay and estuary habitats and document the history of the Port Isobel community.
-  Provide meaningful classroom instruction focused on increasing students' understanding of the unique ecosystems, culture and geography of Port Isobel and Tangier Island, followed by experiential learning activities guided by environmental educators onsite.

Total Investment: \$4,200

MILL MOUNTAIN DISCOVERY CENTER - ROANOKE WATERSHED

The primary goals of the project are to:

- Improve Standards of Learning test scores in low performing schools.
- Increase environmental awareness and stewardship.
- Expose students to nature via fun hands-on activities.
- Maximize all available resources to deliver parks, recreation facilities, and programs that are attractive, clean, accessible and provide memorable experiences.
- Serve citizens of all ages to create a desirable community to live, work, and play.
- Develop our public spaces and recreation services that meet the values and needs of our citizens and visitors.

Total Investment: \$2,000

FRIENDS OF THE RUSSELL FORK - ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMER CAMP - *BIG SANDY WATERSHED*

The primary goals of the project are to:

- Host an environmental summer camp to give middle and high school aged students something meaningful to do during the summer.
- Raise awareness of local environmental issues to students as well as to citizens in the surrounding communities.
- Inform people on what they can do to make their local environment a better place.
- Host a series of workshops for middle and high school aged students to cover topics such as Virginia Save Our Streams sampling protocols, general water quality monitoring, sustainable farming/gardening methods, local habitat restoration, plant and tree identification/uses and best management practices.

Total Investment: \$5,000