



## From the *Fall Line*

Winter 2019

Serving the Counties of King George, Spotsylvania, Stafford & the City of Fredericksburg



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# AND THE 2019 CLEAN FARM AWARD WINNER IS...

It is with great satisfaction that Tri-County/City Soil & Water Conservation District nominated **Earth's Echo Farm** as the **2019 Clean Farm Award winner for the Rappahannock River Watershed!** Earth's Echo Farm is a small-scale family farm located in the Rappahannock Watershed, owned and operated by Robert and Virginia "Gini" Greenlaw.



Robert Greenlaw of Earth's Echo Farm in the Rappahannock River Watershed in Stafford County.

### CONTACT US

4811 Carr Drive • Fredericksburg,  
Virginia 22408

(540) 656-2401 or (540) 656-2402

Fax: (540) 656-2403 • [tccswcd.org](http://tccswcd.org)



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The Greenlaws inherited the 146-acre farm in 2012. Robert and Gini had previously lived in Harrisonburg, where Robert worked for the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). They moved back to Stafford County when they inherited the land with a vision of converting the farm from a traditional commercial corn/wheat/soybean operation to a direct-marketing, locally grown and raised farming operation.

They contacted Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in January 2014 for technical assistance converting the cropland to pastureland for grazing animals. A farm conservation plan was developed to address their conservation objectives. By the end of 2017, with the assistance of federal cost-share programs, they converted 110 acres from annually planted row crops to perennial pasture and planted the farm with 1.5 acres of trees, over 3,800 linear feet of windbreak trees, and 0.5 acre of pollinator habitat. Soil samples were taken and the newly planted pasture/hayland was limed and fertilized according to recommendations. One 16.1-acre field was planted with native warm-season grasses which allow the cattle to graze in the height of summer heat and not succumb to the “summer slump” common during July and August in this area.

Robert spoke with NRCS again in 2017 about a plan to move forward with his ecologically minded grazing plans for the farm. Robert and Gini had done quite a bit of research on various grazing operations and knew they wanted to implement strip grazing on their own farm. The Greenlaw family and NRCS came up with a plan to build permanent fencing to exclude livestock from all surface waters on the farm as well as interior fencing for larger paddocks that could then be further broken down into smaller “strips” using polywire fencing and step-in posts. A livestock watering system was developed that provided permanent frost-free “ball troughs” in all fields, however, the Greenlaws added numerous quick couplers throughout the water lines so that mobile troughs could be located within the individual strips of grass cattle were grazing. They have excluded livestock from accessing 2,800 linear feet of Rappahannock riverbank plus another 4,500 linear feet of other surface water on the farm. Altogether, they have installed over 30,000 feet of exclusion and cross fencing, approximately 12,000 feet of pipeline, 11 permanent

frost-free watering troughs, planted another 1.3 acres of trees, and excluded over 13.5 acres of riparian wetland areas on the farm. This program year, they will be planting still more trees through the state cost-share program (VACS) offered by Tri-County/City.

Robert moves his cattle once daily; he has the process of moving fence down to an art. While they are still expanding their herd, he says that it only takes him about an hour to move the cattle into the next strip, pull up the old “back fence”, and move it forward for the next day. He positions mobile troughs and a purchased mobile shade structure to shade the animals. Behind the cattle, he brings in chickens to scratch through manure left behind to better distribute it while the chickens eat the flies, cutting down on fly larvae typically found in cattle operations. The Greenlaws have a flock of meat chickens and a flock of layers to supply meat and eggs to their customers and several farmers markets in Richmond and Northern Virginia.

The Greenlaws are advocates for improving soil health and water quality. They open their farm to other local agricultural producers who wish to see how their innovative ideas are implemented. Gini teaches Environmental Science at Riverbend High School in Spotsylvania County where she educates her students about the conservation practices installed to improve water quality and other valuable techniques to enhance our natural resources.

**CONGRULATIONS TO ROBERT AND GINI GREENLAW  
on a job well done!**

# NRCS CORNER



Have you heard about the soil health & soil quality concept that is being publicized by USDA-NRCS and on many land grant colleges and universities? It's no secret that in order to maximize output of a plant's production, you must take care of your soil, right? Here is a simple, 4-principle concept of how we can better manage our soils to increase the health and yields of our plants!



**1. Keeping the soil covered** is the first step in protecting it from erosion. This also buffers soil temperature, slows rainfall runoff, and aids in rainfall infiltration.

**2. Minimizing disturbance** ( or 'tillage') is another proactive measure that can heal and protect both the physical and chemical properties of the soil and ultimately enhance the biological component of soil life. This is a great way to increase organic matter!

**3. Maximizing living roots** longer throughout the year fuels biological activity, aids nutrient cycling, and contributes to improved soil structure.

**4. Energizing with diversity** intentionally uses different crop species for specific purposes to enhance chemical, physical, and/or biological aspects of soil for improved system performance.

There are numerous methods of improving your soil's health. Stop by or call us and we'll be happy to discuss the options that will help **YOU** on **YOUR** farm or operation!

\*\*\*

NRCS is adopting a more streamlined database for conservation planning, contracting, and maintenance. While it will help us tremendously long term, it is going to take some time in early 2020 for field offices across the nation to learn how to use it. Therefore, the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) application submission and contracting will most likely occur later than normal in 2020.

\*\*\*

For those of you with Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) contracts, NRCS will start making CSP payments in December. If you prefer at 2020 payment, call me in January.

\*\*\*

I hope everyone has a safe and merry Christmas!

*Lucee F. Kossler*

USDA-NRCS District Conservationist,  
Fredericksburg Service Center  
540-684-9940

[Lucia.kossler@usda.gov](mailto:Lucia.kossler@usda.gov)

*USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.*

# BACK TO THE “OUTDOOR CLASSROOM”

By Tina Will

The Summer to Fall seasonal change means ‘Back to School’, but Fall’s beauty and the cooler weather always beckons us to go outside. The folks at Tri-County/City Soil & Water Conservation District (TCCSWCD) take advantage of this by joining Virginia Cooperative Extension’s (VCE or “Extension”) Spotsylvania office in offering “Meaningful Watershed Education Experience” (MWEE) days at Oakley Farm to Spotsylvania County Public Schools 4<sup>th</sup> graders. Oakley Farm is part of a Forest Wildlife Management Area in Spotsylvania County. There, the students are encouraged to explore the four systems that make up a watershed and learn what essential roles these systems play in our environment.

Krystal Williams, who runs Spotsylvania County Extension’s 4-H youth program, oversees the planning and scheduling of these MWEE days and enlists the help of partnering agencies: VA Department of Forestry, VA Department of Conservation & Recreation, and TCCSWCD. Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists also volunteer to help.

The organizers of the outdoor classroom days use scavenger hunts and simple dichotomous keys to answer questions: What is a watershed and what is a wetland? Why is it important to manage our forested lands? What are the benefits of trees, insects, and

plants give us food that we need? Which animals help control the insect and animal population? Overarching all these questions is the larger question: What happens when one or more of these systems gets out of balance? The students begin to see that the systems are interdependent and that their balance is essential to human existence also.

I had fun listening as the students worked their way through the dichotomous key, helping some recognize that a short tree was still a tree, not a shrub, and seeing them arrive at the right conclusion: American Holly Tree. Some had to rethink their conclusion of ‘fern’ since they knew that they couldn’t be right, thus honing their reasoning skills in the process. Many discovered what a Lichen is, and that there are different kinds of soil. I could tell that they were encountering new information about everything around them and enjoying the chance to do so.

My own introduction to environmental education came via a wonderful college professor many years ago. His for the outdoor world and the science of it ignited my interest in a way that has never waned. I think everyone should have a chance to learn about our outdoor world in a natural setting. We need an education, both indoors and out.

*Tina Will has volunteered with MGACRA for 13 years and lives near Ferry Farm in Stafford County. Photos by Tina Will. A version of this article first appeared in the October 2019 edition of the Fredericksburg community newspaper, the Front Porch.*



## VOLUNTEERS LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Tri-County/City Soil & Water Conservation District partners with various agencies including other SWCDs, county public schools, Virginia State Parks, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Natural Resource Conservation Services, and Department of Forestry to provide outdoor education opportunities in the counties of King George, Spotsylvania, Stafford, and the City of Fredericksburg. Often, we share educational experience success stories that highlight the school districts, the teachers, and the partners involved in creating a lasting experience for the students. However, for this success story, we would love to highlight the extra efforts of our volunteers to not only talk the talk of conservation, but also walk the walk.

In April 2019, as usual, Tri-County/City brought together volunteers and agency partners to bring the annual Aspen Grove Farm watershed field day for King George Elementary School to fruition. The stations were prepped; the students were eager (to run down the hill to start their hands-on learning), and the volunteers were prepared—not only for the children but also to put their own knowledge to the test. This year, prior to arriving at Aspen Grove Farm, all the volunteers and agency partners made a commitment – reduce the amount of trash we were going to produce during that field day.

Each volunteer was asked to bring their own bowl or plate, utensils, cup, and water bottle. At the end of the

day, everyone packed their used utensils and bowls to clean at home while Tri-County/City worked to recycle and repurpose as many items as possible. The sturdy, gallon bottles of Arizona Green Tea became water jugs for future programs. The 2-liter soda bottles were repurposed as parts for water filters for classroom activities. Panera Bread boxes transformed into recycling collection containers. While we were unable to go 100% zero waste, the amount of trash accumulated was minimal. Breakfast and lunch for over 20 people produced less than one plastic shopping bag worth of trash.

Educating the public is an integral part of reaching Virginia's goals of preventing soil erosion and protecting water quality. Tri-County/City works alongside local partnering agencies to provide meaningful educational opportunities to students of all ages that will inspire future stewards of Virginia lands and waters. We believe that an understanding and increased awareness of natural resources leads to lifelong behavioral change. As one volunteer stated, "We hope to inspire those behavioral changes when we live by example. And when we falter and make mistakes along the way, we want our students to know so that we all can continue to learn and grow together."

Thank you to our generous volunteers who not only make MWEEs possible in our community but live by



example to inspire future environmental stewards. For anyone interested in volunteering with Tri-County/City, you may reach the Education Coordinator, **Mariya Hudick**, at (540) 656-2401 or email [mariya.hudick@tccswcd.org](mailto:mariya.hudick@tccswcd.org) for upcoming opportunities.

# Tri-County/City Soil & Water 2020 Conservation Poster Contest

The Annual Conservation Poster Contest, sponsored by the National Association of Conservation Districts, helps students interpret the importance of our natural resources and convey that using art and imagination. The contest is open to all K-12 students in public, private, and homeschools and includes local, state, and national competitions for grade categories K-1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>. Winners of the national competition in each grade category receive cash prizes and are recognized at the Annual Meeting of the National Association of Conservation Districts.

Any Girl or Boy Scout who creates a poster and submits to their local Soil & Water Conservation District for judging can earn the Virginia Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts (VASWCD) Poster Contest Patch. When submitting a poster to earn the Poster Contest Patch, be sure to check the box on the entry form.



## 2020 Contest Slogan

**Where would we BEE without pollinators?**

Pollinators form the foundations of a healthy and sustainable future for food and the environment, but in recent years, they have shown concerning signs of decline. It's important that we work to help them prosper by enhancing native pollinator habitats and protecting against pollinator declines!

## Rules

- + Any 2-D media may be used, including paint, crayon, colored pencil, charcoal, stickers, paper, or other materials. Collage is acceptable but must be 2-D only. **The poster must be FLAT and 14" x 22" (typically half a poster-board).**
- + All posters must be created by an **individual student**, rather than a team of students.
- + The 2020 Stewardship slogan, "Where would we BEE without pollinators?", **must be included** on the front side of each poster submission to be eligible for the national poster contest.
- + Each entry must be submitted to Tri-County/City or your local SWCD **with an entry form** to be eligible for judging. The form must be completed and signed by a parent or guardian.
- + Although younger students will most likely receive help in planning from parents or teachers, each student is encouraged to do their own work.  
**\*\*\*Note:** Entries with student handwriting and coloring will score better than those designed, drawn, or colored by adult assistance.

## Prizes

- + The top three posters in each category of the national contest will receive monetary prizes. First place winners will receive \$200, second place winners will receive \$150, and 3rd place winners will receive \$100.
- + Monetary prizes at the national level are sponsored by the NACD Auxiliary from their quilt project and the Albert I Pierce Foundation.

## Resources

- + Visit the NACD Poster Contest site for additional resources, free activities and lesson ideas:

<http://www.nacdnet.org/general-resources/stewardship-and-education-materials/contests>



# 2020 NACD/VASWCD POSTER CONTEST

## Local Entry Form



Submit all entries to:

Tri -County/City Soil & Water Conservation District  
4811 Carr Drive, Fredericksburg, VA 22408

**DEADLINE**

February 7th, 2020 by 4:30 PM  
Please see contest rules on the next page.  
Attach this registration form to the back of your poster.

Please check  
appropriate category:

K-1 <sup>st</sup>	
2 <sup>nd</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup>	
4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	
7 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup>	
10 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	

This poster is being  
submitted to earn a

Scout VASWCD  
Poster Contest Patch



## STUDENT

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle: \_\_\_\_\_ Last: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ The poster is an original completed by the student.

\_\_\_\_ The student received assistance from another person or materials/ideas from another source. If so,  
please explain on another piece of paper.

## SCHOOL

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Public School: \_\_\_\_\_ Private School: \_\_\_\_\_ Home School: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or guardian name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parent of guardian allowing NACD/District to utilize the poster for educational or promotional  
purposes: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

SWCD Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tri-County/City Soil & Water Conservation District

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Mariya Hudick

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ mariya.hudick@tccswcd.org

## Questions?

Contact Tri-County/City Soil & Water Conservation District Education Coordinator, **Mariya Hudick**  
**mariya.hudick@tccswcd.org**

Or visit <http://vaswcd.org/poster-contest> for more information.

# Tri-County/City Soil & Water Conservation District 2020 L. Gordon "Link" Linkous Scholarship

## Purpose

The L. Gordon "Link" Linkous Scholarship promotes the education of Tri-County/City Soil & Water Conservation District resident students pursuing scientific and technical fields that emphasize natural resource conservation, environmental protection, and/or environmental studies.

## History

L. Gordon Linkous has been an esteemed colleague, mentor, advisor, and friend to countless Tri-County/City District Directors, staff, and area residents. The scholarship is named for Mr. Linkous in honor of his 60 years of dedicated service to the conservation of natural resources within the District.

Hailing from Blacksburg, Mr. Linkous arrived in the area in 1958 where he began to work for the USDA's Soil Conservation Service (now the Natural Resources Conservation Service or NRCS). At that time, the District had no paid staff, and it was USDA's staff who planned and implemented technical projects and provided services on the District's behalf. After 30 years with USDA, Mr. Linkous retired only to be pressed back into service and promptly hired by Tri-County/City as the organization's first District Manager. Mr. Linkous served as District Manager for the next eight years, laying the groundwork for many of the District's programs we operate today. Following a second "retirement," he was elected by City of Fredericksburg voters to serve on the District's Board of Directors. After stepping down from the elected position, the Board then appointed Mr. Linkous as an Associate Director.

During Mr. Linkous' 60 years with the District, he designed and installed numerous conservation projects; increased the adoption of conservation-focused best management practices by farmers and other citizens; and raised awareness of people of all ages about natural resource conservation.

In recognition of his numerous contributions, the L. Gordon "Link" Linkous Scholarship serves to support and inspire future stewards and leaders following in the footsteps of extraordinary conservationists such as Mr. Linkous.

## Qualifications

- + Applicant must reside in King George, Spotsylvania, Stafford, or Fredericksburg.
- + Applicant must be pursuing a degree in the fields of natural resource conservation such as forestry, soils, hydrology, agriculture, wildlife, natural resource management, or environmental sciences.
- + Applicant must document a class ranking in the top 20% of his or her graduate class OR a 3.0 or greater Grade Point Average OR appropriate equivalent of individual scholastic achievement.
- + Applicant must be either a rising or current student of an accredited higher education institution for the 2020-2021 academic year on either a part-time or full-time basis.

## Requirements

- + Demonstrate how educational interest relates to the conservation of natural resources.
- + Provide most recent official school transcript. A copy of a school transcript will not be accepted.
- + Provide letters of recommendation from 3 non-family references.
- + Return completed application form and all supplementary materials by 4:30 PM on 1/10/2020 to

Tri-County/City SWCD  
4811 Carr Drive  
Fredericksburg, VA 22408

The L. Gordon "Link" Linkous Scholarship presents one \$500 scholarship.

## Deadlines

January 10, 2020  
4:30 PM

Early Spring, 2020

Application Deadline. Must be received by Tri-County/City Soil & Water Conservation District.

Scholarship recipient will be announced.

**IMPORTANT:** In addition to the *L. Gordon "Link" Linkous Scholarship*, Tri-County/City also chooses a candidate from its applicants to be considered for the VASWCD College Scholarship. All applicants who are *rising or current full-time freshman level curriculum students* will be considered.

# VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

## EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP



### Purpose

To promote the education of Virginia citizens in technical fields with natural resource conservation and environmental protection.

To give financial support to students majoring in or showing a strong desire to major in a course curriculum related to natural resource conservation and/or environmental studies.

Four \$1,000 scholarships will be given to statewide winners.

Two scholarships are awarded on behalf of the VASWCD Education Foundation and two scholarships are awarded on behalf of the Virginia Chapter of the Soil & Water Conservation Society. A check will be issued directly to the selected institution of higher education on behalf of the student.

Applications submitted by Tri-County/City will be reviewed and screened by the Scholarship/Awards Committee. All applications and information contained therein shall remain confidential. Nominations from the Committee will be submitted to the VASWCD Educational Foundation Board of Directors for final approval.

The mission of the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation District's Educational Foundation, Inc. is to provide educational opportunities to citizens of Virginia to become good stewards of the environment and natural resources for the benefit of all. Virginia's Soil and Water Conservation Districts, the Virginia Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society, memorial gifts and other contributions have provided initial funding for the Foundation.

All programs and services of the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation District's Educational Foundation, Inc. are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis, without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status, or disability. All submitted paperwork is confidential and becomes the property of the VASWCDEF.



# VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

## A. Personal Information

- Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle
- Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- County or City of Residence: \_\_\_\_\_
- Local Soil & Water Conservation District: Tri-County/City Soil & Water Conservation District
- Home Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_
- Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Email: \_\_\_\_\_
- How did you learn about the scholarship? \_\_\_\_\_

## B. Educational Background (20 pts)

*Attach your most recent official transcript. Your official transcript must show the official school seal.*

- High School Attending or Attended: \_\_\_\_\_
- Anticipated or Date of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_
- Number of students in your class: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Rank: \_\_\_\_\_
- Scholastic Average (GPA): \_\_\_\_\_
- College Planning to Attend or Attending: *Include College Name & Location*  
(1) \_\_\_\_\_  
(2) \_\_\_\_\_
- Intended Field of Study or Major: \_\_\_\_\_

## C. Environmental Leadership & Activity Experience (15 pts)

*Attach additional information as needed.*

List any environmental leadership or activity experience - designating if high school or college experience - you may have including participation in Envirothon, Youth Conservation Camp, 4-H, Future Farmers of America (FFA), etc.

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## D. Other Leadership & Activity Experience (5 pts)

*Attach additional information as needed.*

List all other organizations and important extracurricular activities - designating if high school or college experience - in which you have or currently are participating. Indicate any activities in which you hold or have held office and note which position. Include other activities such as athletics, music, drama, dance, public speaking, clubs, societies, public events/exhibits or awards, list honors or letters earned.

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## E. Volunteer & Paid Experience (10 pts)

*Attach additional information as needed.*

List any other volunteer or paid experiences including your position, date of service, and brief description of duties.

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## F. Financial Information and Other Circumstances (5 pts)

While this is primarily a merit based scholarship, the review committee may take consideration of need or other special circumstances. The more detail provided about your need and why you deserve this scholarship the more it is helpful to the review committee. Attach more detail if necessary.

1. Are you applying for or will you receive a scholarship or loan from other sources? **Please circle one.** YES NO
2. If **yes**, please list loan and/or scholarship sources and estimated amounts that you are applying for:

3. In addition to the above, financing for your education will primarily come from: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Do you have other circumstances (ex. first generation college student, multiple siblings in college, etc.) or a personal situation you would like to share? \_\_\_\_\_

## G. References/Letters of Recommendation (10 pts)

Attach recommendation letters from at least 3 references—other than family members—who can provide additional information about your academic and community activities. Share with your references that the purpose of this scholarship is to promote through education the conservation of our natural resources by providing financial support to students majoring in or showing a strong desire to major in a curriculum related to natural resource conservation or environmental studies. List below details on those from whom you have requested recommendation letters.

1. Name of Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Relation of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Name of Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Relation of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Name of Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Relation of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## H. Essay (35 points)

Attach a typed essay of approximately 500-650 words describing yourself and your involvement/interest in the environment. Address what you feel is the most important environmental issue in your community and why. How can you assist and promote leadership in the conservation of natural resources?

## I. Short Essays (10 pts) THIS SECTION ONLY RELATES TO THE L. GORDON "LINK" LINKOUS SCHOLARSHIP.

Attach typed short essay responses of approximately 100-350 words to the following questions:

1. Why have you selected the chosen major/intended field of study and how does it relate to natural resource conservation?
2. How do you intend to use your degree in a natural resources career?

## J. Signatures & Certifications

In submitting this application, I hereby certify that the information provided is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. Falsification of information may result in termination of any scholarship granted. If declared a recipient of this scholarship, I will provide the VASWCD a statement that may be used for publicity purpose.

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Reminder - Attachments to Include: Official Transcript, Letters of Recommendation, Essays & any additional information.

Sponsoring SWCD: Tri-County/City SWCD Contact Phone Number: (540) 656-2401

SWCD Staff Point of Contact Regarding Scholarships: Mariya Hudick

**DEADLINE: January 10, 2020 by 4:30 PM**

# Tri-County/City Soil & Water Conservation District 2020 Youth Conservation Camp



## Youth Conservation Camp

July 2020  
Virginia Tech University  
Blacksburg, Virginia

**Deadline: February 7, 4:30 PM**

For the past 42 years, the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation District (VASWCD) has sponsored a week-long summer conservation camp for Virginia high school students on the campus of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech).

The program brings together about 70 interested students for a week of learning about Virginia's natural resources from conservation professionals and faculty from Virginia Tech. Most of the instruction is hands-on and outdoors.

## Eligibility

Youth Conservation Camp is a scholarship-based, summer educational opportunity for students interested in fields of natural resource conservation such as forestry, soils, hydrology, agriculture, wildlife, natural resource management, or environmental sciences. Camp applicants must be in grades 9-12 during the 2019-2020 academic school year. Twelfth graders who graduate in May, June, July, or August 2020 are eligible to attend. *(Previous campers are not eligible.)*

Campers pay only a non-refundable deposit of \$75.00 and are responsible for transportation to and from camp. Financial assistance may be available\*. All other costs are paid by Tri-County/City SWCD, including meals, lodging, activities, and transportation while at camp.

## Cost

## Application

Please fill out the attached application (see the next page). Submit completed application, recommendation letter, and any additional documents to the TCCSWCD office before **February 7, 4:30 PM** to:

Tri-County/City SWCD  
4811 Carr Drive  
Fredericksburg, VA 22408

\*Contact Tri-County/City Education Coordinator, **Mariya Hudick** for more information! [mariya.hudick@tccswcd.org](mailto:mariya.hudick@tccswcd.org)



# VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

## 2020 Youth Conservation Camp

July 2020

### Camper Application

Please print legibly or type (complete front & back)

Please complete and return  
application to

Tri-County/City SWCD  
4811 Carr Drive  
Fredericksburg, Virginia 22408

**by February 7, 4:30 PM**

Applicant's First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it should appear on camper name tag: \_\_\_\_\_

Age (as of July 2020): \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: Male \_\_\_\_\_ or Female \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of High School Attending (2019 - 2020): \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Completed by June 2020: \_\_\_\_\_ Field of Interest in Conservation: \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor and/or Teacher Recommendation (teacher, scout leader, etc.) \*Recommendation letter required

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relation to Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent or Guardian (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

### TRI-COUNTY/CITY SWCD USE ONLY

Rank: 1 2 3 4 5

Sponsoring SWCD: \_\_\_\_\_ Tri-County/City SWCD Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ (540) 656 - 2401

SWCD Staff Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Mariya Hudick E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ mariya.hudick@tccswcd.org

SWCD Scholarship (if other please note sponsor name): Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



# VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

## 2020 Youth Conservation Camp

Deadline: **February 7, 4:30 PM**

Please list your hobbies & favorite sports: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please check your background: Urban \_\_\_\_\_ Rural \_\_\_\_\_ Farm/Agriculture \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly list conservation activities and/or school projects you have participated in involving soil and water conservation, forestry, pollution, or other environmental areas:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What is the most important environmental issue in your community or county?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Write a brief paragraph on why you are interested in conservation and/or why you would like to be selected for this camp:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What subjects/topics do you hope to learn about while attending Youth Conservation Camp?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Tri-County/City Soil & Water Conservation District Directory



## District Directors

Giannina Frantz, <b>Chair</b>	Fredericksburg
Mike Broaddus, <b>Vice-Chair</b>	VA Cooperative Extn
Wayne Miller, <b>Secretary</b>	Spotsylvania
Janet Gayle Harris, <b>Treasurer</b>	King George
Jeff Adams	Stafford
Mike Anderson	Stafford
Steve Cameli	Fredericksburg
Jan Massey	Spotsylvania
Richard Street	At-large
Robert Wernsman	King George

## Associate Directors

Gordon Linkous	Fredericksburg
John Howe	Stafford
Ray Simms	Spotsylvania

## District Staff

Marta Perry	District Manager
Etta Lucas	Conservation Specialist
Jennifer Benson	Administrative Professional
Mariya Hudick	Education Coordinator

## Partner Agencies

Amy Walker, <b>DCR</b>	Conservation District Coordinator
Lucia Kossler, <b>NRCS</b>	District Conservationist

**TCCSWCD maintains a working relationship with each of the following agencies and organizations to reach common conservation goals:**

City of Fredericksburg  
King George County  
Spotsylvania County  
Stafford County  
USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service  
USDA – Farm Services Agency  
VA Department of Conservation & Recreation  
VA Cooperative Extension  
Friends of the Rappahannock  
VA State Parks  
VA Native Plant Society  
Tree Fredericksburg  
George Washington Regional Council  
Potomac River Watershed Roundtable  
Rappahannock River Basin Commission  
York River & Small Coastal Basins Roundtable  
VA Department of Environmental Quality  
VA Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services  
VA Department of Forestry  
VA Department of Game & Inland Fisheries  
VA Outdoors Foundation  
U.S. Army Corp of Engineers  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
VA Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts

**All programs and services of the Tri-County/City Soil and Water Conservation District are available without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, age, marital status, disability, gender, gender identity, political affiliation or any other basis protected by law.**