



From the *Fall Line*

Spring 2021

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



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Make Earth Day Every Day!

**Cost Share Sign-Up Period Starts
July 1, 2021**

**Fairview Beach Water Quality
Update Featured in the Free
Lance Star**

**Conservation Poster Contest:
Healthy Forests,
Healthy Communities**

NRCS Corner

**We're Taking Applications for
the 2021 "Link" Scholarship!**

Community Insights

Tri-County/City Directory

MAKE EARTH DAY EVERY DAY!



Let's keep rocking Earth Day, every day this year! Photo credit to Matthew McClelland of KPN Images from the Fredericksburg Earth Day Festival.

CONTACT US

4811 Carr Drive • Fredericksburg,
Virginia 22408

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

Fax: (540) 656-2403 • tccswcd.org



We celebrated the 51st Anniversary of Earth Day this past month, but is there a way to keep the Earth Day spirit alive throughout the rest of the year? Absolutely! Our collective daily activities impact the state of the planet, and with green decisions, we can make a sustainable future bloom. Check out some of these eco-friendly activities and swaps to consider to make Earth Day last all year and beyond!



MAY – Grocery Shop with Only Your Reusable Bags:

We use over 350,000 plastic bags in our lifetime. Imagine what one reusable bag could accomplish to curb that waste! Check what you already have available in your home for a bag. If you absolutely need to get a new reusable bag, consider the canvas tote from the Fredericksburg Food Co-op to support your local grocery store!

JUNE – Partake in a Trash Clean-Up: Start the Summer with a trash clean-up! What better way to celebrate the Chesapeake Bay than with “Clean the Bay Day” (May 31 – June 5)? This annual event brings together volunteers to pick up trash across the watershed for a healthier and cleaner Chesapeake Bay. Check out this [website](#) to find a clean-up event near you!

JULY – Switch to a Reef-Safe Sunscreen: In 2018, Hawaii became the first state in the United States to ban the sale of sunscreens that contain oxybenzone and octinoxate, two chemicals linked to coral reef bleaching. As Summer kicks into full swing, switch to a reef-safe sunscreen to accompany your outside adventures.

AUGUST – Digitize Your Paper Documents: School is just around the corner and work is always calling, it seems! Now is the perfect time to go through your paper documents such as bills, receipts, and memos to digitize and declutter that office space. Switch to digital copies and inquire whether your favourite stores have an email option for receipts. Get creative and challenge yourself this month to produce as little paper waste as you can.

SEPTEMBER – Plug In?!: Air conditioners aren’t the only thing sucking your electricity. Our daily appliances and chargers use energy when plugged in - even when they are not in use. For this month, identify your small appliances and hook them up to a power strip. You can easily turn off the strip and everything attached to it when you leave the room to save on your electricity use. Your energy bill will thank you for it!

OCTOBER – Be Sustainable With Your Fashion: Did you know that a pair of jeans uses 500 gallons of water in its total production!? The fashion industry is the second-biggest consumer of water and is responsible for 8-10% of global carbon emissions. As the seasons change and we welcome cooler months, check out your local thrift or secondhand store for your clothing haul to help curb that pollution while staying chic!

NOVEMBER – Opt Out of Black Friday: Join a nationwide movement to opt out of Black Friday this year and opt into nature! Spend this time in gratitude with family and appreciate the outdoors with a warm cup of tea. And if you can, consider donating to your favourite environmental charity or non-profit on Giving Tuesday.

DECEMBER – Mindfully Give Eco-Friendly Gifts: Ok, so we opted out of Black Friday, but the holiday season is about to sneak up on us. What do we do? Consider getting eco-friendly gifts for your loved ones this holiday season. Check out this [list of ideas](#) to spark some seasonal joy and spread the eco-friendly cheer!

The journey to living more sustainably is a marathon, not a race. Sometimes we will fail and forget to turn off the appliances. Give yourself permission to mess up and to learn from mistakes. It is better that a lot of people live “imperfect” eco-friendly lives than one person doing it all perfectly!

COST SHARE SIGN-UP PERIOD STARTS JULY 1, 2021!

Hello, friends!

The growing season is quickly sprouting, and I wanted to take a moment to thank our producers. It has been a pleasure meeting you all and getting my boots on the ground to check out your operations. As most of you know, Etta Lucas retired this Winter after a long and dedicated career of serving the District, and I appreciate everyone's understanding during the transition. I am excited to continue working alongside you all.

Initial sign-up for the Best Management Practices (BMP) Cost Share Program is from July 1 – August 13. Please call the office to make your appointment to sign up. Some examples of eligible BMPs include the following and more:

- Planting cover crops
- Fencing livestock out of streams
- Planting vegetative buffers
- Developing a nutrient management plan

Such practices are key to reducing pollution runoff and ensuring soil and water conservation on your farm and many also increase farm productivity.

Looking forward to seeing you soon,
Scott Adams, Conservation Specialist
Scott.Adams@tccswcd.org
(540) 656-2402



Conservation Specialist, Scott Adams, has spent time on many local farms while getting to know the District's producers.

The sign-up period is from
July 1 through August 13, 2021.

Please call the office to schedule a visit prior to coming out. All visitors are required to wear a mask. We can also supply a single-use mask for your convenience.

FAIRVIEW BEACH WATER QUALITY UPDATE FEATURED IN THE FREE LANCE STAR

There has long been question of human waste polluting the water at Fairview Beach. However, using the common water quality testing method to check for E. coli, we have not been able to find the answer. That is because testing for E. coli will only indicate total fecal matter contamination, but it does not tell you what the source of the contamination is. Is it from pet dogs? From geese? Deer? Or is it human waste, the kind of contamination most dangerous to human health?

Tri-County/City SWCD has been one of the lead partners in the joint effort to investigate the water quality at Fairview Beach. Tri-County/City has served as the project coordinator of the effort, and together with the work of the Virginia Department of Health (VDH), the King George County Service Authority (KGCSA), the county of King George, and the Fairview Beach Residents Association (FBRA), we have made great progress. Together, we were able to partner with Raul Gonzalez and Danny Barker, Environmental Scientists at the Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD), through HRSD's Municipal Assistance Program for some scientific detective work at Fairview Beach.

On March 20th, representatives from Tri-County/City and HRSD presented updates to the King George County Service Authority and the County Board of Supervisors on research into possible water contamination at Fairview Beach. HRSD has a state-of-the-art laboratory for testing water samples with technology that can definitively answer the question of whether there is human waste contaminating the water or not.

From samples collected by local partners, HRSD conducted two rounds of water testing over the summer of 2019 and the summer of 2020, in both wet weather and dry weather. That testing determined that there is no chronic contamination from human fecal waste in the waters at Fairview Beach. This was quite a happy outcome since for many years now it was suspected that there was human waste was the source of water pollution at Fairview Beach. Combining a strong working partnership and advanced technology, Tri-County/City is proud to have been part of finding the answer to this question.

In addition to Raul Gonzalez and Danny Barker of HRSD, we would also like to thank Steve Valentine (VDH), Kyle Conboy (the County), Mike Bennet (KGCSA & FBRA), Herb Cover (FBRA), and Don Pfalzgraf (FBRA) for their work.

[Check out the Free Lance Star article on the Fairview Beach water pollution investigation here.](#)

Tri-County/City Soil & Water 2021 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-1st, 2nd-3rd, 4th-6th, 7th-9th and 10th-12th. 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.



2021 Contest Slogan

Healthy Forests, Healthy Communities

Trees are vital. As the biggest plants on the planet, they absorb carbon from the atmosphere, stabilize the soil, filter water, provide healthy habitat for wildlife, and offer many additional benefits for nature, people, and biodiversity. Not only is it necessary to protect existing trees and plant new ones, but it's also important to advocate and educate about trees and forest conservation within your community.

Any Girl or Boy Scout who submits a poster to the contest is eligible for 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.

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 2021 Stewardship slogan, "Healthy Forests, Healthy Communities," **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>
- ★ Or contact Tri-County/City Education Coordinator, Mariya Hudick for more information mariya.hudick@tccswcd.org

DEADLINE: May 31, 2021 by 4:30 PM



2021 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

May 31st, 2021 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 st	
2 nd -3 rd	
4 th -6 th	
7 th -9 th	
10 th -12 th	

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**, at **mariya.hudick@tccswcd.org**

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

NRCS CORNER



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Spring Reminders for Producers!

For Cropland Producers:

Cover crops are currently being killed or harvested. For maximum benefit, don't kill them any more than 30 days prior to your next crop planting. If you have any cover crops that the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) or Tri-County/City Soil & Water Conservation District (TCCSWCD) is providing incentive/cost-share payments for, please call us a week prior to killing or harvesting so we can make sure we get out to inspect the fields and certify for payments.

For those who received nutrient management payments from NRCS or TCCSWCD: If you have not already done so, now is the time to schedule your annual meeting with your Nutrient Management Planner to discuss changes for this year's planting season. You will need your plan prior to planting (and starter fertilizer) to follow the plan and receive your payment in the fall.

For Livestock Producers:

Spring Green-Up is upon us! After a long winter of battling snow, mud, and cold. . . we now can take a little bit of a breather! Be sure to have adequate supplements like proper minerals and

other needed nutrients available to your cattle as they get turned out onto the fresh lush pastures. Being proactive now will help prevent issues like grass tetany and reduce the threat that flies bring to the herd!

For All Producers:

Annual Practice Reminder Letters have been mailed out to everyone with whom we hold active contracts. If you receive a letter and have any questions, please don't hesitate to call Matt, Brian, Carlie, or Ben at the office. We want to make sure that we keep everyone on schedule!

The annual Primary Nesting and Brood Season (**April 15th through August 15th**) is underway! No disturbance to riparian buffers and other designated wildlife habitats should take place during this period to allow wildlife to better utilize it for nesting and brooding!

Safe planting and I hope everyone has a wonderful spring!

Matt Roberts

Soil Conservationist

Are You or Someone You Know Interested in Conservation?

Join the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)'s Earth Team Volunteer Program today! Any individual 14 years or older and/or any organization can become a volunteer! Through the Earth Team Volunteer Program, participants help put conservation on the ground by working alongside both NRCS and SWCD employees. For more information, contact your local USDA-NRCS at (540)-899-9492, Ext. 5!



Helping People Help the Land

Looking for Technical and/or Financial Assistance to Implement Conservation?

If you or someone you know is interested or in need of technical and/or financial assistance to implement conservation practices on their property, be sure to contact your local USDA-NRCS at (540)-899-9492, Ext. 5 to set up a site visit, to see what we can do for you!

NRCS CORNER



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Welcome Staff & Volunteers!

BRIAN WOODEN, JR.



Brian Wooden, Jr. is NRCS's new District Conservationist for the Fredericksburg Service Center. Brian comes from the Hanover Service Center where he was the District Conservationist for 12 years. Brian's career path has taken him through the Chesapeake, Wytheville, Hanover, and now the Fredericksburg area. Brian is

a graduate of Virginia State University where he received a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Education. Brian grew up helping his cousins on their crop farms where they grew corn, peanuts, wheat, and soybeans.

CARLIE PEMBERTON

Carlie Pemberton has been working in the Fredericksburg Service Center for the past two summers as an NRCS Soil Conservationist Trainee through the USDA Pathways Internship Program. This past December, she graduated from Virginia Tech with a Bachelor of Science in Fish and Wildlife Conservation and was converted to a full-time Soil Conservationist. She is a native from Richmond County, located in the Northern Neck, where her grandfather owned and operated a dairy farm. During her internship, she also had the opportunity to work in the



Christiansburg, Wytheville, Warsaw, and Tappahannock Service Centers. She is looking forward to further working with and getting to know the producers and staff here in Fredericksburg.

HANNAH CLIFFORD

Hannah Clifford has been an NRCS Earth Team Volunteer with the Fredericksburg Service Center since February 2021 and is a native of Spotsylvania. Hannah is currently working on her Bachelor's in Environmental Science with a concentration in Natural Resources and Conservation from Southern New Hampshire University and will graduate in February 2022. She is most excited to foster relationships with area producers to get a better understanding of conservation planning and the many opportunities that are offered through both the USDA-NRCS and the local SWCDs.



MOLLY CURLING

Molly Curling has been an NRCS Earth Team volunteer for the Fredericksburg Service Center since February 2021. She is a junior at the University of Mary Washington and will graduate in the Spring of 2022 with a Bachelor of Science in Conservation Biology. When she is not at school, Molly raises goats and chickens with her family in Chesapeake. She is looking forward to expanding her knowledge of conservation and agriculture to gain practical experience in the field.



MADDIE LICHTER

Maddie Lichter has been an NRCS Earth Team volunteer with the Fredericksburg Field Office since February 2021. She is working towards a major in conservation biology and a minor in data science from the University of Mary Washington. Maddie is looking forward to learning more about the NRCS's role in local conservation efforts and discovering ways to be a better environmental advocate in her community.



Tri-County/City Soil & Water Conservation District

2021 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 2021-2022 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 **5/31/2020** to

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

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

Deadlines

May 31, 2021
4:30 PM

June-July

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

Scholarship recipient will be announced.



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.

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.

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: May 31, 2021 by 4:30 PM

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.

COMMUNITY INSIGHTS

KEEP IN THE KNOW AND UP TO DATE!

Mark Your Calendars!

Click on the event title link to find out more online.

Volunteering: King George Litter Clean-Up

Friends of the Rappahannock (FOR)
May 8 — 9:00 AM

Join FOR to help remove litter in King George County. Many tributaries to the Rappahannock River run underneath Route 3 where litter pollution enters our waterways.
Register in advance!

2021 Grazing School

Virginia Forage & Grassland Council
May 11 & 12 — 8:00 AM

Designed with beginning and experienced producers in mind; this 2-day, intensive course will teach you everything you need to know to better manage grazing on your farm.

Pasture Walk at Swallow Hill Farm

Virginia Forage & Grassland Council
May 13 — 5:00 PM

Everyone is invited to attend and learn how Tim Tobin of Swallow Hill Farm developed a rotational grazing system and is using a diversity of forages to manage for year-round grazing and improved cattle performance.

Environmental Education Series:

Invasive Plants

Downtown Greens
May 15 — 1:00 PM

Join Downtown Greens to discover how to identify common invasive plants and best practices for removal. This workshop is free but open to \$10 donations that support food security in the Fredericksburg community.

Webinar: Inspiring Environmental Learning Through Music & Song!

Outdoor Learning Store
May 20 — 4:00 PM

In this free, “voices-on” workshop, we’ll investigate the wonderful world of “envirosongs” or “songs for environmental education”. Veteran educator and eco-singer Remy Rodden will lead you in a few tunes to lift your spirits and celebrate the natural world.

Clean the Bay “Day”

Chesapeake Bay Foundation
May 31 - June 5, 2021

Every day, each of us can do our part to make the Chesapeake even more beautiful by preventing and picking up litter. Clean the Bay “Day” - a long-standing Virginia tradition 33 years in the making - shows us that we all can be environmental stewards of our waters.

Marketing Your Farm Products

Small Farm Outreach Program (SFOP)
June 16 — 9:00 AM

Join SFOP for a virtual meeting on marketing your farm products with topics including promotion, pricing, packaging, and display.

Virtual Conference for Garden Educators

National Children and Youth Garden Symposium (NCYGS)
July 7 - July 9, 2021

The NCYGS 2021 theme is “youth empowerment”. This symposium brings together educators, landscape architects and designers, staff at botanic gardens, non-profits, and more from around the country who are all working to engage children with gardens and the natural world that surrounds them.

GREAT FOR KIDS & FAMILIES

Monthly Challenge: BackyardBio

Exploring By the Seat of Your Pants
May 1 - May 31, 2021

BackyardBio is a May campaign encouraging the public, and especially kids, to get out exploring the natural world near them observing, documenting and sharing the wild organisms they discover!

Picnic in the Park

Fredericksburg City Parks & Recreation
Every Tuesday in May & June — 11:30 AM
Enjoy music in the park! Bring a picnic lunch or purchase lunch from one of the local food vendors in the park.

Build Your Own Bat Box

Caledon State Park
May 29 — 1:00 PM

Make your own bat box for our only true flying mammal. Each night, bats eat thousands of insects. If bats move into your box, you will have a natural pest management program in your own yard. Bring your own cordless drill if you have one. Please call 540-663-3861 to make a reservation.

World Oceans Day

Virginia Living Museum
June 8 — 10:00 AM

Celebrate the world’s oceans with a day of family activities at the Virginia Living Museum designed to raise awareness of the importance of ocean conservation. See displays of ocean specimens from the Museum’s non-live natural history collections and explore ocean-focus information throughout the galleries.

Interested in exploring more events? The Virginia Cooperative Extension has a Google Calendar that compiles and updates events across the state! Check out more events [here](#).



Tri-County/City Soil & Water Conservation District Directory

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

APPOINTED DIRECTORS

VA Cooperative Extension, Extension Agent
Mike Broaddus, since 2012

VA Soil & Water Conservation Board, At-large
Ray Simms, since 2020¹

ELECTED DIRECTORS

Fredericksburg

Giannina D. Frantz (Chair), since 2012
Charles "Chuck" Koch, since 2020

King George

Janet Gayle Harris (Treasurer), since 1990
Robert "Bob" Wernsman, since 2016

Spotsylvania

Jan Massey (Vice Chair), since 2016
Wayne W. Miller (Secretary), since 1972

Stafford

Jeff Adams, since 2016
Tim Makee, since 2020

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

John Howe, Stafford - since 2015²
Lucia Street, Spotsylvania - since 2019

STAFF

Jen Benson, Administrative Professional
Mariya Hudick, Education Coordinator
Scott Adams, Conservation Specialist
Marta Perry, District Manager

PARTNERS

VA Department of Forestry

Manij Upadhyay, Area Forester

USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service

Brian Wooden, District Conservationist

VA Department of Conservation & Recreation

Marissa Roland, Regional District Coordinator

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

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

¹ Also elected as Director for Spotsylvania 1974-75, 1982-83, and 1995-2015,

² Also appointed as Director for VA Cooperative Extension from 2000-2010.

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.

The Commonwealth of Virginia supports Tri-County/City Soil & Water Conservation District through financial & administrative assistance provided by the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board and the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation.