2013
Virginia Outdoors Plan

Virginia’s 10th Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)

Recognized as one of top 3 SCORPs in country
Outdoor Recreation Objective

Provide guidance to all levels of government and the private sector in meeting the state’s conservation, outdoor recreation and open space needs.

Produced in accordance with §10.1-200 of the Code of Virginia.
Land Conservation Objective

Provides guidance for land protection through actions of the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation (VLCF).

Identifies potential conservation lands in each planning district (region).

In accordance with §10.1-1021 of the Virginia Code.
Land & Water Conservation Fund

Requirement of the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) program

Provides guidance for grant fund allocation to state and local projects
Thematic Focus & Staff Research

- Outdoor Recreation Trends
- Economics & Tourism
- Health and Outdoor Recreation
- Land Conservation
Trends in Outdoor Recreation Planning

- National recreation trends research
- 2011 Virginia Outdoors Survey
- Changing state demographics
- Funding and partnerships
- Tourism
- New and emerging recreation and sports,
Results from the 2011 Virginia Outdoor Survey

Center for Survey Research, University of Virginia
Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation

www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational_planning/vop.shtml
## Public Perception of What Outdoor Recreation Facilities are Most Needed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>% of households</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hiking and walking trails</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State waters: fishing, swimming, beach</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural areas</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicycling trails</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historic areas</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canoeing, kayaking</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildlife watching and nature study</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playing fields for outdoor sports</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public pools</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis and basketball courts</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Trends in Land Conservation

- Need for land conservation and conservation planning
- Economic value of land protection
- Conservation tools
- Guidelines for implementing land conservation in Virginia
Economic Value of Outdoor Recreation
2011 Outdoor Industry Report

- Americans spent an estimated $645.6 billion on outdoor recreation in 2011

www.outdoorindustry.org
An Overlooked Economic Giant

Annual Consumer Spending, in Billions

- Pharmaceuticals: $331
- Motor Vehicles and Parts: $340
- Outdoor Recreation: $646
- Financial Services and Insurance: $780
- Outpatient Health Care: $767
- Gasoline and Other Fuels: $354
- Household Utilities: $309

Virginia State Parks Revenue

$187 million Economic Impact
Virginia and its diversity will offer superior environments for individual visitors, couples, families, groups, and residents to enjoy nature and outdoor recreation ranging from relaxing getaways to adventure travel across the Commonwealth's coastal shores, beaches, and lowlands to the mountain and valleys along its western borders.
Health and Wellness

Trends and opportunities linking health and wellness to outdoor recreation
Public Meetings

42 public meetings
480 citizen participants

Identified outdoor recreation uses and trends within each region of the Commonwealth
Additional Comments & Input

- 121 citizen comments (e-mail & letters)
- Additional meetings held with special interest groups
Partnerships & Interactive Process

Provide ongoing input (external internal)
- Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
- Stakeholders/users of the document
- Regional input from planning districts
VOP Products

- Online document
- Interactive mapping
- Promotional card with web link
- Executive summary brochure with disk
Next Steps

- VOP (SCORP) expires March 31, 2013
- Draft VOP to Secretary of Natural Resources – March 1, 2013
- Letter signed for NPS – March 15, 2013

http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/vop