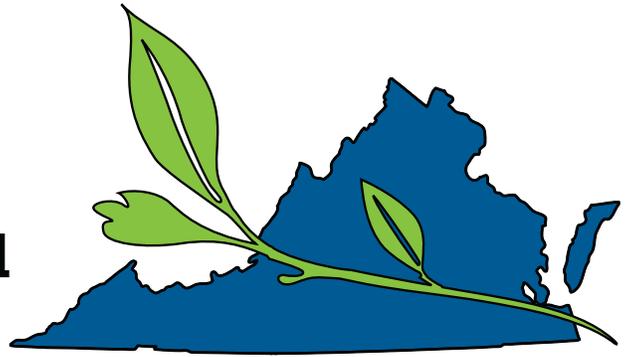


# 2019 Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards



Environment Virginia Symposium, Lexington • March 28, 2019

The Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards recognize successful and innovative efforts that improve Virginia's environment. The annual awards program is run as a partnership between the Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

## Capital Region Land Conservancy Malvern Hill Farm



### LAND CONSERVATION **GOLD**

In August 2016, the 871-acre Malvern Hill Farm, which is listed on the Virginia Landmarks Registry and the National Register of Historic Places, was listed for sale for a 515 home residential development project. While many conservation groups had an interest in Malvern Hill, the Capital Region Land Conservancy (CRLC) stepped into a leadership role and ratified a purchase agreement for \$6.6 million. As the local land trust for the Richmond region,

CRLC coordinated with many partners to finalize a complex arrangement to finance acquisition of the property, secure protections through conservation easements and transfer portions of the land to long-term holders who will manage and make it available for future public access. Preserving Malvern Hill Farm allows the land to continue to be actively farmed and provides the opportunity for cultural tourism and outdoor recreation.



## Carilion Clinic Efficiency and Sustainability Program



### SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM **GOLD**

Carilion Clinic's Efficiency and Sustainability Program is led by its Environmental Stewardship Council and over 100 Sustainability Champions from various departments who recognize that the health of our environment directly impacts the health of our communities. Carilion Clinic is committed to creating a comprehensive environmental sustainability program and working with its community partners in Southwest Virginia. Through the Efficiency and Sustainability Program, Carilion Clinic

has expanded recycling efforts, increased funding to purchase food from local farmers, installed 4,000 solar panels and upgraded lighting. Carilion Clinic has donated over 40 tons of excess medical supplies to support medical education and international missions, sponsored a community bike share program and funded an urban farm which offers produce to anyone who tends the garden or attends on-site health education events.



### SPONSORED BY



## Chesterfield County Parks and Recreation Dutch Gap Relic River Trail and Water Access



### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VIRGINIA OUTDOORS PLAN **GOLD**

The Dutch Gap Relic River Trail and Water Access project includes a 430-foot floating boardwalk and launch dock. It is Chesterfield's first interpretive boardwalk featuring a unique portion of the James River that has been separated from the main channel by elimination of oxbows in the river route. The boardwalk's dock includes a fully accessible canoe and kayak launch. This new water access offers a way to reach the non-tidal marsh and, via a wooden portage board-

walk, access the main James River channel. The marsh has a rich history and is unique to the region for the way it was formed and for the fish and wildlife habitat it supports. A need for water access was documented by both the Chesterfield Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan and the 2017 Virginia Outdoors Demand Survey. Prior to the boardwalk, the non-tidal marsh at Dutch Gap was not accessible to the public.



## Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) SWIFT Research Center



### ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT **GOLD**

HRSD's Sustainable Water Initiative for Tomorrow (SWIFT) fundamentally changes the way water is managed in eastern Virginia, providing a sustainable source of groundwater to the Potomac aquifer; reducing nutrients discharged to the Chesapeake Bay watershed; protecting the Potomac aquifer from salt water intrusion; and, potentially slowing, stopping or reversing land subsidence related to groundwater withdrawal. The SWIFT Research Center is a multipurpose facility recharging the Potomac aquifer with one million gallons of SWIFT Water daily. SWIFT Water is produced by adding addition-

al advanced water treatment processes to already highly treated wastewater resulting in water that meets safe drinking water standards. Beyond producing SWIFT Water and recharging the aquifer, the SWIFT Research Center is a public education facility, a water treatment and groundwater research facility and an operator training center. Data from the SWIFT Research Center will inform the full-scale implementation of SWIFT at five HRSD facilities over the next 12 years, ultimately recharging the Potomac aquifer with more than 100 million gallons of SWIFT Water daily.



## Chesterfield County General Services Energy Management & Sustainability Program



### SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM **SILVER**

For over 15 years, Chesterfield County has been committed to and continually developing an Energy Management and Sustainability Program. The main functions of the program have been to track and monitor energy use, identify facility improvement measures and consistently work toward improved energy efficiency and sustainability. The facility has conducted energy audits, facility condition assessments, benchmarking, lighting retrofits, and HVAC replacements in addition to participation in efficiency programs such

as demand response. The program activities have developed over the years to increasingly include community outreach and education through placement of real-time utility educational kiosks in each middle school, the library system's energy monitoring equipment check-out program, and, most recently, an employee behavior-based energy efficiency initiative called Cfield Unplugged. Energy management initiatives over the past five years have saved the County nearly \$5 million dollars.



## Prince William County - Department of Fire and Rescue Smarter Chemicals Program

### ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT **SILVER**

Prince William County (PWC) Department of Fire and Rescue worked with others in the County to develop a Smarter Chemicals product list. It was found that the average station had over 40 different cleaning products, compared to an average of eight for custodial companies hired by PWC. At the same time, a review of employee injuries revealed that many “slips and falls” were related to inappropriate dilutions of cleaners leaving floors slick and

many “strains and sprains” were related to heavy products. The program has reduced employee injuries, decreased damage to facilities due to improper dilutions, limited exposure to potentially hazardous substances, cut excessive purchasing and the resulting disposal costs, and minimized the effort to maintain Safety Data Sheets. On average, 116 cleaning chemicals with safety hazards were eliminated from each fire station.



## Roanoke County Parks, Recreation & Tourism Jae Valley Park

### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VIRGINIA OUTDOORS PLAN **SILVER**

Jae Valley Park resulted from a partnership between Roanoke County and Roanoke City to develop a canoe and kayak launch facility, opening up five miles of Back Creek, which connects to the Roanoke River Blueway. Jae Valley Park encompasses 10 acres along Jae Valley Road with 2,200 linear feet of natural surface walking trails and 1,400 linear feet of frontage along Back Creek with several launch points. The Chairman of Friends of the Rivers of

Virginia noticed the property sitting fallow and worked with both the City and County, leading to the City selling the property to the County for \$1 as part of a 2016 land swap agreement. Roanoke County will continue to expand and promote the County’s outdoor recreational advantages, like Jae Valley Park, which support watershed management protection by encouraging recreational use, protection and environmental stewardship.

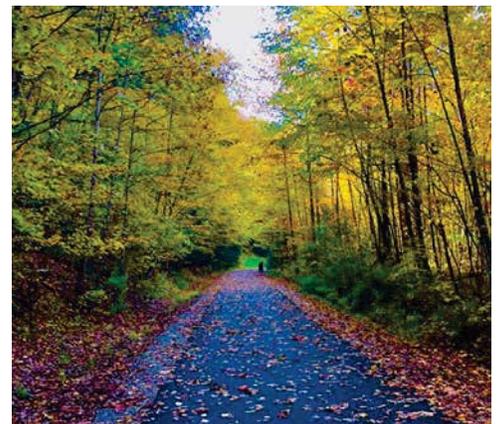


## Town of Appalachia Powell River Trail & Trailhead

### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VIRGINIA OUTDOORS PLAN **SILVER**

Completed in October of 2017, the Powell River Trail & Trailhead is a rails-to-trails project in the Town of Appalachia that converted an abandoned Louisville & Nashville Railroad line into a multi-use recreation trail that is wheelchair accessible. The project consists of approximately 1.5 miles of paved trail that follows the scenic Powell River and includes two tunnels and two bridges. Additionally, the trailhead area includes parking and

is highlighted by a refurbished Norfolk & Western train caboose. Funded by VDOT and maintained by the Town of Appalachia, the project is an outstanding addition to the regional outdoor recreation initiative which has stimulated recreational and economic growth in the area. To capitalize on the success and interest the project has generated, the Town is developing a Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.



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## Virginia State University Simms Hall Demolition and Site Redevelopment



### ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT **BRONZE**

In April 2017, the Virginia State University (VSU) Board of Visitors approved the demolition of Simms Hall following a 2016 fire that caused significant structural damage to the building. VSU contacted the Virginia Department of Corrections (VADOC) about partnering for the project. As part of the Governor's Re-entry Initiative, offenders gain job experience in general construction while also learning about green projects.

VSU and VADOC strove to reduce the amount of material disposed. Due to meticulous separation of building materials, 64 tons of wood and 94 tons of steel were diverted from landfills. The Simms pad site is now being redeveloped as a river overlook area with improved stormwater drainage and safety features such as site lighting and railings.



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## Wärtsilä Defense, Inc. WDI Environmental Sustainability Program

### SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM **BRONZE**

In its work to build and repair propulsion systems, Wärtsilä Defense Inc. (WDI) holds an international, third-party certification for meeting high standards of environmental management system implementation (ISO 14001:2015). The Chesapeake facility touts zero landfill waste and has continually reduced electrical consumption since 2009. Since initiating the phased LED re-lamping, electrical consumption is down

313 MWh, reducing CO2 emissions by about 231 tons and saving the company around \$25,000. In 2018 WDI recycled or repurposed over 38 tons of trash. The priority is: repurpose for company use, repurpose by employees, recycle, send to incinerator for energy production. In addition, WDI sponsored the first "Seabin" on the East Coast to collect marine debris at Nauticus.



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## Virginia Tech - Office of Sustainability Student Internship Program

### SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM - HONORABLE MENTION



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## Wild Wolf Brewing Every Day is Earth Day

### SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM - HONORABLE MENTION

