

AGENDA NOTE – HRPDC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

ITEM #19: FOR YOUR INFORMATION

A. NEW COMMISSIONER ORIENTATION

On September 8, 2010, the HRPDC staff provided an orientation briefing to newly appointed members of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission.

B. HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM PEER REVIEW PROCESS

HRPDC Emergency Management Administrator Richard Flannery and UASI Program Planner John Sadler participated in the FY 2010 Homeland Security Grant Program Peer Review Process. Both were recognized by the Federal Emergency Management Agency for their contributions. Copies of the Certificates of Appreciation are attached.

Attachments

C. 2010 STEWARDSHIP VIRGINIA FALL CAMPAIGN

Attached for your information is the August 1, 2010 Announcement and related materials from Governor McDonnell launching the Fall 2010 Stewardship Virginia Campaign. The HRPDC staff has advised local government staff of the campaign and is including information from various local government and private initiatives on the websites of the HRPDC environmental education programs.

Attachment

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

This certificate is awarded to:

RICHARD FLANNERY

in appreciation and recognition of your invaluable contributions to the
FY 2010 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM PEER REVIEW PROCESS
by recommendation of the Assistant Administrator of the Grant Programs Directorate,
Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security

Given this 15th day of July in the year 2010



FEMA

Elizabeth M. Harman
Assistant Administrator, Grant Programs Directorate

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

This certificate is awarded to:

JOHN SADLER

in appreciation and recognition of your invaluable contributions to the
FY 2010 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM PEER REVIEW PROCESS
by recommendation of the Assistant Administrator of the Grant Programs Directorate,
Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security

Given this 15th day of July in the year 2010



FEMA

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth M. Harman".

Elizabeth M. Harman
Assistant Administrator, Grant Programs Directorate



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

Robert F. McDonnell
Governor

August 1, 2010

Dear Fellow Virginians:

I am honored to be launching the 2010 Stewardship Virginia fall campaign to run September 1 through October 31, 2010. Stewardship Virginia is a campaign to encourage volunteers to participate in a specific group of tangible projects that will contribute to conserving Virginia's landscapes, improving water quality, providing for improved recreational opportunities, and enhancing fisheries and wildlife.

Citizens, businesses and service groups across the Commonwealth are encouraged to become involved by adopting streams, planting buffers, improving wildlife habitat, and participating in educational and recreational programs.

Virginia's natural resource agencies and others will participate in these efforts, and the governor will thank participants with personal certificates of appreciation. Given your commitment to wise stewardship, I am asking you to identify and undertake one or more projects and to register your event or activity with Stewardship Virginia so we can recognize your contribution to improving the environment. Or, if you prefer, volunteer for one of the projects sponsored by our natural resource agencies. You can find a list of them at www.dcr.virginia.gov/stewardship.

Virginia's landscapes and waterways are important for their ecological value, scenic beauty and recreational opportunities. If you or your organization would like to participate in Stewardship Virginia, complete the attached registration form and mail or fax it to the address listed. You can also register your event on-line at the above website.

The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation is once again taking a leadership role in this campaign. If you have any questions or need additional information, please call Bonnie Phillips with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation at (804) 786-5056 or toll free at 1-877-42-WATER.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert F. McDonnell".

Robert F. McDonnell

Patrick Henry Building • 1111 East Broad Street • Richmond, Virginia 23219
(804) 786-2211 • TTY (800) 828-1120
www.governor.virginia.gov

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HRPP



Stewardship Virginia

April 1 - May 31, 2010

September 1 - October 31, 2010

**Building a Better Outdoors -
Today, Tomorrow... Every Day**

Stewardship Virginia is a statewide initiative held twice annually to help citizens with projects that enhance and conserve Virginia's natural and cultural resources. Its focus is on projects that

- > enhance water quality
- > control invasive species
- > improve recreational resources
- > preserve historic and cultural resources
- > conserve natural heritage resources
- > educate people about recreational, historical, cultural, wildlife, forest and water resources
- > improve wildlife habitat and tree cover

Interested? Then get involved!

Get the word out about Stewardship Virginia by mentioning it in your newsletter, posting flyers on bulletin boards or promoting it with paychecks or organizational mailings. Businesses can grant employees time off to help with an event. Business can also contribute directly to the campaign to help defray the costs of promotional material.

Stewardship Virginia... as simple as 1, 2, 3

1. Plan and conduct a volunteer project or event or join an existing one. Our resource guide makes it easy to get great ideas about projects and where to go to get started. Come up with your own unique projects, or call to speak with the project coordinator for ideas and guidance.
2. Complete a registration form and send it in. Your event will be added to our website, ensuring greater exposure.
3. Give volunteers a big "thank you" by handing out certificates signed by Governor Bob McDonnell. These will be sent to you after receiving your registration.

For more information on participation or contributing to Stewardship Virginia, call toll-free 1-877-42-WATER. In Richmond call (804) 786-5056 or email: bonnie.phillips@dcr.virginia.gov

www.dcr.virginia.gov/stewardship



Stewardship Virginia

April 1 - May 31, 2010

September 1 - October 31, 2010

**Building a Better Outdoors -
Today, Tomorrow... Every Day**

REGISTER an EVENT

Event date(s) _____

Description of event _____

Location of event _____ Time _____

Estimated amount of hours worked _____

How many certificates do you need? _____

Contact name _____

Organization _____

Address to send certificates _____

Is this event open to the public? Yes _____ No _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____

Please let us know if you want more information on:

- Other volunteer opportunities
- Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation news

Fax to: 804.371.0315

Or send to:

**Stewardship Virginia Campaign
203 Governor Street, Room 406
Richmond, VA 23219**

www.dcr.virginia.gov/stewardship

Improve Recreational Resources

Trail projects - Trails offer transportation alternatives, connect communities, parks and neighborhoods, and provide serene places for families to get away from traffic, noise and pollution. Trails provide a valuable wilderness experience and teach children the importance of natural resources conservation. Whether it's hiking, biking or horseback riding, trails are great places to enjoy the outdoors. For information on trail building and maintenance. Opportunities, visit DCR's website at <http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/volnteer.shtml>

Preserve Historic and Cultural Resources

Virginians enjoy a wealth of history. Learn and share interesting facts while working on a project. Conduct a cultural heritage project such as a collection of oral histories. Volunteer to help spruce up a historic house or museum, or help record an archaeological site. For more information on ways to get involved in historic preservation and archeology. Visit <http://www.dhr.virginia.gov/>

For educational resources, including exhibits, teaching kits, and lesson plans, visit: <http://www.dhr.virginia.gov/educ/edu1.htm>.

Natural Heritage Resources

Virginians share the Old Dominion with thousands of more species populations and natural communities.

- > Information on natural heritage resources in your area, http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/nhrinfo.shtml
- > Natural Area Preserves, http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/natural_area_preserves/index.shtml
- > Management and restoration projects for which you can volunteer, http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/spevents.shtml
- > Conservation lands mapping site, which allows you to easily find and print maps of protected lands, http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/conslandmap.shtml

Education

Teach others about outdoor and cultural resources. Good stewardship results from creating awareness, understanding and appreciation for our outdoor resources. Teachers, youth leaders, civic organizations, sportsmen's groups and others can help set that stage by exposing children to the outdoors through educational activities and experiences. There are many educational resources and programs that can help. Visit Virginia Naturally, <http://www.vanaturally.com>.

Wildlife Habitat

Help build a better outdoors for fish and wildlife by enhancing habitat. It doesn't matter if you have a small backyard or a huge farm; there are many ways to improve wildlife habitat. Consider landscaping for songbirds, managing for deer, turkey or quail, or improving the fishing in your pond with artificial reefs.

Habitat improvement projects are fun, rewarding, and range from easy to intensive. Everybody can do something. Visit:

- > Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, Habitat Program,
<http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/habitat/>
- > Best management practices for your pond habitat can be found at
<http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/fishing/pondmanagement/>.

Marine fisheries conservation

Tag a fish: Catch, tag and release fish with fellow saltwater fishermen. By participating in the Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program (VGFTP), you help develop information needed to conserve and manage saltwater fish. The Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) sponsors this annual program. Participants register in December and January; training takes place in February and targets many popular saltwater species.

Special tagging events: The VGFTP is planning several one-day tagging events next year. Open to the public (some require pre-registration), you'll learn about tagging fish, talk with program managers and veteran taggers, and enjoy a little fishing.

Catch-and-release fishing: Catch-and-release fishing is a great way to learn firsthand about conservation. Learn about the best equipment and how to handle fish to ensure that they remain in good health. Many species of released fish are eligible for recognition through the Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament, and the Virginia Junior Angler Program recognizes only released fish.

Learn more about these marine conservation programs by visiting <http://www.mrc.virginia.gov>.



Stewardship Virginia

April 1 - May 31, 2010

September 1 - October 31, 2010

Building a Better Outdoors -
Today, Tomorrow... Every Day

Stepping into Stewardship

A Resource Guide for Getting Involved in Volunteer Stewardship Activities

Water Quality

Buffer Your Backyard - If you own property along a stream, river, lake or wetland, consider buffering it. Buffers are plants other than grass along the water's edge. They filter and slow water draining into a waterway. Excess water running off lawns, roadways and sidewalks during storms can pick up unprotected soil, toxic substances, heavy metals and nutrients that may have been applied to land. These pollutants harm the health of local waterways and larger watersheds.

- > Learn how to create a buffer by downloading the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay's Backyard Buffers from, <http://www.acb-online.org/pubs/projects/deliverables145-3-2004.pdf>.
- > Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act and Regulations require a minimum 100-foot wide riparian buffer in Tidewater Virginia localities. Download the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation's *Got Buffer* brochure, http://www.cblad.virginia.gov/docs/chesapeake_bay_local_assistance/publica.shtml
- > Help Virginia state nurseries provide hardwood trees for plantings through acorn collection for the Growing Native Project. For more information visit <http://www.dof.virginia.gov/mgt/acorn-collect.htm>.
- > Want to know more about Riparian Forest Buffers, tree planting for conservation and how you can help the Virginia Department of Forestry plant trees in the state <http://www.dof.virginia.gov>.
- > Use native plants for conservation, restoration and landscaping. For a free list of native plants by region, habitat, type and recommended use, call the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation at (804) 786-7951 or visit http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/nativeplants.shtml.

Water monitoring - If you are interested in the health of our waterways, consider water quality monitoring. Sample your local creek or stream and share results with other monitors as part of Virginia Water Monitoring Day, www.deq.state.va.us/cmonitor/activities.html.

Restore your streambank - Streams are a product of the land they drain, and their water reflects streamside land management practices, good and bad. Much can be done to protect clean streams and restore damaged ones. Since private lands are where most streams lie, their fate depends largely on wise

www.dcr.virginia.gov/stewardship

management by landowners. If you have a stream you would like to care for, consider a project that protects and restores the streambank. You'll find information on restoring riparian areas and stream banks on the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries website at <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/habitat/lip/>.

Stencil storm drains - Many people don't realize that stormwater runoff empties directly into local waterways. You can change that by painting brightly colored messages along storm drains in your community. It's a community effort with lasting effects. The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation provides stencils that read, "Dump no waste, drains to (river/stream/lake/bay)". Visit http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/soil_&_water/documents/aasmanul.pdf for more information. Or write to adoptastream@dcr.virginia.gov.

BayScaping - BayScapes are environmentally sound landscapes that help people, wildlife and the Chesapeake Bay. You can bayscape backyards, business grounds, parks, schoolyards and more. Visit the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay's website at <http://www.alliancechesbay.org> for details.

Clean up litter - Contact your local litter control coordinator at <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/recycle/contactlist.html>. Whether intentional or not, our waterways receive tons of litter each year. There are many ways that litter is hazardous. Swimmers can cut their feet on glass. Propellers get caught in old rope and fishing line and it can be deadly to marine animals. Sea turtles swallow plastic bags mistaking them for their favorite food, jellyfish. They slowly starve as their digestive systems are inactivated. Seagulls, ducks and other animals become entangled in discarded fishing line, and many fish died in old nets drifting free with the tides. Some trash will sink and be covered up with sediment eventually. But plastics will not disintegrate and can float or remain suspended in the water. Thus a single piece of plastic litter might be a problem for hundreds of years. It's up to each of us to keep Virginia's rivers, streams, lakes and bays clean.

Help remove litter in and along Virginia's waterways and roadways by supporting or organizing a local cleanup project. These anti-litter activities are a good way for local businesses, civic groups, watershed associations, churches, schools, scouts and others to step into stewardship. Here are some organizations that can help you get involved:

- > Adopt a Stream, http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/soil_&_water/adopt.htm
- > Adopt a Highway, <http://www.virginiadot.org/programs/prog-aah-default.asp>
- > America Outdoors, National River Clean Up Week, <http://www.nationalrivercleanup.org/>
- > International Coastal Clean Up, <http://www.oceanconservancy.org/icc>

Invasive Species

Get rid of "the weeds" - Curb the attack of invasive exotic plant species on our landscape. Learn which ones live nearby and what you can do to stop them from spreading. Getting rid of "the weeds" can be a great project for landowners, youth groups, conservation organizations and others. Here are ways to get started.

- > Citizens Guide for the Control of Invasive Plants in Wetland and Riparian Areas. It's available for \$2 postage from the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay.
- > Visit http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/invspinfo.shtml for a list of the state's invasive species and management information.