



News Release

For Immediate Release

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Funding Allows Communities to Plant Thousands of Trees Statewide

More than 3,400 trees will be planted across Virginia thanks to the teamwork of the Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF), the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, U.S. Forest Service Chesapeake Watershed Forestry program, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation and Altria Co.

VDOF awarded \$99,000 statewide through the Virginia Trees for Clean Water (VTCW) program and partnered with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, who contributed \$25,000 for projects in the Richmond metro area. Grant recipients will match the grant funds with an estimated \$212,663 in the form of volunteer hours, cash or in kind services.

VTCW grants focus on developing vibrant, healthy urban forests and improving water quality by planting trees where they are needed most. Projects include tree planting activities of all types: riparian buffer tree planting, community and neighborhood tree plantings etc.

“The objective is to use on-the-ground accomplishments to obtain clean water in Virginia,” explained VDOF Urban and Community Forestry Coordinator Barbara White. “Successful projects do this by restoring and improving Virginia’s waters for current and future generations, demonstrating long-term water quality improvement through long-lived tree cover and public involvement and raising public awareness about the connection between planting trees and healthy streams and rivers.”

Nineteen organizations have been awarded funding including four projects in the Richmond-metro area thanks to this joint effort. Many of these projects involve a large number of community groups and volunteer organizations that will assist with planting and long-term care of the trees.

Trees
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Grant recipients and projects include:

Indigenous Environmental and Period Landscaping for the GBB & WHF Museum Center	Great Bridge Battlefield & Waterways History Foundation	\$ 10,000.00
Tree Demonstration Garden	VCE Newport News Master Gardeners	\$ 3,625.00
Median Trees	City of Portsmouth	\$ 3,300.00
Lexington N. Entrance, Cemetery & Wood Creek Trees	City of Lexington Dept. of Public Works	\$ 1,000.00
Purcell Park spring tree planting & Heritage Forest fall tree planting	City of Harrisonburg	\$ 3,925.00
Fredericksburg Community Tree Planting - 2018	Tree Fredericksburg	\$ 8,000.00
Rappahannock River Headwaters Stream Initiative	Friends of the Rappahannock	\$ 7,000.00
Restoring the Riparian Buffer in the Last Stand of Old Growth Forest in Purcellville	Town of Purcellville	\$ 3,436.00
Gateway Canopy Restoration Project	City of Winchester	\$ 3,000.00
Broad Street Median and Park Tree Planting Project	Goochland County	\$ 8,000.00
Hilton Ravine	Newport News Green Foundation	\$ 1,508.00
Trees for Lynchburg Residents	James River Association	\$ 7,260.00
Downtown Tree Enhancement Project	City of Buena Vista	\$ 1,670.00
The Spring Native Landscaping Demonstration	Covenant Woods	\$ 7,650.00
Recreating a Succession Forest in Two Post-Industrial Sites	Friends of James River Park Invasive Species Task Force	\$ 9,400.00

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Roanoke Valley Arbor Day Mini-Grant Program	Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission	\$ 4,425.00
Four Mile Run Restoration Project	Arlington County Department of Parks and Recreation	\$ 9,657.00
Branch's Tree Planting	Branch's Baptist Church	\$ 4,442.00
Mixed Tree Planting at the Border Next to the Limited Industrial (CM) Zone	Ayrhill Square HOA	\$ 1,750.00

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The Virginia Department of Forestry protects and develops healthy, sustainable forest resources for Virginians. Headquartered in Charlottesville, the Agency has forestry staff members assigned to every county to provide citizen service and public safety protection across the Commonwealth, which it's been doing now for more than 100 years. VDOF is an equal opportunity provider.

With nearly 16 million acres of forestland and more than 108,000 Virginians employed in forestry, forest products and related industries, Virginia forests provide an overall economic output of more than \$21 billion annually.

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