



NEWS RELEASE

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Virginia Department of Forestry Announces \$900,000 Available Through the Virginia Trees for Clean Water Grant Program

Deadline for applications is August 25

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA – The Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF) has announced the availability of approximately \$900,000 in grant funding through the current cycle of the Virginia Trees for Clean Water (VTCW) Grant Program. Supported by the Virginia Water Quality Improvement Fund, the VTCW Grant Program is designed to improve water quality across Virginia by encouraging tree-planting efforts where they are needed most and raise awareness of their benefits.

This cycle of grant funds will be used for projects occurring this fall and during the spring of 2023. Grants may be awarded to civic groups, communities, local governments, tribal organizations, non-profit organizations, neighborhood associations, public educational institutions, state agencies and volunteer groups.

The deadline for applications is 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 25.

Projects funded through the VTCW Grant Program include tree-planting activities of all types. Applications are accepted in the form of a proposal. The recommended funding range for proposals is between \$1,000 and \$50,000 per project. Funds are distributed on a reimbursement basis.

Proposals must include:

- A letter of recommendation from your local VDOF forester ([Find yours here](#))
- A detailed, long-term tree maintenance plan
- Community outreach and engagement components
- Demonstrate the merit of the project

“Trees improve our everyday lives in so many ways,” said VDOF Urban and Community Forestry Program Manager Lara Johnson. “Trees reduce the impacts of urban heat, filter our air and provide clean drinking water. Our goal is to plant and support as many trees as possible and VDOF is grateful for the opportunity to support these beneficial planting projects.”

The VTCW Grant Program also aims to help Virginia work towards its Phase III [Watershed Implementation Plan](#) (commonly called WIP III) goals, a comprehensive roadmap for improving Chesapeake Bay watersheds at federal, state and local levels.

For more information about the VTCW Grant Program, including the RFP, application and budget worksheet, visit [VDOF's website](#).

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About the Virginia Department of Forestry

The Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOP) protects and develops healthy, sustainable forest resources for Virginians. 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.

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. VDOP is an equal opportunity provider.