

Henricopolis Happenings

A publication of the Henricopolis Soil & Water Conservation District

June 2015

Historic Preservation Advisory Committee Honors Virginia Lipford



At the Board of Directors meeting on February 19, Chairman Herb Dunford signed the "final piece of the puzzle", officially completing the District's first Conservation Easement for the Virginia Lipford property on Osborne Turnpike in Henrico County.

The Historic Preservation Advisory Committee honored Virginia Lipford's easement in their 2015 Awards of Merit Ceremony on March 31st at the Deep Run Recreation Center. Pictured are Henricopolis Vice-Chair Nicole Anderson Ellis, HPAC Chair Beverly Davis, Virginia Lipford, Henricopolis SWCD Chair Herb Dunford and Board of Supervisors Chair Frank Thornton. Mr. Thornton and County Manager John Vithoulkas were among the speakers. Ms. Lipford received the award for "her work in securing the first small-acreage easement to preserve her ancestral property in Henrico County."

Youth Conservation Camp

The District annually sponsors two Henrico County students to attend Youth Conservation Camp sponsored by the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts and held at Virginia Tech each summer. Campers spend a week enjoying hands-on activities that focus on conservation topics. Congratulations to the campers who will be representing Henricopolis in 2015:

Nicholas O'Neill McDermott

Rising Senior at Deep Run High School.

Jazmin Lopez-Herrera

Rising Junior at Highland Springs High School.

Scholarship Winners

Through an endowment with the Colonial Agricultural Foundation, Henricopolis provides up to three \$1,000 scholarships to deserving Henrico County students aspiring to earn degrees in the environmental sciences. In 2015, Henricopolis was able to award \$1500 scholarships to the following winners:

Erin Louise Thady

Rising Senior at James Madison University

Robin Grace Thady

Rising freshman at the College of William and Mary

Katherine Aylett Lipford

Rising sophomore at Virginia Tech

Congratulations to Henricopolis Envirothon Team!



Envirothon is a natural resources competition for high school students. Teams compete in the areas of soils, forestry, aquatics and wildlife. Competitions involve "in-the-field" tests and written quizzes. Students also make an oral presentation providing a solution to a real-world environmental problem. Teams compete on a local level, with the winners advance to the state level, and then to the national competition.

Highland Springs represented Henricopolis at the Area III competition held at Chickahominy River Park on April 14. The team placed third in the Area contest and for the first time ever, a Henrico County team advanced to the Virginia Envirothon competition. GO SPRINGERS!

Get coupons for free soil tests!

Visit the Henricopolis SWCD office or e-mail requests to soiltestvouchers@henrico.us
Please include your name and physical address in your message.

** This offer is valid until program funding expires and is subject to change at any time.*

What in the World?

Free Mini Day Camp

For grades 3-5 ▪ July 21-23, 9am-12pm
Henrico County Human Services Building
8600 Dixon Powers Drive

When you look at a globe, what do you see? You see water and you see land. This mini-camp is an extended version of our popular classroom programs, where we'll explore our precious natural resources with games, crafts and activities!

To register, contact Lindy Durham at 501-5175 or dur24@henrico.us





Environmental Educators Workshop for Henrico K-5 Teachers



Tuesday, August 4, 2015
9:00am—3:00pm
Henrico Human Services Building
8600 Dixon Powers Drive

FREE to all Henrico County K-5 teachers—public, private, homeschool
Registration is required by July 29 — Click [here](#) to register



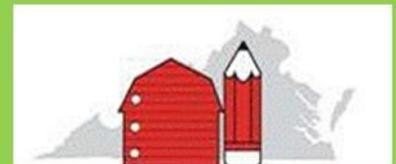
Central Virginia Waste Management Authority



Keep Henrico Beautiful



Henricopolis Soil and Water Conservation District



Ag in the Classroom

Special guest presenters!



Discover this amazing online tool providing 360 degree panoramic tours of some of the most beautiful terrain in and around Virginia.



Rain Barrel Workshops
available through
Henricopolis Soil &
Water Conservation

Program Fee: \$50

Register online at
www.henrico.us/swcd or
email
hef001@henrico.us

Next Workshop Date:
Thursday, September
24, 2015

Save Water All Summer!

Location:

Demo Kitchen, 2nd Floor of
Human Services Building
8600 Dixon powers Dr.
Henrico, VA 23238

Contact:

Phone: 804-501-5289
E-mail: hef001@henrico.us
Website: [www.henrico.us/
swcd](http://www.henrico.us/swcd)



Barrels are previously-used food-grade plastic and hold up to 60 gallons. Style and color may vary.

Earth Team Volunteer Showcase



Celebrate Volunteers

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

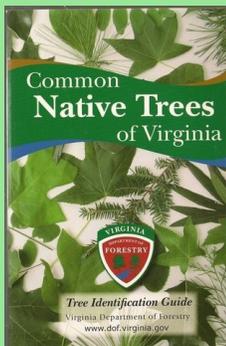
Donald O. "Spec" Campen, Jr. **Henricopolis SWCD**

Know when Earth Team started?

Donald O. "Spec" Campen, Jr. does... 1981. He knows because that was when he joined the Earth Team program. Spec holds the honored distinction of being Virginia's most senior Earth Team volunteer, both in tenure and age. The soon-to-be 95 year old, who started volunteering with the soil and water conservation movement well before Earth Team became official, was instrumental in getting the fledging volunteer program on its feet. He travelled throughout the state with former NRCS State Conservationist George Norris and VASWCD President Earl Longest encouraging the public to do their part to protect our natural resources.

And he hasn't slowed down since. Despite his active involvement in the Richmond movie and TV scene (appearing in 67 shows in 3 decades) and many other activities, Spec is still committed to developing meaningful relationships between conservation partners, lobbying nationally and locally for their causes, and making sure the value of volunteers is understood and respected.

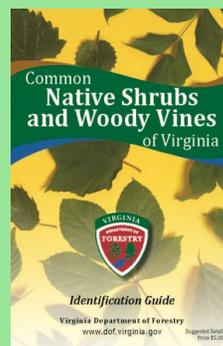
He is a long serving, dedicated volunteer with the Henricopolis SWCD and the VASWCD, and serves on advisory committees for the Virginia NRCS Earth Team and the Henrico County Public Schools.



Virginia's Native Trees

This Virginia Department of Forestry publication describes native tree species found in Virginia's forests. The 100 page book includes non-technical descriptions, with images of leaves, twigs, flowers and fruit.

Purchase your copy for only \$3 in the Henricopolis SWCD office or visit:
www.dof.virginia.gov



Virginia's Native Shrubs

This new publication from the Virginia Department of Forestry publication is designed to help in the quick and correct identification of the most common native shrubs and woody vines growing in Virginia.

Purchase your copy for only \$3 in the Henricopolis SWCD office or visit:
www.dof.virginia.gov



Help Save the Monarch Butterfly by planting Milkweed

The Monarch Butterfly population is declining due to habitat loss and weather factors. Milkweeds and Butterfly Weeds are essential plants for monarchs to survive

Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) is the required host plant for monarch caterpillars and provide valuable nectar to help other pollinators. The loss of milkweed plants in monarch's spring and summer breeding areas contributes to reduced number of monarchs



Butterfly Weeds (*Asclepias tuberosa*) are the nesting sites for monarchs and the nectar found in the flower is favored by the adult. By planting butterfly weed, more areas are open for monarchs to lay their eggs



Please plant milkweed and butterfly weed to support monarch populations and their migration



Solution to Excess Manure!



Composting

Inexpensive and efficient!

- Improve horse health
- Reduce Flies
- Kill parasites & pathogens
- Reduce Odors
- Kill weed seeds
- Improve soil aeration and water retention
- Supply soil nutrients
- Support essential bacteria and pH
- Protect water quality



Financial Assistance available
in the Chickahominy
watershed

Contact
Henricopolis Soil & Water
www.henrico.us/swcd
(804) 501-5175





Agricultural Assistance Programs

The Virginia Agricultural Best Management Practice (BMP) Cost Share Program opens for sign up on July 1. All applications will be accepted and approval will be made during monthly Board meetings in accordance with the primary and secondary considerations that have been approved by the District Board.

The focus for this year's programs is on practices that improve water quality and lessen the impact on groundwater through leaching. These practices include:

Small Grain Cover Crop: Protects the soil over the winter months when erosion is likely to occur. This practice is also effective in reducing the loss of nutrients through leaching into the groundwater. Species and/or mixtures of species include: wheat, barley, rye, oats and triticale.

Continuous No-till Systems: Provides less tillage, allowing organic matter to improve the soil quality. This also reduces the soil being exposed to the rainy periods when there is a potential for runoff and soil loss. To qualify, crops planned in a five year rotation must be planted using no-till. Two years of a small grain cover crop must be included in the system.

Split Application of Nitrogen on small grains and corn. A small grain cover crop is planted in the fall using a no-till method. Corn is planted using a starter amount of fertilizer and applying the balance when the corn is 15" to 24" tall. This is the time when the greatest amount of nitrogen is used by the plant.

The farming practices mentioned above lessen the leaching of nitrogen into the groundwater. These BMPs will also reduce the amount of nitrogen and phosphorous available to leave the crop field through runoff.

Funding amounts are ranked based on primary and secondary considerations of the state of Virginia and the District in which you live. These concerns are set forth at the beginning of the sign-up period.

To receive financial support, you must have a **current** Nutrient Management Plan. This plan must include all the acres on the farm in which you are applying for assistance. Financial assistance is provided on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, age, religion, sex, marital status, or handicap.

Please call Charlie Lively at the District Office (804) 501-5176 to discuss your options and/or schedule a visit.

How to Water Your Lawn

Water only when your grass needs it. Water conservation isn't the only reason to limit the amount of water you give your lawn. Overwatering is also bad for your lawn's health and can contribute to the development of fungus and disease.

Water deeply to encourage deep root growth. Frequent shallow waterings encourage weed germination, and they also cause the grass plants' roots to grow shallow, leaving the plant more susceptible to drought and to certain diseases.

Water early in the morning. When you use sprinklers, some water evaporates before it hits the ground. On a hot, windy day, the amount of water that never reaches your grass can be substantial. To reduce loss to evaporation, water sometime between 4 A.M. and 9 A.M., when the air is still cool and the wind is usually at its calmest.

Aim your sprinklers to water the lawn. That's the part that needs the moisture—not the sidewalk or street!

Avoid creating runoff. Even with sprinklers correctly targeted at the lawn, many people water until—or even after—water begins to run off the grass and into the street or driveway. This can waste a lot of water, and it isn't doing your lawn any good.

Let the rain do your work for you. Nothing looks more wasteful than running your sprinklers while it's raining. If your sprinkler system is on a timer, get and install a rain sensor that automatically turns the water off when it rains. If possible, also avoid watering if rain is expected later in the day or during the next day.

Get a Rain Barrel. Use a rain barrel to water gardens and landscapes. A properly installed rain barrel harvests rainwater from the gutters of your home and provides ample water for gardens and landscape areas.

Water problem areas by hand. Many lawns have one or two spots that require more water than the rest of the lawn. Water them by hand or use a separate sprinkler that's not attached to the rest of your irrigation system.



Henricopolis Soil and Water
Conservation District
is located in the
Henrico County Human Services Building
8600 Dixon Powers Drive
Henrico, VA 23228

Henricopolis SWCD: (804) 501-5175
www.co.henrico.va.us/swcd

Vision

Clean Waters, Productive Soils

Mission

To educate and guide Henrico citizens in the sustainable use of our natural resources

Board of Directors

Herbert L. Dunford, Jr. (*Chair*)
Nicole Anderson Ellis (*Vice-Chair*)
Robert A. Brewster, II
Lynn P. Wilson

Associate Directors

Leon H. App
James Beckley
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Staff

Charlie Lively (*District Manager*)
Lindy Durham (*Education Coordinator*)
Stacey Heflin (*Conservation Specialist*)