



# Henricopolis Happenings

*A publication of the Henricopolis Soil & Water Conservation District*

*Spring 2020*

## Henricopolis Welcomes New Directors



Anne-Marie Leake   Claiborne Yarbrough   Ed Olsen   James Beckley   Nicole Anderson Ellis

The November elections brought new faces to the Henricopolis Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors. Anne-Marie Leake and Claiborne Yarbrough are our newly elected members of the Board. Nicole Anderson Ellis was re-elected to her third term and serves as Chair this year. Familiar faces for whom we are grateful are appointed Directors James Beckley and Ed Olsen.



# COVID-19

## Henricopolis on Reduced Operations

*Below are listed Henricopolis programs and their status with regard to the “stay at home” order and general COVID-19 precautions. Questions are best sent by email as the staff is working from home.*

**School Programs.** With the closing of schools throughout the county, all school programs, including Envirothon are cancelled. Teachers are encouraged to begin to schedule fall visits.

**Poster Contest.** This long-standing program will continue with the re-opening of schools in September. The theme for 2020 is “*Where Would We BEE Without Pollinators?*” and the deadline for entries is October 9. Again, teachers are encouraged to schedule their poster contest introductions.

**VCAP.** We are not able to take VCAP applications at this time. Send an email to Stacey at [hef001@henrico.us](mailto:hef001@henrico.us) and she will reach out once we are at better working capacity.

**Soil Test Vouchers.** This program is still in operation but a little slower than normal. Libraries and the Extension Office are closed so test kits can be mailed to you by Henricopolis. The lab at Virginia Tech is still open and processing samples. The lab is experiencing *long* delays not only because it is the busy season, but they have less labor (and students) to process the samples. And by long, we are talking probably over a month to two.

**Rain Barrels.** We are not selling rain barrels at this time. Please email Stacey at [hef001@henrico.us](mailto:hef001@henrico.us) and you will be contacted when we are back to normal business.

**Tree Seedling Giveaway.** The seedling giveaway scheduled for April 9 & 10 has been cancelled.

**Youth Conservation Camp.** This program is still planned for July 12-18. Information and the application form are in this newsletter. Contact Lindy at [dur24@henrico.us](mailto:dur24@henrico.us) for more information.

**Youth Conservation Leadership Institute.** This program is still planned for July 12-18, 2020. Information is included in this newsletter.

**K-5 Teacher Workshop.** This free workshop for elementary teachers is still planned pending securing a location. More on that when the county re-opens for normal business.

**Summer Day Camps and Scout Programs.** Summer day camps are planned pending securing a location. More on that when the county re-opens for normal business. Scout programs will resume when GSCV resumes normal operations.

**HAWQS.** The Department of Environmental Quality is suspending monitoring at the agency and recommends all citizen monitoring groups to stop monitoring during this time. Unfortunately, the one-on-one meetings such as resupplying will have to be postponed for now and we will have to set the monitoring equipment aside until further notice. Stacey will keep HAWQS monitors informed.



Youth Conservation Camp  
July 12-18, 2020  
Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA

For 40 years, the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts has sponsored a week long summer conservation camp for Virginia high school students (*currently enrolled in grades 9-12*) on the campus of Virginia Tech. The program brings together about 70 interested students for a week of learning about Virginia's natural resources from conservation professionals and faculty from Virginia Tech. Most of the instruction is hands-on and outdoors.

Scholarship funding to cover the registration fee may be available from your local Soil & Water Conservation District. Youth Conservation Camp is open to all Virginia students enrolled in High School for the current year. See camp pictures and testimonials from students on the VASWCD Facebook page. Contact Lindy Durham at Henricopolis Soil & Water Conservation District (501-5175 or [dur24@henrico.us](mailto:dur24@henrico.us)) with questions or for additional camp information.

# 2020 YOUTH CONSERVATION CAMP JULY 12-18, 2020 - VIRGINIA TECH

## *Draft Agenda for the Week*

### **Sunday, July 12**

- Orientation to Virginia Tech Campus
- Check in 1:00-1:45 pm & Unpack
  - Opening program
  - Tour VT Campus
  - Topography Maps Activity-led by counselors

### **Monday, July 13**

- All day at Claytor Lake State Park- eat lunch and dinner at the Park
- Lake Ecology
  - Fisheries Management DGIF SHOCK Fishing
  - Land Use Planning & Watersheds- Enviroscene
  - Sum of all parts activity- led by Counselors
  - Tree Hikes-led by DOF
  - Claytor Lake History
  - Swimming & Cookout

### **Tuesday, July 14**

- Virginia Tech College of Natural Resources Programs
- Visit different stations to learn more about Forestry, Fisheries, careers in Natural Resources
  - Cascades Hike
  - Beekeeping Demonstration

### **Wednesday, July 15**

- Kentland Agriculture Research Farm
- Agricultural Best Management Practices
  - Water Quality Testing- Macro Invertebrates
  - Tour Dairy Science Facility
  - Soils Runoff Demonstration
  - Mock Envirothon

### **Thursday, July 16**

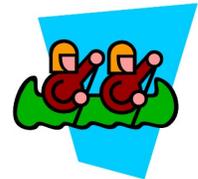
- VA Tech Campus  
Eat all meals on campus
- Tour Lane Stadium, Turfgrass Management
  - Tour Forest Products Center
  - Sustainability
  - VCAP Urban Conservation Tour



### **Friday, July 17**

- Lunch at Shelter, Pizza Party Dinner  
Canoeing & Watershed  
Day on the New River

- Canoe the New River
- Visit the Virginia/Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine



### **Saturday, July 18**

- Camp Awards & Final Presentation
- Family Invited to Final Program at 9AM
  - Travel home & Share what you've learned!



\*Specific dates and activities subject to change.



**2020 Virginia Association of Soil and  
Water Conservation Districts  
Youth Conservation Camp  
Sunday, July 12 - Saturday, July 18, 2020**

**Camper Application - Please Print Legibly or Type (Complete Front and Back)**

**Please complete and return application to your local Soil & Water Conservation District.  
Return to Henricopolis SWCD by May 1, 2020**

Applicant's

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Name as it should appear on camper name tag: \_\_\_\_\_  
Age (as of July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020) \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: Male \_\_\_\_\_ or Female \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of High School Attending (2019-2020) \_\_\_\_\_  
Grade Completed by June 2020 \_\_\_\_\_ Field of Interest in Conservation \_\_\_\_\_  
T-Shirt Size (adult) Small \_\_\_ Medium \_\_\_ Large \_\_\_ X-Large \_\_\_ XX-Large \_\_\_

Name of Parent or Guardian (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor and/or Teacher Recommendation (teacher, scout leader, etc.) \*Recommendation required:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Relation to Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

**Local SWCD USE ONLY: Rank: 1 2 3 4 5**

Sponsoring SWCD: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
SWCD Staff Contact : \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_  
SWCD Scholarship (if other please note sponsor name): Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_  
Scholarship Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Henricopolis SWCD  
P.O. Box 90775  
Henrico, VA 23273

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Please list your hobbies & favorite sports: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please check your background:

Urban \_\_\_\_\_ Rural \_\_\_\_\_ Farm/Agriculture \_\_\_\_\_ Suburban \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly list conservation activities and/or school projects you have participated in involving soil and water conservation, forestry, pollution, or other environmental areas:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What is the most important environmental issue in your community or county:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Write a brief paragraph on why you are interested in conservation and/or why you would like to be selected for this camp:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What subjects/topics do you hope to learn about while attending Youth Conservation Camp?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_



## Youth Conservation Leadership Institute

Youth Conservation Leadership Institute (YCLI) is a recognition program for students that focuses on volunteer service and environmental stewardship. YCLI began as an expansion of Youth Conservation Camp in an effort to keep students engaged in the environmental topics introduced at camp. YCLI offers high school students interested in environmental conservation and stewardship an opportunity to build leadership skills and connect with local mentors involved with environmental issues.

Students may submit applications to the VASWCD in August and Sept., with applications due Fall 2020. Program participants are required to complete a minimum of 20 hours of community service with a conservation focus. The hours may be done as part of a single project or a series of projects but all projects must be approved by the VASWCD. Participants will need to acquire a program sponsor such as a local Soil & Water Conservation District or other similar conservation related organization. The YCLI sponsor will assist the participant with finding a service project that fits their interest and the needs of the community. The sponsor will also serve as a mentor for the participant to report to and receive guidance along the way.

The program will conclude with an awards and recognition ceremony to be held in Spring of 2021. The recognition program agenda will include time for participants to speak about their work and hear from key speakers in the conservation field. YCLI is a unique opportunity for high school students to receive experience and engage in networking opportunities to prepare them for future education and career paths.

For more information, contact Lindy Durham at 501-5175 or [dur24@henrico.us](mailto:dur24@henrico.us).

# Don't Guess... Get A Soil Test!

Although fertilizer can be very helpful in establishing happy, healthy plants, it poses a risk if not used properly. Excess fertilizer and chemicals wash away with rainwater and pollute our local streams and waterways. The first guideline of responsible fertilizer application is to take a soil sample and have it analyzed to determine fertilizer needs.

Henricopolis SWCD has established a soil test incentive program to offset the cost of soil analysis for Henrico County residents. Henricopolis will provide two coupons per household to Henrico County residents to cover the \$10.00 processing fee for a standard soil test (not including postage). Soil test kits are available in the Henrico Extension Office or in county libraries.

Coupons are available by email or in-person

Email requests to

**[soiltestvouchers@henrico.us](mailto:soiltestvouchers@henrico.us)**

Include your name, physical address and  
number of coupons requested





## 2020 Conservation Poster Contest

Imagine you wake up one day and you go into the kitchen for breakfast before going to school. Your mom looks at you and says that there is no blueberry, raspberry, or strawberry jam for you to put on your toast! And your mom says you will never get to eat a chocolate bar or drink chocolate milk ever again! What do you do? What do you think? You ask your mom and she says that all the buzzing bees, the big wasps, the fast flies, and the pretty butterflies are sick and they are the ones that give us a lot of our plant-grown food!

Lucky for us, the pollinators are still here, but they need help to stay healthy and not get sick. You can help the pollinating insects by telling others about pollination, by planting flowers that bees and butterflies like, by not hurting insects and by caring for the environment! Every little bit of help counts!

The Conservation Poster Contest gives students the chance to express how they feel about important environmental issues. Contact Lindy Durham at [dur24@henrico.us](mailto:dur24@henrico.us) for information on the 2020 contest.

## Earth Week on Facebook!



Check out our Facebook page for downloadable games and puzzles to enjoy while you stay at home. Just click on "Photos" and you'll find albums of coloring pages, games, puzzles and crafts.

During Earth Week (April 20-24) special activities with Earth Week themes will be available to get you in the spirit of Earth Day at home.

# Secrets in the Soil Poster Winners

We congratulate the winners of our 2019 Conservation Poster Contest. We had a banner year in 2019 with over 800 entries from Henrico County elementary schools and Girl Scout Troops.



Grades K-1 Rayhan Manav



Grades 2-3 Ameesha Maurya



Grades 4-6  
Caroline Wetzal



Grades 7-9  
Nikhita Saravanan



Grades 10-12  
Rithanya Saravanan



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.henrico.us/henricopolis](http://www.henrico.us/henricopolis)

## Board of Directors

Nicole Anderson Ellis (*Chair*)  
James Beckley (*Vice-Chair*)  
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Anne-Marie Leake  
Ed Olsen

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Terri Higgins  
Lynn P. Wilson

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Lindy Durham (*Education/Admin Specialist*)  
Stacey Heflin (*Conservation Specialist*)