

# Henricopolis Happenings

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

*Summer 2018*

## Congratulations Deep Run Envirothon Team!



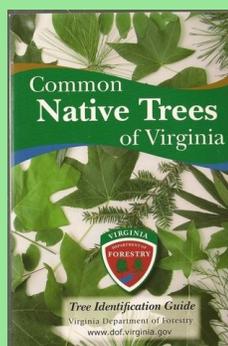
The Virginia Envirothon program is a team based natural resources competition for high school students. Students who participate learn stewardship and management concepts and work to solve real world environmental problems. The program is field-oriented, community based and gives students an opportunity to work with natural resource professionals.

Throughout the school year students prepare to compete at the local level, qualify to then compete at the area level and the top three teams from the six Soil & Water Conservation District areas in the state compete to be the State Winner. These teams of high school students are tested on their knowledge of natural resources-soils, forestry, wildlife, aquatics and a current environmental issue. Students visit five “in-the-field” test stations where written and hands-on problem solving is required along with an oral presentation formulating a strategy to address a specific environmental issue they’ve been presented with. The event is competitive but education is the bottom line.

In 2018 the team from Deep Run High School placed first in the local competition held on March 27. They went on to place second in the Area III competition held at Meadow Event Park on May 1. Competing against teams from all over the state of Virginia, our team from Deep Run placed second in the state soils topic. This is the highest achievement ever from any Henrico County team. Many congratulations to coach Emily Chapin and the girls from Deep Run High School!!

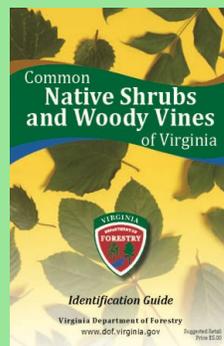


Come visit us at  
**Dorey Park Farmers Market**  
Saturdays, June 2-October 27  
9am-1pm



## 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](http://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](http://www.dof.virginia.gov)

## Get coupons for free soil tests!

Visit the Henricopolis SWCD office or e-mail requests to [soiltestvouchers@henrico.us](mailto: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.*

# HENRICOPOLIS SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

## SPRING 2018 RAIN BARREL WORKSHOP



Date:  
June 28,  
2018

5:30 P.M.

CONSERVE  
RAINWATER  
AND SAVE  
MONEY!

Location:  
Demo Kitchen  
Dixon Powers Drive  
Henrico, VA 23223



Contact  
Stacey to  
reserve your  
barrel:

Phone:  
804-501-5289

Email:  
hef001@henrico.us

**\$65**

Program Fee covers  
the workshop cost  
and a completed  
rain barrel

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



Henrico Environmental Educators' Network  
presents  
**2018 K-5 Summer Workshop**

Thursday, July 26, 2018

9:00am—2:00pm

Henrico Human Services Building

8600 Dixon Powers Drive

FREE! Snacks and lunch provided. Registration is required.  
Register by July 20 at <https://doodle.com/poll/6hubb48rkw3mgxvw>  
or email Lindy Durham at [dur24@henrico.us](mailto:dur24@henrico.us)

Learn about the local agencies that can help with your environmental education needs!  
Participate in lessons and activities that you can use in your class or troop.  
Meet staff who present on-site programs and get resources to take home.  
Henrico teachers will receive Continuing Education points.  
Presenters will include:



Keep Henrico  
Beautiful



Ag In The Classroom



Junior Master Gardeners



Henricopolis  
Soil & Water Conservation



STORMWATER AFFECTS EVERYONE.  
REDUCE YOUR STORMWATER FOOTPRINT.  
**PROTECT YOUR LAND.**

**VCAP**



## VIRGINIA CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Henricopolis Soil and Water Conservation District is excited to introduce the Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP) to Henrico County. This new program provides cost-share incentives and technical assistance to residents, private businesses, and public agencies that would like to install and maintain Best Management Practices (BMPs) such as rain gardens, conservation landscaping or permeable pavement on their property. Urban BMPs contribute to improving the health of streams and rivers in our region.

With rapid urbanization happening in Henrico County, it is more important than ever to acknowledge the impact that increased stormwater runoff has on our local watersheds and the Chesapeake Bay. Stormwater runoff is rainfall that collects and transports pollutants (nitrogen, phosphorous, bacteria, sediment) as it flows across rooftops, streets, sidewalks, and lawns, depositing those pollutants into streams and rivers in our backyards. The pollutants transported by stormwater runoff can cause algae blooms, sediment deposition, and elevated bacteria levels, which can be harmful for both aquatic and human life. Excess stormwater runoff can lead to streambank erosion and flooding in urban and suburban areas.

BMPs such as rain gardens, rainwater harvesting, and permeable pavement are designed to help slow and/or capture stormwater runoff where it falls. The amount of cost-share funding available for each practice varies, but the program covers a significant portion of the cost of materials and installation.

Our everyday actions can have a substantial impact on the water quality of our local watersheds. To lessen the impacts of stormwater runoff, consider reducing the amount of rainwater that leaves your property by installing a BMP. If you're interested in applying for technical and financial assistance through VCAP or you would like to request a site visit, contact us at (804) 501-5176 or liv042@henrico.us.

For more information, please visit our website: <http://henrico.us/services/virginia-conservation-assistance-program/>. VCAP offers 11 BMPs that help mitigate the negative impacts of stormwater runoff, including:

- Impervious Surface Removal
- Conservation Landscaping
- Rainwater Harvesting
- Rain Gardens
- Vegetated Stormwater Conveyances
- Dry Well
- Bioretention
- Green Roofs
- Permeable Pavement
- Constructed Wetlands
- Infiltration Basin



# ***Agricultural Assistance Programs***

***The Virginia Agricultural Best Management Practice (BMP) Cost Share Program is currently open for sign up. 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 (Wheat, Barley or Rye):** 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.

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



# 2018 Scholarship Winners

In 2002, Henricopolis established an academic scholarship award through an endowment with the Colonial Agriculture Educational Foundation. Through this program, the District provides up to three \$1500 scholarships to deserving students aspiring to earn degrees in the environmental sciences. Our scholarship winners for 2018 are:

**NaJah Stokes** (*pictured to the right*) is a 2018 graduate of Hermitage High School. She has been accepted to Virginia State University where she plans to major in Biology.

**Ryan Messinger** (*no photo available*) is a 2018 graduate of Mills E. Godwin High School. He hopes to attend James Madison University where he plans to major in Environmental Resource Management and Conservation Sciences.



## Youth Conservation Camp

The Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts sponsors a week long summer conservation camp for Virginia high school students on the campus of Virginia Tech. Henricopolis sponsors at least two students every year to attend the camp. Our campers for 2018 are:



**Alexandra (Sasha) Brandenberger**  
**Theodore (Theo) Brandenberger**  
are rising sophomores at Glen Allen High School. Both are volunteers at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens.

Alexandra feels the most important environmental issue in our community is recycling. She has focused all her actions into toward improving that issue.

Theo feels the most important issue in our community is pollution and wants to put an end to that problem.

# Hometown Habitat

## *Stories of Bringing Nature Home*

**FREE SCREENING**

June 21, 2018 • 6:30pm-8:30pm

Massey Library Technology Center at J. Sargeant Reynolds  
Community College—Parham Road Campus

For more information, contact Stacey Heflin at 504-5289 or [hef001@henrico.gov](mailto:hef001@henrico.gov)



## Flowers After 5

### Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens

Thursday evenings throughout the summer from 5pm-9pm  
Family activities in the Children's Garden from 5-6pm.  
Henricopolis will host activities on Jun 21, Jul 19 and Aug 23



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**

Herbert L. Dunford, Jr. (*Chair*)  
Nicole Anderson Ellis (*Vice-Chair*)  
James Beckley  
Thomas Herbert  
Ed Olsen

#### **Associate Directors**

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Stacey Heflin (*Conservation Specialist*)