

2010 Annual Report

Virginia Environmental Endowment

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Mission and Focus

The mission of Virginia Environmental Endowment is to improve the quality of the environment by using its capital to encourage all sectors to work together to prevent pollution, conserve natural resources, and promote environmental literacy.

Although accorded a national scope by our charter, the Endowment currently limits awards to eligible nonprofit organizations for programs conducted in the state of Virginia and in the Kanawha and Ohio River Valleys of Kentucky and West Virginia.

History

Virginia Environmental Endowment, a nonprofit, independent grantmaking foundation, came about in a unique way: by court order. In February 1977, in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Allied Chemical Corporation was fined \$13.2 million for polluting the James River with the insecticide Kepone. With the approval of Judge Robert R. Merhige Jr., a portion of this fine – \$8 million – was paid by Allied to fund the creation of Virginia Environmental Endowment for the purpose of improving the quality of Virginia's environment.

Between 1981 and 1991, VEE received another \$1.4 million in court settlements paid by the FMC Corporation, Bethlehem Steel Corporation, Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corporation, IR International, Inc., and Hauni Richmond, Inc. The FMC funds expanded the Endowment's work in Virginia and beyond into the Kanawha River and Ohio River Valleys.

For over thirty years the Endowment has honored its innovative creation by funding imaginative people working effectively to improve the quality of the environment.

Financial Summary

The March 31, 2010 reviewed asset value of Virginia Environmental Endowment was \$15,094,703. During the fiscal year the Board of Directors approved 26 grants totaling \$247,951. When combined with matching funds, grants awarded by VEE since 1977 to a wide variety of organizations represent an investment of almost \$68 million in environmental improvement.

Grantmaking Programs

VEE grantmaking comprises three programs:

- Virginia Program
- Virginia Mini-Grant Program
- Kanawha and Ohio River Valleys Program

Virginia Program

The Virginia Program supports community action, reinforced and informed by research and education. Current grantmaking priorities track the Endowment's mission as follows:

- Water quality research and monitoring of water quality conditions throughout Virginia;
- Land and open space conservation;
- Chesapeake Bay conservation, research and education;
- Environmental education

Virginia Mini-Grant Program

The Virginia Mini-Grant Program supports community-based efforts to strengthen environmental education and to promote stewardship of Virginia's waterways. These are intended to be one-time, start-up grants, and preference is given to modest local projects. Public and private schools (K-12) and nongovernmental, nonprofit community organizations in Virginia are eligible to apply for one-year Mini-Grant awards up to \$5,000. Local, state, and federal government agencies and programs are not eligible. Guidelines and application forms are available on our web site, www.vee.org.

Kanawha and Ohio River Valleys Program

Currently limited to the Kanawha and Ohio River Valleys of Kentucky and West Virginia, this program supports research, education, and community action on water quality and the effects of water pollution on public health and the environment. Emphasis is given to collaboration by citizens, government, and industry to develop effective public policies and to increasing public participation in water quality monitoring and watershed management.

Grant Application Procedures

Policies

The Endowment makes grants to nonprofit, tax-exempt, charitable organizations and institutions and to governmental agencies.

VEE encourages requests for specific projects that promise measurable results to improve the environment. Applicants should describe specifically how they propose to measure the success of a grant project.

Grant funds are not provided for general support, overhead, indirect costs, capital projects, land purchases, building construction or renovation, endowments, lawsuits, or to individuals.

Matching funds in equal amounts from other sources are required, and challenge grants may be offered to provide leverage in fundraising.

Proposals that are clearly outside the purposes and geographic limitations of our grantmaking programs may be declined without further review. All others will be considered by the Board of Directors.

Approved grants are paid in installments on a reimbursement basis. Grantees are required to submit periodic reports of progress, expenditures, and results.

Each year the Endowment receives requests far in excess of available funds. In fairness to others, applicants are asked not to apply to the Endowment more than once a year.

Application Deadlines

Proposals must be received by the Endowment by 5 p.m. (ET) on the following dates:

Virginia Program and Virginia Mini-Grant Program:
June 15 and December 1

Kanawha and Ohio River Valleys Program:
June 15 only

When the date falls on a weekend or holiday, the following business day will be the deadline.

The Endowment has a strict policy on receipt of complete proposals by deadlines. Without exception, late proposals will not be accepted.

Board decisions about proposals are normally made in April and October.

For delivery by U.S. mail, address to:
Gerald P. McCarthy
Executive Director
Virginia Environmental Endowment
P.O. Box 790
Richmond, Virginia 23218-0790

For package delivery:
Three James Center
1051 East Cary Street, Suite 1400
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Proposal Requirements

Two copies of the complete proposal, signed by the organization's chief executive officer or board chairman, must be received by the deadline date. The Endowment does not review or comment on preliminary proposals. Applicants to the Virginia Mini-Grant Program should review the special guidelines and application materials for the Mini-Grant Program on the web site.

Each proposal must include the following information:

- A cover letter identifying the applicant, project title, grant request, matching funds, project schedule, and whether the proposal is being submitted to the Virginia Program, the Virginia Mini-Grant Program, or the Kanawha and Ohio River Valleys Program.
- A project description, limited to five pages, clearly stating the need for the project, goals and objectives and how they will be achieved, how project results will be measured, and relationship to other work being done in the field.
- A description of the organization, names and qualifications of key project staff, a list of the members of the governing board, the current operating budget, and a copy of the current tax-exempt ruling from the Internal Revenue Service, if applicable.
- A line-item budget for the proposed project, showing total project costs, the amount and proposed allocation of grant funds requested from the Endowment, and all sources and amounts of matching funds, which must equal or exceed the requested grant.
- The project schedule, with specific beginning and ending dates for requested grant support.
- A detailed plan for evaluating and disseminating project results, for continuing project activities, and for raising future financial support.

VEE Board of Directors and Staff

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Robert B. Smith Jr., *Senior Vice President*
Paul U. Elbling, *Treasurer*
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* President Emeritus

** Director Emeritus

Staff

Gerald P. McCarthy, *Executive Director*
Jean Wildbore, *Administrative Assistant*

Grant Awards 2009-2010

Virginia Program

Chesapeake Experience \$5,000

Yorktown, Virginia matched by \$7,815
Experience the Chesapeake Bay 2010: Educators and Students Getting Up Close and Personal with the Chesapeake Bay Ecosystem

The College of William and Mary

Williamsburg, Virginia

Department of Geology \$2,900

Additional support for matched by \$17,000
instrumentation to conduct riparian buffer strips research

The Elizabeth River Project \$5,000

Portsmouth, Virginia matched by \$3,000
Strategic Plan to Enlist Families in a "River Revolution"

James River Association \$10,000

Richmond, Virginia matched by \$10,000
Upper James River Riverkeeper Program

Lonesome Pine Soil and Water Conservation District

Clintwood, Virginia

McClure River Restoration Project \$3,865

Water Quality Monitoring Program

Guest River Restoration Project \$5,000

Water Quality Monitoring Program

University of Virginia

Charlottesville, Virginia

Department of Civil & \$43,461

Environmental Engineering matched by \$70,800
V-PharmaCalc: A Tool to Predict Influent Pharmaceutical Concentrations to Virginia's Wastewater Treatment Plants (15 Months)

Institute for Environmental \$8,900

Negotiation matched by \$8,900
2009-2010 Virginia Natural Resources Leadership Institute program

Virginia Military Institute \$6,600

Lexington, Virginia
Environment Virginia 2010

Wetlands Watch, Inc. \$10,000

Norfolk, Virginia matched by \$25,000
Adapting to Climate Change in Virginia

Support of Philanthropy

Association of Small Foundations \$1,000

Chesapeake Bay Funders Network \$1,000

Council on Foundations \$1,800

Southeastern Council of Foundations \$1,500

Virginia Program Total \$106,026

Virginia Mini-Grant Program

Arlington Traditional School PTA \$2,400

Arlington, Virginia matched by \$5,700
Water Quality Improvement Project

Bull Run Mountains Conservancy \$2,862

Broad Run, Virginia matched by \$1,350
Stream Ecology and Natural History in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed - Teacher Training

Center for the Application of Professional \$2,613

Environmental Research matched by \$1,000
 Charlottesville, Virginia
Albemarle High School Water Quality Monitoring Program

Flint Hill School \$2,594

Oakton, Virginia
Schoolyard Stewards - Living Classroom

Lorien Wood School \$1,250

Vienna, Virginia matched by \$68,750
Teacher Training in Environmental Education

Prince William County Public Schools \$4,956

Manassas, Virginia matched by \$2,500
Sowing Seeds of Learning: Integrating Outdoor Education into the K-5 Curriculum

1781 Foundation \$3,000

Williamsburg, Virginia
Maritime Heritage Curriculum Guide: Eco-Heritage Stewardship Project

South Centré Corridors

Resource Conservation & Development Council \$3,500

Prince George, Virginia matched by \$3,500
Educator & Youth Mini-Grant Program

STARBASE Victory \$1,750

Portsmouth, Virginia matched by \$1,750
2010 Chesapeake Experience Camp

Upper Roanoke River Roundtable \$2,000

Roanoke, Virginia matched by \$5,830
The City Garden Rain Garden

Mini-Grant Program Total \$26,925

Kanawha and Ohio River Valleys Program

Watershed Watch in Kentucky, Inc. \$100,000

Midway, KY matched by \$100,000
Watershed Watch in Kentucky (Two years)

West Virginia Rivers Coalition \$15,000

Elkins, WV matched by \$25,850
Sustaining Watershed Organizations' Engagement in Protecting Ohio River Water Quality and Water Regulations

KORV Program Total \$115,000

Total All Programs \$247,951