Virginia Environmental Endowment

SUMMARY OF GRANT AWARDS
JAMES RIVER WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Boy Scouts of America, Tidewater Council ($834,088) – Living Shoreline (Lions Beach, Pipsico Scout Reservation) (2020)
The Tidewater Council of the Boy Scouts of America will construct a living shoreline at the highly eroded Lions Beach at the Pipsico Scout Reservation. The site has experienced sustained erosion for many years and there is no record of prior shoreline stabilization efforts. VEE funding will help protect the shoreline, improve water quality in the James River, and provide educational opportunities for the approximately 4,200-5,200 annual visitors to the reservation.

Chesapeake Bay Foundation ($1,098,029) – Riparian Buffer Restoration (Upper James) (2020)
The Chesapeake Bay Foundation will work with the James River Association and other partners to expand the James River Buffer Program from the Middle James portion of the watershed to the Upper James, providing consistency in the Program as it grows in this new region. During the three year grant period, CBF will install 200 acres of forested riparian buffers, focusing at least 75% on priority parcels.

Chesapeake Bay Foundation ($1,152,830) – Riparian Buffer Restoration (Upper James) II (2022)
The Chesapeake Bay Foundation will continue its work with partners to expand the James River Buffer Program in the Upper James. CBF will install at least 200 acres of forested riparian buffers, focusing at least 75% on priority parcels.

Colonial Soil & Water Conservation District ($640,000) – Decision and Precision Agriculture (2018)
A partnership among the Colonial SWCD, Henricopolis SWCD, and others to educate and engage farmers and landowners in the Lower James on the benefits of utilizing decision and precision agriculture techniques to help them make the best field decisions available. Only 10% of the farmland in the Colonial district utilized precision agriculture in 2017. Healthier farmland, more productive fields, less over-fertilization and a cleaner James is the goal.

City of Hopewell ($261,203) – Stream Restoration (2019)
Support for restoration of a perennial stream located adjacent to Hopewell High School and Mathias Park; the restoration will reconnect the stream with the adjoining floodplain.

Ducks Unlimited ($701,408) – Living Shoreline (Hog Island) (2019)
Ducks Unlimited will conduct construction and installation of a living shoreline at the Hog Island Wildlife Management Area in the James River. The living shoreline will reduce erosion and protect the Island's tidal marshes, thereby helping to restore the water quality of the James River.

James River Association ($1,571,320) – Riparian Buffer Collaborative (Middle James) (2018)
Virginia's goal for restoring 60,000 acres of riparian buffers in the James River watershed remains two-thirds incomplete. JRA is targeting this goal, aiming at the construction of riparian forested buffers of 35 to 100 feet wide in the Middle James region of the watershed. Working with partners, this initiative will seek to establish buffers in those priority restoration opportunity areas which will provide the greatest pollution reductions.

James River Association ($1,039,170) – Living Shoreline Collaborative (Lower James) (2019)
Support for a three-year program providing technical and financial assistance to landowners in the Lower James River basin and Elizabeth River for the implementation of homeowner living shorelines in conjunction with the Elizabeth River Project and other partners.

James River Association ($1,620,598) – Riparian Buffer Collaborative Expansion (Middle James) (2020)
The James River Association will expand its Middle James forested riparian buffer work into two additional Soil and Water Conservation Districts and six additional counties for a total of 14 counties and five soil and water districts. It will install an additional 235 acres of forested riparian buffers with a minimum of 50% on priority parcels.

James River Association ($384,099) – Living Shoreline Acceleration (Lower James) (2023)
The James River Association will continue its living shoreline initiative in the Lower James watershed, working to accelerate implementation of its cost share program.

James City County ($396,000) – Stream Restoration (2019)
Support for the restoration of two highly degraded stream reaches of Grice Run located on property directly adjacent to the newly constructed Surry-Skiffes transmission line.

James City County ($781,900) – Living Shoreline (Chickahominy Riverfront Park) (2020)
The Chickahominy Riverfront Park shoreline currently exhibits severe erosion problems, contributing thousands of pounds of sediment to the James River annually. James City County will build a living shoreline along the edge of the Park, regrading and stabilizing steep slopes, constructing offshore breakwaters, and creating new marshland habitats, reducing sediment pollution to the river. The Virginia Institute of Marine Science has identified this shoreline as "one of three shore segments of concern" in James City County.

Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden ($315,000) – Stream Restoration (2019)
Support for restoration of Glen Stream, located on the Garden's property in Richmond. Restoration of this stream will both reduce pollution to the James River and provide educational opportunities to the Garden's many visitors.

Sustainable Chesapeake ($237,610) – Manure Injection (2019)
Support to establish the innovative practice of manure injection in the James River watershed, a practice currently utilized by farmers in PA and MD.

Sustainable Chesapeake ($554,232) – Manure Injection II (2022)
Support to expand the implementation of manure injection in the James River watershed.

Trout Unlimited ($480,350) -- Home Rivers Initiative (Upper James) (2018)
TU's Upper James Home Rivers Initiative will target headwater residents, landowners, and properties in Highland and Bath Counties in order to restore streams; stabilize streambanks; restore riparian buffers; develop and implement conservation plans for local farmers; install livestock exclusion fencing; and educate and assist over 100 residents and landowners in conservation opportunities. TU modeled the Initiative after a highly successful program in West Virginia.

Trout Unlimited ($754,700) -- Accelerating Water Quality Improvement (Upper James) (2021)
TU will continue and expand its work in the Upper James, accelerating conservation practice implementation on priority parcels. TU will by all measures exceed the projected nutrient and sediment reductions under the original 2018 grant. At a minimum, TU will restore five miles of stream and implement 40 acres of riparian buffer while also stabilizing ten miles of eroding streambank and implementing ten comprehensive farm conservation plans.

Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation ($500,000) – Manure Storage (2019)
Support for a three-year program to assist farmers in the installation of storage facilities for waste generated by livestock and poultry in the Upper and Middle James regions.

Virginia Department of Health ($300,000) – Septic System Repair (2018)
Failing septic systems are contaminating shellfish beds and river waters, creating both public health and water quality challenges for the James River. With an additional $200,000 in support from the Smithfield Foundation, VDH's program will target repairing and replacing failed septic systems in parts of James City County, Isle of Wight, and Surry counties. VDH will offer financial incentives on a sliding scale based on income in these targeted regions.

Virginia Department of Forestry ($750,000) – Riparian Buffer Initiative (Middle James) (2018)
Targeting critical sub-watersheds in the Middle James, VDOF will reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment pollution through the establishment of riparian buffers in these sub-watersheds. VEE funding will allow VDOF to hire a riparian buffer coordinator to oversee this effort. VDOF will work in partnership with the James River Association.