So much of the progress we have made in restoring our waterways is a result of the great work our residents are doing to change their practices and adopt more sustainable behaviors. These PEARL HOMES are all over Virginia Beach. PEARL HOMES are places where people care about our community and our environment and want to do what they can to live responsibly and help protect our resources.

Our daily habits and decisions make a difference. Whether you have installed a rain garden or rain barrel, made a pledge to “scoop the poop” or switched to a reusable water bottle and reusable grocery bags, you are helping to bring our waterways back to life, and we would like to recognize your efforts.

It takes a community to restore and protect our waterways. We know how fortunate we are to live in this beautiful place. Water is a large part of our daily enjoyment, our recreation, our local food and our livelihoods. We all want to do our part to restore the health of all of our waterways and protect them for future generations to enjoy.

Virginia Beach residents, please fill out this application to become a PEARL HOME and help us show the community the great work you are doing.
If you are a Virginia Beach resident and you can check off 15 of these actions, you qualify as a PEARL HOME and we would like to present you with a yard flag.

_____   Pledge to “Scoop the Poop” (if you are a pet owner)
_____   Installed a “Scoop the Poop” sticker on my black trash can
_____   Reduced my lawn area and converted it to a planted bed
_____   Chose native plants for my landscape and avoided invasive species
_____   Did not feed the ducks and geese
_____   Planted a tree
_____   Switched from bottled water to a reusable water bottle that I refill
_____   Buy locally made products whenever possible
_____   Consistently use reusable grocery bags
_____   Helped with one of LRNow’s River Cleanups during the past year
_____   Installed Lynnhaven River storm drain markers in my neighborhood
_____   Installed a rain barrel or cistern to reduce the runoff from my property
_____   Installed a rain garden to reduce runoff, hold storm water and give it a chance to infiltrate
_____   Grew oysters for our conservation reefs
_____   Drove fewer miles, consciously eliminating unnecessary trips, used public transportation or a bicycle
_____   Chose a more fuel efficient vehicle
_____   Consistently recycle or reuse
_____   Reduced my fertilizer use to be more water friendly
_____   Pumped out the holding tank on my boat
_____   Display a LRNow Clean Boating sticker on my boat
_____   Switched to marine approved cleaning products for my boat
_____   Became a member of Lynnhaven River NOW and helped support our work
_____   Serve on one of LRNow’s Committees
_____   Installed a Buffer Garden between my lawn and the waterway or between my lawn and the street
_____   Installed a programmable thermostat or purchased energy efficient appliances
_____   Installed low-flow faucets and/or toilets
_____   Did an energy efficiency renovation on my home (new windows, increased insulation, new heating and air conditioning system, etc)
_____   Dispose of hazardous waste properly (batteries, paint, etc.)
_____   Heard an LRNow presentation at my Civic League, Garden Club, Rotary or other civic organization
_____   Participated in a LRNow workshop or program
_____   Communicated with one of my elected officials about an environmental issue
_____   Composted leaves, grass clippings and kitchen waste
_____   Raised the mower blades to three inches or higher to keep the lawn a little longer and healthier
_____   Turned off the sprinklers and irrigated less frequently, only when really needed
_____   Got a soil test before applying any fertilizer
_____   Kept the gutter area in front of my home clear of dirt, leaves and debris to prevent these from going into the storm water drain
_____   Redirected my downspout into a planted bed away from paved surfaces
_____   Installed pervious pavers in place of concrete or blacktop
_____   Created a backyard habitat for wildlife
_____   Switched to an electric mower or a push mower
_____   Keep a grease can in my kitchen and reduced or eliminated my use of the garbage disposal
_____   Line dry my laundry whenever possible
_____   Installed a living shoreline
_____   Grow some of my own fruits and vegetables
_____   Turn off lights and appliances when not in use
_____   Properly dispose of cigarette butts

Want to be a PEARL HOME?

Please take a moment to fill out the checklist above showing the great actions you have taken.

Name __________________________________________

Address __________________________________________

E-Mail Address ___________________________ Phone Number ________________

Neighborhood ________________________________

Please submit your application by dropping it off at or mailing it to our office (1608 Pleasure House Road, Suite 108, Virginia Beach, VA, 23455), emailing Office@LRNow.org, or faxing 757-383-6907.

Every person and every home can make a difference.