

# ANNUAL REPORT



2018-2019

LYNNHAVEN *River* NOW  
*Restoring Virginia Beach Waters*

# Lynnhaven River Now

## 2018-2019 Board of Directors

Bob Well, *President*  
Andrew Fine, *Co-Chair*  
Harry Lester, *Co-Chair*  
Michael Barrett  
Winston Bibee  
Craig Cope  
Jan Dillard  
Lisa Eure  
Karen Forget  
Lillie Gilbert  
Steve Herbert  
Brent James  
Dave Jester  
Cathy Maston  
Bob Miller  
Gene Ross  
Richard Serpe  
Joan Spore  
Emily Steinhilber  
Robert Taylor

## Staff

### **Executive Director**

Karen Forget

### **Assistant Director for Pearl Programs**

Helen Kuhns

### **Office Manager and Events Coordinator**

Terri Gorman

### **Development and Communications**

Emily Bodsford Hatfield

### **Pearl Faith Communities**

Penny Moulis

### **Pearl Schools and Education Programs**

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Dana Sizemore

### **Pearl Homes and Neighborhoods**

Morgan Schmidendorff

### **Pearl Businesses**

Helen Kuhns

### **Conservation Landscaping and Sustainable Yards**

Trista Imrich  
Barbara Duke

### **Restoration Projects**

Brent James  
Clay Bernick

### **SOS Program**

Joe Randall

Cover photo courtesy of Erik Moore



Bryce Wexler – Sunset at False Cape.

From our beautiful ocean and bay beaches and the Lynnhaven River to Back Bay and the North Landing River, our waterways define our lives in Virginia Beach. They are a large part of why we chose Virginia Beach as our home. We love to kayak, surf, fish, swim, and simply enjoy a sunset over our favorite body of water while savoring some delicious local seafood.

Founded in 2002, Lynnhaven River NOW is dedicated to restoring and protecting our beautiful Virginia Beach waterways. We began with a singular focus on the Lynnhaven River watershed, but over the years, our programs have grown to include all of the watersheds in Virginia Beach. We are truly blessed with miles and miles of beaches and the busy Rudee Inlet and Owl Creek; the bountiful and accessible Lynnhaven River which winds through the entire northern part of our city from the resort area to Town Center; the magnificent North Landing River “Green Sea,” and the renowned Back Bay.

From the beginning, our work at LRNow has been shaped by these three strategic objectives:

- Identify and reduce sources of pollution in our waterways.
- Restore vital habitat like oyster reefs, wetlands, riparian buffers, underwater grasses, native plants, and forested lands.
- Educate and engage the community and partner organizations in this work.

For sixteen years, Lynnhaven River NOW has provided community education and outreach opportunities to all Virginia Beach residents, teaching and inspiring adults and students to take steps to improve water quality in our Virginia Beach waterways. We have been honored to receive a Governor’s Award for Environmental Excellence, a Coastal America Award, and the Dugdale Award from the Garden Club of Virginia among other recognition.

We work actively with many partners to help citizens learn how we can each contribute to conserving our valuable natural resources. LRNow has six key programs that help us to reach our goal of healthy and clean waterways.

- Pearl Homes and Neighborhoods
- Pearl Businesses
- Pearl Schools
- Pearl Faith Communities
- Restoration Programs
- Advocacy

You can read about all of these programs and more in our 2018-2019 Annual Report, on our website, LRNow.org, and in our regular newsletters, the E-News. Sign up for our newsletter on the home page of our website and learn about the many opportunities to get involved and be a part of this dynamic team.

## Dear Members,

At LRNow, we love our beautiful and bountiful Virginia Beach natural resources. We believe that we can continue to grow and develop as a city while we protect our marine environments, expand our forested lands and open areas, and restore our shorelines and native vegetation. We believe that Virginia Beach can tackle all of the challenges that climate changes may bring. And we believe that we can be the cleanest and most sustainable city on the East Coast.

We know that this can only be accomplished through collaboration. By working with our residents, leaders, businesses, faith communities, and schools, we can accomplish what none of us can accomplish alone. We hope that during our sixteen years of work in Virginia Beach, we have earned your trust and support.

We began our work in 2002, focused on the Lynnhaven watershed. It was the most densely populated and most degraded watershed in the city. We set out to reverse some of the destructive practices of the past and return the Lynnhaven to its previous glory. We have had some success in that pursuit. The Lynnhaven system is much healthier and more productive than it was sixteen years ago. Our native oyster population has rebounded beautifully and we all understand so much more about how our actions affect the health of our waterways.

But during these years, our work continued to expand and encompass the whole city – all seven major watersheds (Little Creek, Lynnhaven, Rudee and Owl Creek, Ocean and Bay beaches, Elizabeth River Eastern Branch, Back Bay, and North Landing River). During the past couple of years, we have concentrated on learning more about the Back Bay and North Landing River watersheds that drain into the Albemarle and Pamlico Sound to our south. And we have introduced some of you to the wonders in these areas of our city through our Discover Virginia Beach monthly events.

We are dedicated to restoring and protecting our natural resources throughout the city. To better reflect the real nature of our work, we have adopted a new tagline for our logo. The logo is the same as you have learned to recognize, but it now says Restoring Virginia Beach Waters.

Thank you for being a part of the team that is making a difference in our city!

Sincerely,

*Karen*

Karen Forget  
Executive Director



Cecilia Kocan - Sharing the Sun

## Discover Virginia Beach Photo Contest Winners

Thank you all for your entries in the 2018 Discover Virginia Beach photography contest! We feel so fortunate to live in or near such a unique city that is home to many diverse ecosystems. From Back Bay to the North Landing River, Stumpy Lake, Atlantic Ocean, the Chesapeake Bay and the legendary Lynnhaven River, each photograph truly captures all of Virginia Beach.

The winning photos have been included throughout our 2018-2019 Annual Report for your enjoyment.

Congratulations to our 2018 Discover Virginia Beach Photography Contest winners!

### Adults

#### Wildlife:

1st Place – Mark Winterstein

*“An Egret lands in the marsh at Pleasure House Point”*

2nd Place – Stephanie Johnson

*“Shall We Dance?”*

#### Landscape:

1st Place – Eric Moore

*“Mouth of the Blackwater”*

2nd Place – Bill Nevin

*“Sunset Backbay”*

#### Recreation:

1st Place – Steve Daniel

*“Dog vs. Crab”*

2nd Place – Mary Lewis

*“Dinner on the water”*

#### Overall:

Mark Winterstein

*“A Blue-grey Gnatcatcher stares down a caterpillar at Stumpy Lake”*

### Youth

#### Wildlife:

Cecilia Kocan

*“Sharing the Sun”*

#### Landscape:

Bryce Wexler

*“Sunset at False Cape”*

#### Recreation:

Erin “Ellie” Carpenter

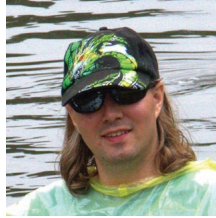
*“Sunset on the Lynnhaven”*

# Volunteers of the Year for 2018:

## All-Around Volunteer

### Jon Parish

Our Volunteer of the Year for 2018, Jon Parish, is dedicated to volunteerism and has been recognized for his community service through his employer PRA Group. Jon paddles waterway cleanups bringing in kayak-loads of water-borne trash. He sets up and breaks down events such as the Fall Festival and was committed to the construction of the 64th Street Pavilion shelter.



## Stewardship & Access Committee

### Rosemary Harker

Rosemary Harker has been a volunteer with the Stewardship & Access Committee for over 12 years. Rosemary leads by example and helps in many capacities such as leading children's activities at the Fall Festival, working monthly waterway cleanups, and sampling the waters of Crab Creek as one of LRNow's Citizen Scientists.



## Oyster Restoration

### Chris Ludford

Chris Ludford has been named LRNow's 2018 Oyster Volunteer of the Year. His positive spirit of volunteerism and "can-do" approach to every challenge has distinguished him from his peers. He has been instrumental in providing afloat support to LRNow whenever and wherever he was asked. This resulted in LRNow's being able to take distinguished visitors out onto the water in support of our oyster restoration program, with resulting highly positive and important visibility for LRNow. For his unfailingly positive attitude and spirit, he is our Oyster Volunteer of the Year!



## Oyster Roast Silent Auction

### Debbie Blankman

Debbie Blankman serves on the PR and Outreach committee, the Silent Auction Committee and as an Oyster Chick. She has been invaluable to the Silent Auction Committee working endless hours to procure amazing fundraising items for our Silent Auction that takes place during our annual Oyster Roast.



## Education Programs

### Tonya Rivers

As a pre-school teacher, mother of two, and Cub Scout leader, Tonya Rivers brings creative ideas, enthusiasm and teaching experience to the SPAT (Science Pre-school Adventure Time) programs. This past year, not only did she develop and teach four classes, she also assisted children with crafts at outreach programs. She is a wonderful asset to the Education Department and well deserving of the award.



## Sustainable Yard Program

### Barbara Duke

Barbara Duke was invaluable to our new Pearl Homes Sustainable Yard Program. She gave 42 hours of volunteer time helping to assess Pearl Homes for the programs best management practices (BMPs), often available on short notice to visit a property or help out wherever needed. As with all our wonderful volunteers, her expertise and eagerness to get the program up and running set the stage for an incredibly successful inaugural year!



## Advocacy Programs

### John Uhrin

During his twelve years on our Virginia Beach City Council representing the Beach District, John Uhrin consistently supported efforts to protect our natural resources. He was an active member of the Resort Area Commission Green Committee, helped get recycling containers on our beaches, supported offshore wind development, and was a champion in our fight to keep seismic testing and offshore drilling for gas and oil out of our ocean waters.



## Office Assistant

### Linda Lexier

Linda Lexier's enthusiasm for the work of LRNow has been apparent for a long time. She made the delicious oyster stew for our spring Oyster Roast for many years and has helped out at many LRNow events. Even through her own health challenges, Linda has continued to help out in the office whenever we have needed her.



## PR & Outreach Committee

### Carolyn Osmond

Carolyn Osmond is a great all-around volunteer, consistent and easy to work with. Whether she's bringing well-thought-out ideas (and homemade treats) to meetings or thinking ahead and doing the legwork to help create crafts for the Oyster Chicks sale at the Oyster Roast, she contributes to all facets of our PR and Communications Committee.



## Pearl Faith Program

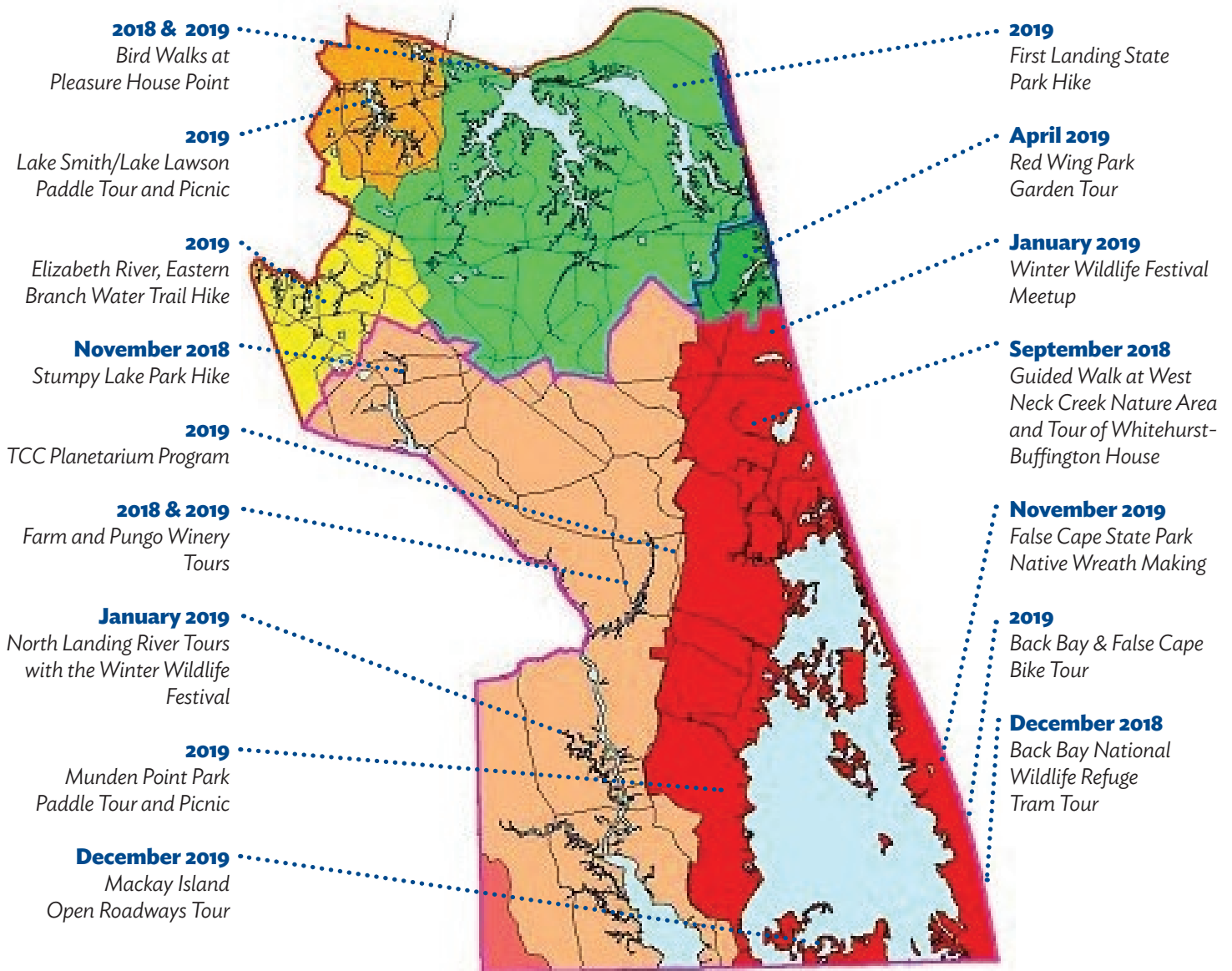
### Dr. Robin Van Tine

The Pearl Faith Volunteer of the Year is Dr. Robin Van Tine for his role as the coordinating force for the Pearl Faith Workshop: Sacred Earth, Sacred Work. Robin, a recently retired professor of biology and environmental science at Saint Leo University is an active advocate for environmental justice and is a leader in the congregation at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Peninsula.



# Discover Virginia Beach

Join us for adventures every month throughout the year in different areas of our beautiful and diverse city. Here are some of the places we explored in 2018. Watch our E-News for all the great places we will go in 2019 – here's a little preview.



# Oysters, Oysters, Oysters

Restoring our Lynnhaven River native oyster population has been an important part of our restoration efforts from the beginning of our organization. Recent surveys identified approximately 120 acres of healthy sanctuary oyster reef in the Lynnhaven River including Broad Bay, Linkhorn Bay, the Inlet and the Eastern and Western Branches. About half of that or 60 acres is subtidal sanctuary reef constructed over the past fifteen years and the other half, 60 acres, is constructed and natural shoreline or intertidal reef. Our goal is 152 acres of sanctuary reef. This has been determined to be the acreage needed to sustain a healthy oyster population in the Lynnhaven.

Here are some updates on recent and upcoming oyster restoration projects:

- **Laila Oyster Castle Reef on Broad Bay Island**

The Laila reef lines the northwest shoreline of Broad Bay Island

and is both our first and our largest oyster castle project. It protects the narrow undeveloped point of Broad Bay Island from erosion and provides habitat for an amazing array of oysters, sponges and other marine critters in Long Creek. The reef was built in three phases starting in spring 2012 and ending in spring 2014. One of our hopes was that we would see the accretion of sand and the spread of marsh grasses behind the castles as the waves were calmer and the shoreline stabilized. We are very happy to say that has happened faster than we expected. Where oysters thrive, so do our marsh grasses.

The Laila reef is named after our friend Laila Serpe, daughter of Richard and Linda Serpe, who was taken from this world much too soon. Many of her Cape Henry Collegiate School classmates have volunteered to help with construction and maintenance of the Laila reef over the years.



- **Eastern Branch Reef constructed in Spring 2017**

In spring 2017, 19,000 bushels of oyster shells from our shell collection program were used to build the Community Reef in the Eastern Branch of the Lynnhaven. This was our first sanctuary reef in the Eastern Branch. The settlement of oysters on this reef has surpassed all expectations and their growth rate has been tremendous. After only eighteen months, our tonging survey brought up one to two inch oysters in healthy clusters. Oysters this size were found on all areas of the reef. We can't wait to go out next fall and see how large and plentiful they have become.

- **Western Branch Reef planned for Spring 2019**

The plans have been made, the grant funds obtained and the partners are all in place to build at least five acres of sanctuary reef in the Western Branch of the Lynnhaven in spring 2019.



The Witchduck reef will be the first sanctuary work in the Western Branch of the Lynnhaven. We hope to see results that match the tremendous growth we have seen in the Eastern Branch.

All of these oysters are helping to clean the water and provide habitat not only for baby oysters to attach and grow, but for sponges, worms, crabs, and juvenile fish to shelter and grow. Each reef becomes an ecosystem supporting a healthy marine environment.

- **James Madison University Research Project**

When it came time for Virginia Beach native and James Madison University graduate student Bailie Lavan to pick a Master's Thesis Field Project for her MS in Biology, she decided that she wanted to take a pass on the bovine flatulence study (Yes...it's really a thing.)

and to do a project involving oyster settlement and growth in the Lynnhaven. She started with a blank sheet and using her knowledge of natural oyster reefs and growth patterns designed a series of cement tiles with about 24" x 24" bases. On these base tiles she attached cement facsimiles of oyster shells in different patterns and densities to see if the spat would prefer one style over the other with differing interstitial spaces upon which to settle.

In January, 2018 she contacted Brent James, LRNow's Oyster Restoration Coordinator, to inquire as to LRNow's interest in her project. After numerous planning emails and meetings, a site on one of Brent's oyster leases in the Eastern Branch of the Lynnhaven was selected for placing the tiles in the water. She constructed the tiles at JMU and trucked them down to Virginia Beach for deployment. In June the tiles were deployed with the help of Bailie's Faculty Advisor, Dr. Patrice Ludwig and her husband. A single oyster castle block was also deployed to serve as a control unit to compare spat sets.

Since tile deployment in June, Ms. Lavan has returned with some undergrad biology students every few weeks to monitor the project and measure the success of the different tile patterns. The last site visit was just completed in December, and the results of the project will be published shortly. By all



# New Pearl Homes December 1, 2017 – November 30, 2018

Pearl Homes are residences where our great Virginia Beach citizens are asking what they can do to make our city more sustainable and keep our waterways clean. We are happy to have welcomed over 857 new residences to our Pearl Homes program during the past year, bringing the total to 4,657. Congratulations to our new Pearl Homes.

*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 located all over Virginia Beach and are places where people care about our community and our environment.*

*Our daily habits and decisions make a difference. Whether you have installed a rain garden, made a pledge to “Scoop the Poop” or switched to a reusable water bottle, YOU are helping to bring our waterways back to life, and we would like to recognize your efforts. Any Virginia Beach home can be a Pearl Home. If you would like to join the community, please visit [know.org/pearl-homes/](http://know.org/pearl-homes/) to apply and become a Pearl Home today!*

*Thank you to all of our Pearl Homes for your beautiful efforts and actions to being part of the solution!*

## MAJOR WATERSHEDS Sub-watersheds Neighborhood

### CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED

#### Bay Coastal Watershed Chesapeake Bay Shores Dea Chalmers

Lynnhaven Dunes  
Linda Merritt  
Kerry Wang

Chic's Beach  
Christopher Moss  
Robyn Backer  
Lauren Clark

#### Elizabeth River Watershed

Avalon  
Hannah Farrell

Bellamy Manor  
Lisa Whitley  
Kelly McCrance

Brandon  
Sherri Sutherland

Brookfield Crossing  
Angel Smith  
Paul Leon

Carolanne Farms  
April Vasser  
Leonardo Camillucci  
Valerie Custer

Carriage Mill  
Nicole Johannesen  
Elisa Clark

Chatham Hall  
Kim Snyder

College Park  
Lee Antonella  
Mara Chauvette

Fairfield  
Chris Broselew  
Jan Hostetler  
Kimmy Ellen  
Katherine Hare  
Patrick Carr  
Susan George  
Suzanne Kempf  
Green Acers  
Jeena Miller

Hunt Club Association  
Mark Podolinsky

Huntington Estates  
Brenda Kopek  
Dot Miller

Jonathan's Cove  
Sylvester Starkes

Kempsville Colony  
Kate Martin

Kempsville Lakes  
Brandon Holland  
Erink Wallace  
Jeanne Tonnesen  
JoAnna Mills-Sampson

Lake Edwards  
Ann Marie Davis  
Carlishe T. Wright  
Ines M. Febos  
Latoya Lamb

Lake James  
Janeen Brady

Lakeville Estates  
Amanda Elliott

Larks Down Kempsville  
Sandra Jimenez

Larkspur  
Bill & Tere Gustafson

Level Green  
Amber A. James  
Lisa Graham

Point O'View  
Kimberly Moreno

Steven Cotthaus  
Webbin Place  
Katherine Jones

Woodstock  
Brooke Schaab  
Linda Miller  
Amrit S. Dhillon  
Amy Petersen  
Amy Rimarski  
Barbara Bishop  
Betty Oren  
Caitlyn Ricks  
Charet Thill  
Christine McCabe  
Corell Taylor  
Corey Taylor  
David Kuhn  
Dr. Kelly S. Rippard  
Drake Arce  
Eulonda Rewis  
Haley Williams

Heidi Mashaw  
Jack Bingman  
Jaclyn Hayes  
Jennifer Morton  
Jennifer Puente  
Jennifer Williams  
Jessica Nutt  
Joanne Hughes  
John DeLacey  
Juan Correa III  
Julie Oehman  
Julie Smith  
Kaden Peele  
Kay Jackson  
Kristin Smith  
Kyonna Hall  
Laniya Danae Coburn  
Larry Strauss  
Lauren Cook  
Lorraine Nute  
Lorrie Terantino  
Lynn Blessett  
Maddie Gordon

Mansoor Abdullah  
Mark Schaller  
Mason X. Sanderson  
Melicni Shadley  
Michael Peele  
Mindy Neiman  
Qina Chen Wai  
Resa Rutledge  
Rhonda Baez  
Robert Leuke  
Rosa Flores-Casas  
Sade Wright  
Salick Morrissey  
SaQuoya Smith  
Sarah Ciaranca  
Shahed Abdulla  
Shikha Sharma/ Sunil Kumar  
Stephanie Thompson/  
Alexander Smith  
Tana Colon  
Terri Douberly  
Tonya Snow

#### Little Creek Watershed

Amherst  
Chantina Brinson

Aragona Village  
Alex Muncy  
Tracy Mills  
Cassie Moore  
Thomas A Blei

Baywatch Point  
Michaela Thrower

Belmeade  
Leslie Edmondson  
German Garcia

Bradford Cover  
Arria Kemper  
Campus East  
Kimesha Mosley  
Larnette Ricks  
Rachelle Jackson

Carriage House  
Cherise (Blackmon)  
Marshall  
Robyn Jones



Chic's Beach  
Adrienne Baker  
Emma & Bill Carroll  
Abby Novario  
Courtney Haskins

Cypress Point  
Sandra Dubque  
Sally Marr  
Heather Wilson

Diamond Springs  
Nancy Weinzel

Falcon Point Apartments  
Erica Keller

Haygood  
Rhonda Hixson  
Wendy T. Voliva

Lake Cypress  
Mildred Dyson

Lake Shores  
Austin Rosecrans

Lake Smith Terrace  
Karen Ford  
Karen Garrison  
Frederick & Letha Sheffy  
Christina McGinn  
Allison Hope

Lynnbrook Landing  
Monique Edghill

Malibu  
Hilary Thompson

Newpointe Condos  
Samantha Hughes  
Karen Arae Reinoso  
Ciera Calloway

North Ridge  
Brittany Peiser-Hudgins  
Kierra Thomas

North Shore  
Jessica Fernandez

## Rain Barrels

*Rain Barrels are a great tool to help protect our watersheds from runoff pollution. They also conserve a natural resource that can reduce your water bills. Municipal water contains ammonia, fluoride, and chlorine which is hard on plants. Your gardens and vegetation will thrive by using the harvested rainwater to water them.*



*Ridgely Manor*  
Tiffany Wiggins

*Thoroughgood*  
C. Baraki  
Sandra White  
Wicks Family  
Patricia Lauterbach  
Joyce Lovitt  
Anntionetta Reese  
Benita Willis  
Darrien Daniel/Fatazia  
Gaynor  
Dianne Grimes  
Elizabeth Herrin  
Hazel Firmino  
Justin Huang  
Kathy Lindgren  
Kathy Parks  
Logan Wilson  
Mary Anne Allen  
Melchi Williams  
Melinda Charles-Samtime  
Melissa Ogozaly  
Nicole Litkowski  
Racquel Parham  
Rani Patel  
Renarden Freeman  
Ronald Garrison  
Ryan Huang  
Sisha T. Perea  
Tomia Foster  
Tonya Rivers  
Tracie Silva  
Tyler Droll

**Lynnhaven River Watershed**

*Aeries on the Bay*  
Manuela Mourao

*Alanton*  
Rebecca Newton

*All Saints Episcopal*  
Maury Joy  
Ryan Sawyer  
Susan Tuohy

*Aragona Village*  
Angela & Scott Breuer  
Heather Andrew  
Katie DeGaramo  
Maegan Conner  
Patricia Mace  
PJ Humphries  
Rachel Lee  
Teresa Smith  
Whittney Madden

*Arbors at Cape Henry*  
Sanoy Gilbert

*Battery Park*  
Dawn Rykheart  
Kimberly Hadzima

*Bay Colony*  
Amelia Suh  
Cindee Riordan  
Kelly Burroughs  
Kim Savage  
Robert & Deborah  
Blanchard

*Bay Island*  
Bob and Donna Magoon

Hallie Silliphant  
Mark Baumgartner

*Baycliff*  
Jarred Roenker  
Christine Westendorf  
Susan H. Mathias

*Baylake Pines*  
Dell Young  
Demetrius Winslow  
Klaus  
Jennifer Ackley  
Matthew Smith

*Bethune Woods*  
Raena

*Birchwood*  
Abby Causey  
Alison Dudkoewicz  
Elizabeth L. Tumilty  
Sheila & Nick Bailey

*Birdneck Point*  
Marc & Chris Weiss  
Ellen Manning Keeter  
Melinda Gulick

*Bishopsgate*  
Ruth Kral

*Bow Creek*  
Janice Luton  
Samantha Brooks

*Brighton in the Bay*  
Dorene Caron

*Broad Bay Estates*  
Jenn Sadler  
Shelly Harris  
Melissa Steadman

*Broad Bay Island*  
Anna Surratt  
Mary k. Mladinich-Spain

*Broad Bay Point Greens*  
Kristina Dasher

*Buckner Woods*  
Elizabeth Samuelsen

*Cape Henry Shores*  
Trish Knox  
*Cape Story by the Sea*  
Brian & Angie Callahan  
Angela Lindsey  
Barbara MacDonald  
Susanna McClure

*Cardinal Estates*  
Dawn Davis

*Chesopeian Colony*  
Robert Oliver/Mary  
Bradley

*Chic's Beach*  
Hilary Wriggers  
William Hallwig

*Chimney Hill*  
Christine Williams  
Elfreades Perkins  
Karri Huey

*Church Point*  
Sherif El-Mahdy  
Swarna Marian

*Eastern Park*  
Bonnie Flora

*Gables of Belamy*  
Melinda Hughes

*Gatewood*  
Anna Hersey  
Hannah Rice

*Great Neck Farms*  
Terry Weller  
Jennifer Nagel Vazquez  
McGovern

*Great Neck Lake*  
Neil & Cheryl Rondorf

*Great Neck Manor*  
Bobbi Bains

*Great Neck Meadows*  
Judy Moebus  
Maria Hess

*Great Neck Point*  
Braddon Family  
Mary Ann Jolly  
Scott Washburn

*Green Garden*  
Gwyneth Carlson

*Green Hill Farms*  
Jill & Robert Mariano

*Green Run*  
Bonnie Kluzz  
Carl J Carlson  
Hall and Lei Dunn  
Jenny Bise  
Jessica Brown  
Laura Dember  
Pamela Burson  
Tawanda Williams

*Harbinger Road*  
Haley Dolinar

*Hilltop*  
Kristin Hunsicker  
L. E. Parker-Shuler

*Inlet Shores Condos*  
William & Caitlin  
Stravino

*Jamestown Commons II*  
Rosalba Ricciardi Genet

*King's Grant*  
Alicia Mangels  
Angela B Shaeffer  
Anne Deary  
Benjamin Chidester  
Bree Ruzzi  
Claudia Moorad  
George Prazma  
Grace D Stedje-Larsen  
Jessica White  
Katie Cardon  
Katlyn Flowers  
Kimberly Williams  
Marie T. Culver  
Rachel Phelps  
The Cross Family

*Kline Farms*  
Kim Marin

*Lake Trant*  
Jim & Brenda Haynie  
Mark Bragg

*Larkspur*  
Anna Aquino  
Eric and Lindsay Johnson  
Josh and Kelly Kinnear  
Shelly and Stephen  
Pfeiffer  
Stacey Allin

*Laurel Cove*  
Macklin Smith  
Nancy Woodhouse  
*Lesner Cove Condos*  
Lynanne Gornto

*Linkhorn*  
Alexandra Laramée  
Robert Flint

*Little Haven*  
Astrid & Sam Lamb

*Little Neck*  
Kim Hudson  
Huib Keizer  
Tom Langley  
Maria Pguyen

*Lynnhaven Colony*  
Kate Hall

*Lynnhaven Shores*  
Margie McCathy

*Lynnhaven Woods*  
Rachael Armeli

*Magic Hollow*  
Marina Koehler

*Malibu*  
Austin Taylor  
Brenda Lutz  
Cynthia Hiddemen  
Jamie Collins-Facteau  
Megan McCreary  
Sid Kasarabada

*Marina Shore*  
Apartments  
Kasey Haddock  
Patricia Manint

*Middle Plantation*  
Gregory Golden  
Leslie Jossen

*North Alanton*  
Joan Pickett

*North End*  
Nancy Brown

*Ocean Gardens*  
Lisa Willis  
Robert Dizon

*Ocean Park*  
Andrew Broyles  
Andrew Preece  
Jacob Kratochvil  
Melissa Palmer  
Patrick Gazzolo

*Old Beach Village*  
Mary Anne Decker  
Richard Walsh

*Old Donation Farm*  
Tamyra Natividad

*Old Donation Shores*  
Jeff Smith

*Osprey Point Townhomes*  
Joane Ofeldt

*Pembroke Manor*  
Alexander Nash  
Elizabeth Gibbs

*Pembroke Meadows*  
Kim Bader  
Beverley Weisman  
Jackie Savage

*Plaza*  
Sharronna Benton  
*Pocahontas Village*  
Darlene Sabol  
Judith Haddox

*Princess Anne Hills*  
Michael Brazukas  
Samantha Gordon

*Redwood Farms*  
Mary Fentress  
*Rive Cove Point*  
Donna Marchant-Roof

*Snug Harbor*  
Tracy Critser

*Southern Points*  
Lars Parkhurst

*Thalia*  
Audrey Somero  
Chris Walker  
Dean Cooper  
Jen Klotz  
Jenny Hofler  
Kenneth Smead  
Susan F. Kaufman  
Terry Ritzel

*The Lakes*  
Yi Guo

*Thoroughgood*  
Andrea Balsly  
Jason Thomas  
Karen Heesch-Gilman  
Verna Tersol

*Timberlake*  
Aneta Spry  
Andrea Battle-Coffer

*Town Center Condos*  
Dominic Rhymes

*Towne Square*  
Lakesha Ricks

## Rain Gardens

*A Rain Garden is a bowl-shaped garden with deep, loose soil and a berm on the downhill side to act as a dam. The excess water on your lawn or water that flows off of impervious surfaces can be directed to run into the garden amended soil and help to recharge the groundwater. This reduces the amount and improves the quality of storm water runoff. The garden also increases the habitat diversity on your property.*



Trant Berhshire  
Amanda Crauotte  
Trantwood  
Christopher Faison  
Joseph D Legradi

Wellington Woods  
Elizabeth Waranch  
Heather Deanes  
Jen Schlata  
Jennifer Mlincsek  
Katie Schatti

Wimbledon on the Bay  
Kai Lakin

Windsor Woods  
Bonnie Jenks  
Elizabeth Telkamp  
Kim Barnes  
Liz Cipolla  
Seantel & Joshua Butler

Wishart  
Chris/ Nicile Stuart

Wolfsnare Plantation  
Bill Reid  
Lisa McDonnell  
Susan Whitaker

Woodhurst  
Sharon Godfrey

Woods of London Bridge  
Rebecca Silverstein  
Abigail Devall  
Alicia Cohen Kraus  
Alona Oquike  
Alyssa Davis  
Amanda Justus  
Amber Copeland  
Arya Nair  
Ashley Haller  
Bella González  
Betty Reese  
Bianca Artis  
Candace Baird  
Carol Volkringer  
Carolyn Burbank  
Carolyn Pulley  
Cassidy Giammaria  
Cherie Brogan  
Cheryl Trahan  
Christina Adams  
Coulborn  
Crista Ewell  
Dana C Fallin  
Dawn Hrelc  
Debi Kesler  
Deborah Stoyko  
Diana E. Ferguson  
Eko Setiyowati  
Elizabeth Stocks  
Evan Urmey  
Ian Graham  
Irene E. Jones  
James Smith  
Jamie Holland  
Janna Goliff  
Jennifer Grant  
Jeremiah Clark  
Jeremy Murray  
Jess Fraser  
Jonathan Kyle Logue  
Julius Hayes  
Karen Blanton  
Kathleen Conley

## Infiltration Trenches

*An Infiltration Trench is a gravel-filled trench or pit that stores runoff temporarily until it seeps into the ground through the bottom of the trench or pit. This practice does not necessarily incorporate vegetation into its design. Instead, they rely on natural soils to absorb runoff and filter pollutants. Water quality treatment, reduction of peak flows in storm water systems, and groundwater recharge are the primary benefits of the infiltration trench. Also, since the amount of surface water entering waterways is slowed down, it reduces channel erosion.*



Kathy Botte  
Kathy Freeman  
Kierra Gilliam  
Kim McClermon  
Kristin Bowen  
L Katie Morrisette  
Laura Hanes  
Laura Moran  
Lauren Jackson  
Leslie McClelland  
Leslie Nelson  
Leslie Nelson  
Lindsey Asbury  
Lynn Hunter  
Margaret Bejma  
Marlene Antrum  
Mary Willis  
Melissa Prate  
Miriam Weathers  
Misty Neal Cementner  
Mittie Burnham  
Nancy Eleftheratos  
Nancy McNeeley  
Nikysha Warren  
Rebecca Carter  
Rebecca Robins  
Renet Ross  
Ruben A. Sanchez  
Sarah Hall  
Stacey Richman  
Stacy L. Hux  
Stefanie Newlin  
Susan Lawson  
Susan O'Connell  
Suvee Foose  
Teresita Peria

Valorie Sankey  
Valorie Sankey  
Virginia French  
Wilda Cuninghame

## OWLS CREEK WATERSHED

### Ocean Coastal Watershed

North End  
Hannah Pierce  
Katie Johnson  
Nancy Rios  
Ron Asher

### Rudee Inlet Watershed

Birdneck Woods  
Donna Kinney

Lakewood  
Randi Riesbeck

Oceana  
Ashleigh McNeil  
Heather Husted

Sawgrass Condominiums  
Carrie Bosseler  
Stephanie Van Petten

Seatack  
Joy Mason

Shadowlawn  
Diane Payne

South Beach  
Dana Sauvageau  
Bobbi Skinner-White  
Amy Alberico  
Monica Reyna-Kirkland  
Quintin Custis

## SOUTHERN WATERSHED

### Back Bay Watershed

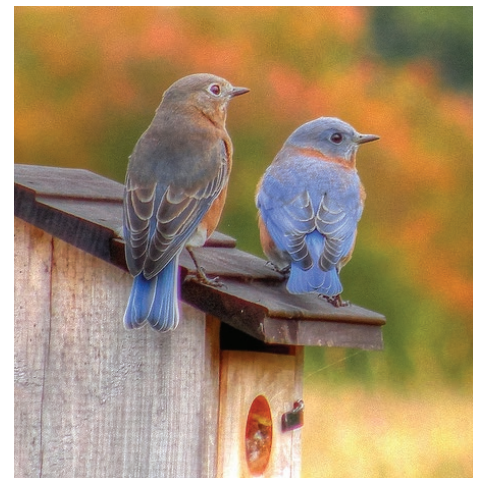
Atlantic Shores  
Retirement Community  
\*PEARL NEIGHBORHOOD\*  
Allen and Barbara Bissell  
Alma Hollwgsirth  
Anita and Ron Casey  
Ann Dulman  
Anne S. Morgan  
Annie Alberi  
Ashby and Yrette Franklin  
Barbara Fleming  
Barbara H. Greenleaf  
Barbara Uenzke  
Barbara Wool  
Bergohee  
Betty L. Lachman-Tucker  
Beverly Allen  
Beverly Johnson  
Bob and Jane Mote  
Bob McCombs  
Bob Sage  
C Balcom  
Carl McClees  
Carolyn and Chuck Landry  
Carolyn Hawxhurst  
Carolyn Little  
Catherine Ibarra  
Cecelia Williams  
Christine Rafal  
Colin & Anne Calvert  
Cynthia Lieck  
Dan Ferucci  
Daniel J. Arris  
Darrell and Claudine Patton  
David and Theresa Netherton  
Dixie L. Johnson  
Don Beaman  
Don Bersing  
Don Wernick  
Donna Hudgins  
Doreen Stewteville  
Ed and Joy Phillips  
Edwina D. Walsh  
Ella Netta Hathaway  
F. Lee Werbin  
Frances Kohanek  
Frances Purpura  
Frank and Julie Barrett  
Frankie B. Clay  
George and Eiko Ikonen  
George Chagetas  
Gerrie Green  
Gerrie Lopst  
Gilbert L. Noal  
Gloria Bell  
Harriet Olsen  
Helen Beilbe  
Helen Dixey  
Jack & Anne Minnick  
Jack Stokes  
James Denson  
James K. Donson

Jan Van Heiningen  
Jane S Woolridge  
Jane Webster  
Jane Wright  
Janice Mohr  
Jayne Sullivan  
Jean Caprow  
Jean Carlston  
Jessica Dulmage  
Jim and Joan Kail  
Jim Laurance  
Jim Rosewbaun  
Joan Gelrison  
Joan Thurston  
Joel Peterson  
John and Donna Soderberg  
John Hamilton  
Judy Bernal  
Judy Harrell  
Judy Thaler  
Julianne Hill  
Kenneth R Yenni  
Lalas Brown  
Lee Werbin  
Lila Davis  
Linc and Joyce Neal  
Lora Hatt  
Louise McManus  
Margarita Linman  
Margene E. Sullivan  
Marie Larzelere  
Marjorie Marx  
Mary Anne Griffith  
Mary Lou Everton  
Mary Martha Hayes  
Mel Rungo  
Micheal and Nancy

Halperin  
Midge Tinney  
Misty Beninato  
Mollie Backs  
Mona Forney  
Pat Meakin  
Pat Robertson  
Pete St Germain  
Peter and Valerie Fay  
Philapena Price  
Pinky Derieux  
Richard P Multer Sr  
Richard Quarles  
Richard W. Anderson  
Rick Sawyer  
Robert Green  
Robert Mooney  
Ron Gahagan  
Russell Blackburn  
Rusty DePaul  
Sara Jane Druzheik  
Selma Stone  
Shao-Ru Cho  
Sherry Ewing  
Shirley and Richard Barcus  
Shirley Dowdy  
Shirley Rudolph  
Sid Edelwar  
Steve Fulton  
Stu and Patsy Saul  
Susan and Peter Gerame  
Tim and Jayne Rodriguez  
Tommy and Sybil Griggs  
Tony Mediei  
Valarie Jones  
Wallace Cottrell  
Weyman C. McCoy Jr.

## Pearl Neighborhoods

*A Pearl Neighborhood is a local Virginia Beach community that desires clean and healthy waterways. To qualify, the neighborhood must have at least 30% of their homes be Pearl Homes, offer a LRNow education opportunity, and complete at least one environmentally focused community project. This program reminds us that it is not only our individual responsibility but also our community duty to work together. We can make a greater impact towards a healthier environment if we reach out to our neighbors and work as team for a better tomorrow.*



Willam and Teresita  
Crowe  
William Hargrave  
Winifred P Smouse  
Yvette Fiore

Back Bay Lagomar  
Danielle Hunn

Birdneck Lake  
Tracy Sykes

Creeds  
Meshell Woliver

Lago Mar  
Angela Bogdanowicz  
James McCall  
Amanda Kelly  
Jen Kepka

Lotus Garden  
Alice Thayer  
Mirasol  
Renee Bosher  
April Stilwell

Ocean Lakes  
Kinsey Boyer  
Sandra Caldwell  
Scott Carlson  
Seth Edwards

Pinehurst Estates  
Randy Sparling

Pungo  
Audrey Hodges  
Jennifer Nannery  
Robert Arbuckle

Red Mill  
Alice A. Hatfield  
Katie Warnock  
Melissa Murphy  
Michelle Shoffstall  
Rebekah Kelly  
Susan Thuma

Sawyer Lakes  
Rachel Jennings

South Shore Estate  
Cubbie Ingraham

Upton Estates  
Janice Hart  
Tinisha Williams  
Ashley Swenson  
Brooke Graham  
Christina Lane  
Desiree West  
Donna Quick  
Elise Hipp  
Maria Cooper  
Mary Flannery  
Morgan Wernecke  
Terri Maurice  
Tonya Kreckner

### North Landing River Watershed

Acredale  
Amy Mackiewicz  
Jennifer Lepley

Alexandria  
Jessica Newell

Renee Garrett

Bellamy Manor Estates  
Whitney Robinson

Bellamy Plantation  
Jan A. James

Bellamy Woods  
Colleen Cahill  
Erica Pero  
Kathy Reingruber

Blackwater  
Ashley Vance

Brandon  
Alyssa Harmon  
WBrigadoon  
Brenda Green  
Celeste Greene  
Ed and Leslie Ullom  
Eddi Betcher  
Kelly Dey  
Kristy Thomas  
Victoria Kelley

Buckner Farms  
Bernadette Parris  
Jeri Blythe

Charlestown  
Andy Underwood  
Debra P Wanzong  
Karin Grice  
Kimberley Temple  
Lisa Mikulka

Charlestowne Lakes  
Cathleen Coward  
Cheryl Schroler  
Mary Lawrence

Christopher Farms Drive  
Declan Donnelly

Cobblestone Terrace  
June Hartman

Courthouse Estates  
Joe & Vickie Etheridge  
Rhonda Kinley  
Stacey Moore

Coventry  
Elizabeth A. DeCarlo

Eagles Nest  
Tom Sola

Foxfire  
Andy Stark  
Lisa Alconcel  
Lisa Coleman

Glenwood  
Bailey Stadler  
Diana Smith  
Hilary Ho Sang  
Johanna Cuning  
Joni Swanberg  
Matthew Calsada  
Merrill Wahaba  
Nikeia Pittman  
Terra Luckett

Highland Parish  
Miechele Rivera-Hall

## Scoop the Poop

*Through multiple studies we found that 60% of the excess bacteria in the waterways was coming from our pets and birds, ducks and geese primarily. There are two things that we can do to control the bacteria that enters our waterways from these sources: scoop the poop every time, everywhere and do not feed wildlife.*

*The average dog produces .75 pounds of solid waste per day. There are an estimated 60,000 dogs in Virginia Beach. That is 45,000 pounds of waste per day that ends up in our waterways if we do not handle it responsibly. On top of that, one adult goose produces approximately a pound of droppings per day. Geese are invasive. Think about how many you see a day. They only stay here because we've made it so nice for them, feeding them, and providing a nice, flat lawn habitat.*

*If we all clean up after our pets in the park, on the beach and in our own yards, and stop feeding the wildlife, we can reduce this source of dangerous bacteria in the waters where we swim, kayak, and fish. It is that simple and that important.*



Hillcrest Farms  
Angela Taylor  
Diane Tarkenton

Holland Pines  
Karen Slagle

Hunt Club Forest  
David Clark  
Hannah Stanford  
Kimberly Peterson

Indian Lakes  
Amy Babines  
Erin Whitt  
Jack Babcock, Jr  
Kelly Pecura

Lake Christopher  
Christene Mitchell

Lincoln Military Housing  
Jessica Sorenson

Madison Crossings  
Averi Zalabak

Midway Manor  
Carrie Buxton  
Israel Figueroa

New Castle  
Anthony Fabrizio  
Carol Stein

Ocean Lakes  
Russell S. Haller  
Pine Ridge  
Alex & Jared Shields  
Alison Ailiff  
Alison Lane  
Amy Mallinson & Family  
Amy Pratt  
Andrew & Rebecca  
Hailey  
April Smith  
Ashley Puvogel  
Becky Rhame  
Bill & Barbra Willis  
Charles franklin  
Cheryl Dill  
Chris & Shawnea  
Roberts  
Cindy & Aaron Peckham

Clint Cholish  
Corey, Ali & Baker Muns  
Deanna Nevling  
Debbie Jewell-Seawright  
Delores Gresalfi  
Donna Enos  
Donna Gorman  
Elisah McGee  
Eric Nichols  
Hollie Sarnoski  
Jeff Rooney  
Jeff Swallow  
Jeffrey R. Bickel  
Jennifer Haefner  
Jennifer Scott  
John & Kathleen Rooney  
John & Kelly Cosentino  
Joyce Brehm  
Julie Hayden  
Justin and Heather  
Cashwell  
Kaizen Schleyer  
Karen Strogilos  
Kelly & Michael Chin  
Kim Turner  
Kimberly Zaleski  
Lin Rose  
Linda Edwards  
Lisa and Fred Barranger  
Lisa McKenney  
Megan Carlson  
Melanie Frederick  
Michael Geluso  
Myrna Shuey  
Pam Kersh  
R.C. McManus  
Rachelle Ingram  
Roxanne & Ed English  
Sam Gassel  
Sarah Orebaugh  
Seth & Diane Larson  
Stephanie & Joshua  
Jones  
Stephanie Jones  
Steve & Lisa Winter  
Stohrer Family  
Sue & Tim Bradley  
Todd & Gina Lane  
Tonya Simoes  
Valerie Clark

Princess Anne Woods  
Erin Zeder

Rock Creek  
Darek Dabbs  
Reina Custodio

Rosemont Forest  
Michele King  
Michelle Reitz

Royal Pointe  
Hilary Ho Sang

Salem  
Brittany L. Smith  
Denise Kerry  
Julia Bland

Salem Lakes  
Christina Hodges  
Ryan Murnane

Salem Villages  
Heather Wade

Salem Woods  
Candace Boyd  
Cheryl Beardsley  
Courtney Carr  
Kelly Fletter  
Lauren Salas

Southgate  
Joanna Dann  
Sarah Almeidy  
Tamara Duggar

Spence Crossing  
Kimberlie Petruslis  
Tobey Pedroza  
Wendy Moore

Stratford Chase  
Brooke Patterson  
Courtney Parziale

Sunstream  
Elaine Simpson

Victoria Park  
Carrie Williams  
Patty Capewell

Wood Farm  
Michelle M Klepk

Woodbridge Pointe  
Monica Staples

Woods of Piney Grove  
Amy Cross  
Adina Gadell  
Archana Thangavel  
Beth Stone  
Blackburn  
Brett Greenfield  
Brittney Murrell  
Carmen Orellana  
Carson Kuehn  
Caryn N. Beckwith  
Catherine Gallucci  
Christina Williams  
Courtney Phillips  
Dawn Williams  
Desi R. Spratling  
Donna Wilson  
Erin Pastoric  
Ginger Jansen  
Heather Cohen  
James Maddox  
Jenny Maugeri  
Julie Wood  
Kari Wandersee  
Katrina Sawyer  
Kelly Gressley  
Khalid Eltigani  
Linda Strain  
Mia Roberts  
Myecole Braswell  
Naya Parker  
Nikecha Lewis Dalton  
Pamela Blount  
Raleigh & Vera Manley  
Renee Garrett  
Roseanne Jacob  
Sandra Medina  
Shannon Pearson  
Starr Pierre  
Zhihan Carpenter

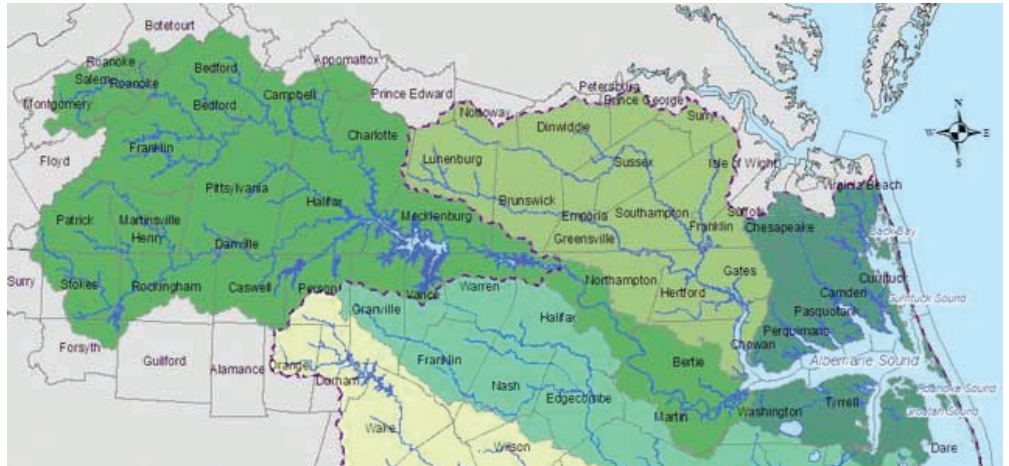
# The Albemarle Watershed

A watershed is the land area that drains into any particular body of water. Do you know your watershed address?

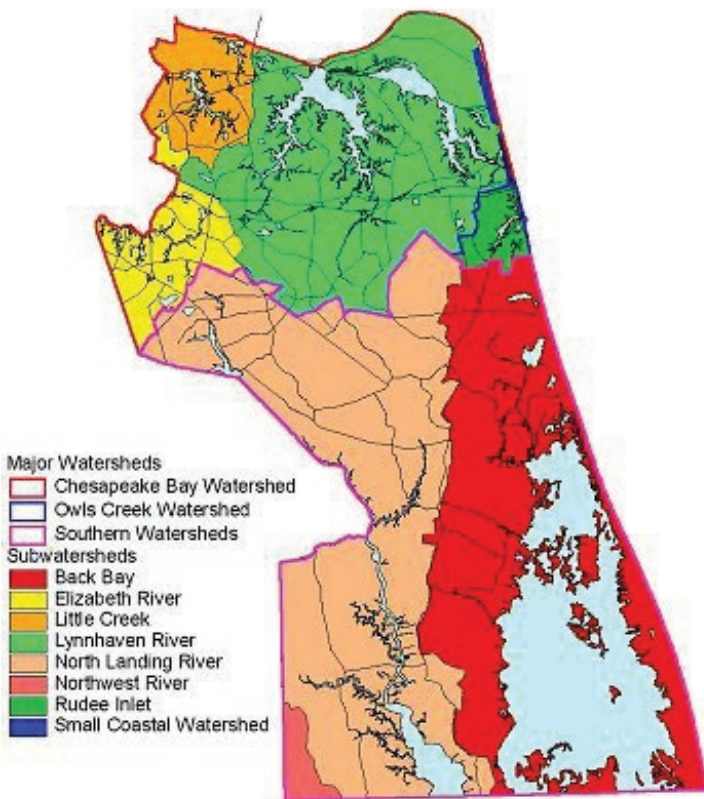
This is an important question in Virginia Beach and the answer may surprise you. Two-thirds of the land area in Virginia Beach drains south into the Albemarle-Pamlico watershed. Often called our Southern Waters, it is made up of the Back Bay and North Landing River watersheds and is part of the Albemarle-Pamlico system. In Virginia Beach, we are sandwiched between the two largest estuaries in the United States, the Chesapeake Bay to the north and the Albemarle-Pamlico estuary to the south. And our actions and decisions not only affect our local waters, but also have an effect on these two important estuaries.

The Virginia portion of the Albemarle watershed is made up of three river basins: the Roanoke, Chowan, and Pasquotank. These river basins include thirty-eight Virginia counties and cities and roughly 10,500 square

miles in the southern portion of our state or 25% of the land area of Virginia. The waters in this watershed affect Virginians in many more ways than they likely realize. This area is rich in farmland and recreational opportunities. Perhaps most importantly to us,



the drinking water for Virginia Beach is sourced from within the Albemarle watershed coming from Lake Gaston, which is located on the Roanoke River.



The Back Bay, North Landing River and Northwest River watersheds are all part of the Albemarle-Pamlico Watershed.



The Albemarle watershed contains many different ecosystems and their diverse and unique sets of flora and fauna. The watershed spans from the Atlantic coast in Virginia and North Carolina well into the mountains, with habitats ranging from open estuary and coastal marsh to densely forested upland piedmont.

Our own Albemarle areas, Back Bay and the North Landing River, reflect that diversity. Farmland, conserved forestland, developed suburban tracts, vast marshlands, sand dunes, open water, and long expanses of ocean beach can all be found in the southern watersheds in Virginia Beach.

Back Bay is a large body of mostly fresh water lined by marshes, shrubby wetlands, and swamps. The entire embayment is separated from the Atlantic Ocean by a relatively narrow barrier island, which has historically been breached and broken repeatedly, creating temporary inlets. Since the closing of Currituck Inlet during a storm in 1830, Back Bay has changed from a tidally influenced saltwater estuary to a wind tide dominated fresh and brackish estuary. Back Bay is renowned for the bounty of waterfowl that visit every winter. Back Bay Wildlife Refuge is managed to best accommodate these winter visitors and is home to swans, snow geese, many species of ducks, ibis and other

waterfowl during their annual migrations.

The ocean beaches south of Sandbridge are some of the most pristine on the east coast and important as sea turtle nesting sites.

The North Landing River watershed has been dubbed “The Green Sea” for its vast expanses of marsh. The North Landing River flows southward, rapidly widening in its lower reaches before emptying into Currituck Sound just south of the Virginia – North Carolina state line. The North Landing River is part of the Intracoastal Waterway, a major inland waterway running along the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts of the United States. Much of the land surrounding the river is owned and protected by various public, private, and nonprofit conservation organizations, comprising roughly 15,700 acres under easements held by federal, state, local, and nonprofit partnerships.

The North Landing River and its tributaries have been designated by the state and city as a Scenic River.

There is much to celebrate and protect in our southern watersheds. Whether you enjoy delicious strawberries in the spring, the beautiful waterfowl that visit our area each winter, or walking on pristine beaches, the Albemarle part of our city has much to offer all Virginia Beach residents.



Erik Moore – Mouth of the Blackwater

## Highlights From 2018:

Total involvement in all LRNow programs last year was **24,783** • **5,019** Volunteer Hours Contributed • Over **120** community programs involving 11,029 citizens • Our waterway cleanup volunteers removed **8,002** pounds of debris from our marshes and waterways • In the first year of the Notable Tree program, we identified and marked **92** Tier One trees • We expanded our water quality testing program to **16** sites. Thank you Citizen Scientists • City of Virginia Beach invested **\$13.6** million in water quality improvements: **\$8.6** million through public works projects and **\$5** million through public utilities projects • U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Restoration Plan was funded. Phase I will restore: **9** acres of wetlands along Thalia Creek; **7** acres of underwater grasses in Broad Bay; **8** acres of fish habitat in the Lynnhaven Inlet • LRNow and CBF receive **\$400,000** in funding to build sanctuary oyster reefs in the Western Branch of the Lynnhaven • Our shell collection program, SOS, collected **2,700** bushels of shell for future sanctuary oyster reef work • We have **92** Pearl Schools city-wide with 9 new schools in 2018 • LRnow did **68** programs for students and teachers in 2018 • We added **857** new Pearl Homes for a total of **4,657** Pearl Homes city-wide



Mark Winterstein -  
An Egret lands in the marsh at Pleasure House Point

# Lynnhaven River State Of The River Report For 2018

Our overall grade for 2018 is a B.

	INDICATOR	2017 GRADE	2018 GRADE	WHERE WE ARE IN 2018	WHERE WE WANT TO BE
<b>POLLUTION</b>	<b>Bacteria</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>B</b>	48% meets the shellfish standard; 91% meets the swimmable/fishable standard	100% of river meets the shellfish harvest standard and 100% swimmable/fishable
	<b>Nitrogen &amp; Phosphorus</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>D</b>	90% impaired; incremental improvements in water clarity in Broad Bay	Nitrogen & Phosphorus levels that meet SAV habitat requirements
	<b>Dissolved Oxygen</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>D</b>	90% impaired	0 impaired square miles
	<b>Water Clarity</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>C-</b>	Areas of widgeon grass have been detected in Broad Bay	Sediment and Algae levels that meet SAV habitat standards
<b>POLLUTION CONTROL</b>	<b>Clean Boating</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>B-</b>	NDZ in effect; 8 certified marinas; pumpout at the City Marina is still out of service	NDZ in effect, 8 certified marinas, annually increasing gallons pumped out
	<b>New Funds for Water Quality</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>A-</b>	\$1.8 M in the Lynnhaven; \$8.6 M city-wide	\$3 million per year
	<b>Stormwater Treatment</b>	<b>C-</b>	<b>C</b>	31% of watershed treated; 43 new BMPs added in 2018	100% of total watershed treated with stormwater management
	<b>Sanitary Sewers</b>	<b>B-</b>	<b>B</b>	5 sewer overflows; 1,629 gallons spilled; 173 septic systems, down 20 from 2017	0 sewer overflows per year, 0 gallons spilled, & 0 septic tanks remaining of 11,600
<b>HABITAT</b>	<b>Oysters</b>	<b>C+</b>	<b>B-</b>	120 acres of 152 acre goal; Good-excellent settlement on all oyster reefs	250,000 oysters per year transplanted, 152 total acres of sanctuary reef, 300 linear feet of new oyster shoreline per year
	<b>Open Spaces &amp; Public Access</b>	<b>B-</b>	<b>B-</b>	No significant changes in 2018	Open space: 4,000 acres, Public Access: 15 Public Access Sites
	<b>Wetlands</b>	<b>A-</b>	<b>A-</b>	GWIC students planted 4,394 sq ft; Through permitting: 181 sq feet net gain non-vegetated; 1,646 sq ft vegetated	0 permitted losses per year, increasing number of living shoreline projects each year
	<b>Riparian Buffers</b>	<b>B</b>		No information available for 2018	Reduced number of variances per year; 2/1 net gain of buffer; 100 linear feet of new buffer each year.
	<b>Underwater Grasses</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>D</b>	Small areas of widgeon grass detected in Broad Bay	175 total acres
<b>AWARENESS</b>	<b>Educational Programs</b>	<b>A+</b>	<b>A</b>	121 programs; 11 Pearl Faith Communities (2 new in 2018); Fall Festival and 2 Candidates Forums	80 programs per year, 15 Pearl Faith Communities (5 new per year), Annual Fall Festival, Candidates Forum
	<b>Media Attention</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>A+</b>	Coverage 22 times; 3 new sections on our website; Followers—Facebook: 3,562, Instagram: 1,030, 50 newsletters; 6,700 subscribers	Coverage 18 times per year, Facebook followers: 400 new per year, E-News Subscribers: 400 new per year
	<b>Membership &amp; Involvement</b>	<b>A+</b>	<b>A+</b>	Membership: 10,000 Involvement—24,783 Volunteer Hours: 5,019 857 new Pearl Homes for a total of 4,657	Membership: 5,000 Involvement: 30,000 3,000 Volunteer Hours Pearl Homes: 500 new per year
	<b>School Participation</b>	<b>A+</b>	<b>A+</b>	92 Pearl Schools with 62,600 students; 68 Programs involving 13,754 students and teachers	100 Pearl Schools, 10 programs per year, Participation from all watershed schools

# The Pearl School Program: The Power Of Partnerships

This past year the Virginia Beach Education Association (VBEA) honored Lynnhaven River NOW's Education Department with the Whole Village Award. This Award recognizes the support that LRNow has given to Princess Anne Middle School through the Growing Wetlands in the Classroom Program and the Trashion Show. In both of these programs, LRNow acted as the catalyst that brought organizations such as Dollar Tree, Aveda and Lynnhaven Mall together with the schools to increase their understanding of sustainability leading to great stewardship projects. This is just one of the many schools that count LRNow as a Partner in Education. Below, you will learn about two other wonderful partnerships that took place in the 2017-2018 school year. If your organization or school would like to partner with LRNow on a project, please contact the Education Department (education@LRNow.org). Together we can make a difference in the lives of the students and in the health of the watersheds.

## Floating New Ideas about Clean Water

Turtles sun themselves on the outflow pipe of the stormwater pond at Larkspur Middle School. Geese float lazily across the pond's surface as cars whiz along the busy roadway, buses come and go, shuttling the students in their daily routine. This large pond was built to hold the rainwater that runs off the parking lots and land surrounding the school. Pollutants such as oil, animal waste, dirt, heavy metals from the cars and trash are pushed into the pond with rainwater during storms. In the summer a skin of green algae coats the surface of the pond, fed

by the excess nutrients found in animal waste. With the help of local partners, a plan for cleaner water has come to Larkspur Middle's stormwater pond. A generous grant from Aveda has allowed Lynnhaven River NOW to purchase and install a Floating Wetland Island with all the needed materials, including wetland plants grown out by students at Kempsville Meadows Elementary School.

A Floating Wetland Island (FWI), created from recycled plastic, resembles a giant scrubbing pad with holes across its surface for plants. The root systems of Cardinal flower, Pickerelweed, and Soft Rush grow through the island, drawing their nourishment from the very thing causing the green scum, excess nitrogen from the large quantities of goose poop. As the plants take up the nitrogen, they flourish leaving less for the algae to consume.

On the day of the installation, community partners came together. Virginia Beach Parks and Recreation staff delivered the Floating Wetland Island, students from Kempsville Meadows ES (KMES), along with volunteers from Aveda and LRNow, planted the plants they had so carefully nurtured since February.

Later in the day, students from Larkspur MS arrived and finished planting the plants, adding pine straw mulch to the island, and wrapping it in goose fencing to protect the plants from geese.

Student and teacher response to this project was overwhelmingly positive. Gary Sanchez-Rivera, an 8th grade student, said that "He was very glad to be able to be a part of

## Schools by Watershed

### Lynnhaven River Watershed

Adult Learning Center  
Alanton Elementary School  
All Saints Day School  
Brookwood Elementary School  
Cape Henry Collegiate  
Cox High School  
Dey Elementary School  
First Colonial High School



Great Neck Middle School  
Green Run Collegiate  
Green Run Elementary School  
Green Run High School  
Holland Elementary School  
Independence Middle School

King's Grant Elementary School  
Kingston Elementary School  
Larkspur Middle School  
Linkhorn Park Elementary School  
Lynnhaven Elementary School  
Lynnhaven Middle School



Malibu Elementary School  
Norfolk Christian School-Beach Lower School  
Old Donation Episcopal Day School  
\*Old Donation School (aka Brickell Academy)  
Pembroke Elementary School  
Pembroke Meadows Elementary School  
Plaza Middle School  
Princess Anne High School  
Rosemont Elementary School  
Thalia Elementary School

Trantwood Elementary School  
Virginia Beach Friends School  
Virginia Beach Middle School  
White Oaks Elementary School  
Windsor Oaks Elementary School  
Windsor Woods Elementary School

### Elizabeth River Watershed

Arrowhead Elementary School  
Brandon Middle School  
College Park Elementary School



Fairfield Elementary School  
Hebrew Academy of Tidewater  
Kempsville Elementary School  
Kempsville High School  
Kempsville Meadows Elementary School  
Kempsville Middle School  
Norfolk Academy Lower School

helping the environment.” Another 8th grader, Jasmin Galan, commented that “She loved that we were able to do something that could make a difference in cleaning up their pond water.” On the way back to KMES, the Kindergarten teacher, Ruth Kral, overheard her students saying, “I helped the earth.” “I’m a good helper.” “Can we go back and see the island in the water?” “Can we do it again?” Mrs. Kral reported that from start to finish, her students were engaged and excited. When they touched the FWI and learned that it was made from recycled bottles, it helped them to understand what recycling water bottles meant. “This was the best day ever! We had parents who went with us who also learned and enjoyed the process,” Kral reported. Wrapping up her evaluation, she added “Who knew what a difference 50 wetland grass plants could make? The project impacted our whole school (other classes became interested when walking by the Grow-labs), my young learners, and their parents who volunteered along the way, as well as other staff in the school. It was an amazingly empowering learning experience for all!”

Larkspur Middle School and Kempsville Meadows became Pearl Schools for the first time as a result of this project and many more, helping to bring the number of Pearl Schools to 92 in the 2017-2018 school year.

Down in the North Landing watershed, another partnership for clean water was formed between Landstown High School, LRNow and the University of VA. Dr. Celeste Greene, an Associate Professor in the University of VA

School of Continuing and Professional Studies, secured an UVA Sustainability Grant to study the effects of Floating Wetland Islands on the water quality of Landstown’s stormwater management pond (also known as a BMP). It is not uncommon to see algae covering parts of the pond in the heat of the summer due to the influx of goose poop and run-off from the parking lots and lawns surrounding the pond. Through this grant, two floating wetland islands were planted out and launched into the BMP pond near the bus loop in the back of Landstown HS to see if they would make a difference in the algal blooms and water quality.

Water samples are taken weekly and sent to the Virginia Aquarium for testing for nitrogen, phosphorus, dissolved oxygen, and coliform bacteria. On site temperature is taken along with photos of the FWI and the pond for later comparison and correlation with the data. The results of the study are being shared not only with the University and Landstown HS students, but also with students at Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School, who are looking at the possible addition of a FWI in their BMP. Data analysis will help in determining the effectiveness of the FWIs and guide future plans for stormwater management in the upcoming school year. This grant gives students a chance to be part of an authentic scientific study that will yield data useful to other schools, as they work to improve the health of BMPs across all Virginia Beach watersheds. Dr. Greene is also mentoring the Bishop Sullivan green club “The Environmental Crusaders” as they work towards becoming a Pearl School.

Point O’ View Elementary School  
 Providence Elementary School  
 Renaissance Academy  
 Strelitz Early Childhood Education Center  
 St. Gregory the Great School  
 Tallwood Elementary School  
**Little Creek Watershed**  
 Bayside Elementary School  
 Bayside High School  
 Bayside Middle School  
 Diamond Springs Elementary School  
 Hermitage Elementary School



Luxford Elementary School  
 Newtown Elementary School  
 \*Old Donation School  
 (aka Brickell Academy)  
 Shelton Park Elementary School  
 Thoroughgood Elementary School

Williams Elementary School  
**Owls Creek/Rudee Inlet Watershed**  
 Birdneck Elementary School  
 Cooke Elementary School  
 Seatack Elementary School



**North Landing Watershed**  
 Advanced Technology Center  
 Barefoot Kids Christian Day School  
 Centerville Elementary School  
 Christopher Farms Elementary School  
 Creeds Elementary School  
 Glenwood Elementary School  
 Indian Lakes Elementary School  
 Kellam High School  
 Landstown Elementary School  
 Landstown High School  
 Landstown Middle School

New Castle Elementary School  
 North Landing Elementary School  
 Parkway Elementary School  
 Princess Anne Elementary School  
 Princess Anne Middle School  
 Rosemont Forest Elementary School  
 Salem Elementary School  
 Salem High School  
 Salem Middle School  
 Strawbridge Elementary School  
 Tallwood High School



**Back Bay Watershed**  
 Corporate Landing Elementary School  
 Corporate Landing Middle School  
 Ocean Lakes Elementary School  
 Ocean Lakes High School  
 Red Mill Elementary School  
 Three Oaks Elementary School

*\*In more than one watershed*

# Climate Change And Virginia Beach

## Sea level rise and flooding – what can you do?

### Educate yourself

- Attend the city meetings and other presentations on the effects of climate change on our communities
- Use the resources on the LRNow website and the city website to better understand the issues

### Protect your own property from risk

- Know your elevation and your vulnerabilities
- Buy flood insurance
- Put your HVAC unit on a platform
- Install flood vents in your foundation
- Have your septic system inspected regularly
- Have your well water checked regularly

### Look at options on your own property that help with water quality and water management. Join our Pearl Home and Pearl Neighborhood programs.

- Install rain barrels and cisterns
- Reduce turf grass and replace with planted beds
- Plant trees
- Install an infiltration trench or rain garden
- Plant native plants
- Install a living shoreline with a riparian buffer
- Remove all toxins from flood prone areas like the garage floor

### Reduce your energy consumption

- Weatherize your home by installing new windows or additional insulation
- Plan trips in your car to reduce the miles that you drive
- When you need a new vehicle, consider gas mileage. Will a hybrid or electric vehicle work for you?
- Buy locally produced goods and support our local farmers

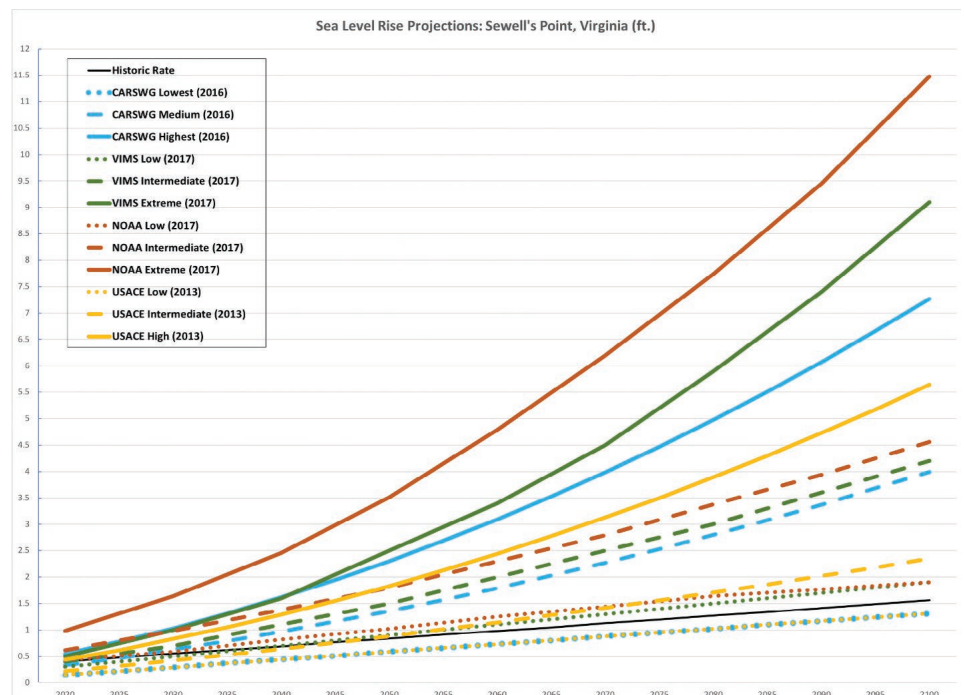
Whatever your thoughts about climate change, the waters are rising and our weather is changing in Virginia Beach. This is the biggest challenge that our city and region faces, perhaps the biggest challenge that we have ever faced. It is complex, broad, not the same in all areas of the city and changes are happening rapidly.

There are many reasons why Hampton Roads and Virginia Beach are particularly vulnerable. We have a lot of low lying land and flat topography. Our annual precipitation is increasing. Our land is sinking from both natural and man-made causes. And changes in ocean temperatures are affecting changes in the movement and speed of the gulfstream right off our Atlantic coast.

If you put all of these factors together and add to it our growth in population over the past 100 years and all the impervious surface that brings, we have a problem.

But it is not a problem without strategies and solutions. The City of Virginia Beach has taken a very strategic approach to understanding the predictions for our city and our specific risks. Three years ago, the Dewberry Group was hired to thoroughly study this issue. The data available from their work is very impressive. They are helping us better understand our various watershed dynamics and assessing our risks down to the individual neighborhood level. At the same time, the city is doing a companion study on our stormwater infrastructure, where it is adequate and where retrofits may be needed. This is the science and information we need to develop a comprehensive toolkit of strategies.

Some solutions may come from engineering and stormwater system improvements and retrofits. Some solutions may come from zoning changes and land conservation measures. Some may be at the individual property or neighborhood level. Some will be natural or nature-based like wetlands restoration, living shorelines, oyster reefs, and riparian buffers. But all must be based in good science and endorsed by an informed citizenry. Doing nothing will not be a viable option.



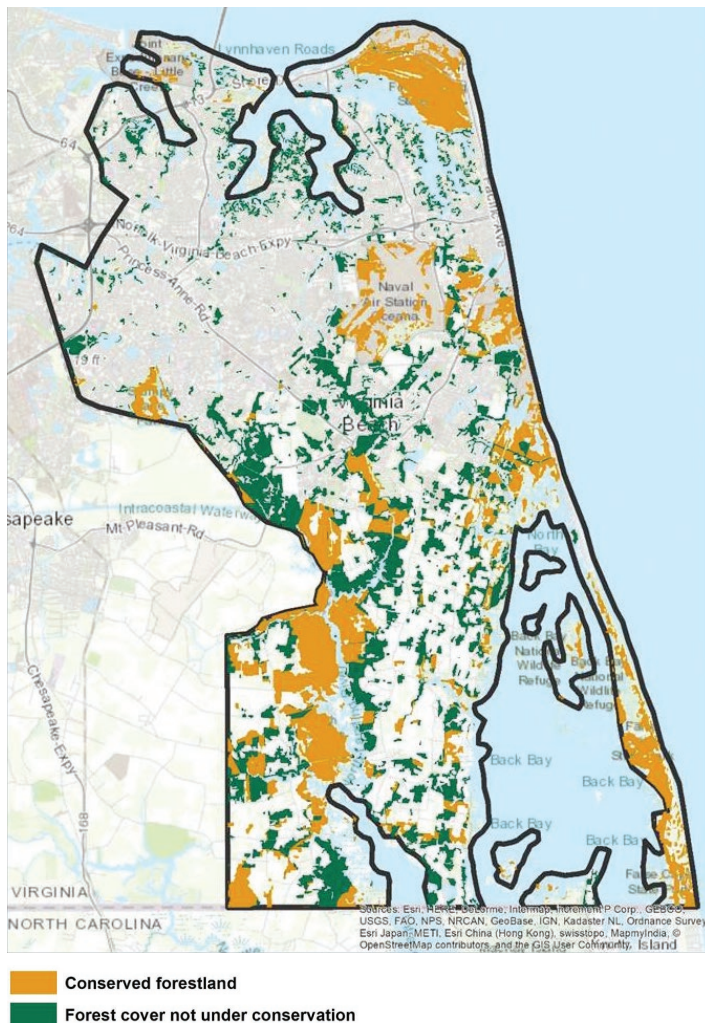
# Forest Conservation Study

Natural and nature-based strategies are part of the toolkit for dealing with the impacts of climate change. Nature-based strategies may be some of the easiest and least expensive to implement. They will not provide all of the protection that we need, but are one strategy that we need to explore. Nature-based strategies include living shorelines, oyster reefs, riparian buffers, and forest conservation. Trees perform many functions. They intercept and soften rainfall, lessening erosion. They stabilize soils and take up and store vast amounts of water, and they transpire releasing that water back into the atmosphere slowly over time.

LRNow is proud to be a partner with the City of Virginia Beach, the Nature Conservancy, the Department of Forestry, and Virginia Tech University in a study that will help us better understand and quantify the role that the conserved forests in our city play in managing water and mitigating flooding.

If we better understand this role and have good science to support our assumptions, we hope to be able to use conservation of existing forests and reforestation as mitigation strategies in many areas of our city.

This is exciting, ground-breaking research with practical applications for planning for our future. Watch for presentations on this study during 2019.



# A Healthful Lynnhaven One Sustainable Yard At A Time

From Kings Grant to Great Neck, from Thoroughgood to Thalia, the story was the same. “I have always wanted to install a rain barrel in my yard but I just couldn’t afford it” or “There were always other priorities.” In early 2018, Lynnhaven River Now was finally able to change some of



those “somedays” into “today” through a cost sharing grant made possible through the City of Virginia Beach. This program, the Pearl Home Sustainable Yard Program, provided qualifying homeowners in the Lynnhaven watershed the opportunity to install best management

practices that reduced stormwater runoff, or improved stormwater runoff quality as it left their yard.

The Sustainable Yard Program served a total of 73 residences in 2018. Soil was sampled at 30 residences across the Lynnhaven watershed; 23 of those properties participated at a higher level, getting a Pearl Lawn Plan. The Pearl Lawn Plan provides homeowners an Urban Nutrient Management Plan which is detailed information on the meaning of their soil tests, what their lawn is lacking and how to promote the best growth to repair the lawn

area without impacting water quality. These results could be implemented by the homeowner or by their lawn care team. Those Pearl Lawn Plans were developed at a combined savings of \$8,400 to those homeowners.

The Rain Barrel program provided 30 125-gallon rain barrels installed to homeowners throughout the watershed for a total cost savings of \$9,000 on the barrels and installation. Stormwater was treated in over 11,000 square feet of drainage area in the watershed. The Thomas residence received a rain barrel through the program and exemplifies how beautifully such a treatment can fit into a home’s décor while functioning to retain stormwater.

The Cooper household received the first Infiltration trench of the Sustainable Yard Program. Their trench is a great example of how unobtrusive these fixtures can be when placed along a fence line or at the back of the



property. Infiltration trenches can even be hidden under a shallow layer of turf which can be mowed like any other part of the lawn. LRNow personnel and contractors determined the most effective placement of these fixtures to maximize the capture and retention of stormwater runoff.

Three infiltration trenches were installed under the Sustainable Yard Program treating more than 3,300 square feet of drainage area. These fixtures were installed at a combined savings of \$12,000 to the homeowners.

Jennifer Cryan of the Great Neck area received one of ten rain gardens installed through LRN’s program. She extolled the benefits of the program to her garden club members at a recent meeting explaining, “We had several contractors come out to help us deal with the flooding we were experiencing in the backyard. Nothing they did worked. I was so impressed when

the LRN folks came out. They looked at the yard scientifically and determined that a rain garden would be the best treatment – and it worked! I am thrilled.” Rain gardens are gardens designed to specifically hold stormwater on a property and allow that water to percolate through the soil slowly,

aided by the roots of native plants. The 10 gardens planted as a part of this program will treat over 37,400 and saved those homeowners \$40,000.

The first year of the LRN Sustainable Yard Program was a huge success and we look forward to another great year in 2019. This program succeeded through the hard work of our generous volunteers who were dedicated to helping their neighbors improve or reduce stormwater runoff and the oversight and management of Restoration Coordinator, Trista Imrich. Thank you all for all that you do!

Thank you City of Virginia Beach for the grant funding that supports this program.

If you live in the Lynnhaven watershed and are interested in having your yard evaluated for this program, please visit the website at LRNow.org or email PearlYard@LRNow.org.





Mark Winterstein - A Blue-grey Gnatcatcher Stares Down a Caterpillar at Stumpy Lake - Grand Prize winner

## Atlantic Shores: Pearl Neighborhoods Start With Good Neighbors

In the fall of 2017, the Green Team of Virginia Beach's Atlantic Shores Retirement Community sat around their table with the Pearl Homes Coordinator from Lynnhaven River NOW to discuss becoming a community of Pearl Homes. Much to their excitement, Lynnhaven River NOW had recently launched a new program that could recognize their entire community for their individual and communal sustainability efforts. The Green Team embraced the idea and Atlantic Shores Retirement Community became the first Pearl Neighborhood in Virginia Beach. This is their journey:

A new initiative had residents working with facility managers to convert public and private living spaces to LED lighting. The Green Team, comprised of a dedicated group of residents and facility staff, had bigger plans. Atlantic Shores already boasted a wonderful "Victory" garden area which provided small gardens plots for individuals to grow fresh food for themselves and to share with others. Courtyard gardens were added in Atlantic Shore's Harborway Assisted Living and Seaside Health Center facilities to provide fresh herbs and vegetables for the facility kitchens. Rain barrels were installed to provide natural water to the gardens while helping to control stormwater runoff from the property.

The Green Team and LRNow worked together to provide

educational talks and encourage their neighbors to adopt responsible, sustainable practices to help protect their natural resources. Snuggled firmly in the Back Bay watershed along Red Wing Lake, Atlantic Shores Retirement Community has many opportunities to protect the local waterways of Virginia Beach.



The Green Team recruited over 30% of their residents as Pearl Homes to finalize their qualification as the first Pearl Home Neighborhood in Virginia Beach.

After months of hard work and dedication, the Green Team, facility managers and residents were able to improve Atlantic Shores' footprint on the local landscape. The Green Team received the very first Pearl Neighborhood award on behalf of the Atlantic Shores Retirement Community. Lynnhaven River NOW is thrilled to recognize this mighty community for their commitment to making a difference in their Virginia Beach community.



Steve Daniel - Dog vs. Crab



Stephanie Johnson - Shall We Dance?

LRNow works with our elected officials and community leaders to advocate for good environmental policy at the local, state and federal levels. We also invite you to participate in a variety of programs on public policy issues that we offer throughout the year including our Candidates Forums each fall. In addition, we encourage your participation in programs offered by our partners, Virginia Conservation Network and Choose Clean Water Coalition, at the state and regional level.

## Seismic Testing and Offshore Drilling for Oil and Gas

We are all tired of this issue, but despite the pervasive opposition up and down the east coast, it will not go away. Our own Governor and Attorney General have expressed their strong opposition as they appreciate the detrimental impact this would have on Virginia, our coastal communities and natural resources.

During 2015 and 2016, we worked hard with a wide range of partners to oppose seismic testing and drilling for gas and oil off the coast of Virginia. At the end of 2016, the seismic testing permits for the Atlantic were rescinded and the lease sale withdrawn. It looked like we had prevented this potentially destructive and detrimental activity in the Atlantic Ocean.

However, after Donald Trump took office in January, 2017, he opened up all of the waters off the American coasts to leasing by oil companies and we began our work again to prevent this from happening.



In late 2018, NOAA issued Incidental Harassment Authorizations to five companies who want to do seismic testing in the Atlantic. These authorizations are necessary for the seismic testing companies to receive a permit to conduct testing because of the detrimental effects of this testing on ocean life, especially marine mammals. The current government shutdown has slowed

action on these authorizations, but we expect permits to be issued soon. Not only is this potentially deadly to marine life, it is also the first step to opening up these waters through a lease sale.

There are many reasons to oppose drilling off of the Virginia coast. They include:

- Seismic testing and drilling are extremely dangerous and potentially deadly to marine mammals and other ocean wildlife.
- Tourism is a major contributor to our economy in Virginia Beach and could be devastated not just by a major spill, but also by the cumulative impact of the small spills that are a part of day-to-day oil and gas drilling operations.
- Healthy local seafood is important to all of us and employs many who make coastal Virginia their home. Crabs, oysters, clams and commercial and sport fish are put at great risk by drilling operations.
- NASA's activities at Wallops Island on the Eastern Shore of Virginia will be compromised by oil and gas activity in the Atlantic off the coast of Virginia.
- And lastly, the U.S. Navy has identified most of the area off the coast of Virginia as critical to their training activities which do not mix with oil rigs and drilling operations.

For these reasons, LRNow has taken a position in opposition to seismic testing and offshore drilling. We appreciate the unwavering support of Governor Northam. We also appreciate the support of Senator Kaine, Senator Warner, Congresswoman Luria and our City leadership.

Please help us keep up this fight by letting our elected officials at the local, state and federal levels know that you oppose moving forward with both seismic testing and offshore drilling for oil and gas and that this issue is important to you.

## Candidates Forums

In fall 2019, all of our General Assembly representatives will be up for re-election. This promises to be an interesting year for all of us. Just like with our City Council elections in 2018, there may be many candidates, some new to all of us. Please watch for announcements regarding our Candidates Forums in fall 2019 and be an informed voter.



# The Virginia Beach Notable Tree Program

Virginia Beach has a rich history. But none of the historic places in our city are as old as some of our old growth trees. They have survived for centuries as the world around them changed. You may have your favorite tree in your neighborhood or on your daily commute. These trees are an important part of the background of our lives.

They quietly do so many things for us. They purify the air and provide the oxygen that sustains us. They consume large amounts of water, gradually releasing some of it back into the atmosphere. They help to clean our water and stabilize soils. They produce fruits and nuts for our consumption. They shade our homes, saving energy,

and protect us from the winds of storms. And they provide a safe home for so many other species that we enjoy and depend upon. It is hard to imagine what our city would be like without our trees.

The City of Virginia Beach has a comprehensive Urban Forest Management Plan that you can review on the city's website. Their analysis of our current tree cover indicates that we have a 36% canopy and they have set an

ambitious goal of 45% tree canopy by 2034. As important as it is to plant new trees in our city, we know that it is even more important to conserve our forested areas and mature trees. With that thought in mind, LRNow staff member Brent James

**The best time to plant a tree was  
twenty years ago, the second  
best time is today.**  
*~ Chinese Proverb*



Live Oak in Kempsville

Willow Oak in Back Bay Watershed



Cherry Oak in Blackwater

Willow Oak in Bayside



Southern Red Oak in Kempsville

Willow Oak in Little Neck



Laurel Oak in Bayside

Northern Red Oak in Kings Grant



created the Virginia Beach Notable Tree program.

The purpose of the Virginia Beach Notable Tree (VBNT) program is to identify, catalogue, memorialize, and publicize those largest Old Growth trees that are the hardy survivors of our Old Growth Maritime forest. We hope that our children and children's children will recognize and appreciate these trees that have continued to thrive through many generations and every challenge that came their way. They are the oldest living things in our city, and as such should be highlighted and revered by our residents and visitors alike.

In this, the inaugural year of the VBNT, we made 164 site visits to evaluate trees that we found or that you, our members, told us about. From those site visits, 91 of our Old Growth trees have been awarded Tier 1 status which means they are 75-99% the size of the State Champion Trees of their species. We have also identified five Special Category Trees which have some interesting historical, community, or biological uniqueness or significance.

The Grand Champion tree found so far is a Cherrybark

Oak in the Blackwater area of southern Virginia Beach. It was measured to have a 320-inch girth and is a contender for the National Big Tree Champion among Cherrybark Oaks. Based on the standard growth formulae for determining tree age, this magnificent tree is estimated to be 450-550 years old and thus predates the arrival of Captain John Smith and the Jamestown colony, and may possibly predate the arrival of Christopher Columbus in the New World. It is very likely the oldest living thing in Virginia Beach.

We are amazed by the number of beautiful old-growth trees that we have identified this first year of the Virginia Beach Notable Tree Program and look forward to continuing this work in 2019. You can learn more about this program and how to nominate your special tree on our website, LRNow.org.

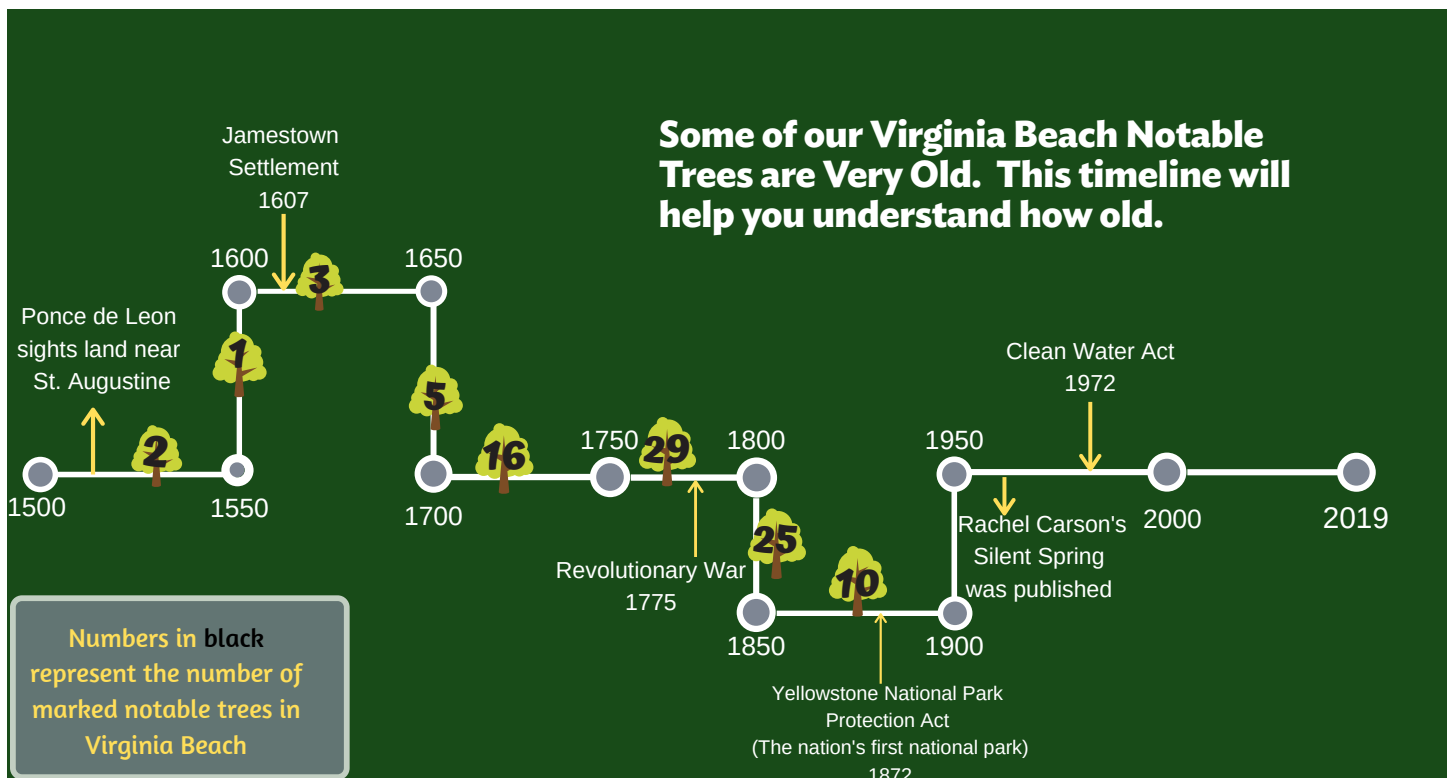
Trees provide us with many benefits necessary for survival, including clean air, filtered water, shade, and food. They also give us hope and insight, and the courage to persevere – even in the harshest conditions. Trees teach us to stay rooted while soaring to great heights.

**“Forests are the lungs of our land,  
purifying the air and giving fresh  
strength to our people.”**

*~ Franklin Roosevelt*

## – INTERESTING FACT –

**A mature tree can consume as much as 100 gallons of water in one day.  
An old growth tree can consume up to 250 gallons of water in a day.**



## Profile Of A Pearl Business



### Making a Difference in Virginia Beach's Great Outdoors

"Here's another piece of trash for the bag," a focused father instructs his teens as they clean a stretch of woods located behind the historic Francis Land House off Virginia Beach Boulevard. Bundled against the cold temperatures of early spring, they slowly pick their way through soft ground and downed trees to fill their bright orange trash bag with styrofoam and plastic deposited throughout the year by flood tides and careless hands. After a couple of hours of work, they meet back with the group where his coworkers greet him and his children, comparing the discarded finds and experiences of the morning. Each is feeling a sense of satisfaction for a job well done, but also a sense of pride in representing their local business in this impactful volunteer effort.

Zach Roberts,  
Shop Manager at  
Hill Top's Great  
Outdoor Provision



Company, works as hard to model sustainable behaviors for his staff as he does his children. Store associates are encouraged to participate in environmental stewardship projects such as the above cleanup. For Great Outdoor Provision Company's staff, the connection to the local environment is personal but it is re-enforced throughout the value set of the entire company. Courtney Miltz, Sportswear Manager, has embraced this core value and now serves actively on Lynnhaven River Now's Stewardship & Access Committee, participating in cleanups and other activities as often as she can.

Zach once expressed "Great Outdoor Provision Company truly believes in taking care of these outdoor spaces so we have them to explore and play in." This stewardship ethic made Great Outdoor Provision Company an ideal candidate for Lynnhaven River Now's Pearl Business program. Whether minimizing energy use, providing eco-friendly products, or giving back to Lynnhaven River Now and our local environment, Great Outdoor Provision Company exemplifies the spirit of stewardship and is a model Pearl Business.

If your business would like to work with our Pearl Business Coordinator to become a Pearl Business, email [helen@lrnow.org](mailto:helen@lrnow.org) or visit our website for more information.

## First Landing State Park 64th Street Shelter And Garden

In spring 2018, we constructed a shelter in First Landing State Park in the 64th Street boat ramp area. If you are familiar with the park, you know that this is a very popular spot and that it offers some of the best views of the Broad Bay, the Narrows and Linkhorn Bay. The shelter offers visitors a place to relax, enjoy some shade and take in those spectacular views.

This was a great project made possible through the support of many different people and a whole cadre of volunteers.

- REI and the Hampton Roads Rotary Clubs provided financial support

- GMF+ Associates and Architect Chris Elam for providing the design and overseeing the construction
- Beck Roofing for donating the roofing material

- MSA and Charles Hall for tools, expertise and labor to see the project to the end
- Dollar Tree for the donation of plant material through our Growing Wetlands in the Classroom Program

We thank all of the hardy volunteers who gave up several full days to make this happen. I hope you will enjoy using it and watch for the installation of our vegetated roof soon.



# Hats Off To Our 2018 Donors

*You Make All of Our Work Possible.*

## Individual Donors and Family Foundations

### Leadership Level -- 10,000+

Andrew & Barbara Fine  
Bob & Janice Wells  
Dave Jester  
Hap & Becky Chalmers  
Northam Inaugural Committee  
The Dalis Foundation

### Legacy Level -- 5,000-9,999

Floyd E. Kellam Jr. Family Fund of the Hampton Roads Community Foundation

### Sustaining Level -- 2,001-4,999

Bob & Marion Taylor  
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Harry Lester  
Irene & Randy Sutton  
Ken Sutton  
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Virginia Cochran & Hugh D. Ruessegger  
John & Katherine Wynne

### Pearl Level -- 1,001-2,000

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Preston & Catharine White Foundation  
R. & C. Dickerson Family Fund of the Hampton Roads Community Foundation  
The Ramon W. Breeden, Jr. Foundation

Zeb & Beth Holt

### Oyster Level -- 251-500

Ann Farley  
Barbara Timperlake and Bob Perrine  
Brooks & Darcel Stephan  
Cathy Maston  
Charlotte Caplan & Michael Brubaker  
Colin & Patt McKinnon  
Deborah Otis  
Dick & Shirley Roberts  
Durk & Cathy Rigney

Edward & Kay Shiflett  
Frank & Gloria Gurdziel  
Huib & Ankie Keizer  
Jacqueline Cooper-Byrtus  
John & Ruth Martin  
Karen Wolff  
Lisa Sinclair and Bob Sinclair, Virginia and John L. Sinclair Foundation

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Ron & Donna Ripley  
Susan Ippolito

Terry Perrel & Sidney Wenger  
Thomas & Merry Watts  
Tom & Ann Ackiss  
Walida Miller  
Walter & Barbara Priest

### Supporting -- 101-250

Abbey Pachter  
Ann Wright  
Anne Kellam  
Barbara Bowhers  
Bob & Carolyn Jones  
Bob Burns  
Bob Randall  
Buck & Deb Henry  
Calvin & Connie Jones  
Carmela Reid  
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Caroline Webber  
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Robert Fuchs  
Robert Waddell  
Robin Ray  
Sandie & Ellie Campbell, II  
Sandy Doyle  
Sarah Self-Kyler  
Shelby & Jeff Loeb  
Shelby Culver  
Shelly Clevidence & Fred Wurster  
Sid & Wendy Vaughn  
Steve & Kathleen Stasulis  
Steve & Sally Herman  
Terri Gorman  
Thomas & Susan Summerlin  
Tim and Paige Barrow  
Tom & Judy Moore  
Tom Deppe  
Trey & Lex Oglesby  
Vada Baker  
Walida Miller  
Walter Worrall  
William A. Cox, III

### General Membership, Couples and Individuals

Aaron Myers  
Aida Schimmel  
Alan & Brenda Stein  
Alan Rohanna  
Allen & Susan Wilson  
Ann Marie Deel  
Anne & Dave Zobel  
Anne Heyniger  
Anne Jett  
Anne May  
Anne-Therese Alexander  
Arlene Repham  
Arthur & Janet Bartlett  
Arthur Jones  
Ashley and Jeff Smith  
August Armstrong  
Barbara Price  
Barry M. Dursk  
Becky Conner  
Bee Friedlander  
Bernard Platt  
Betsy & Clayton Nugent  
Betty Barrett  
Beverley Weisman  
Bill & Barbara Hearst



Mary Lewis - Dinner on the Water

Bill & Beth McGlooin	Chris Anuswith
Bill & Beverly Boyer	Chris Carpenter & Joan LaRock
Bill & Letty Stone	Chris Forget
Bill & Meg Campbell	Christene Mitchell
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*Leadership Level*

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 Fund of the Hampton Roads Community Foundation  
 City of Virginia Beach  
 Dave Iwans and Associates  
 Dollar Tree Corporate Giving  
 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation  
 Rotary Clubs of Hampton Roads  
 The Runnymede Corporation

*Legacy Level*

Chesapeake Bay Restoration Foundation

*Sustaining Level*

Aveda  
 Checkered Flag Motor Car Co.  
 Clean Water Campaign/Partnership Project  
 Oak Foundation  
 REI Foundation

*Pearl Level*

30 in 30 Grants/ Keep Virginia Beautiful  
 Chesapeake Bay Wine Classic  
 Great Outdoor Provision Co  
 J&A Racing, Amy & Jerry Frostic  
 Kroger, Inc.  
 Legends of the Fly Virginia Beach, Inc  
 Network for Good  
 Stihl, Inc  
 Sykes, Bourdon, Ahern & Levy. P.C., Eddie Bourdon

*Reef Level*

Beck Roofing Corporation  
 First Presbyterian Church

Thalia United Methodist Church

Wheelabrator Technologies

WPL

*Oyster Level*

Broad Bay Island Garden Club

Il Giardino Ristorante

Kerr Environmental, Bob Kerr

Lake Smith Terrace Garden Club

Langley & McDonald, Tom Langley

McClesky & Associates, LLC

Southern Branch Nursery

UNO's Pizzeria & Grill

Ware Insurance

*Supporting*

Christ & St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Church Point Garden Club

Combined Charities

Doc Taylors & Tautog's, Bill Gambrell

Jungle Golf of Virginia Beach

MEDIC

Press Wine Bar

Right Coast Foods, Bill Gambrell

Tempt Restaurant Lounge

Tidewater Master Naturalists

Virginia Beach Native Plant Society

Virginia Native Plant Society

*General Membership*

Alanton Garden Club

Baylake Pines Civic League

Cape Henry Shores Civic Association

Cavalier Garden Club

Combined Charities

Donate Well

Edgar Cayce's A.R.E.

Junior Virginia Beach Garden Club

Little Neck Cove Civic League

Mattawoman Creek Farms

May Farm Garden Club of Kingston

Operation Doggy Doody

Pembroke Meadows & Shores Civic League

Savor the Olive

Studio Bamboo

Tidewater Anglers Club

Virginia Beach Friends School

Virginia Beach Garden Club

Visionscapes Land Design, Inc., Shawn Anderson

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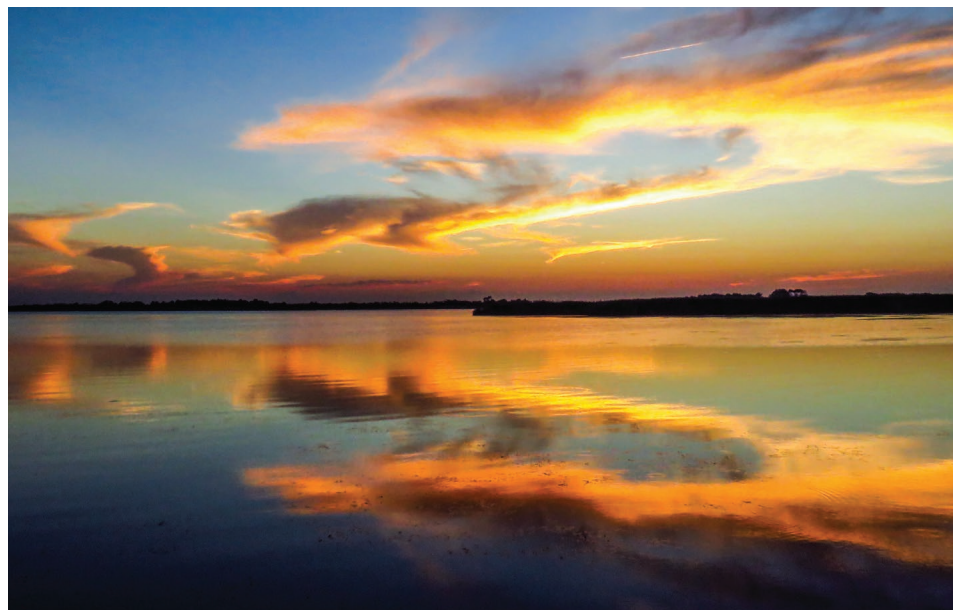
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Bill Nevin - Sunset Backbay

# Coming Soon

**Reading for the Rivers** – During 2019, trained volunteers will be reading carefully selected books on environmental topics in Virginia Beach elementary schools; leading follow-up activities; and providing copies of the books to the schools.

**Environmental Film Festival at Zeiders American Dream Theater** – LRNow is excited to be working with the Z in Town Center to offer an environmental film festival series in 2019. Watch for more information soon.



*Program Office:*

Brock Environmental Center  
3663 Marlin Bay Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23455

*Administrative and Pearl School Office:*

1608 Pleasure House Road, Suites 108 & 109, Virginia Beach, VA 23455

757-962-5398 [LynnhavenRiverNow.org](http://LynnhavenRiverNow.org)