

**REPORT OF THE VIRGINIA LAND CONSERVATION
FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND THE
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION**

**2004 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
VIRGINIA LAND CONSERVATION
FOUNDATION**

**TO THE GOVERNOR AND
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA**



**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
RICHMOND
MAY 2005**



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

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Secretary of Natural Resources

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May 31, 2005

The Honorable Mark R. Warner, Governor of Virginia
Members of the Virginia General Assembly

Dear Governor Warner and General Assembly Members:

This report has been prepared on behalf of the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation Board of Trustees by the Department of Conservation and Recreation. The Department of Conservation and Recreation serves as staff to the Foundation. The report is presented in accordance with:

- § 10.1-1018 Subsection F of the Code of Virginia instructing the Chairman of the Board of the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation to “submit to the Governor and the General Assembly a biennial executive summary of the interim activity and work of the Board no later than the first day of each even-numbered year regular session of the General Assembly...”,
- § 10.1-1021 Subsection 3 of the Code of Virginia instructing the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation “[t]o submit a report biennially on the status of the Fund to the Governor and the General Assembly...”, and
- pursuant to Item 383 H.1. of Chapter 4 of the 2004 Virginia Acts of Assembly, Special Session I, that states “[t]he Chairman of the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation shall provide a report of the previous biennium by December 15, 2004 to the Chairmen of the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees, and the Director of the Department of Planning and Budget...”.

The Foundation, in concert with its federal, state, local, and private conservation partners, has continued to make significant annual progress towards the state’s preservation goals since it was first funded in 1999 General Assembly Session. To date, monies provided to the Foundation have helped conserve an estimated 9,084 acres. The interest accrued has also allowed for the development of a conserved lands database and the beginnings of a powerful land preservation targeting tool. The Foundation is also playing a significant role in the Commonwealth’s progress towards achieving its Chesapeake Bay Agreement goal and other statewide land conservation efforts.

The Honorable Mark R. Warner, Governor of Virginia
Members of the Virginia General Assembly
May 31, 2005
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Virginia should be proud of the conservation achievements of those that have been awarded grants from the Foundation. The awards made by this Foundation have had an impact across the Commonwealth and represent projects that provide protection or preservation of ecological, cultural or historical resources, lands for recreational purposes, and lands for threatened and endangered species, fish and wildlife habitat, natural areas, agricultural and forestal lands and open space.

We are confident that with the continuation of funding, the Foundation will remain a significant channel through which Virginia will excel in its conservation efforts.

Respectfully submitted,



W. Tayloe Murphy, Jr.
Secretary of Natural Resources and
Chairman of the Virginia Land Conservation
Foundation



Joseph H. Maroon
Director, Department of
Conservation and Recreation and
Executive Secretary of the Virginia
Land Conservation Foundation

Attachment

cc: Richard D. Brown, Director of Planning and Budget

VIRGINIA LAND CONSERVATION FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chairman

The Honorable W. Tayloe Murphy, Jr. Secretary of Natural Resources

Gubernatorial Appointees

Gubernatorial Appointees	Address	Term Expires
David H. Turner	Onancock	06/30/05
Fred W. Greene, III	Virginia Beach	06/30/05
Albert Essel	Prince George	06/30/06
Albert C. Weed, II	Lovingston	06/30/06
Terri Cofer Beirne	Richmond	06/30/06
Nancy T. Bowles	Kent Store	06/30/07
William C. Dickinson	Alexandria	06/30/07
Lou Giusto	Edinburg	06/30/07
Thomas B. Graham	Marion	06/30/08
Leah Fried	Springfield	06/30/08
Mary Bruce Glaize	Winchester	06/30/08

Senate Appointees

The Honorable Patricia S. Ticer (Vice Chairman)	Alexandria	coincident w/ term of office
The Honorable R. Creigh Deeds	Hot Springs	coincident w/ term of office

House Appointees

William M. Park	Skipwith	06/30/05
Alexandra Liddy Bourne	Alexandria	06/30/06
Wendell P. Ennis	Midland	06/30/07
R. Brian Ball	Richmond	06/30/08

Executive Secretary

Joseph H. Maroon Director, Department of Conservation and Recreation

PREFACE

This report has been prepared in accordance with and fulfills the requirements of:

- § 10.1-1018 Subsection F of the Code of Virginia instructing the Chairman of the Board of the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation to “submit to the Governor and the General Assembly a biennial executive summary of the interim activity and work of the Board no later than the first day of each even-numbered year regular session of the General Assembly. The executive summary shall be submitted as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.”;
- § 10.1-1021 Subsection 3 of the Code of Virginia instructing the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation “[t]o submit a report biennially on the status of the Fund to the Governor and the General Assembly including, but not limited to, (i) implementation of its strategic plan, (ii) projects under consideration for acquisition with Fund moneys, and (iii) expenditures from the Fund, including a description of the extent to which such expenditures have achieved a fair geographic distribution of land protected as provided in § 10.1-1021.1.”; and
- Item 383 H.1. of Chapter 4 of the 2004 Virginia Acts of Assembly, Special Session I, that states “[t]he Chairman of the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation shall provide a report of the previous biennium by December 15, 2004 to the Chairmen of the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees, and the Director of the Department of Planning and Budget, including, but not limited to, implementation of the Foundation's strategic plan; projects under consideration for funding; descriptions of projects that received funding; and expenditures from, interest earned by, and financial obligations of the Virginia Land Conservation Fund.”

The following pages will provide a status report for grants awarded by the Foundation, the fiscal status of the Foundation, and an update on related land conservation activities.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Virginia Land Conservation Foundation (Foundation) has seen significant changes since its inception in 1992. Since that time, the Foundation has experienced a name change from the Virginia Conservation and Recreation Foundation to the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation, it has seen significant expansion and improvement to its Code authority, and it has launched a successful grants program. In 2000, the Foundation saw its Board of Trustees grow from 9 members to 18 members.

In FY1999-2000, the General Assembly and the Governor provided the Foundation \$1.75 million and in FY2000-2001, \$6.2 million. In FY2000-2001, a separate \$3.4 million was also provided specifically for battlefield protection. From the FY1999-2000 monies received, the Foundation expended \$1,323,969 on competitive grant funds to 8 projects conserving 1136.87 acres. In addition to the 8 grant projects that were completed, \$29,430 from the FY1999-2000 monies was paid to the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries to reimburse them for a portion of their administrative costs associated with acquiring the Big Survey. Three projects originally awarded funds from the FY1999-2000 monies were withdrawn. In FY2000-2001, competitive grants were awarded in the amount of \$3,919,695 to 19 projects conserving an estimated 3,377 acres. Also from the \$6.2 million, \$1,550,000 went to the Virginia Outdoor Foundation for conservation activities. This investment conserved an additional 3,313 acres of farm and forest land in conservation easements. The \$3,382,004 expended for Civil War battlefields helped to protect an additional 1257 acres within four historic battlefields. In total, the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation has awarded grants for \$10,175,668 and protected an estimated 9,084 acres. (Note: As projects close, final revenue paid and acreages protected may be revised. These changes will be reflected in subsequent reports.) This amount has been significantly leveraged through matches and other partnerships.

The Foundation met its charge to develop a strategic plan for the expenditure of unrestricted moneys received from the Fund. The strategic plan governing fiscal expenditures for FY1999-2000 was the grant program guidelines entitled “1999 Virginia Land Conservation Fund Grant Program,

September 1999” and, the strategic plan for FY2000-2001 was the grant program guidelines entitled “2000 Virginia Land Conservation Fund Grant Program, October 2000”. In 2004, the General Assembly called for a refinement of these guidance criteria. The existing criteria of the Foundation were revised to incorporate those items identified in Item 383 H3 of Chapter 4 of the 2004 Virginia Acts of Assembly, Special Session 1. This item directed the Foundation to develop new review criteria that additionally address the relative water quality merits of each prospective grant parcel. The new criteria were printed in 2005 in HD3 entitled “Criteria for Evaluation of 2005 Virginia Land Conservation Foundation Grant Applications”. The resulting criteria were also referenced in the updated FY2005-2006 grant program guidelines entitled “2005 Virginia Land Conservation Fund Grant Program, November 15, 2004”.

The Foundation is and, if properly funded, will continue to be one of the primary tools through which Virginia will achieve its conservation goals. The Foundation is one of the key elements in assisting the Chesapeake Bay states in achieving the Chesapeake 2000 commitment to permanently preserve from development 20 percent of the land in the watershed by 2010. The Foundation will also play an important role in achieving the draft statewide land conservation goal under discussion with the Council on Virginia’s Future.

The Virginia Land Conservation Foundation also serves as a coordinating mechanism for bringing together a number of state agencies’ land conservation efforts and priorities. A coordinating agency task force made up of the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the State Forester, the Director of the Department of Historic Resources, the Director of the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and the Executive Director of the Virginia Outdoors Foundation, or their designees, provide the VLCF Board with assistance on such matters as grant criteria, grant priorities, and grant selection.

To help foster the goals of the Foundation, the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation's Office of Land Conservation was established to serve as a statewide, central contact, repository, and clearinghouse for land conservation in Virginia. In January 2003, the Office released its land conservation website (<http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/olc/>). This site includes a wide variety of land conservation materials and contact information that provides land conservationists and managers with an important land conservation planning tool. In December of 2003, the Department of Conservation and Recreation added to its Office of Land Conservation website the state's first comprehensive statewide public lands resource mapping tool. This important land conservation planning tool, which is regularly updated, can be accessed by going to the DCR website at www.dcr.virginia.gov and clicking on "land conservation." or by accessing it directly at www.dcr.virginia.gov/dnh/conslandindex.htm. In future grant rounds, the Office will also serve as an important source of information for potential Foundation grant applicants.

DCR has also developed the "Conservation Sites Database" based upon eighteen years of developing the Natural Heritage Information System, Virginia's most comprehensive information management system on endangered plants and animals and natural habitats. Conservation sites are mapped boundaries that enclose one or more rare plant or animal locations, or a natural community, and the surrounding habitat or buffer necessary to protect the resource(s). DCR has also produced the Virginia Conservation Lands Needs Assessment (VCLNA) Natural Landscape Assessment for Virginia's Coastal Zone. The VLCNA identifies which are the most important natural, unfragmented lands, based on considerations of biological and ecological value and integrity. Both of these tools will be utilized to assess grant projects submitted to the Foundation for funding consideration.

In summary, the Foundation will continue to be a critical element in meeting the Commonwealth's conservation commitments, coordinating land conservation efforts, developing important website tools, and preserving the important lands across the Commonwealth as a whole.

FOUNDATION OVERVIEW AND ACTIVITIES IN 2004

Board of Trustees Meetings

The meeting of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

November 15, 2004 - Administrative updates, fiscal adjustments, approval of grant criteria and manual, and approval of new grant round to open on January 1, 2005 and close on March 18, 2005.

Task-Force Meetings

An inter-agency task force comprised of representatives of the Department of Conservation and Recreation, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Department of Forestry, Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, Department of Historic Resources, and the Virginia Outdoors Foundation worked together during the fall of 2004 to develop recommendations for the Chairman of the Foundation and the Board regarding grant review criteria to be utilized to evaluate applications received during the Spring 2005 grant round.

Comprehensive Plan Development

Section 10.1-1021 subsection 1 of the Code of Virginia directs the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation to prepare a comprehensive plan “that recognizes and seeks to implement all of the purposes for which the Foundation is created”. In the process of developing this comprehensive plan, the Code of Virginia directs the Foundation to:

- 1) develop a strategic plan for the expenditure of unrestricted moneys;
- 2) develop an inventory of those properties in which the Commonwealth holds a legal interest “for the protection or preservation of ecological, cultural or historical resources, lands for recreational purposes, state forest lands, and lands for threatened or endangered species, fish and wildlife habitat, natural areas, agricultural and forestal lands and open space”; and
- 3) develop a needs assessment for the future considering the reports and information listed in subsection 1c. Subsection 1c specifies that “[i]n developing the needs assessment, the Board of Trustees shall consider among others the properties identified in the following: (i) Virginia Outdoors

Plan, (ii) Virginia Natural Heritage Plan, (iii) Virginia Institute of Marine Science Inventory, (iv) Virginia Joint Venture Board of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, and (v) Virginia Board of Historic Resources Inventory. In addition, the Board shall consider any information submitted by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services on farmland preservation priorities and any information submitted by the Department of Forestry on forest land initiatives and inventories".

For the first time, the 2002 Virginia Outdoors Plan was expanded to substantially meet the requirements of the Foundation's comprehensive plan as required under Section 10.1-1021 of the Code of Virginia. The Virginia Outdoors Plan, prepared by the Department of Conservation and Recreation, is the state's official plan for the protection and conservation of Virginia's important natural, outdoor recreational and open space resources. This has been a nationally recognized plan and is updated every five years. The plan is based on a complete inventory of all publicly held park and open space land. This inventory includes not only state owned lands but also that held by federal agencies and localities. This inventory of existing lands and facilities serves as a basis for the needs assessment. The Virginia Outdoors Plan includes the summary of the Virginia Natural Heritage Plan and information from the other plans mentioned in Subsection 1c above.

In addition to its analysis of existing conditions statewide, the Virginia Outdoors Plan also provides recommendations for each of the State's Planning Districts in meeting outdoor recreation, conservation, and open space needs. Key areas necessary to protect the Commonwealth's natural, scenic, open space and cultural resources are identified. These recommendations are collected from a number of sources including all of the involved agencies, the localities, and through the public meeting process. The 2002 Virginia Outdoors Plan was enhanced to more closely meet the needs of the Foundation and will serve as an excellent basis for future land conservation activities.

The Department is preparing to initiate the development of the 2007 Virginia Outdoors Plan that will again identify and expand on the Foundation's key land conservation needs and protection strategies.

Virginia's United Land Trusts – *Heritage Virginia: A Strategic Plan for the Conservation of the Commonwealth's Natural and Cultural Resources*

In an effort to enhance the information provided in the Virginia Outdoors Plan, in 2002, Virginia's United Land Trusts (VaULT) received a grant from Virginia Department of Forestry (DOF) to retain consultants to prepare a strategic conservation plan. The consultants, in coordination with DOF, the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), and the U. S. Forest Service (USFS) have developed a strategic plan that identifies strategies and actions which land trusts and their partners in state and local government, business and industry, and hometown communities could undertake within the next 3-5 years to address the Commonwealth's land conservation goals.

VaULT released its conservation plan in January 2004. The document, *Heritage Virginia: A Strategic Plan for the Conservation of the Commonwealth's Natural and Cultural Resources* continues the planning for an integrated network of significant public and private, ecological, historic, cultural and recreational resources and working lands—the “green infrastructure” that shapes the character and heritage of our communities and the Commonwealth. It is anticipated that elements of this product may become components of the 2007 Virginia Outdoors Plan and an important planning tool for the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation.

Governor's Natural Resources Funding Commission

In 2003, the Governor's Natural Resources Funding Commission, presented recommendations to the Governor on permanent funding strategies to support natural resource programs, especially water quality and land conservation. The charge to the Commission was based upon the Governor's Natural Resources Partnership Agenda that resulted from the Governor's Natural Resources Summit held in Williamsburg in April of 2003. The Governor noted at this Summit that “Virginia has historically underfunded its natural resource efforts.” The recommendations in the Commission's report outlined strategies to address Virginia's natural resource funding shortfalls.

The Commission offered several non-general fund recommendations to properly address current funding needs for land conservation which included:

1. Submit legislation for the 2004 General Assembly Session that establishes a Virginia Natural and Historic Resources Fund (VNHRF).
2. The VNHRF should initially receive monies from two funding mechanisms, a \$2 per month Water Utility Fee (\$45.8 million) and a \$10 Document Recording Fee (\$20 million), as well as be authorized to receive other public and private monies.
3. Allocations from the VNHRF are to be divided evenly between the Virginia Water Quality Improvement Fund (WQIF) and the Virginia Land Conservation Fund (VLCF). The Commission recognizes a broad list of Natural Resources Secretariat needs, but due to the limited funds generated from these funding sources, and the substantial needs documented to meet water quality and land conservation commitments, has recommended distribution to only WQIF and VLCF. Should additional funding beyond these recommendations become available in the future, strong consideration should be given to addressing other documented needs.

Governor Warner's Proposed FY2005-2006 Biennial Budget

In response to the recommendations from the Natural Resources Funding Commission and in keeping with his campaign promises, the Governor proposed in his FY2005-2006 Biennial Budget on December 17, 2003, the following language to address land conservation and water quality funding needs:

§ 3-6.00 ADJUSTMENTS AND MODIFICATIONS TO FEES

§3-6.01 RECORDATION TAX FEE

A. There is hereby assessed a ten dollar fee on (i) every deed for which the state recordation tax is collected pursuant to §§[58.1-801](#) A and 58.1-803, Code of Virginia; and (ii) every certificate of satisfaction admitted under [§55-66.6](#), Code of Virginia. Contingent upon the passage into law of the provisions contained in Enactment Nos. 2, 3 and 5 of Part 5 of introduced House Bill 30/Senate Bill 30 of the 2004 Session, revenue generated from such fee shall be deposited to the Virginia Natural and Historic Resources Fund created herein.

B. There is hereby created in the state treasury a special permanent, nonreverting fund to be known as the Virginia Natural and Historic Resources Fund, hereafter referred to as "the Fund." The Fund shall be established on the books of the Comptroller. The Fund shall consist of moneys

appropriated to it by the General Assembly and such other sums as may be made available to it from any other source, public or private, all of which shall be credited to the Fund. Any moneys remaining in the Fund at the end of each fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund but shall remain in the Fund.

This language did not advance during the 2004 Session as a funding source for the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation. However also during the 2004 Session, HB693 (Delegates Morgan, Eisenberg, and Plum), SB527 (Senator Hanger), and SB569 (Senator Deeds) were introduced to address natural resources funding issues. The primary funding mechanism suggested in these bills was also a \$10 fee on every deed filed for which recordation tax is collected and every certificate of satisfaction. As was the case with the budget language, each of these pieces of legislation failed to advance during the Session. However, Delegate May was successful in establishing a permanent source of funding for the Virginia Outdoors Foundation for land conservation purposes. Chapter 990 of the 2004 Virginia Acts of Assembly (HB549) imposed a \$1 fee on every deed admitted to record beginning July 1, 2004, in those jurisdictions where open-space easements are held by the Virginia Outdoors Foundation. The bill required the State Comptroller to distribute on a monthly basis the revenue from such collected fees to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation. The Foundation, established to promote the preservation of open-space lands and to encourage private gifts of money, securities, land or other property to preserve the natural, scenic, historic, scientific, open-space and recreational areas of the Commonwealth, is required to hold and administer these funds in accordance with its statutory purpose and powers. This funding source is expected to generate about \$800,000 per year.

Virginiaforever Campaign

The purpose of the **Virginiaforever** campaign is to educate and motivate the public to advocate for increased funding in natural resources. Organized by The Nature Conservancy, the campaign is lead by a broad-based coalition made up of businesses, public health advocates, recreational groups, hunters and anglers, and conservationists. The coalition recognizes that protecting our natural heritage is a core function of state government, yet barely a PENNY is allocated to protect Virginia's water quality, open space, fisheries and wildlife, recreational areas and historic sites. The two top priorities of *Virginiaforever* are land conservation and water quality improvement, and this is consistent with the priorities identified by the Natural Resources Funding Commission in 2003. The coalition will continue

to ask the Commonwealth's leaders to increase natural resources funding and protect our natural resources for future generations to enjoy. *Virginiaforever* has a website, www.virginiaforever.org for additional information.

Virginia Office of Land Conservation

The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation's Office of Land Conservation was established to serve as a statewide, central contact, repository and clearinghouse for land conservation in Virginia. The Office provides guidance on how to protect land and on who may best help an interested individual with their land conservation needs. The Office of Land Conservation facilitates cooperative ventures, provides technical assistance, and conducts or sponsors workshops and training events. In future grant rounds, the Office will also serve as an important source of information for potential applicants.

In January 2003, the Office released its land conservation website (<http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/olc/>). This site includes a wide variety of land conservation materials and contact information that provides land conservationists and managers with an important land conservation planning tool. A brochure entitled "Assistance from Virginia State Agencies for Land Conservation" is also available on the site or in hard copy from the Office of Land Conservation. The brochure provides a listing of resource conservation offerings available from the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Virginia Outdoors Foundation, the Virginia Department of Forestry, the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources.

In December of 2003, the Department of Conservation and Recreation added to its Office of Land Conservation website the state's first comprehensive statewide public lands resource mapping tool. This user friendly conservation lands internet portal combines layers of information about a specific conserved location to give a better understanding of that place. The "Conservation Lands Database" includes land owned by federal, state, regional, interstate and local governments, conserved lands owned by nonprofit groups, and conservation easements held by various groups and land trusts around

the state. It took DCR staff more than three years to collect and re-format information for the new database. State resource agencies, universities, land trusts and regional and local government should find this tool invaluable for environmental, recreation and conservation planning. This important land conservation planning tool can be accessed by going to the DCR website at www.dcr.virginia.gov and clicking on “land conservation.” or by accessing it directly at www.dcr.virginia.gov/dnh/conslandindex.htm.

Conservation Lands Inventory and Needs Assessment

The Department of Conservation and Recreation’s Conservation Lands Database noted above addresses Section 10.1-1021 subsection 1b of the Code of Virginia that directs the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation to develop an inventory of those properties in which the Commonwealth holds a legal interest “for the protection or preservation of ecological, cultural or historical resources, lands for recreational purposes, state forest lands, and lands for threatened or endangered species, fish and wildlife habitat, natural areas, agricultural and forestal lands and open space”.

DCR has also developed the “Conservation Sites Database” based upon eighteen years of developing the Natural Heritage Information System, Virginia’s most comprehensive information management system on endangered plants and animals and natural habitats. Conservation sites are mapped boundaries that enclose one or more rare plant or animal locations, or a natural community, and the surrounding habitat or buffer necessary to protect the resource(s). Over the past year DCR has worked to develop boundaries for some 1,400 areas around the state; and to develop a secure Internet mapping tool so that the data can be shared with land conservation partners and local governments.

DCR completed preparation of the Virginia Conservation Lands Needs Assessment (VCLNA) Natural Landscape Assessment for Virginia’s Coastal Zone, and distributed data and map products to local and state agencies and other conservation organizations, in cooperation with DEQ. The Natural Landscape Assessment uses GIS technology to identify and prioritize natural lands and the habitat corridors necessary to support and enhance them, to identify which are the most important natural, unfragmented lands, based on considerations of biological and ecological value and integrity. The

Natural Landscape Assessment is one component of the Virginia Conservation Lands Needs Assessment, a flexible, widely applicable GIS decision support tool for integrating and coordinating the needs and strategies of different conservation interests, manipulating issue-specific data sets like unfragmented natural habitats, outdoor recreation, prime agricultural lands, cultural and historic resources, sustainable forestry, water quality improvement, and drinking water protection. As a key strategic planning element for the Land Conservation Foundation, DCR has begun assembling the additional GIS datasets that are needed to make the VCLNA a comprehensive conservation tool, and is also extending the VCLNA Natural Landscape Assessment to the rest of the state.

These conservation information tools will continue to be developed and used to help the Foundation with strategic planning, help evaluate Foundation proposals, develop the 2007 Virginia Outdoors Plan, plan future natural area conservation needs, and fulfill information requests from land planners and managers at the local, state and federal level.

Land Conservation Status Summary

The Conservation Lands Database reports that as of June 30, 2004, a total of 3,313,769 acres across Virginia have been preserved by federal, state, and local governments and private conservation organizations (Table 1). This indicates that about 13.1 percent of the Commonwealth's total land is currently protected. In Virginia's portion of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, a total of 2,360,307 acres of land or almost 17.1 percent has been protected. (About half of Virginia geographically lies in the Bay Watershed.)

Table 1: Land Preservation Statistics in Virginia (06/30/04)

Group Holding the Property or Easement	Amount of Land preserved Statewide (Acres)	Percentage Represented by Holdings	Amount of Land preserved in Virginia's portion of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (Acres)	Percentage Represented by Holdings	Amount of Land preserved in Virginia's Non-Bay portion (Acres)	Percentage Represented by Holdings
Federal	2,438,497.47	73.59	1,752,390.47	74.24	686,107.00	71.96
State	675,909.73	20.40	483,675.27	20.49	192,234.46	20.16
Local	107,786.78	3.25	88,942.95	3.77	18,843.83	1.98
Private/Non-profit	91,574.58	2.76	35,298.17	1.50	56,276.41	5.90
Total Protected	3,313,768.56	100.00	2,360,306.86	100.00	953,461.70	100.00
Total Acreage	25,270,000		13,831,890		11,438,110	
Percent Protected	<u>13.11</u>		<u>17.06</u>		8.34	
Target Remainder (20% Bay Goal = 2,766,378 acres)			406,071.14			
Target Remainder (15% Statewide Goal = 3,790,500 acres)	476,731.44					

Meeting Virginia's land conservation goals will be challenging. The 20% Bay goal requires the conservation of 406,071 acres by 2010 or 67,679 acres per year between FY05 – FY10 (6 years). To protect 15% of land statewide acres by 2014 will require the conservation of 476,731 or 47,673 acres per year between FY05 – FY14 (10 years). At the current annual preservation rates (Table 2), we would protect 15% statewide by 2014 but we will fall short on the Bay goal by 2010. We will nearly have to double our annual preservation rate in the Bay watershed to reach the goal. VLCF funding for FY05 (General Funds and Vehicle Registration Funding), combined with Virginia Public Building Authority Bond and General Obligation Bond monies, Forest Legacy, and Land and Water Conservation Fund acquisitions, and Virginia Outdoors Foundation funding will provide for progress towards the goal this year. Continued preservation activity by Virginia's land trusts will also advance progress toward the goals.

Table 2: Current Annual Protection Trends

Year	Statewide (acreage)	Bay (acreage)	Non-Bay (acreage)
2001	56,208.48	34,925.67	21,282.81
2002	49,095.12	36,013.09	13,082.03
2003	51,222.21	43,019.09	8,203.12
2004	55,059.41	30,435.74	24,623.67
Total	211,585.22	144,393.59	67,191.63
Average Annual Acreage Protected	52,896.31	36,098.40	16,797.91
Acreage needed to reach specified goal	47,673	67,679	

Continued state funding to the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation to address these goals will be necessary to ensure success. Utilizing the 2004 VLCF average cost per acre estimate of \$2,240, the state cost of the goals (VLCF grants require matching amount) is about \$91 million per year for the 20% Bay goal (FY06 – FY10 - 5 years) and \$59 million per year in order to protect 15% statewide (FY06 – FY14 - 9 years) (Table 3).

Table 3: Estimated Cost to Achieve the Commonwealth’s Land Conservation Goals

Goals	Remaining Acreage to Meet the Goals	Total Estimated Cost to Meet the Goals	State Share of the Costs to Meet the Goals	Annual State share Costs to Meet the Goals
2010 - 20% Bay Goal	406,071 acres	\$909,599,040	\$454,799,520	\$90,959,904 thru 2010
2014 - 15% Statewide Goal	476,731 acres	\$1,067,877,440	\$533,938,720	\$59,326,524 thru 2014

Note: Utilizing past purchases made through the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation, including both easements and outright acquisitions, the estimated statewide average cost per acre is \$2,240. This compares favorably to the CBC/TPL look back report that noted a historical cost of \$2,255 per acre.

Note: The state share expressed above involves dividing the total in half to reflect the state share of a matching grant program through the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation.

Note: As the budget for FY05 is set and insufficient money is allocated to VLCF compared to the documented needs, fiscal projections were calculated to begin in FY06. Although not reflected in the totals, FY05 VLCF funds, bond monies and federal funding will help to reduce the total needs but will not ameliorate the need for a permanent state funding source for land conservation. Preservation activities by non-profits and other conservation entities independent of VLCF funding will also help to reduce the state’s fiscal needs.

Progress toward the 20% Chesapeake Bay goal by each of the jurisdictions is presented in Table 4. It is noteworthy to mention that the only state that will have difficulty meeting their Bay preservation target will be Virginia.

Table 4: Summary of Land Preserved Within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed in Each State (By acres and percent preserved) (As of June 30, 2004)

STATE	Acres in the Watershed	Total Acres Preserved	Percent Acres Preserved	Acres Needed for 20% Goal ²
DC	39,000	6,692.1	17.16	1,107.9
MD	6,208,025	1,229,067	19.80	12,538.0
PA	14,522,124	3,031,179	20.87	-126,754.2
VA	13,831,890	2,360,306.86	17.06	406,071.1
			Baywide Goal	292,962.8

² For planning purposes only. Specific percentages by the Bay Program have not been allocated to the states.

Strategic Plan Development

Section 10.1-1021 subsection 1a of the Code of Virginia directs the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation to "[d]evelop a strategic plan for the expenditure of unrestricted moneys received from the Fund". The strategic plan for FY2005-2006 is the grant program guidelines entitled "2005 Virginia Land Conservation Fund Grant Program, November 15, 2004". This document clearly addresses how the unrestricted moneys are to be expended and delineates what categories the funding is to be used for, who is eligible, what the match requirements are and what evaluation criteria are to be used to judge the applications. The criteria contained in this document were called for in the 2004 Appropriation Act.

In 2004, the General Assembly called for a refinement of the guidance criteria pursuant to Item 383 H3 of Chapter 4 of the 2004 Virginia Acts of Assembly, Special Session 1. This item directed the Foundation to develop new review criteria that additionally address the relative water quality merits of each prospective grant parcel. The new criteria were printed in 2005 in HD3 entitled Criteria for Evaluation of 2005 Virginia Land Conservation Foundation Grant Applications and are also outlined later in this report. The resulting criteria are also referenced in the updated FY2005-2006 grant program guidelines entitled "2005 Virginia Land Conservation Fund Grant Program, November 15,

2004". These criteria will guide the review of applications received from the January-March 2005 grant round. As in the past, all of the technical information collected from the Spring 2005 grant applicants will be evaluated by an interagency task force.

The interagency task force is comprised of representatives of the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Forestry, the Department of Historic Resources, the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, and the Virginia Outdoors Foundation. Through this rigorous multi-agency review and scoring process, only those proposals that best serve the purposes of the Foundation and that made the best fiscal sense were recommended to the Virginia Land Conservation Board of Trustees.

The Foundation is also making significant progress on development of a state-of-the-art land conservation information system and decision support tool, with the completion of the Conservation Lands and Conservation Sites Databases and Internet Portals, and the continued development of the Virginia Conservation Lands Needs Assessment Decision Support Tool.

Competitive Grant Expenditures FY 1999-2000 (July 1, 1999 - June 30, 2000)

The Foundation Board made grants from the FY 2000 \$1.75 million dollar appropriation on December 1, 1999. Of the FY1999-2000 grants awarded, the Foundation actually paid \$1,323,969 in competitive grant funds to 8 projects conserving 1,136.87 acres. **All grants from this grant round have now been closed.** In addition to the 8 grant projects that were completed, \$29,430 was awarded to the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries to reimburse them for expenses associated with the purchase of The Big Survey. Three projects originally awarded funds were withdrawn. From the balance of remaining funds from this appropriation, \$22,188 will be carried forward to the FY05 grant round thus zeroing out any remaining balances.

The FY1999-2000 summaries for the projects that are closed are as follows:

1. McAfee Knob/Carter Land Acquisition: A grant was awarded to the Appalachian Trail Conference to acquire 72 acres adjacent to the AT. This property at McAfee's Knob is one of the most popular views of Catawba and the Roanoke Valley.

2. Indian River Park Acquisition: A grant was awarded to the City of Chesapeake to acquire 108

acres of existing park property located in Chesapeake but owned by the City of Norfolk. Recent removal of park restrictions on the property prompted Norfolk to seek sale of the property for non-park use. The park is currently operated by Chesapeake's Parks and Recreation Department.

3. Powers Tract Northwest River Watershed: A grant was awarded to the Nature Conservancy to acquire 187 acres of wetlands, agricultural fields, and mature forests. Plans are to restore the wetlands and to keep the forest intact. The project would add to the protection of the Northwest River Preserve and is considered a critical component of this conservation site by the Natural Heritage Division.

4. Hickory Hollow Nature Trail: A grant was awarded to the Northern Neck Audubon Society to acquire a 225 -acre site from Lancaster County that is targeted for industrial development. The project would preserve the land's natural areas and establish a permanent conservation easement.

5. Purchase of the Embrey Farm: A grant was awarded to the Kenmore Association Inc. to acquire a 30-acre farm adjacent to George Washington 's Ferry Farm. It would protect Ferry Farm from undesirable development, expand tourism opportunities, and give riverfront protection on the Rappahannock.

6. Talbot Farm Conservation Easement Acquisition: A grant was awarded to the Land Trust of Virginia to purchase a 25-acre easement on Ball's Run Creek including 1700 linear feet of creek frontage. The easement would enhance and protect water quality in the Catoctin watershed and facilitate efforts to restore the eroded land and creek.

7. Palmyra Lock and Mill Site: A grant was awarded to the Fluvanna County Historical Society to acquire 4.5 acres of land adjacent to the historic Lock & Mill Site on the Rivanna River. The property would provide crucial access to the existing site.

8. Welbourne Farm Easement Acquisition: A grant was awarded to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation of Northern Virginia to purchase a conservation easement on a working farm that may otherwise be developed as a subdivision. The project would preserve farmland, protect water quality, and protect the viewshed from the historic Welbourne manor house and from Goose Creek.

In lieu of the grant to the Western Virginia Land Trust, the Board authorized on August 12, 2003 a payment \$29,430 to the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries for expenses associated with the purchase of the Big Survey Tract.

1. Big Survey Acquisition: A grant was earmarked to be awarded to the Western Virginia Land Trust to purchase 9,270 acres of undeveloped lands in Wythe County for the protection of the watershed, forestal lands, wildlife, and recreational use.

The Following three projects were withdrawn by the applicants.

1. Powhatan Creek Acquisition Program: A grant was awarded to James City County to acquire a prime parcel of land consisting of 48 acres along the Powhatan Creek corridor to protect the sensitive character of this natural area and to insure public access to water for recreational purposes. This

project was withdrawn.

2. Fort Christanna Preservation Project: A grant was awarded to Brunswick County to acquire a 64-acre tract currently recognized by the National Register of Historic Places and the Virginia Landmarks Register. The proposal would protect the historic and archeological integrity of the site and to prevent a clear-cut operation that would impact the fort sites. This project was withdrawn.

3. James River Kanawha Canal Park Expansion: A grant was awarded to the Town of Buchanan to acquire 3 parcels of land in the downtown area for park expansion and access to the James River. This project was withdrawn.

Table 5: FY1999-2000 Competitive Grant Awards

Project Title	Cong. District	Grant Award	Estimated Acres	Project Closing Date	Final Payment	Final Acres
		(Dollars)			(Dollars)	
Open Space						
McAfee Knob Carter Land	6	43,800	72	9-2000	43,800	72
Powhatan Creek Program	1	250,000	48	WITH-DRAWN	250,000 Reverted to GF – budget reduction	
Indian River Park Acquisition	4	100,000	108	6-2001	100,000	90
Natural Areas						
Powers Tract, NW River Watershed	4	286,000	187	5-2003	286,000	172.27
Hickory Hollow Nature Trail	1	150,012	225	7-2000	150,012	254
Cultural and Historic						
Fort Christanna Preservation Project	5	50,975	34	WITH-DRAWN	50,000 Reverted to GF – budget reduction	
Purchase of the Embrey Farm	1	225,000	30	1-2001	225,000	11.6
*Talbot Farm Cons. Easement	10	76,350	25	1-2001	76,350	25
Palmyra Lock & Mill Site	5	6,200	5	3-2002	5,557	5
James River Kanawha Canal Park Expansion	6	13,255	3	WITH-DRAWN	13,255 Reverted to GF – budget reduction	
*Welbourne Farm Easement	10	50,000	530	2-2001	50,000	507
Agricultural and Forestal						
*Welbourne Farm Easement	10	258,250	above	2-2001	258,250	above
Indian River Park Acquisition	4	100,000	above	6-2001	100,000	above
Hickory Hollow Nature Trail	1	29,000	above	7-2000	29,000	above
Project Expense Subtotal			1,267		1,323,969	1136.87
The Big Survey	9	50,000		8-2003	29,430	
Totals		\$1,688,842			1,353,399	

* Denotes Acquisition By Easement

Virginia Outdoor Foundation

As required by the Code of Virginia, the Foundation transferred \$1.55 million dollars representing 25% of its \$6.2 million FY 2000-2001 appropriation to the Open Space Preservation Trust Fund to assist with the purchase of farm and forest land easements by the Virginia Outdoors Foundation. The projects involved the partial purchase of development rights and/ or, the reimbursement of costs of the easement donations (legal, appraisal, etc). In several situations, funds were further leveraged with grants from the VLCF. The projects were located in a wide geographical area involving thirteen different counties from Washington County to Prince George to Clarke County. Public values protected include: a wildlife corridor area on the border of Page and Warren Counties, the setting for two historic houses on the National Register of Historic Places, land adjacent to Caledon State Park, and four farms in the Shenandoah Valley, the heart of Virginia's agricultural production.

Table 6: VLCF/ Virginia Outdoors Foundation – Open Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund

Open Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund (OSLPTF)			
Project Title	OSLPTF Monies from VLCF Deposit (Dollars)	Estimated Acres	VLCF Grant Utilized as Match
Welbourne - Loudoun	\$300,000*	See table 5	\$308,250 VLCF grant to VOF
Bowman – Prince George	\$229,150	378	
Politis – Montgomery (Bush Creek Farm)	\$75,000	See table 8	\$74,747 VLCF grant to VOF
Powell - Albemarle	\$250,000	432	
Nash – King George	\$425,000	1371	
Brumback - Clark	\$98,000	262	
Elgin – Fauquier (Elgin Dairy)	\$315,000	See table 8	\$317,000 VLCF grant to VOF
Leonard – Carroll/ Grayson (Leonard Farm)	\$125,000	See table 8	\$81,806 VLCF grant to VOF
Richardson - Augusta	\$2,900	63	
Noble - Botetourt	\$1,700	203	
Dogham – Charles City	\$28,000	317	
Pence - Rockingham	\$2,500	172	
Brazier - Page	\$1,500	70	
Flanders - Albemarle	\$3,750	45	
Totals	\$1,883,600*	3313	
* The FY 2000-2001 deposit of \$1,550,000 from the VLCF was enhanced by other VOF general fund monies.			

As of December 31, 2004 (FY2005), the Open Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund has received a total of \$678,318.70, which includes \$365,818.70 in vehicle registration fee funds and \$312,500 in Virginia Land Conservation fund appropriations. According to VOF, the following projects have been approved and the specified funds committed, however no projects have been completed. Subtracting these commitments, there is \$451,786.20 left of the funds already transferred to VOF from the VLCF. It is anticipated that further funds will be transferred to the VOF this fiscal year. The current available balance of the Preservation Trust fund is \$457,642, which includes private contributions, unused portions of grants from completed projects, and funds left uncommitted from the previous appropriation.

Cost Reimbursement Projects: Expenses reimbursed to landowner.				
Date Approved	County	Land Owner	Acres	Funds Committed
Sept. 2004	Rockbridge	Rosen	108	\$4,000.00
Dec. 2004	Northumberland	Welch	80	\$7,000.00
Dec. 2004	Powhatan	Hakala	70	\$6,900.00
Dec. 2004	Tazewell	Partyka	238	\$4,000.00
Dec. 2004	Grayson	Woodruff	65	\$4,632.50
Total			561	\$26,532.50
Purchase Project				
Dec. 2004	Essex	Baylor	1800	\$200,000

Civil War Battlefield Grant Awards FY 2000-2001 (July 1, 2000 - June 30, 2001)

Chapter 1073 of the 2000 Virginia Acts of Assembly, § 1-104. Department of Conservation and Recreation (199), Item 410, Note J1, Page 329 noted that " [o]ut of the amount for Preservation of Open-Space Lands \$3,400,000 the first year from the general fund shall be transferred to the Virginia Land Conservation Fund (§ 10.1-1020, Code of Virginia). From this deposit, the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation shall make grants to private non-profit organizations as a match for federal Land and Water Conservation Fund monies for acquisitions at four threatened Civil War battlefields. From the deposit to the Virginia Land Conservation Fund, \$2,100,000 is for acquisitions at the Brandy

Station battlefield, \$250,000 is for acquisitions at the Cedar Creek battlefield, \$350,000 is for acquisitions at the Kernstown battlefield, and \$700,000 is for acquisitions at the Third Winchester (Opequon) battlefield. The Department of Historic Resources shall work in conjunction with the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation and private nonprofit organizations in securing the acquisition of the battlefields."

A total of \$3,382,004 dollars from the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation was used to make grants to private non-profit organizations as a match for Land and Water Conservation Fund monies. The Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants under the American Battlefield Protection Program for Civil War Battlefield Land Acquisition, awarded by the National Park Service, were for land acquisition of threatened Civil War Battlefields. The Virginia funds were used as a portion of the required match for the acquisition of four threatened Civil War Battlefields, Brandy Station, Cedar Creek, Kernstown, and Third Winchester Battlefield.

The FY2000-2001 battlefield project summaries are as follows:

Brandy Station: A grant was awarded to The Civil War Preservation Trust to acquire three parcels containing 570 acres of property from the Lee Sammis Corporation. This acquisition known as the Brandy Station Battlefield is located in Culpeper County.

Third Winchester: A grant was awarded to The Civil War Preservation Trust to acquire two parcels of property in Frederick County that were the site of the Third Winchester Battlefield. The total acquisition consisted of 222 acres.

Kernstown: A grant was awarded to acquire the Charles Hardy Grim Farm which was the site of both the First and Second Battles of Kernstown. The 315 acres lies partially in the City of Winchester and partially in Frederick County.

Cedar Creek: A grant was awarded to The Town of Middletown to acquire the Cedar Creek Battlefield. The battlefield was acquired in three parcels, Neff property (12 acres), Bayliss property (135 acres), and visitor center property (3 acres). A total of 150 acres was acquired.

Table 7: FY2000-2001 Civil War Battlefield Grant Awards

Battlefield Projects					
Project Title	Grant Award (Dollars)	Acres	Project Closing Date	Final Payment (Dollars)	Final Acres
Brandy Station	2,100,000	570	12-2000	2,100,000.00	570
Third Winchester	700,000	222	8-2000	700,000.00	222
Kernstown	350,000	315	9-2000	350,000.00	315
Cedar Creek	250,000	150	10-2000	232,004.92	150
Totals	\$3,400,000	1,257		3,382,004.92	1,257

Competitive Grant Awards FY 2000-2001 (July 1, 2000 - June 30, 2001)

On January 4, 2001, the Foundation's Board of Trustees considered 41 applications totaling \$11.2 million in requested funds. With the help of the Interagency Task Force, the Foundation Board reviewed the grant applications and awarded 19 grants for a total of \$3,919,695. Sixteen of these grant projects have now been closed out.

The FY2000-2001 project summaries are as follows:

1. North Meadow/Carr Property: A grant was awarded to the Waterford Foundation, Loudoun County, for assistance with the costs associated with reducing development density on two tracts within the boundaries of the National Historic Landmark. The Waterford Foundation has purchased both tracts and plans to resell for limited residential development subject to easements. The Foundation has determined that it cannot afford to eliminate development rights entirely, but by reducing the density and controlling the siting and design of the new construction, will ensure that the development does not threaten the integrity of the landmark. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$187,042**

2. Buhrman Tract (Malvern Hill Battlefield): A grant was awarded to the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities (APVA) to purchase in fee 245 acres of land which is part of the Malvern Hill Battlefield in Henrico County. This land is a key component of the battlefield. The property would be preserved as a historical park cooperatively managed by the Civil War Preservation Trust and the National Park Service until such time as NPS could take title. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$300,000**

3. Chancellorsville Battlefield: A grant was awarded to the Central Virginia Battlefields Trust for assistance in acquiring in fee 11.2 acres within the City of Fredericksburg which was the scene of intense fighting during the Battle of Chancellorsville. The parcel is threatened by intense development with the pending extension of Cowan Boulevard. The property, which CVBT expects to continue to

hold, would be developed with an interpretive trail and would be open to the public. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$150,000**

4. Totopotomoy Battlefield (Rural Plains): A grant was awarded to Historic Polegreen Church Foundation for pass-through funding for acquisition by the Totopotomoy Battlefield at Rural Plains Foundation (TBRPF) of 124 acres in Hanover County. The land contains a portion of the Totopotomoy Battlefield, including Union and Confederate earthworks. The property also includes Rural Plains, a 17th century house which has been in the same family since its construction, was the location of Patrick Henry's wedding, and was a Union headquarters during the Civil War. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$323,000**

5. The Meadow: A grant was awarded for an easement on a 535-acre property that would protect a working farm and significant forestland in King William County. In addition, the property is located approximately 1 mile from the 378-acre Zoar State Forest. The protection of this property would create a block of approximately 1,315 acres of permanently protected property with the added benefit of protecting 1 mile of property along the Mattaponi River. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$359,625**

6. Leonard Farm: A grant was awarded for an easement on a 118-acre grade A dairy adjacent to New River Trail State park with three primary public purposes, which were 1) protection of prime agricultural soils (75% of farm Classes I & II, 25% Classes III & IV), which is especially unusual in Southwest VA; 2) protection of scenic views along New River Trail beside Chestnut Creek, which runs through property - easement would cover both sides of Trail; and, 3) protection of state park resources in form of adjacent New River Trail State Park. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$81,806**

7. Elgin Dairy Farm: A grant was awarded for an easement on a 314-acre dairy adjacent to State Natural Area in Bull Run Mountains with five primary public purposes, which were 1) protection of prime agricultural soils (90% of farm Classes I & II), which is highly unusual anywhere in State; 2) protection of scenic views along roads adjacent to farm, which have been designated as county scenic roads; 3) protection of farm land in rapidly developing area under significant development pressure; 4) enhancement of water quality through installation of protected riparian buffer along Hungry Run; and, 5) protection of adjacent state natural area with significant rare plant and animal resources. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$317,000**

8. Brush Creek Farm: A grant was awarded for an easement on a 93.7-acre buffalo farm and niche marketing operation of unique products (e.g., buffalo meat & hides) with three primary purposes that included: 1) protection of unique farmland from development in area with some residential development pressure; 2) protection of unique value-added agricultural enterprises; and, 3) protection of water quality in state trout stream through establishment of riparian buffer and exclusion of livestock from stream. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$72,747**

9. Clinch River: A grant was awarded to the Nature Conservancy to acquire approximately 458 acres of land adjacent to the Commonwealth's Cleveland Barrens Natural Areas preserve and directly upstream from the Conservancy's Cleveland Island Preserve in Russell County, Virginia. This property borders on 1.2 miles of the Clinch River, buffers a significant freshwater mussel site harboring at least nine rare mussel species and six rare fish species, and features a globally rare limestone/dolomite barren

community with three rare plant species. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$196,640**

10. Rare Oak Hickory Forest: A grant was awarded to the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust to purchase a 180-acre tract of forest in Western Fairfax County to protect a rare ecosystem from future development. This land would be preserved as a natural area connected to 830 acres of existing parkland, making one of the largest areas of public open space in Northern Virginia. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$729,250**

11. Garden Creek/Winter Harbor Preservation Project: A grant was awarded to the Middle Peninsula Land Trust to acquire through easement and fee simple acquisition five land tracts (2 fee simple acquisitions totaling 185 acres and 3 easement acquisitions on 438 acres) for the protection of the Garden Creek/Winter Harbor watershed and to serve as a buffer for the Bethel Beach Natural Area. Future plans included location of a canoe and kayak launching site and a Chesapeake Bay Foundation Environmental Education Center. Grant Award: \$155,000

NOTE: At the June 12, 2002 meeting of the Foundation, the Board approved the transfer of \$155,000 from the Middle Peninsula Land Trust's proposed Exum Property acquisition, part of the Garden Creek/Winter Harbor grant award, to the similarly located Warthen property, Richardson estate and related lands and DCR subsequently provided them with a 1-year extension to December 2004 to complete the transaction. The Middle Peninsula Land Trust indicated that the initial property addressed in the grant was appraised at \$80,000 and the owner refused to take less than \$150,000 which was deemed to not be a proper expenditure of public funds. In 2003, DCR was again contacted to discuss moving the project to another near-by parcel. Discussions with the land trust through 2004 indicated that they are still having difficulty determining a project that they can move forward with. The Department will need to assess the viability of this grant award in the near future.

12. Whitt-Riverbend Park Acquisition Site – Town of Pearisburg: A grant was awarded to allow for the acquisition of a 27.7 acre park site with 4,000 linear feet of frontage on the New River with an additional 400 linear ft. of frontage on Walker Creek. Future outdoor recreational opportunities would include boating access, riverbank fishing, primitive overnight camping, a 1.25 loop trail, and picnicking. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$110,000**

13. Jamison Cove Marina Acquisition - Town of Urbanna: A grant was awarded to allow for the acquisition of a 1.56-acre marina on Urbanna Creek with access to the Rappahannock River. Plans are to develop a waterfront park with public boat access, canoe launch, transient boat slips, picnic areas, and general park amenities. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$245,955**

14. Mary B. Stratton Property Acquisition – Department of Conservation and Recreation A grant was awarded to facilitate the acquisition of 154 + acres of the Mary Stratton Estate Property from Ferrum College. The property would be owned by DCR and developed and managed by Chesterfield County for outdoor recreation opportunities. Ferrum College has agreed to transfer the property for its holding costs of \$150,000 to DCR as the next entity in line in the will. The matching costs of \$75,000 for this grant would come from the County. Grant Award: \$75,000

15. Keister Park – Shenandoah County: A grant was awarded to allow for the acquisition of a

151.36-acre land tract for new County Park. The seller would discount the property value by \$100,000 and may be able to donate an additional 10 acres to the overall site. The County currently has an option to buy the property. This project is partially located on the North Fork Shenandoah River and provides thousands of feet of river frontage. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$306,575**

16. Fairfax County Trail Easements – Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA): A grant was awarded to allow for the acquisition of 2.9 acres of easement at three sites in Vienna and Oakton. The proposal would require easement acquisitions on five land parcels. Acquisition of these easements would serve to connect three major area greenways the Pohick Stream Valley Trail, the Accotink Stream Valley Trail, and the Difficult Run Stream Valley Trail covering a 32-mile route. Grant Award: \$30,000

17. Historic Yorktown Beach Trail – County of York: A grant was awarded to allow for the acquisition of nine easements on the York River beach to provide a continuous pedestrian linkage and trail along the riverfront. Total associated development cost including the acquisition is \$950,000. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$117,500**

18. Phase II. Williams Warf Landing Project – Mathews County Land Conservancy: A grant was awarded to allow for the acquisition of .327 acres of land contiguous to Williams Warf Landing, which was previously purchased with an ISTE grant. The combined sites would protect the site and provide public recreation for small engine watercraft access to area water trails via the East River. The site would also provide launching for kayaking and canoeing. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$36,300**

19. Waid Recreation Area Open Space and Parks – County of Franklin: A grant was awarded to allow for the acquisition of an additional 134 acres contiguous to the County's Waid Recreation Area/Park. Acquisition would provide an additional 4,000 feet of frontage on the Pigg River and would protect an additional 3,000-ft. of the historically significant Carolina Road which currently runs through the existing Waid Park. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$93,397**

Table 8: FY2000-2001 Competitive Grant Awards

Project Title	Cong. District	Grant Award (Dollars)	Estimated Acres	Project Closing Date	Final Payment (Dollars)	Final Acres
Open Space						
Waid Recreation Area	5	126,255	134	10-2003	93,397	134
Mary B. Stratton Estate	7	75,000	154			
Whitt- Riverbend Park	9	110,000	28	9-2001	110,000	28
*Fairfax Cross County Trail	10/11**	30,000	3			
Keister Park	6	306,575	151	9-2002	306,575	151
Jamison's Cove Marina	1	245,955	2	5-2001	245,955	2
Williams Wharf	1	36,300	1	12-2004	36,300	0.40
*Yorktown Beach Trail	1	117,500	2	4-2004	117,500	1.6
Natural Areas						
Garden Creek	1	155,000	623			
Clinch River	9	196,640	458	4-2002	196,640	458
Oak Hickory Forest	10	729,250	180	2-2004	729,250	226
Cultural and Historic						
*North Meadow/ Carr Property	10	187,042	125	6-2002	187,042	125
Chancellorsville Battlefield	1	150,000	11	11-2001	150,000	11
Buhrman (Malvern Hill)	3	300,000	245	4-2001	300,000	245
Totopotomoy Battlefield	7	323,000	124	3-2001	323,000	124
Agricultural and Forestal						
*Brush Creek Farm	9	72,747	94	5-2001	72,747	94
*Eligin Dairy Farm	10	317,000	314	8-2001	317,000	314
*The Meadow	1	359,625	535	11-2004	359,625	535
*Leonard Farm	9	81,806	118	4-2002	81,806	148
Totals		\$3,919,695	3,302		\$3,626,837	3,377
* Denotes Acquisition by Easement						
** Split project: Three easements in Congressional District 10 and one in 11						

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

The Land Conservation Foundation has been successful in supporting projects across the breadth of Virginia in its first two grant cycles (FY1999-2000 and FY2000-2001). From the City of Chesapeake to Russell County to Frederick and Loudoun Counties outstanding conservation projects have been awarded funding by VLCF. The greatest concentration of projects to date has come in the 1st Congressional District (Table 9). This may be a reflection of the rapid growth and loss of open space and historic resources in this area. However, funds for projects have been awarded in all but two Districts, the 2nd and 8th which may in part be due to their relative small geographic size and the presence of alternative open space funding projects such as the Virginia Beach Agricultural Reserve Program. The Foundation will continue to encourage quality applications from all Districts in future funding cycles.

The Foundation has been successful in assisting with the conservation of an array of outstanding resources and habitats in the past two grant cycles through easements and acquisitions. In the natural area category, projects have included outstanding native grassland communities containing a suite of rare species along the Clinch River, significant and rare wetland communities and the rare species they support in eastern Virginia, and 120+-year-old woodlands in Fairfax County. Open space and park projects have likewise been diverse ranging from historic and scenic farmlands to crucial water access points, to critical additions to existing parks and new local government parklands. Likewise farm and forestland projects have ranged from significant forest and farmland tracts in southwest Virginia to northern Piedmont Dairy Farms to important tidewater farm and forestland. Examples of cultural and historic projects naturally include important battlefield sites from the Shenandoah Valley to Fredericksburg to Richmond; critical additions to National Historic Landmarks in Loudoun County; and strategic land acquisitions to add to and buffer important historic sites such as the Palmyra Lock and Mill site in Fluvanna County.

Table 9: Geographical Distribution of Foundation 1999 and 2000 Grant Awards

Congressional District*	1999 Completed	1999 Withdrawn	2000 Completed	2000 Pending	Total # of projects in 1999 & 2000 authorized
1 st District	3	1	5	1	10
2 nd District	0	0	0	0	0
3 rd District	0	0	1	0	1
4 th District	2	0	0	0	2
5 th District	1	1	1	0	3
6 th District	1	1	1	0	3
7 th District	0	0	1	1	2
8 th District	0	0	0	0	0
9 th District	1**	0	4	0	5
10 th District	2	0	3	.75	5.75
11 th District	0	0	0	.25	0.25
TOTAL	10	3	16	3	32

*(Updated to address 2001 redistricting changes to Congressional Districts)

** (Reflects in District 9 DGIF's Big Survey Project. VLCF paid for administrative expenses and not the actual acquisition.)

RECENT LAND CONSERVATION INITIATIVES

Additional initiatives that are directly affecting Virginia's land conservation efforts. These include:

- During the 2003 Legislative Session, a mandatory one-dollar vehicle registration fee on each pickup, panel truck, or vehicle was created via budget language to support the special license plate program and other activities in commemoration of the 400th anniversary of Jamestown Settlement in 2007. Funds collected in excess of DMV's administrative charges and Jamestown-Yorktown's \$5,000,000 per year allocation were to be transferred to the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation to be used for preservation of open-space lands. At the time, the Department of Motor Vehicles estimated that this funding source should generate about \$6 million per year. In FY04, the VLCF received almost \$1.5 million from this source. This amount will be reduced in the future, as during the 2005 Session, the allocation for Jamestown-Yorktown was increased to \$6,000,000. (It is important to note

that this funding source is not permanent.)

- As part of the November 5, 2002 general election, Virginia's voters overwhelmingly authorized the Commonwealth to issue up to \$119,040,000 in General Obligation bonds for Virginia's State Parks and Natural Areas. Of this amount, the bonds provide \$36.5 million for DCR's acquisition activities. As of early April 2005, DCR had expended \$1.7 million and has closed on one new State Park acquisition and one park inholding property.

- In addition, the 2002 General Assembly and the Warner Administration authorized the Virginia Public Building Authority to include \$20 million of its \$166 million for acquisition of State Parkland and Natural Areas by DCR. This bond did not require voter approval. As of early April 2005, DCR had expended approximately \$5.8 million and closed on 18 natural area and state park parcels of property.

GRANT CRITERIA DISCUSSION

On November 15, 2004, the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation (Foundation) met and approved the revised grant evaluation criteria that are being utilized to evaluate the 23 grant applications received during the January 1st through March 18th, 2005 grant round that was announced by the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation Board at their November meeting. The existing criteria of the Foundation were revised to incorporate those items identified in Item 383 H3 of Chapter 4 of the 2004 Virginia Acts of Assembly, Special Session 1. This item directed the Foundation to develop new review criteria that better quantify the relative merits of each prospective grant parcel. In addition to the recognized existing criteria that are relevant to the particular classes of open space preservation provided under Virginia law, the new measurable criteria were to include the following:

- (1) the status of the parcel under a locality's master plan as a Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area
- (2) the degree to which securing the parcel will protect local drinking water supplies
- (3) the degree to which the parcel satisfies recreational needs of population centers, or recreational needs as identified in the Virginia Outdoors Plan

- (4) the extent to which the affected localities have identified the parcel as having important local water quality or recreational benefits, and
- (5) the cost-effectiveness [value added] of the parcel in satisfying these criteria compared to alternatives.

An inter-agency task force comprised of representatives of the Department of Conservation and Recreation, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Department of Forestry, Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, Department of Historic Resources, and the Virginia Outdoors Foundation worked together to analyze the legislative directive and to develop recommendations to the Chairman of the Foundation.

The scoring criteria developed total to 100 points and are comprised of 80 points allocated to one of the 4 primary funding categories for which the applicant has applied (Open Spaces and Parks, Natural Area Protection, Historic Area Preservation, and Forest and Farmland Preservation) and 20 points allocated amongst the 5 new criteria and wildlife benefits. The overall criteria that combine to 100 points are presented in Table 10.

Of the five new criteria, three points have been allocated to each of Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area, Drinking Water Supply Protection, Virginia Outdoors Plan (VOP) Identified Need, and Water Quality or Recreation Benefit. Five points have been allocated to the Value Added category and three points have been allocated to wildlife benefits identified in the project proposal.

Table 10: Virginia Land Conservation Foundation: Proposed Grant Application Scoring Sheet and Criteria

Primary Category	Statutory category scoring	Chesapeake Bay Area Preservation	Drinking Water Supply Protection	VOP Identified Need	Water Quality or Recreation Benefit	Value Added	Wildlife Benefit	Total
	Maximum 80 points	Maximum 3 points	Maximum 3 points	Maximum 3 points	Maximum 3 points	Maximum 5 points	Maximum 3 points	Maximum 100 points
Natural Area Protection								
Open Spaces & Parks								
Farmland and Forest Preservation								
Historic Area Preservation								

The scoring criteria details for each of the categories outlined in Table 10 are provided in the pages that follow. The criteria outlined in these pages address the intent of the Appropriation Act and the Code specified funding categories. The modified criteria adopted by the Foundation will help to further ensure that land conservation funding will be expended wisely in accordance with legislative directives and will protect the properties with substantial resource value for the citizens of the Commonwealth.

Scoring Sheet Criteria For: _____

Natural Areas Category

Criterion	Score	Notes
<p>1) The Natural Heritage Biodiversity Rank of the site, based upon the global and state rarity of the natural heritage resources present, the number of natural heritage resources present, and their condition</p> <p>Maximum score: 25.</p> <p>B1=25 B4=5 B2=15 B5=0 B3=10</p>		
<p>2) Size & Natural Condition: Are the size and natural condition of the site adequate to protect and allow for management of conservation targets?</p> <p>Maximum score: 20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Size and condition are adequate to fully protect & manage targets = 20 • Size and condition are uncertain to provide for full protection and management of conservation targets = 10 • Size and condition are unlikely to allow full protection & management of the conservation targets = 0 		
<p>3) Management: Applicants capability to implement necessary management to protect the site from short-term and long-term stresses.</p> <p>Maximum score: 10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant has proven experience with natural community/rare species management = 10 • Applicant has land management experience = 5 • Applicant has no proven land management experience = 0 		
<p>4) Community Representation: To what extent does the site support exemplary natural communities that are not well protected in Virginia?</p> <p>Maximum score: 10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports communities not found on other protected lands = 10 • Supports communities found on limited number (1–10) of protected lands = 5 • Supports communities well represented (10+) on other protected lands = 0 		
<p>5) No. & Quality of EOs: How many element occurrences (EO) are known for the site and what is the quality of those occurrences? Assign the value below for each occurrence based on it's EO-rank. Sum these values.</p> <p>Maximum score: 10</p> <p>A-rank=4 D-rank=0 B-rank=2 E-rank=1 C-rank=1</p>		
<p>6) Proximity: Is the site/tract adjacent to or in close physical or functional proximity (e.g. upstream or upslope) to other protected managed areas and would it expand the protection of natural heritage resources?</p> <p>Maximum score: 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close proximity and supports NHRs = 5 • Close proximity, important buffer, but no NHRs = 3 • No physical or functional proximity to existing natural area = 0 		

Total Maximum Score 80 points _____

Scoring Sheet Criteria For: _____

Open Space & Parks Category

Criterion	Score	Notes
<p>Determine the degree to which the Project: 1) Protects and/or acquires greenways, blueways, viewsheds, abandoned rail corridors, and open space areas. Maximum score 9</p>		
<p>2) Acquires land or easements on land which provide increased protection and/or public access to state water. Maximum score 15</p>		
<p>3) Addresses a need identified in the <i>Virginia Outdoors Plan</i>. Maximum score 9</p>		
<p>4) Supports local and/or regional comprehensive plans for parks, open space, and recreational facilities and programs. Maximum score 8</p>		
<p>5) Supports the goals of the special use tax program, which is managed by the State Land Evaluation Advisory Council. Maximum score 7</p>		
<p>6) Supports the conservation and planning for Virginia's Scenic Rivers, Scenic Roads, and Virginia Byways. Maximum score 10</p>		
<p>7) Demonstrates partnerships with public agencies, corporations, and non-profit organizations that will enhance, through easement and acquisition, the development of aesthetic parks, open space, and greenways in rapidly developing population areas. Maximum score 9</p>		
<p>8) Acquires sensitive lands or easements contiguous to existing park systems that expand and protect public conservation or recreational interests. Maximum score 9</p>		
<p>10) Provides needed infrastructure on property purchased with Foundation funds. Maximum score 4</p>		

Total Maximum Score 80 points _____

Scoring Sheet Criteria For: _____

Forest Lands Category

Criterion	Score	Notes
1) The land is in an area of potential development and/or other land use changes whereby the retention of forest land would be important. Maximum score 15		
2) The forestland protects a significant watershed, waterways on state 303 (d) list, or protects water reservoirs for public use. Maximum score 15		
3) The property owner offered a purchase/easement at a price below market value thereby helping with the matching grant. Maximum score 10		
4) The property is: (a) a State Forest inholding and, (b) it is contiguous to an existing protected forest area and, (c) it is within a manageable distance of existing State Forest. Maximum score 10		
5) The property is located adjacent to already conserved lands such as a Forest Legacy Project. Maximum score 10		
6) The property is suitable for long-term forest research, special landowner demonstration opportunities, or conservation education. Maximum score 10		
7) The property is within an area identified in the local comprehensive plan as important for open space, agricultural/forestal district, biological preservation, etc. Maximum score 5		
8) The property has or has the potential to protect and/or restore: 1). threatened and endangered species of fauna or flora, 2).unique habitat for threatened and endangered species, 3). provides the opportunity to restore diminishing native tree species, or 4). protects a significant historic or archeological site. Maximum score 5		

Total Maximum Score 80 points _____

Scoring Sheet Criteria For: _____

Agricultural Lands Category

Criterion	Score	Notes
<p>Category I: Soil Productivity & Land Quality (20 points) Soil Productivity Using soil classes prime, unique or locally important farmland, score the percentage of project land in each soils class (§3.1-18.5 of the Code of Virginia). (Note: The total score cannot exceed 20 points) Value the soils classified as Prime. Value the soils classified Unique. Value the soils classified as Locally Important Farmland. Maximum Score 0-20</p>		
<p>Land Quality (20 points) In order of importance, value the land quality described below. The maximum score cannot exceed 20 points.</p> <p>The farmland is very unique in that it has a history of producing high yields of high-value specialty crops, such as grapes, fruits, nuts or vegetables grown and meets the definition described in the Grant Manual, in the Agricultural Land Category.</p> <p>The farmland is prime land (other than unique or important) as defined in the Grant Manual in the Agricultural Land Category.</p> <p>The farmland (other than prime or unique) is of statewide or local importance, as defined in the Grant Manual in the Agricultural Land Category. Maximum Score 0-20</p>		
<p>Category II: Land Use (40 points)</p> <p>A. Is the land: 1) currently being farmed; 2) being farmed by owner; 3) significant as a result of what is being produced; and, 4) significant from the family’s tenure of the farm? Score 0–10</p> <p>B. To what degree is the land adjacent to or in close proximity to other preserved lands, either in agriculture production or non-active in farming? Score 0–6</p> <p>C. To what degree will local developmental patterns threaten or affect the project? Score 0–12</p> <p>D. Are there local developmental patterns that could negatively affect the proposed land? Score 0-4</p> <p>E. Does the project support the local comprehensive plan and, zoning regulations? Score 0–4</p> <p>F. To what degree will preserving the proposed land in agricultural use secure environmental benefits? Score 0–4</p> <p>Maximum score 40 points</p>		

Total Maximum Score 80 points _____

Scoring Sheet Criteria For: _____
Cultural and Historic Resources Category

Criterion	Score	Notes
<p>1) The proposal will protect or preserve an area containing one or more buildings or places in which historic events occurred or having special public value because of notable architectural, archaeological, or other features relating to the cultural or artistic heritage of the community, of such significance as to warrant conservation and preservation. Strong proposals are likely to protect or preserve a resource that is: (A) Listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register or certified as eligible for listing by the Director of the Department of Historic Resources; or (B) A resource that contributes to the integrity, enhances the setting, or provides a buffer for a property that is listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register.</p> <p><i>*Note: For applications under (B) above, the historical significance of the listed property will be evaluated. For resources which are not listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register but have been certified as eligible for listing, historical significance will be determined as if such properties were so listed.</i></p> <p>11 - 20 points: National Historic Landmarks, properties listed on Virginia Landmarks Register, contributing properties in National Historic Landmark districts.</p> <p>0 - 10 points: Contributing properties in Virginia Landmarks Register districts, other historic and cultural resources.</p> <p>Additional 0–4 points: Rarity, quality, and integrity of resource.</p> <p>Maximum score 24</p>		
<p>2) An identifiable threat to the resource, or compelling need for immediate preservation, exists. Maximum score 7</p>		
<p>3) Protection or preservation of the resource may further other public interests, such as education, research, heritage tourism promotion or orderly community development. Maximum score 7</p>		
<p>4) The resource may complement or enhance other cultural or historic resources. Maximum score 7</p>		
<p>5) Protection or preservation of the resource may serve as a catalyst for or complement other preservation activities. Maximum score 7</p>		
<p>6) Protection or preservation of the resource is part of a documented broader resource management plan. Maximum score 7</p>		
<p>7) There is demonstrated public support for the protection or preservation of the resource. Maximum score 7</p>		
<p>8) The applicant has realistic plans and the organizational and financial capacity to ensure appropriate treatment and ongoing maintenance of the resource. (Project plans must meet the relevant preservation standards and be approved by the Department of Historic Resources.) Maximum score 7</p>		
<p>9) The applicant has realistic plans and the organizational and financial capacity to develop the resource appropriately for maximum public benefit. Maximum score 7</p>		

Total Maximum Score 80 points _____

Scoring Sheet Criteria For: _____

Chesapeake Bay Area Preservation

Status of the parcel under a locality's master plan

Maximum 3 points

- Resource Preservation Area = 3 points
- Resource Management Area = 2 points
- Not in Master Plan = 0 points

Scoring Sheet Criteria For: _____

Drinking Water Supply Protection

Degree to which the parcel protects local drinking water supplies

Maximum 3 points

- Within Public Drinking Water Supply Impact Area = 3 points
 - Outside of Public Drinking Water Supply Impact Area = 0 points
- Note: Must be within 2 miles upstream or adjacent to a public surface water withdrawal structure.

Scoring Sheet Criteria For: _____

Virginia Outdoors Plan (VOP) Identified Need

Degree to which a parcel satisfies recreational needs of population centers, or other recreational needs as identified in the *Virginia Outdoors Plan (VOP)*.

Maximum 3 points

- Meets a public outdoor recreational need identified in the VOP = 3 points
- Not identified in VOP = 0 points

Scoring Sheet Criteria For: _____

Water Quality or Recreation Benefit

Extent to which the affected localities have identified the parcel as having important *local* water quality or recreational benefits in their local comprehensive plans.

Maximum 3 points

- Identified = 3 points
- Not Identified = 0 points

Scoring Sheet Criteria For: _____

Value Added

In addition to the statutory category under which the project is evaluated, the project will also be subjectively evaluated as to the general value of the project in terms of Natural Area Protection; Open Spaces and Parks; Farmland and Forest Preservation; and Historic Area Preservation.

Dependent upon value added 0-5 points

Scoring Sheet Criteria For: _____

Wildlife Benefit

Dependent on Wildlife Benefits Added

Maximum Score 3

- Property is managed for wildlife benefits and offers public use for hunting, fishing, or wildlife viewing = 3
- Property is managed for wildlife benefits and offers private use for hunting, fishing, or wildlife viewing = 2
- Property is managed for wildlife benefits = 1
- Property will not be managed for wildlife benefits = 0

DETAILED FISCAL STATUS OF THE FOUNDATION

In FY1999-2000, the VLCF received an appropriation of \$1,750,000. From this appropriation, \$1,688,842 was awarded to multiple projects, leaving \$61,158 of unobligated funds that were shifted to the FY2000-2001 grant round (Appendix A). As of November 30, 2004, \$1,323,969 of the \$1,688,842 obligated for grants had been paid out to grantees, \$313,255 was reverted to the General Fund in FY03 (from 3 withdrawn projects), \$29,430 was paid to the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries to reimburse them for a portion of their administrative costs associated with acquiring the Big Survey, leaving a total unobligated balance in FY1999-2000 monies of \$22,188. The Foundation has approved the reallocation of the \$22,188 to the Spring FY05 grant round. All of the grants from this round are now closed and the balance has been zeroed out.

In FY2000-2001, the VLCF received an additional appropriation of \$9,600,000 (Appendix B). From this appropriation, \$3,400,000 was designated for Civil War Battlefield acquisitions and \$1,550,000 was designated to the Open Space Preservation Trust Fund. This left \$4,650,000 in FY2000-2001 appropriation for grant awards. Combined with the \$61,158 FY1999-2000 carry-forward, \$4,711,158 of funds were available for grant awards. From this appropriation, \$3,919,695 was awarded to 19 projects, leaving \$791,463 of unobligated funds in this category. As of November 30, 2004, \$3,382,004 of the \$3,400,000 had been paid out for Civil War Battlefield acquisitions (\$17,996 unexpended), the entire \$1,550,000 of the Open Space Preservation Trust Fund had been paid, and \$3,626,937 in grant awards had been paid out to grantees leaving an unexpended grant balance of \$292,958. Of the \$292,958, \$32,858 remained available after the close out of the Waid Recreation Area project. The Foundation has approved the reallocation of the \$32,858 to the Spring FY05 grant round. Of the unobligated amounts (\$791,463 and \$17,996), \$791,464 reverted to the General Fund in FY01 leaving an unobligated balance of \$17,995. The Foundation has approved the reallocation of the \$17,995 to the Spring FY05 grant round.

In FY2001-2002, per Chapter 1073 of the 2000 Acts of Assembly, the VLCF was appropriated \$6,200,000. The General Assembly adjourned from the 2001 regular session without enacting a budget bill amending the 2000 Appropriation Act (Chapter 1073 of the 2000 Acts of Assembly). Therefore, the 2000 Appropriation Act remained the appropriations law of Virginia for the 2000-2002 biennium. In order to prevent a potential deficit, the Governor invoked his Constitutional

duty and issued Executive Order 74 (01), Balanced Budget Implementation Plan, 2000-02 Biennium on Saturday, February 24, 2001. The Governor directed the Department of Planning and Budget (DPB) to withhold general fund allotments "to the extent necessary to prevent any expenditures in excess of the estimated general fund revenue, and in an amount not to exceed 15 percent of the annual total general fund appropriation of each state agency, department and institution and other nonstate agencies and institutions listed in the Act for each year of the 2000-02 biennium." Per this authority, the \$6,200,000 for VLCF in FY2001-2002 was unallotted.

No funds were appropriated to or received by the VLCF in FY2002-2003.

Funding for the Foundation improved during the 2004 Session where, Item H2, Chapter 4 of the 2004 Virginia Acts of Assembly, Special Session I, provided \$2,500,000 the first year (FY05) and \$2,500,000 the second year (FY06) from the general fund to be deposited into the Virginia Land Conservation Fund. In addition to this funding, pursuant to Item J, Chapter 4 of the 2004 Virginia Acts of Assembly, Special Session I, \$1,463,275 from vehicle registration fees was deposited at the end of FY04. Based on the current funds available to the Foundation, the Board approved the amounts outlined in Table 11 to be allocated to the Spring FY05 grant round. This amounts to approximately \$3.1 million to be available for the grant round after distributions to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation and Foundation administrative expenses have been made.

During the 2005 General Assembly Session, funding for FY05 improved markedly with the appropriation of an additional \$10 million to the Foundation. As the monies available for the Spring FY05 grant round had already been announced, the new monies will be combined with FY06 funds for a late summer/ early fall grant round.

**Table 11: Virginia Land Conservation Foundation: Funding Source and Allocation for Spring
FY05 Grant Awards**

FUNDING CATEGORIES	UNALLOCA TED PRINCIPAL BALANCE	PROPOSED RETURN OF UNSPENT GRANT	INTEREST	FY04 VEHICLE REGISTRATION	CHAPTER 4 APPROPRIATION ACT	TOTAL
VOF			14,246	365,819	625,000	1,005,065
Open Space and Parks	17,995	32,858	10,684	274,364	468,750	804,668.50*
Natural Area Protection	0		10,684	274,364	468,750	753,815.50*
Historic Area Preservation	1,618		10,684	274,364	468,750	755,433.50*
Farmland and Forest Preservation	20,570		10,684	274,364	468,750	774,385.50*
Proposed Admin. Expenses FY05			136,300			136,300
Proposed Admin. Expenses FY06			140,000			140,000
TOTAL	40,183	32,858	333,282	1,463,275	2,500,000	4,369,668**
Amounts Reserved for Easement Projects (33% of the 4 use areas)				362,160	618,750	
* - Includes an additional \$17.50 from a \$70 donation						
** - does not reflect FY05 interest or payments						

APPENDICIES

Appendix A - FY1999-2000 Budget Status Report

Virginia Land Conservation Fund						
Applications FY-00						
\$ Awards by Category						
AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2004						
Project #	Project Title	Name of Applicant	Awards by Category	Payments	Reverted to the General Fund	Balance
OPEN SPACES & PARKS		Beginning Balance	437,500			
98303-01	McAfee Knob (acq.) Carter Land	Appalachian Trail Conference	43,800	43,800		0
98303-02	Powhatan Creek Acq. Program	James City County	250,000	0	250,000	0
98303-03	Indian River Park Acquisition	City of Chesapeake	100,000	100,000		0
		Total Awarded	393,800	143,800	250,000	0
		Fund Balance Carryforward to FY01	43,700			
NATURAL AREA PROTECTION		Beginning Balance	437,500			
98304-01	Powers Tract, NW River	The Nature Conservancy VA. Chp.	286,000	286,000		0
98304-02	Hickory Hollow Nature Trail	Northern Neck Audubon Society	150,012	150,012		0
		Total Awarded	436,012	436,012	0	0
		Fund Balance Carryforward to FY01	1,488			
HISTORIC AREA PRESERVATION		Beginning Balance	437,500			
98305-01	Fort Christanna Preservation Project	Brunswick County	50,975	0	50,000	975
98305-02	Purchase of the Embrey Farm	George Washington's Fredericksburg Foundation	225,000	225,000		0
98305-03	Talbot Farm Cons. Easement	Land Trust of Virginia	76,350	76,350		0
98305-04	Palmyra Lock & Mill Site (acq.)	Fluvanna Historical Society	6,200	5,557		643
98305-05	James River Kanawha Canal Park Expansion	Town of Buchanan	13,255	0	13,255	0
98305-06	Welbourne Farm Easement Acquisition	Virginia Outdoors Foundation Northern Virginia Office	50,000	50,000		0
		Total Awarded	421,780	356,907	63,255	1,618
		Fund Balance Unobligated	1,618			

		Fund Balance Carryforward to FY01	15,720			
FARMLANDS & FOREST PRESERVATION		Beginning Balance	437,500			
98306-01	Welbourne Farm Easement Acq.	Va. Outdoors Foundation Northern VA. Office	258,250	258,250		0
98306-02	The Big Survey (acq.)	Western Virginia Land Trust	50,000	29,430		20,570
98306-03	Indian River Park Acquisition	City of Chesapeake	100,000	100,000		0
98306-04	Hickory Hollow Nature Trail	Northern Neck Audubon Society	29,000	29,000		0
		Total Awarded	437,250	416,680		20,570
		Fund Balance Unobligated	20,570			
		Fund Balance Carryforward to FY01	250			
		Grand Total Award	\$1,688,842	\$1,353,399	313,255 **	\$22,188
		Total Fund Balance Carryforward to FY01	\$61,158		** Reverted to General Fund during FY03 budget reductions	
		Balance Unobligated moved to FY05 grant round to close out books	\$22,188			
		Grand Total Appropriation	\$1,750,000			

Appendix B - FY2000-2001 Budget Status Report

Virginia Land Conservation Fund						
Applications FY-01						
\$ Awards by Category						
AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2004						
	Project Title	Name of Applicant	Awards by Category	Payments	Reverted to the General Fund	Balance
BATTLEFIELDS		Beginning Balance	3,400,000			
98302-01	Brandy Station		2,100,000	2,100,000		0
98302-02	Cedar Creek		250,000	232,004	17,996	0
98302-03	Kernstown		350,000	350,000		0
98302-04	Third Winchester (Opequon)		700,000	700,000		0
		Total Awarded	3,400,000	3,382,004	17,996	0
		Reverted to General Fund	17,996		17,996	
		Remaining Balance	0			
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION TRUST FUND		Beginning Balance	1,550,000	1,550,000		0
	VOF Projects					0
		Total Awarded	1,550,000	1,550,000		0
		Remaining Balance	0			
OPEN SPACES & PARKS		Beginning Balance	1,162,500			
	Carryforward from FY00		+43,700			
98303-04	Whit-Riverbend Park	Town of Pearisburg	110,000	110,000		0
98303-05	Jamison Cove Marina	Town of Urbana	245,955	245,955		0
98303-06	Mary B Stratton Estate	Dept of Conservation & Recreation	75,000			75,000
98303-07	Keister Park	Shenandoah County	306,575	306,575		0
98303-08	Cross Country Trail Easement (E)	Fairfax County	30,000			30,000
98303-09	Historic Yorktown Beach Trail (E)	York County	117,500	117,500		0
98303-10	Williams Wharf Landing Project	Mathews County Land Cons.	36,300	36,300		0
98303-11	Waid Recreation Area	Franklin County	126,255	93,397		32,858
		Total Awarded	1,047,585	909,727		137,858
		Reverted to General Fund	140,620		140,620	
		Remaining Balance	17,995			

NATURAL AREA PROTECTION		Beginning Balance	1,162,500			
	Carryforward from FY00		+1,488			
98304-03	Clinch River	The Nature Conservancy	196,640	196,640		0
98304-04	Rare Oak Hickory Forest	The Northern Virginia Cons. Trust	729,250	729,250		0
98304-05	Garden Creek/Winter Harbor	Middle Peninsula Land Trust	155,000			155,000
		Total Awarded	1,080,890	925,890		155,000
		Reverted to General Fund	83,098		83,098	
		Remaining Balance	0			
HISTORIC AREA PRESERVATION		Beginning Balance	1,162,500			
	Carryforward from FY00		+15,720			
98305-07	North Meadow (Carr Property) (E)	Waterford Foundation	187,042	187,042		0
98305-08	Buhrman (Malvern Hill)	APVA	300,000	300,000		0
98305-09	Chancellorsville Battlefield	Central Virginia Battlefields Trust	150,000	150,000		0
98305-10	Totopotomoy Battlefield (Rural Plains)	Historic Polegreen Church Foundation	323,000	323,000		0
		Total Awarded	960,042	960,042		0
		Reverted to General Fund	218,178		218,178	
		Remaining Balance	0			
FARMLANDS & FOREST PRESERVATION		Beginning Balance	1,162,500			
	Carryforward from FY00		+250			
98306-05	The Meadow (E)	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	359,625	359,625		0
98306-06	Elgin Diary (E)	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	317,000	317,000		0
98306-07	Leonard Farm (E)	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	81,806	81,806		0
98306-08	Brush Creek Farm (E)	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	72,747	72,747		0
		Total Awarded	831,178	831,178		0
		Reverted to General Fund	331,572			
		Remaining Balance	0			
			Received	Expended	Reverted	Balance
		Carry-forward from FY00	\$61,158	0		\$61,158
		Battlefield Acquisitions	\$3,400,000	\$3,382,004		\$17,996
		Open Space Preservation Trust	\$1,550,000	\$1,550,000		\$0
		Available to Four Major Uses *	\$4,650,000	\$3,626,837		\$1,023,163

		Totals	\$9,661,158	\$8,558,841		\$1,102,317
		Reverted to General Fund in FY01			\$791,464	\$791,464
		Total FY 01 Unspent Funds				\$310,853
		Balance Obligated (for 3 remaining projects)				\$260,000
		Balance Unobligated transferred to FY05 grant round (never committed)				\$17,995
		Balance Unobligated transferred to FY05 grant round (left over from grant under-run)				\$32,858
* - A minimum of \$1,550,000 of this revenue must be expended on easements						
(E) - Easement projects						

Appendix C – November 30, 2004 VLCF Balance Sheet and Income Statement

VIRGINIA LAND CONSERVATION FOUNDATION NOVEMBER 30, 2004 BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS		
Cash		
	FY00 Appropriations	1,750,000
	FY01 Appropriations	9,600,000
	FY05 Appropriations	2,500,000
	FY04 Vehicle Registration Funds	1,463,275
	FY01 Reversion to General Fund	(791,464)
	FY03 Reversion to General Fund	(313,255)
	FY00 Grant Project Payments	(1,353,399)
	FY01 Grant Project Payments	(3,590,536)
	FY01 Battlefield Payments	(3,382,005)
	FY01 Open Space Preservation (VOF) Payments	(1,550,000)
	FY05 Vehicle Registration Payments to VOF	(365,819)
	FY05 Open Space Preservation (VOF) Payments	(312,500)
	Interest Earned	782,194
	Donations	70
	Administrative Expenses FY01	(83,633)
	Administrative Expenses FY02	(117,790)
	Administrative Expenses FY03	(99,280)
	Administrative Expenses FY04	(135,000)
	Administrative Expenses FY05	(40,328)
	Total Cash	3,960,530
	TOTAL ASSETS	3,960,530

LIABILITIES			562,718
	FY05 Admin Expenses Payable	95,972	
	FY06 Admin Expenses Payable	140,000	
	Net Interest thru FY04 due to VOF	14,246	
	FY05 Appropriation due to VOF	312,500	
EQUITY			
	Reserved Funds		296,300*
	Unreserved Funds (for grants)		
	FY05 Appropriation	1,875,000	
	Vehicle Registration Fund	1,097,456	
	Unallocated Grant Amounts	73,041	
	Accrued Net Interest Thru FY04	42,736	3,088,233
	FY05 Unallocated Interest Balance		13,279
	TOTAL EQUITY		3,397,812
	TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY		3,960,530

VIRGINIA LAND CONSERVATION FOUNDATION NOVEMBER 30, 2004 INCOME STATEMENT

FUND BALANCE - JUNE 30, 2004 2,166,952

INCOME		
	Vehicle Registration Funds	0
	FY05 Appropriations	2,500,000
	Donations	0
	Interest Earned	13,279
	Total Income	2,513,279

DISBURSEMENTS		
	FY00 Project Disbursements	0
	FY01 Project Disbursements	1,054
	FY05 Open Space Preservation (VOF) Payments	678,319
	Administrative Expenses	40,328
	Total Disbursements	719,701

Net Operating FY05 1,793,578
FUND BALANCE – NOVEMBER 30, 2004 3,960,530

* The Historic Yorktown Beach Trail project for \$36,300 had been submitted for processing but had not been paid as of the date of the balance and income sheet. Obligated funds in previous tables reflect a balance of \$260,000.