

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

**2005 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
VIRGINIA LAND CONSERVATION
FOUNDATION**

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



**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
RICHMOND
DECEMBER 2005**



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

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December 22, 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:

- § 10.1-1018.1 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 an executive summary and report of the interim activity and work of the Board on or before December 15 of each even-numbered year...”, and
- pursuant to Item 383 H.4. of Chapter 951 of the 2005 Virginia Acts of Assembly, that states “Beginning November 1, 2005, and annually thereafter, the Chairman of the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation shall submit a report to the Chairmen of the House Committees on Appropriations, and Agriculture, Chesapeake, and Natural Resources, and the Senate Committees on Finance and Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources, and the Director of the Department of Planning and Budget on the activities of the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation...”.

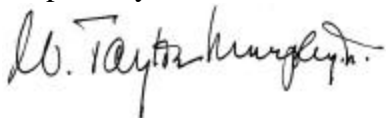
The Foundation, in concert with its federal, state, local, and private conservation partners, has continued to make significant annual progress towards the state’s preservation goals since it was first funded in the 1999 General Assembly Session. To date, Foundation grant rounds have helped conserve an estimated 20,266 acres. Additional progress has been made through the monies transferred to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation. 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
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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 as well as protect water quality in many cases.

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	Address	Term Expires	Cong. Dist.
Margaret Davis	Center Cross	06/30/09	1
Bonnie Moorman	Virginia Beach	06/30/09	2
Terri Cofer Beirne	Richmond	06/30/06	3
Albert Essel	Prince George	06/30/06	4
Albert C. Weed, II	Lovingson	06/30/06	5
Lou Giusto	Edinburg	06/30/07	6
Nancy T. Bowles	Kent Store	06/30/07	7
William C. Dickinson	Alexandria	06/30/07	8
Thomas B. Graham	Marion	06/30/08	9
Leah Fried	Springfield	06/30/08	10
Mary Bruce Glaize	Winchester	06/30/08	11

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

Alexandra Liddy Bourne	Alexandria	06/30/06
Wendell P. Ennis	Midland	06/30/07
R. Brian Ball	Richmond	06/30/08
L. Clifford Schroeder, Sr.	Richmond	06/30/09

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:

- § 10.1-1018.1 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 an executive summary and report of the interim activity and work of the Board on or before December 15 of each even-numbered year. The document shall report on the status of the Foundation and its Fund including, but not limited to, (i) implementation of its strategic plan; (ii) land conservation targeting tools developed for the Foundation; (iii) descriptions of projects that received funding; (iv) a description of the geographic distribution of land protected as provided in § 10.1-1021.1; (v) expenditures from, interest earned by, and financial obligations of the Fund; and (vi) progress made toward recognized state and regional land conservation goals. The executive summary and report 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.”; and
- Item 383 H.4. of Chapter 951 of the 2005 Virginia Acts of Assembly, that states "Beginning November 1, 2005, and annually thereafter, the Chairman of the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation shall submit a report to the Chairmen of the House Committees on Appropriations, and Agriculture, Chesapeake, and Natural Resources, and the Senate Committees on Finance and Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources, and the Director of the Department of Planning and Budget, on the activities of the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation including, but not limited to, implementation of the Foundation's strategic plan; projects under consideration for funding...; projects funded...; 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.

Deposits to the Foundation, that have been applied to grant rounds or allocations to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation, have exceeded \$28 million since FY2000 (Table 1). Of this amount, over \$5.7 has been transferred to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation and approximately \$21.3 million has been allocated to the VLCF grant projects. The remaining unobligated amounts were reverted to the General Fund during budget cuts.

Table 1: Funding General Summary

Fiscal Year	Source	Amount Allocated	Amount to VOF	Amount Expended on Grants	Grant Date
FY2000	Approp. Act	1,750,000	0	1,353,399.00	12/01/1999
FY2001	Approp. Act	3,400,000	0	3,382,004.92	
FY2001	Approp. Act	6,200,000	1,550,000	<i>3,886,837.00</i>	01/04/2001
FY2004	Vehicle Reg.	1,463,275	365,819	<i>3,027,665.00</i>	06/07/2005
FY2005	Approp. Act	2,500,000	625,000		
FY2005	Interest	56,982	14,246		
FY2005	Approp. Act	10,000,000	2,500,000	<i>9,717,411.00</i> <i>recommended</i>	12/01/2005
FY2005	Vehicle Reg.	381,061	95,265		
FY2006	Approp. Act	2,500,000	625,000		
TOTALS		28,251,318	5,775,330		

NOTE: Italicized numbers are estimated as one or more projects have not been closed out.

NOTE: Unexpended portions from several grant rounds were reverted to the General Fund.

Since first receiving funding in FY2000, the Foundation has held four grant rounds. The Foundation received during these rounds 136 applications requesting approximately \$57.4 million in state funding (Table 2). In total, the Foundation awarded funding to 69 grant projects for \$21,753,613. Several of these projects were withdrawn by applicants that had difficulty closing on the proposed property. Currently, the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation is advancing grants for \$21,367,317 that protects an estimated 20,266 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 also 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 FY2000 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 House Document 3 entitled “Criteria for Evaluation of 2005 Virginia Land Conservation Foundation Grant Applications”. The resulting criteria were also contained in the FY2005-2006 grant program guidelines document entitled “2005 Virginia Land Conservation Fund Grant Program, November 15, 2004,” and in the updated guidelines approved by the VLCF Board on June 7, 2005 and entitled “2005 Virginia Land Conservation Fund Grant Program, (July 1, 2005 – September 20, 2005 Grant Round)”.

The Foundation is and, if properly funded, will continue to be one of the primary tools through which Virginia will achieve its conservation targets. 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 target under discussion with the Council on Virginia’s Future.

Table 2: Grant Award Summary

Grant Award Date	# of Applic. Received	Amount requested from VLCF	# of Projects Awarded Funds	Amount Awarded by VLCF	# of Projects Closed	Total Amount Expended by VLCF	Total Acres Preserved	Easement Amount Expended by VLCF	Acres by Easement	Acres Preserved as Grant Match
12/01/99	20	5,800,000	12*	1,688,842	8	1,353,399.00	1,136.87	384,600.00	532.00	0
Projects Specified in Approp. Act		3,400,000	4	3,400,000	4	3,382,004.92	1,257.00	0	0	0
01/04/01	41	11,200,000	19	3,919,695	<i>19</i>	<i>3,886,837.00</i>	<i>3,377.00</i>	<i>1,165,720.00</i>	<i>1,220.60</i>	<i>0</i>
06/07/05	23	6,211,695	12	3,027,665	<i>12</i>	<i>3,027,665.00</i>	<i>6,587.00</i>	<i>1,312,356.50</i>	<i>3,032.00</i>	<i>0</i>
12/01/05	52	30,850,220.50	22	<i>9,717,411</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>9,717,411.00</i>	<i>7,908.62</i>	<i>1,501,210.50</i>	<i>2,508.46</i>	Not yet known
TOT.	136	57,461,915.50	69	<i>21,753,613</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>21,367,316.92</i>	<i>20,266.49</i>	<i>4,363,887.00</i>	<i>7,293.06</i>	

* In lieu of a grant, administrative expenses in the amount of \$29,430 were paid to DGIF for expenses associated with the purchase of the Big Survey.

Acreage not included in “total acres preserved”.

NOTE: Italicized numbers are estimated as one or more projects have not been closed out.

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 <http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/> and clicking on "land conservation," or by accessing it directly at <http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/olc/tools02a.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 significant 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 VCLNA 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 2005

Board of Trustees Meetings

The meetings of the Board of Trustees were as follows:

June 7, 2005 - Administrative updates, fiscal adjustments, approval of grant criteria and manual, approval of 12 applications for \$3,027,665, and approval of new grant round to open on July 1, 2005 and close on September 20, 2005.

December 1, 2005 - Administrative updates, approval of 22 applications for \$9,717,411. Two projects were earmarked for funding if the FY2007 budget fully funded an approved project.

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. That task force reviewed the fifty-two applications and recommended twenty-two for funding to the Board at their December 1, 2005 meeting.

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 has begun 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.

General Assembly Action, 2005

The primary land conservation budgetary item during the 2005 General Assembly Session was the appropriation of an additional \$10 million dollars of funding for the Foundation.

The key land conservation issue from the 2005 General Assembly Session was the challenges raised to Virginia's existing land conservation tax credit in Senate Bill 1139 that would undermine Virginia's easement programs. Virginia's land conservation easement tax credit program, in the absence of any other dedicated source of funding for land conservation, is considered to be one of the most important conservation tools available in Virginia. In a state that ranks near the bottom nationally in natural resource spending, a program that leverages significant private investment is all the more important. SB1139, as introduced, would have amended the Commonwealth's conservation easement law to limit the amount of the tax credit deductions by a single tax payer to \$600,000 available to be used or

transferred over a 6-year period. Limiting the deduction as recommended would have made it particularly difficult for farmers, ranchers, and families who have owned their lands for decades to be able to afford to donate. Additionally, the Commonwealth could never afford to own and maintain even a fraction of the historic landmarks or resource lands that are routinely protected under this easement program.

The Department of Taxation noted that land preservation credits registered for donations made during the first two years of the program (tax years 2000 and 2001) amounted to about \$25 million. Land preservation credits registered so far for the three years since the transferability (or sale) of credits became available (tax years 2002, 2003, and 2004) have risen to \$132.1 million. Since program inception, the Department of Taxation has registered credits amounting to \$157.1 million representing 389 donations, 68,644 acres, with appraised values totaling \$314.2 million. This level of tax credits, as well as the level of property easement donations, has exceeded all expectations. Nine other states provide income tax credits for donations of conservation easements with Virginia considered the most generous. In Virginia, this is a program that has enormous land conservation benefits.

During the Session it was determined that one of the key program problems resided is in the appraisal process. This was articulated in the conference report as the bill was modified to remove the tax deduction cap and to add stricter rules and guidelines for appraisals and appraisers. The law specifies that “[i]n order to qualify for a tax credit, the qualified appraisal shall be signed by the qualified appraiser, who must be licensed in the Commonwealth of Virginia...and a copy of the appraisal shall be submitted to the Department.” The bill permits the Department of Taxation to disregard any fraudulent appraisals. Any appraiser filing false appraisals will be referred to the Real Estate Appraisal Board for disciplinary action. During the reconvened Session, the Governor added language that specified that to qualify for the tax credit for historic building(s), the building(s) must be individually listed in the Virginia Landmarks Register and the easement must minimally protect the entire exterior of the building. A special subcommittee of the House Finance Committee was created to continue to examine the “ramifications of putting a cap on tax credits for conservation easements and also to address any other potential problems with the law creating the credits”. The subcommittee members are Delegate Ware - Chairman, Delegate Parrish, Delegate Cline, and Delegate Watts; and Senator Watkins, Senator Stosch, and the Senator Hanger. The subcommittee met throughout the summer and fall and is currently developing legislative proposals for consideration during the 2006 General Assembly Session.

Virginia*forever* Campaign

The purpose of the **Virginia*forever*** campaign is to educate and motivate the public to advocate for increased funding in natural resources. Organized by The Nature Conservancy, the campaign is led 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. 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 at <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. An additional brochure, developed in October, 2005, provides a summary of tax benefits for land conservation in Virginia.

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, which is regularly updated, can be accessed by going to the DCR website at <http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/> and clicking on "land conservation," or by accessing it directly at <http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/olc/tools02a.htm>.

Conservation Lands Inventory and Needs Assessment

The Department of Conservation and Recreation's Conservation Lands Database 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". This database is available to the public at <http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/olc/tools02a.htm>.

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 significant natural

community, and the surrounding habitat or buffer necessary to protect the resource(s). DCR has developed boundaries for over 1900 areas around the state. Over the past year DCR has developed 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 and the Virginia Coastal Program. 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. With ongoing support from the Virginia Coastal Program, 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. The VCLNA will be a key strategic planning element for the Land Conservation Foundation,

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, 2005, a total of 3,379,691.55 acres across Virginia have been preserved by federal, state, and local governments and private conservation organizations (Table 3). This indicates that about 13.4 percent of the Commonwealth's total

land is currently protected. In Virginia’s portion of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, a total of 2,408,089.37 acres of land or about 17.4 percent has been protected. (About half of Virginia geographically lies in the Bay Watershed.)

Table 3: Land Preservation Statistics in Virginia (June 30, 2005)

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	2,440,445.86	72.21	1,753,934.92	72.84	686,510.94	70.66
State	716,266.34	21.19	514,249.52	21.35	202,016.82	20.79
Local	117,209.70	3.47	97,182.35	4.04	20,027.35	2.06
Private/Non-profit	105,769.64	3.13	42,722.58	1.77	63,047.06	6.49
Total Protected	3,379,691.55	100.00	2,408,089.37	100.00	971,602.18	100.00
Total Acreage	25,270,000		13,831,890		11,438,110	
Percent Protected	<u>13.37</u>		<u>17.41</u>		8.49	
Target Remainder (20% Bay Goal = 2,766,378 acres)			358,288.63			
Target Remainder (15% Statewide Target = 3,790,500 acres)	410,808.45					

Meeting Virginia’s land conservation targets will be challenging. The 20% Bay goal requires the conservation of 358,289 acres by 2010 or 71,657 acres per year between FY06 – FY10 (5 years). To protect 15% of land statewide acres by 2014 will require the conservation of 410,808 or 45,645 acres per year between FY06 – FY14 (9 years). At the current annual preservation rates (Table 4), 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 FY06 (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 has provided some progress towards the goal this year. Continued preservation activity by Virginia’s land trusts will also advance progress toward these targets.

Table 4: Current Annual Protection Trends

Year	Statewide (acreage)	Bay (acreage)	Non-Bay (acreage)
2001	54,887.63	33,604.82	21,282.81
2002	48,858.16	35,714.83	13,143.33
2003	51,569.21	43,170.09	8,399.12
2004	56,514.81	31,891.14	24,623.67
2005	59,685.71	41,762.84	17,922.87
Total	271,515.52	186,143.72	85,371.80
Average Annual Acreage Protected	54,303.10	37,228.74	17,074.36
Acreage needed to reach specified goal	45,645	71,657	

Continued state funding to the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation to address these targets will be necessary to ensure success. Through the grant program to date, the VLCF (state share) is paying on average \$1,043 per acre (VLCF grants require at least a matching amount). Utilizing this VLCF average cost per acre estimate, the state cost of these targets is about \$75 million per year for the 20% Bay goal (FY06 – FY10 - 5 years) and \$48 million per year in order to protect 15% statewide (FY06 – FY14 - 9 years) (Table 5).

Table 5: Estimated Cost to Achieve the Commonwealth’s Land Conservation Goals

Goals	Remaining Acreage to Meet the Targets	State Share of the Costs to Meet the Targets	Annual State share Costs to Meet the Targets
2010 - 20% Bay Goal	358,288.63 acres	\$373,695,041	\$74,739,008 thru 2010
2014 - 15% Statewide Target	410,808.45 acres	\$428,473,213	\$47,608,135 thru 2014
<p>Note: Utilizing past purchases made through the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation grant program, including both easements and outright acquisitions, the estimated statewide average cost per acre paid by the Foundation is \$1,043.</p> <p>Note: Although not reflected in these totals, existing 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.</p>			

Progress toward the 20% Chesapeake Bay goal by each of the jurisdictions is presented in Table 6. It is noteworthy to mention that the only state that will have difficulty meeting their Bay preservation target will be Virginia.

Table 6: Summary of Land Preserved Within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed in Each State (By acres and percent preserved) (As of June 30, 2005)

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	1,243,625	20.03	-2,020.0
PA	14,522,124	3,048,385	20.99	-143,960.2
VA	13,831,890	2,408,089.37	17.41	358,288.6
			Baywide Goal	213,416.3

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 approved by the VLCF Board on June 7, 2005 and entitled “2005 Virginia Land Conservation Fund Grant Program, (July 1, 2005 – September 20, 2005 Grant Round)”. 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 House Document 3 entitled Criteria for Evaluation of 2005 Virginia Land Conservation Foundation Grant Applications. In June of 2005, the Board made slight refinements to these guidelines. The resulting criteria are also referenced in the FY2005-2006 grant program guidelines and released them in a document entitled “2005 Virginia Land Conservation Fund Grant Program, (July 1, 2005 – September 20, 2005 Grant Round)”. These criteria

guided the review of applications received from the July-September 2005 grant round. As in the past, all of the technical information collected from these grant applicants was 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. These products have assisted the Foundation in the ranking and selection of priority land preservation projects.

Competitive Grant Awards (December 1, 1999 Grant Round)

The Foundation Board made grants from the FY 2000 \$1.75 million dollar appropriation on December 1, 1999. Twenty applications totaling \$5.8 million were received. The Foundation awarded \$1,688,842 in competitive grant funds to 11 projects to conserve 1,255 acres and earmarked funds for a 12th project, the Big Survey. 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 was carried forward to the FY05 grant round thus zeroing out any remaining balances.

Civil War Battlefield Grant Awards FY 2000-2001

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 (570 acres), Cedar Creek (222 acres), Kernstown (315 acres), and Third Winchester Battlefield (150 acres). In summary, 1,257 acres of battlefield were preserved through the expenditure of \$3,382,004.92.

Competitive Grant Awards (January 4, 2001 Grant Round)

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 (Table 7).

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, but that property was deemed unsuitable. Discussions with the land trust in the fall of 2005 indicated that they have identified a project in Mathews County that they can move forward with, which will be presented at the December, 2005 Board meeting.

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 will come from the County. The project is scheduled to close in December, 2005. 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. The project is scheduled to close in December, 2005. 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 A 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 7: Competitive Grant Awards (January 4, 2001 Grant Round)

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						

Competitive Grant Awards (June 7, 2005 Grant Round)

On June 7, 2005, the Foundation's Board of Trustees considered 23 applications totaling over \$6.2 million in requested funds. With the help of the Interagency Task Force, the Foundation Board reviewed the grant applications and awarded 12 grants for a total of \$3,027,665.00 (Table 8). One of these grant projects (Marks and Jacks Island) was closed out in July 2005.

The June 7, 2005 Grant Round project summaries are as follows:

1. Cedar Creek Bluff - Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation: A grant was awarded to purchase a conservation easement on a 117-acre property within the boundary of the new Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park. The project is adjacent to the 161-acre Keister property, purchased by Shenandoah County using a Virginia Outdoors Fund grant in 2002 for development to a county park. **Total Project Cost: \$491,300.** The VLCF Grant will be matched by \$245,650 in federal appropriations. **Grant award: \$244,793.50.**

2. Mount Pleasant Farm - Potomac Conservancy: A grant was awarded to purchase a conservation easement on Mount Pleasant Farm, a historic 106-acre property on Cedar Creek in Shenandoah County. Purchase of a conservation easement on this property will protect vital open space in a rapidly developing region; preserve battlefield land within the Cedar Creek Battlefield; provide a visual buffer on the boundary of Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park; permanently protect three quarters of a mile of critical restored riparian land and habitat along Cedar Creek; and help to continue the strong agricultural tradition in the Shenandoah Valley. **Total Project Cost: \$212,080.** The VLCF Grant will be matched by the following sources: \$100,000 donation of land and \$12,080 in cash. **Grant award: \$100,000.**

3. Fray Tract - Wildlife Foundation: A grant was awarded to acquire fee-simple title to approximately 550 acres in Madison County. This property is bound on the west and north by the Rapidan Wildlife Management Area, and on the east by the Shenandoah National Park. Approximately .5 miles south of the property is an additional Rapidan WMA parcel. Upon purchase of the property, WFV will place a conservation easement on the tract, and gift the land to the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries for inclusion in the Rapidan WMA, thereby providing public access to the property. **Total Project Cost: \$1,629,500.** The VLCF Grant will be matched by the following sources: \$360,000 in cash and \$1,079,000 in land donations. **Grant award: \$190,500.**

4. Fairview Park - Town of Woodstock: A grant was awarded to purchase 23.016 acres of land for the development of recreational facilities. The acquisition is adjacent to 50 acres of existing park land. **Total Project Cost: \$580,050.** The VLCF Grant will be matched by \$295,050 in cash. **Grant award: \$250,000.**

5. Riveroak - Trevilian Station Battlefield Foundation: A grant was awarded to facilitate the purchase in fee of 938 acres at Trevilian Station Battlefield in Louisa County. The purchase complements 632 acres already owned by the Foundation, which has been placed under easement to the VOF. The land was owned by a timber company, which had been marketing it as an ideal commercial location with rail access. A driving tour currently traverses the property. Long-term plans include development of walking and riding trails and an on-site museum. **Total Project Cost: \$1,780,625.** The VLCF Grant will be matched with \$730,624 in cash, a \$200,000 Transportation Enhancement Grant, and \$650,000 from the Civil War Preservation Trust. **Grant award: \$200,000 (\$19,375 from open space and \$180,625 from historic area preservation)**

6. Fishers Hill - Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation: A grant was awarded to facilitate the acquisition in fee of 25 acres located within the Fishers Hill Battlefield in Shenandoah County. The land includes intact earthworks, a segment of the Valley Road (predecessor to the Valley Turnpike), and vestiges of a 19th century bridge. The property will be made available to the public through the development of trails, archaeological studies, and interpretive programs. **The Total Project Cost: \$563,300.** The VLCF Grant will be matched with \$281,650 in cash. **Grant award: \$212,408.50**

7. Battle of Brandy Station Park (Eastern Fleetwood Phase) - Brandy Station Foundation: A grant was awarded to facilitate the acquisition of 18.9 acres of land in Culpeper County near Fleetwood Hill, the site of some of the heaviest fighting of the afternoon phase of the Battle of Brandy Station. The property was purchased from a developer who had already obtained building permits for a residential development which would have destroyed the historic and scenic value of the property. The property will be developed for public access through signage, interpretive displays and brochures, an interpretive walking path, and a visitor center. **Total Project Cost: \$912,400.** The VLCF Grant will be matched with \$200,000 cash and a \$350,000 land donation. **Grant award: \$362,400.**

8. Port Tobacco - Virginia Outdoors Foundation: A grant was awarded to facilitate the placement of an easement on the Baylor Family Farm (Port Tobacco Farm) in Essex County consisting of 1,802.96 acres, including 940 acres of prime (soil) farm land, 340 acres of riparian mixed hardwood forest and 500 acres of wetlands. This is a regionally important working farm and forest and will join 24 (6,582 acres) properties already preserved. This farm has been under the same ownership since the 1600s and includes 5.3 miles of frontage on the tidal Rappahannock and 2 miles of frontage on tributaries to the Rappahannock. A Chesapeake Bay Soil and Water Conservation Plan has been implemented on the property and over 50 acres are currently enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program. The property contains and supports a wide variety of habitat types and wildlife species and the preservation of this property will protect two threatened and endangered species, the bald eagle and sensitive joint vetch (found only in four (4) states). **Total project cost: \$1,858,000.** The VLCF Grant will be matched by the following sources: \$200,000 cash on hand (Open Space Lands Preservation Trust); \$559,280 fee title purchase (Wellford I); \$396,000 purchase of conservation easement (Wellford II); \$1,000,000 pending North American Wetlands Conservation Act; and \$400,000 pending federal Farm and Ranch Lands Protection program. **Grant award: \$258,000.**

9. Black Farms Property - Nature Conservancy: A grant was awarded to facilitate placing an easement on the Joe Black farm in Northampton County consisting of 222 acres, including 198 acres of prime (soil) farmland, also including 133 irrigated, active acres producing high value potatoes, corn and beans. In addition, this easement will protect 75 acres of riparian and upland forest, which provides critical habitat for a diversity of wildlife, most notably birds. The property fronts Old Plantation Creek and Route 13 and lies within the Resource Preservation Area (Chesapeake Bay) or Resource Management Area as designated by the Northampton County Comprehensive Plan. **Total project cost: \$1,050,00.** The VLCF Grant will be matched by a \$650,000 grant from the Farm and Ranch Lands Protection program (in hand). **Grant award: \$400,000.**

10. Page Project - Albemarle County: A grant was awarded to purchase the development rights of 558.9 acres of farm and forest 10 miles southwest of Charlottesville. This property has 11,000 feet of riparian buffer held in an easement. This tract also contains Virginia's only carbon sequestration tree planting. This easement would have a common boundary with a Virginia Outdoors Foundation conservation easement property. This request would leverage half the cost of the easement. Albemarle County would pay for the other half. **Total project cost: \$170,866.** The VLCF Grant will be matched by \$85,433 from the Albemarle County Acquisition of Conservation Easement program. **Grant award: \$85,433.**

11. Marks and Jacks Island - Nature Conservancy: A proposal for the acquisition of the 2,000 acre Marks and Jacks Islands property in Accomack County, on Virginia's Eastern Shore. This globally significant conservation area contains primarily intertidal emergent salt marsh, scattered maritime forest, and over two-miles of beach habitat. **Total Project Cost: \$2,529,450.** The VLCF Grant would be matched by the following sources: \$280,000 in cash; \$1,000,000 in North American Wetlands Conservation Act grants; and \$752,000 Coastal Management Grant. **CLOSED – Grant Payment: \$500,000.**

12. Gilvary Forest/Chestnut Ridge - The 500-Year Forest Foundation: A proposal for the acquisition of a natural area preserve deed of dedication and open space easement over a 225 acre property on Chestnut Ridge in western Giles County. This 225-acre piece is part of a bigger tract of 2250 acres owned by the Gilvary Family. The project contains two old-growth forest communities of northern red oak, and would protect them from imminent threat of logging. **Total Project Cost: \$474,130.** The VLCF Grant would be matched by a \$250,000 donation of rights by the owner, Gilvania Tree Farm. **Grant award: \$224,130.**

Table 8: Competitive Grant Awards (June 7, 2005 Grant Round)

Project Title	Cong. District	Grant Award (Dollars)	Estimated Acres	Project Closing Date	Final Payment (Dollars)	Final Acres
Open Space						
*Cedar Creek Bluff	6	244,793.50	117			
*Mount Pleasant Farm	6	100,000.00	106			
Fray Tract	7	190,500.00	550			
Fairview Park Acquisition	6	250,000.00	23			
Trevilian Station – Riveroak	7	19,375.00	938			
Natural Areas						
Marks and Jacks Islands	2	500,000.00	2,000	08-2005	500,000	2,000
*Gilvary Forest	9	224,130.00	225			
Historic Resources						
Fishers Hill	6	212,408.50	25			
Brandy Station	7	362,400.00	19			
Trevilian Station – Riveroak	7	180,625.00	See above			
Agricultural and Forestal						
*Port Tobacco	1	258,000.00	1,803			
*Black Farms Property	2	400,000.00	222			
*Page Project (PDR)	5	85,433.00	559			
Totals		\$3,027,665.00	6,587		\$500,000	6,587
* Denotes Acquisition by Easement						

Competitive Grant Awards (December 1, 2005 Grant Round)

On December 1, 2005, the Foundation’s Board of Trustees considered 52 applications totaling over \$30.8 million in requested funds. The Foundation awarded funds to 22 projects for a total of \$9,717,411.00 (Table 9). Two projects were earmarked for funding if the FY2007 budget fully funded an approved project. For the 22 projects, total costs in this round were \$53,520,696.

The December 1, 2005 Grant Round project summaries are as follows:

1. Jamestown Campground & Yacht Basin - James City County Development Management: A grant was awarded to assist in the purchase of the 112-acre Jamestown Campground and the 85-acre Jamestown Yacht Basin. The waterfront property surrounds the historic and cultural resources at Historic Jamestowne on Jamestown Island and the Jamestown Settlement. It is the last group of privately owned undeveloped parcels in the Jamestown area. Note that portions of the project area outside of the grant area may or may not remain under direct county ownership and control; they may be leased or sold with

tight deed restrictions or leased with strict terms and conditions to ensure the properties remain in recreational, open space or other compatible uses. **Total Project Cost: \$6,750,000.** The VLCF Grant will be matched with \$6,000,000 (\$3,000,000 cash, \$3,000,000 anticipated NOAA CECLP). **Grant Award: \$750,000.**

2. Rappahannock Station Park - Piedmont Environmental Council: VLCF funding was awarded to aid in preserving a Civil War Battlefield as part of a new 26-acre riverfront park. The new park will provide the only public access to the Rappahannock River in Fauquier County. Planned park activities include historic exploration, boating, fishing and wildlife viewing. The Town of Remington, a recently listed site on the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places, borders the site on the North. **Total Project Cost: \$1,552,211.** The VLCF Grant will be matched with \$939,200 (mix of public and private sources, cash, donated land value and anticipated American Battlefield Protection Funds). **Grant Award: \$200,000.**

3. Altavista/English Area Park Project - Campbell County Recreation Department: Campbell County was awarded funding to assist in purchasing 146 acres, located on the Scenic Staunton River, for development into a public park. The property is adjacent to the Staunton Riverfront Park. Acquisition will lead to the preservation of a total of 167 acres along the Scenic River and will provide picnic shelters, boat ramps and walking trails. **Total Project Cost: \$153,523.** The County will match the grant with cash. **Grant Award: \$75,000.**

4. Paradise Creek Eco-Park - The Elizabeth River Project: Grant funds were awarded to acquire 18.5 acres along Paradise Creek in the City of Portsmouth for the creation of a 40-acre urban public park. The proposed park site is the last large area of open space available for park development along Paradise Creek and will provide the only public access point to the creek. Canoe and kayak launching, trails, and picnic shelters will be made available for public use and 650 linear feet of shoreline will be protected. **Total Project Cost: \$1,124,707.** The VLCF Grant will be matched with \$624,707 (land donations \$390,000, bargain sale \$234,707). **Grant Award: \$500,000.**

5. Open Space Acquisition Project - Town of Chincoteague: Funds were awarded to help acquire 75 acres of forest/wetlands and 2 acres of waterfront. The property includes a parcel on which the Town has created a trail using funds from the Virginia Recreational Trail Program. Changes in permitting process for sewage disposal in the Town has resulted in a rapid growth in the sale of properties proposed for development. Within the last 24 months, 114 acres have been developed/and or approved for development. Increasing development in the area has caused the Town Council to make conservation of open space one of its top priorities. **Total Project Cost: \$1,867,950.** The VLCF Grant will be matched with \$1,367,950 (cash \$927,950, land donation \$440,000). **Grant Award: \$500,000.**

6. Tobacco Heritage Trail Phase II Land Acquisition - Roanoke River Rails-to-Trails: VLCF funding was awarded to acquire a 20-mile segment of the former Richmond & Danville Railroad in Halifax County. A portion of the segment (13 miles) will be for open-space conservation purposes and will not have public use at this time. **Total Project Cost: \$1,117,675.** The VLCF Grant will be matched with \$731,000 (land donation of former NF&D RR property acquired using \$750,000 of legislatively appropriated funds). **VLCF Request: \$729,100 for Phases II and III. Grant Award: \$386,375 for Phase II.**

7. Huntsberry Farm Project - Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation: A grant was awarded to purchase in fee the 247-acre property, which is the last large unprotected farm in Winchester's Civil War Battlefields and was at the center of the Battle of Third Winchester fought in September 1864. The property, located within the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District established by Congress, is surrounded by land already protected by the Battlefields Foundation and other partners. The property is currently under contract for \$5 million to a developer, subject to a change in the Frederick County Comprehensive Plan for rezoning to accommodate higher-density residential use. The Battlefields Foundation proposes to conduct a cultural landscape report and archaeological field study in order to catalog the resources on the property and to develop a plan to stabilize and protect those resources. The Battlefields Foundation has an option to purchase the property for \$3.7 million by July 2006. **Total Project Cost: \$3,743,300.** The VLCF Grant will be matched with \$2,098,650 in cash. **The VLCF request: \$1,644,650. Grant Award: \$1,000,000.**

8. Hutchinson Farm/South Lot Project - Waterford Foundation, Inc.: A grant has been awarded to place an easement on a 25-acre parcel, currently pastureland, within the Waterford National Historic Landmark District. The easement would reduce the allowable density on this parcel from eight homes to one, thus preserving the important agricultural character of Waterford's setting. **Total Project Cost: \$292,975.** The VLCF will be matched with \$146,500 in cash. **The VLCF request: \$146,500. Grant Award: \$135,000.**

9. Lick Run Civil War Battlefield - Civil War Preservation Trust: A grant has been awarded to assist in the purchase of 134 acres, known as "Lick Run," of core battlefield at Chancellorsville in Spotsylvania County. Listed as a Priority I.2 Class A Battlefield by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission, the land has been recently purchased for residential development. The Civil War Preservation Trust and the developer have agreed to a purchase price of \$3 million for the property. The Trust plans to open the property for public visitation, and to install a series of interpretive trails and signage. **Total Project Cost: \$3,000,000.** The VLCF grant will be matched with \$635,000 in cash. **The VLCF request: \$500,000. Grant Award: \$500,000.**

10. Kelly's Ford Battlefield Overlook Park - Brandy Station Foundation: A grant has been awarded to help fund the fee simple acquisition of 8 acres of land buffering Kelly's Ford, which is currently advertised for residential development. The Ford has been an important crossing on the Rappahannock River throughout history, and is particularly significant for its role in the Battle of Brandy Station. The Brandy Station Foundation plans on conducting an initial site evaluation and developing a long-term management plan, based on the findings. Ultimately, the property would be open to the public, with signage, interpretive displays, and walking paths. **Total Project Cost: \$178,000.** The VLCF grant will be matched with \$103,000 in cash. **The VLCF request: \$75,000. Grant Award: \$75,000.**

11. Kippax Plantation - The Archaeological Conservancy: This grant award will assist in the fee simple purchase of 9.27 acres known as the Kippax Plantation in Hopewell, Virginia. Built along the Occaneechi Trail trade route, the property served as a primary location for the exchange of goods between early European settlers and Native Americans in the 17th Century. Five separate structures with excellent archaeological integrity have been identified on the property. The property will be made available for research by qualified individuals, educational opportunities, heritage tourism, and for use by American Indians and other culturally related groups. **Total Project Cost: \$410,000.** The VLCF grant will be matched with \$205,000 in cash. **The VLCF request: \$205,000. Grant Award: \$205,000.**

12. Four Mile Tree - The Virginia Outdoors Foundation: A grant award has been made for the purchase of an easement on a 306-acre parcel known as Four Mile Tree. The easement would protect 3,800 feet of James River frontage, open and forested land, bald eagle nest and habitat, 18th Century Manor House, early smokehouse, walled family cemetery, and archaeological resources. **Total Project Cost: \$1,012,165.** The VLCF grant will be matched with \$614,015, including a \$315,850 land donation, \$257,165 in funding from the Open Space Lands Preservation Trust, and \$5,000 in cash. **The VLCF request: \$750,000. Grant Award: \$500,000.**

13. George Property - Fauquier County PDR Program: An award has been made for the preservation of the Rebecca George farm which consists of 274.46 acres, including 52 acres of prime farmland and 5 acres of statewide important soil. The farm supports two farming operations/families, as the owner leases 141 acres to an area dairy farmer for growing corn and hay and raises beef cattle on the remaining open land as well as harvesting timber. Preserving the property would act to preserve the Elk Run stream corridor, as over 2/3 of a mile is stream frontage. Elk Run drains into the Cedar Run watershed, which provides public drinking water supplies for the Town of Warrenton and large portions of Fauquier and Prince William Counties. An easement on this farm would provide a contiguous block of 1,175 acres of permanently protected farmland and encourage other farm owners in the vicinity to consider the PDR program. **Total Project Cost: \$427,000.** The VLCF Grant will be matched with \$213,500 from the Fauquier County PDR Program. **Grant Award: \$213,500.**

14. Oaken Brow Conservation Easement - The Nature Conservancy: An award has been made for the purchase of an easement at Oaken Brow in King George County, which consists of 589 acres, including 375 acres of highly productive cropland, which also includes 255 of prime (soil) farmland. In addition, 180 acres is wetland forests and marshland. This is a full time, working family farm raising spinach and other high-value vegetables on irrigated land. Preservation of this property is important in preserving vegetated buffers along Gingoteague Creek and the Rappahannock River. **Total Project Cost: \$1,200,000.** The VLCF Grant will be matched by as-yet unacquired funds from the federal Farm and Ranchlands Protection Program. **VLCF Request: \$600,000.**

15. Meadow Grove Property - Piedmont Environmental Council: A grant award was made to preserve the Massie Family Farm (Meadow Grove Farm) in Rappahannock County, consisting of 300 acres, including 78 acres of prime (soil) farm land and 48 acres of statewide-important land, raising 200 head of livestock and growing feed for livestock. This is a sixth-generation farm of local importance on the scenic corridor of the Shenandoah National Park and would protect at least one mile of Battle Run, a tributary within the Rappahannock River watershed. The farm is eligible for inclusion in the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places. **Total Project Cost: \$805,300.** The VLCF Grant will be matched in several ways: cash, bargain sale/donation, the County's Farmland Preservation Program, and by as-yet unacquired funds from the Open Space Preservation Trust Fund. **Grant Award: \$300,000.**

16. Conservation Corridor Initiative - Friends of Dragon Run: Grant funds were awarded to purchase 164 acres of land in the riparian corridor of Dragon Run adjacent to 250 acres of previously protected land. The property has 35 acres of bald cypress swamp, 129 acres of timberland, and 4,700 linear feet of high-quality forested buffer along the main channel and a small tributary. FODR will manage the lands in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Department of Forestry. **Total Project Cost: \$574,900.** The VLCF Grant will be matched from The Nature Conservancy bargain sale, Friends of the Dragon Run Capital campaign, and match from the adjacent Dragon Bridge land purchase. **Grant Award: \$194,900.**

17. Brumley Mountain - Virginia Department of Forestry: A grant award has been made to purchase one third of the Brumley Mountain Property currently owned by The Nature Conservancy. This 4,800-acre property lies between two Game and Inland Fisheries Management Areas. The property protects a key intact forest on the crest of Clinch Mountain in Washington County, Virginia, and includes a series of unusual rock crevices called the Great Channels of Virginia. This area is a migratory stop for rare Cerulean warblers as well as many raptor species. The Department currently has no state forest in southwest Virginia. **Total Project Cost: \$3.6 million.** The VLCF grant will be matched with a bargain sale from the Nature Conservancy. **Grant Award: \$1,200,000 (\$885,941 from Farm and Forest category and \$314,059 from Heritage category).**

18. Portobago Creek easement - The Trust for Public Land: A grant has been awarded for a conservation easement for the 1,320-acre Portobago Creek property adjacent to Fort A.P. Hill. This easement would conserve 1200 acres of coastal plain hardwoods and loblolly pine, 150 acres of decreasing wetland type, and 5300 feet on intermittent streams. The easement would be held by the Virginia Outdoors Foundation. **Total Project Cost: \$1,573,000.** The VLCF grant will be matched by Department of Defense Compatible Buffer Use Program not yet acquired. **VLCF Request: \$750,000. Grant Award: \$252,710.**

19. Fletcher Ford - The Nature Conservancy: A grant award was made for the acquisition of two tracts of land, one 21 acres and one 60 acres, adjacent to The Nature Conservancy's Fletcher Ford preserve on the Powell River, Lee County. This site supports a globally rare limestone woodland community and a suite of state and globally rare plant species. **Total Project Cost: \$136,900.** The VLCF Grant would be matched with \$68,450 from 2002 Park and Natural Area Bond Funds. **Grant Award: \$68,450**

20. Crow's Nest - Northern Virginia Conservation Trust: An award was made to assist with the fee simple acquisition of an unfragmented and regionally and globally significant coastal plain hardwood forest and extensive tidal and nontidal wetlands in Stafford County. **Total Project Cost: \$20,000,000.** The VLCF grant would be matched with private, local, state, and federal funds. **Grant Award: \$500,000**

21. Clinch River/Pinnacle - The Nature Conservancy: An award was made for the acquisition of two tracts of land, one 48 acres and one 17 acres, that include 4,100 feet of shoreline on the Clinch River, Russell County. The site supports state and globally rare plant and animal species and natural communities. **Total Project Cost: \$124,750.** The VLCF grant would be matched with \$62,375 from 2002 Park and Natural Area Bond Funds. **Grant Award: 62,375**

22. Bulls Pond - The Nature Conservancy: An award was made to assist with the fee simple acquisition of 281 acres at the southern tip of the Eastern Shore, Northampton County. The tract supports globally significant maritime forests, and forest, scrub, and wetland habitat of international significance for migratory songbirds, raptors and waterfowl. **Total Project Cost: \$3,000,000.** The VLCF grant will be matched with \$1,500,000 in USF&WS and DEQ Coastal Zone Management Program funds. **Grant Award: \$1,500,000**

PROJECTS EARMARKED FOR FUNDING SHOULD AN APPROVED PROJECT BE FULLY FUNDED IN THE GOVERNOR'S 2007 BUDGET.

EARMARKED 23. Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre - County of Prince William: This earmarked grant award, contingent on the FY2007 budget, is for the acquisition of a 2+ acre parcel adjacent to the Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre in order to protect the center's entrance. Prince William County is concerned about potential encroachment of by-right 10-acre estate lot development that could occur up to boundaries of the Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre. The property lies along Route 619, a Virginia Byway, and will aid in adding a greenway and trail link between the Bristoe Station Battlefield and the Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre. Total Project Cost: \$150,000. The VLCF Grant will be matched with \$75,000 in cash. **VLCF Request: \$75,000**

EARMARKED 24. Salona Park - Fairfax County: Contingent on the FY2007 budget, the Fairfax County Park Foundation would be awarded a grant to protect one of the last, sizeable, open spaces available in McLean, Virginia. The 41-acre property will have a conservation easement placed on it with 10 acres devoted to active recreation and the remainder to passive recreation such as trails. The property name "Salona" refers to the Henry "Lighthouse Harry" Lee homestead on the site, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Total Project Cost: \$18,000,000. The VLCF Grant will be matched with \$16,500,000 in cash. **VLCF Request: \$1,500,000**

Table 9: Competitive Grant Awards (December 1, 2005 Grant Round)

Project Title	Cong. District	Grant Award (Dollars)	Estimated Acres	Project Closing Date	Final Payment (Dollars)	Final Acres
Open Space						
Jamestown Campground & Yacht Basin	1	750,000	198			
Rappahannock Station Park	1	200,000	26			
Altavista/English Area Park Project	5	75,000	146.39			
Paradise Creek Eco-Park	4	500,000	18.5			
Chincoteague Open Space Acquisition Project	2	500,000	77			
Tobacco Heritage Trail Phase II Land Acquisition	5	386,375	240			
Historic Resources						
Huntsberry Farm Project	10	1,000,000	247			
*Hutchinson Farm/South Lot Project	10	135,000	25			
Lick Run Civil War Battlefield	1	500,000	134			
Kelly's Ford Battlefield Overlook Park	7	75,000	8			
Kippax Plantation	4	205,000	9.27			
Four Mile Tree	3	500,000	306			
Agricultural and Forestal						
*George Property	1	213,500	274.46			
*Oaken Brow Conservation Easement	2	600,000	589			
*Meadow Grove Property	7	300,000	300			
Dragon Run Conservation Corridor Initiative	1	194,000	164			
Brumley Mountain	9	885,941	1600			
*Portobago Creek easement	1	252,710.50	1320			
Natural Areas						
Fletcher Ford	9	68,450	81			
Crow's Nest	1	500,000	1800			
Brumley Mountain	9	314,059.50	See above			
Clinch River/Pinnacle	9	62,375	64			
Bulls Pond	2	1,500,000	281			
Totals		9,717,411	7,908.62			
Earmarked Contingency Projects						
Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre	11	75,000**	2.5			
*Salona Park	10	1,500,000**	41			
* Denotes Acquisition by Easement ** Amount requested; award is contingent on other projects being fully funded in the FY07 budget and award money being freed up.						

Virginia Outdoors Foundation

Since 2001, the VLCF has transferred almost \$5.8 million to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation pursuant to VLCF's funding formula (Table 10). As required by the Code of Virginia, the VLCF transfers represent 25% of its appropriation. The monies are transferred 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 involve the partial purchase of development rights and/ or, the reimbursement of costs of the easement donations (legal, appraisal, etc). Funds are periodically further leveraged with grants from the VLCF and other deposits to the Open Space Preservation Trust Fund.

Table 10: VLCF Transfers to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation

Fiscal Year	Source	Amount to VOF
FY2001	Approp. Act	1,550,000
FY2004	Vehicle Reg.	365,819
FY2005	Approp. Act	625,000
FY2005	Interest	14,246
FY2005	Approp. Act	2,500,000
FY2005	Vehicle Reg.	95,265
FY2006	Approp. Act	625,000*
TOTALS		5,775,330
* payments made quarterly, 3 remaining		

Of the amounts available to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation, \$5,306,580 has been transferred to the VOF as of the end of October 2005. Of these funds, \$1,712,885.15 has helped to preserve 8,146.138 acres in twenty jurisdictions completing 7 partial purchase projects and 26 cost only projects. Currently, another \$1,048,300.50 is committed to 3 approved partial purchase projects and 27 approved cost only projects totaling 7,837.59 acres and \$2,545,394.35 is uncommitted. Table 11 outlines the land protected through funding provided to VOF.

Table 11: Virginia Outdoors Foundation Land Preservation Actions (October 31, 2005)

	Locality	Project Acreage	Fund Transfers to VOF from VLCF	VOF Preservation Trust Fund Monies Expended	VLCF Fund Transfers Expended by VOF
FY01 Approp.			1,550,000.00		
FY01 projects					
Welbourne	Loudoun	530.000			(306,757.50)
Leonard	Carroll/Grayson	117.900		(100,856.29)	(29,443.71)
Nash	King George	1,371.000			(425,000.00)
Elgin	Fauquier	314.200			(320,000.00)
Noble	Botetourt	203.000			(795.00)
Tucker	Amherst	432.000			(2,800.00)
FY02 projects					
Dogham	Charles City	317.000		(19,011.67)	(8,988.33)
Woodriff	Orange	55.000			(3,770.27)
Schutte	Clark	155.000			(3,973.00)
Chawkat	Augusta	57.000			(1,325.00)
Stout	Augusta	82.000			(1,036.00)
Brazier	Page	70.000			(1,200.00)
Trenary	Warren	73.728			(2,800.00)
Brumback	Clark	262.000			(100,350.00)
FY03 projects					
Irvin	Warren	116.300		(1,945.00)	(1,239.50)
Staples	Clarke	194.000			(3,300.00)
Henley, C	Albemarle	45.000			(1,150.00)
Henley, J	Albemarle	86.340			(2,050.00)
Funkhouser	Orange	500.000			(2,800.00)
Powell	Albemarle	432.400			(253,000.00)
Calvert	Shenandoah	71.000			(660.00)
Griffith	Westmoreland	624.000			(5,000.00)
Martin	Rockbridge	95.220			(3,500.00)
FY04 Registration fee Approp.			365,819.00		
FY04 projects					
Ingram	Craig	136.000		(75.00)	(6,206.30)

Neale	Orange	482.000			(2,800.00)
Hill/Neale	Madison	507.000			(2,800.00)
Griffith	Westmoreland	93.170			(2,500.00)
Bush	Botetourt	154.000			(4,400.00)
Hoffman	Augusta	39.530			(1,500.00)
Ward	Augusta	41.350			(1,500.00)
Irvin	Warren	58.000			(1,000.00)
FY05 Approp.			625,000.00		
FY05 Approp.			2,500,000.00		
FY05 Registration fee Approp.			95,265.00		
FY05 Interest Allocation			14,246.00		
FY05 Projects					
Lamb	Spotsylvania	301.000		(989.46)	(4,010.54)
Hepner	Shenandoah	130.000			(205,230.00)
FY06 Approp. To date (31Oct05)			156,250.00		
Total VLCF Expended Funds	33 projects	8,146.138		(122,877.42)	(1,712,885.15)
Projects Committed but not complete					
Baylor	Essex	1,800.000			(500,000.00)
Young	Surry	306.000			(250,000.00)
Young	Rockbridge	874.800			(154,400.00)
Acree Estate	Northumberland	92.000			(10,500.00)
Barber	Richmond	301.000			(2,500.00)
Bayview	Northampton	96.000			(5,500.00)
Bender	Floyd	419.000			(6,250.00)
Boston	Orange	203.860			(7,000.00)
Carter	Lancaster	137.000			(7,500.00)
Collins	Patrick	89.500			(3,250.00)
Haase	Giles	247.000			(7,500.00)
Hall	Northumberland	71.600			(9,600.00)
Hepner, F.	Shenandoah	173.000			(6,500.00)
Hutzler	Washington	81.000			(4,500.00)
Jones	Botetourt	68.000			(3,225.00)

Manuel	Wythe	193.630			(2,650.00)
Marshall	Floyd	186.000			(6,400.00)
Partyka	Tazewell	238.000			(4,000.00)
Payne	Richmond	135.700			(5,000.00)
Poole	Grayson	121.000			(2,750.00)
Rose	Rockbridge	230.000			(3,500.00)
Rosen	Rockbridge	108.000			(5,343.00)
Scott, J.	Grayson	60.000			(3,800.00)
Scott, M.	Grayson	45.000			(3,300.00)
Sisters	Powhatan	1,000.000			(7,000.00)
St. John	Floyd	43.500			(3,500.00)
Waldon	Warren	70.000			(5,200.00)
Warren	Loudoun	302.000			(6,000.00)
Welch	Northumberland	80.000			(7,000.00)
Woodruff	Grayson	65.000			(4,632.50)
Obligated Funds Totals	30 projects	7,837.59			(1,048,300.50)
Total Funds Received by VOF from VLCF to date (31Oct05)			5,306,580.00		
Current Un-obligated Funds					2,545,394.35
FY06 Funds to be transferred to VOF from VLCF			468,750.00		
Total Un-obligated Funds					3,014,144.35

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

The Land Conservation Foundation has worked diligently to support projects across the breadth of Virginia. The greatest concentration of projects to date has come in the 1st Congressional District (Table 12). The greatest amount of grant funds has also been expended in the 1st Congressional District (Table 13). This may be a reflection of the rapid growth and loss of open space and historic resources in this area. Funds for projects have been awarded in all but two Districts, the 8th and 11th, which may in part be due to their relative small geographic size. 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 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. These are but a handful of the quality land conservation projects assisted by Foundation funding.

Table 12: Geographical Distribution of Foundation Grant Awards (By Project)

Congressional District	12/1/1999 Awarded	1999 Completed	01/04/2001 Awarded	06/07/2005 Awarded	12/01/2005 Rec.	Total Awarded
1 st District	3	2	6	1	7	17
2 nd District	0	0	0	2	3	5
3 rd District	0	0	1	0	1	2
4 th District	2	2	0	0	2	4
5 th District	2	1	1	1	2	6
6 th District	2	1	1	4	0	7
7 th District	0	0	2	3	2	7
8 th District	0	0	0	0	0	0
9 th District	1*	1*	4	1	3	9
10 th District	2	2	3.75	0	2	7.75
11 th District	0	0	.25	0	0	.25
TOTAL	12	9	19	12	22	65

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

Table 13: Geographical Distribution of Foundation Grant Awards (By Funding)

Congressional District	12/1/1999 Awarded	01/04/2001 Awarded	06/07/2005 Awarded	12/01/2005 Awarded	Total Awarded
1 st District	654,012.00	1,064,380.00	258,000.00	2,610,210.50	4,586,602.50
2 nd District	0	0	900,000.00	2,600,000.00	3,500,000.00
3 rd District	0	300,000.00	0	500,000.00	800,000.00
4 th District	486,000.00	0	0	705,000.00	1,191,000.00
5 th District	57,175.00	126,255.00	85,433.00	461,375.00	730,238.00
6 th District	57,055.00	306,575.00	807,202.00	0	1,170,832.00
7 th District	0	398,000.00	752,900.00	375,000.00	1,525,900.00
8 th District	0	0	0	0	0
9 th District	50,000*	461,193.00	224,130.00	1,330,825.50	2,066,148.50
10 th District	384,600.00	1,255,792.00	0	1,135,000.00	2,775,392.00
11 th District	0	7,500.00	0	0	7,500.00
TOTAL	1,688,842.00	3,919,695.00	3,027,665.00	9,717,411.00	18,353,613.00

*(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 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 November 2005, DCR had expended \$2.1 million and has closed on one new State Park acquisition, two additions to park property, and one addition to a Natural Area Preserve. A number of additional projects are nearing closing.
- 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 November 2005, DCR had expended approximately \$9.9 million to purchase nine State Park parcels and 18 natural area tracts, creating seven new Natural Area Preserves.
- The new Middle Peninsula State Park in Gloucester County was dedicated in September, 2005, and will be purchased with 2002 General Obligation Bond funds.

- Seven Bends State Park in Shenandoah County was dedicated in October 2005. Part of the park was purchased with 2002 General Obligation Bond funds and parts have been donated by both the Town of Woodstock and a private citizen.

GRANT CRITERIA DISCUSSION

On November 15, 2004, the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation (Foundation) met and approved the revised grant evaluation criteria that were later utilized to evaluate grant applications received during the January 1st through March 18th, 2005 grant round. 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 were 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 totaled to 100 points and were comprised of 80 points allocated to one of the 4 primary funding categories for which the applicant had 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.

Of the five new criteria, three points were 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 were allocated to the Value Added category and three points were allocated to wildlife benefits identified in the project proposal.

At their June 7, 2005 meeting, the Foundation approved minor revisions to these criteria and approved their use for the scoring of applications received during the July 1, 2005 to September 20, 2005 grant round. The scoring criteria are outlined in Table 14.

Table 14: Virginia Land Conservation Foundation: Grant Application Scoring Sheet and Criteria

Primary Category	Statutory category scoring	Chesapeake Bay Area Preservation	Drinking Water Supply Protection	VOP Identified Need	Water Quality Benefit	Multiple Resource Value	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 14 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 Natural Heritage conservation site, based upon the global and state rarity of the natural heritage resources present, the number of natural heritage resources present, and their condition Maximum score: 20. B1=20 B5=0 B2=15 No natural heritage resources=0 B3or B4=10</p>		
<p>2) Size & Natural Condition: Are the size and condition of the tract(s) adequate to protect and allow for management of natural heritage resource targets? Maximum score: 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Size and condition are adequate to fully protect & manage targets = 15 • Size and condition are likely to provide for full protection and management of targets = 10 • Size and condition are unlikely to allow protection & management of the conservation targets = 0 - 5 		
<p>3) Proximity: Is the tract(s) adjacent to or in close physical or functional proximity (e.g. upstream or upslope) to other conservation lands and would it expand the protection of natural heritage resources? Maximum score: 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjacent to existing conservation land = 15 • Possesses physical or functional proximity to existing conservation land = 10 • No physical or functional proximity to existing conservation land = 0. 		
<p>4) Management: Applicants capability to implement necessary management to protect the site from short-term and long-term stresses. 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>5) Community Representation: To what extent does the site support exemplary natural communities that are not well protected in Virginia? 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>6) No. & Quality of EOs: How many element occurrences are known for the tract(s) and what is the quality of those occurrences? Assign the value below for each occurrence based on it's EO-rank. Sum these values. Maximum score: 10 A-rank=4 D-rank=1 B-rank=3 E-rank=2 C-rank=2</p>		

Total Maximum Score 80 points _____

Scoring Sheet Criteria For: _____
Open Space & Parks Category

Criterion	Score	Notes
Determine the degree to which the Project: 1) Protects and/or acquires greenways, blueways, viewsheds, abandoned rail corridors, and open space areas. Maximum score 10		
2) Acquires land or easements on land which provide increased protection and/or public access to state water. Maximum score 15		
3) Addresses a need identified in the <i>Virginia Outdoors Plan</i> . Applicant must specify VOP Page # Maximum score 10		Specific Need = 10 points General Need = 5 points
4) Supports local and/or regional comprehensive plans for parks, open space, and recreational facilities and programs. Name and Page # of plan cited. Maximum score 8		
5) Availability of land for public use. Maximum score 10		Public Use = 10 points Easement with Limited Use = 5 points No Public Use = 0 points
6) Supports the conservation and planning for Virginia's Scenic Rivers, Scenic Roads, and Virginia Byways. Maximum score 5		Supports designated resources = 5 points Supports potential = 3 points
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		
8) Acquires sensitive lands or easements contiguous to existing park systems that expand and protect public conservation or recreational interests. Maximum score 9		
10) Provides needed infrastructure on property purchased with Foundation funds. Maximum score 4		

Total Maximum Score 80 points _____

Scoring Sheet Criteria For: _____

Forest Lands Category

Criterion	Score	Notes
1) The land is in an area where there is high potential for land use changes or conversions that threaten the retention of forestland. 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: (1) a State Forest inholding or, (2) within a manageable distance of a State Forest. Maximum score 10		
5) The property is located adjacent to already conserved lands held in perpetuity 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: a) threatened and endangered species of fauna or flora, b) unique habitat for threatened and endangered species, c) provides the opportunity to restore diminishing native tree species, or d) 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)</p> <p>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: _____
Historic Area Preservation 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>18 – 35 points: National Historic Landmarks, properties individually listed on Virginia Landmarks Register, contributing properties in National Historic Landmark districts</p> <p>0 - 17 points: Contributing properties in Virginia Landmarks Register districts, other historic and cultural resources.</p> <p>Additional 0 – 5 points: Rarity, quality, and integrity of resource.</p> <p>Maximum score 40</p>		
<p>2) An identifiable threat to the resource, or compelling need for immediate preservation, exists. Maximum score 10</p>		
<p>3) The applicant has realistic plans and the organizational and financial capacity to ensure appropriate treatment and ongoing maintenance of the resource, and where appropriate, to develop the resource for maximum public benefit. (Project plans must meet the relevant preservation standards and be approved by the Department of Historic Resources.) Maximum score 10</p>		
<p>4) Preservation of the resource may complement or enhance other cultural or historic resources or preservation activities OR represents a unique cultural resource opportunity within the geographical area. Maximum score 5</p>		
<p>5) Protection or preservation of the resource may further other public interests, such as education, research, heritage tourism promotion or orderly community development. Maximum score 5</p>		
<p>6) Protection or preservation of the resource is part of a documented broader resource management plan. Maximum score 5</p>		
<p>7) There is demonstrated public support for the protection or preservation of the resource. Maximum score 5</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)* or in a local comprehensive plan.

Maximum 3 points

- Meets a public outdoor recreational need identified in the VOP and in a local comprehensive plan = 3 points
- Meets a public outdoor recreational need identified in the VOP or in a local comprehensive plan = 2 points
- Not identified in VOP or in a local comprehensive plan = 0 points

Scoring Sheet Criteria For: _____

Water Quality Benefit

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

Maximum 3 points

- Has water quality benefits and is identified in the local comprehensive plan = 3 points
- Applicant has identified significant water quality benefits of the project = 2 points
- Water quality benefits 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. A point was also awarded to projects in Congressional Districts that had 3 or less projects awarded to it during the grant program.

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 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 funds available to the Foundation, the Board approved the amounts outlined in Table 15 to be allocated to the Spring FY05 grant round (June 7, 2005). This amounted to approximately \$3.1 million available for the grant round after distributions to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation and Foundation administrative expenses were made (Appendix C).

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 were combined with FY06 funds for a late summer/early fall grant round. Table 16 shows the amounts allocated to the FY06 grant round (December 1, 2005).

**Table 15: Virginia Land Conservation Foundation: Funding Source and Allocation for June 7,
2005 Grant Awards**

Funding Categories	Unallocated 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						

Table 16: Virginia Land Conservation Foundation: Funding Source and Allocation for December 1, 2005 Grant Awards

Funding Categories	Interest	Unallocated Principal From Spring 05 Grant Round	FY05 Vehicle Registration	Chapter 935 Appropriation Act	Chapter 935 Appropriation Act	TOTAL
VOF	0	0	95,265	2,500,000	625,000	3,220,265.00
Open Space and Parks	0	0	71,449	1,875,000	468,750	2,415,199.00
Natural Area Protection	0	29,685.50	71,449	1,875,000	468,750	2,444,884.50
Historic Area Preservation	0	0	71,449	1,875,000	468,750	2,415,199.00
Farmland and Forest Preservation	0	30,952.50	71,449	1,875,000	468,750	2,446,151.50
Admin. Expenses FY07 proposed	198,700	0	0	0	0	198,700
Admin. Expenses FY08 proposed	182,000	0	0	0	0	182,000
TOTAL	380,700	60,638.00	381,061	10,000,000	2,500,000	13,322,399.00
Amounts Reserved for Easement Projects (33% of the 4 use areas of the new monies)			94,312	2,475,000	618,750	3,188,062.00

\$9,721,434 available to the 4 grant funding categories

APPENDICES

Appendix A - FY1999-2000 Budget Status Report

Virginia Land Conservation Fund						
Applications FY-00						
\$ Awards by Category						
AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2005						
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 OCTOBER 31, 2005						
	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 - FY2005 Budget Status Report

Virginia Land Conservation Fund					
Applications FY-05					
\$ Awards by Category					
AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2005					
	Project Title	Name of Applicant-Property Location	Awards by Category	Payments	Balance
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION TRUST FUND		Beginning Balance (\$14,246 interest, \$365,819 FY04 Vehicle Registration, and \$625,000 Approp. Act)	1,005,065	1,005,065	\$0
		Total Awarded	1,005,065	1,005,065	0
		Remaining Balance	0		
OPEN SPACES & PARKS		Beginning Balance	804,668.50		
98303-12	Cedar Creek Bluff (E)	Shenandoah Valley Battlefield Foundation-Shenandoah Co	244,793.50		244,793.50
98303-13	Mount Pleasant Farm (E)	Potomac Conservancy - Shenandoah County	100,000		100,000
98303-14	Fray Tract	Wildlife Foundation - Madison County	190,500		190,500
98303-15	Fairview Park Acquisition	Town of Woodstock	250,000		250,000
98303-16	Trevilian Station Battlefield Riveroak	Trevilian Station Battlefield Foundation-Louisa County	19,375		19,375
		Total Awarded	804,668.50	0	804,668.50
		Remaining Balance	0		
NATURAL AREA PROTECTION		Beginning Balance	753,815.50		
98304-06	Mark and Jacks Island	The Nature Conservancy-Accomack County	500,000	500,000	0
98304-07	Gilvary Forest (E)	The 500 Year Forest - Giles County	224,130		224,130
		Total Awarded	724,130	500,000	224,130
		Remaining Balance	29,685.50		

HISTORIC AREA PRESERVATION		Beginning Balance	755,433.50		
98305-11	Fishers Hill	Shenandoah Valley Battlefield Foundation-Shenandoah Co	212,408.50		212,408.50
98305-12	Brandy Station	Brandy Station Foundation - Culpeper County	362,400		362,400
98305-13	Trevilian Station Battlefield Riveroak	Trevilian Station Battlefield Foundation-Louisa County	180,625		180,625
		Total Awarded	755,433.50	0	755,433.50
		Remaining Balance	0		
FARMLANDS & FOREST PRESERVATION		Beginning Balance	774,385.50		
98306-09	Port Tobacco (E)	Virginia Outdoors Foundation - Essex County	258,000		258,000
98306-10	Black Farms Property (E)	Nature Conservancy - Northampton County	400,000		400,000
98306-11	Page Project	Albemarle County	85,433		85,433
		Total Awarded	743,433	0	743,433
		Remaining Balance	30,952.50		
		Grand Total Appropriation*	\$4,093,368		
		Less: Open Space Preservation Trust	\$1,005,065	\$1,005,065	\$0
		Grand Total Available to Four Major Uses	\$3,088,303		
		Grand Total Award to Four Major Uses	\$3,027,665	\$500,000	\$2,527,665
		Total Fund Balance Available	\$60,638		\$60,638
		Total Grant Round Unspent Funds			\$2,588,303

* Grand total comprised of \$40,183 in unallocated principal balance swept from previous rounds, \$32,858 return of unspent grant, \$56,982 in interest, \$1,463,275 in FY04 vehicle registration monies, \$2,500,000 from the Appropriation Act, and \$70 from a donation.

Appendix D - October 31, 2005 VLCF Balance Sheet and Income Statement

ASSETS

CASH		
FY00 Appropriations		\$1,750,000
FY01 Appropriations		\$9,600,000
FY05 Appropriations		\$12,500,000
FY06 Appropriations		\$2,500,000
FY04 Vehicle Registration Funds		\$1,463,275
FY05 Vehicle Registration Funds		\$381,061
FY01 Reversion to the General Fund		(\$791,464)
FY03 Reversion to the General Fund		(\$313,255)
FY00 Grant Project Payments		(\$1,353,399)
FY01 Grant Project Payments		(\$3,625,782)
FY05 Grant Project Payments		(\$500,000)
FY01 Battlefield Payments		(\$3,382,005)
FY01 Open Space Preservation (VOF) Payments		(\$1,550,000)
FY04 Vehicle Registration Payments to VOF		(\$365,819)
FY05 Vehicle Registration Payments to VOF		(\$95,265)
FY05 Open Space Preservation (VOF) Payments		(\$3,139,246)
FY06 Open Space Preservation (VOF) Payments		(\$156,250)
Interest Earned		\$997,575
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		(\$136,300)
Administrative Expenses FY06		(\$1,270)
TOTAL CASH		\$13,346,223
TOTAL ASSETS		\$13,346,223

LIABILITIES			\$607,480
FY06 Admin Expenses Payable	138,730		
FY06 Appropriation due to VOF	468,750		
EQUITY			
Reserved Funds			\$2,788,718
Unreserved Funds (for Grants)			
FY05 Appropriation	7,500,000		
FY06 Appropriation	1,875,000		
FY06 Unallocated Grant Amounts	60,639		
FY05 Vehicle Registration Fund	285,796		\$9,721,435
FY05 Unallocated Interest			\$97,827
FY06 Unallocated Interest			\$130,763

TOTAL EQUITY	\$12,738,743
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TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$13,346,223
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FUND BALANCE - JUNE 30, 2005	\$14,007,686
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INCOME

Vehicle Registration Funds	
FY06 Appropriations	\$2,500,000
Interest Earned	\$130,763
TOTAL INCOME	\$2,630,763

DISBURSEMENTS

FY00 Project Disbursements	
FY01 Project Disbursements	
FY05 Project Disbursements	\$500,000
FY06 Open Space Preservation (VOF) Payments	\$2,751,515
Administrative Expenses	\$40,711
TOTAL DISBURSEMENT	\$3,292,226

NET OPERATING - FY06	(\$661,463)
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FUND BALANCE - OCTOBER 31, 2005	\$13,346,223
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