

CHESAPEAKE BAY RESTORATION FUND
Grant Advisory Committee Recommendations for 2024 Funding

| Project Number and Organization | Project Summary | Contact and Address | Amount Requested | Amount Recommended |
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| 24-003 Virginia Polytechnic Institute (VA Tech) and State University | Continuing with their previous grant applications, the Virginia Cooperative Extension, 4-H, seeks funding for their watershed education in 6th-grade classrooms and for the environmental programming of the "4-H Water Wizards Day Camp," which is a Bay grass restoration service-learning project and in-school science SOL enrichment lesson. The funding will be used to update school program supplies, day camp supplies, and charter boat fees. | Wendy Herdman | \$1,900 | \$1,520 |
| 24-004 Friends of the Occoquan | Continuing with their previous grant applications, The Friends of the Occoquan seeks funds to increase the involvement of students and the public in Chesapeake Bay conservation and restoration activities. Funds will be used for supplies and equipment and a project manager. | German A. Vanegas | \$8,000 | \$4,400 |
| 24-005 North Branch School | North Branch School is requesting funds to take three teachers and 18 middle school students to Port Isobel West where they will learn about the cultural significance of the waterways and fishing villages and the ecology of the Bay as they explore wetlands, underwater grass beds, and oyster reefs. | Melanie Stine | \$1,038 | \$831 |
| 24-006 James City County Department of Parks & Recreation | Continuing with their previous applications, James City Co. Parks and Recreation proposes to continue to offer educational programs to children. They seek funds to extend outdoor and environmental education programs to every child who attends their camps and programs at no additional cost to families. | Carla Brittle | \$9,160 | \$7,328 |
| 24-007 Potowmack Elementary School | Continuing with their previous grant application, the Potowmack Elementary school of Loudoun County seeks to implement a "Down By the Bay" educational program taking place in the school library that will bring the Chesapeake Bay to Potowmack Elementary students. Funds will be utilized to purchase books and activities for each library learning center. | Michele Rzewski Copeland | \$2,300 | \$1,840 |
| 24-009 Tidewater Oyster Gardeners Association (TOGA) | Continuing with its previous grant applications and motto, "Growing Oysters for a Cleaner Bay," TOGA proposes to continue to expand its educational and outreach activities. They seek funding for shells, supplies, and kiosk signage for their educational oyster reef at Camp Kekoka; educational exhibits about oysters and ecology of the Bay at Westmoreland State Park, Deltaville Maritime Museum, York River State Park, and the Yorktown Watermen's Museum; the publishing of their oyster education newsletter; and printed educational materials. | Sue Borra | \$10,300 | \$8,240 |
| 24-010 John Marshall Soil & Water Conservation District | John Marshall Soil & Water Conservation District seeks funding for the planting of approximately 900 native trees and shrubs in the tributaries of the Rappahannock and Potomac rivers. Funding from the CBRF will be applied towards trees, tree tubes, tree tube stakes, and port-a-johns. | Kelsi Steele | \$6,060 | \$4,320 |
| 24-011 Virginia Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts Educational Foundation | Continuing with previous grant applications, the VASWCD Educational Foundation proposes to continue to provide educational opportunities to high school students through Envirothon, which is a natural resources competition. Funds will go toward supporting and coordinating local and regional Soil & Water Conservation District Envirothon programming across the state. | Maura Christian | \$12,000 | \$9,600 |

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| 24-012 Newport News Public Schools | Continuing with previous grant applications, Newport News Public Schools proposes to continue to provide all 7th graders (1,975) with field experiences in the "Chesapeake Bay Ecology Lab" provided by the Virginia Living Museum, as well as provide 7th-grade teachers (28) with two days of professional development. | Rodney Culverhouse | \$15,000 | \$12,000 |
| 24-013 Sustainable Chesapeake | As in their 2021 and 2023 application, Sustainable Chesapeake and their partners propose to continue to work with Virginia Farmers to support peer-to-peer education that focuses on expanding the adoption of critically important conservation systems that include cover cropping, no-till, and nutrient management. Sustainable Chesapeake will utilize CBRF funds to support farmer-led outreach and education through video production and in-person professional meetings for farmers, agribusinesses, and conservation professionals. | Kristen Hughes Evans | \$15,000 | \$12,000 |
| 24-014 Chesterfield County Public School | Chesterfield County Public Schools seeks to partner with the James River Association to coordinate paddle trips with 150 7th-grade students. Students will learn more about the ecosystem and how to protect it while paddling in canoes at Deep Bottom Park. | Janine D'Elia | \$10,200 | \$5,760 |
| 24-015 Booker T. Washington Middle School | Continuing with previous grant applications, Booker T. Washington Middle School seeks partial funding for travel and fees for seven kayak trips to collect water samples and marine species and a three-day experience to CBF's Port Isobel Island. | Karen Bazemore-Person | \$7,150 | \$5,520 |
| 24-016 Jefferson Forest High School | Jefferson Forest High School is seeking funds to supplement their Oceanography course. In this course, students will have the opportunity to set up and maintain a working saltwater ecosystem in a classroom setting. | Allen Hackmann | \$2,000 | \$1,600 |
| 24-017 Friends of Dragon Run, Inc. | Friends of Dragon Run, Inc. is seeking funds for a 3-day summer immersive, hands-on professional development experience through stream-side investigations, learning about biodiversity and key flora/fauna, guided paddle tours of the Dragon Run, and interpretive hikes within the Dragon Run watershed. | Molly Broderson | \$11,152 | \$3,002 |
| 24-018 Culpeper Soil & Water Conservation District | Culpeper SWCD seeks funding to expand their lawn soil tests for homeowners across Culpeper, Greene, Madison, Orange, and Rappahannock counties. These tests aim to educate residents on the need to reduce unnecessary fertilizer use. Culpeper SWCD will also address Bay-friendly landscaping, give background on the Chesapeake Bay and the Bay License Plate, and offer each household one free soil test. | Stephanie DeNicola | \$1,800 | \$1,440 |
| 24-020 Peter Francisco Soil & Water Conservation District | Continuing with previous grant applications, Peter Francisco SWCD offers SOL-related environmental education programs to approximately 3,500 students in Buckingham and Cumberland Counties, over 200 students in private schools, and over 50 home-schooled students and adult groups. They seek funding to purchase supplies for their MWEE, provide field trips to the CBF's Brock Environmental Center and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Day at the Presquile National Wildlife Refuge, and attend the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Exploration and James River Headwaters Exploration Camps. | Charlotte Mabie | \$10,500 | \$6,720 |
| 24-021 Fairfax County Park Foundation | Fairfax County Park Foundation seeks funds to offer elementary, middle, Title One, and underrepresented children field trips to Cub Run Rec Center, located in Chantilly, VA. Students will receive hands-on experiences that will strengthen their knowledge of the watershed. | Margaret Thaxton | \$3,496.17 | \$2,797 |
| 24-022 Loudoun Soil & Water Conservation District | Loudoun SWCD is seeking funds to support Riparian Buffer Planting workshops where students, teachers, parents, and volunteers will plant native trees, shrubs, grasses, forbs, and legumes to create the riparian buffers as well as teach people about water quality impacts from both urban and agricultural land use. | Patricia McIlvaine | \$3,000 | \$2,400 |
| 24-023 | Culpeper SWCD is seeking funds for the construction of a Rain Garden at the District office. In partnership with Virginia Cooperative Extension, Culpeper | Richard Jacobs | \$7,868 | \$6,295 |

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| Culpeper Soil & Water Conservation District | SWCD will host and sponsor at least two hands-on workshops demonstrating the design, installation, and maintenance of stormwater practices. The Rain Garden would highlight the need to create functional landscape beds that reduce runoff and utilize native plants. | | | |
| 24-024 City of Poquoson - Events Office | Continuing with previous applications, the City of Poquoson is seeking to further educate the public regarding the Chesapeake Bay Environmental areas during their seafood festival by providing hands-on and interactive learning displays of sea life, the bay as a food source, and the importance of protecting the bay, over three days, to children and families. | Deborah Taylor | \$1,750 | \$1,400 |
| 24-025 Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay | The Alliance seeks funding to support RiverTrends, a volunteer water quality monitoring program that has been successful in engaging volunteers and watershed organizations in data collection throughout Virginia's portion of the Chesapeake Bay watershed since 1985. CBRF funds will go toward monitoring equipment, printed materials, and shipping costs. | Sophie Stern | \$11,000 | \$8,000 |
| 24-027 Thomas Hunter Middle School | In support of an initiative to create a K-12 Chesapeake Bay STEM pathway, Thomas Hunter Middle School is requesting funds for items to be used as in-class reference materials and equipment for field experiences to enhance ongoing curriculum improvements for all students through daily instruction utilizing authentic experiences. Funds will go toward a Chesapeake Bay-themed classroom library start-up to bridge language arts and science curriculums. | Ken Noonan | \$16,200 | \$4,960 |
| 24-028 Dominion Christian School | Dominion Christian School's middle school life science classes are seeking funds to spark student interest in an action project to apply best management practices on the new school property that will mitigate the negative impacts of stormwater runoff and provide native plant habitat for birds and pollinators. To help students connect actions in the schoolyard to the health of ecosystems in the Chesapeake Bay, the teacher proposes to provide capstone field experiences to the Potomac River and the Chesapeake Bay for the middle school life science classes. | Sharon Dykhoff | \$4,500 | \$3,200 |
| 24-030 Capital Region Land Conservancy | Capital Region Land Conservancy is seeking funds for an event celebrating Public Lands Day at Varina LandLab Conservation Area (VLL). Funds will be used for the event, to inspire participants and the public on Chesapeake Bay restoration through interactive activities, and for VLL habitat restoration efforts. | Ashley Moulton | \$15,000 | \$6,000 |
| 24-032 Rivanna Conservation Alliance (Education Project) | Continuing with previous grant applications, Rivanna Conservation Alliance (RCA) proposes to continue its successful 6th-grade MWEE program, reaching 1,000 6th-grade students in Albemarle County and 300 7th-grade students in the City of Charlottesville. RCA will also conduct training with middle school science teachers to help them integrate the MWEE program into their curriculum. | Lisa Wittenborn | \$7,000 | \$5,600 |
| 24-034 Bull Run Mountains Conservancy, Inc. | Continuing with their 11-23 grant applications on Chesapeake Watershed Workshops, BRMC seeks funding to offer six scholarships to students aged 15 - 18 to become watershed ambassadors. This program is an immersive summer experience that engages high school students in learning about the diverse ecosystems of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. CBRF funds will go directly toward the Chesapeake Watershed Workshop. | Michael J. Kieffer | \$1,200 | \$960 |
| 24-036 Friends of Forest Hill Park | Friends of the Forest Hill Park is seeking funds for habitat restoration of the Crooked Branch Ravine Park, a city of Richmond property. They propose an invasive plant removal, by sheep or goats, followed by the planting of native plants, which will aid in erosion control. | Suzette Lyon | \$3,525 | \$800 |
| 24-037 Chesapeake Bay Academy | The Chesapeake Bay Academy seeks funding to invest in environmental equipment and experiences for students. These field experiences would allow students to board a boat and get out on the water, trawl, see the ecosystem, and witness the role of waterways in supporting marine life. They will enhance students' comprehension of classroom content and expand the discussion of | Judy Jankowski, Ed.D. | \$2,990 | \$2,392 |

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| | how students can best serve as good environmental stewards of the Chesapeake Bay and extended waterways. | | | |
| 24-038 Clean Virginia Waterways Longwood University | Continuing with previous grant applications, CVW seeks funds for the 2024 "Virginia Waterways Cleanup," which is a project to increase public awareness and knowledge of Virginia's watersheds by involving volunteers in removing solid waste debris and litter from beaches and the tributaries to the Bay, and a year-round litter prevention educational program/cleanup event. CBRF funds will be spent entirely on supplies. | Zach Huntington | \$8,000 | \$6,400 |
| 24-039 Friends of the Rappahannock | Friends of the Rappahannock (FOR) is requesting funds to increase oyster restoration efforts in the Rappahannock River and tributaries. Through the Rappahannock River Oyster Restoration Partnership, FOR plans to restore 15 acres of oyster reef in the Rappahannock River, Carters Creek, and Urbanna Creek. | Brent Hunsinger | \$10,000 | \$8,000 |
| 24-040 Birdneck Elementary PTA | Birdneck Elementary's PTA is seeking funds to provide all 5th grade students (80) the opportunity to attend the CBF's Boat Program at the Brook Center; provide replacement pieces for 2 aging Coastal Watershed tables; and provide funding for a 75-110 gallon aquarium and its required supplies and accessories. | Jodi Hoppa | \$5,500 | \$3,240 |
| 24-042 Prince William Conservation Alliance | The Prince William Conservation Alliance is seeking funds to support a series of educational talks highlighting riparian areas and developing opportunities to remove invasive species and plant native species. Through the collaboration of local government, non-profit, green landscaping companies, and local residents, the goal is to connect people to nature through direct stewardship to enhance natural resources and cultivate a community of people who care to protect it now and in the future. | Ashley Studholme | \$9,000 | \$6,400 |
| 24-043 Maymont Foundation | Continuing with their 2023 grant proposal, the Maymont Foundation seeks funding for continued support of expanding environmental educational opportunities for students and teachers through Field Investigations and teacher workshops, as well as continue to offer opportunities for Title 1 students (approximately \$10.00 per student) through covering the field trip cost. | Krista Weatherford | \$14,300 | \$11,440 |
| 24-044 The Marine Science Legacy Program The Urbanna Oyster Festival | The Urbanna Oyster Festival seeks funds to support its Marine Science Legacy Program (MSLP). CBRF funding will go toward educational boat trips with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, kayak exploration field trips focused on local waterways and water quality with Friends of the Rappahannock, field trips to Wicomico State Park, and a field trip on a working water boat to study oyster culture and help restore oyster reefs in the Rappahannock river. | C. Clark Laster, IV | \$10,240 | \$8,192 |
| 24-045 Mountain Castles Soil & Water Conservation District | Continuing with their 01, 04, and 15-23 grant applications, Mountain Castles SWCD proposes to partner with Botetourt Co. Public Schools to provide meaningful Bay field experiences in grades 2, 6, 7, and 8. The 7th-grade program will also provide all students with a 1.5-hour paddle on the James River in Botetourt County. Their goal is to help students forge a personal connection with the river and drive home the concept of "downstream" while observing and measuring how human activities impact the river. | Tim Miller | \$8,450 | \$6,760 |
| 24-046 Izaak Walton League of America, Inc. | Continuing with previous grant applications, IWLA is requesting funds for the continuation and expansion of their VA SOS, Salt Watch, and Nitrate Watch programs throughout Virginia. Through these programs, IWLA will provide resources to individual volunteers, conservation groups, and community groups around the state in water quality monitoring and advocacy. IWLA will recruit and engage new volunteers through social media, partnership building, outreach events, websites, webinars, and more. | Samantha Briggs | \$27,080 | \$12,000 |
| 24-048 The Mariners' Museum and Park | The Mariners requests \$10,000 to serve 1,000 Newport News Public Schools (NNPS) 9th graders with free environmental enrichment in the 2024-25 school year through the MWEE: <i>Mariners' Lake Stewards Program</i> . They are committed to removing barriers for students. They have a reputation and potential for | Josi Washington | \$10,000 | \$8,000 |

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| | delivering quality programs and filling the gap in local environmental providers while meeting Virginia Department of Education standards and improving NNPS student performance in environmental science. | | | |
| 24-049 James River Association | The James River Association's James River Watch (JRW) engages the public to become stewards of the watershed and educate the public on river conditions as well as the potential risks and concerns to consider when participating in river-based recreation. CBRF funding will support supplies necessary for water quality testing during 2024, along with the development of bilingual (Spanish/English) outreach materials about JRW. | Shawn Ralston | \$10,492 | \$8,394 |
| 24-050 Boxerwood Education Association | Similar to previous grant applications, Boxerwood requests CBRF funding to sustain two programs that annually teach hundreds of local elementary and middle school youth how to care for the Bay. These interrelated programs are key components of meaningful watershed education experiences (MWEEs). | Elise Sheffield | \$10,710 | \$4,880 |
| 24-052 Blue Ridge Land Conservancy | Continuing with previous grant applications, BRLC proposes a "Bay Day" excursion for 4th grade Botetourt County elementary school students to Camp Bethel near Buchanan, Va., and Wilson Creek. The goal is to increase student's awareness of their impact on the Chesapeake Bay and improve general knowledge about watershed-related topics such as riparian buffers, soil erosion, and pollutants following Virginia Standards of Learning. | Tina Badger | \$3,270 | \$2,360 |
| 24-053 Nansemond River Preservation Alliance | Continuing with previous grant applications, the Nansemond River Preservation Alliance proposes to continue to support their K-12 Nansemond Watershed Initiative (NWI): Connecting the Classroom with the Environment and Community-Wide Program. This program applies hands-on, interactive, real-life experiences to educate students about scientific principles, methods, and their environment. Students conduct real-world research, get in the water, walk the land, work on projects alongside professionals in the field, and develop leadership and public speaking skills. | Beth Cross | \$20,000 | \$11,200 |
| 24-056 Keep Virginia Beautiful | As part of Keep Virginia Beautiful's (KVB) 70th anniversary, they will launch an initiative to engage high school students called "SAVE." "SAVE" will educate young people about litter's harmful impact on the environment (including the Chesapeake Bay), economy, crime rates, costs to municipal budgets, and overall well-being of Virginia's residents. CBRF funds will go toward program marketing costs and supplies, travel, and recognition/awards. | Cristi Lawton | \$7,000 | \$4,000 |

TOTAL AMOUNT RECOMMENDED: \$232,191