

2016 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

VIRGINIA forever calls on the General Assembly to provide funding levels for land conservation and water quality improvement as declared in our Five-Year Plan. VIRGINIA forever has the following principal aims for FY17.

Land Preservation

We seek **\$20 million** each year for land preservation (CPI adjusted) pursuant to HB 1398 (2013), which would be allocated for:

- \$16 million to the Virginia Land Conservation Fund
- \$2 million to the Civil War Site Preservation Fund
- \$2 million to the Virginia Farmland Preservation Fund

Waste Water Treatment Plants

We seek authorization for up to **\$58 million** in Virginia Public Building Authority (VPBA) bonds.

Of this, \$11 million is needed immediately to meet the Department of Environmental Quality's current contractual obligations with certain localities.

Agricultural Best Management Practices (BMP)

We seek **\$110 million** to assist farmers with cost-share and technical assistance support to improve water quality in local streams, rivers and the Bay.

This investment is guided by the "Annual Funding Needs for Effective Implementation of Agricultural Best Management Practices," embedded in the Commonwealth's Chesapeake Bay and Virginia Waters Clean-Up Plan.

Bond Funding

The potential bond package is a once-in-a-decade opportunity for Virginia to meet its goals to protect land and water. If it moves forward, we will seek a natural resources component that makes investments in our lands and waters.

This investment would ensure that all Virginians, visitors and future generations can reap the benefits of safe, clean drinking water supplies, a thriving economy, productive agricultural land and outdoor recreation.



OUR MEMBERSHIP



































































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