



Legislative Report:

Land Conservation and Water Quality Improvement Funding in the 2015 Virginia General Assembly

VIRGINIA*forever* spent the 2015 legislative session advocating for water quality and land preservation funding. Despite the initially bleak outlook of the 2015 budget, the legislators heard VIRGINIA*forever*'s message and passed a budget that included funding for all of VIRGINIA*forever*'s water quality and land preservation priorities:

- **\$5.0 million for land preservation**, which includes \$3 million to the Virginia Land Conservation Fund, \$1 million to the Civil War Site Preservation Fund, and \$1 million to the Virginia Farmland Preservation Fund
- **\$5.0 million for the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund**, a grant program that provides important assistance to local governments seeking to comply with the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan to restore local streams, rivers, and the Bay
- **\$10.7 million to assist farmers with cost-share and technical assistance support** to improve water quality in local streams, rivers, and the Bay. This is an important program to help farmers meet requirements under the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan

VIRGINIA*forever* will continue to remain engaged to help ensure a continued commitment to our Commonwealth's natural resources.