



Legislative Accomplishments:

2016 General Assembly Session

VIRGINIAforever spent the 2016 General Assembly session advocating for natural resources funding. Our efforts resulted in securing **more than \$200 million** in new funds for water quality, land conservation and state parks investments, including the following:

- **\$59 million for the Water Quality Improvement Fund (WQIF)** to invest in new pollution-reduction equipment for locally-owned wastewater treatment facilities.
- **\$20 million for the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund (SLAF)** for critical stormwater infrastructure projects.
- **\$61.7 million for agricultural best management practices (BMP)** funds to reduce agricultural runoff from animal operations and crop lands. *This represents the largest deposit ever into WQIF for agricultural BMPs.*
- **\$20 million over the biennium for land preservation** through the Virginia Land Conservation Fund (VLCF).
- **\$41 million for new state parks infrastructure**, including early development of Widewater State Park.

These successes were a result of significant lobbying and direct outreach to General Assembly members. Whether it was at our legislative reception, a one-on-one meeting with a select legislator, or a letter that was individually written and hand-delivered to a key legislator, VIRGINIAforever had a consistent and constant presence and message in the General Assembly that helped underscore the importance of funding for natural resources.

About VIRGINIAforever

VIRGINIAforever is a unique, diverse coalition of businesses, environmental organizations and outdoor enthusiasts that advocates for increased government funding for water quality improvements and land conservation across the Commonwealth.

VIRGINIAforever is the only statewide organization that has a primary focus on increasing funding for natural resources protection.

Learn more at www.virginiaforever.org.