



## Q2 2011 Newsletter

August 26, 2011

### Changes in the McDonnell Administration

Governor McDonnell announced in June that former Deputy Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry, Matt Conrad, was promoted to Deputy Chief of Staff and Deputy Counselor. A native of Appomattox, Conrad graduated with a B.A. in Political Science from James Madison University and received his Juris Doctor degree from George Mason University. Immediately prior to his appointment, he served in the Administration as Deputy Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry where, with Secretary Todd Haymore, he was responsible to the governor for two state agencies with nearly 800 employees with regional offices across the Commonwealth.

Taking Conrad's place as the Deputy Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry is Travis Hill. As an attorney with the Richmond-based law firm Williams Mullen, Hill spent the past eight years representing a wide variety of clients before the Virginia General Assembly, executive agencies, the State Corporation Commission and other regulatory bodies. In his practice, he handled legislative issues for not-for-profit entities, private foundations, associations and major corporate clients. His work included crafting legislation to address clients' concerns, reviewing and analyzing legislation, communicating with legislators and administration officials on issues of importance and advocating on behalf of his clients before committees of the General Assembly.

### Governor McDonnell Signs Environmental Stewardship Legislation

Governor Bob McDonnell signed eight pieces of environmental stewardship legislation in August that will help Virginia's agriculture industry grow and thrive while also enhancing water quality in the Chesapeake Bay and other Virginia watersheds. Legislation signed includes measures to regulate the use of certain fertilizers, allow agricultural land to be deemed in full compliance with its total maximum daily load allocation (TMDL) upon implementation and maintenance of a resource management plan, and authorize the Secretary of Natural Resources to study the expansion of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Nutrient Credit Exchange Program. Governor McDonnell was joined today by members of the General Assembly, as well as stakeholders from the agricultural and environmental communities.

### Conservation Groups Honor Delegate Harvey Morgan

Delegate Harvey Morgan's unending dedication to conservation of our natural resources in the Middle Peninsula, Chesapeake Bay and all of Virginia will be honored by the Middle Peninsula Land Trust

(MPLT), the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and numerous state and regional conservation organizations at MPLT's annual meeting. The meeting will convene on October 9, 2011, at historic "Rosewell" in Gloucester County from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Delegate Morgan has been a firm supporter of environmental initiatives to save the Chesapeake Bay and preserve the rural countryside of the Middle Peninsula. Growing up in Gloucester he and his family have spearheaded efforts to preserve our natural resources such as the Dragon Run and the tributaries flowing into the Bay. He took this passion and love for our Bay area to the halls of the General Assembly in 1980 where he has been a strong voice and advocate for the conservation principles throughout the Commonwealth. The MPLT invites the public to attend the annual meeting and participate in honoring our esteemed Delegate and friend Harvey Morgan. If you wish to attend please contact MPLT at [barber@va.metrocast.net](mailto:barber@va.metrocast.net) or by telephone 804 758-0640.

### **Summary of August 23rd Primary Elections**

This year's primary elections turned out a few upsets and set the stage for this fall's general elections. In a few instances, the primary is the only real election. We will likely see primary winners Tommy Norment (SD 3), Adam Ebbin (SD 30), and Alfonso Lopez (HD 48) in Richmond for the 2012 session. Also this week, Peter Farrell was chosen over five other candidates by a GOP panel for the nomination for the 56th House District seat recently vacated by Bill Janis. On the flipside, the outcome of certain other primary elections mean there will be a fight for the general election. Those races will include an interesting matchup between former republican delegate Dick Black versus democratic newcomer in the 13th Senate District; former republican delegate Jeff Frederick versus the incumbent Senator Toddy Puller in the 36th Senate District; and Barbara Favola versus Caren Merrick in the 31st Senate District. Each of these races is in Northern Virginia and will be races to watch as Republicans seek to gain control of the Senate. For a complete listing of candidates for the fall elections, please click [here](#),

### **Keep an Eye on the Virginiaforever Web Site**

You may have noticed but the Virginiaforever [web site](#) is currently being updated. In an effort to make the site more visually appealing and user friendly, we are evaluating the current design and layout and making the necessary changes to upgrade the user's experience. We are in the infancy stages but have begun to streamline the site by eliminating old links and defunct sections. Design modifications and upgrades will be determined and carried out over the coming months.

Very truly yours,



Robert L. Dunn  
Chairman