



Q4 2010 Newsletter

January 7, 2010

EPA Accepts Chesapeake Bay Clean-up Plan

Governor Bob McDonnell announced this week that he had received word from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that it had approved Virginia's Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan, which had been submitted by the Administration in November. Virginia is one of seven Bay jurisdictions to develop plans addressing the EPA's establishment of a total maximum daily load (TMDL) or "pollution diet" for the Chesapeake Bay. To read the governor's press release, click [here](#).

Annual Virginia forever Budget Briefing

Virginiaforever held its annual board meeting and budget briefing on Monday, December 20th in Richmond, Virginia. The Board of Directors and attending public heard presentations of Governor McDonnell's proposed amendments to the 2010-2012 biennial budget from the agencies and departments responsible for the oversight of natural resources and agriculture in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Presenters included the Honorable Doug Domenech, Secretary of Natural Resources; the Honorable Todd Haymore, Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry; David Paylor, Director of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ); David Johnson, Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR); Robert Duncan, Director of the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries; and Carl Garrison, State Forester.

To read more detail from the briefing, click [here](#).

Member Spotlight: Michael Lipford

LEAVING AN IMPRINT ON VIRGINIAforever

A founding member of Virginiaforever, Michael Lipford, is stepping away from the organization to focus his energy on expanding responsibilities at The Nature Conservancy, but he is leaving us in good hands. Michael, who is the Virginia executive director for The Nature Conservancy will now also be Mid-Atlantic States lead director overseeing state conservation operations in New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia and Virginia. He has ensured his interest in Virginiaforever, and passion for our mission, will carry forward by recommending, and helping orchestrate, his own replacement on the

Virginia*forever* board with The Nature Conservancy's Virginia director of state government relations Nicole (Nikki) Rovner.

"I don't think Virginia*forever* would exist without Michael Lipford. Before his involvement it was just a good idea," says Rovner. The Nature Conservancy helped launch and housed Virginia*forever* during its infancy. It was a natural fit given The Nature Conservancy's belief that business and environmental groups can work together to support funding for natural resources. "We look for opportunities to collaborate, we look for common ground. We are partners with lots of businesses and lots of environmental groups," adds Rovner.

As more businesses and environmental groups signed on and joined forces Virginia*forever* became an independent organization and has grown to a well-respected advocate for land conservation and water quality issues among Virginia lawmakers and key stakeholders. Bob Dunn, president of Virginia*forever*, says Lipford deserves a lot of credit for that, "Michael very much saw the value in business and environmental interests partnering and wanted to help develop the organization so it could succeed."

Lipford was recognized for his contributions at the December board meeting of Virginia*forever* and presented with a framed Ben Greenburg nature photograph as an expression of our gratitude.

To nominate a member to be featured in our next e-newsletter, please email info@virginiaforever.org.

Welcome new board members!

Virginia*forever* is excited to announce two new board members – Lisa Kardell with Waste Management and Nikki Rovner with The Nature Conservancy. Please take a moment to welcome these new board members!

Thank you for all that you do to support funding for the protection and preservation of our natural resources.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert L. Dunn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" being more prominent.

Robert L. Dunn
Chairman