
VIRGINIA DARE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

WHO WE ARE, WHAT WE DO, HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED



We work with the people who work the land.

WHO WE ARE

- Kathleen Sullivan – District Manager, Education Programs



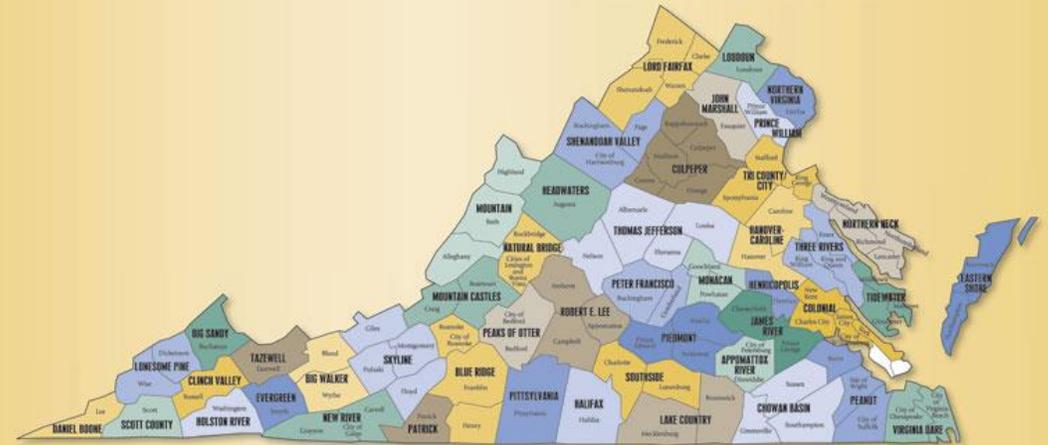
- Cory Hoar – Conservation Specialist



WHO WE ARE

- Virginia Dare is one of 47 Districts Virginia has. We represent the Cities of Chesapeake and Virginia Beach.
- Some of what we have to offer...
 - Environmental Education Opportunities
 - Technical Assistance w/Va. Agricultural BMP Cost Share Program
 - Conservation Planning assistance and approval of farm plans.
 - Virginia Conservation Assistance Program

VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS



We work with the people who work the land.

WHAT WE DO – ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

The Virginia Dare SWCD provides classroom programs in local schools that address conservation of our natural resources and promotion of best management programs in our watershed. **We delivered classroom programs to over 20 schools in our District with an outreach of over 2,500 students.** All Programs are at no cost ! All programs are aligned with the Virginia Standards of learning

Other Programs

- Farm Days – 1900 Students
- Reading in the Classroom
- Envirothon competition
- Youth Conservation Camp
- Scholarships to High School and College students!



WHAT WE DO – AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

- Virginia Agricultural BMP Cost Share Program 2019 highlights...
 - Over \$695,000 in BMP Cost share in Chesapeake Bay and Southern Rivers watersheds.
 - Most popular programs include
 - Non-harvestable and Harvestable cover crop programs
 - Nutrient Management Plan writing/revisions
 - Converting to No-Till/Minimum Till farming systems
 - Converting row crop to pasture hay land



WHAT WE DO –AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

- Used Motor Oil Recycling
 - Recycling used motor oil from producers in the Chesapeake and Virginia Beach Area.
 - Over 2500 gallons of used oil, hydraulic fluid, diesel fuel, old gas recycled and kept out of the waterways!



WHAT WE DO – AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS



- Used Tire Recycling
 - Offer used tire recycling using Emmanuel Tire out of Waverly, Virginia.
 - This program is open to producers in our District wanting to get rid of used tires at a discounted rate versus the landfill costs.
 - Must have a farm number to participate.
 - Tires get recycled and used for playground material, etc.
 - Last year we did over 4 tractor trailers full of used tires.
 - Special thanks to Chesapeake Sherriff's Dept. for assisting w/ labor!

WHAT WE DO – AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

- Virginia Dare SWCD received a Conservation Innovation Grant from The Natural Resource Conservation Service (USDA)
- Established the Southeast Virginia Farmers 20/20 Club.
 - Focusing on 20% increase in yields for corn and soybeans through systematic changes (cover crops, No-Till, variety changes, etc.)
- Collaborative effort with Virginia Cooperative Extension, and NRCS.

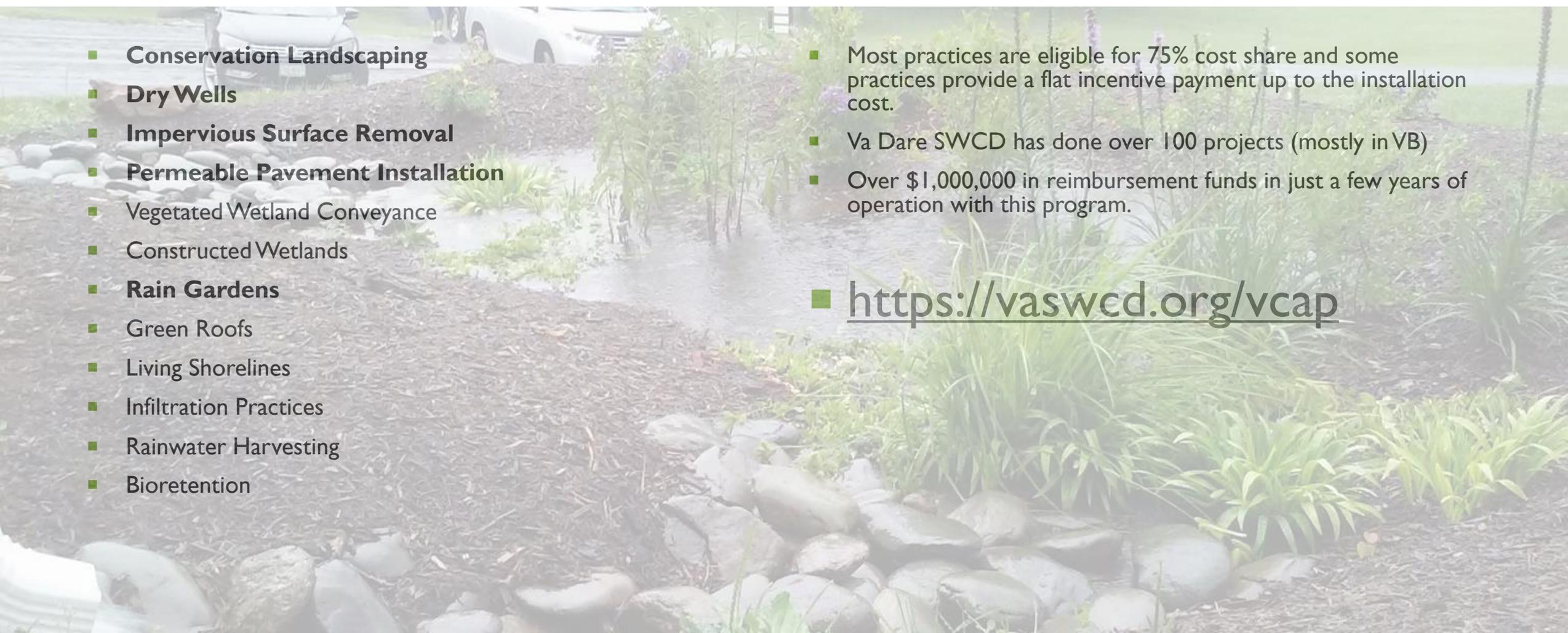


WHAT WE DO – VA. CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

- The **Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP)** is an urban cost-share program that provides financial incentives and technical and educational assistance to property owners installing eligible Best Management Practices (BMPs) in Virginia's participating Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs).
- These practices can be installed in areas of your yard where problems like erosion, poor drainage, or poor vegetation occur. Qualified sites shall be used for residential, commercial, or recreational purposes with a proposed practice that addresses a need.



VCAP – ELIGIBLE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- 
- **Conservation Landscaping**
 - **Dry Wells**
 - **Impervious Surface Removal**
 - **Permeable Pavement Installation**
 - Vegetated Wetland Conveyance
 - Constructed Wetlands
 - **Rain Gardens**
 - Green Roofs
 - Living Shorelines
 - Infiltration Practices
 - Rainwater Harvesting
 - Bioretention
- Most practices are eligible for 75% cost share and some practices provide a flat incentive payment up to the installation cost.
 - Va Dare SWCD has done over 100 projects (mostly in VB)
 - Over \$1,000,000 in reimbursement funds in just a few years of operation with this program.
- <https://vaswcd.org/vcap>

MOVING FORWARD IN CHESAPEAKE...

This...

- Farm land with Nutrient Management plans utilizing cover crops in winter months.



Not this...

- Continued housing developments.

