

RUNOFF

QUARTERLY NEWS FROM HANOVER-CAROLINE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Volume 43

Summer 2020

Edition 1

[Visit our website](#)



In an effort to maintain social distancing, the District is serving one client at a time in our office and conducting Board meetings virtually, until further notice. Updates to this policy can be found on our [website](#).

To schedule an appointment with a conservation specialist or reserve a no-till drill, please contact [Kathy Shamblin](#) or call 804-537-3009.

The District Board meeting schedule can be found [here](#).

Job Opening

District Conservation Specialist



We work with the people who work the land.

The Hanover-Caroline Soil & Water Conservation District has an opening for a full-time District conservation specialist. The conservation specialist is responsible for performing a wide range of technical duties that pertain to the

implementation of cost-share programs, services and outreach. The position will focus on providing support to the Virginia Agricultural Cost-share and Tax Credit Program, the Virginia Conservation Assistance Program, and the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act. Additional activities include conservation planning, data entry, reporting, presentations, and outdoor fieldwork.

[Full Job Posting](#)

[Conservation Specialist Job Description](#)

2021 Virginia Agricultural BMP Cost-Share Program Sign-ups

[July 13 - August 14, 2020](#)



The [Virginia Agricultural Cost-Share Program \(VACS\)](#) provides cost-share and technical assistance to landowners and agricultural operators who voluntarily install selected Best Management Practices (BMPs) such as stream exclusion fencing, rotational grazing systems, cover crops, and others.

Sign-ups for the 2021 VACS Program [began on July 13 and will continue through August 14, 2020.](#) For more information or to schedule an appointment, please email or call District conservation specialists [Sharon Conner](#) 804-537-3014, [Jim Tate](#) 804-537-3015, or [Marian Moody](#) 804-537-3016.

Click for
[2021 VACS Program Changes & Reminders](#)

Focus on Best Management Practices



Conservation Landscaping and the Power of Collaboration



Caroline County landowner Karen Greenaway wanted to learn more about best management practices (BMPs) for her property on Portabago Bay, in Port Royal. She reached out to the Virginia Department of Forestry (DOF) who recommended a partnership with Friends of the Rappahannock (FOR). After meeting with Ms. Greenaway, representatives from DOF and FOR suggested a tree-planting project for her property.

Through an agreement with Hanover-Caroline SWCD, Friends of the Rappahannock was able to help Ms. Greenaway qualify for cost-share with the Virginia Conservation Assistance Program. A 10-year plan was developed to

convert a 5.5 acre field, previously kept as mowed turf, back to hardwood forest. In May, 2020 staff and volunteers from FOR worked side-by-side with Ms. Greenaway to plant more than 1,700 native hardwood tree saplings, connecting two large blocks of riparian forest buffer.



Riparian buffers are the most valuable protection streams and rivers can have. Some of the important benefits they provide are to:

- Protect stream banks from erosion and streams from sediment pollution by slowing storm water runoff and reducing flooding
- Provide shade, an important temperature moderator for aquatic plants and animals
- Supply woody debris that provides habitat for fish, invertebrates, and amphibians
- Provide critical stream-side habitat for terrestrial wildlife
- Absorb nutrients, reducing water pollution

Each tree is protected by a 4 ft. tube and wooden stake to deter deer from browsing them. Ms. Greenaway is committed to maintaining the project for a minimum of ten years and will mow around the trees twice each year to ensure that they will reach maturity.

Funding for the project came from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and from cost-share assistance through the Virginia Conservation Assistance Program. Hanover-Caroline SWCD thanks Friends of the Rappahannock and the Virginia Department of Forestry for their collaboration on this project, the District's largest VCAP project to date.



Partner Spotlight

Hello, I am Laura Maxey-Nay. I am the agriculture and natural resources agent for Hanover County, with Virginia Cooperative Extension, which brings researched-based information to the localities we serve.

Virginia Cooperative Extension brings researched based information to the localities we serve. In Virginia, there are two Land-Grant Universities, Virginia Tech and Virginia State University and 11 research stations across the commonwealth. Specialists from the universities and research stations continually do research based on the needs of the time so the local Extension offices can provide up-to-date information to our locality.



In Hanover, I work with producers, homeowners, volunteers and partner agencies to provide them researched based information. One of my partnering agencies is Hanover-Caroline SWCD where I am an Extension Director. I am also on the agriculture and education committees. I work closely with H-C SWCD during public and youth education events. I also am a resource for pest

management, soil fertility, and other agronomy related questions. If you have any questions related to animals, plants or our natural resources, just ask! If I don't know the answer, I will find someone who does. Thank you for all that you do.

Contact [Laura Maxey-Nay](#) at [Hanover Cooperative Extension](#), 804-752-4310 or find them on [Facebook](#)

New Equipment Available This Fall!

The District replaced its older 7' no-till drill with a new Great Plains 7' end-wheel no-till compact drill, which will be available for rental this fall.

[Product Description](#)
[Operating Manual](#)
[Field Adjustment Guide](#)



Also available this fall will be a new Dew Drop Drill, a battery-operated, small-scale planter, to be pulled by an ATV. This drill will be powered by a solar charger and stored and transported on a trailer. Here's a short video about the [Dew Drop](#), by the man who built it.

Availability of both drills will be announced via our [website](#). For questions or reservations, please email [Kathy Shamblin](#) or call 804-537-3009.

Education Report

Duggan, Inge, Reisenweaver Awarded Scholarships



Joshua Duggan, Sydney Inge, and Derek Reisenweaver are the 2020 recipients of \$5000 scholarships awarded by the Hanover-Caroline Soil and Water Conservation District.

The District annually awards three \$5000 college scholarships to outstanding high school seniors in Hanover and Caroline counties. Applicants must indicate they have chosen to pursue academic studies in conservation, agricultural or environmental fields.

Joshua Duggan, a Caroline resident, graduated from Caroline High School this June as the 2020 Class Valedictorian. A member of the National Honor Society and an AP Scholar with Distinction, he was also awarded the Commonwealth Governor's School Awards for U.S. History and English.

Joshua attended the Chesapeake Bay Governor's School and was a member of the Environmental Club and Robotics Club, among other extracurricular activities.

Mr. Duggan will attend Juniata College in Huntingdon Pennsylvania this fall, where he will major in environmental science.

Sydney Inge, a Hanover resident, graduated from Patrick Henry High School in June. A member of the National Honor Society, a Hanover Scholar, PHHS's

Beta Club, Key Club, and Ecology Club, Sydney was also the Captain and MVP of the PHHS Gymnastics Team and First Tenor in the Jazz Band and as Principal Dancer at Diane Hale School of Dance.

Sydney grew up as an active member of her community as a Girl Scout for 13 years, as a volunteer with Hanover Arts and Activities Center, Hanover Food Outreach and a host of other organizations.

Ms. Inge will attend Virginia Tech in the fall, where she will major in environmental science.

Derek Reisenweaver, also a Hanover resident, graduated from Lee-Davis High School in June. As an alumnus of Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts' Youth Conservation Camp at Virginia Tech, Derek went on to participate in VASWCD's prestigious Youth Conservation Leadership Institute, completing a year-long research project on prothonotary warblers. He also independently researched and raised bobwhite quail for three years, often consulting with Virginia wildlife biologists to learn about how farmers can implement best practices for bobwhite habitat on their land.

Derek served as co-captain of the Lee-Davis High School JV Football team, co-captain of the Varsity Football team, was awarded the Varsity Football All-In Award, and Monthly Character Awards for Loyalty, Responsibility, Compassion, Gratitude, and Integrity, among others.

Mr. Reisenweaver will attend Virginia Tech in the fall, where he plans to major in Animal & Food Science, Environmental Science and Education.

Congratulations, Joshua, Sydney, and Derek!

Support for Schools

Due to the impacts of COVID-19, all public District educational events are cancelled. However, District staff remain committed to the environmental literacy goals of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement. District staff are working with local school districts to support their "Return to Learn" initiatives as our community grapples with the challenges of the upcoming school year.



Educators, families, and students may access environmental literacy resources for at-home, remote, or in-class learning on our [Educational Resources](#) web pages.

For help with finding specific conservation-related learning resources or to plan a community-based learning activity, please contact Karen Fetty, District education specialist kifetty@hanovercounty.gov



Volunteers Needed!



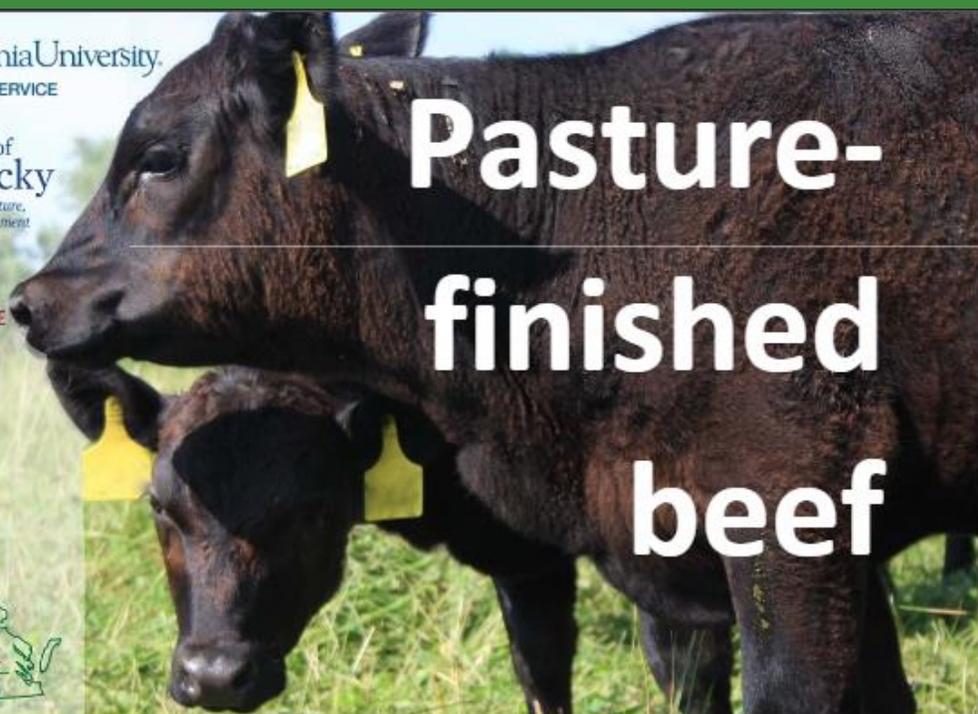
As part of it's "[Return to Learn Plan](#)" Hanover County Public Schools is collaborating with Hanover-Caroline SWCD to offer a modified [Meaningful Watershed Educational Event](#), or MWEE, for small groups of students attending a "mini-camp" at each middle school in August. Volunteers are needed to deliver supplies -- activity kits, local stream water and macroinvertebrates -- to middle schools during the week of August 10. Volunteers may also be needed for virtual meetings with students.

Teachers and students will practice social distancing and observe all health and safety guidelines recommended in the [Return to Learn Plan](#).

If you are able to support our students and teachers in August, either in-person or virtually, please email District education specialist, [Karen Fetty](#), or call 804-537-3009 today

This is a time for strong community collaboration with our schools. Please share this notice with local friends, family and businesses!

Upcoming Events



Pasture- finished beef



EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP



Three concurrent sessions, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm EDT each day:

August 11	August 12	August 13
Pasture-finished beef production overview	Cattle selection, supplementation and winter management	Producer panel
Forages and grazing management	Marketing and processing	Frame size X supplementation
		Putting it all together

Participants will receive a pasture-finished beef production manual and copies of all presentation materials.

REGISTER at vaforages.org/events

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services, or other accommodations to participate in this meeting, please contact Margaret Kenny (434-321-9272) five days prior to the event to discuss those accommodations.

This material is based upon work supported by USDA/NIFA under Award Number 2018-70027-28585.

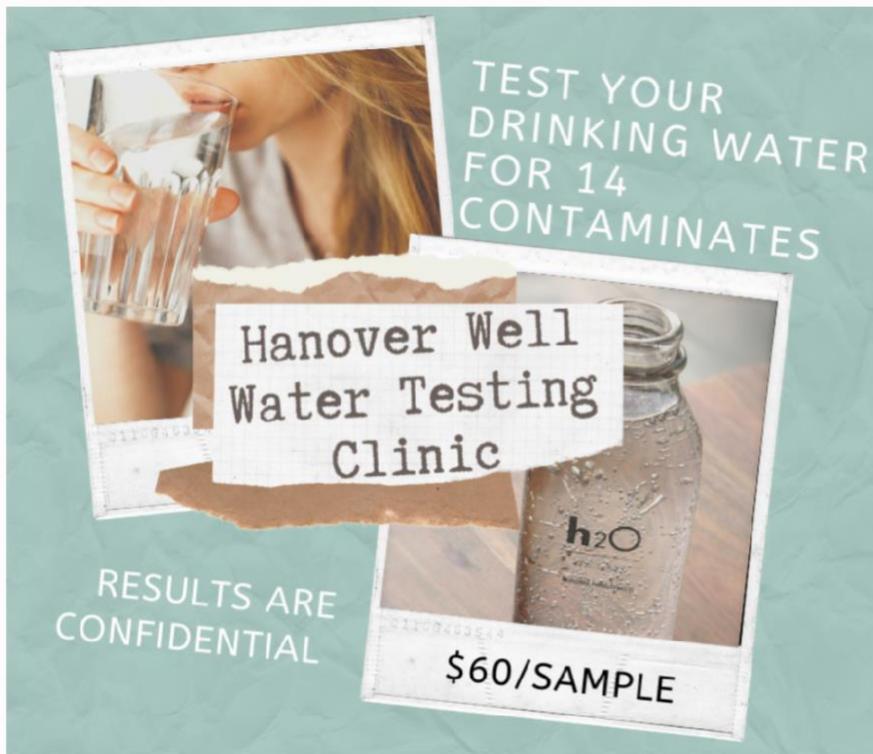


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Test for:

- Lead
- Iron
- Manganese
- Sulfate
- Hardness
- Sodium
- Copper
- Nitrate
- Arsenic
- Fluoride
- pH
- Total Dissolved Solids
- Coliform bacteria
- E. coli bacteria

Learn about your water quality through affordable testing and become empowered to make decisions about system maintenance and water treatment!

**Please pre-register as space is limited!
Contact Hanover Extension Office
mcjohnson@vt.edu
804-752-4310**

	Date and Time	Location
Pick up sample kit and receive directions to collect samples	Monday, June 8, 6:30 pm	Doswell Ruritan Club 16433 Washington Highway Doswell, VA 23047
Drop off samples	Wednesday, June 10, 7 -10 am	Hanover Cooperative Ext. Office 13015 Taylor Complex Lane Ashland, VA 23005
Results meeting	Tuesday, July 7, 6:30 pm	Doswell Ruritan Club 16433 Washington Highway Doswell, VA 23047

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact Laura Maxey-Nay at 804-752-4310 during business hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. to discuss accommodations 5 days prior to the event. *TDD number is (800) 828-1120.



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District Board Meetings

Hanover-Caroline SWCD Board meetings are open to the public.
Click below to review the 2020 H-C SWCD Board meeting calendar and recent meeting minutes.

[H-C SWCD Board Meeting Schedule](#)

[June, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes](#)

[May, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes](#)

[April, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes](#)





We work with the people who work the land.

Hanover-Caroline Soil & Water Conservation District

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(804) 537-3009

DIRECTORS

Leigh Pemberton, Chair - Hanover
Joseph H. Stepp, III, Vice-Chair - Caroline
Cindy Smith, Treasurer - Caroline
Donald L. Wells, Secretary - Hanover
Laura Maxey-Nay - ANR Extension Agent, Hanover
George Rice, Hanover

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

Casey Engel - Caroline
Tim Tobin - Caroline
Timothy Etheredge - Hanover
Danny Adams - Hanover
Meredeth Dash - Hanover

STAFF

Sharon Conner, District Manager/Conservation Specialist/FOIA Officer
Jim Tate, Conservation Specialist
Marian Moody, Conservation Specialist
Karen Fetty, Education Specialist
Kathy Shamblin, Administrative and Financial Professional

VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Mike Broaddus, ANR Extension Agent, Caroline
Laura Maxey-Nay, ANR Extension Agent, Hanover

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Brian Wooden, District Conservationist

Many Thanks to Our Runoff Sponsors!



Hanover County Farm Bureau

Ashland Office: (804) 798-6534
Fax: (804) 752-7858

100 Frances Road, Ashland, VA 23005

Mechanicsville Office: (804) 730-8730

Fax: (804) 746-9455

7286 Hanover Green Dr, Mechanicsville, VA 23111

VA42@vafb.com

VirginiaFarmBureau.com



FRESH...

- Vegetables—grown fresh on our farm.
- Farm Store—honey, jams, pickles, local spices, fresh eggs, local pork, natural dairy and made in VA products.
- Join our **CSA** for fresh produce all season!

Pick-your-own

Strawberries—*May*

Blueberries—

June/July

Blackberries—

July/August

Pumpkins—

October

23298 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Ruther Glen, VA 22546
(804) 448-0395

www.mtolympusfarm.com

