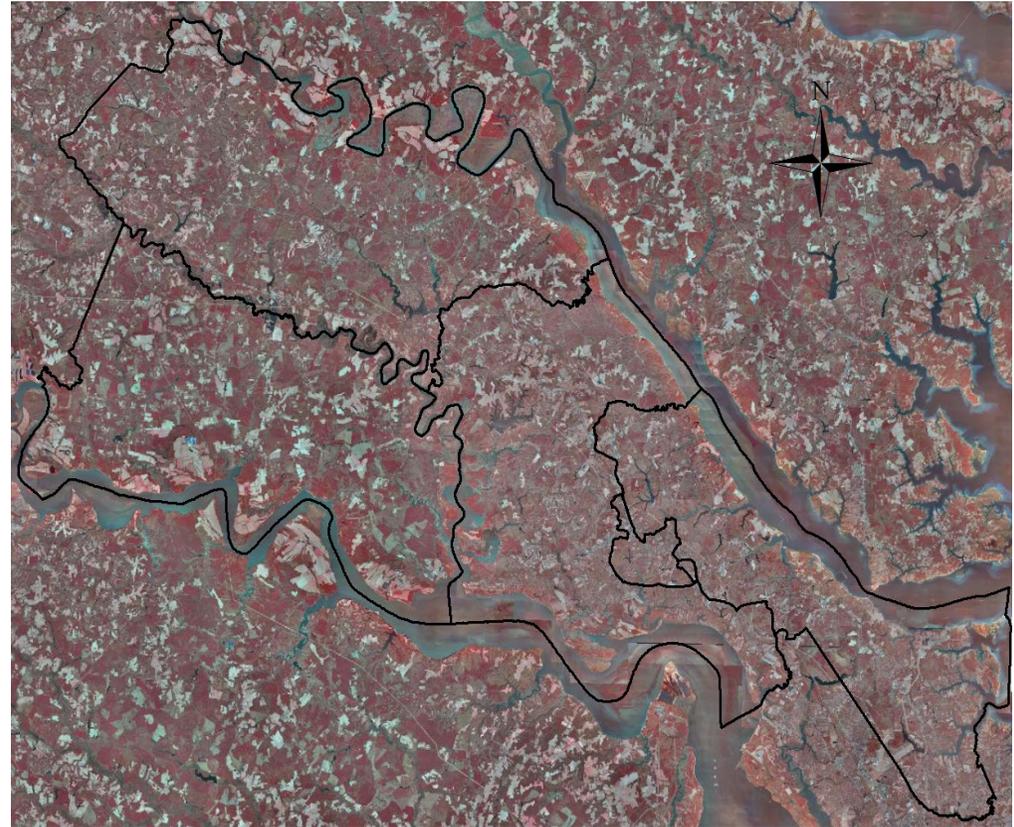


**Colonial Soil & Water Conservation District
Presentation to the
York County Board of Supervisors**

Colonial District Overview

- One of 47 Districts in VA serving James City, Charles City, New Kent, and York Counties and the City of Williamsburg
- Major growth in past 10 years from a staff of 3 to a current staff of 7 FT and 2 PT employees
- District programs focus on conservation practices for residential and agricultural lands and conservation education and outreach
- Service area covers several major river watersheds flowing directly into the Chesapeake Bay
- Key aspect of this area is the significant growth of urban development



Agricultural Programs

Virginia Agricultural Cost Share Program (VACS)

- Technical and financial assistance for agricultural conservation practices
- \$2,287 spent on York County cropland over the last 5 years
- Practices funded include nutrient management and continuous no-till

Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act (CBPA)

- Assessments required on all agricultural lands



Education Programs

Virginia's Dominion Envirothon

- Environmental/Conservation Themed Competition for High School Students

Youth Conservation Camp (YCC)

- CSWCD provided funding for one York Co student to attend 2022 camp
- YCC is a week-long conservation camp providing hands-on outdoor learning experiences for high school students, conducted on and around the Virginia Tech campus



Williamsburg Community Growers Partnership

- Community garden and teaching farm in between Warhill High School and WISC complex
- Includes members, gardeners, and students from York County
- In July 2021, CSWCD received more than \$90,000 in funding from the USDA Farm to School program to support growth and development at WCG
- In 2022, over 3,000 pounds of produce were donated to local community members in need



Urban and Residential Programs

Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP)

- CSWCD staff provide technical advice & financial assistance to implement conservation practices
- Most common practices are living shorelines, permeable pavement, and rain gardens
- Since 2018, CSWCD staff have met with and advised over 50 York Co landowners



VCAP Practices & Cost-Share Provided Since 2018 in York County

Practice Type	Total Cost	Cost-Share Provided	Landowner Expense
Living Shoreline	\$18,144	\$13,608	\$4,536
Living Shoreline	\$11,642	\$8,731	\$2,911
Living Shoreline	\$14,658	\$10,993	\$3,665
Living Shoreline	\$10,155	\$7,616	\$2,539
Living Shoreline	\$10,676	\$7,981	\$2,695
Living Shoreline	\$19,645	\$14,733	\$4,912
Rain Garden	\$318	\$239	\$79
Living Shoreline	\$34,768	\$15,000	\$19,768
Permeable Pavement	\$9,996	\$5,790	\$4,206
Permeable Pavement	\$9,521	\$5,080	\$4,441
Permeable Pavement	\$13,051	\$7,260	\$5,791
Living Shoreline	\$51,672	\$15,000	\$36,672
Living Shoreline	\$67,320	\$30,000	\$37,320
Total	\$271,566	\$142,031	\$129,535

York County Completed VCAP Practices



Shoreline Evaluation Program

- CSWCD recognizes an increasing need for technical assistance for shorefront property owners to better manage their property to prevent water quality degradation
- In partnership with Williamsburg/James City County Master Gardeners, CSWCD started a Shoreline Evaluation Program in which participants receive a shoreline assessment from District Staff or Master Gardener volunteers
- Assessments include identification of current or potential shoreline issues, opportunities for improved management, and a final report with recommendations for further assistance if needed or desired
- After about a year spent training with regional shoreline experts, the SEP formally launched in July 2022

Where Is CSWCD Headed?

- Supplemental funds from York County are needed to sustain & expand District VCAP and urban conservation efforts
- More focus on Grant Opportunities
- More focus and interest on Urban projects
- Actively seeking new partnerships and collaborations
- Securing grant funding to benefit our communities

Colonial SWCD Contact Information

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