## Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP)



A program of the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts



#### Chesapeake Stormwater Network Bulletin #8

"Despite the large size of the turf sector in the Bay watershed, <u>it</u> <u>only receives a small fraction of</u> <u>the resources, funding and</u> <u>technical assistance</u> devoted to managing other nutrient sources, such as agriculture, wastewater, and forestry.

- 6.1 million "turf grass farmers" in the watershed
- \$600 million expended for fertilizers and chemicals



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"By changing their attitudes and behaviors about what constitutes a green lawn, it may be possible to achieve major runoff and nutrient reductions to the Chesapeake Bay."

#### How to engage residential property owners?

#### Virginia's Chesapeake Bay WIP: "THE GAP"

- Partner with SWCDs and DCR to reduce residential fertilizer use
- Rain gardens, cisterns, downspout disconnection ... demonstrate effectiveness to the public & homeowners
- Implement urban forest buffers

NCENTIVES

• Consider developing a cost-share program to encourage private property owners

## VCAP - 2012 the beginning...

Four SWCDs (Culpeper, Thomas Jefferson, Hanover-Caroline, and Piedmont) collaborated to:

- 1. Provide a "programmatic template" to address the "gap" noted in Virginia's WIP.
- 2. Develop a pilot project to "test" this program as it is being developed.
- 3. Investigate potential funding options to make this a sustainable program.
- 4. Pilot grant funds totaling \$140,000



## Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant (CBIG)

- 30 Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- \$250,000 available to landowners in 2016, increasing in 2017
- Applications ranked on environmental criteria
- Approvals made each month
- Some BMPs require engineer certification
- All BMPs are provided cost-share on a reimbursement basis
- 10 year maintenance contract on all BMPs



## **CBIG Grant**

- Steering Committee
- VCAP Coordinator
- Webinar and further technical trainings
- \$184,470 of \$250,000 allocated (2016 calendar year grant cycle), began mid-March 2016
- 64 total projects approved, 25 complete and paid

Kevin McLean <u>kevin.mclean@vaswcd.org</u> VCAP Coordinator

## VCAP Manual BMPs



- Impervious Surface Removal
- Conservation Landscaping
- Rain Gardens
- Bioretention
- Dry Well
- Infiltration Basin
- Rainwater Harvesting
- Vegetated Conveyance Systems
- Constructed Wetlands
- Permeable Pavement
- Green Roofs
- Urban Nutrient Management\*
- Pet Waste Stations\*

\*Not currently funded through VCAP

### Turf to Landscaped Beds: HCSWCD

- Small Charlottesville lot
- 84 ft<sup>3</sup> treatment volume
- 2754 ft<sup>2</sup> drainage area, with 1502 ft<sup>2</sup> impervious



## Eligibility

- Practices are not intended to meet regulatory requirements
- Sites must be released from existing erosion and sediment control permits or other regulatory programs and construction completed prior to applying
- If an applicant's project qualifies for the State Ag BMP Cost-share Program, they are not eligible for VCAP on that project
- The applicant is responsible for ensuring that all local, state and federal permits, policies and ordinances are met
- All practices will be subject to spot checks during the lifespan of the practice
- The landowner must accept maintenance responsibilities per and Operations and Maintenance plan specific to each BMP



Part A. Application

I, \_\_\_\_\_(PRINT) hereby make application to \_\_\_\_\_\_Soil & Water Conservation District for cost-share assistance to purchase and install a best management practice as described in part B below.

I /We agree that the best management practice(s) approved will be installed, operated, and maintained in accordance with the practice(s) standard(s) found in the VCAP manual and the Landowner Agreement (VCAP Form – 3). I/We agree not to use the BMP for purposes of Nutrient Trading or regulatory compliance. I/We shall indemnify and save the District harmless from any and all claims for damages to persons or property arising from the installation, maintenance, repair, operation or use of the BMP(s).

I/We understand that it is my/our responsibility to pay in full all bills for work completed under this agreement prior to submission of eligible bills for reimbursement.

Applicant Signature:	Directions to site:				
Mailing Address:					
County:					
Phone: Cell:					
Email:					
SSN / Tax ID:	Circle one: Landowner / Manager / Other				
The local Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is required to issue a 1099-MISC to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for any individual to whom it issues a check for over \$600.00. Because the IRS uses the Social Security number or Federal Tax ID number as a unique					

to whom it assues a check to over solution. Because the Ho uses the social security number of retoral tax to number as a unique identifier, the SWOD requires the applicant to complete an IRS W9 form. The SWOD does not use the Social Security number or Federal Tax ID number for any purpose other than that stated above.

Part B. Technical Determination and District Approval (to be filled out by District Staff)

PracticeTitle	Quantity	Total Estimated Cost	Approved Estimated Cost-Share	Required Completion			
Job Sheet Attachment (VCAP Form-2): Yes/No Supporting Documentation: Yes/No							
I have reviewed this application and all supporting documentation, and have indicated the quantity authorized based on technical need. This practice must be installed and certified by the completion date							
X			o completion date.				
District Employee Signature		Date					
Application Approval:							
v							

Date

tor	Signature		

District Dire

Carryover of this practice is granted to be completed by date:

District Director Signature Date

## **VCAP** Process

- Districts promote VCAP
- Potential applicants contact district for TA
- District inspects site and assists with application process

 District submits application to VCAP Steering Committee for approval, followed by board approval

- Applicant installs practice
- District inspects and approves BMP

- VCAP SC and board approve payment, district makes payment and submits invoice to VASWCD
- District conducts
  occasional spot checks
  and homeowner maintains
  BMP for 10 years

## **Cost Share Guidance**

## VCAP Reference Sheet

			Max per
Practice	Lifespan	Reimbursement Rate	application
Impervious Surface Removal (ISR)	10 years	\$2.50 per square foot	\$ 10,000.00
Conservation Landscaping (CL) - all others	10 years	\$250.00 per 1000 sq. ft.	\$ 3,500.00
Conservation Landscaping (CL) - trees	10 years	\$9.00 per tree	\$ 3,500.00
Rain Gardens (RG)	10 years	75% of costs	\$ 2,000.00
Bioretention Basins and Areas (BB and BA)	10 years	75% of costs	\$ 10,000.00
Dry Well (DW)	10 years	75% of costs	\$ 2,000.00
Infiltration Basin (IB)	10 years	75% of costs	\$ 10,000.00
Rainwater Harvesting (RH)	10 years	\$2.00 per gallon of storage volume	\$ 10,000.00
Vegetated Stormwater Conveyance (VSC)	10 years		
* Dry Swales (DS)	10 years	75% of costs	\$ 5,000.00
* Step Pools (SP)	10 years	75% of costs	\$ 5,000.00
* Wet Swales (WS)	10 years	75% of costs	\$ 3,000.00
Constructed Wetlands (CW)	10 years	75% of costs	\$ 5,000.00
Permeable Pavement (PP)	10 years	50% of costs up to \$3.00 per sq. ft.	\$ 12,000.00
Green Roof (GR)	10 years	\$10 per square foot	\$ 10,000.00

## **Resources for More Information**

Kevin McLean, VCAP Coordinator: kevin.mclean@vaswcd.org

VCAP Brochure available on website and for print
 Technical training sessions and webinars

➢ Nov. 2 in James City County

# Questions?

#### To see the VCAP BMP Manual: www.vaswcd.org/vcap