



## TVIL Protected Lands Revealed!

### Part 1 of 4: Watershed protection on St. John Estate Carolina Preserve - St. John, USVI

TVIL acquired this 22-acre property in the Coral Bay watershed on St. John in 2012. This undeveloped parcel of land is found on a steeply sloped hillside perched high over Coral Bay. The ecology of the property is upland moist forest, and a large variety of native tree species have been identified on site. Two large seasonal guts cross the property and merge. Towering native veteran trees create areas of deep shade where the guts are narrow and steep. In the center of the property, a dramatic 60-foot tall waterfall is hidden amidst the trees. The forest and understory roots filter rainwater and hold the soil so that it is not washed downslope, and the guts are a pathway where storm water accumulates as it moves downslope. The large boulders and pools of the guts hold water once a tropical deluge has moved past and the downslope flow has ceased.

Protection of these forested slopes and guts protects habitat for insects, amphibians and birds, and is essential to the protection of the health of the Coral Bay marine environment. The Trust for Virgin Islands lands has committed to the protection and stewardship of this important land. Please donate to assist the trust in this important work. Every donation, of any size, helps us continue to achieve our mission.

<http://www.virginislandslandtrust.org/>

The photos show a 180 perspective of the property: photo 1 is taken from the roadside viewpoint across the valley, looking south toward the undeveloped slopes where the TVIL property is located; photo 2 shows the view to the north from the property itself.

Sorry folks – this property is preserved exclusively for watershed protection and is not appropriate for public access.



Photo 1 – looking south



Photo 2 – looking north