

FY27 Virginia Land Conservation Grant Round

WebGrants Management Portal (<https://vadcr.webgrantscloud.com/>)

Natural Area Preservation Application

Applicant/Project Information

[Save Form](#)

In addition to answering the specific questions asked in this section, you will have an opportunity to write more about your project in the Narrative section later in this application.

Applicant Type*:

Please choose one.

For qualified nonprofit entity, number of years office maintained in Virginia:

Number of Years:

Public Body Co-Holder:

Project Location:

County

Town

Total Acres to be Protected*:

Tax Parcel Number(s)*:

Virginia District #s*:

House

Senate

Congressional

If the property does not have an address, please provide the nearest address and its proximity.

**Full Physical Street Address of the Project
(No P.O. Box)*:**

Current Fee Owner of the Property*:

Project Specifics*:

Select all that apply.

If Other, Please List:

Does the property fall within one or more layers of ConserveVirginia?

ConserveVirginia*:

Select all that apply.

[Save Form](#)

General Project Information

[Save Form](#)

Has the landowner presented evidence of sufficient legal and physical access to the property adequate for the intended use of the property and for site monitoring?

Sufficient Access*:

Describe the Access:

500 character(s) left

Is the project adjacent to other protected conservation lands, including land under conservation easement or publicly-owned land? (Show this adjacency on the required aerial photo and topo map)

Adjacency*:

Identify the ownership or use of the adjacent land. (e.g. private property under easement, national forest, state or local park)

Ownership:

500 character(s) left

Full public access means the property will be available for public visitation 365 days a year, with no special permission needed to access the property. Restricted or Limited Public Access means the property will only be available for public access at certain times during the year or is only available for public access by appointment or with special permission. Visual access means the applicant can demonstrate the scenic value of the property to the public and that the project will protect the integrity of the public's scenic view.

Public Access*:

Please choose one.

Explain the degree of public access.

Public Access Explanation*:

500 character(s) left

Is the project a VOP regional featured project? Does the project address a recreation or resource conservation topic discussed in the 2024 Virginia Outdoors Plan?

The VOP can be found at: www.dcr.virginia.gov/vop – see especially Sections 2.1, Recreation for All, and 3.1, Recreation Land conservation, as well as the VOP Regional Featured Projects dashboard.

Virginia Outdoors Plan (VOP)*:

What VOP regional featured project does this project support? Which recreation or resource conservation topics from the VOP or local comprehensive plan does the project address? How does it address them?

Specific Recreation or Resource Conservation Topics:

500 character(s) left

VOP Section Numbers:

Does the project meet specific conservation or outdoor recreation goals in the local comprehensive plan?

Comprehensive Plan*:

What are the specific goals that are met?

Specific Goals:

500 character(s) left

Attach the relevant pages from the plan only, not the entire comprehensive plan. Please highlight the applicable goals.

Relevant Pages:

Select file

If the project provides public access, is there a moderate, high, or very high need for recreation access as identified in the Nature Based Recreation Access Model (<https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/vaconvisrec/>)? Please specify the level of need and whether it is terrestrial and/or aquatic.

Recreation Access Model Scores:

You may attach a map showing the Recreation Access Model identified need here.

Recreation Access Model Map:

Select file

Does the project offer protection of a Local Cultural Resource? Examples include remnants of prior settlements, artifacts, evidence of unmarked burial sites of enslaved or indigenous people, former segregated schoolhouses, sites of early racial integration, historic fence lines, roadbed or railbed systems, evidence of past wharfs, pine tar industry sites, gold mining pits, tobacco barns, witness trees, caves, etc.

Local Cultural Resource Protection*:

Give the name of the site here and provide pictures in the Documents Form.

Name of Site:

Describe fully the cultural resources on the property. Include draft language to be used in the deed to protect these resources. Example language for the protection of these cultural resources is “(these) cultural resources may no be disturbed, built upon, be subject to ground disturbance. Resources shall be maintained in current or better condition.”

Please Describe:

1000 character(s) left

Explain any planned education opportunities about the cultural resources that will be made available for the public.

Cultural Resource Education:

500 character(s) left

Please describe the degree to which the community where the project is located is underserved/socially vulnerable. We recommend using the Social Vulnerability Model developed by the Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences (http://cmap2.vims.edu/SocialVulnerability/SocioVul_SS.html), but other models and sources may be used.

Please see the Grant Manual for more information.

Social Vulnerability*:

2000 character(s) left

Does the project intersect ConserveVirginia layers in addition to the Primary VLCF Application Category for your project?

Intersect ConserveVirginia Layers*:

Is the landowner agreeable to language being inserted in the deed for the project that will protect the associated resources in order to be awarded additional points for each confirmed intersecting layer? View the ConserveVirginia Deed Review Criteria to see what protections are required for each category: <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/land-conservation/document/conservevirginia-deed-review-criteria.pdf>

Landowner Agreeable:

Describe how the project will protect resources in perpetuity for any identified ConserveVirginia categories other than the primary application category. View the ConserveVirginia Deed Review Criteria to see what protections are required for each category: <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/land-conservation/document/conservevirginia-deed-review-criteria.pdf>

ConserveVirginia Protections:

1000 character(s) left

Does the property have frontage long rivers, shorelines, perennial streams, wetlands, or bodies of water with perennial outflow?

Perennial Water Features*:

Total linear footage of frontage along rivers, shorelines, perennial streams, wetlands, or bodies of water with perennial outflow:

Total Linear Footage:

Planned Riparian Buffer Width

(i.e. 35', 50', 100'):

Will the riparian buffer be forested?

Forested:

Describe the extent to which the project will protect water quality beyond the required 35-foot wide vegetated buffers on perennial streams, rivers, shorelines, wetlands, and waterbodies with perennial outflow. Include information about percentage of the forest canopy, degree of protection, and feet of water frontage buffered, with an indication of buffer width.

Buffer Details:

500 character(s) left

Does the property have areas in which wetlands may migrate in the future, as identified on the Wetland Potential 2050 layer of the AdaptVA interactive map (https://cmap22.vims.edu/AdaptVA/AdaptVA_viewer.html)?

Migrating Wetlands:

Has the landowner agreed to protect the areas in which wetlands may migrate by prohibiting the construction or placement of buildings, paved roads, and other impervious surface in these areas? If so, such restrictions must be included in the final recorded legal documents.

Migrating Wetlands Protections:

Provide information about how the project will benefit any specific wildlife and protect their habitats, particularly Species of Greatest Conservation Need identified in Virginia's Wildlife Action Plan or State or Federally listed threatened or endangered species. Indicate if public access will be available for viewing or hunting wildlife, or for fishing.

Fish and Wildlife Values*:

2000 character(s) left

If the project intersects a wildlife buffer or corridor as shown on the Virginia Natural Heritage Data Explorer (www.vanhde.org), include a description of how the project will protect the associated wildlife buffer or corridor in perpetuity.

Wildlife Corridors*:

2000 character(s) left

Can the applicant provide a title commitment insuring the applicant's interest in the property? If so, please attach.

Title Commitment:

Select file

For easement projects, applicants must upload a term sheet or draft easement indicating the proposed protections of the project's conservation values.

Term Sheet or Draft Easement:

Select file

Save Form

Project Category

[Save Form](#)

Choose your appropriate primary and secondary categories. When you save your application, you will see questions for all categories, but will not be able to answer them. Do not worry about this, you are only to answer those for your categories.

Primary VLCF Application Category*:

Natural Area Preservation ▼

Please choose one.

2nd category is not required, but recommended.

Secondary Category:

▼

Please choose one.

Please provide a brief summary of your proposed land conservation project. Include project name, grant category, locality, acreage, land use, conservation values, partners, etc. This summary will be used to provide an introduction of your project to the interagency task force and the VLCF Board.

Brief Project Description*:

1400 character(s) left

Does the proposed project occur within a conservation site as identified on NHDE? If so, please identify the conservation site and whether it is within an Action Conservation Site, Portfolio Conservation Site, or General/Null Conservation Site. Is the project adjacent to a dedicated Natural Area Preserve?

Land Protection Priority:

1000 character(s) left

How many natural heritage elements are present on, or associated with, the property? Please explain with detail including whether documented Element Occurrences are viable, extant, "essential" status, and their locations relative to the subject property.

Documented Element Occurrences:

1000 character(s) left

Describe the global significance of conservation sites associated with the project, in terms of Biodiversity Rank(s) of the conservation site(s).

Global Significance:

500 character(s) left

Please indicate the percentage of the parcel area that is within one or more ecological cores

Ecological Cores:

0

C1 Core

0

C2 Core

0

C3 Core

0

C4 Core

0

C5 Core

Is any portion of the parcel within the Natural Land Network (as shown on <https://vanhde.org/>)?

Natural Land Network:

Yes

No

How much of the parcel is in a significant natural community (Rank A-C, E)?

Significant Natural Community:

Less than 24% ▾

Is the parcel adjacent to other conserved lands with high Biodiversity Management Intent (BMI)? If so, what is the BMI score?

BMI can be found in the Managed Conserved Lands layer on the Natural Heritage Data Explorer (<https://vanhde.org/content/map>).

Connectivity with Conserved Lands:

Not adjacent to other conserved lands ▾

Connectivity with Conserved Lands

Comments:

1000 character(s) left

What is the intensity of current and future management actions needed to successfully maintain/restore natural heritage resources?

Management Needs:

1000 character(s) left

Does the applicant have proven experience and capacity in terms of staff resources and expertise to address management needs?

Management Capacity:

1000 character(s) left

Has Natural Heritage staff visited the property and discussed necessary conservation measures and implications of natural area preserve dedication?

Please Explain:

1000 character(s) left

Has the property been recommended by, via a support letter from, DCR Natural Heritage based on specific criteria listed in Va. Code § 10.1-1022.1?

DCR Natural Heritage Support Letter:

Is there high development threat for the project area? Is the threat ranked in the ConservationVision Development Vulnerability Model? Data from other sources will also be considered for this criterion if the applicant provides explanatory information and a source reference to document the threat (i.e. tract is on the market for sale or facing imminent conversion threat).

Please Explain:

500 character(s) left

Explain the type of public access and activities that are planned. How will these avoid impacts to sensitive natural heritage resources?

Type of Public Access:

Is property being used as a match for this category?

Property Match:

 Save Form

Narrative Project Information

[Save Form](#)

Provide more details of the project and fully describe how elements of the project meet the VLCF grant criteria for the chosen category and the Additional Scoring Criteria found in Appendix B of the grant manual. This will assist the review panel in understanding the scope of the project and in scoring the application.

- Describe the objectives and need for grant assistance.
- Provide a detailed description of how the project meets specific criteria of the grant category under which the application is made.
- If applicable, state how the project provides significant benefits for your chosen secondary category.
- Include an assessment of property market value to substantiate the project cost and grant request. Although final appraisals are not required at the time of application, submission of a preliminary appraisal is helpful.
- Identify the expected results and benefits the proposal will have.
- Describe how the project is consistent with or complements local and regional plans.
- For easement projects (or fee-acquisition projects with an associated required easement), provide a list or summary of the restrictions that will be included in the easement, including riparian buffer requirements, historic-resources protections (See Page 8 of Grant Manual for historic resource protection requirements), preservation of forest acreage, limitations on allowed development, etc.
- Discuss the landowner's short-term and long-term management plans for the site.
- State the length of time that will be required to complete the project once the grant is approved.
- Identify any factors that might accelerate or delay the project.

Narrative Project Information*:

10000 character(s) left

[Save Form](#)

Budget

[Save Form](#)

Requested Amount*:

Match Amount:

Total Project Cost:

Match Percentage:

[Save Form](#)

Budget Details

[Save Form](#)

Expected Appraised Value of the Fee or Easement*:

Legal Fees*:

Survey Costs*:

Appraisal Cost*:

Title Search and Title Insurance*:

Recordation Costs*:

Environmental Site Assessment Cost*:

Easement Fees Required by Public-Body Holders:

Other Costs:

Other Description:

TOTAL Expected Due Dilligence Costs:

TOTAL PROJECT COST:

[Save Form](#)

Match Sources

[Save Form](#)

Please Note:

A match of at least 50% is required for all nonprofit and local government projects.

If match sources are not yet fully determined, a Match Commitment letter is required.

Have you identified your match source?:

Match Source:

Match Amount:

Have you secured sources for the full value of your required match?:

Is the applicant a State Agency, or a State- or Federally-Recognized Tribe?

State Agency or Tribe:

A match commitment letter is required.

Here is an example you can use: [Example Match Commitment Letter](#)

Match Commitment Letter:

[Save Form](#)

Documentation - Named Attachments

[✓ Mark as Complete](#)

To upload documents, click on the title of each document, which will link to an upload window.

Please note under Maps:

*Attach an [aerial map](#) to show the geographic location of the project. The map should show the shape of the planned project in relation to adjacent/nearby conserved lands.

*Attach a [topographic map](#) for the project. The map should show the shape of the planned project in relation to adjacent/nearby conserved lands.

(DO NOT insert the entire topographic quad map available from the US Geological Survey. Instead, show your project area on the USA Topo Maps basemap found in the [Natural Heritage Data Explorer](#))

*Attach below [maps of ConserveVirginia layers](#) that intersect your project.

*Attach below [maps of Wildlife Corridors](#) that intersect your project.

*We would greatly appreciate having a shapefile that shows the boundary of the property. Shapefiles must be compressed into a ZIP file for upload.

Additional:

*You have the option to complete a scoring sheet for your project. If you wish to do so, you can find scoring sheets in Appendix B of the FY25 Grant Manual and upload your completed sheet in the Appendix Items section below.

Named Attachment	Required	Description	File Name 	Type	Size	Upload Date	Delete?
A signed letter from all landowners stating that they are willing participants in the proposed transactions or a notice of intent to sell	✓						
Public Body Letter (for nonprofit applicants only)							
Required Match Letter (if required match is not confirmed)							
Maps							
Aerial map	✓						
Topographic map	✓						
ConserveVirginia layers	✓						
<i>If your project intersects any mapped wildlife corridors, include a map of the corridors here.</i>							
Wildlife Corridors							
ZIP file of the shapefile showing the boundary of the property							

Appendix Items - Named Attachments

[✓ Mark as Complete](#)

Named Attachment	Required	Description	File Name 	Type	Size	Upload Date	Delete?
Farm management plan							
Forest management plan							
Appraisal or pre-appraisal							
Letters of support for the project							
Scoring sheet(s)							

Project Photographs

[Save Form](#)

Attach at least three photographs that highlight the conservation values being conserved by the project.

By uploading your photos here, you authorize the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation to use the photographs in editorial, promotional and marketing efforts related to VLCF.

Attach a photo of the project.

Photograph 1*: [Select file](#)

Provide the name of the individual and/or organization to be credited for this photograph.

Photograph 1 Credits*:
200 character(s) left

Provide a short description of Photograph 1.

Photograph 1 Description*:
300 character(s) left

Attach a photo of the project.

Photograph 2*: [Select file](#)

Provide the name of the individual and/or organization to be credited for this photograph.

Photograph 2 Credits*:
200 character(s) left

Provide a short description of Photograph 2.

Photograph 2 Description*:
300 character(s) left

Attach a photo of the project.

Photograph 3*:

Select file

Provide the name of the individual and/or organization to be credited for this photograph.

Photograph 3 Credits*:

200 character(s) left

Provide a short description of Photograph 3.

Photograph 3 Description*:

300 character(s) left

Attach a photo of the project (optional).

Photograph 4:

Select file

Provide the name of the individual and/or organization to be credited for this photograph.

Photograph 4 Credits:

200 character(s) left

Provide a short description of Photograph 4.

Photograph 4 Description:

300 character(s) left

Attach a photo of the project (optional).

Photograph 5:

Select file

Provide the name of the individual and/or organization to be credited for this photograph.

Photograph 5 Credits:

200 character(s) left

Provide a short description of Photograph 5.

Photograph 5 Description:

300 character(s) left

Save Form

Letters/Resolutions - Other Attachments

✓ Mark as Complete

+ Add from Doc Repository

+ Add New Attachment

Letters and resolutions that confirm match amounts

Description	File Name	Type	Size	Upload Date	Delete
No files attached.					

Additional Documents and Photos - Other Attachments

✓ Mark as Complete

+ Add from Doc Repository

+ Add New Attachment

Please attach any other documents to support the application.

Description	File Name	Type	Size	Upload Date	Delete
No files attached.					