

Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP) for Homeowners

Project Funding Now Available to Homeowners!

Through the statewide Virginia Conservation Assistance Program, the Loudoun Soil and Water Conservation District provides financial incentives to Loudoun County homeowners and business owners to create more watershed-friendly landscapes.

2016 Virginia Conservation Assistance Program

Conservation Landscaping. Convert turf grass to wildflowers. Incorporate native trees and shrubs, meadow or wetland plants into your landscape. Minimum size: 100 square feet. Match: \$250 per 1000 square feet or \$9 per tree up to \$3,500.

Rain Gardens. Bowl-shaped garden area that collects and absorbs runoff. Typical cost: \$10-25 per square foot. Minimum size: 100 square feet. 75% match up to \$2000.

Impervious Surface Removal. Remove impervious hard surface area to allow water to pass through and absorb into the ground below. Match \$2.50 per square foot up to \$10,000.

Porous Pavement/Pavers. Install porous pavers that allow water to pass through and absorb into the ground below. Must be installed by certified professional. Typical cost: \$10-35 per square foot. Minimum size: 300 square feet. Match \$3.00 per square foot up to \$10,000.

Cisterns. Harvest rainwater to store for future use. Minimum size of 250 gallons and must collect 1" of rainfall from roof. \$2.00/gallon up to \$10,000.

Dry Well. A gravel-filled area that collects and absorbs runoff. Typical cost: \$5-15 per square foot. Minimum size: 100 square feet surface area or 300 cubic feet volume. 75% match up to \$2000.

Vegetated Swales. A wide, shallow ditch with amended soil and dense vegetation or grass designed to slow and absorb rainwater runoff and/or filter pollutants. Typical cost: \$5-25 per square foot. Minimum size: 150 square feet. 75% match up to \$5000 or \$3000, depending on type.

Bioretention. Larger version of a rain garden, requires engineered design. Bowl-shaped garden area that collects and absorbs runoff. Typical cost: \$10-25 per square foot. Minimum size: 100 square feet. 75% match up to \$10,000.

Infiltration Trench. Larger version of a dry well, requires engineered design. A gravel-filled area that collects and absorbs runoff. Typical cost: \$5-15 per square foot. Minimum size: 100 square feet surface area or 300 cubic feet volume. 75% match up to \$10,000.

For a full list of project options, please see: [Virginia Conservation Assistance Program](#)

There is a two step application process. **Step One:** The homeowner will submit a site visit request. LSWCD staff will visit your property and provide recommendations. **Step Two:** Based on the site visit recommendations, the homeowner will submit a final application with a budget and contractor bid or pricing schedule. If selected, the homeowner will sign a participant agreement, move forward with project installation, and submit a reimbursement request upon project completion.

Eligibility Requirements

Property is located in Loudoun County, VA.

- Property owner is willing to keep and maintain practices for 10 years after installation. Loudoun SWCD will verify ongoing maintenance.
- New construction is not eligible for assistance, only retrofits to existing development.
- Native species will be used for all plantings. For possibilities, see: [Plant NoVA Natives](#) and [Plant List for Bioretention Facilities](#)
- Project must provide a water quality benefit.

How to Request a Site Visit

For more information or to request a site visit, contact the Loudoun Soil and Water Conservation District at www.lswcd.org or 571-918-4530.

Please include the following information:

- The site address
- Which project types you are most interested in
- A basic description of any drainage and erosion issues on your property
- Names and contact information (email preferred) for all property owners/decision makers

About the Conservation Assistance Program

Maintenance and inspection requirements: Annual maintenance will be required of the installed runoff practices. Periodic verification/inspections will ensure they were installed properly and are maintained to ensure proper functioning.

Multiple practices: You can apply for more than one project type in a single application or in subsequent rounds.

For more information, please see: [Virginia Conservation Assistance Program](#)

For other questions, please [contact the Loudoun Soil and Water Conservation District](#).