

HOW LAND DEVELOPMENT AFFECTS STORMWATER RUNOFF

Roads, parking lots, sidewalks, homes, and offices replace natural landscapes. Rainfall that once soaked into vegetated ground now becomes stormwater runoff, which flows directly into local waterways.

As more natural landscapes are converted to impermeable surfaces or managed turf, stormwater moves across them, carrying pollutants such as sediment and nutrients to vulnerable streams and the Chesapeake Bay. Stormdrains you see on the street do not provide any sort of water filtration.



Before - Impervious pavement transporting water into stormdrains after a storm.



After - Pervious rain garden absorbs and infiltrates the stormwater into the soil.

ELIGIBLE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP'S)

- [Conservation Landscaping](#)
- [Impervious Surface Removal](#)
- [Rain Garden](#)
- [Dry Well](#)
- [Rainwater Harvesting](#)
- [Vegetated Conveyance System](#)
- [Constructed Wetlands](#)
- [Bio-retention](#)
- [Infiltration](#)
- [Permeable Pavement](#)
- [Green Roof](#)

Most practices are eligible for 75% cost-share and some practices provide a flat incentive payment up to the installation cost.



We work with the people who work the land.

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Virginia Conservation Assistance Program

Presented by Virginia Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts



The Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP) is an urban cost-share program that provides financial reimbursement to property owners installing eligible Best Management Practices (BMP's) in Virginia's Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

All Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed are eligible for VCAP programs.

Contact your local SWCD for more information.



The VCAP Manual and application forms are available on the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts' website. (vaswcd.org/vcap)

Program details and funding opportunities continue to evolve. Please contact the Districts with any questions regarding your interest in the program.

WE CAN HELP:

- Restore problem areas
- Control and minimize erosion
- Conserve water within the landscape
- Restore riparian buffer areas
- Promote wildlife habitat
- Re-vegetate bare slopes
- Stabilize drainage ways
- Treat stormwater runoff

THROUGH VCAP, YOU CAN:

- Maintain or improve property values
- Receive technical assistance
- Receive cost-share assistance for your efforts

AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO YOUR PART:

Why do Virginia's waters need improving? Nonpoint source pollution is the primary reason. Runoff from suburban lawns, golf courses, and paved surfaces has increased along with our state's population.

Virginia's Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) for the Chesapeake Bay identifies that urban/suburban runoff is contributing to impairment and efforts to retro-actively address stormwater runoff from existing impervious surfaces is a priority.

VCAP is an opportunity to help you do your part to improve water quality.

WHAT IS VCAP?

The Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP) is an urban cost-share program that provides financial reimbursement to property owners installing eligible Best Management Practices (BMP's).

These practices can be installed in areas of your yard where problems like erosion, poor drainage, or poor vegetation occur. Qualified sites shall be used for residential, commercial, or recreational purposes with a proposed practice that addresses a need.