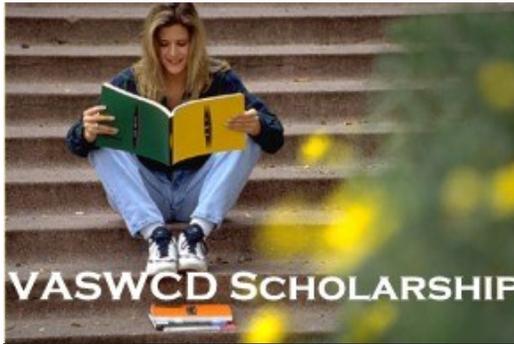


Teacher's Conservation Corner

John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District

VASWCD Scholarships

The Virginia Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts is once again offering four \$1,000 scholarships to students through their educational foundation.



Four \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to students statewide.

This scholarship program provides financial support to students majoring or desiring to major in a natural resource conservation and/or environmental studies curriculum.

Eligible applicants must be full-time students who are enrolled in or who have applied to a college freshman curriculum. Applicants need to be in the top 20% of his or

her graduating class or have a GPA of at least 3.0 or equivalent.

Applications are Due to the John Marshall SWCD no later than 5:00pm on March 2, 2015.

For more information or to request an application, please contact the John Marshall Soil & Water Conservation District.

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Grasses for the Masses

Each year, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation sponsors a Grasses for the Masses program in which participants grow underwater grasses to improve habitat and oxygen levels in the Bay.

The grasses are grown for 10-12 weeks beginning in the spring and then transplanted into a location in the Bay or in a major river near its confluence with the Bay.

The cost to participate

is \$40 and includes a kit with everything needed to grow the grasses. For more information, visit the Chesapeake Bay Foundation's website ([link](#)). The schedule of workshops can be found at this [link](#).



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JMSWCD Spring Tree Plantings

Winter may have only officially started, but spring is right around the corner and that means tree planting season is upon us once again. The John Marshall SWCD is looking for volunteers to assist the District in our Riparian Tree-age pro-

ject, whose purpose is to establish native hardwood plantings in riparian buffers.

This is the District's third year working on this project, the goal of which is to plant tree seedlings to create riparian buffers in order to improve water quality.

At these plantings, we provide an educational demonstration to show the impacts that planting trees have on water quality and attempt to tie it into what students are learning in the classroom. If you are interested in having your class help out, please contact our office for details. If your class is not able to assist, but you know of individuals or small groups of students who may be willing to plant trees or participate in preparatory activities, please have them contact the District. We may even have some funds available to reimburse some students for their work.



Students assist with a riparian buffer tree planting.

This spring, the District will need help for this project and we are looking for classes of 8th-12th grade students to help us plant trees this spring at local farms.

Chesapeake Bay Trust Mini Grant Program - Deadline Approaching

The Chesapeake Bay Trust is a non-profit organization which supports field experiences, fieldwork and student-led action projects as well as teacher professional development. Their goal is to advance environmental literacy in the Chesapeake Bay region.

quick funding for it.

Examples of projects that have been funded in the past include construction of outdoor classrooms, costs to attend meaningful watershed educational experience field trips, teacher professional development workshops, and school projects to paint stormdrains, and create recycling and energy conservation awareness materials.

posals can be found online by clicking this [link](#).

The District can provide assistance to teachers with grant writing as well as implementation.

The Trust is offering grants of up to \$5,000 to schools or other organizations. The application deadline of January 16 is quickly approaching. If you have a great idea for a program, this might be a way to get some

More information and the Request for Pro-



The Chesapeake Bay Trust's Mini Grant Deadline is January 16, 2015.