



CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Purpose: To promote the education of Virginia citizens in technical fields related to natural resource conservation and environmental protection.

To give financial support to students majoring in or showing a strong desire to major in a course curriculum related to natural resource conservation and/or environmental studies.

Qualifications: Two Education Scholarships will be awarded annually by the Virginia Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts (VASWCD) on behalf of the Northern Neck Soil & Water Conservation District (NNSWCD).

Individual applicants must be full-time students enrolled in—or who have applied to—a college level curriculum in natural resource and/or environmental studies. Qualified applicants shall document a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or greater or appropriate equivalent of individual scholastic achievement.

Applicants shall demonstrate an active interest in natural resource conservation. **The applicant’s most recent official school transcript must accompany the application (this must be an original). Photocopies of transcripts will not be accepted.**

The attached application form may be used for either NNSWCD scholarship. One applicant will be chosen for each Northern Neck scholarship. Eligible applicants are high school seniors or enrolled undergraduate college students with permanent residency in Northumberland, Richmond, Lancaster or Westmoreland Counties.

It is the responsibility of the District to screen applications for eligibility in accordance with the criteria stated herein. **Applications not fulfilling minimum criteria shall not be considered.**

Amount Awarded: Two \$1,000 scholarships are offered annually to Northern Neck students:

- **The J.C. Berger Conservation Advancement Scholarship** is open to students with permanent residency within Northumberland, Richmond, Lancaster, or Westmoreland counties, who will begin a full time, first year college curriculum in natural resource and/or environmental studies.
- **The James Edward Minor Ag Stewardship Award** is open to full-time undergraduate college students, with permanent residency within Northumberland, Richmond, Lancaster, or Westmoreland counties who are enrolled in a college level curriculum in natural resources and/or environmental studies.

A check will be issued by the VASWCD to the selected school on behalf of each scholarship recipient.

In the event that there are no eligible applicants for one of these scholarships, the NNSWCD Education Committee reserves the right to use its discretion on how these scholarships are distributed.

Deadlines:

April 1, 2022	Applications must be received in the NNSWCD Office by 4:30 pm
May, 2022	Scholarship award winner will be announced

Submitted applications will be reviewed and screened by the NNSWCD Education Committee. All applications and information contained therein shall remain confidential and become the property of the NNSWCD. The nomination from the Education Committee will be forwarded to the VASWCD for award.

For consideration, your fully completed application must be received in the NNSWCD office by Friday, April 1, 2022 by 4:30 pm. Incomplete or late applications will NOT be considered.

Via postal service:

*Northern Neck Soil & Water Conservation District
Attn: Kathleen Watson
P.O. Box 220
Warsaw, VA 22572-0220*

In person:

*Northern Neck Soil & Water Conservation District
Attn: Kathleen Watson
5559 Richmond Road, Suite B
Warsaw, VA 22572*

D. Other Leadership & Activity Experience (5 pts)

List all other organizations and important extracurricular activities in which you have or currently are participating. Indicate any activities in which you hold or have held office and note which position. Include other activities such as athletics, music, drama, dance, public speaking, clubs, societies, public events/exhibits or awards; list honors or letters earned. Attach additional information as needed.

E. Volunteer & Employment Experience (10 pts)

List any volunteer or employment experiences including your position and brief description of duties. Attach additional information as needed.

1. Volunteer Organization/Employer: _____

Position Held if Applicable: _____ Dates of Service: _____

Brief Description of Duties: _____

F. Financial Information and Other Circumstances (5 pts)

1. Are you applying for or will you receive a scholarship or loan from other sources? Please circle one. YES NO
2. If yes, give loan or scholarship sources and amounts:

3. In addition to the above, financing for your education will primarily come from: _____

4. Do you have other circumstances (e.g., first generation college student) or a personal situation you would like to share?

G. References/Letters of Recommendation (10 pts)

Attach recommendation letters from at least 3 references - other than family members – who can provide additional information about your academic and community activities. Share with your references that the purpose of this scholarship is to promote through education the conservation of our natural resources by providing financial support to students majoring in or showing a strong desire to major in a curriculum related to natural resource conservation or environmental studies. List below details on those from whom you have requested recommendation letters.

1. Name of Reference: _____

Position/Relation to Applicant: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

2. Name of Reference: _____

Position/Relation to Applicant: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

3. Name of Reference: _____

Position/Relation to Applicant: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

H. Essays

- I. Attach a typed essay of **approximately 400-500 words** describing yourself and your involvement/interest in the environment. Address what you feel is the most important environmental issue in your community and why. How can you assist and promote leadership in the conservation of natural resources? (20 pts)

- II. Attach a typed response of **approximately 100-150 words** addressing why you deserve this scholarship. (15 pts)

J. Signatures/Certification

In submitting this application, I hereby certify that the information provided is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. Falsification of information may result in termination of any scholarship granted. If declared a recipient of this scholarship, I will provide the VASWCD a statement that may be used for publicity purposes.

Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Reminder—Attachments must include: Official Transcript, Letters of Recommendation, Essays & any additional information.

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Please direct any questions to (804) 313-9102, x105