Youth Conservation Camp 2025 Annual Report











For **47 years**, the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts' Educational Foundation has sponsored a week-long summer conservation camp for Virginia high school students on the campus of Virginia Tech.

This year, the program brought together **66 enthusiastic and interested students from 25 Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs)** for a week of learning about Virginia's natural resources from conservation professionals. Students were led by 13 volunteer counselors from various SWCDs and partner agencies.

Most of the instruction was hands-on and outdoors, including activities such as shock fishing with the Department of Wildlife Resources, hiking to the Cascades waterfall, canoeing the New River, spending a day at the Kentland Farm Research Facilities, engaging in sensory lab testing at the Food Science Center, and much more!











2025 YCC Sponsors

Thank you to our sponsors for financial and "in-kind" contributions that make YCC possible



YCC is made possible with generous support from:

- Invest529
- Towne Bank
- Virginia Chapter of Soil & Water **Conservation Society**
- Virginia Conservation Assistance Program
- Virginia Farm Bureau
- Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation
- Virginia Lakes and Watersheds Association

Thank you to the following agencies & institutions:

- Clinch Valley Soil & Water Conservation District
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Skyline Soil & Water Conservation District
- Southwest Virginia Wildlife Center
- Tangent Outfitters
- Virginia Department of Forestry
- Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources
- Virginia Soil Health Coalition 4 the Soil
- Virginia Tech Athletics
- Virginia Tech College of Natural Resources & Environment
- Virginia Tech Dairy Science Center
- Virginia Tech Food Science & Technology Department
- Virginia Tech Kentland Farm
- Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine

Soil & Water Conservation Districts

- Chowan Basin SWCD
- Colonial SWCD
- Culpeper SWCD
- Daniel Boone SWCD
- **Evergreen SWCD**
- Halifax SWCD
- Hanover-Caroline SWCD
- Headwaters SWCD
- Henricopolis SWCD
- James River SWCD
- Loudoun SWCD
- Mountain SWCD

- Northern Virginia SWCD
- Patrick SWCD
- Piedmont SWCD
- Pittsylvania SWCD
- Prince William SWCD
- Shenandoah Valley **SWCD**
- Skyline SWCD
- Thomas Jefferson **SWCD**
- Three Rivers SWCD
- Tidewater SWCD
- Tri County/City SWCD
- Northern Neck SWCD Virginia Dare SWCD



2025 Camp Staff

- Anna Moreau Hanover-Caroline SWCD
- Anne Devine James River SWCD
- Brianna Morring James River SWCD
- Byron Minson VASWCD Camp Director
- Caleb Rivera VA Dept. of Forestry
- Cody Smith Peter Francisco SWCD
- Daniel Naff Mountain Castles SWCD

- Emily Wotton VA Dept. of Forestry
- Grace Daughtrey Three Rivers SWCD
- Jessie Freeland Loudoun SWCD
- Kelly Brann Northern Neck SWCD
- Robert Wilbur Loudoun SWCD
- Sam Chappell Blue Ridge SWCD
- Seth Guy Henricopolis SWCD



A FUN-FILLED WEEK AT YCC



S Orientation, Campus Tour, Leave No Trace Activity







Claytor Lake State
Park: Lake ecology,
watersheds, &
forestry







VT College of
Natural Resources
Exploration, Hike
Cascades Waterfall







W Kentland Farms:
Macroinvertebrates,
Soils, Tour Dairy
Facility







Th Tour Lane Stadium, Food Science Tour, Wildlife Rehab, Watersheds







Guided Canoe trip on New River, Vet school tour, volleyball





