

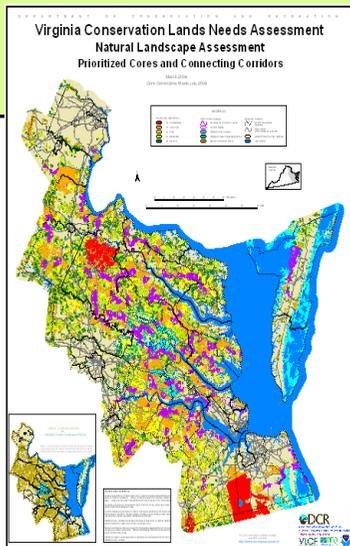
The New River Valley Green Infrastructure Initiative: What Does Green Infrastructure Look Like?

Green Infrastructure is our Communities Natural Life Support System.

An interconnected network of land and water that contributes to the health, economic well being & quality of life for communities & people.

Green Infrastructure Networks may include:

- ✓ Water Resources
- ✓ Working Lands
- ✓ Outdoor Recreation and Trail Networks
- ✓ Conservation Lands
- ✓ Natural Areas
- ✓ Cultural Resources



Green infrastructure networks are found at every scale:

Parcel or Site

- ❖ Designing homes and businesses around green spaces
- ❖ Clustering units in new residential developments
- ❖ Linking homes to the greater community using trails or greenways



Community Scale

- ❖ Creating greenways that link existing parks and green spaces, providing alternative transportation routes and access to recreation
- ❖ Setting aside buffers along rivers and streams that protect against flooding

Regional or Statewide:

- ❖ Encourage compatible uses adjacent to agricultural areas, national forests, and state parks
- ❖ Seek out connections to conservation lands and other natural areas



How Can YOU Learn More?

► Attend a Green Infrastructure Information Community Meeting held at:

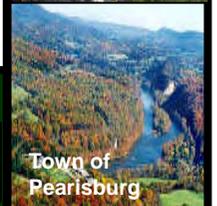
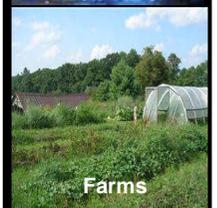
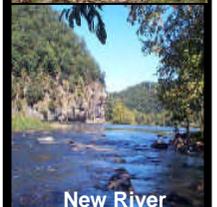
- ★ The Country Store in Floyd, VA on August 7, 5:30-8 pm
- ★ Radford Parks and Recreation Building on August 23, 5-8 pm
- ★ Claytor Lake's Water's Edge Marina in Pulaski, VA on August 30, 5-8 pm (Free parking for all participants)
- ★ Castle Rock Golf and Recreation Center in Pembroke, VA on August 28, 5-8 pm

FREE DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT!

► Participate in a 2-Day Green Infrastructure Network Design & Implementation Workshop on November 7-8, 2007 at Mountain Lake

► Join the New River Valley Leadership Group who will guide future Green Infrastructure strategies for the New River Valley region in Spring 2008

What does YOUR Green Infrastructure look like?



For more information please contact:

Abigail Convery, NRV Planning District Commission 540-639-9313

Jodi Stacy, The Conservation Fund jstacy@conservationfund.org

Funding for this project is provided by:



Protecting and developing healthy, sustainable forest resources

The New River Valley Green Infrastructure Initiative: Linking Lands and Communities in the New River Valley

Green Infrastructure is our Communities Natural Life Support System.
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Funding Provided by:

Virginia Department of Forestry

Virginia Environmental Endowment

Steering Team Partners

Appalachian Trail Conservancy

City of Radford

Conservation Management Institute (CMI)/ Virginia Tech

Floyd County

Giles County

Landcare

Montgomery County

NPS Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance

New River Land Trust

New River Valley Planning District Commission

Pulaski County

The Conservation Fund

Town of Blacksburg

Town of Christiansburg

Virginia Cooperative Extension

Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation

Virginia Department of Forestry

Virginia Tourism Corporation

Balancing Growth and Resource Conservation

Change is happening every day in the New River Valley. In the face of that change, our communities and counties must balance the growth pressures with the benefits of services provided by maintaining the natural environment. Those services can include clean air and water, flood protection, recreation, health and educational benefits. By maintaining a network of green infrastructure as we grow, we will establish healthy and sustainable communities into the future.



How Can YOU Learn More and Provide Input?

Green Infrastructure Information Community Meetings held at:

FREE DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT!

- ❖ **The Country Store in Floyd, VA from 5:30-8 pm on August 7, 2007 (Presentations begin at 6 pm)**
- ❖ **Radford Parks and Recreation Building from 5-8 pm on August 23, 2007**
- ❖ **Claytor Lake's Water's Edge Marina in Pulaski, VA from 5-8 pm on August 30, 2007 (Free parking for participants)**
- ❖ **Castle Rock Golf and Recreation Center in Pembroke, VA from 5-8 pm on August 28, 2007**

Linking Lands and Communities through Green Infrastructure

The Green Infrastructure Initiative began in the fall of 2006 when a number of public and private groups came together to learn more about a proactive and holistic process for addressing resource conservation in concert with growth and development. Using the green infrastructure process in New River Valley communities supports growth preparedness, recognizes economic benefits of using ecological services as a way to meet community needs, and ensures the enjoyment of the natural beauty and quality of life for future generations.

What does YOUR Green Infrastructure look like?



Water Resources



Trail Networks



Rural Heritage



Scenic Views



Cultural Resources

For more information please contact:

Abigail Convery, NRV Planning District Commission 540-639-9313
Jodi Stacy, The Conservation Fund jstacy@conservationfund.org

Funding for this project is provided by:



Benefits of Conserving and Sustaining our Green Infrastructure in the New River Valley

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Ecosystem Services

In the Delaware Valley, urban forests remove 1.7 million pounds of air pollutants each year, at an estimated value of \$3.9 million.

The Charles River Basin located in Massachusetts, contains 8,534 acres of freshwater marsh & wooded swamp resulting in \$95 million in annual economic benefits that includes:

- \$40 million in flood damage prevention
- \$25 million in pollution reduction

In New York City, the installation of a water treatment plant costs \$6-8 billion vs. \$1-1.5 billion over 10 years to protect the Catskill, Delaware & Croton watersheds, which together deliver 1.3 billion gallons of water per day.

Economic Benefits

Providing ecological services that save local governments and state agencies millions of dollars by not having to construct manmade structures.

Examples include:

- ✧ Supply clean drinking water
- ✧ Mitigate droughts and floods
- ✧ Removing air pollutants
- ✧ Detoxify and decompose wastes
- ✧ Habitat for fisheries

Sustaining working lands for forestry and agriculture that provides opportunities for resource-based livelihoods, local food production, and maintains the rural character of the New River Valley.

Providing trails and sites for nature-based recreation and tourism, which translates to millions of tourist dollars every year.

Offering natural and restored green settings for growth and development that provide economic benefits to landowners while attracting new residents and businesses.



Community Benefits

Creation of community green spaces that provide gathering places and accessible areas for relaxation and recreation.

Trails and sites for nature-based recreation that support activities to improve physical and mental health while helping residents and visitors re-connect with nature.

Opportunities for land stewardship projects such as planting trees and restoring river banks.



Natural Functions and Values

Sustaining air and water resources; water is purified as it flows through wetland floodplains or filters through forest soils into the ground

Supporting native wildlife and plants as well as the habitats they depend on for survival

What does YOUR Green Infrastructure look like?



New River



Above Angel's Rest



Buffalo Mountain



Rural Heritage

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