



FACT SHEET

www.virginiaoutdoorsfoundation.org

STATISTICAL OVERVIEW OF THE VIRGINIA OUTDOORS FOUNDATION

The Virginia Outdoors Foundation is the largest land trust in Virginia and one of the largest in the nation. Created in 1966 by the General Assembly, its mission is to preserve Virginia's scenic, natural, historic, recreational, and open-space lands. Many of the properties that VOF protects are working farms and forests.

Did you know that:

- ✦ Since its founding, VOF has preserved open space in Virginia at a rate of nearly two acres every hour.
- ✦ VOF protects nearly 850,000 acres—more than 1,300 square miles—across 109 localities in Virginia, including about 4,400 acres of owned public land. That's more land than the state of Rhode Island.
- ✦ 95% of all Virginians live within 10 miles of VOF-protected land.
- ✦ VOF easements account for about 80% of all open-space easement acreage in the state of Virginia.
- ✦ VOF easements help to protect more than 4,200 miles of streams and rivers, 380,000 acres of USDA-designated high-quality farm soils, 340,000 acres of high-priority forestland, 4,300 historic sites, and 375 miles along designated scenic roads and rivers.
- ✦ VOF is responsible for managing over 4,000 open-space easements, more than any other land conservation organization in the nation.
- ✦ The five counties with the most land protected by VOF are Fauquier, Albemarle, Rockbridge, Orange, and Rappahannock.
- ✦ VOF recorded its first easement on June 13, 1968, on a 102-acre property owned by the University of Richmond in Goochland County.
- ✦ VOF is responsible for about one-third of all open space that has been protected in the six-state Bay watershed since 2000.