



Preservation Trust Fund Project Review Criteria

All Projects

Plan Alignment

- Project is in alignment with the Virginia Outdoors Plan.
- Project is in alignment with regional plans.
- Project is in alignment with a local comprehensive plan.
- Project meets ConserveVA objectives.
- Project meets DCR Recreational Access needs (terrestrial and/or aquatic).

Population Served

- Project provides an important service or resource.
- Project provides an opportunity for new partnerships.
- Project is in a community not yet served by VOF.

Community Support

- Project has demonstrated support of the locality.
- Project has demonstrated support from the community.
- Project has matching funds from a partner agency or organization.

Readiness

- Project is ready to move forward.
- Proposal is clear and feasible.
- Project is a good return on investment and cost-efficient.
- PTF funding requested is critical for the completion of the project.

Public Access Projects

Accessibility

- The percentage of time during the year the site is open to the public.
- The percentage of the area is open to the public.
- The degree of accessibility of the site by the public.

Population Served

- Project serves an underserved population.
- Project meets a specific need.
- Project increases accessibility to open space and community resources.
- Project benefits a large portion of the community/has a great significance to a smaller portion of the community.
- Project protects a recreational, scenic, cultural, or historic resource or landscape feature.
- Project is part of a larger local conservation/outdoor movement.
- Provides outdoor educational and/or research opportunities.

Resource Protection Projects

Historic & Cultural

- Area prioritized in DCR ConservationVision Cultural Resource Preservation Index.
- Presence of state or federally recognized historic and/or resources on property.
- Presence of undesignated local/regional/culturally significant resources on property.

Water Quality

- Area prioritized in DCR ConservationVision Watershed Model.
- Presence of rivers, perennial and/or intermittent streams.
- Presence of karst geology.

Scenic and Open Space

- Proximity to previously conserved land within the same watershed.
- Visibility from a designated scenic road and/or river.
- Public appreciation value illustrated by frequent visibility by the public, from nearby recreational spaces, along public passageways, or leading to or located within an historic setting.

Habitat

- VA Natural Landscape Assessment-Ecological Core Scoring.
- Modeled habitat present (DWR WERMS data, TNC Aquatic & Terrestrial Portfolios, Important Bird Areas).
- DCR Natural Heritage-indication of community screening or element occurrence on property.
- Presence of wetlands/forested habitat.
- Adjacent to previously conserved land.

Agriculture & Forestry

- American Farmland Trust Productivity, Versatility, and Resiliency Value.
- Farm Class Soils, presence of USDA-designated Prime and Statewide Importance Soils.
- Active working farm with crops, livestock, timber or trees.
- Forest Conservation Value (FCV)-timber potential.
- Special designation or program enrollment (e.g. Clean Water Farm Award, CREP enrollment).
- Designated Century Farm or Forest.

Policy Alignment

- Proximity to VOF-conserved lands.
- Located in a VOF special project area.
- Located within the Chesapeake Bay or Albemarle Pamlico watershed.
- Contributes to reclamation or redevelopment of mined lands or brownfields.
- Meets any additional state-defined policy goals (public drinking water, carbon sequestration, nutrient mitigation, TMDLs).