



Virginia Land Conservation & Greenways Conference

April 27-29, 2026

Marriott City Center, 740 Town Center Dr, Newport News

Monday, April 27, 2026

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Field trips
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Registration open, Lobby of the Marriott
5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	Social hour in the Marriott Rotunda
6:30 p.m.	Dinner – Networking dinners or dinner on your own

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Registration open, Lobby of the Marriott			
7:45 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.	Continental breakfast provided			
8:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	Virginia's United Land Trusts Business Meeting State Trails Advisory Committee Meeting **These meetings are held simultaneously and open to all.			
11:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	Networking break			
11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.	Lunch keynote			
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Trails, Greenways, & Blueways	Conservation Challenges & Opportunities	Land Trust Fundamentals	Engagement & Management
	<i>Trail Usage</i> Session A Forecasting and Counting Trail Use	<i>Wetlands</i> Session B1 Three Decades of Wetland and Stream Conservation and Innovation Session B2 Department of Wildlife Resources Wetland Program Updates	<i>Mapping</i> Session C ArcGIS Mapping Workshop	<i>State-Level Engagement and Governance</i> Session D1 Serving the Commonwealth: Demystifying Board Appointments Session D2 Achieving Synergy: Balancing Risk, Efficiency, and Nonprofit Governance
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Student session			
3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Networking break, refreshments provided			

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	<i>Partnerships for Trails</i> Session E1 Rebuilding Shorelines and Waterfront Trails: How Public and Private Partnerships Can Impact a Community Session E2 Main Street to Meadow: Urban/Rural Trail Corridors	<i>Coastal Conservation</i> Session F1 Rolling Easements: A Conservation Tool for Disappearing Lands Session F2 Roots to Reef: A Mosaic Approach to Shoreline Restoration	<i>Landowner Engagement</i> Session G Conservation Speed-Dating: Connecting Landowners with Their Local Technical Service Providers	<i>Engaging the Next Generation</i> Session H Building the Conservation Community Through Fellowship and Internship Programs
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Evening reception			

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Registration open, Lobby of the Marriott			
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Breakfast roundtables			
9:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Trails, Greenways, & Blueways <i>Trail Planning</i> Session I Crafting a Strong Vision for Trails to Maximize our Investments	Conservation Challenges & Opportunities <i>Military Partnerships</i> Session J Where Mission Meets Recreation: Collaborative Conservation Opportunities with Military Installations	Land Trust Fundamentals <i>Conservation Partnerships</i> Session K Partners in Protection: Collaborative Fee Acquisitions	Engagement & Management <i>Advocacy Relationships</i> Session L Building Advocacy Influence to Achieve Big Conservation Wins
10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Networking break, refreshments provided			
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	<i>Trail Adaptation Across Landscapes</i> Session M1 How to Work with Volunteers on Natural Surface Trails Session M2 Mountains to Sea: Park Design in the Geographic Regions of Virginia	<i>Wildlife and Open Space Protection</i> Session N1 The Virginia Wildlife Action Plan: How the Plan Can Guide Land Conservation and Recreational Access Session N2 Virginia Beach's Open Space Strategies and Achieving Multiple Benefits	<i>Tax Issues</i> Session O Absolutely Taxing: Three Trending Conservation-Related Tax Issues	<i>Communications and Fundraising</i> Session P Integrating Strategic Brand Communications, Advancement and Finance for Conservation
12:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Lunch keynote and closing remarks			