

**2011 Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation District's (VASWCD)  
Educational Foundation, Inc. Scholarship Awards Program**

**&**

**Shenandoah Valley Soil & Water Conservation District (SVCD) Scholarship Program  
Guidelines**

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**PURPOSE:**

To promote the education of Virginia citizens in technical fields associated with natural resource conservation and environmental protection.

To give financial support to students majoring in or showing a strong desire to major in a course curriculum related to natural resource conservation and/or environmental studies.

**VASWCD Educational Foundation, Inc. Scholarship Awards Program**

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**CRITERIA:**

Two Educational Foundation, Inc. scholarships will be awarded annually on behalf of the Virginia Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society. One will be awarded annually on behalf of the VASWCD and one will be awarded annually on behalf of the VASWCD Auxiliary to an eligible individual nominated by Virginia's SWCDs.

Individual applicants must be full-time students enrolled in or who have applied to a ***college freshman level curriculum***. Applicants shall document a class ranking in the top 20% of his or her graduating class or a 3.0 or greater Grade Point Average or appropriate equivalent of individual scholastic achievement. ***The applicant's most recent official high school transcript must accompany the application. A copy of a school transcript will not be accepted.*** Applicants shall demonstrate active interest in conservation.

Only one applicant per district may be submitted. Applications should be made from the county in which the student resides and attends school. Eligible applicants must reside within a local Soil and Water Conservation District.

Submitted applications will be reviewed and screened by the Shenandoah Valley SWCD's Education/Youth and Awards Committee. All applications and information contained therein shall remain confidential. The committee may nominate one application for consideration by the VASWCD Scholarship/Awards Committee for a VASWCD Educational Foundation, Inc. scholarship. Applications not fulfilling minimum criteria shall not be considered.

**AMOUNT AWARDED:**

Four \$1,000 scholarships will be given to statewide winners. A check will be issued to the selected school in the student's name.

**Shenandoah Valley Soil & Water Conservation District Scholarship Program**

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**CRITERIA**

The Shenandoah Valley Soil & Water Conservation District will award up to \$2,000 in scholarships to selected eligible applicants.

Individual applicants must be full-time students enrolled in or who have applied to a ***college undergraduate level curriculum***. Applicants shall document a class ranking in the top 20% of his or her class or a 3.0 or greater Grade Point Average or appropriate equivalent of individual scholastic achievement. ***The applicant's most recent official high school or college transcript must accompany the application. A copy of a school transcript will not be accepted. Applicants must demonstrate active interest in conservation.***

Eligible applicants must reside within the boundaries of the Shenandoah Valley Soil & Water Conservation District (Rockingham County, Page County, and the City of Harrisonburg). **Previous recipients of a SVCD scholarship are not eligible.**

The District's Education/Youth and Awards Committee will review and screen all applications submitted to determine the recipients of this year's District scholarships. **Applications not fulfilling minimum criteria shall not be considered.**

## **AMOUNT AWARDED**

Up to two thousand dollars (\$2,000) will be awarded to selected eligible individuals. A check for the scholarship amount will be issued to the recipient.

## **DEADLINES:**

March 18, 2011	Completed Application due to Shenandoah Valley SWCD Office by 4:30 pm. The District office is located at 1934 Deyerle Avenue, Suite B; Harrisonburg, Virginia 22801.
May 3, 2011	VASWCD and Shenandoah Valley SWCD Scholarship award winners will be announced

Submitted applications will be reviewed and screened by the Shenandoah Valley SWCD's Education/Youth & Awards Committee. All applications and information contained therein shall remain confidential. The committee will determine scholarship recipients and award amounts for the SVCD Scholarship Program.

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The mission of the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation District's Educational Foundation, Inc. is to provide educational opportunities to citizens of Virginia to become good stewards of the environment and natural resources for the benefit of all. Virginia's Soil and Water Conservation Districts, the Virginia Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society, memorial gifts and other contributions have provided initial funding for the Foundation.

All programs and services of the Shenandoah Valley Soil & Water Conservation District and the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation District's Educational Foundation, Inc. are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis, without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status, or disability. All submitted paperwork is confidential and becomes the property of the Shenandoah Valley SWCD and/or the VASWCD Educational Foundation.

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## **NOTE:**

The guidelines/criteria for the VASWCD Educational Foundation Inc. Scholarship Program only allow applicants who have applied to a college ***freshman level curriculum*** to apply for the four (4) one thousand dollar (\$1,000) scholarships. **These scholarships are only offered to graduating high school students/high school seniors/incoming college freshman.**

The Shenandoah Valley Soil & Water Conservation District Scholarship guidelines/criteria allow full-time students who have applied to a college ***undergraduate level curriculum*** to apply for the SVCD Scholarship Program. **These scholarships are offered to graduating high school students as well as college freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Previous recipients of a SVCD scholarship are not eligible.**

The same application form is used for both the Shenandoah Valley Soil & Water Conservation District (SVCD) Scholarship Program and the VASWCD Educational Foundation, Inc. Scholarship Program. **Applicants must only submit one copy of the application to the Shenandoah Valley SWCD for consideration for one or both scholarships.**

## **Direct Scholarship Questions To:**

Megen Dalton  
1934 Deyerle Avenue, Suite B  
Harrisonburg, VA 22801  
(540) 433-2853 ext. 119 megen.dalton@svswcd.org

*Guidelines and application form are available on the District's website: [www.svswcd.org](http://www.svswcd.org)*



**VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF SOIL AND WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS EDUCATIONAL  
FOUNDATION, INC. SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

**Deadline: March 18, 2011 to local SWCD (Shenandoah Valley Soil & Water Conservation District)**

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Please print or type in black / blue ink. Provide all requested information. If necessary additional printed or typed sheets may be attached.

**A. PERSONAL INFORMATION**

1. Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle
2. Home Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. County of Residence \_\_\_\_\_
4. Home Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_
5. Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

**B. EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND**

(Attach your most recent OFFICAL transcript. Your official transcript must show the official school seal.)

1. High School
  - A. Attending or Attended \_\_\_\_\_  
Name Location
  - B. Anticipated or Date of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_
  - C. Number of Students in Your Class \_\_\_\_\_  
Your Class Rank \_\_\_\_\_
  - D. Scholastic Average (GPA) \_\_\_\_\_
2. College
  - A. Plan to Attend: (1) \_\_\_\_\_  
Name Location
  - (2) \_\_\_\_\_  
Name Location
3. Major or Intended Field of Study \_\_\_\_\_

**C. LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE**

List organizations in which you hold or have held membership such as Boy or Girl Scouts, Church, 4-H, or FFA: and give offices, position or rank held in each. (Attach additional information as needed.)

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_

**D. ACTIVITIES INFORMATION**

List important extra curricular activities in which you have or are participating in such as: athletics, music, drama, dance, public speaking, clubs, societies, public events or exhibits; and list honors or letters earned: Envirothon, Youth Conservation Camp; list year(s) attended. (Attach additional information as needed.)

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_

Do you or a family member belong to the Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS)? \_\_\_\_\_  
Full name of family member: \_\_\_\_\_

**E. EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE AND / OR VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

List employment and/or volunteer experience including name of employer, dates of employment, position held and brief description of duties. (Attach additional information as needed.)

1. Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Dates of Employment \_\_\_\_\_  
Position Held \_\_\_\_\_  
Brief Description of Job Duties \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Dates of Employment \_\_\_\_\_  
Position Held \_\_\_\_\_  
Brief Description of Job Duties \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**F. FINANCIAL INFORMATION** (Attach additional information if needed)

1. Are you applying for or will you receive a scholarship or loan from other sources? Yes No  
(please circle one)
2. If yes, give loan or scholarship sources and amount  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. In addition to the above, financing for your education will come primarily from  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Optional:** Attach a copy of your Financial Aid Form (FAFSA), or provide any other appropriate information regarding financial need.

**G. REFERENCES/RECOMMENDATION LETTERS** (Attach recommendation letters)

List at least three references other than family members who can provide additional information about your scholastic and community activities. **Please attach recommendation letters from those persons you have listed.**

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_
2. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_
3. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

**H. ESSAYS**

- I. Attach a typed essay (400-500 word estimate) describing yourself and your involvement/interest in the environment. Address what you feel is the most important environmental issue in your community and why? How can you assist and promote leadership in the conservation of natural resources?
- II. In approximately 100-150 words address the purpose for which this scholarship would be used and why you deserve this scholarship. Be specific.

**J. SIGNATURES**

I hereby state that the information submitted herewith is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

**Applicant** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the foregoing application in full and hereby state that the information contained therein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

**Parent or Guardian** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsoring Soil and Water Conservation District**

**Address** Shenandoah Valley Soil & Water Conservation District  
1934 Deyerle Avenue, Suite B  
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

**Contact Person** Megen Dalton, District Manager  
(540) 433-2853 ext. 119 megen.dalton@svswcd.org

**Attachments to Include: Official transcript, Letters of recommendation, and Essays**