

**DIRECTORS:**

Billy Bear  
Chairman  
Kristy Waller  
Vice Chairman  
Justin McClellan  
Treasurer/Secretary  
Seth Umbarger  
Andy Overbay  
Smyth County Extension Agent



**STAFF:**

Sarah Gardner  
Senior Conservation/Education Specialist  
Heather Combs  
Conservation/Education Specialist  
Jeana Waddle  
Administrative Secretary

**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
**EVERGREEN SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**340 N MAIN STREET, SUITE 102 MARION, VIRGINIA 24354**  
**PHONE: (276) 706-3068**  
**E-MAIL: sarahtilson88@gmail.com**

To: Smyth County High Schools  
Date: January 19, 2021  
From: Evergreen Soils and Water Conservation District  
RE: Scholarship Opportunities

**Purpose:** To promote the education of Virginia citizens in technical fields with natural resource conservation, environmental protection, and agriculture. To give financial support to students majoring in or showing a strong desire to major in a course curriculum related to natural resource conservation, environmental studies, or agriculture.

**Qualifications:** Individual applicants must be Virginia residents and 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 GPA or appropriate equivalent of individual scholastic achievement. In addition to the enclosed application, applicants must include:

- The applicant's most recent official school transcript. A copy of a school transcript will not be accepted.
- Include 3 letters of recommendation from nonfamily members who can provide additional information about applicant's academic and community activities. Letters may either be part of packet or sent to the office directly from reference.
- Typed essay of approximately 500-650 words describing the applicant's involvement/interest in the environment. See application for more details.
- Applicants shall demonstrate active interest in conservation or agriculture.

**Amount Awarded:** One **\$1,000.00 scholarship** will be given to the Smyth County winner. A check will be issued directly to the selected institution of higher education on behalf of the student. **The winner will also be submitted to the Virginia Association of Conservation District's Education Foundation for their annual scholarship for a chance of an additional \$1,000.00 scholarship.**

Submitted applications will be reviewed and screened by Evergreen's Board of Directors. The winner will be notified after the April Board Meeting which is currently scheduled for April 1, 2021.

Please submit the full application packet (application, official school transcript, 3 letters of recommendation, and essay) to Evergreen Soil and Water Conservation District attention Sarah Gardner at 340 N Main Street Suite 102 Marion VA, 24354 or sarahtilson88@gmail.com by **Monday March 29, 2021 by 5pm**. If you have any questions, please contact us via email or call 276-706-3068