

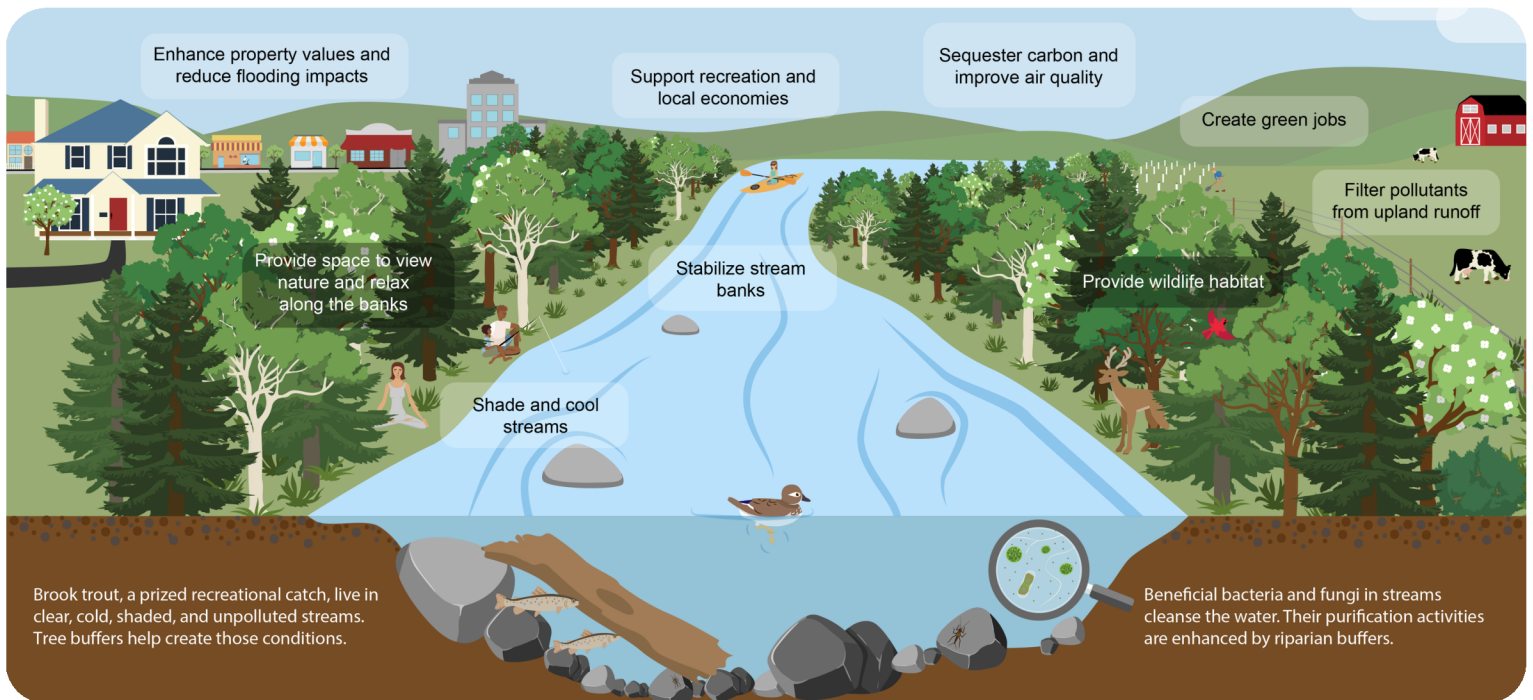
# Trees for Tomorrow

Riparian  
Consortium

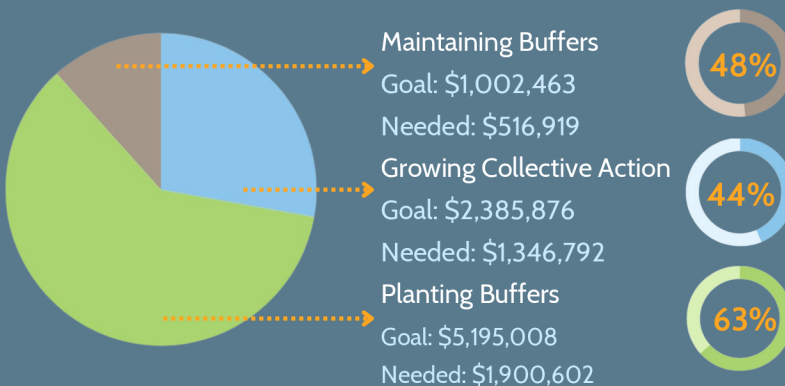
## Working Together for a Bigger Impact

Riparian forest buffers are the woody vegetation along creeks and rivers that provide water quality and community benefits. The James River Association (JRA) and a network of partners collaborate to:

- **Maintain Buffers** through the James River Stewardship Program to ensure our riparian forest buffers thrive
- **Grow Collective Action** through the Upper & Middle James Riparian Consortium to raise awareness and build workforce capacity
- **Plant New Buffers** through James River Buffer Program



Help us reach our goal of 1,850 acres by 2030!



**56%** raised towards \$8,583,347

Last Update: 4/25/25

## We Need Your Help

1. Contact the Virginia Environmental Endowment about ways to be a financial partner to support planting buffers
2. Contact Amber Ellis, Consortium Convener to learn more about our buffer initiatives [aellis@thejamesriver.org](mailto:aellis@thejamesriver.org)
3. Donate to the Trees for Tomorrow Fund

Learn more  
[www.jamesriverconsortium.org/donate](http://www.jamesriverconsortium.org/donate)







# 2019 - 2024 Achievements

## WATER AND AIR QUALITY

Bay states continue to be behind in reaching their goal for riparian forest buffers in the Chesapeake Bay Cleanup Plan. However, the James has seen a 2 ½ fold increase since 2019. The JRBP has made up 34% of the 3,617 acres reported to Virginia Department of Environmental Quality in the James River watershed.

**1,233 Acres of Buffer Planted**



## COMMUNITY BENEFITS

We support workforce development through training and workshops, internships, and employment opportunities, as well as meaningful volunteer opportunities for communities and businesses to restore these calming, restorative spaces along the water.

**186 Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professional-Buffer Certificates**

## COLLECTIVE IMPACT

Consortium membership has grown from 80 members to over 550 members, including the James River Association, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, local groups, and government agencies. The Consortium provides a network for interested groups to collaborate, access resources and share knowledge.

**2,453 Partners Engaged through Events**



## WILDLIFE

Healthy riparian forests composed of native plant species support wildlife, from fish instream that depend on shaded cool waters, to birds, pollinators, deer, and other species. The Consortium has a focus on stewarding and maintaining buffers to ensure wildlife have the food, shelter, and water they depend on.

**6,838 Acres of Buffer Maintained**

*"VEE has invested significantly in the planting and maintaining of streamside forested buffers in the James River basin since 2018. It is an extraordinary initiative that VEE has been proud to support. We welcome the opportunity to partner with other funders in seeing this highly successful restoration work continue long into the future."*

Joseph H. Maroon, Executive Director  
Virginia Environmental Endowment

*"NFWF has been fortunate to support the growth and development of the Consortium since 2018. We've seen the Consortium develop and position itself as the leader across the entire Chesapeake Bay. The Consortium's emphasis on refining an effective collaborative model and processes has accelerated and scaled riparian restoration far beyond what any individual organization could possibly achieve."*

Jake Reilly, Director, Chesapeake Programs  
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

