



SIERRA CLUB
VIRGINIA CHAPTER

FALLS OF THE JAMES GROUP

FOJG NEWSLETTER: February 2019

**Monthly meetings feature outstanding speakers.
Location: The Science Museum of VA
All are free and open to the public.**

**Bring your old batteries and printer cartridges.
We'll recycle what your recycler won't.**

Rob Andrejewski
Tues. Feb. 12 at 7:00 p.m.

UR GOES GREEN

Join Rob Andrejewski, Director of Sustainability at the University of Richmond, for a discussion on the course University of Richmond is charting as it pursues its ambitious carbon neutrality and sustainability goals. Learn about the University's commitment to match 100% of its purchased electricity with renewable resources, to create an Eco-Corridor that will steward the James River, and to divert 75% of its waste from the landfill.



*Rob Andrejewski,
UR Director of Sustainability*

Dominic Barrett
Tues. Mar. 12 at 7:00 p.m.

GROW FOOD. GROW COMMUNITY.

Since 2009, Shalom Farms has focused on increasing access to healthy food and the support to live healthy lives. Shalom Farms Executive Director Dominic Barrett will explore the intersections of

sustainable agriculture and food insecurity, and discuss how Shalom Farms' work seeks to ensure all have access to food that is good our bodies, good for our environment, and good for our communities.



*Dominic Barrett,
Executive Director Shalom Farms*

**John Sydnor and Staff
of Enrichmond**
Tues. Apr. 9 at 7:00 p.m.

MEET ENRICHMOND!

The Enrichmond Foundation has served Richmond's people, parks, and public spaces for over 27 years. Several staff members will be introducing the main purpose and program areas of Enrichmond, including Historic Evergreen Cemetery, TreeLab, the 17th Street Market, Partners and volunteers. Staff will touch on how Enrichmond's activities and services create a healthier, more equitable city.



John Sydnor, Executor Director Enrichmond

FOLLOWUP ENRICHMOND TOURS

On the two Tuesdays following the introductory presentation at the Science Museum, Enrichmond staff will lead two on-site tours and further discuss their individual programs. On Tuesday, April 16, Ted Maris-Wolf will lead a tour of Historic Evergreen Cemetery in the East End and discuss the history and volunteer efforts taking place there. On Tuesday, April 23, Aaron McFarland will lead a tour of TreeLab -- a native plant nursery specializing in trees in the Northside. Details will be forthcoming.



Ted Maris-Wolf
Historic Evergreen
Cemetery Caretaker
Tour: 6:00 pm
Tuesday, April 16



Aaron McFarland
Tree Lab Manager
Tour: 6:30 pm
Tuesday, April 23



EFF continues through
Wed. Feb. 13
Also Sat. Feb. 16

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The 2019 RVA Environmental Film Festival showcases over twenty local, and national films that raise awareness of environmental issues relevant to Richmond, our nation, and our planet. They are being shown throughout the week at various venues.

Movie goers at WCVE Studios will see the premiere of *The Swamp*, showing the destruction and possible resurrection of the Everglades. Other films include *Minimalism: A Documentary About the Important Things*, *A Man Named Pearl*, and *The Devil We Know*.

The Festival is one of the few free film events in Richmond due to the

generosity of major sponsors -- the Community Idea Stations, Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens, Sierra Club's Falls of the James Group, and the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.

The film titles, detailed synopses, dates, and venues will be available at <https://rvaeff.org>.

article from RVA Environmental Film Festival Group



New Facebook Page for FOJG

The Falls of the James Group Facebook page is being revamped, thanks to some new young, techy members of the Communications Committee. Folks are urged to "like" this new page, since the fans from the old page could not be transferred. It can be found at

And now you can
follow us on Instagram:
SierraClubFOJ

Four *Green Giant* Recipients Honored

The Falls of the James Group of the Sierra Club is proud to announce four recipients of its Green Giant Award for 2018. These awards go to citizens who have shown outstanding efforts in environmental advocacy and education in the central Virginia region. The recipients below are being recognized at the January and February meetings at the Science Museum of Virginia.

Reverend Paul Wilson, a Baptist pastor in Union Hill, Buckingham County, is an advocate for environmental justice in his community. He opposes the Atlantic Coast Pipeline compressor station which promises to bring noise, light at night, and possible toxic chemicals to this rural town with African American roots.

Dr. Jeremy Hoffman, Climate & Earth Science Specialist at the Science Museum of Virginia, works as a researcher and educator on issues of climate change in Richmond and beyond. The breadth of his endeavors—including a TEDxYouth@RVA presentation—can be seen at <http://jeremyscotthoffman.com/about>.

Roberta Kellam, who served on the citizen State Water Control Board, is known for her uncompromising work to protect Virginians' water. Roberta Kellam was removed from the Board last fall following her repeated inquiries into pipeline site conditions. (See her article in the *Virginia Mercury* [HERE](#).) She continues to research and write on topics of water quality and toxins.

Rob Andrejewski, Director of Sustainability at the University of Richmond, is overseeing many projects on the UR campus which improve the university's carbon footprint and waste reduction. These include composting and recycling at sporting events, offsetting energy usage with solar power and reopening a historic trail through a reconstructed stream area. All are invited to hear him speak at the FOJG meeting on February 12.

Updates on the VA General Assembly

The 2019 VA General Assembly is scheduled to adjourn on Feb. 23. Follow these last days of the 2019 session.

- **Keep track of environmental bills** on an up-to-date website posted by the VA Conservation Network, [Bill Tracker](#). Feel free to share with supporters and friends.
- **Find your legislators and their contact info** at <https://whosmy.viriniageneralassembly.gov/>

Calling all Organizers!

Planning is just starting for the Big Yard Sale to be held at the University of Richmond on May 17-18. Now is the time to get involved to help plan this great event.

- *Transportation*
- *Advertising and Signage*
- *Volunteers and Operations*
- *Merchandising*
- *Sorting and Early Collecting*
- *Reuse/Recycle*

Please attend our Volunteer Organizational Meeting on Tuesday, February 19th at 6:30 PM at 3510 Floyd Ave to meet the committee chairs. [RSVP with this link](#). Contact Gill Sigmon at gill.sigmon1@gmail.com for more information or for questions.

February Calendar in Brief

* click link for details

Feb. 12, Tu. FOJG Speaker. **"UR Goes Green"** (see above) Science Museum of VA. 7:00 pm

Feb. 4-13 & 16. [RVA Environmental Film Festival](#).* Free. (see above).

Feb. 19, Tu. Planning meeting for UR Big Yard Sale in May. (see above) 6:30 pm, 3510 Floyd.

Feb. 22, Fri. [Environment at Risk Art Exhibit](#).* Mid-show reception at Project Space @ Plant Zero, 0 E 4th St, Richmond 23224 6-9 pm

Various dates in February: [Meetings for citizen input](#)* on the James River Park Master Plan.

Get involved! Visit [HERE](#) to learn more about the Sierra Club's Falls of the James Group.

**2018 FOJG EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE**

FOJG Committee Structure

Joe Brancoli, Chair:
omethid@hotmail.com
Andrew Peacock, Treasurer:
shavonandrew@verizon.net
Shavon Peacock, Secretary:
shavonandrew@verizon.net
Glen Besa:
glenbesa@gmail.com
Steve Carter-Lovejoy:
scarterlovejoy53@msn.com
Kate McClory:
kmccclory12@gmail.com
Bruce Tarr:
bruce.tarr@comcast.net
Lee Williams:
lm4peas@gmail.com
Steve Yarus:
hsyarus@gmail.com
Daryl Downing, FOJG liaison to, and
Vice Chair of, the Virginia Chapter:
dtdowning@comcast.net

Communications Committee
comprises e-news,
website, publicity and social media.

**Conservation & Advocacy
Committee** comprises
conservation, legislative/political,
pollinators, bike/pedestrian
issues. Meets on the fourth
Wednesday each month.

**Membership Engagement
Committee** comprises
membership, programs, outings
and fundraising. Meets on the last
Thursday of each month.

**New members are welcome.
Interested? Contact Shavon:**
shavonandrew@verizon.net



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Twitter

Websites: [Virginia Chapter](#) | [Falls of the James Group](#)

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This email was sent by the [Sierra Club Virginia Chapter](#)
100 W Franklin St, Mezzanine Richmond, VA 23220-5048