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WILLIAM & MARY
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RESILIENT RESPONSES

These past couple of months have served as a constant reminder of the need to adapt in the face of changing conditions. Like many others, COVID-19 has impacted the way in which VCPC operates - we switched to teaching our Practicum I and II courses remotely (see photo above), hosting guest speakers via Zoom, and cancelling our field experience to the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

Our current reality also means that VCPC is considering **changes to the annual conference**. Rather than holding a traditional face-to-face conference event on Friday, October 30th, VCPC is in the process of planning a series of informational sessions that will be held remotely during the fall months. While the specific details are forthcoming, we encourage you to **save the following dates: September 16, October 21, and November 18**. Please stay tuned for additional information!

CONGRATULATIONS CONOR JENNINGS!

Join VCPC in congratulating our Fellow Conor Jennings on his graduation from William & Mary Law School! Conor has been an integral part of



VCPC throughout his law school career. His duties as a graduate research fellow for VCPC have included organizing student volunteers for the annual VCPC conference, as well as conducting research on topics such as groundwater injection, Phase II MS4 permitting requirements, resilience in tribal communities, and, most recently, co-authoring a white paper regarding the regulation of Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) (see below). At W&M Law, Conor was also active in the Student Environmental and Animal Law Society and the William & Mary Law Review. Following graduation, Conor will be working at Eversheds Sutherland LLP in Washington, D.C. Thank you Conor for all of your hard work over the past three years, and best of luck in your legal career!

RECENTLY COMPLETED PROJECTS

With support from the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program, VCPC and Virginia Sea Grant recently launched the [Shellfish Aquaculture in Virginia](#) website to provide information about how to start an aquaculture operation in Virginia. The website summarizes the basic regulatory framework associated with aquaculture and identifies common considerations to keep in mind - such as whether to create a formal business entity and how gear choice may impact which permits and licenses are required. VCPC would like to thank the VIMS Marine Advisory Program, Virginia Marine Resources Commission, Virginia Department of Health - Division of Shellfish Safety, and the Shellfish Growers of Virginia for providing valuable feedback during the development of the website.

RESOURCES

- REGULATORY FRAMEWORK**: This section identifies which state agencies have the authority to regulate aquaculture-related activities in Virginia.
- VIMRC REQUIREMENTS**: This section summarizes a variety of Virginia Marine Resources Commission requirements, licenses, permits, and fees associated with aquaculture.
- VDH DSS REQUIREMENTS**: This section outlines the Virginia Department of Health's Division of Shellfish Safety's role with respect to aquaculture.
- STARTING A BUSINESS**: This section covers the administrative and financial aspects of planning for and starting an aquaculture business.
- FINDING A LOCATION**: This section provides information about the options for obtaining shellfish planting permits, as well as details regarding mooring of leased areas and access to eel.
- GEAR AND OPERATIONS**: This section describes the most common types of gear associated with aquaculture operations, including how gear choice may affect what licenses and permits are required.
- EDUCATION AND TRADE ASSOCIATIONS**: This section includes details on where to find additional information, such as aquaculture-related conferences and trade associations.
- LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONSIDERATIONS**: This section discusses considerations on the local government level that may be applicable, such as local zoning designations.

An updated [Shoreline Management Handbook](#) has been completed as part of a collaborative project between VCPC, the Center for Coastal Resources Management (CCRM) at VIMS, and Clay Bernick Environment & Sustainability, LLC. The digital Handbook covers the history behind the passage of the original tidal wetlands legislation in 1972 up to contemporary details of the shoreline permit application and approval

Shoreline Management Handbook

everything wetlands boards ...



BACKGROUND & PURPOSE
Why protect and manage tidal wetlands, beaches and dunes?



LAWS & JURISDICTIONS
What is the wetlands board jurisdiction, laws that apply, and guidance for following them?



PERMIT INFORMATION
Application forms, permit data and information requirements ...



BEING ON A BOARD
Charge of the board, roles and responsibilities, meeting times and contacts ...



CONDUCT A HEARING
Public interest review, procedures, emergency and violation, letter templates ...



DECISION SUPPORT & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
Shoreline maps, decision tools, reports and more ...



RESTORATION FOR RESILIENCE
What about habitat restoration and climate adaptation projects?



COMPLIANCE & OTHER LEGAL INFORMATION
Following permitted projects to the end ...



KNOW YOUR RESOURCES
Print this handbook and other items to help: website map, glossary, FAQ's, contacts, and more...

process. It also addresses the duties of wetlands boards, how to conduct public hearings, and how shoreline management relates to larger restoration goals. While the main target audience for the Handbook is citizen regulators on local wetland boards, the Handbook is also useful for regulatory agency staff, policy analysts, coastal resource managers, and the general public. This project was supported by the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program.

RECENTLY POSTED VCPC REPORTS

Balancing Act: Water Quality Protection and Flood Resilience

by Samantha Becker, William & Mary Law School, J.D. 2019

An Emerging Contaminant of (Legal) Concern: PFAS Legal Issues at the State and Federal Level

by Conor Jennings, William & Mary Law School, J.D. Candidate 2020 and Michael Heard Snow, William & Mary Law School, J.D. Candidate 2021

