

**Following are programmatic highlights of the Governor's introduced biennial budget**

**Environment and Agriculture**

- **Cooperative Extension:** Increase of \$110,000 in each year of the biennium to support the professional development for agricultural education teachers in middle schools and high schools.
- **Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services:** Increase of \$250,000 each year for facility grants under the Governor's Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development Fund (AFID).
- **Department of Conservation and Recreation:** Increase of \$80,000 each year to set up a competitive grant process for Chesapeake Bay education services (funding was transferred from the Department of Environmental Quality.)
- **Department of Conservation and Recreation:** Provides \$23.9 million in GF in FY 2015 for Water Quality Improvement Fund to address nonpoint source pollution problems (i.e. agricultural cost share and other programs.)
- **Department of Conservation and Recreation:** Increase of \$1 million in GF each year to support Land Conservation Fund.
- **Department of Conservation and Recreation:** For both FY 2015 and FY 2016, provides \$375,000 (\$225,000 GF and \$150,000 NGF) to hire four additional engineers to support the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Districts.
- **Department of Environmental Quality:** Increase of \$2.3 million in NGF each year to the Waste Tire Management Program.
- **Department of Environmental Quality:** Increase of \$7.5 million in GF in FY 2015 to the portion of the Water Quality Improvement Fund managed by DEQ (mostly point source and stormwater programs.)
- **Department of Environmental Quality:** Increase of \$401,036 each year in GF for water quality management in the Coastal Aquifer System.
- **Department of Forestry:** In FY 2015 increase by \$685,782 (\$485,782 GF and \$200,000 NGF) for support of the Reforestation of Timberlands program. For FY 2016, funding for this program is increased by \$1,099,500 (\$999,500 GF and \$200,000 NGF.)

- **Department of Game and Inland Fisheries:** For FY 2016 increases by \$1 million (\$500,000 GF and \$500,000 NGF) to establish a capital project to repair and upgrade dams necessary to comply with Dam Safety Act.
- **Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy:** For FY 2015 increase by \$250,000 in GF to support a study on the feasibility of offshore oil and gas development in Virginia. The study would provide an overview of the infrastructure needed to support oil and gas exploration and development and a plan to address concerns raised by military.