



VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Story of Virginia

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 14, 2012

Jennifer Guild, Senior Officer for Public Relations and Marketing
(804) 342-9665, jguild@vahistorical.org

Environmental History Conference Draws Large Crowd

Free Event Featuring Preservationists, Historians, and Environmentalists Has 275+ Registrants

What: The Virginia Historical Society (VHS) and the Virginia Environmental Endowment (VEE) are hosting a special environmental history conference called *From the Earth: The Environment in Virginia's Past and Future*. The free day-long conference will feature five sessions and a roundtable panel discussion. Each presentation focuses on a different time period in Virginia's history and all highlight aspects of the changing relationship between Virginia's environment and its people. Registration has been open since mid-January. More than 275 people from as far away as Maryland, North Carolina, and Washington, D.C., have registered for the event.

When: Friday, March 16, 2012, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Where: Virginia Historical Society, 428 North Boulevard, Richmond, Virginia 23220

Who: Conference speakers include:

- Helen Rountree, author of *Pocahontas, Powhatan, Opechancanough: Three Indian Lives Changed by Jamestown*
- Hon. Gerald Baliles, Former Governor of Virginia and Director of the Miller Center of Public Affairs at the University of Virginia
- Gerald McCarthy, Executive Director, Virginia Environmental Endowment
- Hon. W. Tayloe Murphy, Jr., Former Member, Virginia House of Delegates and former Secretary of Natural Resources
- Ann Jennings, Virginia Executive Director, Chesapeake Bay Foundation
- Stephen Ausbund, author of *Byrd's Line: A Natural History*
- Ben Cohen, author of *Notes from the Ground: Science, Soil, and Society in the American Countryside*
- Sara Gregg, author of *Managing the Mountains: Land Use Planning, the New Deal, and the Creation of the Federal Landscape in Appalachia*
- Roy Sawyer, author of *America's Wetland: An Environmental and Cultural History of Tidewater Virginia and North Carolina*

For the complete schedule of events and speaker bios, visit <http://www.vahistorical.org/news/veeconfer.htm>. Online registration is available at http://www.vahistorical.org/news/vee_register.htm. If space allows, walk up registration will be accepted. Seating is first come, first served. Conference registration includes a reception at the conclusion of the event but does not include lunch.

For more than 182 years, the **Virginia Historical Society** (VHS) has been connecting people to America's past through the unparalleled story of Virginia. The VHS—a history museum and research library—features award-winning exhibitions that are entertaining and educational for visitors of all ages. The Society is the only museum with all of Virginia's history under one roof—all centuries, all regions, and all topics are covered. Although designated the Official State Historical Society, the VHS is a privately funded non-profit organization that relies on contributions from individuals, corporations, and foundations to sustain its operations. The VHS is located at 428 North Boulevard in Richmond's Museum District. Admission is free. Museum hours are Monday–Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m. and Sunday 1 p.m.–5 p.m. Library hours are Monday–Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m. For more information, call (804) 358-4901, visit www.vahistorical.org, or find the VHS on Facebook and Twitter.

Post Office Box 7311
Richmond, Virginia 23221
www.vahistorical.org

