

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PRESERVING BEAUTY A WINNING PROPOSITION

Scenic Virginia seeks to recognize, reward accomplishments

Richmond, VA. Scenic Virginia wants your attention. The call for nominations for the 2006 Scenic Award winners is going out to individuals and organizations throughout the state.

“The Scenic Awards give us the chance to thank Virginians publicly for their hard work,” says Eugenia Anderson-Ellis, Scenic Virginia’s president. “To do that, we need to hear about all noteworthy projects around the Commonwealth.” The goal, she says, is at least one nomination from each of Virginia’s 324 counties, cities and towns.

Bill Beck of Fredericksburg, the 2006 Scenic Awards program chair, agrees. Virginians should “open their eyes” to the beauty around them – and be willing to nominate those efforts that stand out. If they do, he says, we all win.

“Our Scenic Awards are more than thanks for a job well done,” says Beck. “The winners also provide a road map of creative best practices for others to follow in their own communities – a project that they or someone else might nominate the following year.”

The organization is seeking nominations in the following six categories:

- Best Preservation of a Scenic Viewshed
- Best Preservation of a Scenic River Corridor
- Most Creative Scenic Improvement
- Best Local Anti-Litter Practices
- Best Implementation of VDOT Tree-Trimming Policy (given to a VDOT district)
- Scenic Hero (given to an elected official, private citizen, or organization for particular achievement in scenic conservation or for lifetime achievement).

Last year’s honorees included the *Clarkton Bridge Alliance*, *RappFLOW* for its work along the Rappahannock, the *Friends of the Rockfish Watershed*, *Keep Henrico Beautiful*, the *Staunton VDOT District*, and *Governor Mark R. Warner* for his support of the effort to bring the National Scenic Byways program to Virginia.

The 2006 nomination form is available at www.scenicvirginia.org/awards or by calling the Scenic Virginia office. Nominations must be received by the close of business on Friday, September 15, 2006, after which a statewide committee will review the entries and select a winner in each of the six categories. The 2006 Scenic Awards will be presented at a luncheon on Thursday, November 2, 2006 at the Kent-Valentine House in Richmond.

Scenic Virginia is a statewide private nonprofit whose mission is to preserve, protect and enhance the scenic beauty and community character of the Commonwealth. Membership is open to all. Persons interested in joining or those wanting additional information about the nominating process should contact Scenic Virginia Executive Director Leighton Powell at 804.282.5522 or at email@scenicvirginia.org.

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