



## **My Conservation Easement Assistance Program is Now Approved & Funded!**

January 23, 2019

Maintaining western Loudoun's small towns, villages and open spaces, along with the area's rural, historic and scenic character, is one of my top priorities.

As such, I'm happy to report that my Conservation Easement Assistance Program initiative is now approved and funded by the Board of Supervisors!

The new program is now available to begin helping eligible landowners with a portion of the up-front cost of placing their land into conservation easement.

Anyone interested in the possibility of using the program to assist with the up-front cost of obtaining a conservation easement should contact a Land Trust organization. Applications for participation in the program will be submitted to the County by Land Trust organizations, not individual landowners.

More information, including a list of Virginia Land Trust organizations, can be found [here](#).



LOUDOUN COUNTY

## CONSERVATION EASEMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

A conservation easement is a voluntary, legal agreement between a landowner and a land trust or government agency that permanently limits uses of the land in order to protect its conservation values.

Beginning in 2019, the county's new Conservation Easement Assistance Program will help landowners with the upfront costs of placing land under conservation easement.

Landowners interested in the possibility of placing their land under a conservation easement should contact a land trust to begin the process. If the land trust agrees, the land trust will apply on behalf of the landowner.

Program funding can cover:

- Attorney's fees
- Land appraisal fees
- Processing and document fees
- Stewardship costs

Funding for half of these costs (maximum \$15,000) will be provided to land trusts working with qualifying landowners in Loudoun County.

Applications available beginning March 1, 2019

For program details, visit

**[Loudoun.gov/ConservationEasementAssistance](http://Loudoun.gov/ConservationEasementAssistance)**

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All my best,



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