



American Society of Highway Engineers
Region 7 - Old Dominion Section

www.asherichmond.org

The Virginia Conservation Lands
Needs Assessment (VCLNA)

Presented by Joseph Weber and
Steve Carter-Lovejoy

Thursday May 13, 2004

An integral part and driving force in the highway industry today are the environmental considerations. As transportation officials we are expected to make smart decisions that will benefit our customers while protecting our environment. The Virginia Conservation Lands Needs Assessment is a flexible, widely applicable tool for integrating and coordinating the needs and strategies of different conservation interests, using GIS to model and map land conservation priorities and actions in Virginia. This program will be a key State resource for setting priorities for land conservation, natural area protection as well as farmlands and forest preservation.

Our speakers will focus on two areas: First, the Natural Landscape Assessment component of VCLNA, which is derived from satellite imagery and used to identify as well as prioritize natural lands along with the habitat corridors necessary for their support and enhancement.

Secondly, the speakers will expand on the Virginia Natural Heritage Program (VNHP) and the state's most comprehensive biodiversity database that the VNHP has developed into GIS coverage featuring almost 2000 conservation sites in Virginia. This coverage can be used to identify land management needs and protection priorities. It can also be used as a screening tool to identify potential conflicts with road construction and other development activities and can be used for proactive planning to ensure that development projects successfully avoid or benefit natural heritage resources.

Join us for this presentation as we get in on the ground floor of this brand new GIS application that can be used for local and state planning.

VERY IMPORTANT:

We are at our normal location for the ASHE meetings, the auditorium in the VDOT Central Office complex.

In order to gain access to the building, you **MUST** have a picture ID (VA drivers license preferred) or your VDOT identification card.

Parking is available at the metered and non-metered spaces along the city streets or at the pay lots in the area. State provided parking next to the VDOT Annex building is available for a few vehicles. Carpoolers have priority. Free parking is available at the State operated Main Street Station lot for other vehicles. To register for the State provided parking visit our web site at www.asherichmond.org then go to the "Next Meeting" link. **All those who register will need to report to the guard shack located behind the Annex building for their assignment and parking pass.**

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR
ASHE MEETING**

Thursday May 13, 2004

12:00 Noon till 1:00 pm

Please plan to arrive a few minutes early, as we will start the meeting on time.

Location:

Front Auditorium
VDOT Building
1221 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia

Lunch menu and ordering instructions are on our web site www.asherichmond.org under the "Next Meeting" link.