

**VIRGINIA RECREATIONAL FISHING DEVELOPMENT FUND
SUMMARY PROJECT APPLICATION***

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<p>NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:</p> <p>Virginia Marine Resources Commission 2600 Washington Ave, Newport News VA 23607</p>	<p>PROJECT LEADER (name, phone, e-mail):</p> <p>Alicia Nelson (757) 247-2244 alicia.nelson@mrc.virginia.gov Joe Grist (757) 247-2237 joe.grist@mrc.virginia.gov</p>										
<p>PRIORITY AREA OF CONCERN:</p> <p>Fishing Line Recycling (Habitat Improvement)</p>	<p>PROJECT LOCATION:</p> <p>Various locations in coastal Virginia</p>										
<p>DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF PROJECT:</p> <p>Virginia Fishing Line Recycling Program</p>											
<p>PROJECT SUMMARY:</p> <p>The Virginia Marine Resources Commission, in conjunction with the Virginia Secretary of Natural Resources and the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, recently launched the Virginia Fishing Line Recycling Program. This project will collect and recycle discarded monofilament fishing line for the purposes of keeping Virginia's waterways cleaner and protecting marine life.</p>											
<p>EXPECTED BENEFITS:</p> <p>Monofilament fishing line poses an environmental hazard to fish, shore birds, turtles, and marine mammals. An animal entangled in fishing line can suffer drowning, infection, loss of limbs, and starvation. Improperly discarded fishing line can wrap around propellers, causing damage and costly repairs. By placing fishing line recycling containers across the state, the program hopes to reduce the negative effects on marine life and user groups by making sure the line is not only disposed of properly, but recycled into usable fish habitat.</p>											
<p>COSTS:</p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Item</th> <th style="text-align: right;">Total Cost</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Collection bin and stand materials (10 bins)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Installation and collection supplies (bags, data sheets, metal clamps, wire)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Decals and display items</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Promotional items and mailings (printing, postage, and handouts)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1,000.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Total Costs: \$ 3,500.00</p> <p>Detailed budget must be included with proposal.</p>		Item	Total Cost	Collection bin and stand materials (10 bins)	1,000.00	Installation and collection supplies (bags, data sheets, metal clamps, wire)	500.00	Decals and display items	1,000.00	Promotional items and mailings (printing, postage, and handouts)	1,000.00
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Updated 6/1/05

*This form alone does not constitute a complete application, see application instructions or contact Sonya Davis at 757-247-8155 or sonya.davis@mrc.virginia.gov

Request for funding for the Virginia Fishing Line Recycling Program

Need:

Monofilament fishing line poses an environmental hazard to fish, shore birds, turtles, and marine mammals. An animal entangled in fishing line can suffer drowning, infection, loss of limbs, and starvation. Improperly discarded fishing line can wrap around propellers, causing damage and costly repairs.

Objective:

To implement a successful, multi-agency state-wide recycling program to prevent discarded monofilament line from entering the Commonwealth's waterways. In 2009, we hope to place collection bins at 20 locations.

Approach:

The Virginia Marine Resources Commission, in conjunction with the Virginia Secretary of Natural Resources and the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, recently launched the Virginia Fishing Line Recycling Program (see press release attached). The program consists of PVC collection bins that are placed at piers, docks, and marinas throughout the state for monofilament collection. The line is collected on a regular basis, recorded, and shipped to the Berkley Conservation Institute for recycling into fish habitat structures. Locations for the bins are chosen based on locality, owner request and/or participation, and ease of collection. The VMRC will also work with the Boat US Foundation as part of the Reel In and Recycle program. Boat U.S. has joined with several municipalities and state agencies to form a large scale recycling project. In addition to supplies and how-to videos, the foundation has established a reporting and monitoring website which will track all of the fishing line recycled in the state, allowing tracking of recycling activity.

Estimated Benefits:

Preventing fishing line from entering the waterways through this collection and recycling program would prevent countless entanglements of fish, turtles, birds and marine mammals. There are also benefits for the boating public. Monofilament can wrap around boat propellers causing equipment failures and costly repairs. Removal of the line will not only prevent these encounters, but also involve the public in the preservation of Virginia's waterways.

An added benefit is the collection of line recycling data acquired by the online reporting system. Through this system, VMRC, VDGIF, and other state-wide partners can input and access data, allowing for a clear account of the state's monofilament recycling efforts. These data can be used for public education programs, such as those displayed at the state fair and other educational venues.

Location History:

The first bins were placed at the Ocean View Fishing Pier, in Norfolk and Long Bay Pointe Marina in Virginia Beach. These locations were chosen as preliminary bin sites because of their proximity to the VMRC main office and normal traveling routes of VMRC field staff. These locations are also open year-round. In the first week of the program, almost 8 pounds of fishing line was collected at the bin at Long Bay Pointe Marina.

Upcoming locations include Chris's Bait and Tackle in Cape Charles, and Capt. Bob's Marina in Cape Charles. Both of these bins will be placed during April, 2009. The City of Hampton has been in contact with the VMRC to ensure that a bin is placed at the new Buckroe Fishing Pier which is scheduled to open in May 2009. Future locations will include partners in the Marine Sportfish Collection Project and Virginia Saltwater Review contributors, as well as locations suggested by the general public.

In 2008, the program received an initial shipment of bins from the Boat U.S. Foundation, which received grant funding from the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Association. While the Foundation may be able to supply additional bins in the future, no shipment of bins or decals is guaranteed. Demand for recycling bins is high, and the program has already received requests for additional bins at several new locations. In order for the program to expand in 2009, reliable funding is required for the VMRC to purchase program materials, such as bin materials, mounting hardware, and decals.

Length of Time:

The recycling program will continue each year. The annual budget will be adjusted each year to represent projected funding needs based on annual planning and program needs.

Estimated Cost (Year 1):

Item	Total Cost
Collection bin and stand materials (10 bins)	1,000.00
Installation and collection supplies (bags, data sheets, metal clamps, wire)	500.00
Decals and display items	1,000.00
Promotional items and mailings (printing, postage, and handouts)	1,000.00
TOTAL	3,500.00

Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries

News Release

For Immediate Release
2/10/2009

Contact
Ron Southwick, VDGIF, 804-367-1292
John M.R. Bull, VMRC, 757-247-2269

NOTE: This news release was distributed on 2/10/2009. The information below may no longer be the most up-to-date information available, or may pertain solely to events that occurred in the past. Please contact the person listed as the contact person for this release for the most current information.

State Agencies Initiate Fishing Line Recycling Program

Richmond, VA — The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) and Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) are launching a monofilament fishing line recycling program across the Commonwealth. Both state agencies will install PVC pipe recycling containers at public boats launches at several lakes and rivers and coastal waters. Anglers and boaters are encouraged to deposit used monofilament fishing line into the PVC containers.

"Part of our agency mission involves managing and protecting wildlife populations. Monofilament fishing line poses an entanglement hazard for both aquatic animals and birds," says VDGIF Director Bob Duncan. "In addition, we are charged with protecting people and property engaged in hunting, fishing, boating and other outdoor-related activities. Improperly discarded fishing line can wrap around propellers, causing damage to boat motors."

"These fishing line recycling containers encourage anglers to dispose of unwanted line in a responsible manner," noted VMRC Commissioner Steve Bowman. "When you use one of these containers, you will be playing an important role in protecting fish, birds, turtles, and even dolphins, as well as keeping Virginia's waters clean."

According to VDGIF Fisheries Division Assistant Director Ron Southwick who is coordinating the line recycling program for the Department, "Several conservation organizations and municipalities have already jumped on board as partners sponsoring potential sites for the containers. Every group we have contacted to date has been most enthusiastic and supportive. Currently, we have 50 recycling containers ready to be installed across the state."

Sponsoring groups include the Virginia Bass Federation, Fairfax County Park Authority, Suffolk-Nansemond Chapter of the Isaac Walton League, Northern Virginia Kayak Fishing Club, Orange County High School Anglers Club, City of Richmond Parks and Recreation, VA B.A.S.S. Federation Nation, and the Isle of Wight Ruritan Club. In addition to providing the monofilament fishing line recycling

containers, the sponsors will help maintain the containers and collect the used line for recycling.

Anglers and boaters wishing to recycle fishing line should remove any hooks or sinkers from the used line before depositing it into the containers. For the safety of the volunteers collecting the fishing line for recycling, no other trash should be deposited into the well marked containers.

The used monofilament line will be collected by partnering, volunteer organizations and shipped to Pure Fishing America, the parent company of Berkley fishing line. The recycled line is melted down and remolded into various products, such as fishing line spools, tackle boxes, and fish habitat structures.

Groups interested in participating in the fishing line recycling program can contact Ron Southwick at 804-367-1292 or by email Ron.Southwick@dgif.virginia.gov.

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High resolution photographs are available by clicking on the thumbnail(s) below.



Caption: Secretary of Natural Resources Preston Bryant (second from right) and his wife Liz are joined by VDGIF Executive Director Bob Duncan (far left) and VMRC Commissioner Steve Bowman (far right) as they deposit used monofilament fishing line in the fishing line recycling container installed at Ancarrow's Landing on the James River in the City of Richmond.



Caption: Sponsors will not only provide the fishing line recycling containers like the one pictured here, but they will also help maintain and collect the used monofilament line for recycling.

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