

# HENRICO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES KEEP HENRICO BEAUTIFUL

NEAA26 PUBLIC INFORMATION & EDUCATION: EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM



National Environmental  
Achievement  
AWARDS

Keep Henrico Beautiful offers County residents of all ages litter prevention and recycling programs, environmental education resources and volunteer opportunities. The Land Lover Series, in partnership with Henrico County Libraries, teaches citizens about various environmental topics throughout the year. KHB's annual Plant Native! Festival draws 2,500 attendees from across Virginia to celebrate native plants and learn about environmental best practices.





The Henrico County Department of Public Utilities (Henrico Water) provides water, wastewater systems, and solid waste services to over 100,000 customers. Henrico Water demonstrates a strong commitment to protecting and conserving water resources across all its operations. Through its multifaceted Keep Henrico Beautiful Program (KHB), the organization advances pollution prevention efforts by combining education, outreach, and community engagement.

Through their *Because We Care* volunteer litter pickup program, KHB engages volunteers to adopt areas for litter pickup. This program and others give residents the opportunity to actively engage in watershed protection. KHB's school-based educational programming teaches young students about watershed protection with hands-on lessons in the classroom. Additional school support is realized through their original high-quality Environmental Activity Books given to kindergarten students for free.

KHB's participation in public events provides an opportunity to unite with County residents and others in the region. The program engages with residents on topics such as recycling, composting, and litter prevention. In addition, their *Land Lover and Clean Business Awards* recognize residents and businesses within the County for best water management practices and create opportunities to highlight sustainable practices. Winners of these awards shine in the water community by employing practices like permeable pavement, rain barrels, and native landscaping.

Their *Land Lover Series*, in conjunction with Henrico Library, give adults room to learn and ask questions about sustainable and environmentally friendly yard practices. KHB unites other environmental groups by organizing the yearly *Plant Native! Festival*. The organization's premier event celebrates the landscaping choices that are so vital to water conservation and watershed stewardship. At this festival, which is free for all, guests receive vouchers to buy native plants and are able to take home one free tree. Through a wide variety of avenues KHB is an example of an educational program that can make a positive difference in the clean water community.