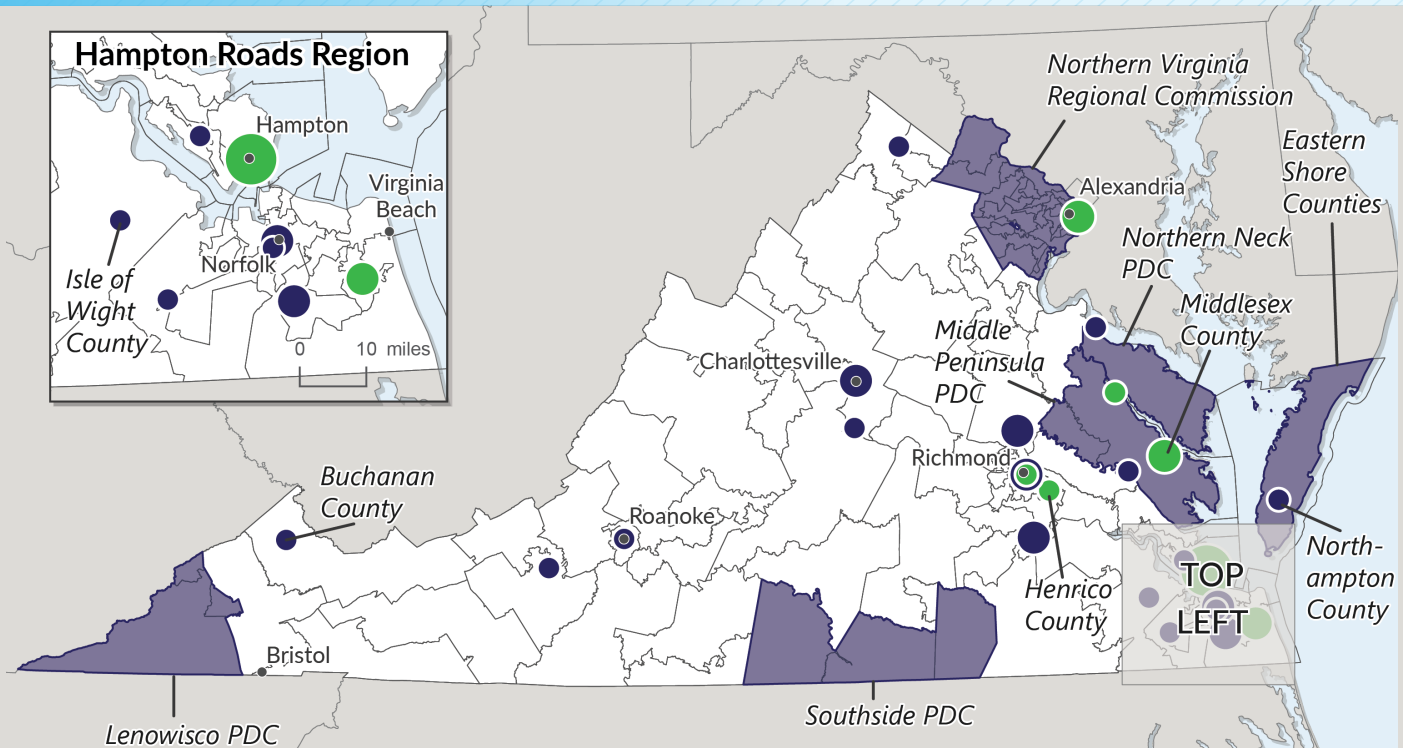


# RGGI GRANTS

## COMMUNITY FLOOD PREPAREDNESS FUND



In 2020, Virginia passed the Clean Energy and Community Flood Preparedness Act to protect Virginians from growing flood risk from more frequent and intense storms and sea level rise. This allowed the Commonwealth to join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) and established the Community Flood Preparedness Fund (CFPF). RGGI is a market-based program of 11 states that generates funds while reducing electricity sector emissions. Half of its proceeds fund low-income energy efficiency programs and 45% fund the CFPF.

The CFPF provides loans and grants for projects, studies, and planning throughout the Commonwealth to identify and address flood vulnerability for communities. CFPF funds can build capacity in localities that otherwise would not have the resources to develop comprehensive flood vulnerability assessments and action-oriented flood mitigation approaches.

## CITY OF CHESAPEAKE

The City of Chesapeake, Virginia's second-most populous city, is located within the 9,600 acre Elizabeth River watershed a, major tributary of the Chesapeake Bay. With extensive wetlands as well as several lakes and rivers within City limits, most of Chesapeake is susceptible to flooding.



**CITY OF  
CHESAPEAKE**



**\$166,401**



Emily Steinhilber  
Environmental Defense Fund  
esteinhilber@edf.org

## WHY IT MATTERS:

“Because of its low relief and extensive waterways, flooding is a real issue of concern for Chesapeake, not only for water quality, but also for the health and safety of its residents. Approximately 43 square miles, or 12% of the City’s area is located in a special flood hazard area.”

### 1 RESILIENCE PLAN

Chesapeake is in need of a city-wide flood resilience plan, but does not have the in-house financial or personnel capacity necessary for its development. A \$74,997 CFPF award will enable the municipality to hire an engineering firm to conduct and complete the plan.

### 2 SOUTHERN CHESAPEAKE WATERSHED STUDY

Chesapeake is in the process of studying all major watersheds within the locality to assess flood risk and develop prevention and mitigation strategies. The City’s Southern Chesapeake watershed includes a portion of the Northwest River, a major drinking water source for the city. Flooding of this region in April of 2021 prompted the need for an accelerated evaluation of the rural region, which will be completed with a \$91,404 CFPF grant.

**SOUTHERN CHESAPEAKE WATERSHED,  
NORTHWEST RIVER TREATMENT PLANT |**  
Chesapeake, VA

