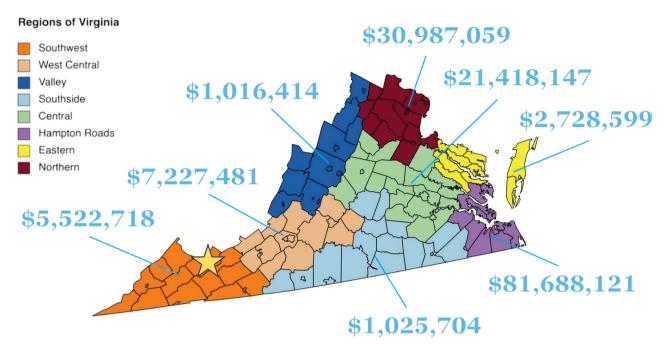
## **RGGI GRANTS**

#### COMMUNITY FLOOD PREPAREDNESS FUND



Virginia's participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) from 2021-2023 generated \$827.7 million in revenue while also reducing power plant carbon pollution in the state by 22%. Half of RGGI proceeds from quarterly auctions funded low-income energy efficiency programs and 45% funded the Community Flood Preparedness Fund (CFPF). Without RGGI, there is no mechanism to maintain long-term revenue for the CFPF.

The CFPF provides grants and loans for projects, studies, and planning throughout the Commonwealth to identify and address flood vulnerability for communities. CFPF funds can build capacity in localities that need additional resources to develop comprehensive flood vulnerability assessments and action-oriented flood mitigation approaches.

# **TAZEWELL COUNTY**

Tazewell County's mountainous terrain and network of tributaries contribute to its persistent flooding and a heightened risk of flash floods. Since 1953, it has seen 21 presidential disaster declarations for a multitude of natural disasters. As a result of recent flooding that damaged infrastructure, property, and disrupted residents' daily lives, they will use the CFPF award for studies and natural disaster resilience planning.



\$ 1,630,195.85

Cumulative CFPF Awards





# **1** DEBRIS PLAN

Tazewell County will utilize grant funding to develop and implement a systematic Flood Preventative Debris and Sediment Removal Program. The initiative aims to address debris and sediment accumulation in the County's waterways and floodplains to mitigate flood risks. Funding is required for technical assistance to design the program, including developing a comprehensive plan, securing necessary permits, and purchasing equipment for operations. Targeted outreach will focus on properties impacted by past flood damage and low-income or socially vulnerable communities.

#### **2** BOTTOM ROAD AREA STUDY

The Bottom Road Area study aims to identify the root causes of flooding though data-drive approaches and purpose mitigation strategies, with an emphasis on nature-based solutions. This effort aligns with Tazewell County's commitment to enhancing flood prevention and protection in areas with recurring flood events. In addition to informing local decisions, the study aims to strengthen regional flood management by fostering collaboration and sharing best practices with other communities facing similar challenges.

## **3** BLUEFIELD DOWNTOWN STUDY

As an identified flooding hotspot, Tazewell County will use CFPF grant funding to conduct a comprehensive study, including a preliminary hydrologic study and a Baseline Base Level Engineering (BLE) 2D hydraulic modeling, of the Town of Bluefield. This study aims to deliver effective solutions for sustained resilience against flooding in Downtown Bluefield by directly addressing the need for effective flood prevention and protection strategies in an area that has experienced recurring flood events.

# **4** RICHLANDS SCHOOL STORMWATER IMPROVEMENTS

The Richlands School Area Stormwater Improvements Project addresses persistent flooding in a low-income area of Richlands, Tazewell County, where inadequate stormwater infrastructure along Cedar Valley Road causes significant safety and accessibility issues. Frequent blockages and runoff from elevated terrain have led to inundation of the local middle school auditorium and restricted access to schools located in the area, posing safety hazards. The project will include studying existing conditions, designing and constructing a solution based on best practices and climate projections, and enhancing environmental sustainability through improved stormwater retention, infiltration, and treatment.