

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**May 28, 2009**

**Press Contact**

Leighton Powell (Executive Director, Scenic Virginia)  
Office: (804) 643-VIEW (804-643-8439)  
Cell phone: (804) 363-9453  
Email: [email@scenicvirginia.org](mailto:email@scenicvirginia.org)

**SCENIC VIRGINIA SEEKS NOMINATIONS FOR ANNUAL SCENIC AWARDS**

Organization Looks for Beauty in Successful Projects that Others Can Replicate

*Richmond, Va.* Scenic Virginia is soliciting nominations for its 2009 Scenic Awards program, and the conservation organization is asking fellow Virginians to help identify worthy projects.

“Virginia is renowned for two things: its history and its beauty,” notes Scenic Virginia president Jane Sale Henley of Weems. “One without the other lessens the quality of both. Scenic Virginia works every day to preserve this historic beauty for our children and grandchildren.”

“Our annual Scenic Awards are a great way to showcase terrific beautification programs and projects in both rural and urban areas around the Commonwealth,” adds executive director Leighton Powell. “To recognize the best of the best, though, we need Virginia’s citizens to let us know about particularly noteworthy projects in their localities.”

The organization is seeking nominations in the following seven categories:

- Scenic Viewshed Preservation Award
- Scenic Water Corridor Viewshed Preservation Award
- Creative Scenic Enhancement Award
- Scenic Tourism Award
- Anti-Litter Award - Organization and Individual
- VDOT Tree-Trimming Award (given to a VDOT district)
- Scenic Hero (given to a citizen, elected official or organization for a special project or lifetime achievement).

Last year’s honored projects and organizations included the **Homestead Preserve** in Bath County (Scenic Viewshed Preservation Award); the City of Roanoke’s record-setting **conservation easement on Carvins Cove** (Scenic Water Corridor Viewshed Preservation Award); the five-year, \$24 million restoration of **James Madison’s Montpelier** in Orange (Creative Scenic Enhancement Award); the **Washington and Old Dominion (W&OD) Trail** in northern Virginia (Scenic Tourism Award); the James River Advisory Council’s (JRAC) **Annual James River Clean-Up** and **VDOT’s Adopt-a-Highway Program 20th Anniversary** Anti-Litter Award - Organization and Individual categories); and **Hylah H. Boyd** and **Betty Byrne Ware** of Richmond (shared Scenic Hero Award). *[Note: Digital photos are available of each project or winner.]*

The 2009 Scenic Awards Nomination Form, along with information about past winners in each category, is available at Scenic Virginia’s website at [www.scenicvirginia.org/Awards](http://www.scenicvirginia.org/Awards) or by calling the Scenic Virginia office at (804) 643-VIEW (804-643-8439). Nominations must be received by the close of business on **Wednesday, July 15, 2009**, after which a statewide committee will review the entries and select a winner in each of the six categories. The 2009 Scenic Awards will be presented at a luncheon this fall at the Kent-Valentine House in Richmond.

Scenic Virginia's mission is to preserve, protect and enhance the beauty of the Commonwealth, with a particular focus on the preservation of significant viewsheds and vistas. Membership is open to all.

###