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## **Community Foundation mark's Earth Day's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by Naming 2020 Environment Fund Grant Recipients**

*\$50,000 is granted for projects related to clean air, energy and preserving Northern Virginia's natural environment*

April 22, 2020 (Oakton, VA) – As the world observes the 50th anniversary of Earth Day today, the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia announces it has awarded two \$25,000 Environment Fund grants to local organizations working to protect, restore, and improve the natural environment of Northern Virginia.

"We're proud of our annual Environment Fund initiative and thrilled to partner with this year's grantees," said Sari Raskin, Vice President of Grants and Community Leadership at Community Foundation for Northern Virginia. "Each organization is leading the way towards improving the quality of air, water and energy in our region."

The [Coalition for Smarter Growth](#) (CSG) is a two-time grant recipient for its work promoting walkable, inclusive, and transit-oriented communities in the Washington DC region, and the land use and transportation policies and investments needed to make those communities flourish.

"This grant will have a tremendously positive impact on CSG efforts to build coalitions and help the Northern Virginia suburbs become more sustainable," said CSG's Executive Director, Stewart Schwartz. "As the suburbs face growing environmental and equity challenges, the support of local donors through the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia is essential. We are extremely grateful for the support."

The other grant recipient, [EcoAction Arlington](#) will use the funds to support its Energy Masters program which trains volunteers to install energy and water efficiency devices and make improvements in low-income apartment complexes.

"This grant will allow us to expand existing energy efficiency programs that serve low-income residents living in half-way houses and group homes including seniors and people with disabilities and mental illnesses, said Elenor Hodges, Executive Director."

The [Environment Fund](#) launched in 2018 as a component fund of the [Permanent Fund for Northern Virginia](#), made possible by a \$500,000 gift from an anonymous donor.

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**About Community Foundation for Northern Virginia** The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia grows philanthropy to respond to critical need, seed innovation and lead and convene the community. Comprised of donor advised funds, permanent funds, giving circles, and other charitable endowments, the Community Foundation connects donors to community and promotes a more equitable and inclusive prosperity that marries our economic strength with the full breadth of our diverse community. In 2019 the Community Foundation awarded more than \$5.4 million in grants and scholarships and reported more than \$72 million in managed philanthropic assets. For more information please visit us at [www.cfnova.org](http://www.cfnova.org), follow up on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Instagram](#)