

# Operation Spruce-Up

Photography Contest

*While you're planting trees, hiking a trail, or counting the bees...take your camera*



*along!*

The Photo Contest is open to anyone. Categories:

*Scenic Virginia*  
*Volunteers in Motion*  
Team Award

The *best in show* will receive a free weekend getaway at a State Park cabin of their choice

*1<sup>st</sup>* Place in each category enjoys a photography field trip with a Wildlife Biologist

*2<sup>nd</sup>* Place in each category receives a \$25.00 gift certificate from Richmond Camera

*3<sup>rd</sup>* Place in each category receives a one year subscription to *Virginia Wildlife* magazine

Eligibility and Agreement: This contest is open to anyone wishing to participate. Photographs or slides are eligible for the contest. Slides must be 35mm. Photographs can be any size up to 8x10, and can be color or black and white. NOTE that no work will be returned. Please do not send original slides or photographs. Winning photographers will be notified. DCR retains non-exclusive rights to photographs submitted. **All work must be received by May 31, 2001. All work must be accompanied by a completed entry form, or a note card with the following information: Your name, address, phone number, signature, title, location (optional), group or participants names(s) and activity description. Entries can be hand delivered to any Richmond Camera location. Or mail entries to the following address:**

**“Operation Spruce-Up 2001 Photography Contest” Attn: Dick Gibbons, Dept. of Conservation & Recreation, 203 Governor Street, Suite 302, Richmond, VA 23219. For more information call Dick Gibbons at 804-786-4132.**

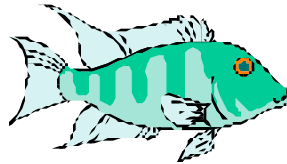




## Operation Spruce-Up

Ideas and Resources for Individual, Family, & Civic Group Involvement  
<http://www.state.va.us/~dcr/temp/opersu.htm>

Operation Spruce-Up is a month-long campaign to encourage Virginians to learn about, enjoy, and care for our state's magnificent natural resources. *So get into the water, visit a state park or wildlife area.* Plan something for you, your group, or your community. It can be educational, recreational, environmental, or any combination. And don't forget to **register your efforts** with the Operation Spruce-Up Committee. All participants will receive a certificate of appreciation from Governor Jim Gilmore. Call in Richmond at (804) 786-5056 or outside of Richmond, 1-800-933-park for a registration package.



### CHECK OUT THESE IDEAS:

**Adopt A Stream** Your group or organization can help by adopting a stream and working for cleaner waters! Volunteers can organize clean ups, plant vegetative buffers along streams and rivers as well as distribute educational materials. Call the Department of Conservation and Recreation at (804) 786-2064 for more information.

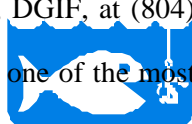
**Help Save Our Streams** This program is intended to get you and your group into the water. This is a national water quality monitoring program for streams that involves the collection and analysis of aquatic insects. It is suitable for youth and adult audiences. Workshops are available for program leaders. Contact Jay Gilliam, Izaak Walton League, at (540) 377-6179.

**Adopt a Highway** So, what do roadways and waterways have in common? **Litter.** Much of what is deposited on roadways ends up in our rivers and streams. So, clean up a highway and you'll be helping to keep our waters clean. For information on how your group can adopt or plant flowers on a highway, contact VDOT at 1-800-PRIDE-VA.

**Take a Boating Basics Course** Learn how to boat safely as part of your Operation Spruce-Up involvement. This is a **free**, 8 hour certification course taught by trained instructors. It is suitable for high school age youth through adult. For additional information on courses, contact Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries (DGIF), at (804) 367-1125.

**Sponsor a Fishing Clinic** Getting people in our communities more involved with local water resources can begin with an interest in fishing. The Community Fishing Clinics Program is designed to help organizations sponsor short duration angling education events. Planning assistance, educational materials and equipment loan are a part of the package. If you are interested in sponsoring a program, contact Anne Skalski, Aquatic Education Coordinator, DGIF, at (804) 367-6778 or [askalski@dgif.state.va.us](mailto:askalski@dgif.state.va.us)

**Learn to Canoe** Canoeing can be one of the most relaxing and pleasurable ways to get a feel for our



waterways. The American Canoe Association offers courses in basic canoeing. For information on who to call in your area, contact The American Canoe Association at (703) 451-0141 or acadirect@aol.com

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**Go With the Flow on a River Rafting**

Rafting can offer an exciting way to get the feel for our waterways. And, it's **fun for the family**, an office or club outing, neighborhood get-togethers or as a youth group activity. For information on rafting look in your local phone directory or contact your area Chamber of Commerce.

**Tackle a Virginia Water Ways Clean-Up Project**

Tons of unwanted debris enter our waterways every day. But you can help make a difference on where it ends up by organizing or participating in a waterway clean-up day near you. Clean Virginia Waters is a volunteer organization dedicated to improving the health of Virginia's waterways and organizing Virginia Waterway Clean-Up Day. So, jump on board. More Site Captains, Zone Captains, and troops are needed. For more information contact Katie Register at (804) 395-2602.



**Plant a buffer strip**

By planting trees and other native plants along streams and banks, you'll stabilize the shore from erosion and establish vegetation that will absorb nutrients. For a free packet of loblolly seeds (planting instructions included), send a self-addressed mailing label to the Department of Forestry, P. O. Box 198, Waverly, VA 23890.

**Learn to Fish with Home Study Angling Education Kit**

Ever wonder why so many people fish? Perhaps the time to find out is during **Operation Spruce-Up**. But before you go, tackle some of the basics with a home study kit. DGIF offers one for beginners (fun for the family to use together) and one for people who are interested in learning how to fish for largemouth bass. Kits are \$15. They include instructional literature and a video. To order, send a check payable to the Treasurer of Virginia, to Angler Kit, DGIF, 4010 West Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23230.



**Start an Oyster Garden**

If you live along the water in a tidal zone, consider nursing baby seed oysters in floats this fall. The floats are kept clean and oysters are protected from predators, like blue crabs. The following summer, when they've reached approximately two inches, they're transplanted into designated sanctuary reefs. For more information, contact The Marine Resources Commission at (757) 247-2121.



**Learn About Your Riverfront and its History**

Learn all you can about the river or waterway nearest you and find out why it is important environmentally and historically to your community. Join local groups to interpret your riverfront's past and examine its future. For historic information contact Katherine Harding, Department of Historic Resources, at (804) 367-2323 ext. 136.

**Participate in a River Cleanup while you canoe!**

Contact Trace Noel for opportunities with the Virginia Professional Paddlesports Association, 352 Shenandoah Heights, Front Royal, VA 22638, phone # 540-635-1553.

**Plan a Backyard Classroom,**

call Bonnie Phillips with the Department of Conservation at (804) 786-5056.



**Operation Spruce-Up**  
**Celebrating Spring with Volunteers In Motion**

Yes! I would like to register my volunteer activity as an Operation Spruce-Up event. I understand that I will be sent certificates of appreciation signed by Governor Gilmore to give to participating volunteers or organizations, and that my event will be listed in the official Operation Spruce-Up calendar of events.

Event date(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Description of event: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Location of Event: \_\_\_\_\_

County or City \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How many volunteers do you expect to participate in your event? \_\_\_\_\_

How many certificates of appreciation do you need? \_\_\_\_\_

Is this event open for public participation? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me additional information:

Businesses for the Bay packet \_\_\_\_\_ Operation Spruce-Up Brochures \_\_\_\_\_ copies

Photo Contest Brochures \_\_\_\_\_ copies 25 Ways to Help Virginia's Environment \_\_\_\_\_ copies

**Please forward this registration form as soon as possible to:**

**Operation Spruce-Up**  
**203 Governor Street, Suite 302**  
**Richmond, VA 23206**  
**FAX: (804) 786-6141**