

# Virginia Greenforce Initiative Summit

**Date:** February 16, 2011, 9:00am – 4:00pm

**Host Campus:** Germanna Community College's Daniel Technology Center, Culpepper, Virginia

**Participants:** more than 100

## Campuses and Groups Represented:

Arlington/Alexandria Workforce Investment Board  
Bank of America  
Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission  
CES Consulting LLC  
Clark Nexsen Architecture and Engineering  
Commonwealth Sustainability Works  
Community College Workforce Alliance  
*Dabney S. Lancaster Community College*  
Diversified Educational Systems, Inc.  
Downtown Front Royal Inc.  
Easter Seals  
*Eastern Shore Community College*  
EMO Energy Solutions  
Frederick County Public Schools  
Fresh Tulips USA LLC  
*Germanna Community College*  
Greentech Automotive  
Green Jobs Alliance  
ICF International  
J.L. Little, Inc.  
*J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College*  
*Lord Fairfax Community College*  
Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce  
*Northern Virginia Community College*  
Northern Virginia Workforce Board  
Peninsula Council for Workforce Development  
*Piedmont Virginia Community College*



Planned Systems International  
*Rappahannock Community College*  
Shenandoah Valley Energy Partnership  
Solar Odyssey, Inc.  
Thomas Jefferson Partnership for Economic Development  
*Tidewater Community College*  
Veterans Enterprise Training and Services Group  
Virginia Community College System  
Virginia Conservation Network  
Virginia Cooperative Extension  
Virginia Employment Commission  
Virginia Weatherization Training Center  
Virginia Workforce Council  
Western Virginia Workforce Development Board

## Green Job Trends in Virginia:

*Northern Virginia Workforce Investment Board:*

- In Virginia, there are more than 336,000 jobs in a representative group of job areas that could see job growth or wage increases by putting global warming solutions to work.
- The Northern Virginia/Washington, DC regional labor market had almost 25,000 current and potential green jobs in 2006 within green industries, and is projected to grow to 192,165 jobs through 2038.

*ICF International:*

- Over 50% of green jobs in the MD/VA/DC region are concentrated in the top 5 industries --related to construction, technical services, and education/policy; energy efficiency and conservation areas have the most green jobs.
- Hiring projections indicate that green activities in construction; professional, scientific, and technical services; and support and waste management services can expect to grow.
- 15% of green jobs in Virginia are in education, training, and library & Installation, maintenance, and repair.
- VA-based green employers are more likely than in other jurisdictions (DC/MD) to offer online training.

### Connections to Workforce and Economic Development:

- Huey Battle, Northern Virginia Workforce Investment Board, on what is needed “Greater coordination among education, workforce development, and economic development through designated cabinet-level leadership.”
- Shenandoah Valley Energy Partnership, a partnership of the Shenandoah Valley Workforce Investment Board, Dabney S. Lancaster, Blue Ridge, and Lord Fairfax Community Colleges, Invenergy and others, is a collaborative of regional education and training providers, workforce systems, and economic development and industry association partners. SVEP was created to plan and implement green-related initiatives to address emerging workforce development needs in the green energy sector and related industries.
- Huey Battle, “Recognize the existing credentials of highly trained and experienced former military personnel and allow substitution of certain military training and service for formal certification in health and technical professions.”



### Development of Green Training Highlights:

- Rappahannock Community College offers a Low Impact Development Training Series, a series of workshops sponsored by several community stakeholders for the local building and development industry, local government, and lawn care businesses. It covers low impact development and storm water management practices that will be used in the future to minimize soil erosion, storm water runoff and protect water resources.
- Blue Ridge Community College offers building analyst training to do energy efficiency evaluation prior to weatherization work or rehabilitation, partnering with the Virginia weatherization center and SVEP. Courses offered: building analyst, building envelope specialist, air sealer/installer, opportunity to receive career studies certificate in weatherization.
- Lord Fairfax Community College offers professional certification programs for Green Advantage.
- Tidewater Community College offers a Green Training Program with courses to prepare for a career in green building (LEED Green Associate, heating professional courses), energy auditing (BPI certification), and solar energy (PV system design and installation, fundamentals of solar hot water heating, etc).
- Northern Virginia Community College offers workforce development courses to prepare students for LEED certifications and Green Advantage certification as well as courses on construction management and HVAC.

### Connecting Campus Sustainability to Hands-on Training Highlights:

- Blue Ridge Community College:
  - Weatherization students get hands-on training during campus construction
  - Building Analyst students get hands-on training in campus buildings
  - Alternative Energy CSC students participate in working campus projects
  - Establish Zero-Impact Landscape training to support on-campus efforts
  - PV Installer training to support on-campus efforts
- Germanna Community College’s new green building at their Fredericksburg campus will be used as a learning laboratory. Students will be trained to give tours on the green features, there will be multimedia tools throughout the building to provide information on the building’s energy efficient systems, and engineering students will have the opportunity to learn during the construction phase of the building.
- Northern Virginia Community College has plans to construct several LEED certified buildings for their campuses, and is exploring connecting these projects with their courses.

### Speaker Highlights:

- Glenn DuBois, Chancellor, Virginia Community College System “By 2015 the Virginia Community College Systems hopes to be working with approx. 12,000 Virginia companies. If they provide a product, the employer will step up.”
- Germanna Community College President David Sam invoked his beginnings to set the tone for the day: a childhood spent in the woods catching crawfish and salamanders and building tree houses. President Sam says he grew up with an "ethic of caring about the world in which [he] lived, too often the world of business is seen as inimical to nature." The clear message of this summit was that there doesn't have to be a conflict: people can make a living without "soiling the place (they) sleep."
- “In Virginia, there are more than 336,000 jobs in a representative group of job areas that could see job growth or wage increases by putting global warming solutions to work,” Huey Battle, Northern Virginia Workforce Investment Board.
- “The Northern Virginia Community College campus is very integrated into the Northern Virginia community, green buildings can serve as an example,” Gunn Prag, Northern Virginia Community College.
- “Transportation single biggest energy user in the state of Virginia,” Nathan Lott, Virginia Conservation Network.
- “We need a concept where we have the workforce that has the basic skills (reading, writing, math) – then they go to the technical skills – then go to certification,” Increasing Energy Efficiency Breakout Session participants.



### Next Steps:

- Support the Greenforce Initiative grant awardees: Blue Ridge Community College, Germanna Community College, Rappahannock Community College, and Thomas Nelson Community College
- Offer fall webinars on student perspectives, green credentials, and sustainability in the curriculum.
- Offer Virginia-specific fall workshops, topics TBD, but could include an employee round table, climate action planning and green credentials.

Learn more about the [Greenforce Initiative in Virginia](#), and to review the full agenda and presentations from the summit, please check out [Virginia Greenforce Summit](#).

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