

VIRGINIA'S RESOURCES STUDY GUIDE



RESOURCES

NATURAL RESOURCE

HUMAN-MADE RESOURCE

Definition	A material humans use that comes from nature	A material humans use that is made by humans
Examples	Trees, water, soil, coal, sand, gravel, granite, air, animals, plants	plastic, concrete, steel, glass

Virginia's **water sources** are important natural resources in Virginia.

- Water resources provide us with drinking water.
- Rivers, reservoirs, and groundwater are main sources of water for Virginians.
- Bodies of water are habitats for a variety of plants and animals.
- Bodies of water allow us to swim, fish, sail, boat, and enjoy other recreational activities.
- Water resources help our economy. Virginians sell seafood such as fish, crabs, and oysters to others.

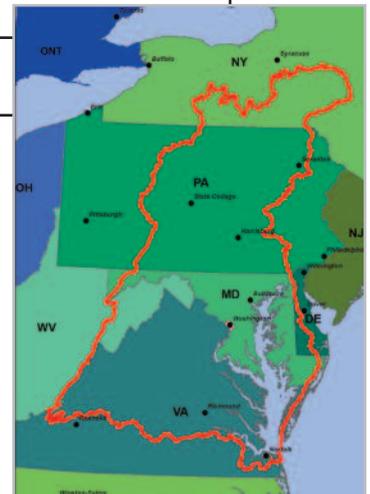
WATER SOURCES

DESCRIPTION

EXAMPLE

River	Long, ribbon-like waterways that flow toward the ocean	Potomac River, York River, Rappahannock River, James River
Lake	Large, inland bodies of water	Smith Mountain Lake Lake Drummond
Bay	Bodies of water surrounded by land on three sides and connected to a larger body of water	Chesapeake Bay
Reservoir	Bodies of water that are made by humans to store water	Kerr Lake Reservoir
Groundwater	Water stored or carried underground	Wells, aquifers

- A **watershed** is an area over which surface water flows to a single collection place.
- **The Chesapeake Bay watershed** is the largest watershed in Virginia. Parts of Virginia are also located in the Gulf of Mexico and North Carolina Sounds watersheds.
- **"We all live downstream"** means that materials that enter a watershed upstream will eventually make their way downstream. For this reason, it is especially important that we don't pollute.



FORESTS



Forests are an important resource in Virginia.

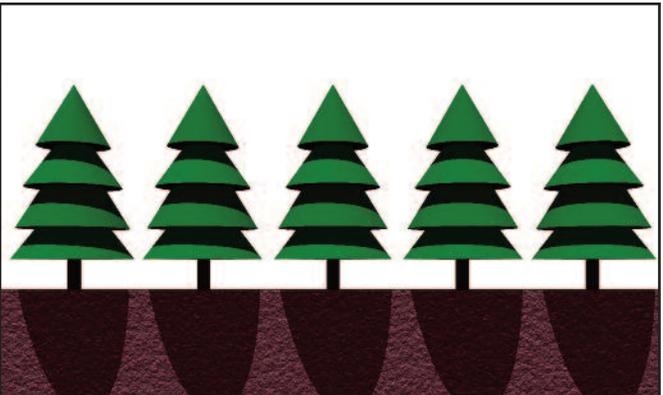
- Forests provide a home for diverse animals and plants.
- They offer a place for humans to hike, bike, hunt, and enjoy other recreational activities.
- Forests serve as a buffer to prevent erosion along riverbanks and filter pollutants before they enter rivers.
- A great economic resource—timbering (cutting and selling trees) brings in money for the state of Virginia.

NATURAL FOREST



A forest that grows naturally, without humans planting trees

CULTIVATED FOREST



A forest that has been planted by humans

MINERAL RESOURCES

COAL



- Important fossil fuel used for energy
- A hard rock made of ancient pressed plant material that burns easily

LIMESTONE



- Crushed, it is used to build roads.
- Ground up, it is used to make cement.

GRANITE



- Hard, strong, and long-lasting
- Used for buildings, floors, monuments and countertops

SAND



- When melted at high heat, it turns into a liquid that can be used to make glass and ceramics.
- Used in construction

GRAVEL



- An assortment of different rocks that has been broken down to very small pieces
- Used in driveway and road construction