

Physical Plant Admid Bldg
MCV Campus
Office of Sustainability
1050 Oliver Hill Way
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Richmond, Virginia 23298-0166



To Whom It May Concern:

Virginia Commonwealth University has implemented the following innovative stormwater management initiatives: (1) two vegetated roofs on the MCV Campus, one assessable vegetated roof on the Monroe Park Campus and one at our off-campus environmental research center, the VCU Rice Center, and (2) a large, 70' x 45', bio-retention area which is an innovative solution to filtering stormwater, while still maintaining green space in the middle of the inner city for student use. Rainwater is captured in two 6,000-gallon cisterns at the Cary Street Gym and used to irrigate the surrounding landscape. "Bayscaping" at the Trani Center for Life Sciences and a Rain Garden at Harris Hall make use of native plants and filter the stormwater before it flows into the James River.

These innovative stormwater management strategies are especially important at VCU because both of our campuses are located within a few blocks of the James River. The James River drains directly into the Chesapeake Bay, the largest estuary in the Unites States, and our efforts to reduce what we put in the James River are critical to the health of the Chesapeake Bay. These innovative solutions control stormwater runoff thereby helping to keep the James River clean in addition to promoting awareness in the university community of the importance the health of the James River and Chesapeake Bay.

Paul Thrift
Superintendent of Grounds

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Thrift", written over a white background.