

AGENDA
2026 Virginia Geological Research Symposium
Virginia Department of Energy
Geology and Mineral Resources Program
900 Natural Resources Drive, Charlottesville, VA 22903

Friday May 1, 2026

- 8:00 – 8:30 a.m. Registration and “Meet and Greet” with refreshments
- 8:30– 8:45 a.m. Welcome – Matt Heller
- 8:45 – 9:45 a.m. **Technical Session #1**
- 8:45 – 9:05 *Geologic mapping program update* – Marcie Occhi, Virginia Energy
- 9:05 – 9:25 *Building interstate stratigraphic equivalency for geologic mapping in the middle Atlantic coastal plain* – Kelvin Ramsey, Delaware Geological Survey
- 9:25 – 9:45 *Interactive web applications for mafic and ultramafic resources in Virginia* – Jenny Meng, Virginia Energy
- 9:45 – 10:00 a.m. **Break**
- 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. **Technical Session #2**
- 10:00 – 10:20 *Innovations for advanced critical mineral production from aqueous sources* – Wencai Zhang, Virginia Tech
- 10:20 – 10:40 *Vermiculite in Virginia: Ore and Mine Tailings and Associated Critical Mineral Potential* – Roy Bassoo, Virginia Energy
- 10:40 – 11:00 TBD
- 11:00 – 11:15 a.m. **Break**
- 11:15 – 12:15 p.m. **Lightning talks**
- 12:15 – 1:15 p.m. Lunch on your own (see list of local restaurants)

- 1:15 – 2:15 p.m. **Technical Session #3**
- 1:15 – 1:35 *Extensometers in the Cretaceous at West Point, Nanesmond, and Hampton* – Greg Connock, US Geological Survey
- 1:35 – 1:55 *Effects of Chesapeake Bay impact seen in Eocene strata, Moore County, NC* – Rich Whittecar, Old Dominion University
- 1:55 – 2:15 *Refining late Cenozoic molluscan biostratigraphy in the Carolinas and Virginia* – David Campbell, Gardner-Webb University
- 2:15 – 3:30 p.m. **Poster Session** (see separate list of posters) and refreshments
- 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. **Technical Session #4**
- 3:30 – 3:50 *Ediacaran rift basins, the great unconformity, and Paleozoic tectonic inversion in the central Virginia Blue Ridge* - Mara Cox, College of William and Mary
- 3:50 – 4:10 *Developing high-yield wells in fractured bedrock and karst aquifers in Virginia using geophysics* – Brent Waters, WSP USA Inc.
- 4:10 – 4:30 *The provenance of sandstone blocks from the 17th century Governor's Well at Jamestown: a trans-Atlantic tale* – Chuck Bailey, College of William and Mary
- 4:30 p.m. Summary and wrap-up

Wifi: Virginia_hotspot



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Geology and Mineral Resources**



**2021 Geologic Map
Update**



**Maps and
Publications**



**Symposium
Review Survey**