

SOL 4.8 - VIRGINIA'S WATERSHEDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES 2018 standards



Key concepts include:

- a. watersheds and water;
- b. animals and plants;
- c. minerals, rocks, ores
- d. forests, soil, and land



WATERSHEDS

- A **watershed** is an area of land over which surface water flows to a **single collection place**.
- The materials from the watershed, including pollutants, add to the water flow and impact organisms that may serve as a natural resource for humans.
- The **Chesapeake Bay watershed** covers approximately half of Virginia's land area.

- The **other two major watershed** systems in Virginia are the **Gulf of Mexico** and the **North Carolina sounds**

VIRGINIA'S NATURAL RESOURCES

- **Natural resources** are necessary or useful to humans.
 - Many natural resources are distributed **unevenly** around the planet.
 - Virginia has many natural resources.
 - Some examples of Virginia's natural resources include **minerals, plants, animals, water, soil, and land**
- Virginia's **water resources** include lakes, rivers, bays, and the Atlantic Ocean .
- Virginia has a great variety of **plant** and **animal** resources.
 - **Plants** hold soil in place to reduce erosion, which aids in improving water quality.
 - Plants provide food, materials for **shelter, habitats**, and add **oxygen** to the air.
 - **Animals** provide materials such as **food, fiber, and leather**.
 - **Healthy** populations of plants and animals are critical for life.
- **Minerals, ores, and rocks** are considered natural resources and have specific purposes in everyday life (e.g., **building materials** and **fuel** sources).
- Natural and cultivated **forests** are widespread resources in Virginia.
 - Uses of forests include providing building materials, fuel, and habitats.
- Virginia's **soil and land** support a great variety of life and provide space for us to live, work, and play.

