

Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards - 2019

Roanoke County Parks, Recreation & Tourism: Jae Valley Park IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VIRGINIA OUTDOORS PLAN: SILVER AWARD

Jae Valley Park resulted from a partnership between Roanoke County and Roanoke City to develop a canoe and kayak launch facility, opening up five miles of Back Creek, which connects to the Roanoke River Blueway. Jae Valley Park encompasses 10 acres along Jae Valley Road with 2,200 linear feet of natural surface walking trails and 1,400 linear feet of frontage along Back Creek with several launch points. The Chairman of Friends of the Rivers of

Virginia noticed the property sitting fallow and worked with both the City and County, leading to the City selling the property to the County for \$1 as part of a 2016 land swap agreement. Roanoke County will continue to expand and promote the County's outdoor recreational advantages, like Jae Valley Park, which support watershed management protection by encouraging recreational use, protection and environmental stewardship.



Gov Env Excel Award 2019 – FORVA initiative