



FOODSHED CAPITAL

Funding Local Food in Virginia

October 2019

We are excited to announce that one of our financial supporters has generously agreed to match the next \$10,000 in donations to Virginia Foodshed Capital. Since making our first SOIL Loan in January 2019, we've now made a total of 14 loans to promising sustainable food and farming enterprises, and our portfolio has grown to more than \$90,000. You can read below about our two latest loans below.

Please help us keep the momentum going into 2020!

Your donation to our SOIL Fund, maximized with the match contribution, will go such a long way toward helping us continue making a positive impact in the Virginia foodshed. This is a grassroots effort, whether you can give 25\$ or make a major gift, we are so greatly appreciative. Please make your contribution by December 1, 2019. Thank you.

[**Donate Here!**](#)

New Loan: GoGreen Farms

[GoGreen Farms and Greenhouses](#) is a Hampton Roads-based food hub and farm agribusiness launched in 2018 by Breon Clemons and Ellen Matthews. The mission of the business is to increase community access to local food by forging close relationships with local farms and distributing their products to retailers, restaurants, and schools throughout the region. Currently, GoGreen works with about 20 farms mostly located in the Hampton Roads area, but also as far away as the Shenandoah Valley. GoGreen distributes mostly to businesses in Hampton Roads, but also to several in Richmond, including The Market at 25th in the East End. With their SOIL loan from our Tidewater fund, the business will purchase inventory to help meet demand and grow its business.



Breon Clemons from GoGreen Farms

New Loan: Chilli Richmond

[Chilli Richmond](#) is a business owned by Paula Horne that makes hot sauce and seasoning salts, using peppers from local farms in Virginia. Paula began selling her products in 2018 after going through the Veteran's Entrepreneur Program with the Metropolitan Business League. With a SOIL loan from our Central Virginia fund, Paula will be able to take a certification course required by the USDA and FDA to process her sauce at Hatch Kitchen, a Richmond food and beverage incubator. She had been processing at a commercial kitchen in Farmville where she hasn't needed the certification. Processing at Hatch in Richmond will save her significant time and resources, and help give her business a boost.

Please see our [website](#), [Facebook page](#), and [Instagram account](#) for ongoing updates on all our projects.



Paula Horne from Chilli Richmond

Nurture Capital At Work

Nurture Capital continues to do its job in our local foodshed. With 14 SOIL loans now deployed to local farms and food enterprises, there is always progress being made! Pictured below are recent results from a few loans we've made this year.



New sheep head to pasture at Twenty Paces



Renovated kitchen at Commune in Virginia Beach

Va. Farmers Market Association Conference

VAFMA's 7th annual conference is scheduled for November 13-15 at the Stonewall Jackson Hotel in Staunton. The agenda will

include a workshop led by Virginia Foodshed Capital called "Business Essentials," featuring a panel of several of our borrowing partners, including Heather Coiner from [Little Hat Creek Farm](#), Erica Hellen from [Free Union Grass Farm](#), and Andrew Bayker from [Althea Bread](#).

[More Info on the VAFMA Event](#)

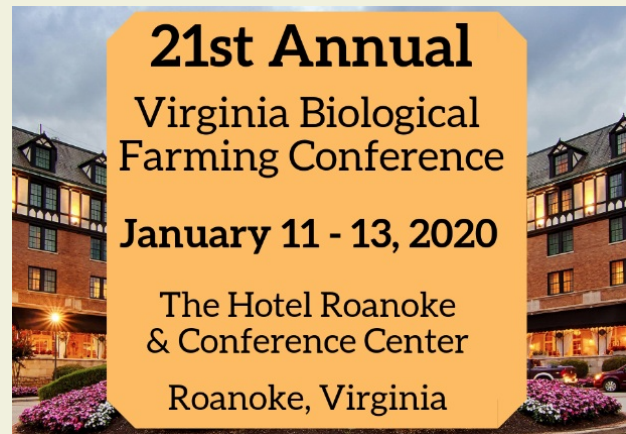
REGISTER NOW!

2019
7TH ANNUAL
VAFMA
CONFERENCE

Virginia Biological Farming Conference

[Virginia Association for Biological Farming](#) invites you its 21st annual conference at the Hotel Roanoke. The Conference brings together farmers, gardeners, eaters, educators and advocates of sustainable agriculture. Virginia Foodshed Capital will lead a pre-conference workshop on The Business of Farming. Sign up now!

[Event Details](#)



Always Accepting Farmer Loan Applications!

The mission of Virginia Foodshed Capital is to support the financial needs of farmers and food enterprises in our region. Our signature grassroots program called **SOIL** is a 0% revolving loan program for amounts up to \$10,000. We are currently accepting applications on a rolling basis.

[Virginia Foodshed Capital Borrower Information Form](#)



Solar Power on Farms

Are you a farmer that is


interested in going solar? Or a funder who is interested in supporting solar on farms? Please let us know. We are exploring opportunities in this space. In the meantime, farms interested in solar should check out REAP ([Rural Energy for America Program](#)). On a related note we also want to pass along a unique investment opportunity from a Richmond company called [Secure Futures](#). [More information can be found here.](#)



Other Events & Opportunities

Virginia Farm-to-Table Conference


December 5-6, 2019
Weyers Cave, VA

 **Save the Date!**
Servant Leadership and Courageous Conversations
December 5 and 6, 2019
Blue Ridge Community College
Weyers Cave, VA

Speakers and instructors will include: Elnian Gilbert of ZingTrain, Bob Muth of Muth Family Farm, Amani Olugbala of Soul Fire Farm, and others.

Don't forget to submit a nomination for the 2019 Carl Luebben Soil Health and Water Quality Award!
For more information, email Kathy Holm at kathy.holm@va.usda.gov

Conference brought to you by VCE, USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Blue Ridge Community College.
For more information, call Eric Bendfeldt at ebendfel@vt.edu or call 540/232-6006.



Always a vibrant and productive event, this year's Farm To Table conference is entitled, "Servant Leadership and Courageous Conversations." The event will be held at Blue Ridge Community College.

[Event Details](#)

FoodCap.org

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