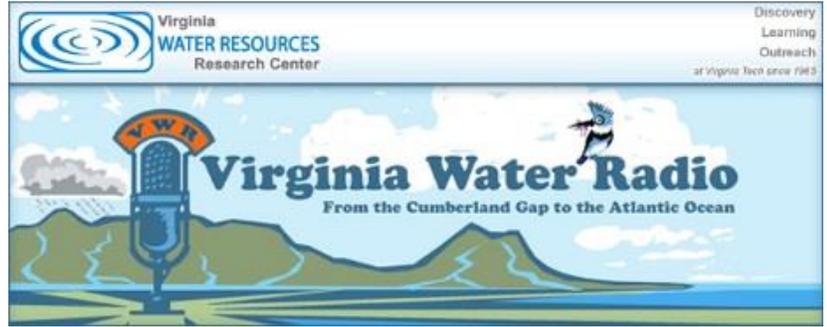


Introducing Virginia Water Radio and the Virginia Water Resources Research Center By Alan Raflo, Virginia Water Resources Research Center

Here's a history question. What common everyday item owes its origin—in part at least—to the following men, all active from the mid-1800s to the early 1900s: James Maxwell, Heinrich Hertz, Nikola Tesla, Alexander Popov, and Guglielmo Marconi? All of these men, along with other scientists and engineers, contributed to the invention or development of the **radio**. From Robert Peary's 1909 message upon reaching the North Pole, to the World War II messages from Franklin Roosevelt and Winston Churchill, to the daily talk shows that enliven and influence politics and culture in 2017, radio has been an indispensable part of modern communications.



Logo designed by George Wills, Blacksburg, VA.

The Virginia Water Resources Research Center (Water Center) is using this tried-and-true technology—matched with some 21st Century enhancements—to give Virginia citizens another way to stay informed about our state's water resources. **Virginia Water Radio**, online <http://www.viriniawaterradio.org>, is a weekly broadcast and podcast related to Virginia's water resources. Each episode, running normally between three and five minutes, begins with a "mystery sound" or a musical selection related to water, followed by a short discussion of the water body, issue, event, or organism, connected to the sound or music. As of September 2017, the show is broadcast on WEHC at Emory and Henry College and on WVRU at Radford University, and podcasts of all episodes are online at the program's Web site. Visitors to the site can listen to previous episodes, view show notes for more information, and sign up for notification of future episodes (via RSS feed or podcast download). A subject index helps listeners find episodes of interest, including the **following episodes specifically focused on trees**:

- Ashes – [Episode 376, 7/10/17](#)
- Flora of Virginia - [Episode 354, 2/6/17](#)
- Forestry – [Episode 160, 5/6/13](#)
- Maples – [Episode 84, 10/17/11](#)
- Rhododendrons - [Episode 216, 6/2/14](#)
- Sycamores – [Episode 176, 8/26/13](#)
- Tree colors and changes in fall – [Episode 285, 10/9/15](#)
- Tree structures for water movement – [Episode 285, 10/9/15](#)
- Trees' human and ecological benefits - [Episode 153, 3/18/13](#)
- Witch Hazel – [Episode 238, 10/31/14](#)

Established by the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1965 and housed at Virginia Tech, the Water Center aims to support education, research, and public information and service related to water resources in the Commonwealth. Since 2005, the Water Center has been part of Virginia Tech's College of Natural Resources and Environment.

In a rapidly changing communications landscape, the Water Center's mission challenges it to find affordable, effective, and widely available ways to deliver water-related information to Virginians. Virginia Water Radio is one of the Water Center's efforts by the Water Center to fulfill that mission. Here are several others:

Raflo. Virginia Forest Landowner Update. V31, No. 4. Fall 2017.

The **main Web page** is <http://www.vwrrc.vt.edu/>. That page includes links to the Water Center's education, research, and public information activities. Under the Outreach section, at <http://www.vwrrc.vt.edu/subscription-services/>, you can subscribe to various Water Center information services.

Virginia Water Central Newsletter, online at <http://www.vwrrc.vt.edu/water-central-news/>, is published 1-2 times per year with information on water news, policies, science, status of water resources, and stewardship.

Virginia Water Central News Grouper, online at <http://vawatercentralnewsgrouper.wordpress.com/>, provides annotated links to water news articles, events, and resources, all grouped into topics. Regular posts cover upcoming water-related government meetings, other water-related events in and outside of Virginia, and recent data on precipitation, streamflow, and other water-quantity measures.

The **Virginia Water Monitoring Council**, online at <http://www.vwmc.vwrrc.vt.edu/>, provides regular e-mail announcements of meetings, reports, and other items related to water quality and water monitoring. You can receive e-mails by joining the Council; to do so, contact Jane Walker at (540) 231-4159 or jnewalk@vt.edu.

You can reach the Virginia Water Resources Research Center at 210 Cheatham Hall, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0444; (540) 231-5624; water@vt.edu. We welcome your questions or requests for help in finding water-related information or resources.

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