



Press Release: Rivanna Conservation Alliance Executive Director Robbi Savage to Retire

After forty years of exceptional environmental nonprofit leadership in Washington, DC and Charlottesville, Roberta (Robbi) Savage, the Rivanna Conservation Alliance's Executive Director, will be passing the reins of the organization on to a new executive director.

Robbi's many career achievements as an advocate for water quality include serving as a leading state government clean water spokesperson from 1978-2006, representing the states to Congress during 1981 and 1987 revisions to the Clean Water Act, representing the US at international forums, organizing two World Water Summits, and creating the World Water Monitoring Day. She has also shared her knowledge as a visiting scholar at the University of Texas' LBJ School of Public Policy and as an instructor at UVA's School of Architecture and Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy. Robbi has received dozens of national and international awards in recognition of her achievements, most recently Virginia's Conservationist of the Year Award from the American Fisheries Society.

Robbi brought her extensive experience to the Rivanna watershed in 2006 as the Executive Director for the Rivanna Conservation Society (RCS), where she created and expanded multiple community engagement and action programs, including the Rivanna River Stewards and the River Guardians program, Scheier Natural Area workshops, and youth education programs.

After the merger of RCS and StreamWatch to form the Rivanna Conservation Alliance (RCA) in 2016, RCA has flourished under Robbi's leadership. It is currently the only nonprofit in Virginia to have achieved Level III certification for both bacteria and benthic monitoring programs. RCA recently received the Virginia Earth Team Award and the Regional Earth Team Award from USDA NRCS. Robbi leaves RCA equipped with exciting new assets for achieving its mission of watershed protection: a new office and laboratory on River Road and a soon-to-be-completed Education Center at RCA's Scheier Natural Area, a 100 acre preserve in Fluvanna County.

The RCA Board of Directors would like to express its deep gratitude for Robbi's vision, dedication, and leadership in protecting our watershed for the past 12 years. "Genuine leadership both focuses on the current mission and builds for a future extending well beyond its tenure. We have been most fortunate to thrive under Robbi's genuine leadership, and we look forward to the promising future she has helped make possible," Bob Troy, RCA Board Chair.

The RCA Board now seeks an experienced and innovative individual to serve as the next Executive Director and build on the organization's strong foundation of science, education, and community involvement. The position description is available on the RCA website and applications will be accepted through September 30, 2018.