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Virginia Energy Geologists Conducting Field Research in greater Richmond area and parts of Southwest Virginia *Geologists gathering data for geologic maps used in land planning decisions and for Commonwealth residents*

Charlottesville, Va. - A team of Virginia Department of Energy (Virginia Energy) geologists are hitting the road to begin gathering data for geologic maps. They will be in the field at various times between now and September 30th in areas of Amelia, Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, Goochland, Hanover, Louisa, Smyth and Wythe Counties.

During this time, geologists will notify available landowners that they are accessing property they need to see for their research. They often look along streams or outcrops- which are areas where rock is exposed. Geologists may take small samples back to their lab for testing. Geologists conducting field research will need to access private property. They are fully insured and covered under the [Code of Virginia](#) to perform these duties.

Data gathered during this time will be mapped. Those maps provide information about the underlying bedrock and other natural deposits. Geologic maps are used to identify water and mineral resources and natural conditions that pose hazards. All of this information is available to the public via the Virginia Energy [website](#).

This is part of a multi-year effort to produce geologic maps of targeted areas of Virginia as part of the [United States Geologic Survey STATEMAP program](#).

If you have questions or concerns about the geologic field mapping research you may call (434) 951-6240 or email vaenergy@energy.virginia.gov.