As lawyers who live and work every day in Virginia, the Virginia Beach Defense Group is keenly aware of the need to protect and conserve the precious natural resources that our nation boasts. Virginia benefits from a large number of national parks, hiking trails, and wild areas, but in a time when our nation’s land and resources are threatened by industry and unbridled consumption, we must be constantly vigilant.

Massive pipelines spanning our nation, oil spills, mountaintop mining, fracking, clear-cut logging… these are just some of the dangerous practices jeopardize the land and resources that our nation prides itself and depends upon. If we hope to craft a future in which our children and grandchildren continue to benefit from the resources that current practices constantly exploit, we need people with vision, intelligence, and a strong sense of stewardship to take the lead. Without extraordinary individuals plotting a carefully-considered course for the way our nation will protect and regulate our land and resources, there may be nothing left for the future to conserve.

The Virginia Beach Defense Group is proud to sponsor conversation on the topic of natural preservation, as well as to aid in the educational goals of those who wish to achieve positive change through stewardship. The winner of the Virginia Beach Defense Group Future Resources Essay Contest will receive a $500 scholarship to help her or him pursue the education necessary to help build a more sustainable future.

**Eligibility and Selection Criteria:**

- Candidates must be enrolled in an accredited post-secondary educational institution by May, 2016, when the essay contest winner is announced.
- Candidates must demonstrate a continued interest in environmental stewardship and the protection of natural resources, based on volunteer, professional, and academic experience.
- All candidates must possess a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher to be eligible for this scholarship.

**Application Requirements:**

The Virginia Beach Defense Group Future Resources Scholarship invites all candidates who meet the aforementioned criteria to apply. Applicants will be evaluated based on the following:

- An updated resumé, detailing relevant professional, academic, and volunteer experience
- A 500-word essay that responds to the following question:
  - What do you believe is the biggest issue that currently threatens our nation’s natural resources, and what are at least two ways we can begin working to fix this issue?

*Virginia Beach Defense Group*
440 Monticello Avenue | Suite 1811A
Norfolk, VA 23510
• An up-to-date official transcript from the candidate’s academic institution. If no official transcript is available, applicants may submit an up-to-date unofficial transcript, as well as the most recent official transcript from her or his previous school.

**Application Instructions and Deadline:**
Fax or mail submissions may be addressed to:

Virginia Beach Defense Group Future Resources Scholarship  
440 Monticello Avenue | Suite 1811A  
Norfolk, VA 23510  
Fax: (571) 222-0034

To be considered eligible for this scholarship, interested students must submit a completed application along with the above requirements no later than March 31, 2018. Scholarship winners will be announced later next summer.

If students wish to apply via email, they should send all required documents to:  
[ scholarships@criminallawsvirginia.com ](mailto:scholarships@criminallawsvirginia.com)

**PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

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**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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