



# Call for Proposals

## 2025 Resilient Virginia Conference Speakers

### Summary

Resilient Virginia is a statewide nonprofit organization intent on moving resilience initiatives forward through education and activation.

**On July 23-24, 2025, the organization is hosting their 6th biennial conference at James Madison University.** This statewide conference will bring together resilience practitioners and researchers for peer to peer learning, networking, and collaborating.

**At this time, Resilient Virginia is issuing a Call for Proposals (CFP) for conference speakers who can speak on moving Virginia forward in developing holistic, long-lasting state, regional, and community resilience.**

### Opportunity Details

This year's conference theme is **Moving Virginia Forward**. Past conferences have averaged between 200 and 300 attendees representing state, regional, and local governments, nonprofits, the private sector, and academia. Attendees work in a multitude of industries including governance, agriculture and food systems, water infrastructure, energy, transportation, emergency preparedness, built infrastructure, climate science, natural resource management, communications systems, land-use planning, public health, and many more.

Resilient Virginia is looking for presentations on innovative approaches to and perspectives on building resilience. Presentation ideas include (but are not limited to):

- Community programs where there is an opportunity for replication or scaling up
- Trans-boundary collaborations and/or partnerships
- Innovative approaches to building resilience
- Research projects
- Tools and resources for resilience practitioners
- Funding opportunities

### **Benefits of Speaking at the Conference**

- Receive 25% off conference registration
- A dedicated time to present your work to an audience excited to hear about what you're doing
- Network with other resilience professionals from across the state
- Network with attendees before, during, and after the conference through the Whova app
- Meet one-on-one with attendees seeking technical assistance

## **Submission Requirements**

### **Proposal Format**

All proposals must be submitted in PDF format.

### **Required Documents and Information**

Please include the following in your proposal:

- Name and contact information
- Outline of proposed presentation
- Links to where we can learn more (if applicable)

### **Length and Structure**

Proposals should not exceed 3 pages

### **Submission Method**

Please email your proposal to [conference@resilientvirginia.org](mailto:conference@resilientvirginia.org) no later than May 6, 2025 @ 5pm

### **Questions or Clarifications**

Please contact [conference@resilientvirginia.org](mailto:conference@resilientvirginia.org) with any questions.

## **Selection Criteria**

### **Evaluation Factors**

Presentations will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Alignment with Resilient Virginia's mission and goals
- Relevance to the current resilience landscape
- Likelihood of fostering collaborations or partnerships to bridge gaps in the current system
- Probability of building capacity to move resilience initiatives forward

### **Team or Panel**

Proposals will be evaluated by a panel of Conference Advisory Committee Members and Resilient Virginia Staff.

### **Non-negotiables**

- You must be available to present in-person at the conference in Harrisonburg, VA.
- You must present your own work or work you are authorized to speak about.

- Speakers are required to register for the conference. All speakers will receive a 25% discount on their registration.
- Resilient Virginia is a nonpartisan organization. Presentations should remain nonpartisan; submissions that favor a particular political party or affiliation will not be considered.

## **Timelines and Deadlines**

### **Call for Proposals Issue Date**

April 15, 2025

### **Deadline for Proposal Submissions**

May 6, 2025 at 5:00pm ET

**Speakers will be notified of their acceptance by June 1, 2025**

## **Contact Information**

### **Submission Method**

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### **Questions or Clarifications**

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### **Resilient Virginia Staff**

Jessica Steelman, Executive Director, [steelman@resilientvirginia.org](mailto:steelman@resilientvirginia.org)

Trish Porter, Director of Programs and Communications, [trish@resilientvirginia.org](mailto:trish@resilientvirginia.org)

### **Learn more about the 2025 Resilient Virginia Conference**

<https://resilientvirginia.org/our-events/conferences/2025-resilient-virginia-conference/>

