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Research Guide to Environmental Law

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1. PREFACE

This Research Guide to Environmental Law is the product of almost a decade of endeavor by the University of Richmond Law School to develop a center for the study of environmental law issues. The process began on June 11, 1980, when the Virginia Environmental Endowment authorized a grant for the purchase and maintenance of a comprehensive collection of environmental law materials. With matching funds provided by the University, collection development began on September 1, 1980 and was completed on June 30, 1982. The materials purchased during this time period form the core of the University of Richmond’s environmental law collection. They are marked with an asterisk (*) in the Guide.

With a solid research collection in place, the process of developing a center for environmental studies continued when the Virginia Environmental Endowment authorized a grant on March 8, 1985, for the establishment of the “Robert R. Merhige, Jr., Center for Environmental Studies.” The University successfully met its commitment to provide matching funds for this grant on March 31, 1988. The grant and matching funds form an endowment, the income from which has been used, and will continue to be used, to fund a variety of activities. Funding for this Guide was provided from endowment income.

Plans for the future of the Merhige Center include consideration of an interdisciplinary program for the study of environmental policy. Students from the law school, business school, and arts and sciences would work together on projects that address major policy issues in the environmental field. These projects would be drawn from requests submitted to the Merhige Center by state legislatures, state offices of environmental protection, and major city and county environmental offices. The student teams would conduct legal, economic and scientific research in analyzing selected projects. Their research would result in written reports that would be provided to the public agencies free of charge.

As natural resources become scarcer and the environment becomes increasingly jeopardized by the typical byproducts of industrial living, there is a growing need for well-informed and innovative policy-makers. The development of sound policy is accomplished only by thorough research into all the competing interests so that policy-makers have a complete understanding of the issues and their possible solutions. The library collection at the University of Richmond Law School is designed to provide the types of materials that will support this kind of broad-based research. It is anticipated that the collection will be used not only by the researchers associated with the Merhige Center, but by anyone interested in environmental law including students, faculty members, legislators, corporate executives, judges, and attorneys.

The Research Guide to Environmental Law has been published to assist researchers in using the law library collection at the University of Richmond. Each entry includes the call number indicating where the work is located on the shelves as well as a brief annotation describing the work. A table of contents is provided to lead the researcher to broad topics of interest. The Guide was compiled by Steven D. Hinckley, Associate Law Librarian, and Lucinda D. Harrison, Reference Librarian. It was edited by Susan B. English, Law Librarian and Professor of Law, who also administered expenditures under the original Virginia Environmental Endowment grant. The cover photograph was taken by W. Wade Berryhill, Professor of Law, who served as project director for the original grant. A final, but very important, word of thanks goes to Gerald P. McCarthy, Executive Director of the Virginia Environmental Endowment, for the supportive role he has played in enabling the Law School to develop a comprehensive environmental law collection and to establish the Robert R. Merhige, Jr., Center for Environmental Studies.

Joseph D. Harbaugh
Dean
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