Environmental challenges are rarely simple. From climate change to local conservation, the challenges of sustainability and long-term environmental health raise complex scientific, ethical, economic and political questions that defy easy answers.

PLACE at UVA empowers students to confront these questions so they can build the practical skills, analytic tools and hands-on experience needed to effect change as environmental leaders in government, business and the nonprofit sector. The program combines outstanding legal teaching with opportunities for interdisciplinary study, clinical experience and scholarly inquiry. Interacting with faculty who research and shape the law at the local, regional and global levels, students at UVA Law experience environmental law as it is practiced today, and study how it can better meet the next generation of challenges.

Symposia

Over the past dozen years, the Law School has sponsored national conferences on growth management, nature conservation, environmental contracting, revitalization of contaminated land, transboundary watershed management and climate change. Law students help plan, host conferences, and edit and publish the papers that emerge from them.

Virginia Environmental Law Journal

Founded in 1979 and managed and edited by students, the journal is a leader in environmental legal scholarship.

Virginia Environmental Law Forum

This popular and active student group hosts speakers and networking events, and sponsors law students who participate in environmental moot court and negotiation competitions. The forum, in cooperation with the Law School’s Morlimer Caplin Public Service Center, also provides pro bono opportunities to students interested in environmental law.

Environmental and Land Use Law

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