FALL 2024/SPRING 2025
REGISTRATION OF INTEREST FORM
ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CLINIC

The Environmental Law and Community Engagement Clinic fits within the Law School’s Program in Law, Communities and the Environment (PLACE). Students in this semester-long clinic have the opportunity to work on real-world environmental cases in a variety of venues — before courts, administrative agencies, and public utility commissions. Clinic students also work directly with clients, developing their community-engagement and coalition-building skills.

The Clinic has worked with a diverse array of public-interest partners in recent years, from a community group working to preserve an early 20th-century Black schoolhouse, to local governments filing *amicus* briefs in the Supreme Court of the United States. The Clinic has represented the Idaho Conservation League, the County of Anderson, South Carolina, and the Virginia Chapter of the Sierra Club, among many others.

In addition to working on in-house Clinic cases, students also have the option of working closely with attorneys at the Southern Environmental Law Center, a nationally prominent environmental law and policy organization that is headquartered here in Charlottesville.

The Clinic is a significant commitment of 4 credit hours. The course requires you to log 15 hours per week, on average, over the course of the semester. Included within the hours requirement is time spent in seminar-style class sessions and time spent meeting with the Clinic Director, Professor Cale Jaffe, to review your work product and receive feedback. The Clinic is graded on the Honors/Pass/Fail system.

Students interested in the Environmental Law and Community Engagement Clinic must participate in the Clinic Lottery selection process. If you are selected for the Clinic during the lottery, you will be automatically enrolled.

To apply, please send the following three items to Prof. Cale Jaffe, Director of the Clinic, at cjaffe@law.virginia.edu: 1) a resume; 2) an unofficial transcript, and 3) a very brief statement of interest (one paragraph).

Students interested in a yearlong clinic experience may enroll in the Advanced Clinic (a 3-credit course) after completion of one semester in the Environmental Law and Community Engagement Clinic. A separate application/lottery is not needed to enroll in the Advanced Clinic.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to reach out directly to Professor Jaffe by email (cjaffe@law.virginia.edu) or by phone (434-924-4776).