

**Summary of Strategies under Objective 4 of Natural Resources Chapter -
Proposed Revisions to the Comprehensive Plan
4/3/19**

Current Comp Plan Strategies:

Strategy 4a: Develop an Action Plan for Biodiversity to protect significant areas of biological importance in the County.

- *Remains as new Strategy 4a. "Implement an action plan" replaces "Develop an action plan."*

Strategy 4b: Regularly repeat the land use/land-cover data-gathering process (as begun in 2009) for the purpose of monitoring landscape changes.

- *Is incorporated as part of new Strategy 4m.*

Strategy 4c: Collaborate with federal, State, and regional partners, who have geographic information on biological resources, to help build a biodiversity inventory.

- *Remains as new Strategy 4k. "Continue to collaborate" replaces "Collaborate."*

Strategy 4d: Assess the need for hiring a County staff member with expertise in conservation biology, and/or training existing County staff in principles of conservation biology to assist in development of the Action Plan and coordination with other County actions.

- *Remains as new Strategy 4l. "Retain a position for a County staff member" replaces "Assess the need for hiring a County staff member."*

Strategy 4e: Encourage the use of locally native plants in landscaping to protect and provide habitat for native biodiversity, to save water, and to connect landowners to the local ecosystem.

- *Remains as new Strategy 4g. "Locally native plants" replaces "native plants."*

Strategy 4f: Increase the community's awareness of the importance of biodiversity to encourage protection of biological resources.

- *Remains as new Strategy 4j.*

Strategy 4g: Provide information to potential land subdividers on the importance of protecting habitat when creating lots for development.

- *Removed as a strategy from the Natural Resources Chapter. This is covered more thoroughly by Strategy 2h in the Rural Area Chapter.*

Strategy 4h: Preserve existing vegetation in areas shown as Parks and Green Systems on Development Area Master Plans.

- *Remains as new Strategy 4d.*

Proposed New Set of Comp Plan Strategies:

Strategy 4a: Implement an Action Plan for Biodiversity that includes protection of significant areas of biological importance in the County.

- *Retained from current Strategy 4a. "Implement an action plan" replaces "Develop an action plan."*

Strategy 4b: Use existing tools (e.g., conservation easements), develop strategies, and implement new conservation programs to protect lands in the three conservation focus areas, other conservation targets (e.g., examples of the five key ecosystems described below, large forest blocks or other intact, important habitat), and lands that can serve as habitat corridors or connections among important habitat areas.

- *A new strategy.*

Strategy 4c: Protect and conserve natural resources on County-owned land to enhance biodiversity.

- *A new strategy.*

Strategy 4d: Preserve existing vegetation in areas shown as Parks and Green Systems on Development Area Master Plans.

- *Retained from current Strategy 4h.*

Strategy 4e: Revise criteria for ACE (Acquisition of Conservation Easement Program) and ACEA (Albemarle Conservation Easement Authority, formerly the Public Recreational Facilities Authority) easement applications to more accurately identify biodiversity resources and conservation needs.

- *A new strategy.*

Strategy 4f: Evaluate opportunities and take steps to conserve and protect high priority Important Sites in the County.

- *A new strategy.*

Strategy 4g: Encourage the use of locally native plants in landscaping to protect and provide habitat for native biodiversity, to save water, and to connect landowners to the local ecosystem.

- *Retained from current Strategy 4e. "Locally native plants" replaces "native plants."*

Strategy 4h: Collaborate with resource management agencies, partners, and landowners to manage non-native invasive species to reduce their impacts and limit their spread.

- *A new strategy.*

Strategy 4i: Include aquatic and riparian habitat enhancement with strategies for water quality when developing the comprehensive water resources plan.

- *A new strategy.*

Strategy 4j: Increase the community's awareness of the importance of biodiversity to encourage protection of biological resources.

- *Retained from current Strategy 4f.*

Strategy 4k: Continue to collaborate with federal, State, and regional partners, who have geographic information on biological resources, to help build a biodiversity inventory.

- *Retained from current Strategy 4c. "Continue to collaborate" replaces "Collaborate."*

Strategy 4l: Retain a position for a County staff member with expertise in conservation biology.

- *Retained from current Strategy 4d. "Retain a position for a County staff member" replaces "Assess the need for hiring a County staff member."*

Strategy 4m: Develop indicators and monitor data that reflect the state of biodiversity in the County. Regularly repeat the land use/land-cover data-gathering process (as begun in 2009) for the purpose of monitoring landscape changes.

- *This incorporates, but is much broader than, the current Strategy 4b.*