

## VDOT pumps \$300,000 grant into Beverley Mill/Chapman's Mill project

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from the mill to the current gate. Phase II, the stabilization of the east, north and west walls is currently under way and work is expected to be completed in mid-July.

Many people contributed to the effort of obtaining the grant. Two individuals deserve special note for their efforts. Barry Stark, president of Earth Design Associates, Inc., in Casanova, prepared the site development plan that was included in the grant application.

A VDOT official said his plan was "excellent and decisive in their decision."

The VDOT official also praised the application for the grant, prepared by Ellen PercyMiller, the executive director of the Turn the Mill around Campaign; it was described as "an excellent application and was why she got the Grant."

In addition, there were many other people who helped by signing the petitions, supporting the mill

project. These petitions were sent with the grant package to show the number of people who support the mill.

The Barry Stark site plan will provide an observation trail on a berm above Broad Run, south of the mill. An Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-accessible trail will be constructed to the backside of the mill and provide a service access and ADA access to the interpretive center.

In addition, the site plan provides a trail access to and from the parking area to an interpretive kiosk, restrooms, and the mill ruin.

A landscaped parking area will be constructed to provide parking for approximately 20 cars. A security gate and entrance sign will be built at the east. Restrooms will also be constructed at the east end.

PercyMiller is hopeful that the mill will be opened to the public during the summer of 2007.



Exterior view of the mill with scaffolding in place for the current Phase II stabilization of the east, north and west walls  
Harry Leach / the Bull Run Observer

Many people are somewhat confused by the name of the mill. The Chapman family built the mill, starting in 1742, and owned and operated it for 120 years.

Soon after the Civil War, the Beverley family acquired the mill and operated it for about 20 years. To this day, locals refer to the mill as the Beverley Mill. The historians refer to the mill as the Chapman's Mill.

There are many volunteers currently working to restore the mill. If you would like to join us, contact PercyMiller at her office in The Plains. Her telephone number is 540 253-5888.

There are many chores that need volunteer assistance— from doing office work, collecting oral histories, and organizing hundreds of photos and documents.

There are many opportunities for Boy and Girl Scout projects. Phase III of restoration of the mill will require many volunteer hours to complete. The web page for the mill can be found at [www.chapmansmill.org](http://www.chapmansmill.org)

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By HARRY LEACH  
Observer staff

The Beverley Mill/Chapman's Mill renovation took a major step forward this past week that will bring the opening of the mill much closer. The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) announced its Transportation Enhancement (TEA) Grants for 2006. The Beverley Mill/Chapman's Mill, located on the Fauquier - Prince William County line will be receiving \$300,000.

The funds will be used for "construction of site improvements to include pedestrian walkways, public facilities, parking area, lighting, fencing, and interpretive signage." These improvements, Phase III, will be centered on the east end of the mill property

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