



## **Virginia R. Rollefson Environmental Leadership Scholarship**

***To recognize senior high school students residing in the Lower Connecticut River Valley who have demonstrated leadership and initiative in promoting conservation, preservation, restoration, or environmental education.***

The **Virginia R. Rollefson Environmental Leadership Scholarship**, offered by **The Rockfall Foundation since 2018** recognizes outstanding contributions by a high school senior residing in the Lower Connecticut River Valley for carrying out a program, project, or activity that benefits preservation, conservation, restoration or environmental education. One \$1,000 scholarship is awarded each year to a student who demonstrates leadership and initiative. Eligible students must reside in Chester, Clinton, Cromwell, Deep River, Durham, East Haddam, East Hampton, Essex, Haddam, Killingworth, Lyme, Middlefield, Middletown, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Portland, or Westbrook. The scholarship must be used for qualified tuition, books, room and board or supplies. Employees, trustees, and committee members and their family members of The Rockfall Foundation are not eligible to apply.

***The award is a \$1,000 scholarship to be used for study at an educational institution.***

**Purpose:** The Virginia R. Rollefson Environmental Leadership Scholarship serves to recognize a high school senior for leadership in a program, project, or activity that benefits conservation, preservation, restoration or environmental education. One scholarship is awarded each year to a student who demonstrates leadership and initiative and will be presented at the recipient's school awards ceremony.

### **Application Checklist:**

- Thoroughly complete the attached application form.
- Submit a letter of reference from a teacher or someone familiar with the project, program, or activity.
- Submit a minimum of one and maximum of six photos depicting the project, program, or activity, including your involvement.
- Supplemental material may be submitted at the discretion of the applicant.
- Finalists will be interviewed by the Selection Committee at a time and place to be determined.

**Submit all materials by 12:00 pm (noon) March 26, 2026 via email to:** [jenna@rockfallfoundation.org](mailto:jenna@rockfallfoundation.org)

Please use **Scholarship** in the subject line.

**Please note:** The scholarship recipient will be required to submit a certified academic transcript to the Foundation upon completion of the first academic period in the program to which the scholarship is applied.

***THE ROCKFALL FOUNDATION*** promotes and supports environmental education and conservation in the Lower Connecticut River Valley.

*Greening and Growing the Lower Connecticut River Valley*

The Rockfall Foundation / deKoven House Community Center / 27 Washington Street / Middletown, Connecticut 06457

860.347.0340 / [www.RockfallFoundation.org](http://www.RockfallFoundation.org)

**The Rockfall Foundation**  
**Virginia R. Rollefson Environmental Leadership Scholarship**

**Application Form**

**Applicant**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street, Town, Zip)

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**School Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Graduation Year** \_\_\_\_\_

**Program/Project/Activity Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Program/Project/Activity Primary Location:**

School    Town    Non-Profit    Other \_\_\_\_\_

**One sentence description of Program/Project/Activity:**

**Description of Photos Attached:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Required:**

Include a letter of reference from a teacher or someone familiar with the project, program, or activity.

**Instructions:** In the questions below, describe the program or project, including its goals and environmental significance. Then, explain your role by detailing what you did, your time commitment, how your efforts contributed to its success, what you gained or learned from the experience, and how it impacted your personal growth. Be specific and add numbers where applicable.

**Narrative Description:**

1. Describe the program/project. (Include if this is an existing and a new program/project and how many people participated or were reached by the program/project.)

2. Describe your leadership role in the program/project, including what you did, how much and over what period of time your role extended, and how your participation contributed to the success of the program/project.

3. Describe any broader outreach that you did about the program/project that would encourage others to become involved. (e.g. discussion groups, participation in local events, social media posts)

4. Describe the significance or impact the project/program will have on the environment and how it contributed to your personal development and environmental awareness by others.

**Student Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

Please be sure that all text is visible in the provided spaces prior to submitting your application. Any text extending beyond the space provided MAY NOT BE VISIBLE. Please adjust your response lengths accordingly.