**NEWS RELEASE**

**Keep Virginia Beautiful Awards $750 Grant to
VTC Environmental Institute**11th Annual “Green Grants” Awarded in June

*Richmond, Virginia (June 24, 2021) –* Keep Virginia Beautiful awards its annual *30 in 30 Green Grants* each day during June. VTC Environmental Institute, in Virginia Beach, will receive a grant award of $750 for its Community Beautification project.

VTC Environmental Institute is a nonprofit dedicated to working with lawn and landscape industries, cities, environmental groups, and others to preserve and restore the environment.

VTC Environmental Institute will partner with Virginia State University to establish erosion control projects in the City of Petersburg. Erosion control is important for maintaining soil quality, filtering pollutants that end up in our waterways, and providing natural habitats for wildlife and vegetation. VTC Environmental Institute will use their grant funds to purchase native grasses for this project and materials for amending the nutrient-drained soil.

Every year, government, non-profit, civic and service organizations in Virginia are invited to apply for *30 in 30 Green Grants*. Grants ranging from $500 to $1,000 are awarded to organizations working to tackle an environmental concern in their community regarding Litter Prevention, Recycling, Cigarette Litter Prevention, or Community Beautification. Since 2011, Keep Virginia Beautiful has provided $254,500 for 320 different environmental programs and projects all across the Commonwealth. This is due to the generosity of Keep Virginia Beautiful’s partner Altria, as well as additional support from Coca-Cola, WestRock, and Keep America Beautiful.

 