#### Access Outdoors

Southeastern Virginia Training Center (SEVTC) in Chesapeake Virginia is one of four regional training centers supporting individuals with intellectual disabilities. Part of our expanding mission is to increase the number of individuals with intellectual disabilities who can participate in community sponsored events and recreational activities and to serve as a regional resource to the community.

Made possible by a grant from "KOVAR", A Virginia Knights of Columbus Charity."



Southeastern Virginia Training Center

**Recreation** at SEVTC

2100 Steppingstone Sq Chesapeake, VA 23320 757 424 8336 OutdoorAccess@dbhds.virginia.gov

## ACCESS OUTDOOR

# Supporting Accessibility for All

#### **Available Equipment**

The following equipment is available for lending:

All-terrain/beach wheelchairs: These wheelchairs are designed specifically to enable people who use wheelchairs to come in closer contact with nature. They can roll easily over sand, snow, and gravel with soft plastic pneumatic tires to absorb almost all road shocks for a remarkably comfortable ride. This equipment can be disassembled and placed in the trunk in seconds. The entire frame utilizes quick release pins, so tools are not necessary.

All Access Wheelchairs: This specially designed chair allows access for individuals to sand and uneven terrains who require a greater level of support. It includes head rest, chest strap, recliner.

All Terrain Walker: For people who just need a little support getting around.

**Portable ramps/walkways:** Easily carried and adaptable as either a ramp or sidewalk allowing access to natural areas.

**Upper extremity (hand powered) recumbent bicycle:** Hand propelled adult tricycle designed for use by individuals with lower extremity or mobility disabilities.

**Side-by-side adult three-wheel tricycle:** Unlike conventional tandem bikes, the Side by Side Adult Trike allows sightimpaired people to ride side by side with a companion.

#### Philosophy

Many individuals with intellectual disabilities also have physical disabilities that severely limit their ability to participate in community-based activities. The use of adapted equipment that enables individuals to overcome the physical barriers is a first step to attending activities such as festivals, concerts, sporting events and the beach. Common environmental barriers are stairs, uneven terrain, deep sand, ditches, unpaved driveways or roads, and sidewalks with no cut-outs. As an outcome of this initiative, there will be:

 Increased access to individuals with intellectual disabilities who require adaptive equipment to participate in outdoor events.
Activities include beach activities, hiking, picnicking, camping, and getting to the river's edge to fish.

2. A regional resource that would be available to loan/rent recreational adaptive equipment to individuals with intellectual disabilities who currently reside in the community and have no other means of accessing this equipment.

3. Enhanced social interactions and friendships among individuals with different backgrounds as they participate in inclusive activities.

4. Improved physical and mental health, exposure to new challenges and building confidence and self-esteem.

### **Lending Policy**

Any public agency supporting people with disabilities is eligible to borrow the equipment without cost.

Equipment is available on a first come basis. SEVTC is providing equipment only. Whether an individual is appropriate for equipment use should be decided by professionals providing support.

The borrowing agency shall assume liability for any and all damage or loss to personal property, accident/injury to themselves or other persons related to the borrowing of all equipment.

For additional information or to check out equipment contact:

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