

Friends Group Project Update

Federation Meeting
June 8, 2017



Federation Agenda Objectives

- ▶ Project update and next steps
- ▶ Introduce Park Volunteer Team Program
- ▶ Review draft Friends Group Policy
- ▶ Review Public Project Page
- ▶ Introduce MOA and timing

Why are we doing this?

- ▶ Friends support is essential to sustaining operations
- ▶ All park supporters should have a place in our system
- ▶ To provide tools for new friends groups to form
- ▶ To ensure you are protected

What we have done so far?

- ▶ Surveyed the Friends
- ▶ Defined the outline for the Friends handbook
- ▶ Received guidance from Risk Management and County Attorney
- ▶ Shared initial findings with the Federation
- ▶ Drafted a Policy and an MOA

Primary Findings

- ▶ The County's Volunteer Insurance Program does not cover groups
- ▶ County and State requirements for registration and solicitation
- ▶ Current PA approach to Friends Groups is inconsistent
- ▶ Identified the need to develop alternatives so all park supporters are welcome

Park
Volunteers

**Fairfax County
Park
Authority**

Affiliate
Organizations

Friends
Groups



Affiliate Partner Organizations

- Separate legal entities
- Partner with the PA but also serve other functions outside of the PA
- Made a significant capital contribution and/or share in the operation of a park/facility
- Realizes mutual gains for both the PA and the entity using government property
- Maintain a current Lease, Contract or Agreement
- Have their own insurance

Park Volunteers

- Typically support day to day operations or programs
- Register and track hours in the Volunteer Management System (VMS)
- Covered by the County's Volunteer Insurance Policy

Friends Group

- Separate legal entity
- Mission and plans align with and support the Park Authority
- MOA with the PA
- Provide ongoing operational, programmatic, maintenance, and/or fundraising support
- Has their own insurance. The organization is not covered by the County's Volunteer Insurance Policy
- May use park names in the "Friends of" context

Partners who do not want to formalize but want to contribute

Park Volunteer Team (PVT)

- ▶ A PVT is a PA volunteer program and a representative of the Agency.
- ▶ Provides operational, programmatic, maintenance, and/or fundraising support at a park or for an area of interest.
- ▶ Covered by the County's Volunteer Insurance Policy.
- ▶ Work supports the mission and vision of the Agency.
- ▶ Designates a Team Captain.
- ▶ Works with the PA Central PVT Coordinator and site staff.
- ▶ May use park names in the "Park Volunteer Team" context, such as "Nottoway Park Volunteer Team."
- ▶ Possible stepping stone to a Friends Group.

Park
Volunteers

Park
Volunteer
Teams



Affiliate
Organizations

Friends
Groups

Example PVT Opportunity in VMS

The screenshot shows the Fairfax County Virginia VMS interface. At the top left, the Fairfax County Virginia logo is displayed. Below it, a navigation menu includes 'LOG IN', 'SEARCH', 'REGISTER', and 'HELP / FAQs'. A status message indicates 'You are not logged in.' The main content area is titled 'SEARCH RESULTS' and shows sorting options: 'Best Match', 'Alphabetically', and 'By Date', along with a 'New Search' button. A message states 'Your search returned the following results.' The first result is for the 'Nottoway Park Volunteer Team'. It features a placeholder for a logo or image. The description reads: 'Help restore Nottoway Park! Support the park in your neighborhood with fundraising events, clean-ups, and work days the ensure that Nottoway Park is a clean safe environment for all park users and a jewel in the neighborhood.' Below the description are links for 'View Details', 'Apply', and 'Share'. The agency/organization name is 'Nottoway Park', the minimum age is 12, and the location is '9601 Courthouse road, VA'. At the bottom, there are additional sorting options and 'Previous' and 'Next' navigation buttons.

Fairfax County VIRGINIA

You are **not logged in.**

LOG IN
SEARCH
REGISTER
HELP / FAQs

SEARCH RESULTS

Sort: Best Match Alphabetically By Date [New Search](#)

Your search returned the following results.

Logo or image

Nottoway Park Volunteer Team

Description:
Help restore Nottoway Park! Support the park in your neighborhood with fundraising events, clean-ups, and work days the ensure that Nottoway Park is a clean safe environment for all park users and a jewel in the neighborhood.

[View Details](#)
 [Apply](#)
[Share](#)

Agency/Organization Name:
Nottoway Park



Minimum Age: 12

Location:
9601 Courthouse road, VA

Sort: Best Match Sort Alphabetically By Date [New Search](#)

Previous Next

PVT Opportunity Details



You are **not logged in.**

- LOG IN
- SEARCH
- REGISTER
- HELP / FAQs

OPPORTUNITY DETAILS

[Share](#)

[Apply](#)

[Back to Search Results](#)

Nottoway Park Volunteer Team

Sponsored by [Nottoway Park](#)

Location
9601 Courthouse road
VA
[Map](#)

Contact
Lizze
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/resources/IMA

Requirements
Minimum Age to Volunteer: 12

Description
Help restore Nottoway Park! Support the park in your neighborhood with fundraising events, clean-ups, and work days the ensure that Nottoway Park is a clean safe environment for all park users and a jewel in the neighborhood.

Purpose
To provide support of Nottoway park,

Duties
Work with a team of other volunteers and park operations staff to support park mission and goals. Activities include clean up days, IMA events and annual Easter egg hunt.

Volunteer Benefits
Team members who serve and average of 16 hours

Related Categories
[Environment, Parks, Recreation & Sports](#)

Population(s) Served
[Families](#)
[Men](#)
[Older Adults](#)
[Teens](#)
[Women](#)

Logo or image

Friends Project Deliverables:

Handbook
Memorandum of Agreement
Policy

New Deliverable: Park Volunteer Team Program

The Friends Group Handbook will provide:

- ▶ The 'How To's in forming a partnership with the PA and getting a new Friends Group started
- ▶ Suggestions on how to maximize effectiveness
- ▶ Resources and definitions for County-related items
- ▶ Benefits of being a Park Authority Friends Group
- ▶ Provide MOA Template

Friends Group Memorandum of Agreement

- ▶ Basic Information
- ▶ Mutual Interests
- ▶ Park Authority Responsibilities
- ▶ Friends Responsibility
- ▶ General Provisions
- ▶ Insurance and Indemnification
- ▶ Special Provisions Section
- ▶ The MOA will be posted on the Project Website for input and separate meetings will be set up to review with groups

Friends Group Policy

- ▶ Raises the Agency's recognition and acknowledgement of Friends Groups
- ▶ Provides foundational guidance for establishing a PA recognized group and the requirements needed to protect themselves
- ▶ Park Authority Board Policy Draft – Friends Groups – Review and Discussion in Feedback Station

Project Timing - Next Steps

- ▶ Post MOA electronically and receive feedback
- ▶ Obtain Policy Approval by PAB - June 28, 2017
- ▶ Meet individually with all Friends Groups and PVTs to help transition to new MOA or PVT
 - ▶ Begin meeting with Friends Groups in July
- ▶ Finalize MOA's - summer 2017
- ▶ Finalize Handbook - summer/fall 2017

Questions ?

Feedback Stations

- ▶ Draft Friends Group Policy
- ▶ Park Volunteer Team Program
- ▶ “Parking Lot” for general feedback
- ▶ VMS Demo