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April 8th, 2016

Braddock Road Community Meeting set for April 25th

The Fairfax County Department of Transportation and Supervisor Cook will be hosting a community meeting on Braddock Road on April 25 at Lake Braddock Secondary School at 9200 Burke Lake Rd, Burke. DOT will update the community on the current Braddock Road multi-modal study and the work of the citizen committee assisting in that effort. Attendees will participate in a Q & A session and move from station to station to learn about aspects of the prospective projects from DOT staff. Residents will be able to ask DOT staff specific questions at these stations about the subject in front of them.

Staff will outline the results of traffic studies conducted on four options for the future of Braddock Road. One option is a number of simple spot improvements, like making minor improvements to intersections, turn lanes, etc., to make the road run smoother without adding lanes. The second option is an HOV2 lane going in each direction on the inside of the existing road, or an HOV2 lane added to the outside. A third option is a general-use lane addition, with one new lane running in each direction. There is also a “no-build” option, which will describe conditions in 2040 if no changes are made to the road.

Stations will consist of an explanation of the projects goals and timeline, what has been learned so far, roadway alternatives, pedestrian/bicycle alternatives, and transit center alternatives. Each one of these stations will present useful information residents can use to judge the merits of each project.

It is important to remember that no decision has been made. The event is being held to inform the community about the possible options available. DOT will continue to collect data and analyze the pros and cons alongside the Braddock Road Task force, a citizen group formed to review DOT’s options more thoroughly. While the event opens at 7 p.m. for attendees to view the stations, a general presentation will be delivered at 7:30 p.m.



Supervisor Cook has served on Fairfax County Board of Supervisors since 2009 and lives in Kings Park with his wife and children.

Budget Update

Having concluded public comment sessions, the Board now looks to its next Budget Committee Meeting to take place April 15th. The Committee, chaired by Supervisor Jeff McKay, will conduct pre-budget markup for Fiscal Year 2017. The following Tuesday, April 19th, the Board will conduct markup as well as approve the FY16 Third Quarter budget. A full budget calendar can be found [here](#). If you missed the three days of public comment, and would still like to inform Supervisor Cook of your thoughts on the budget process, do not hesitate to call the office at 703-425-9300 or send an email to Braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission Launches Full Progress Report

The Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission, in collaboration with Deputy County Executive Dave Rohrer, the Police Department, Office of Public Affairs, the Department of Information Technology, and Chairman Bulova's Office, has launched its full Progress Report, now [available online](#). The Progress Report seeks to update the community on the process of implementing 142 recommendations made to the Department by the Board of Supervisors. This marks the completion of yet another major step in the path to reforming police procedures to ensure the highest level of public safety for the Braddock District and Fairfax County. This progress report constantly tracks the implementation of the recommendations made by the [Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission](#), and provides those interested with an incredibly detailed, yet digestible state of the process.

The Progress Report will be updated as often as necessary, but will update at least quarterly following meetings of the Board of Supervisors Public Safety Committee, made up of the entire board and Chaired by Supervisor Cook. Because so many of these recommendations are interrelated, the Report may change as the result of a Board action, but new dates and details will be available on the online webpage.

For general questions regarding the Progress Report or the Ad Hoc Commission, please email Chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-324-2321.

General Assembly Activities Report

The regular session of the 2016 General Assembly adjourned on Friday, March 11, one day ahead of schedule. During this session, 3,286 bills and resolutions were introduced, and 1,920 bills were reviewed by County operational and legal staff. The Board of Supervisors took formal positions on 220 of those bills. Perhaps most importantly, the General Assembly passed a new 2016-2018 biennium budget, which partially restores \$5.6 million in Cost of Competing Adjustment for K-12 support staff in FY 2017 and \$5.8 million in FY 2018.

COCA is an additional factor in the state K-12 funding formula, recognizing the higher salaries required in high-cost areas of the Commonwealth to attract and retain highly qualified staff. In Northern Virginia, the restoration of these funds was very significant for Fairfax County. Among other increases in K-12 funding are the state share of a 2 percent teacher and support staff compensation adjustment (contingent on state FY 2016 revenues meeting projections), and the distribution of \$194 million in lottery proceeds over the biennium to school districts throughout the state.

Fairfax County projects nearly \$21 million – almost a penny on the tax rate – in anticipated additional state funding for Fairfax County Public Schools in FY 2017, which includes the state’s projections for sales tax revenue. County and FCPS budget staff are working to provide additional detail about this funding, and more information will be provided to the Board as it becomes available.

Unfortunately, the General Assembly considered a number of bills that diminish the County’s land use authority. The most consequential of these bills, related to proffers, has been signed into law by Governor McAuliffe. That legislation includes exemptions from the new requirements that will be helpful for Fairfax County, but will take the Board and staff additional time to assess and adjust to the changes brought by the new law. Legislation governing short-term rentals in residential areas, such as Airbnb, would have diminished local land use authority as introduced. After significant negotiations, the legislation includes a study of the issue and a requirement that any related legislation be enacted by the 2017 General Assembly.

A bill that removes the requirement for a public hearing before a local planning commission where telecommunications towers are permitted by right also passed this session. Early in the session, the County obtained an exemption in the bill for Planning District 8 (Northern Virginia), to allow Fairfax County to maintain its process for public input on these towers. That process has worked well for the County and the community. The exemption for Planning District 8 was removed from the bill on the Senate floor at the end of the session by a member of Fairfax County’s delegation – and as a result, that public hearing will now be eliminated.

Other significant measures passed by the General Assembly include a bill which reworks the state’s laws on tolling, a compromise for the I-66 Inside the Beltway project that provides funding to add a third eastbound travel lane on I-66 (from the Dulles Connector Road to the Glebe Road/Fairfax Drive exit), and legislation establishing the Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board, which will award grants for economic development.

Braddock’s Community Champion Named

Jim Bertolini, dedicated volunteer in Fairfax County, was recognized on Friday, April 8th for his outstanding contributions to the community and to his neighbors. Mr. Bertolini was selected by Supervisor John C. Cook as Braddock District’s 2016 “Community Champion”. This award is given annually by Volunteer Fairfax and recognizes volunteers from across the County who make a real difference in the lives of their neighbors. Mr. Bertolini assisted his neighbor, Joan Crofford, in cleaning her home, which had been cited for hoarding issues. The effort put forth by Mr. Bertolini and the neighbors he helped organize helped Ms. Crofford stay in her home.



Mr. Bertolini has also been known to get groceries for neighbors with disabilities, and even found a permanent shelter solution for a young homeless man who had been sleeping on a bench near Accotink Park for weeks. Fairfax County is grateful for his service, and looks forward to reading more about his incredible achievements in the future.

Proposed Bike Lanes Meeting at Canterbury Woods Elementary

The Fairfax County Department of Transportation will host a community meeting to discuss the [proposed bike lanes](#) in the Braddock District on Tuesday, April 12, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Canterbury Woods Elementary School, 4910 Willet Drive, Annandale. Any interested members of the community should attend and voice their thoughts and concerns on the proposed project. An [interactive map](#), detailing VDOT's 2016 summer paving plan, as well as other information on the proposed project, can be found [here](#).

Braddock District Council Hosts Annual State Legislator Update

The Braddock District Council will once again host its annual State Legislator Update on Wednesday, April 13 at the Kings Park Library meeting room. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. and all are welcome. This is a great opportunity to ask your locally-elected delegates to the General Assembly what they have done and what they would like to work towards on your behalf.

George Mason University Hosts “An Evening under the Stars” Presentation

George Mason University hosts free presentations, all open to the public (ages 5 years and older), called "An Evening under the Stars" in the observatory. The event consists of a 30 minute presentation, followed by a guided tour of night sky with the telescope. What a great way to learn more about the night skies!

The [date](#) for this spring event is April 25 (backup May 2). All are scheduled from 7:30 - 9:30 pm.

The GMU Observatory is located at Research Hall, 10401 York River Rd, Fairfax, VA 22030. If you have questions you may contact Tiffany Lewis at gmuobservatory@gmail.com.

Fairfax County Police Dept. Holds Public Information Session

The Fairfax County Police Department is scheduled for an on-site assessment as part of a program to achieve accreditation by verifying it meets professional standards. As part of the on-site assessment, agency employees and members of the community are invited to offer comments at a public information session on April 11, 2016.

The public session will be held at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Pkwy, Fairfax, VA at 5 P.M. in the main level Board Auditorium.

Agency employees and the public are also invited to offer comments by calling (703) 246-2384 on April 11, 2016 between the hours of 9:30am and 11:30am. Comments will be taken by the Assessment Team. More information can be found [here](#).

National Volunteer Week

This year's National Volunteer Week will take place during April 10-16. National Volunteer Week is about inspiring, recognizing and encouraging people to seek out imaginative ways to engage in your community. Fairfax County's Volunteer Management System continues to grow with new opportunities and volunteers signing up daily. Currently there are more than 1600 opportunities to give back to Fairfax listed! Check out ways to volunteer for Fairfax County Government by visiting <https://volunteer.fairfaxcounty.gov> or for other opportunities to serve in Fairfax visit www.VolunteerFairfax.org

Public Comment Meeting on Six-Year Improvement Program

The Commonwealth Transportation Board will consider public comments as it develops the Six-Year Improvement Program (FY 2017-2022). The program allocates public funds to highway, road, bridge, rail, bicycle, pedestrian and public transportation projects. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m., May 2 at the Northern Virginia District Office, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax in the Potomac Room. A formal comment period will be held at this meeting and can be found [here](#).

New Mobile App Provides Customers with Traffic Info in Real-time

Transurban has launched a new [free mobile app](#) to provide 495 and 95 Express Lane customers with real-time toll pricing, live traffic camera feeds, customized traffic alerts and the ability to pay missed tolls. The app is available on [iTunes](#) and [Google Play](#) app stores.

Nominate an Environmental Hero

If you know an environmental hero, nominate them for the [2016 Environmental Excellence Awards!](#) Individuals, organizations, businesses and county employees are eligible. Nominations are due May 31.

The awards recognize people, organizations or businesses that advance or support the county's [environmental goals and initiatives](#), dedicate their time, energy or expertise beyond their normal work or civic responsibilities, and serve as a role model for individuals and communities

A nominee's environmental achievements must have occurred between June 1, 2015, to May 31, 2016—or over a period of years that's includes a portion of this timeframe. Award recipients are selected by the [Environmental Quality Advisory Council](#), and the awards will be formally presented this fall before the Fairfax County [Board of Supervisors](#). These awards support Fairfax's Strategic [Economic Success Plan](#) that calls for implementing the board's [Environmental Agenda](#).

For questions or more information, [email](#) or call Fairfax County's Environmental Coordinator at 703-324-1788, TTY 711. More details can be found [here](#).

Braddock Neighborhood News

Supervisor Cook hosts a monthly television show, Braddock Neighborhood News, on Fairfax County Channel 16 which is available on most cable networks. Each month, Supervisor Cook invites topical guests on to share pertinent and informative items with the viewers.

This month's show recognizes Earth Day and the environment. Our guests were Jen Cole, the Executive Director of Clean Fairfax, and Ted Welch, Board Member At-Large from Friends of Accotink Creek. Together, they talked about how we can all be better stewards for our surroundings so that not just Fairfax County, but the entire planet can be a better place to live, work and play.

The shows air throughout the month and can be seen Sundays at 5pm, Wednesdays at 7pm and Fridays at 5pm.

Supervisor Cook in the Community

Heritage Mall Community Meeting: On March 2nd, Supervisor Cook hosted a community meeting about proposed upcoming changes to the Heritage Mall in Annandale. The meeting was held at Braddock Elementary School.

Fairfax Youth Leadership Program Interview: On March 3rd, Supervisor Cook had the pleasure to sit down with two members of the Fairfax Youth Leadership Program. He was interviewed about his role in local government and what issues are important to the citizens of Braddock.

Kings Park Potluck: On March 5th, Supervisor Cook attended the Kings Park Potluck which was held this year at Holy Spirit Church in Annandale.

Dunleigh HOA Meeting: On March 7th, Supervisor Cook was asked to speak to the members of the Dunleigh HOA. The meeting was held at the Kings Park Library and he addressed issues that were of interest such as

the Braddock Road project and the upcoming budget process.

Budget Town Hall Meeting: On March 9th, Supervisor Cook hosted the first of his Budget Town Hall Meetings in conjunction with the monthly Braddock District Council meeting.

Meeting for the Lake Accotink Park Master Plan Process: On March 14th, Supervisor Cook attended the kickoff meeting for the Lake Accotink Park Master Plan process. It's going to be a lengthy project but Supervisor Cook is asking for input throughout the process.



Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke monthly Lunch N' Life program: On March 17th, Supervisor Cook was the featured speaker at the Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke monthly Lunch N' Life program which was held at the Jubilee Christian Center in Fairfax.



Korean Community Service Center of Greater Washington Banquet: On March 20th, Supervisor Cook was a guest at the Korean Community Service Center of Greater Washington Banquet which was held at the McLean Hilton.



Budget Town Hall Meeting: On March 28th, Supervisor Cook hosted his second Budget Town Hall Meeting, this time at Robinson Secondary School. Helping to present were County Executive Ed Long and Braddock School Board member, Megan McLaughlin.

Fairfax Police Media Day: On March 29th, Supervisor Cook attended and spoke at a media event that the Fairfax County Police Department held to highlight department-wide use of force training.

Annual Valor Awards: On March 30th, Supervisor Cook attended the Annual Valor Awards hosted by the Northern Virginia Chamber which recognize outstanding efforts by our First Responders.

George Mason Forest HOA Annual Meeting: On March 30th, Supervisor Cook was a guest speaker at the George Mason Forest HOA annual meeting in the Kings Park Library.

Land Use Update

There are no new land use cases that have been filed recently in the Braddock District, but several projects are moving through the site plan phase or are ready for construction:

Forest Ridge (025926-SD -001-2; Lee Highway at Forest Hill Drive). The developer, NV Homes, now has an approved site plan to construct 40 single family homes after almost a year of working through detailed technical design issues, and will begin site clearing activities the week of April 11.

Burke Junction (6128-SD-001-3; Guinea Road at Zion Drive) The developer, National Capital Land, has secured site plan approval and expects to begin land clearing activities at the end of April. Over the last month, the Potomack Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society undertook to move native species plants to the site of a recently completed county stormwater restoration project. The historic post office is scheduled to be moved in the next few weeks to a temporary home on county property where it will be stored until it is moved to its permanent home on the grounds of the Silas Burke house. Finally, a group of Civil War enthusiasts used metal detectors on the site and uncovered some items of interest. Pictured are a 69 caliber round musket ball used by both Union and Confederate Troops early in the Civil War and a 1922 dog tag issued by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Old Burke Lake Preserve (8608-SD-002-2) The developer, an LLC, has had an approved site plan since last summer but is now ready to begin land disturbing activities on a 3 lot subdivision that fronts on Old Burke Lake Road near Lake Braddock Secondary School.

Giant at University Mall. (8974 SP-002-2).

Giant Food has largely resolved outstanding site plan issues and will shortly be resubmitting its last revisions. Giant expects to begin construction on its expanded store during 2016. When more information is available on that



schedule, it will be shared immediately.

Chick-fil-A in Burke Centre. (1736-SP-028-1)

The applicant expects to submit revised site plans later this month but no construction schedule is yet available

Shurgard Storage Monopole in Burke. Verizon Wireless is completing construction of this long awaited tree-pole located behind Kohl's off Burke Centre Parkway, and has a tentative date to have the site in-service and operational by mid-June, 2016

Human Services Corner

April Brings Awareness to Many Important Community Causes

This month Fairfax County will be recognizing a number of important causes and highlighting their importance to the community. On Tuesday, April 5th, Supervisor Cook proclaimed April as Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month. Indispensable groups such as Stop Child Abuse Now (SCAN) and Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) have made tremendous gains in recent years in helping to protect those that cannot protect themselves.

Supervisor Cook also proclaimed the month of April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and cited the importance of working with our community partners such as the Office for Women and Domestic & Sexual Violence, and the many others that work tirelessly to support and help some of our most vulnerable neighbors.

Last, but certainly not least, April is also Donate a Life month. Supervisor Cook recognized community members at the last Board meeting who have been working to help people in need.

The value of these missions and the advocacy groups that support them is critical to the well-being of our community.

Throughout April, Supervisor Cook's office will be sending out messages on ways you can help support these missions or learn more about how each cause helps our community heal and thrive, as well as to thank the service workers and folks involved for your service!

Fairfax County Police Department Media Day

On Tuesday, March 29th the Fairfax County Police Department hosted a media day at the Fairfax County Justice Academy. The event presented some of the Use of Force training practices taking place at the police academy. Each experience reinforced the philosophy of de-escalation and the preservation of human life. The officers were presented with simulated experiences that were likely to happen on the street. Members from the Board of Supervisors and the media were invited to experience exactly what goes on during training at the Police Academy.

The Braddock District, and Fairfax County as a whole, are lucky to boast such a dedicated group of officers that are committed to going above and beyond to serve the needs of the community.

Inside Out - A Photography Project at Bonnie Brea

On March 2, 2011, French artist, JR, won the TED (Technology, Entertainment, Design) prize at the TED Conference in Long Beach, California, and called for the creation of a global participatory art project with the potential to change the world. This project is called INSIDE OUT.

Inspired by JR's large-format street "pastings", INSIDE OUT gives everyone the opportunity to share their portrait and make a statement for what they stand for. It is a global platform for people to share their stories and transform messages of personal identity and beliefs into works of public art. Each INSIDE OUT group action around the world is documented, archived and exhibited online. Nearly 200,000 people from more than 112 countries & territories have participated.

From this international, creative idea came the idea of the photographs of Bonnie Brae students and community members. Through this very powerful message, students feel proud of their school, their community and most importantly, proud of themselves. At Bonnie Brae, it is the belief that educating our students is more than just academics. It's about instilling pride, satisfaction, a sense of community and belonging.

In partnership with Supervisor Cook's office, Bonnie Brae Elementary and the Pinn Center/Burke-West Springfield Senior Center without Walls invite you to join us for a community gluing event on Saturday, April 30, from 10 am-1 pm at Bonnie Brae Elementary, in which we will adhere nearly 60 enlarged photos of Bonnie Brae students and community members to the sidewalk surrounding Bonnie Brae Elementary. This effort will be a statement of the pride we all feel for our Bonnie Brae community.

Spring Parks Registration is Now On!

Registration is now open for a vast variety of spring activities and classes including aquatics, fitness, fine arts, gardening, dance, hikes, and so much more!

Of special note are opportunities to combine your interests. For instance there's a Poetry Sketch Walk at Huntley Meadows Park on April 2 that combines nature study, poetry and drawing and a Guided Meditation in Nature program at Riverbend Park and Scott's Rune Nature Preserve.

Don't miss the special senior programs featuring aerobics, volleyball, weight training, yoga and Zumba. And, as you anticipate warmer temps, consider registering for one or more of the Park's popular day trips and tours.

[Register online](#), call 703-222-4664, or visit your [local center](#).

Upcoming Community Events

Aging in Place Presentation

Library Resources

Wednesday, April 20th at 1 PM

Kings Park Community Library, 9002 Burke Lake Road

The Bethany House of Northern Virginia 5th Annual Garden of Lights Banquet

Thursday, April 21st, 2016 –

The Embassy Suites Hotel, Ole Town Alexandria – 1900 Diagonal Rd.

Reception starts at 6pm. Dinner at 7pm. For more info email bwomble@bhnv.org

Living Well, Aging Well Summit

Saturday, April 16, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax.

This free event will allow you to explore multiple ways to age well. The summit will feature a transportation and mobility expo, technology fair, volunteer opportunities, a CarFit program, health screenings, presentations and more. [Register Now.](#)

Fairfax 50+ Employment Expo

Monday, April 18, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Sheraton Tysons Hotel at Tysons Corner, 8661 Leesburg Pike, Vienna

Meet dozens of job recruiters at the Sheraton Tysons Hotel at Tysons Corner. Attend seminars on changing careers, online job searching, continuing education, starting your own business, job training, and job interviewing. The keynote speaker will be Chief Meteorologist Doug Hill of ABC 7/WJLA-TV News. The event is sponsored by the Jewish Council for the Aging, Fairfax County and community partners. Free admission and parking. No registration necessary – just show up! [Find our more!](#)

Volunteer Opportunities

Korean Meals on Wheels needs drivers to deliver meals on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Older adults are not receiving much-needed nutrition due to a shortage of drivers. Email VolunteerSolutions@FairfaxCounty.gov or call 703-324-5406, TTY 711. (Speaking Korean not required.)

The Mott Community Center Senior Program

in Fairfax is looking for a volunteer Tai Chi instructor. Email

VolunteerSolutions@FairfaxCounty.gov or call 703-324-5406, TTY 711.

The Wakefield Senior Center in Annandale needs Fitness Instructors. Volunteer instructor positions could lead to part-time employment. Email VolunteerSolutions@FairfaxCounty.gov or call 703-324-5406, TTY 711.

Fairfax County needs volunteers to drive older adults to medical appointments and wellness programs. Email VolunteerSolutions@FairfaxCounty.gov or call 703-324-5406, TTY 711.

Vietnamese Meals on Wheels needs drivers in Annandale to deliver meals midday on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. (Speaking Vietnamese not required.) Email VolunteerSolutions@FairfaxCounty.gov or call 703-324-5406, TTY 711.

Respite Care volunteers give family caregivers of a frail older adult a well-deserved break so they can go shopping, attend a doctor's appointment or just have coffee with a friend. Volunteers visit and oversee the safety of the older adult for a few hours each month. Support and training are provided. Contact Kristin Martin at 703-324-7577, TTY 711, or Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov.

The Fairfax County Park Authority's annual *Take Back the Forest* program needs volunteers to find and destroy invasive plants and replace them with native plants from April 15 to May 15. According to the Park Authority, spring is the best time to do this because you don't have to contend with summer forest growth. Find out how to volunteer and more about local

invasive plants at [Invasive Management Area - Volunteer Program](#) or by calling 703-324-8681.

Take Back the Forest coincides with national volunteer days such as Earth Day, National Volunteer Week, Potomac River Watershed Cleanup Day, and Arbor Day. County residents

who volunteer receive a free T-shirt, courtesy of REI.

Environmental Update

Apply Now for Funding for Your HOA's Conservation and Efficiency Projects

Want to do something environmentally friendly on your civic association property? Is heavy runoff causing distress in your neighborhood association? Do you have poor energy efficiency in your community's club house? The Conservation District's new Conservation Assistance Program (CAP) can help. It provides technical assistance and 50 percent matching funding for qualifying projects. We are currently accepting site visit requests for landscaping projects and



applications for energy projects. Visit the CAP program webpage at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/cap/>.

2016 Potomac River Watershed Cleanup

The Alice Ferguson Foundation's Potomac River Watershed Cleanup is happening now! Hundreds of affiliated community litter cleanups in Fairfax and the DC metro area are seeking volunteers throughout April and May. Most events are on April 16th. Check the [Trash Free Potomac Network website](#) for an event in your neighborhood!

Lakes and Streams Undergo Cleaning Efforts

The Friends of Woodglen Lake (FOWL), along with other dedicated volunteers, met on April 2nd to clean up a number of lakes and streams, cleaning up areas from Wakefield Chapel to Woodglen Lake, and

from Lake Accotink Park to Royal Lake Park, within both the Pohick and Accotink watersheds. Residents of all ages came together to pick up trash and accomplish some minor maintenance projects.

Upcoming Environmental Events

Create a Bay Friendly Lawn Workshop and Tour

Saturday, April 23 at 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
US National Arboretum, 3501 New York Ave NE, Washington, DC

Would you like to have a lawn that looks good and that you can feel good about? Use this proactive, Bay-friendly approach that emphasizes preventive techniques to reduce weeds, pests, and diseases before they become a nuisance. Learn about turf grass selection and maintenance practices that will create a lawn that is safe for people, pets, and the watershed. A guided tour of the outdoor Grass Roots Exhibit will follow the classroom workshop. Take home lawn care information to guide you through the process. Enjoy light refreshments and door prizes. Free. Registration requested; call 202-245-5965 to register.

Stream Monitoring Workshop: Springfield
Sunday, April 10 at 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.
South Run near South Run Rec Center, 7550 Reservation Dr, Springfield

Help monitor beautiful South Run as it flows through wooded parkland between Burke Lake and Lake Mercer. Please RSVP to [Veronica Tangiri](#).

Build-Your-Own Rain Barrel Workshop
Saturday, April 16, at 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Green Acres Center, 4401 Sideburn Rd Fairfax

Bring a rain barrel into your landscape this year! Rain barrels collect runoff from your downspout that would otherwise flow across your lawn and down into a storm drain, taking

pollutants with it. Help protect our streams, parks, rivers and the Chesapeake Bay, all while saving yourself some money! Please [register in advance](#). \$55 per barrel.

NOVA Community College Green Festival: 100 Years of National Parks

Monday, April 18 at 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

NOVA Annandale Campus, CE Forum and Theater, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale
The NOVA Green Festival will feature workshops and presentations from the US National Park Service, VA Department of Conservation and Recreation, NOVA Community College, local and state parks, and more; a rain barrel sale; and a keynote presentation by Pete McBride, National Geographic Society's Freshwater Hero and the creator of the award winning film *The Colorado*. Free and open to the public. For more information, please contact Cheryl Robinette: crobinette@nvcc.edu.

Raptor Rapture

Saturday, April 23 at 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Belle Haven Park off the GW Parkway, Alexandria

See live raptors that were injured and have been rehabilitated, but cannot survive on their own. A great event for children of all ages. Cosponsored by the Raptor Society of Virginia and the National Park Service. More information available online.

Fairfax County's SpringFest!
Saturday, April 30 at 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton

Join the Clean Fairfax Council, the Fairfax County Park Authority and the Workhouse Arts Center for SpringFest, Fairfax County's celebration of Earth Day, Arbor Day and healthy living. This family-friendly event is free and features over 75 vendors, exhibitors and food trucks. Learn about the great work ladybugs do for our gardens, ride a pony, try a fun run, participate in environmental crafts, check out the bees and the trees, consult with Master Gardeners, buy plants for your garden. For the first time, the Fairfax County Restoration

Project's Green Inspirations environmental film festival will run concurrently with SpringFest in the Workhouse Theater. More [information online](#).

Go GaGa for Green
Saturday, April 30 at 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
GMU's Founder's Hall, 3351 Fairfax Dr, Arlington, VA

Go Gaga for Green celebrates environmental sustainability and Earth Day with food, fun and live entertainment. The family-friendly event will include green-themed refreshments, a lip sync battle, an artistic rain barrel display and auction, and much more! Visit the [event's website](#) for more information.

Lakes Update

Woodglen Dredging/Restoration Project Completed

The Woodglen Lake Dredging and Restoration project was substantially completed on November 18, 2015. This project provided for the removal of 40,000 cubic yards of sediment; stream restoration above the lake, improving an existing access road to the lake, landscape planting and trail modifications, constructing a staging area and a 9,000 cubic yard sediment forebay to simplify future dredging operations. The project also made modifications and repairs for the lake's principal spillway and installed new fish habitat structures in the lake. In January and February the contractor removed sediment from the stream downstream of the lake and undertook remediation in the wetlands area below the dam. In addition to the aesthetic benefits, this project will go a long way towards helping the county meet its goals under the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act by keeping sediment and pollutants out of streams that feed the Potomac River. Specifically, it is predicted that this project will provide these annual benefits:

- Total Suspended Solids (TSS) 14.6 tons/year
- Total Nitrogen (TN) 1,075 lbs/year
- Total Phosphorus (TP) 67 lbs/year

Additionally, this project demonstrated the feasibility of spreading dredged sediment as topsoil at the County-Owned I-95 Landfill Complex rather than paying disposal fees to dump this material in other landfills. This approach will be replicated for the dredging of Lake Royal which is scheduled to begin this summer.

At this juncture, there are several activities remaining:

- The Park Authority needs to complete work on the natural surface trail that connects to the dam embankment;
- There is a need to plant plugs in the lake to create vegetative habitat for amphibians and fish;
- A fish restocking will be provided by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF). We are on their list of lakes to be stocked, but the actual schedule has not been determined. Stocking is done in the spring and in the fall over a period of several years to allow different species to become established.

Lake Royal Bidding Process Complete

The competitive bidding process is now complete, and the County expects to shortly enter into a contract with ASI Constructors Inc., the firm that completed the work at Huntsman and Woodglen Lakes, to dredge Lake Royal this summer. Final costs and the amount of dredge material to be removed are currently being negotiated with the contractor. The goal is to remove up to 65,000 cubic yards of fill. The low bid was for a “dry dredge” which will require the lowering of the lake for protracted period of time.

More information will be forthcoming shortly, but **mark your calendar for a “Pardon our Dust”** meeting with staff and the contractor which will be held in the Laurel Ridge Elementary School Cafeteria 10110 Commonwealth Blvd. on **Monday, May 9th at 7:00 pm**. Information will be available on the drawdown of the lake, staging sites, truck traffic, hours of operation, impacts on trails and vegetation.