

Environmental Quality Advisory Council

Annual Public Hearing—January 21, 2015

Written testimony

Note: Formatting of some of the written testimony shifted as it was copied into this document.

The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

Psalm 19:1

Addressing the Greatest Moral and
Religious Challenge of our Age:
Working Together in Fairfax

Environmental Quality Advisory Council

January 21, 2014

Eric Goplerud, Exec. Dir.

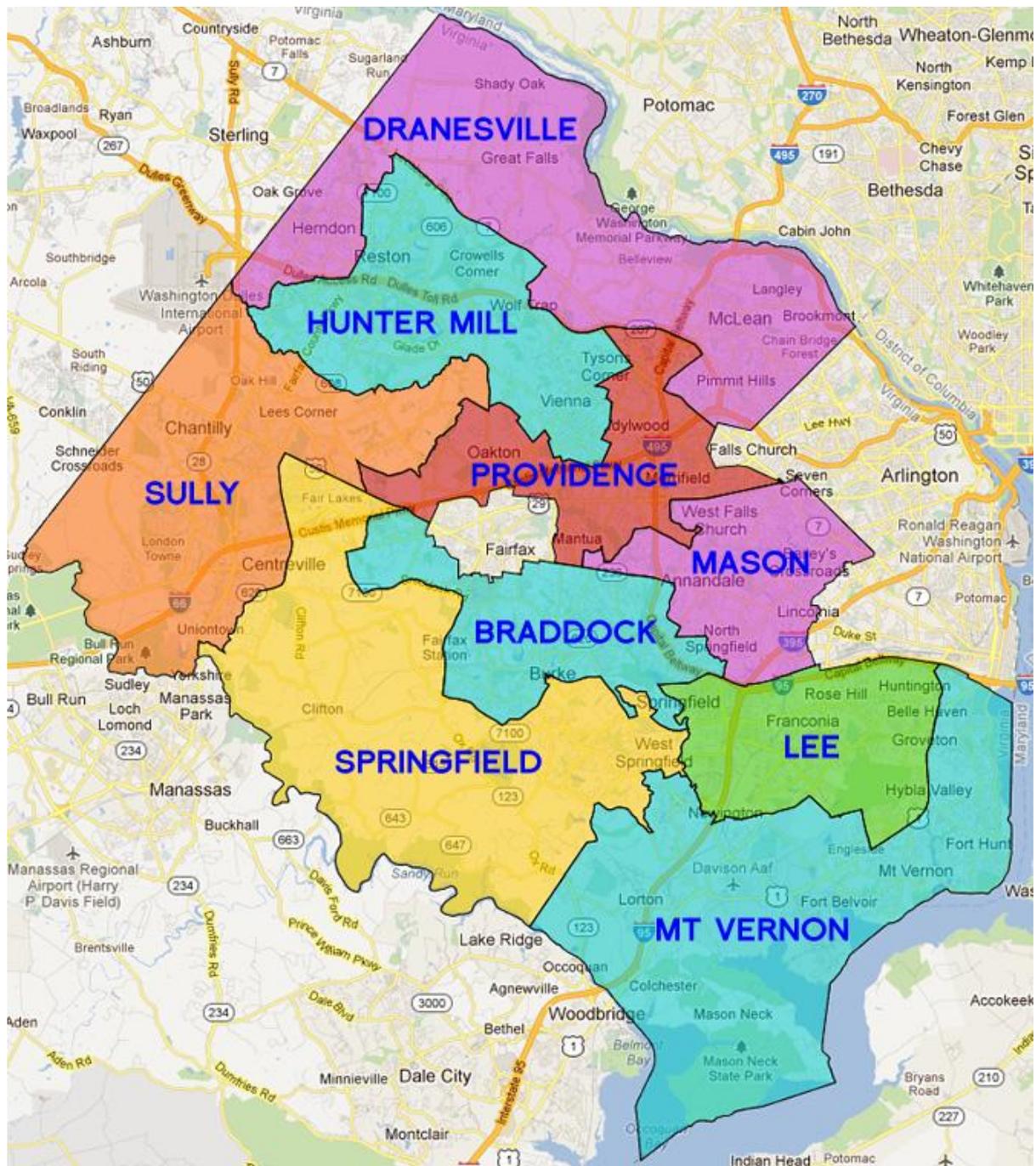
Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions

America Wastes 40% of All Electricity Produced

- Waste might be dumb
- It might be costly
- But when it drives us toward global crisis, it's also ***morally wrong***



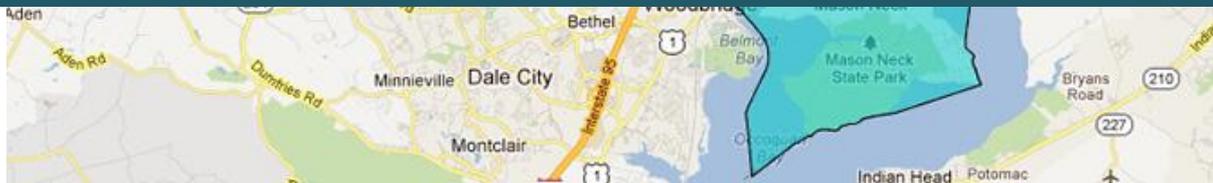
Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions
www.faithforclimage.org





“No challenge—no challenge—poses a greater threat to future generations than climate change. 2014 was the planet’s warmest year on record. Now, one year doesn’t make a trend, but this does—14 of the 15 warmest years on record have all fallen in the first 15 years of this century.”

President Obama, State of the Union Address, January 20, 2015

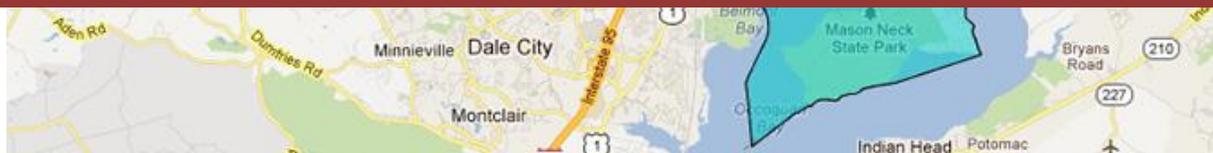




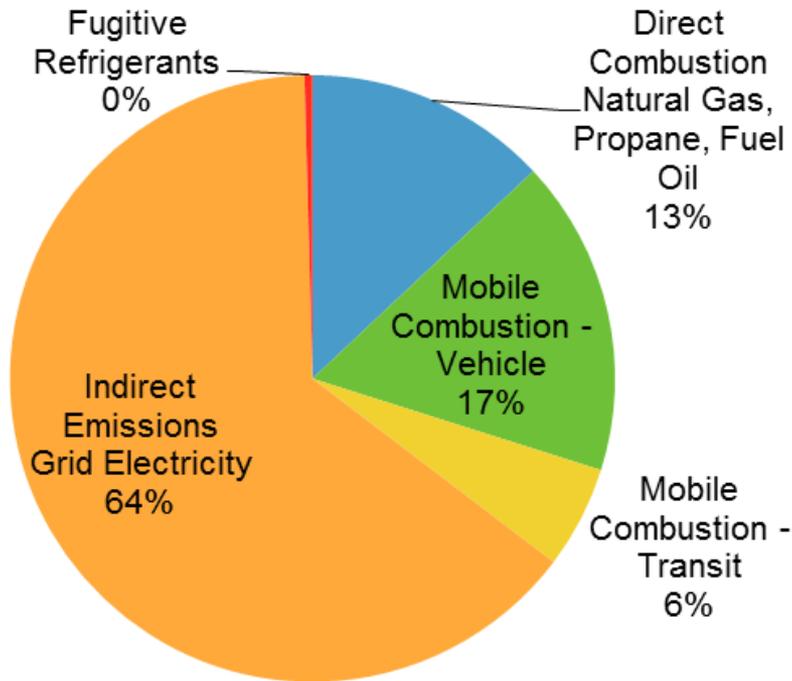
Fairfax County Government Can Lead by Example, but it takes all of us:

Greenhouse gas emissions in Fairfax:

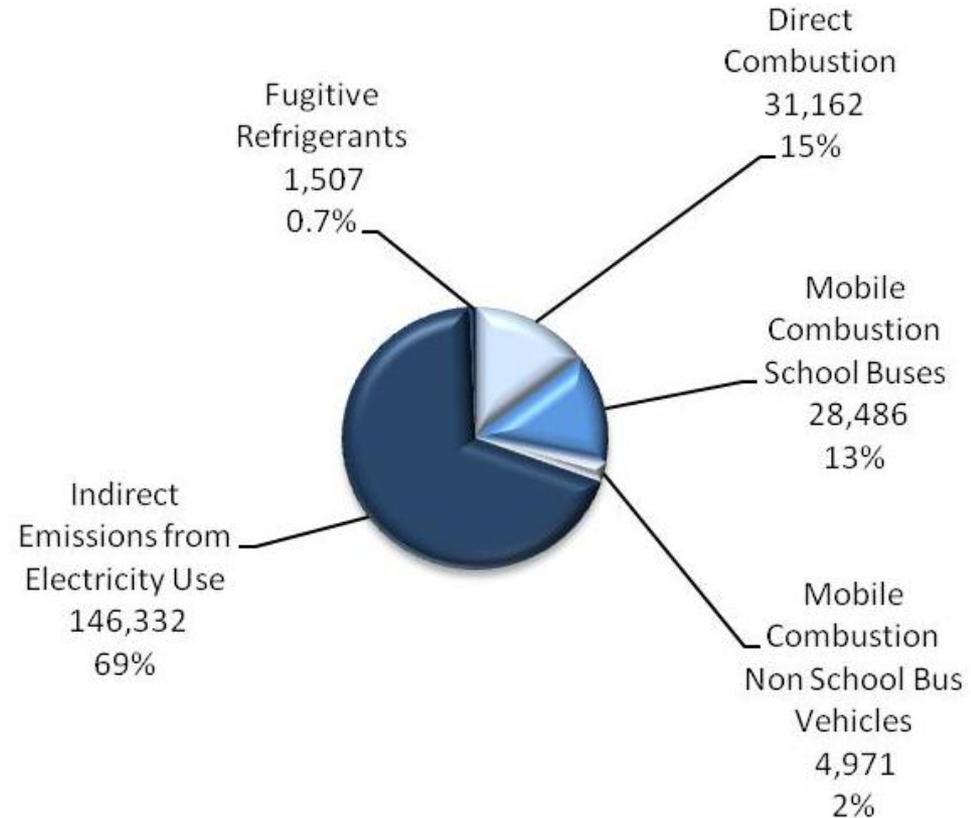
- Residential sector 29%
- Commercial sector 29%
- Local government 3%
- Industry 2%



Fairfax County Government and Fairfax County Public Schools Emissions by Source Type

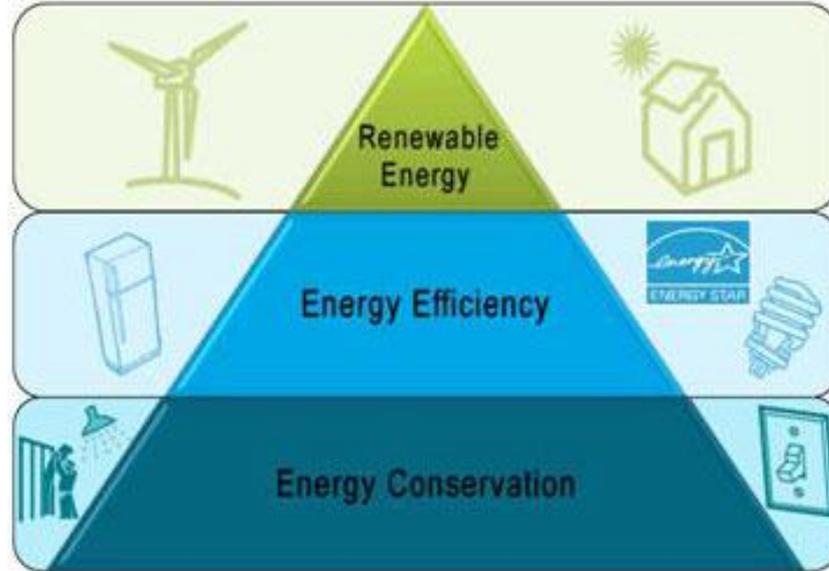


Fairfax County Government
460,695 Metric Tons of CO₂e in 2010



Fairfax County Public Schools
227,454 metric tons of CO₂e in 2012

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) spends about \$42,000,000 annually on its electric, oil, gas and water utilities.



- **Energy efficiency & Conservation**
THE best and easiest ways to cut carbon pollution
- **Real “No Brainer”**



So, What's the First Step?

- **You Can Only Manage What You Measure**
- **The Way? User-Friendly Energy Dashboard**
- **Show Taxpayers Energy Use AND Efficiency Rating for Each Building Taxpayers Own**
- **Create Pressure on Most Wasteful to Cut Waste**
- **Reward Most Efficient**

So, What's the First Step?

2014 Fairfax Environmental Quality Advisory Council (EQAC) Annual Report:

“Fairfax County has made significant strides in monitoring energy use, identifying opportunities for reducing energy use, and reporting this information to the County Government.

EQAC recommends that **monitoring information that shows the benefits of monitoring be made available to the public and private sectors.**” (p. 33)

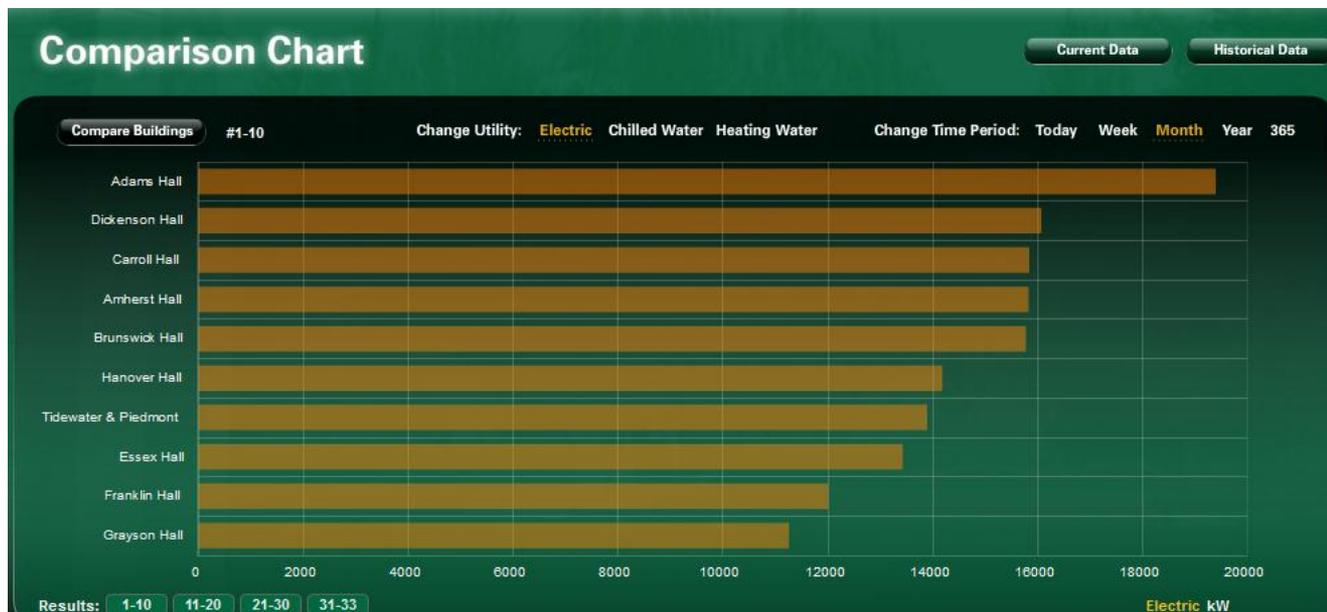
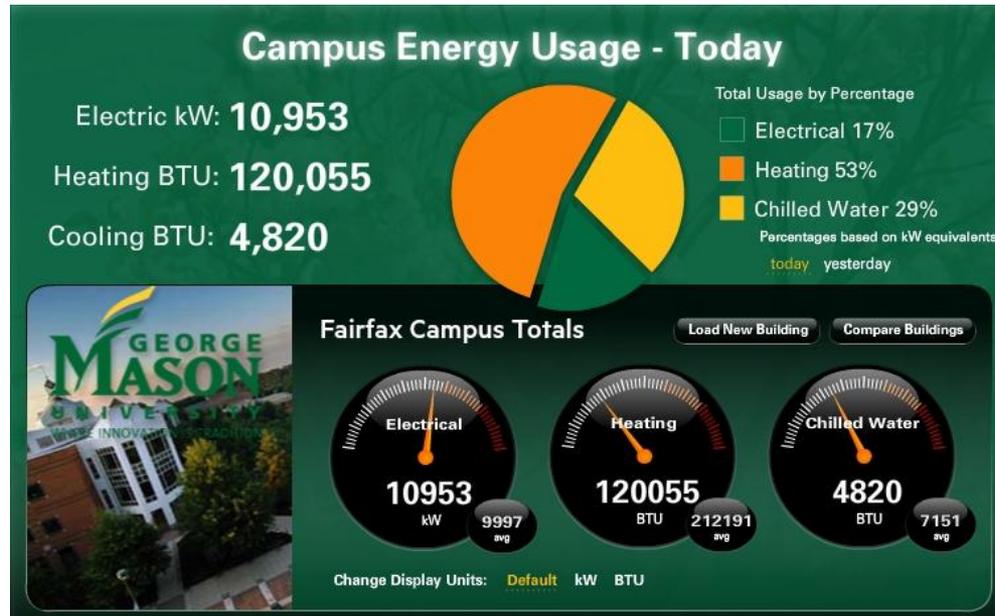


Energy Dashboards Can:

- **Allow data collection precisely at peak usage**
- **Track behavior**
- **Drive innovation through public engagement**
- **Provide visual, granular data ratings**
- **Empower smart building use**
- **A meta-analysis of 170 studies of residential smart metering show a 3%-12% reduction in energy usage**



George Mason's Energy Dashboard



George Mason's Energy Dashboard



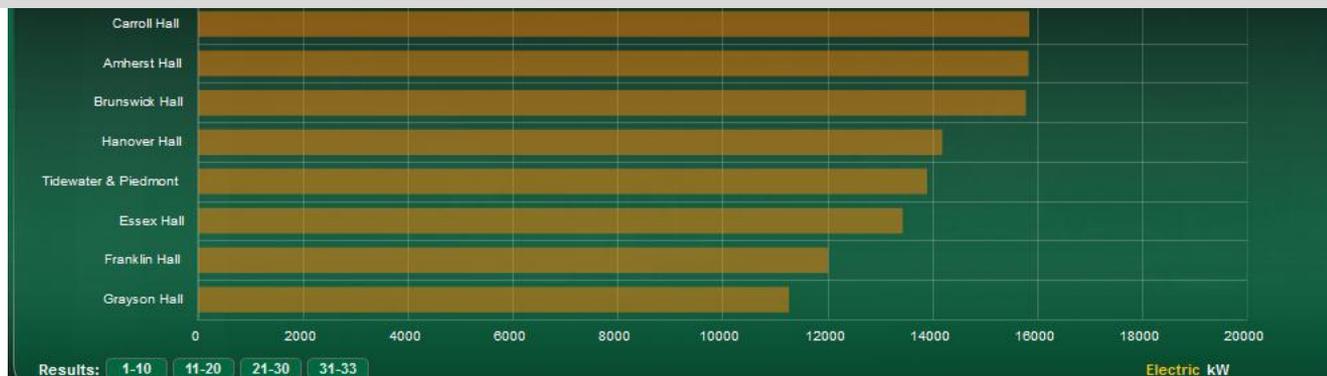
Since FY2005, GMU has initiated

40 energy improvement measures that saved \$2.5M

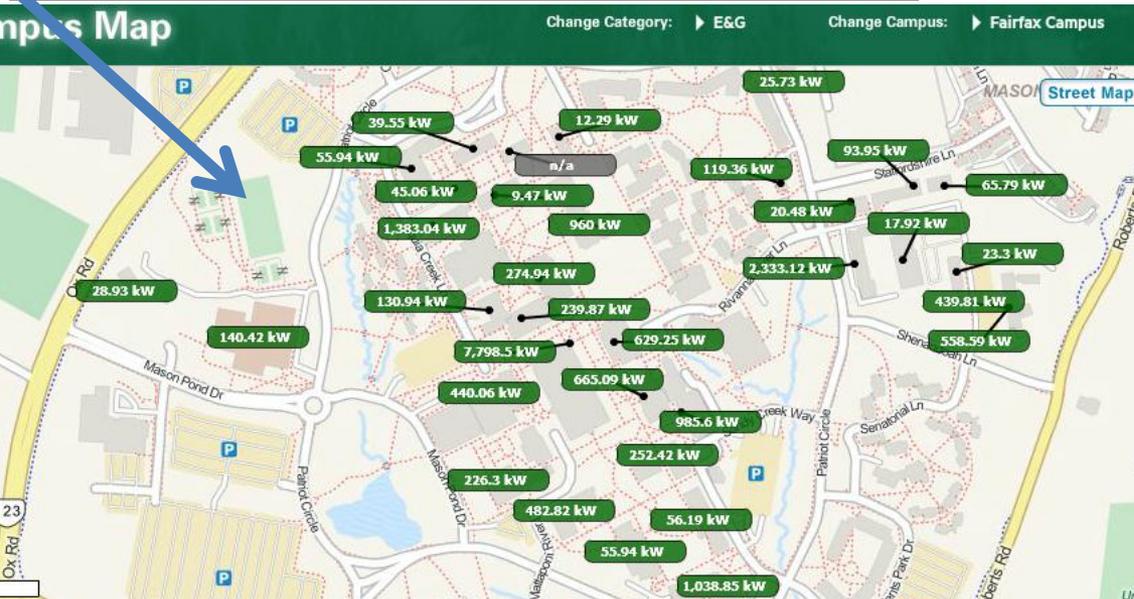
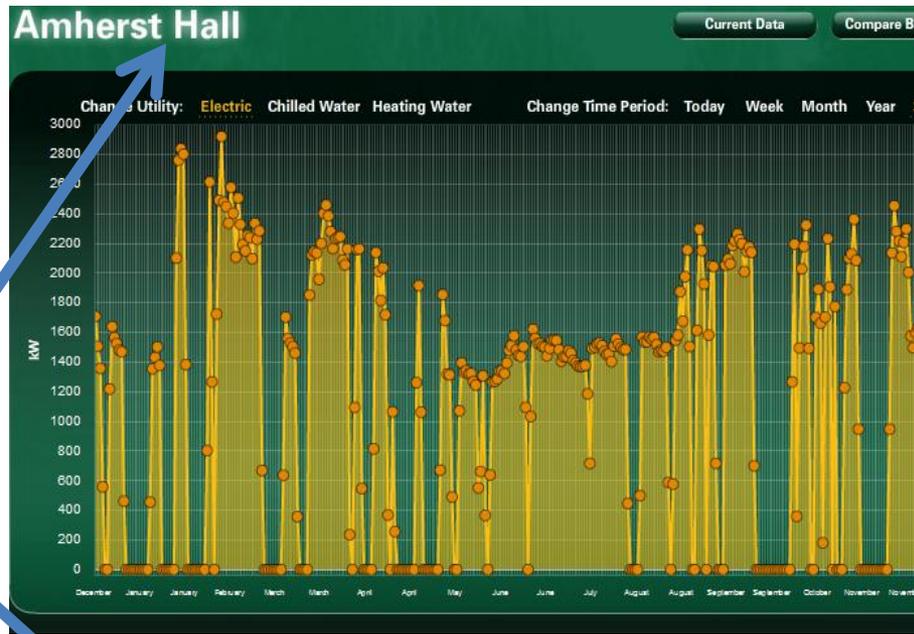
Energy Management Department used savings to take additional steps that saved another \$2.5M more

Payback in 13 months!!

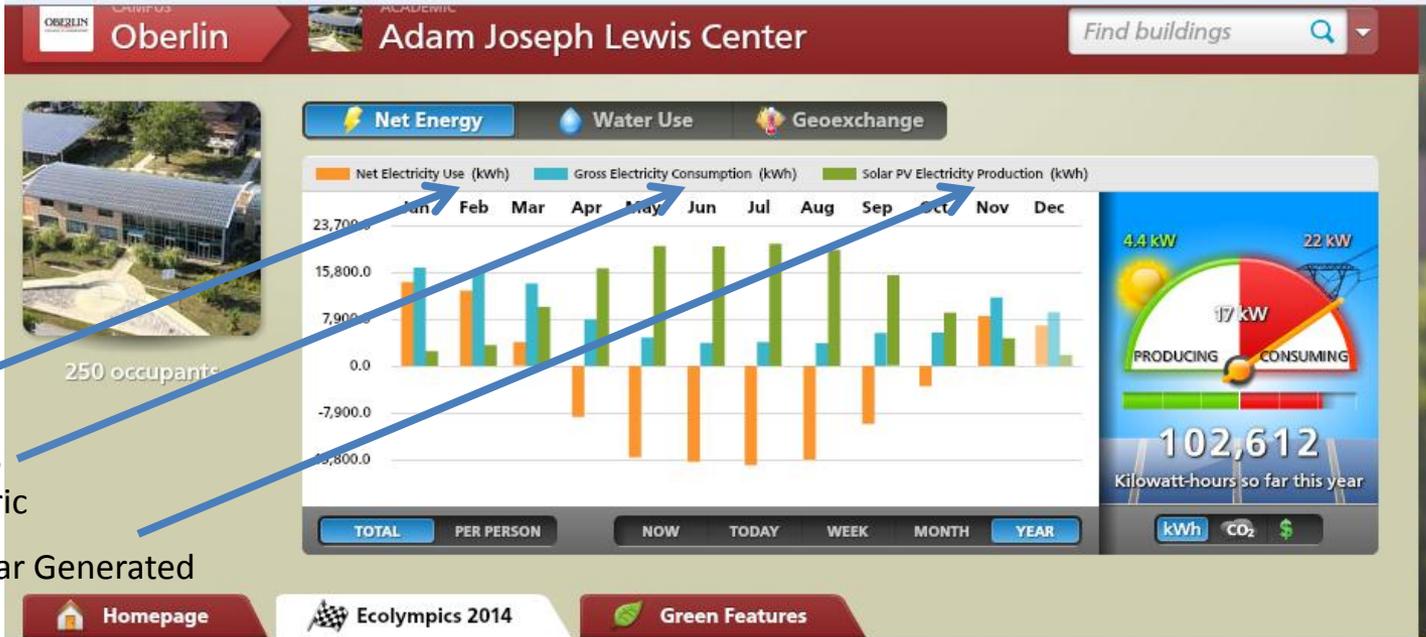
Cut pollution by 20,505 metric tons



George Mason Dashboard Capabilities



Produces
Campus-wide or
Building Graphs of
Electric, Water
Use Hourly, Daily,
Weekly, Monthly,
Annually



Fairfax County Needs

An Energy Dashboard for Fairfax



- Fairfax County 2013 utilities bill: \$12.2 million
- Fairfax County Public Schools utilities: \$42 million
- Energy dashboard's savings: Up to 20%
- 91 county buildings, 95 FCPS buildings with smart meters, ready for dashboard connection
- Savings for taxpayers
- Reduction of CO2 Pollution



Fairfax County Needs

An Energy Dashboard for Fairfax

Building Energy Management Systems – Of the 205 sites in the Fairfax Facilities Management Department inventory, a real-time building energy management system has been installed in 91. This number will increase over time because installation is specified for all new building construction projects and for all end-of-lifecycle HVAC replacement.

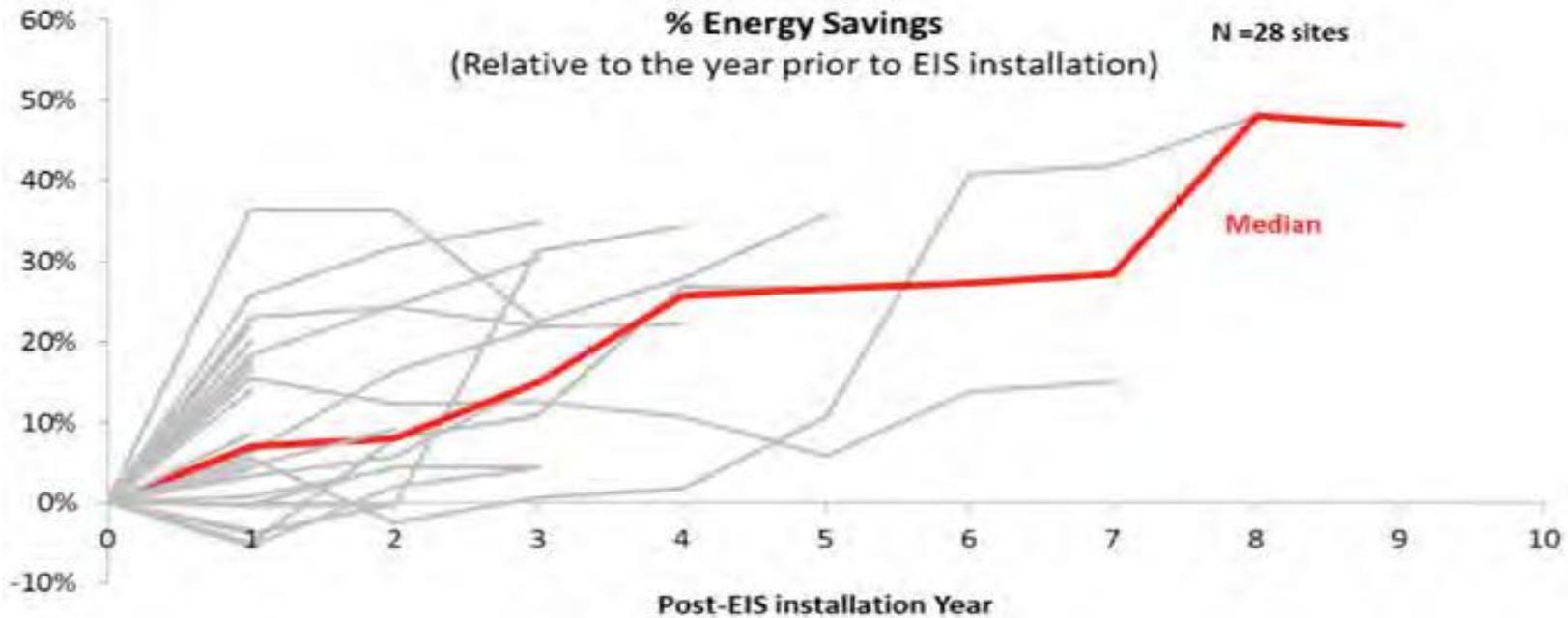
EnergyCAP Energy Tracking Software – FMD uses the EnergyCAP software program and a comprehensive database of building utility information to track and analyze energy consumption for all buildings in its portfolio. This information includes monthly utility bills for each building.



Median Energy Information System costs: up-front, ongoing, 5-yr costs and savings

Type of Costs	Median [\$]	[\$/pt]	[\$/building]	[\$/sf]
Up-front (N=18)	23,000	230	1,400	0.01
Ongoing/yr (N=17)	16,000	200	400	0.01
5 yr cost (N=14)	150,000	1,800	3,600	0.06

Median Energy Information System costs: up-front, ongoing, 5-yr costs and savings



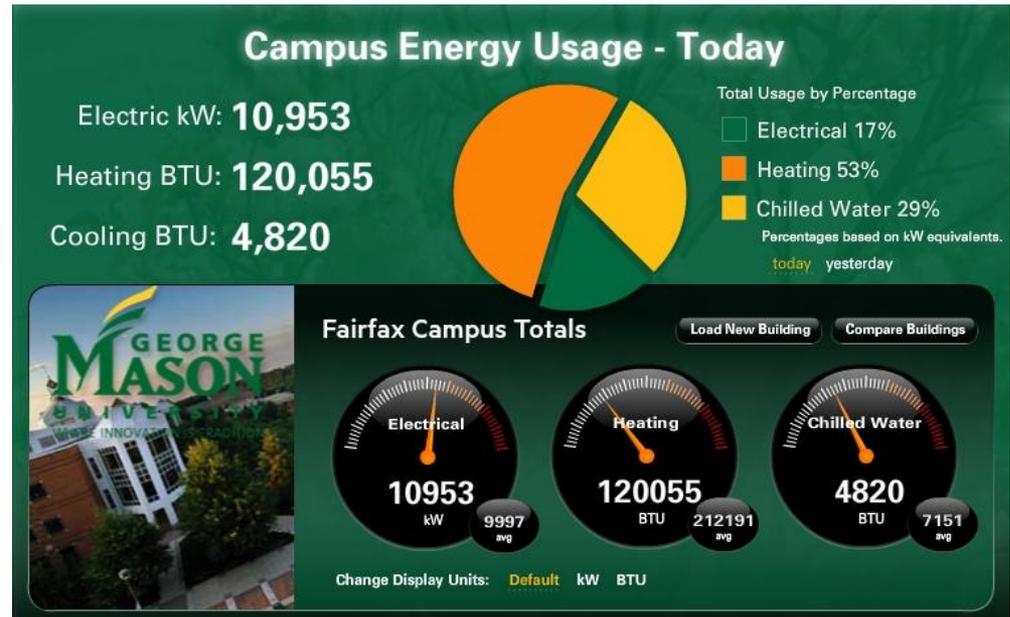
Energy information systems were cited as a critical component in achieving 17 percent median site savings, and 8 percent median portfolio savings

Energy Dashboards

- Reduce Energy Use
- Cut CO2 emissions
- Protect environment
- Help Create a Culture of Sustainability
- Allow savings in energy budgets

Energy Dashboards are a proven, common-sense, no-brainer solution to addressing climate change now.

Fairfax County can be a Virginia leader in responding to a changing climate, and an example for business, schools and other counties



Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions

www.faithforclimate.org



Climate change is one of the greatest moral, technical and political issues in human history. We affirm the value of hope even in the gravest of circumstances—a hope justified not only by the power of human action for good, but also by our understanding of the creative force of life in the universe. Thus we commit ourselves to live and act with hope.

Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions Community Council

Dr. Sultan Ahmed, All Dulles Area Muslim Society (ADAMS)

Aisha Bigbee, Alfred Street Baptist Church

Erik Backus, Hope Lutheran Church, Annandale

John Cartmill, Reston Bible Church

Joe Cohen, Temple Rodef Shalom

Brian Christoffersen, Christ Crossman United Methodist Church

Nitin Dogra, Hindu American Seva Communities

Rev. Dr. Jerrold Foltz, Wellspring United Church of Christ

Robert Faithful IV, St. John's Episcopal Church

Executive Director Eric Goplerud, Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax

Deacon David Kepley, Providence Presbyterian Church

Jeff W. Johnson, Unity Church of Fairfax

Scott Peterson, Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax

In partnership with Interfaith Power and Light, Joelle Novey



*Faith Alliance
for Climate Solutions*

Edward Monroe

Good evening and thank you for providing this opportunity. I wish to express my concern on the issue of stormwater management related to infill development, and suggest some solutions aligned with the watershed management plans of Fairfax County.

Infill development can produce a number of unintended consequences on drainage areas or watersheds that I am familiar as a high school Geosystems teacher. Despite code requirements, urbanized areas tend to produce more runoff over a shorter period of time during peak rainfall events, and potentially lead to downstream impacts including: impaired habitat, excessive erosion, and compromised infrastructure, resources, and property. Therefore, for retaining stormwater onsite it is essential that Fairfax County promote the use of low impact development systems (LIDs).

I suggest promoting LIDs in the three stages of awareness, knowledge, and incentives as follows:

Awareness

Public facilities provide opportunity to demonstrate the use of LIDs such as stormwater planters and rain gardens. Given the number of people utilizing public facilities, the impact can be significant. Highlighting the use of LIDs can be emphasized with signage indicating the amount of rainfall captured per year, and the positive impact this retention has on local streams.

Knowledge

For ensuring a landscaping community is available for installing LIDs, installers can be trained and certified and a listing of certified installers made available for the community. For homeowners living adjacent to streams, neighborhood associations can provide information and/or demonstrations on methods of maintaining and augmenting buffers.

Incentives

Homebuyers and builders can be encouraged to employ the use of LIDs via financial incentives. As a model, the city of Seattle, Washington, provides rebates to homeowners through the RainWise Program. Given that the cost of maintaining and replacing stormwater infrastructure can be significant, a cost/benefit analysis may indicate the real value of such a program.

To begin, a pilot program would be needed. I would suggest that since the Lewinsville Center SEA includes a stormwater augmentation plan for a development on Great Falls Street in McLean, that it could potentially be apart of the awareness stage emphasized above.

Thank you for your time.

**Speaking Points for Mary Cortina, At-Large Member of the Park Authority
Board Environmental Committee – EQAC Testimony**

January 21, 2015

Good evening and thank you for this opportunity to speak with members of the Environmental Quality Advisory Council. My name is Mary Cortina and this evening I speak on behalf of the Fairfax County Park Authority Board as an At-Large representative.

Over the years, the relationship between the Park Board and EQAC has matured and strengthened. We have so much in common. We depend on your advocacy and assessment of the environmental issues we face in Fairfax County. The Park Authority Board recognizes and appreciates the importance and effectiveness of your support.

We see proof of the power of EQAC's advocacy in the continuing support by the Board of Supervisors for stewardship projects, as well as the passage of the 2012 Park Bond which contained several stewardship-related projects and the county's increased commitment to environmentally sound practices and policy. I think it's fair to say that EQAC has also helped elevate the protection of natural resources at the Park Authority internally and externally.

Let me touch on a few timely issues tonight.

First, I am happy to report that our newly adopted Urban Park standards and successes coaxing developers into sharing responsibility for the provisioning of parkland and recreational amenities, have been critical during the

redevelopment of Tysons and other urban corridors of the county. In Tysons, as this transformation to a livable downtown begins in earnest, we are well-positioned to ensure citizens have ample opportunities for green space and play among the skyscrapers.

I also want to tell you about the new Needs Assessment our planning staff is conducting. Every so often the Park Authority examines whether park offerings match the community's diverse interests, lifestyles, and changing trends. This vital information will influence the park development for the next decade. We request and depend on your review and input as we craft this document.

This past year, our board adopted a revised Natural Resource Management Plan which focuses on the long-term protection, preservation and sustainability of our natural capital. Park staff had tremendous help from EQAC and many other stakeholders in producing this new plan. This plan is owned by all of us. Our focus emphasizes the needs of the resources and our mission to be good stewards of these lands for future generations. The plan not only recognizes the need for all of us to participate in this stewardship; but also that we assess the value of our natural capital, secure resources, and employ best practices to maintain and restore them.

We are currently underway with a pilot Forest Management Program at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park. It is an endeavor staffed by experts from within our ranks and other agencies. We partnered with numerous organizations and individuals, employed unique forest restoration methods, conducted widespread assessments of the condition of the natural resources, controlled non-native invasive species, alleviated the impacts of deer browse on our forest

communities, and developed educational materials that are certain to inspire the trained and inform the untrained eyes.

The natural capital in Fairfax County parks plays a major role in cleaning our air and water, regulating regional temperatures, and providing open space that contributes to a high quality of life for residents and wildlife. Investing in the management and restoration of our natural capital is a sound investment in the county's future.

For many years now, EQAC has strongly recommended additional financial resources to protect the Park Authority's natural capital – the more than 23,000 acres of tree canopy, stream valleys and open space owned by the Park Authority for the public. In the past, our strategy was simply purchasing land to protect it. And voters have been very supportive of park bonds for land preservation. But preservation alone is not sustainable. We can no longer simply own these properties – we must manage the land, and act as responsible stewards. This realization has been a long time coming and clearly is underfunded in the county's general fund, where day-to-day operational costs are budgeted.

I ask that together we look for new approaches to old problems. We can solve this – we've done it before with storm water management to address environmental impacts to our streams. And the Board of Supervisors has done so much already. They have rezoned to protect watersheds and water quality. They have passed a strengthened Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance. They have provided dedicated funding for storm water management and even deeded land to the Park Authority for stream protection. I see this as the last unfinished link in the strategy.

Let's grow the return on the investment we have already made and protect the land and forests those streams run through -- and work toward a more holistic approach to managing our natural resources to achieve our stewardship goals.

Thank you for your kind attention and good night.

**Fairfax County Public Hearing on the Environment
Fairfax County Environmental Quality Advisory Council**

January 21, 2015, 7.30pm

Testimony provided by Catherine Ledec
Alexandria, Virginia, Mt. Vernon District

My name is Catherine Ledec and I speak to you today as an individual resident of Fairfax County. I live in Alexandria, in the Mount Vernon District.

Good, relevant science must inform the recommendations of your committee when advising the Board of Supervisors on environmental matters in Fairfax County. It is important to ask Fairfax County Staff for justification for their programs using good, relevant science.

Without this, we are wasting our scarce tax dollars and very possibly doing harm to the environment; *harm that may or may not be fixable*. We must be smart about the use of our scarce County funds. These should be spent on programs that are justified by good, relevant science with scientific evidence from Fairfax County. Programs that are not demonstrating success based on their stated purpose should be eliminated.

I urge EQAC, residents of Fairfax County and other citizens to take an active role in asking tough questions of Fairfax County staff such as....

What scientifically based monitoring and reporting measures have been put in place that demonstrate whether the stated purpose of a given County program is being achieved? What is the impact of the program on other parts of the ecosystem? What monitoring and reporting will be done to ensure that the program is doing more good than harm?

The insecticide spraying program against the Fall Cankerworm, a native insect, is a good example of a program where good science is not being applied, in two ways.

First, there is no scientific evidence that this program is achieving its stated purpose.

The officially stated purpose of this program is: "To minimize tree mortality," as stated on the program's web site.

I have been present in meetings where Fairfax County staff were asked directly to show the scientific evidence that Fall Cankerworm defoliation leads to tree mortality in Fairfax County. None was provided. Instead, County Staff said that they do not monitor nor measure tree mortality. No evidence has been provided that Fall Cankerworm defoliation contributes to the loss of trees in Fairfax County. Staff **ONLY** monitor for the **PRESENCE** of Fall Cankerworm: but they have provided no scientific evidence that Fall Cankerworm defoliation leads to tree mortality.

There is thus no evidence that this program is achieving its objective, or even that it is doing any good in general for Fairfax County's forests and woodlands.

But wait it gets even worse.

The second way that Fairfax County staff fail to apply good science is that they do not monitor the impact of the Fall Cankerworm insecticide spraying program on non-target species in Fairfax County.

We know that the insecticide being used, Btk, is deadly to all Lepidoptera (butterflies and moths) that are in caterpillar stage at the time of spraying.

As a result we know that this insecticide reduces the caterpillar food supply (not just Fall Cankerworm but other caterpillars too) available for migrating and resident birds in sprayed areas during a critical time of their life cycle. For migrating birds in early spring they need this rich food source in order to sustain and complete their northward migration. Resident birds are breeding in early spring and need the caterpillars to feed their young. Many other wildlife depend on lepidopteran food for their survival including bats, reptiles, amphibians and predatory insects.

The Audubon Society of Northern Virginia has recorded as many as 60 species of butterflies and moths that are present in the lower Potomac Area of Fairfax County and are at risk from this spraying program. This includes our state butterfly, the Eastern Tiger Swallowtail, and other native butterflies and moths.

We know that our wildlife is already under stress from many factors. One additional threat to our wildlife is spraying with an insecticide that is known to kill many butterfly and moth species, and reduces the food supply for birds and other wildlife that depend on it. Yet, County Staff are not monitoring the impact of this insecticide spraying on non-target species.

They are simply assuming – without scientific justification – that the impact on non-target species is unimportant.

This is not using good science.

The Fall Cankerworm insecticide spraying program is an example of a County program that is not justified by good, relevant science.

Management interventions in any forested or wooded area, including the urban forest need to be SMART and scientifically based. Insecticide Spraying for a native species that has not been shown to do any harm without a full understanding of good, relevant science, without proper monitoring and measuring in place to inform the program 's objectives, and not monitoring nor measuring the impact on the rest of the ecosystem is simply not SMART.

I urge all of us to ask tough questions of County staff as you review this and other programs that impact our environment to ensure that these programs are justified based on good scientific evidence.

Without this we are wasting our scarce tax dollars and potentially doing more harm than good to our ecosystem.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today.

Introduction

- My name is Renee Grebe, I'm a 12 year resident of the Lee District section of Fairfax County.

Why I'm here

- I'm here tonight to ask EQAC to please oppose spraying of the insecticide Bt in Fairfax Co.
- But I want to do so by offering constructive alternatives, as I too share a common goal of preserving the tree canopy and ecological resources.
- In addition to being a resident
 - I'm a certified Virginia Master Naturalist
 - I've also been the designated Volunteer Site Leader for the past 3 years for Fairfax County's IMA program in Clermont Park, removing invasive plant species

History

- First heard about the Bt spraying issue nearly 2 years ago
 - I attended a presentation by Fairfax County Urban Foresters in Feb. 2013 on this topic. I came to the table knowing very little about this issue, and was interested in learning about the value of spraying.
 - I truly feel as though the Urban Foresters were and are doing what they can with (1) the data they have and (2) the direction given to them by others in the County.
 - I recognize that the job of an Urban Forester is one of making tough choices, and not always with a clear path forward.
 - Unfortunately what I heard at the presentation 2 years ago gave me far more concern than I expected.
 - Based on **my own research** and discussions with **concerned parties on both sides of the issue**, I feel strongly that there are alternatives Fairfax County can pursue which both (1) use County funds effectively and (2) prioritize canopy health.
- For the past 14 years I've worked for a company called APT (which stands for Applied Predictive Technologies).
 - I've learned a great deal about fact-based decision making while working here
 - Our company builds software which allows businesses to implement a Test & Learn methodology to help make better decisions. Think of it like clinical trials for business.
 - Data driven analysis can be applied across a variety of disciplines; medicine, business, and resource management.
 - It is in this same vein that I see great opportunity for Fairfax County to make better fact-based decisions, and to leverage data in the decision to spray for fall cankerworm.
- When I inquired about what data was used to determine that trees were in imminent danger from this native inchworm, the answers
 - Failed to include data-driven evidence,

- Relied on unproved hypotheses,
- and most disturbingly, were no more specific than homeowners found this inchworm to be a nuisance.
- In both presentations and emails, there was a clear one-sided story being told. To a lay-person, these reasons may bring comfort, but unfortunately they don't tell the whole story. There was a lack of information about the broader effects, and unintended consequences, of the spraying.
 - **(1)** An email from Supervisor McKay from Feb. 19th, 2013 stated that "Bt insecticides do not have a broad spectrum of activity, so they do not kill beneficial insects"
 - Does Fairfax County believe that over 200 other kinds of butterflies and moths (both pollinators) aren't beneficial? (Caterpillars listed as present in April via the US Geological Survey's website on Eastern Forest caterpillars)
 - Are the caterpillars not necessary food sources for migrating and local nesting birds alike?
 - These insects being killed are in fact beneficial.
 - "Bt...does not kill wildlife"
 - But it **does** kill wildlife.
 - It also disrupts or severe the food chain by removing **all caterpillars from a forest**, resulting in a 2,200 acre food desert for birds, bats, and other animals. Our urban wildlife, like our urban forests, are battling against environmental stressors and this needs to be part of the equation.
 - **(2)** Which leads me to another reason given for the spraying:
Urban trees are battling many environmental stressors, and minimizing defoliation can help save our tree canopy.
 - This is certainly hard to disagree with on the surface, but digging down deeper, where is the data that points to Bt spraying as the most effective use of County funds?
 - Trees are known to have evolved with the ability to rebound after defoliation. I have witnessed this very situation in our own community park for the past 2 springs as fall cankerworm populations were high. Walks in the woods often meant shaking off a noticeable amount of frass – we could hear the frass "raining" down in the woods. But our trees refoliated and the soils benefited from this frass.
 - Has the County considered a Test & Learn methodology to get hard data about which trees can tolerate defoliation, for how long, and the effects on resident wildlife in those areas? I have asked this question both in person to foresters as well as via email, but have not heard of such an approach.

Wrap up

- I come tonight to urge a step back, and to examine different options in the goal of preservation of ecological resources and our tree canopy.

- If the County has the hypothesis that spraying to be the most effective, then I urge the County to back that hypothesis with data. Invest the money that would go into spraying to instead have the County gain data themselves and through partnerships with Counties battling similar situations to make *better* decisions about spraying in the future.
- I urge the County to treat the issue equitably, by proactively educating the public on the benefits and importance of the inchworm and not just providing information to support of the position to remove what some consider “a nuisance”.
- I urge the County to be clear about the effects of the spraying. Bt affects all caterpillars present at the time of spraying, and does not distinguish between something considered a pest and something considered beautiful (such as our own state insect, the Eastern Tiger Swallowtail butterfly).
- I urge the County to consider *where else* this money may be more useful for the same purpose of preserving tree canopies.
 - Overpopulation of deer is known to delay or prevent succession of forests via their grazing. I urge the County to continue investing in the deer management programs.
 - In May 2014, Fairfax County cut the budget of the IMA program
 - This program supported over 1,800 volunteers who spent over 5,500 hours removing invasive species from Fairfax County parks; species such as English Ivy and Oriental Bittersweet, each of which represents a true and present danger to our canopy and long-term forest health by killing trees and preventing succession. This free work is the equivalent of at least \$40,000, and yet Fairfax County defunded the program.
 - While the program was ultimately re-funded by September of 2014, imagine what further investing in this capacity-building program, instead of spraying, could do for our forests?

Final thought

- *To the man with a hammer, every problem looks like a nail.*
Just because we have Bt, doesn't mean it's the only tool at our disposal to address this issue.
- Every day the County is faced with where to spent money to be the most effective. I hope the information I have provided tonight has brought to light viable alternatives to a spray program currently unable to point to a measurable impact and effectiveness in preserving the County's green space.

**Environmental Quality Advisory
Council
January 21, 2015**

Bill Lynch
I-95 Business Parks Management

Lorton CDD Landfill

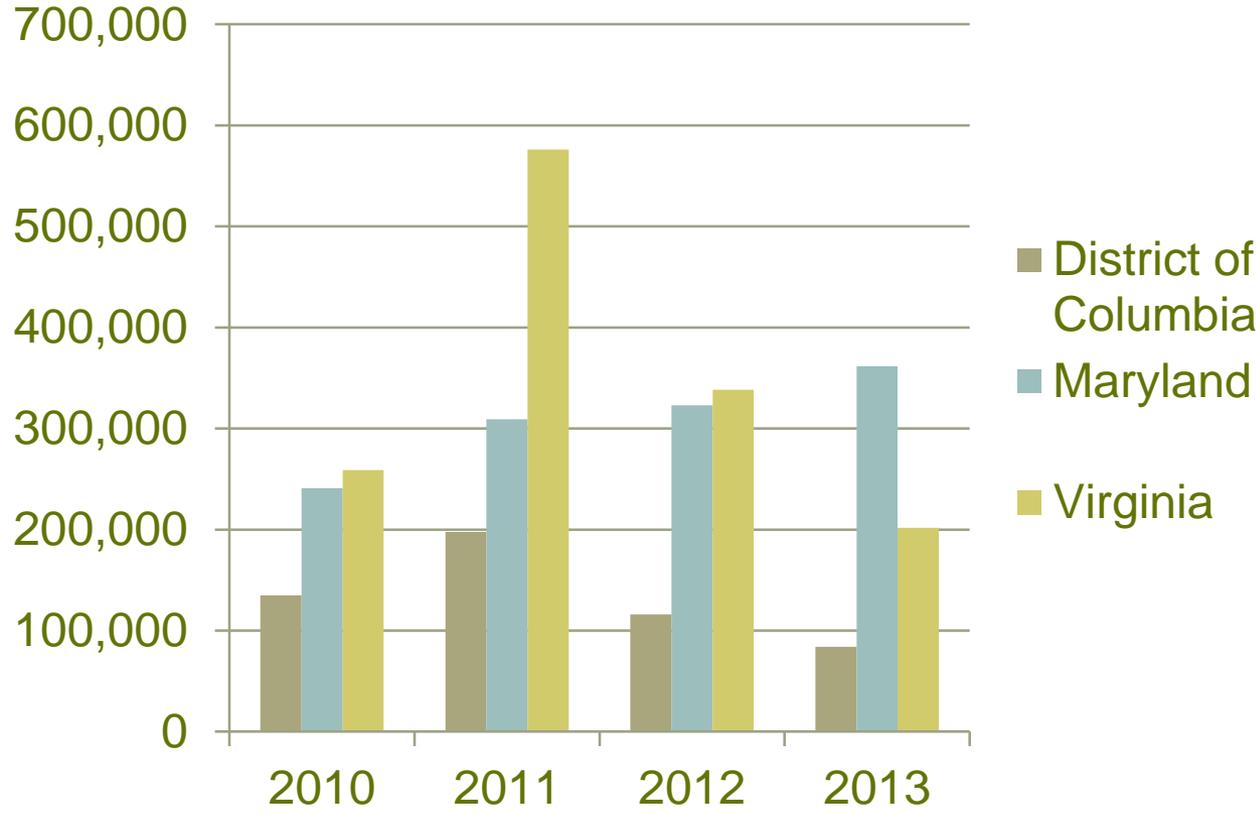
The Lorton CDD Landfill will close in less than four years.



My industry needs the County's proactive leadership to implement a set of incentives to recycle more waste.

Lorton CDD Landfill

Northern Virginia CDD Waste to the Lorton Landfill declined 65% 2011-2013.



*Figures do not include soils used for cover material and petroleum contaminated soils

I-95 Business Parks

Since 2011, I have built over 250,000 s.f. of Flex Tech space without sending any debris to a CDD Landfill. Half of that space was within ½ mile of the Lorton Landfill.

All of our Tenant Improvement CDD waste is recycled too.



It is now easy to recycle >75% using a single stream roll off container.



Our preferred CDD hauler is the only CDD Recycler in the Metro Area to undergo an independent audit by the CDRA, and they achieved a **96%** efficiency level in 2013.

Mechanized CDD Recycling



- No methane or leachate
- Indoor processing controls dust
- Metals recovered down to screws and nails

- Concrete and Masonry crushed for parking lots
- Wood materials become mulch or pellet fuel
- HDPE plastic recycled
- Residual materials accepted as high BTU fuel by Covanta



New Goal

Fairfax needs more CDD recycling capacity.

Here is what our goal should be:

Starting now, we should encourage the construction or conversion of 1-2 more mechanized recycling facilities in the County

This is the most efficient means of recovering recyclable materials and preparing the residue for delivery to the Covanta Biomass Co-Generation plant.

How to Achieve our Goal

1) Convert a portion of the 50/66 Transfer Station to a mechanized CDD recycling facility in a public private partnership or on a long term lease.

2) Like Arlington County - Require the construction/development industry to prepare a plan for CDD recycling as a part of every site plan and building permit with a goal of >50% recycling rates.

a) **This is easy** – Waste handlers already report recycling rates to VA DEQ. **This is the benchmark.**

b) The haulers can prepare a 1-2 page summary of how they plan to handle the waste generated from a construction job as part of their contract based on their reporting to DEQ.

c) Suggest that buildings and new tenant improvement fit-outs that are >5,000 sq. ft. would be the threshold for compliance. For residential, townhouse projects > 5 units would be the threshold. For SF Homes a threshold of 3 units.

How to Achieve our Goal

3) Notify Maryland & DC jurisdictions that the CDD Landfill in Lorton will be closing in 2018 and they will need to start planning for their own CDD recycling now.

Approximately 60% of CDD materials dumped at Lorton come from MD & DC



Testimony before EQAC by Paul Siegel – 1/21/2015

Chairman Koch, Members of EQAC, fellow environmentalists:

My name is Paul Siegel. I reside at 8707 Stockton Parkway, on Little Hunting Creek, and I address you tonight representing the Friends of Little Hunting Creek, an organization of which I am the vice chair.

Tonight I am not a tree guy, nor a bird guy, nor a bug guy. You will have heard testimony from each of those kinds before the night is out. I speak to you tonight as a statistician. I want to raise some questions about how the County's Fall Cankerworm Suppression Program identifies areas to be sprayed with Btk.

The Division's "Fall Cankerworm Suppression Program Fact Sheet"¹ says: "The main factor in determining if a spray program will occur in an area is the number of female moths captured during the monitoring phase of the program. In addition to a potential aerial treatment area having large cankerworm populations, the Forest Pest Program follows the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' (VDACS), **Virginia Cooperative Gypsy Moth Suppression Program Guidelines for Participation**²." in making the determination. VDACS does not participate in the County's Fall Cankerworm Suppression Program, but county staff feel these guidelines are invaluable and applicable for the purpose of cankerworm suppression. The purpose of these guidelines is to provide a way to predict the level of

¹Fairfax County Urban Forestry Division, Dec 4, 2014.

²Accessed at www.VDACS.virginia.gov/Plant&Pest/pdf/Guide05a.pdf.

defoliation of a “spray block” from measurements that can be easily made from the ground. The guidelines describe a sampling structure which allows determination of *areas* with predicted large Gypsy Moth populations.

The *Gypsy Moth* guidelines specify that a block qualifies for treatment if (among other things) the average density of *Gypsy Moth egg masses* equals or exceeds 250 per acre, in an estimate based on at least three sample plots of 1/40th of an acre within the candidate block. The program manager is admonished to base the estimate of egg masses on new, current year, viable egg masses free from parasites and likely to give rise to new caterpillars, reflecting a healthy, building, or static population of Gypsy Moths, an *integrated pest management* technique. Plots are to be selected to be representative of the tree species population of the area, should not have unusually high egg mass counts, and should be evenly distributed throughout the proposed block. Clearly, this requires that blocks are defined before sample plots are chosen.

Adapting the *Gypsy Moth* guidelines to the Fall Cankerworm program involves more than a mere change of bug. In place of counting viable egg masses, the program counts female fall cankerworms trapped in sticky bands. In place of sample plots, we have individual trees, whose method of selection is not specified. There is no effort made to evaluate whether the eggs those females might lay are subject to parasites or other *natural* population controls. This violates the *USDA Cankerworm* protocol of Ghent and Morris³, which advises that while a sticky band

³J.H. Ghent and C.L. Morris, *Sticky Trap Survey to Predict Fall Cankerworm Defoliation*, 1978. (Obtained from the Urban Forest Management Division.)

survey is effective for predicting increasing cankerworm populations, it is less so when populations begin to decline, probably because it fails to consider egg parasitism, which appears to be an important *natural* factor in population decline.

The estimated number of female cankerworms per tree in a block *should* be based on all trees on which counts are made for that block. It appears that the County instead identifies trees on which more than 90 females were counted and then creates spray blocks to include multiple such trees. Troy Shaw told us that areas are not pre-determined. Unless the potential spray areas are determined before the trees are selected and the trees selected are chosen at random within the block, the power of sampling is vitiated, and one has nothing more than a collection of trees with high measurements – no basis for deciding that an entire spray block qualifies for treatment.

To be concrete, Mr Zaragoza lives in a 170-acre area that was sprayed in 2014. You might think that the average number of fall cankerworm females trapped per tree in the winter of 2013-14 was over 90. But the average number of females per tree over all the banded trees in that area is 80. There are three trees in the area sprayed in 2014 on which over 90 females were trapped, and apparently they suffice to qualify the entire area for spraying. I raise this example to ask what is the justification for spraying over 2000 acres of the County's urban forest in 2014? The trapping survey in winter 2013-14 counted 51 trees with 90 or more females, in the entire program area. It must be more economical to spray just the 51 trees. And without an egg mass survey to estimate viability, the County does not know that adequate natural controls are not

present. If the natural control parasites are present, and sprayed⁴, is the County undermining them and creating its own addiction to artificial (spray) control?

If there were no costs of spraying healthy trees – in terms of County budget and effects on non-target bugs and birds – I would have no objection to this program. But the bugs and birds do count, and the taxpayers deserve to know that the funds are well-spent.

⁴The Monongahela-George Washington National Forest study found that Btk spraying resulted in declines in parasitic flies and wasps after their caterpillar hosts were killed by spraying, in the second year of treatment and continuing into the first year after treatment. John Strazanac and Linda Butler, Eds., *Long Term Evaluation of the Effects of Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki, Gypsy Moth Nucleopolyhedrosis Virus Product Gyptek, Entomophaga maimaiga on Nontarget Organisms in Mixed Broadleaf Forests in the Central Appalachians. 2005*. Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team Report. Available at www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/technology/pdfs/BtkNontargetStudy_v7.pdf.

Environmental Quality Advisory Council

January 21, 2015

My name is Eleanor Quigley. I serve as the Mt. Vernon District's representative to the Fairfax County Tree Commission and on several committees of the Mt. Vernon Council of Citizens Association.

Tonight I will focus on the two-thirds of an acre lot that has been our home for 34 years. It was very shady, has a creek along the front property line, a house built in 1952, and lots of English ivy. After hard work and expensive hired help, we got rid of the ivy.

The 2012 derecho took down two large poplars on our neighbor's property. As the 80 ft. poplar crashed to the ground, it ripped off half the branches of a large maple. The big poplar landed 15 ft. from my head. The maple, mortally wounded, had to be removed. Luckily, my husband and I and our house were ok.

The heartwood roots of both poplars were rotted and the heavily leafed trees could not withstand the powerful winds that scary June night. This was probably due to soil compaction when the houses were built.

Loss of three large canopy trees radically changed our yard. We are re-vegetating our little corner of the county with high quality and inexpensive plants from the Soil and Water Conservation District's annual sale. This sale is one of the best deals in town.

Sadly, we are fighting a losing battle with deer that brazenly graze on our plantings of young trees and understory plants. This is dispiriting.

The creek comes in an enormous rush whenever it rains since its waters are piped in the residential community to the north and dumped into the Northeast corner of McCutcheon Park. The creek is relentless in its scouring, adding sediment to the Potomac as it undermines the roots of several large canopy trees in the park and in front of all the houses along our street. Soon these trees will be hazards to cars and neighbors who might go for a walk or bike ride. Removing them will be at the county's expense.

The county is losing its large canopy trees. Deer browse and invasive plants are severely limiting new trees and native plants. I request revitalized efforts to preserve our urban forest from deer, invasive plants, soil compaction, and storm water runoff. Please continue and expand your efforts to preserve and restore our urban forest and encourage the Board of Supervisors to do the same. You have a partner in the Tree Commission and I believe the public whole-heartedly supports endeavors to maintain and enhance our urban forest.

I want to mention my appreciation for EQAC's informative, thorough discussion about fall cankerworm at your November meeting. Last week the Tree Commission unanimously agreed to a resolution retaining the county's limited, targeted fall cankerworm spray program.

Thank you providing opportunity to share these thoughts.



First off, I want to thank the EQAC team for your excellent work as champions of sound, responsible environmental policy. Carry on!

My name is Kris Unger, and I am the Primary Conservator for the Friends of Accotink Creek. Our motto is "Find just one other person who cares" and we partner with volunteers, communities, schools, businesses, and government agencies to protect, restore, and improve the Accotink Watershed.

I'm here today to talk about Watershed Awareness.

A few years back, I went on a hike with a friend, and after about two hours of wandering off-trail through the woods, he turned to me and said, "I have no idea where we are". I hadn't really been paying attention, because I'd assumed that he knew the area. But I had been keeping track of the streams and tributaries that we'd crossed, so it was easy to find our way back by "following the water" - I had a map in my mind of how water flowed through the landscape, and I used that to orient myself.

In my work with Friends of Accotink Creek, I am constantly meeting people who are lost within their own landscape, whose lives are disconnected from the watershed they live in. When we're outside, most of our time is spent on roads, sidewalks, and turf, and few people have the time or feel the need to learn about their watershed. We are living within a human-oriented landscape, and have limited awareness of the impact of our actions and choices on our environment:

- We look at stream valleys as convenient, well-graded sites for paved trails, because that's all that's left to build on.
- We plan and implement large construction projects that damage local streams and watersheds, without being fully aware of the negative impacts.
- We describe lush and thriving forest ecosystems as "undeveloped land".
- We emphasize "revenue-generating" active recreation in our parks while failing to acknowledge the value of ecosystem services.
- And we spend time, energy, and resources to maintain sterile, dysfunctional landscapes. Otherwise known as lawns.



As Friends of Accotink Creek, in our work with local schools, it's always inspiring to see how an hour or two spent in a stream and learning about the local watershed can open children's minds up and give them a new perspective on the world they live in. They're often fascinated by the life that they find in their local streams, and astonished to learn that their school was once a forest, their playground a wetland. Volunteers at our stream cleanups along Accotink Creek are often shocked by the large amounts of trash they find, wondering where it all comes from. Participants in our educational walks and presentations are often surprised to learn about the various ways that human activities have transformed their local stream valley, like erosion, sedimentation, invasives, and disrupted ecosystems.

I feel that one of our core missions is to promote watershed awareness, to reconnect people and communities with the watershed that they live in. Friends of Accotink Creek has been privileged over the years to work with, learn from, and be inspired by many people in Fairfax County who are dedicated to protecting and restoring the environment. Some of them are right here in this room. I'm heartened by all the examples of people, communities, and local government working together to make things better.

I encourage Fairfax County to support and promote watershed-oriented initiatives that engage, inform, and inspire people, schools, business and communities. Friends of Accotink Creek will continue to work with partners and allies to find our way towards more sustainable communities, thriving native ecosystems, and healthy watersheds. We are stronger together!

Kris Unger, Primary Conservator, Friends of Accotink Creek

krisunger@gmail.com / 703-849-1464 / 301-980-5621 cell

Comments of Glenda C. Booth to the Environmental Quality Advisory Council

January 21, 2015

[Note: These comments are my own. Some represent the Audubon Society of Northern Virginia and some the Friends of Dyke Marsh.]

Thank you for your volunteer work, the annual report and your service to the public. I am disappointed that we could not again testify from the South County Center and hope in the future you will choose a more central location and/or remote capability for your hearing, as you did for your last meeting at Hidden Oaks Nature Center.

I appreciate your attention to the Wetlands Board, global climate change, ecological resources, environmental stewardship, recycling, stormwater projects and invasive plants, among other topics.

The Context

In my view, any report on the environment of our rapidly urbanizing county should start with a context that includes these points:

- There is little land left to preserve in Fairfax County. According to the county's statistics, there are 14,278 vacant acres out of 227,130 zoned acres, which is around six percent. Therefore, preserving what little remains becomes more urgent every day. Opportunities are vanishing.
- 67.5 percent of the county's streams are in fair to poor condition.
- The county has not met federal ozone air quality standards for some time.
- We have lost most of our biodiversity to development.
- The Potomac River has again received a grade of C. The river continues to harbor trash, from tires to Styrofoam bits.
- Many county streams are on the Department of Environmental Quality impaired waters list for problems like E. coli, mercury and PCBs.
- The report, *Birds in Northern Virginia*, by the Audubon Society of Northern Virginia documents negative trends in abundance and distribution of many birds, particularly those that depend on quality natural habitat.

- Climate change is here now and having an impact. In part because of warming, storms and other severe weather events will be more frequent and more intense, many scientists predict.

Statistics like those are sending "signals" that our patterns of development and human activities are harming our natural environment.

CLIMATE CHANGE

The Metropolitan Council of Governments (COG), the Governor's Commission on Climate change and others have documented impacts of climate change already occurring in our area. If we continue "business as usual," total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions will grow by 35% by 2030 in the D.C. region, according to COG.

There are costs of inaction, especially in responding to extreme weather events, like flooding.

Recommendations:

Update the County's analysis of the impact of sea level rise along the Potomac River shoreline and its tributaries.

Start resiliency planning now to adapt and let wetlands migrate inland.

Factor climate change impacts into all land use and public facilities decisions.

Create more incentives to discourage driving (e.g., driving children to school) and to increase use of public transit. Stop giving permits for big, impervious parking lots, many of which are never full. Continue our bus system.

Support more smart growth with mass transit, walkable, bikeable communities. EQAC should analyze current county ordinances and policies for change with these goals in mind.

SMART GROWTH/REVITALIZATION

The U.S. 1 corridor is one of the oldest and most neglected in the county. In addition, the area was adversely affected by the unfortunate Pentagon decision in the last BRAC (Base Realignment and Closing) decisions that moved 3,400 more jobs to the post, dumping thousands of polluting vehicles on the roads.

Recommendations. I urge --

- more county attention to U.S. 1 revitalization and EQAC's endorsement of the plan for mass transit to Hybla Valley and express bus to Woodbridge;
- give U.S. 1 the priority attention that the county gave and is giving to Tysons; and
- EQAC's and the county's opposition to any further move of federal facilities or activities to Fort Belvoir.

ECOLOGICAL RESOURCES & PARKS

I applaud your continued support of a county-wide natural resource inventory and your recognition on page 49 that we cannot consider all parkland and open space as valuable natural habitat. Commendably, EQAC recognizes that open space does not guarantee ecological integrity or provide vibrant ecological services.

Since the county has no "environmental protection agency" or public lands agency with an exclusive focus on conservation, the Park Authority is currently apparently the primary, perhaps the only agency, with authority to conserve some lands. Other agencies primarily focus on *land use*, considering permits for how humans use the land and our laws apparently prefer land use over conservation.

Park Authority budgets and staff are grossly misaligned. Here are the budget numbers provided by FCPA staff:

FY15 FCPA Adopted Budget

Out of the total FCPA general fund expenditures of \$22.4 million, \$4.6 million or **20.5%** is spent on natural and cultural resources. (Note: This is both natural and cultural resources combined.)

Out of the revenue fund total for FCPA of \$46.2 million, natural and cultural resources receive \$2.5 million or **5.4%**. These numbers are for both natural and cultural resources.

STAFF

FY15 FCPA Adopted Budget

There are **4 full-time and 2 part-time** natural resources staff out of FCPA's total 472 positions.

These numbers represent long-term patterns and reflect decisions that do not address the poor state of our natural resources or a strong commitment to address conservation and restoration.

Why work harder to conserve and restore natural resources? Natural areas provide free ecological services like filtering pollutants, slowing stormwater runoff and cleaning the air. Trees absorb carbon, thus reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Wetlands act as "sponges" and can absorb floodwaters. These services provided by nature can avoid or reduce the county's costs.

I applaud the county's stormwater management approaches that now try in part in many places to replicate natural processes and retain stormwater runoff on site, in contrast to past practices like burying streams and cementing stream beds.

Recommendations

I again urge EQAC to recommend --

- a better balance of the budget and staff resources in the Park Authority to bring natural resource restoration, preservation and enhancement to a higher priority;
- park planning and acquisition to increase connectivity between natural areas;
- avoid placing communication towers in natural areas;
- conduct biological surveys before developing in parks; and
- support the national parks and refuges and state parks in the county and work for more connectivity to them to create more natural corridors. In many ways, federal public lands managers have managed their properties with stronger conservation approaches than has the county.

As the county reaches buildout and there are few opportunities to conserve land remaining, the imperative to preserve and restore becomes more urgent.

Natural Landscaping

In 2004, at the direction of then-Chairman Gerry Connolly, the Urban Forestry Division and other county agencies identified county properties for implementing natural landscaping approaches on county and public school

properties. Implementing this plan could reducing expensive and polluting mowing of grass, reduce energy use, create more carbon sinks and provide the ecological services cited above.

Recommendations

I urge EQAC to recommend that the county implement the June 22, 2005 plan detailing staff findings and recommendations.

By implementing this plan, the county's own properties could help restore stream health, create habitat and show the county as a good environmental steward.

Tree Cover

I commend the tree action plan and tree canopy goal of 45% by 2037. American Forests recommends that suburban residential zones have at least 50 percent tree cover because tree cover is directly related to environmental quality and a sound "green infrastructure." **Fairfax County's** tree cover was around 75 percent in the 1970s.

A Potomac Conservancy study concluded that there are not enough forests to ensure high water quality and that forest health is declining. A 2007 study, *The State of Chesapeake Forests*, recommended that the watershed have 65 percent tree cover and six percent impervious surfaces near streams for excellent health and 60 percent tree cover and 10 percent pavement for good health.

Development has fragmented forests. "This valuable green network is a necessity, not an amenity, that only functions effectively when developed as a system rather than a series of isolated parts," the Potomac Conservancy study asserts.

Grading and filling harm trees and the soil and water they depend on. Heavy construction equipment compacts the soil and damages root systems which ultimately kills mature trees.

Recommendations:

- strengthen the tree ordinance and canopy goal;
- plant more trees;

- tighten up on tree preservation, both the ordinance and enforcement of the existing ordinance, during construction activities. stop volcano mulching of trees and instruct county contractors to stop.
- stop the broadcast spraying of insecticides for the fall cankerworm, a native and beneficial insect, as the 11-member coalition (See below) has recommended to you in a presentation and in writing. Redirect funds now spent on cankerworm spraying to forest health enhancement.
- base all pest management efforts on science.

Conclusion

"Land use and transportation patterns are causing substantial environmental damage and are a primary cause of virtually every pressing environmental problem in the state, from air and water pollution to the loss of wildlife habitat, open space, endangered species and wetlands," reported the Southern Environmental Law Center.

The county now has over one million people, larger than some states. By 2020, there will be 200,000 new people living in 80,000 new households.

The pressures will not relent. Fairfax County residents, EQAC and the county government must do more than we are currently doing.

Organizations Working to Save Caterpillars, Birds & Butterflies in Fairfax County

Fairfax Federation of Citizen Associations
 Audubon Society of Northern Virginia
 North American Butterfly Society
 American Horticultural Society
 Center for Biological Diversity
 Friends of Huntley Meadows Park
 Friends of Dyke Marsh
 Friends of Mason Neck State Park
 Friends of Meadowood
 Friends of Little Hunting Creek
 Northern Virginia Bird Club

From: Philip Burnam
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 4:42 PM
To: Chairman Email
Subject: Environment Public Hearing

Chairman Bulova:

I just received your Monthly Newsletter today and noted the Environment Quality Advisory Council (EQAC) meeting tomorrow evening (21 Jan 2015). Since I am unable to attend due to a prior commitment, I am outlining my concerns relating to noise pollution and ask that you, or a representative, please bring it up at the hearing.

Problem: Braddock Road noise pollution affecting individuals living in homes located in the King Park Subdivision, Fairfax County, VA.

Discussion: I have lived at my current residence here in Kings Park since November 1971 and my house backs up to Braddock Road. Since the opening of the I-495 Hot Lanes there has been a terrific increase in the volume of traffic and related noise from Braddock Road. It has finally reached the point where it is almost impossible to sit on our small deck in back and carry on a conversation. I suspect that the noise has also reached the point where damage to an individuals hearing is likely occurring. I can relate to that problem because my hearing was damaged from working around aircraft before anyone ever thought of hearing protection. I would very much hate to see the same thing happen to our Kings Park residents and their children, in their own backyard, from a similar noisy situation.

Possible Solution: Design and construct sound walls along Braddock Road to reduce the noise pollution.

Philip Burnam
8628 Thames Street
Springfield, VA 22151

Cy to - Mr. John Cook, 9002 Burke Lake Rd, Burke, VA 22015

From: Larry Cartwright
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 12:06 PM
To: Environmental Quality Advisory Council
Subject: Testimony on Wednesday, Jan 21.

To members of EQAC,

I will not be able to attend tomorrow night's EQAC meeting, but wanted to convey my interest on the Cankerworm suppression program. We have discussed this issue in a previous EQAC meeting. I understand the rationale for the spraying program. Urban trees and the urban environment are under pressure and the excess cankerworm populations add to that stress. Although I understand the rationale, I do not agree with it and feel that the county should place priority on invasive plant removal. I assisted Joan (one of the urban foresters) in banding some trees for cankerworm at and near Huntley Meadows and noticed the large volume of English Ivy growing along the edge of the woodlands. I would like to see an equal effort, if not more, directed toward English Ivy removal than cankerworm suppression. I have volunteered to help remove Japanese Stilt Grass along several paths in the county. It is labor intensive and often hard work, but needs to be accomplished if we indeed are serious about reducing stress on our trees. Cankerworm spraying is meaningless and will delay, not stop, the collapse of what remains of our urban environment unless we move on to the next step of suppressing nonnative invasive plant species.

White-tailed Deer are a native species and would be welcome in a healthy urban environment, except that they are an edge habitat species with no predators and are part of the reason that our urban forests have gone into reverse succession if you will (instead of mature oaks creating a climax forest, we often see a development where a backward succession ends in a forest dominated by beech, etc). I know the county has deer management programs and applaud those efforts. This needs to be continued.

Finally, I am worried about the new craze of developing "community cat colonies," which is nothing more than permitting a feral non-native species to run havoc over the remains of our urban forests and grasslands. Ask the people of the central highlands of Texas what happens when feral hogs enter an area or naturalists in southern Florida what transpires when people release their unwanted pet snakes into the Everglades. What could possibly go wrong? Please resist efforts whenever possible to stop the growth of feral cat colonies in Fairfax County.

In conclusion, I would like to see the county direct its efforts toward those things that cause stress to our urban trees and ecosystem beyond cankerworm spraying.

Larry Cartwright
6722 Fern Lane
Annandale, Va. 22003

From: Joseph Chudzik

Sent: Sunday, January 18, 2015 6:27 PM

To: 'eqac@fairfaxcounty.gov/'

Subject: Derelict Barge in Belmont Bay - Clean Fairfax Council, Inc. Letter to Fairfax County BOS
Chairman Sharon Bulova

Importance: High

The partnership of local communities and environmental organizations concerned with water quality have been joined by Clean Fairfax Council (CFC) in the effort to remove the derelict barge from Belmont Bay.

Clean Fairfax Council, Inc. (CFC) has forwarded the attached letter to Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova supporting the removal of the derelict barge from Belmont Bay. CFC President Jenifer Cole requests the Board of Supervisors to support the partnership of local communities and environmental organizations concerned with water quality to join in the effort with the residents of Mason Neck/Lorton and private businesses towards removing this wrecked barge from the Bay.

Thanks to all for their support for the environment.

Best regards,
Joe Chudzik



Chairman Sharon Bulova
Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

January 16, 2015

RE: Derelict vessel in Belmont Bay

Dear Chairman Bulova:

I am in receipt of the Belmont Bay Derelict Vessel Briefing Packet, dated from 2009. Joe Chudzik, a board member for Clean Fairfax Council, Inc. forwarded it to me, in hopes of renewing the efforts to rid Belmont Bay of this rotting hulk.

I am unclear how it is possible that such a barge of this size can be abandoned without the owner being responsible. Is it possible for the County's legal team to look into this matter of ownership and liability? If Fairfax Yacht Club used a company that used a company that used this barge, it is hard to understand that there's no record of it somewhere.

While I applaud and encourage the efforts of citizen groups to affect change, Fairfax County now needs to be a leader in this effort. All parties agree that it would be a good thing to get it out of the waters in Belmont Bay, but it appears that the actual follow-through has become a bit of a "hot potato" as it gets passed around from organization to agency and back again.

Mr. Chudzik and his resident colleagues have worked hard to put together a group of neighbors, businesses, non-profits, and municipal and government agencies to investigate and document the problem, but now in its 6th year, there still is no plan to dispatch this barge which continues to leach heavy metals into the bay, and threaten waterfront properties and docks whenever there is a serious weather event.

It would be great to be able to announce at SpringFest Fairfax 2015 a plan to remove this barge from Belmont Bay. Thank you very much for your support on this matter.

Very truly yours,

Jennifer Cole, Executive Director
Clean Fairfax Council, Inc.

Cc: Joe Chudzik

12000 Government Center Parkway Suite 458 Fairfax, Virginia 22035
703-324-5471
www.cleanfairfax.org





From: Joseph Chudzik
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2015 2:06 PM
To: Kaplan, Noel
Cc: [several others on cc list]
Subject: Who Will Clean-up Giles Run Creek in Lorton?
Importance: High

Noel;

Thank you for your reply to my e-mail, "Who will Clean-up Giles Run Creek?"

I appreciate your support, as I'm truly at a loss of how we can bring this issue to the attention of our local government and elected officials. I'm sure you have a better idea than I, of what can and should be done to mitigate this environmental disaster at Giles Run Creek in Lorton.

The Friends of Meadowood Recreation Area adopted the section of Giles Run Creek on Mason Neck under the Virginia Department of Recreation and Conservation (DCR) guidelines and perform scheduled litter clean-ups in support of the Annual Potomac River Watershed Clean-up sponsored by the Alice Ferguson Foundation. This section of Giles Run Creek is just downstream from the AAAACO Auto junkyard. Each clean-up, our volunteers struggle to collect and remove dozens of heavy tires carried downstream by storm water run-off. It is a real challenge to drag these tires out of the creek and wetland areas to the nearest roadside for proper disposal at the County Waste Management Facility in Lorton. I'm unsure how much longer our volunteers can cope with this extremely discouraging situation.

We now know where the tires originate. When will Fairfax County take effective action against the responsible party to mitigate this outrage?

What can you suggest?

Best regards,
Joe Chudzik

From: Kaplan, Noel [<mailto:Noel.Kaplan@fairfaxcounty.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2015 12:40 PM
To: 'Joseph Chudzik'
Subject: RE: Who Will Clean-up Giles Run Creek in Lorton?

Joe: Did you want me to forward this to all EQAC members? Was this intended as public hearing testimony?

Thanks,

Noel Kaplan

Senior Environmental Planner
Fairfax County Department of Planning and Zoning
703-324-1369

From: Joseph Chudzik
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2015 12:07 PM
To: Mt. Vernon BOS Email; Chairman Email
Cc: Kaplan, Noel; [several others on cc list]
Subject: Who Will Clean-up Giles Run Creek in Lorton?
Importance: High

Complaints regarding the massive tire and debris dump at Giles Run Creek in Lorton were forwarded to Fairfax County (FIDO Administrator) and the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) during November 2014.

DEQ and Fairfax County Office of the Fire Marshall conducted an inspection of Giles Run Creek and adjacent property at 10212 Richmond Highway (AAAACo. Used Auto Parts). The initial inspection on November 17th. indicated "multiple locations of piled tires and tires lying about the area containing an estimated 2000 scrap tires". Also observed, "a vehicle body and other remnant debris (plastics/metals) in the area of the tires".

A partial effort by the property owner resulted in the removal of tires that had been stored on the junkyard property and the tires stacked along the property fence line.

No attempt has been made to remove the tires, automobile bodies, chassis, engines, axles, other motor vehicle debris and trash from Giles Run Creek, a Resource Protected Area (RPA). This debris is scattered for more than one-quarter of a mile, in the stream, and along both sides of the flood plain of Giles Run Creek between Richmond Highway and the Richmond Fredericksburg Potomac Railroad line. Much of this debris is partially buried in silt or submerged in the creek. Images of some of the remaining tires and debris in Giles Run Creek are attached. Someone has recently posted "No Trespassing " and "Beware of Dog" signage along the Creek.

The community complaints against this site (#111961 Zoning) and (112004 and Resource Protected Area) were both closed by "Administrative Action" on December 1st. by the FIDO Administrator.

Who will clean-up Giles Run Creek? Your comments and suggestions are sincerely appreciated.

Best regards,
Joe Chudzik





Northern Regional Office
13901 Crown Court
Woodbridge, VA 22193

To: IR# File 2015-N-1165

From: Mark Miller, Pollution Response Program

RE: Brandywine Automotive, Giles Run Tire/Debris Pile, 10212 Richmond Highway, Fairfax County

CC: Water Permits/Compliance, Land Protection

Date: 17 November 2014

I visited Brandywine Automotive (Brandywine) at 10212 Richmond Highway, Lorton, Fairfax County, on 13 November 2014. Brandywine is an automotive salvage yard that sells used auto parts and sells vehicles for salvage.

Upon arrival, I spoke with w/ Chris Sinclair-Manager (703.550.9440). Details of the complaint were provided to Mr. Sinclair. The complaint included the observation of tires and other debris along Giles Run and next to the Brandywine auto salvage operations area. Mr. Sinclair stated the location has an industrial stormwater permit issued by VDEQ (VAR051006). The location of the observed debris and the salvage operations area was separated by a wood stockade fence.

We walked the property boundary adjacent to Giles Run. I observed multiple locations of piled tires and tires laying about the area (see attached photographs). I estimated the area contained approximately 2000 plus tires. The observed piles appear to have been in place for many years. I also observed a vehicle body and other remnant debris (plastics/metals) in the area of the tires. Mr. Sinclair was unsure if Brandywine owned the property area where the tires were located. Based on the Fairfax County GIS, the tires appear to be on Brandywine property. Brandywine has a regular tire pickup. I observed two storage areas on Brandywine where tires are stored as part of the salvage operations. I asked Mr. Sinclair if the tire disposal company Brandywine used

could recover the tires in question. Mr. Sinclair was not sure, but would inquire the next time the company visited to collect tires.

Before departing the site, I informed Mr. Sinclair that Brandywine would likely receive additional communications from DEQ relative to the tire/debris material.

Attachment: Photographs

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Community Complaint Inquiry

Community Complaint Inquiry

(10212 RICHMOND HY, LORTON)

Complaint Number	Description	Status	Opened	Closed	Disposition
40566	Resource Protected Area	Closed	09/24/2008	06/22/2009	Compliance
40802	Junk Yard	Closed	09/29/2008	12/08/2008	Unfounded (No Problem Found)
111961	Zoning	Closed	11/26/2014	12/01/2014	Administrative Action
112004	Resource Protected Area	Closed	12/01/2014	12/01/2014	Administrative Action

Contact Fairfax County: [Phone, Email or Twitter](#) | Main Address: [12000 Government Center Parkway](#), Fairfax, VA 22035
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From: Alta Tozzi
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 12:52 PM
To: Kaplan, Noel
Subject: Deer Culling at Frying Pan Park

Dear Ms. Kaplan,

I am submitting my concerns to you in writing because I am out of town and can not attend tonight's EQAC meeting soliciting public comments.

As a resident of Fairfax County, I live on the border of Frying Pan Park. I am concerned about our local Hunter Mill District's recent culling of the deer in Frying Pan Park for the following reasons:

- 1) Obviously, in a park as small as Frying Pan that is bordered by residential homes, there is a safety concern, not only for residents who border the area where bullets are used but also for the many pedestrians who use the park.
- 2) In terms of deer "management," Frying Pan, because of its small size, offers an excellent experimental area for birth control similar to the program initiated by Fairfax City in the past year.
- 3) The deer population in Frying Pan has actually decreased over the past couple of years. True, this statement is based on sightings, but that is the methodology the County has used to justify the culling. Residents who use the park and see the deer from their windows are more accurate in their estimates than County officials who, despite numerous requests from the group of citizens who have been communicating with these officials for over a year, have consistently failed to provide accurate statistics or a scientific study of deer population to the public.
- 4) The County's present bait and slaughter method is not a "management" program but one of exploitation and obviously inhumane. The deer in this relatively small area of woodland are semi-tame because they exist in such close proximity to people (again, I emphasize an area that provides a perfect place to start experimenting with birth control methods).
- 5) We citizens who border the park and truly appreciate the value of the park and its wildlife inhabitants are dismayed, disillusioned, and betrayed by the local County officials with whom we have been communicating for over a year. We had been led to believe that they were listening to our concerns, but their action this month in the park clearly shows that they want no dialogue nor do they feel that they have a responsibility to support their actions. They have an agenda; they have the power; they do not serve the citizens.

Thank you for your attention to my concerns. I truly hope that your Council is more sincere in listening to public opinion than our elected officials in Hunter Mill and that you are sincerely motivated to explore managing wildlife rather than slaughtering.

Sincerely,
Alta Harrington-Tozzi

e-mail from Chip Lubseny to Noel Kaplan, January 21, 2015, 1:53 PM
Subject: Deer Killings in Fairfax County

To: Environmental Quality Advisory Council

Deer Killing at Frying Pan Farm Park

On January 8, while walking our dog through Frying Pan Farm Park (FPFP), we came upon 9 pools of blood in the freshly fallen snow. Photos are available upon request. The previous night, deer had been baited and slaughtered by sharpshooters as part of the county's "deer management" program. In late December, 48 citizens who live in the immediate vicinity of the park submitted a petition to Supervisor Hudgins requesting that she prevent the bloodshed at FPFP - the petition is attached. In spite of this input, the county has proceeded to slaughter more than 20 deer over 2 or more "operations". Numerous citizen emails to county officials requesting more information have received no response.

Here are the main reasons this slaughter is misguided:

- 1) The science behind this decision is flawed and incomplete. The most accurate (and expensive) counting method yielded a paltry number of deer in the park. This count of 4, though lower than we all know to be accurate, does support the observations of daily park users who uniformly say there are fewer deer in the park this year than in previous years. There has been substantial habitat disruption because of construction along the Centreville Road corridor - the most likely reason for the spike in the population we all witnessed last year. When pressed during the December 17 meeting at FPP for more data to support adding FPP to the "culling" list, wildlife biologist Kristen Sinclair stated that the county did not have the resources allocated to do an optimal evaluation. Where is the data about deer/auto collisions adjacent to FPP? Where is the data about Lyme disease cases in the county at large and adjacent to FPP specifically? Isn't the notion that deer spread Lyme disease controversial at best?
- 2) Impact to the mission of the park - We are told that FPP manager Yvonne Johnson is concerned, as she should be, about the future of FPP and it's ability to fulfill it's mission to county residents. While this concern is appreciated, at the meeting on Dec 17, we did not hear a single example of how the park's mission is in immediate jeopardy due to the deer population. I would argue that the deer in the park currently enhance the natural beauty that FPP offers county residents - those taking wagon rides around FPP, especially the children, would be thrilled at a deer sighting.
- 3) The 15 year old deer management plan is, admittedly by the county, out of date and in need of and audit and refresh. It was refreshing to hear Dr. Edwards, at the Dec 17th meeting, discuss an upcoming full audit of the plan to evaluate all aspects of its effectiveness. The unassailable logic here would dictate that, especially when there is a large group of citizens who are opposed to slaughter at FPP, this audit process be conducted PRIOR to any decision about adding parks to the hunt list.
- 4) It is illegal to bait and hunt deer at night throughout the state of Virginia based on the practice of "fair chase" hunting. The bait and slaughter activity at FPFP and at other parks in the county represents an ethical breach.

5) Most importantly - this decision has been made without a full vetting within the affected community, as called for by the county deer management plan. Frankly it is a bit insulting to be invited to a a meeting to be simply told - "this is how it is" - when it comes to a controversial issue that impacts quality of life for those of us who live adjacent to the park.

Concluding Thoughts: The world is currently imperiled by the certain future ravages of human caused climate change. For more than a century, humans have unknowingly, and more recently knowingly, disregarded the need to live in harmony with the natural world while excessively extracting and burning fossil fuels. Slaughtering semi-tame deer in county parks is a related example of our hubris. Look no further than Fairfax City for an example of how deer management can be accomplished humanely. I implore the council to use its influence to challenge and alter the current Fairfax County "deer management(slaughter)" practices. We need a program that is humane, fact based and ethical. Citizen views have not been respected.

Respectfully -
Chip Lubsen
Stable Brook Way, Adjacent to FFPF
Oak Hill, VA

Petition To stop Planned Deer Cull at Frying Pan Park

The undersigned neighbors are petitioning to stop the planned deer cull at Frying Pan Park this year for the following reasons:

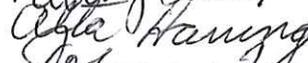
1. There is no substantiated proof that culling deer will have a perceivable impact on car-deer collisions or Lyme disease. Scientific studies have shown that a 90% eradication of deer is necessary to have any perceivable difference in Lyme disease.
2. There is no baseline audit showing how many deer are in the park, so any culling is literally shooting in the dark; there is no defined goal and the only expected outcome is a body count.
3. In the grand scheme of deer management in Fairfax County Parks, Frying Pan Park is only 100 acres of parkland surrounded by dense urban area, with an ever decreasing habitat for deer. The undersigned believe that deer are part of the natural habitat at the Park. Shooting deer has never occurred at Frying Pan Park in 25 years and the undersigned believe that there is not enough compelling evidence to initiate this now.

We believe that the number of deer over the past two years has been the result of the removal of habitat during the initial construction on Centreville and McLearn Road. Since spring of this year, the number of observable deer has greatly diminished over previous years. In fact, a FLIR count (with an accuracy measure of 90% for a deer population) supports this position with only 4 deer being counted in the park. To start a hunt with this level of deer population is irresponsible.

The meeting, while appreciated, should have occurred before any decisions were made. The neighbors below highly value the wildlife in our area, and are disturbed that this meeting was held at the last minute (and decisions already made) and during the holiday season. We would like to gain agreement to cease any further planned culls on the deer population until we understand the goals and clear reasons to engage in this contentious activity.

We appreciate that the Fairfax County Government is trying to do their job and applaud the changes during the past year to greatly improve the culling practices. We believe that engagement with neighbors prior to decisions is an important part of any successful plan as outlined in the 1998 Deer Management Plan and we welcome the opportunity to become involved.

Sincerely,

Name	Address	Signature
1. Gwyn Whittaker	13104 Weathered Oak Court	
2. Keith Black	13104 Weathered Oak Court	
3. Laurie Lubsen	13215 Stable Brook Way	
4. Chip Lubsen	13215 Stable Brook Way	
5. Kelly Lubsen	13215 Stable Brook Way	
6. Alta Harrington-Tozzi	12311 Stable Brook Way	
7. John Tozzi	12311 Stable Brook Way	

Petition To stop Planned Deer Cull at Frying Pan Park

8. Tracy Gilbert 2483 Iron Forge
9. Tracy Casleby 2508 Silver Spar et
10. Anita Herkka 2472 Iron forge Rd Herndon VA
11. Brent Curtis 13224 ²⁰¹⁷¹ Stable Brook Way
Herndon 20171
12. DIANE McManus 13128 Curved Iron Rd
Herndon, VA 20171
13. Patti Howell 13101 weather Vane Way
Herndon VA 20171
14. Leslie Coburn 13105 Curved Iron Rd
Herndon, VA 20171
15. Stephen DeFrank 2465 Iron Forge Road, OAK HILL, VA 20171
16. Cynthia A. Dedrick 2465 Iron Forge Rd, Oak Hill, VA 20171
17. Todd D. Jackson 2509 Halterbreak Ct. Herndon, VA 20171
18. Kim Jackson 2509 Halterbreak Ct Herndon, VA 20171
19. Robert Keel 2504 Iron Forge Rd, Herndon VA 20171
20. Zafar Syed. 2602 IRON FORGE RD, OAK HILL, VA 20171
21. Azra Syed 2602 IRON FORGE RD, OAK HILL VA 20171
22. Laura P. Verdun 2600 Iron Forge Rd. OAK HILL VA 20171
23. Susan H. Verdun 2604 IRON FORGE RD OAK HILL, VA 20171

Petition To stop Planned Deer Cull at Frying Pan Park

8. Stacy Gmelch 2483 Iron Forge
 9. Tracy Gmelch 2528 Silver Spar Ct
 10. Anita Nerkar 2472 Iron Forge Rd Herndon VA
 11. Bruce Cuss 13224 Stable Brook Way Herndon 20111
 12. DIANE McManus 13128 Curved Iron Rd Herndon, VA 20171

24. Katherine McManus 13128 Curved Iron Rd. Herndon, VA 20171
 25. Mike McManus 13128 CURVED IRON ROAD Herndon, VA 20171
 26. Dale Howell 13101 WEATHER VANE WAY HERNDON, VA 20171
 27. Royan Kanitkar 13228 Stable Brook Way Herndon, VA 20171
 28. Nishant Kanitkar
 29. Sonali Kanitkar 13228 Stable Brook way Herndon, VA 20171
 30. Jyoti Kanitkar
 31. Prashant Nerkar 2472 Iron Forge Rd, Herndon VA 20171
 32. John h. Stevens JmK Stevens 13505 Copper Ridge Dr. Herndon VA 20171
 33. Kathy Fraek 13105 Meadow Hall Ct Herndon 20171
 34. Vivek Iyer 13205 Stable Brook way, Herndon VA 20171
 35. Kousi Iyer
 36. Manika Vivek
 37. Sahay Vivek
 38. Reshmi Phandekar
 39. Sajatha Doraswami 2467 Iron Forge Road Herndon VA. D. Sajatha

Petition To stop Planned Deer Cull at Frying Pan Park

- 40 Namaehivagam Thirumanghusan' 2467 Iron Forge Rd, Herndon, VA 20171 - Sh
- 41 Morrison B. Mast 13217 Stable Brook Way, Herndon, VA 20171
- 42 Terrill Mast " 13217 Stable Brook Way, Herndon, VA 20171 "
- 43 Rod Mast " " " "
- 44 Mary M. Richardson 2505 Silver Spur Ct, Herndon, VA 20171
- 45 Angela Mast 13217 stable Brook Way Herndon VA 20171.
- 46 Thomas L. Richardson 2505 silver spur Herndon VA 20171
- 47 Andrew Richardson 2505 silver Spur Ct. Herndon VA 20171
- 48 Julie Richardson 2505 Silver Spur Ct. Herndon, VA 20171

e-mail from Steve Osofsky to Noel Kaplan, January 13, 2015, 9:31 AM
Subject: For EQAC consideration

Dear EQAC Representative,

Unfortunately, I will not be able to make the upcoming public EQAC meeting. I would, nonetheless, like to bring up an issue for your consideration and (hopefully) action.

As a resident of Oakton for almost 20 years now, I've noticed a growing roadside litter problem. It's clear that tossing litter out of car windows is a rather common behavior. VDOT seems to devote very little time to this issue on the roads near us, likely due to resource constraints (as they have conveyed to me).

My two ideas to try to address this are:

(1) A public service announcement campaign (ideally bilingual- via TV, radio, newspapers, schools, scouting groups?) in Fairfax- some EQAC staff may remember the incredibly powerful crying American Indian campaign of the 1970s, which is believed to have lowered littering rates along interstate highways, etc. It seems like there is at least a generation now that has not been proactively confronted with the idea that littering is actually not an acceptable behavior (nevermind that it is theoretically a fine-able offense.)

(2) Could VDOT start to add roadside litter collection to contracts, say, when they are hiring companies to trim trees or pave, etc.? Could VDOT's own crews do this when they are doing other maintenance that involves crews moving along a road? Surely it could be cost-effective to add this dimension to other roadside work- as opposed to paying for crews to go out solely to focus on trash (which VDOT told me tends to exceed available budgets)? I spend several days each month of my own time walking Waples Mill and other nearby roads to pick-up trash to try to restore some sense of environmental stewardship to our part of Fairfax, but I'll be the first to admit that, as one private citizen, I cannot possibly keep up. Within days of cleaning-up parts of Waples Mill Road, it quickly fills up again with cans, bottles, cigarette packages, fast food containers, etc. In addition, much of Waples Mill is simply inaccessible to pedestrians due to the lack of a significant shoulder. Yet there are routinely crews on these roads- paving, mowing, painting, trimming trees: perhaps with a relatively small additional expenditure, these road crews could also help reduce the litter that they currently must simply be stepping over or tripping on?

While I use Waples Mill Road as a local example, this is clearly a county-wide problem that is getting worse, not better.

Thank you for any thoughts that can be given to this matter,

Steven Osofsky Oakton, VA
