



# 2015

## Annual Report on the Environment



**Environmental Quality Advisory Council  
Detailed Report, November 2015  
A Fairfax County, Virginia Publication**

To request this information in an alternate format, call the Department of Planning and Zoning: (703) 324-1380 TTY 711



The cover depicts Scotts Run  
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Katrina White, Student  
Member, Environmental  
Quality Advisory Council.

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ANNUAL REPORT  
on the  
**ENVIRONMENT**

2015



**DETAILED REPORT**

Fairfax County, Virginia

**Environmental Quality Advisory Council**  
November 2015

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## **Introduction**

This year's Annual Report on the Environment has been prepared by the Environmental Quality Advisory Council. Staff support for the coordination and printing of the report has been provided by the Planning Division of the Department of Planning and Zoning.

The Annual Report on the Environment, which is an update on the state of the county's environment, serves a threefold purpose. First, it is intended to assist the Board of Supervisors in evaluating ongoing environmental programs and to provide the basis for proposing new programs. Second, the document aids public agencies in coordinating programs to jointly address environmental issues. Third, the report is intended to inform residents and others who are concerned with environmental issues.

This year's report in two formats: (1) a detailed report; and (2) a summary report providing highlights of recent activities, key issues and comments and recommendations associated with each of the major topical areas covered in the larger report. Both report formats are provided electronically, but only the summary document is being made available in hard copy.

The report includes chapters on major environmental topics including: climate change and energy; land use and transportation; air quality; water resources; solid waste; hazardous materials; ecological resources; wildlife management; and noise, light, and visual pollution. Also included are: EQAC's "Scorecard" of progress made on previous recommendations; a summary of EQAC activities since the last report was published; contacts for reporting potential environmental crimes/violations; an overview of stewardship/volunteer opportunities; and a "spotlight" on three environmental initiatives of Fairfax County Public Schools--High performance and sustainable schools; Get2Green Environmental Education and Action; and collaboration between FCPS and the county's Stormwater Planning Division on stormwater management plans for school properties. EQAC commends FCPS for working towards improved environmental performance in these areas. In addition, the detailed report includes appendices addressing: state legislation relating to the environment; resolutions and positions taken by EQAC over the past year; the county's Environmental Excellence Awards; the county's Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) and EIP project selection process; and acronyms and abbreviations used in this report.

Within each chapter of the detailed report are: a discussion of environmental issues; a summary of relevant data; and a discussion of applicable government programs. Most of the chapters include information regarding stewardship opportunities and conclude with recommendations that identify additional actions that EQAC feels are necessary to address environmental issues. References are generally presented only in the detailed report format. Recommendations are again presented in two formats: items addressing ongoing considerations and continued support for existing programs are noted as "comments." Comments may also provide information to support items in the "recommendations" section. Items addressing new considerations, significant refinements of previous recommendations or issues that EQAC otherwise wishes to stress are presented as "recommendations." EQAC requests that county staff provide its perspectives on items presented as "recommendations."

This report covers activities affecting the environment in 2014; however, in some cases, key activities from 2015 are also included.

While the Environmental Quality Advisory Council has prepared and is responsible for this report, contributions were made by numerous organizations and individuals. Many of the summaries provided within this report were taken verbatim from materials provided by these sources. EQAC therefore extends its appreciation to the following:

Alice Ferguson Foundation  
Audubon Naturalist Society  
Clean Air Partners  
Clean Fairfax  
Coalition for Smarter Growth  
Fairfax County Deer Management Committee  
Fairfax County Department of Administration for Human Services  
Fairfax County Department of Cable and Consumer Services  
Fairfax County Department of Code Compliance  
Fairfax County Department of Information Technology  
Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services  
Fairfax County Department of Planning and Zoning  
Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services  
Fairfax County Department of Transportation  
Fairfax County Department of Vehicle Services  
Fairfax County Executive's Office  
Fairfax County Environmental Coordinator  
Fairfax County Facilities Management Department  
Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department  
Fairfax County Health Department  
Fairfax County Office of Community Revitalization  
Fairfax County Park Authority  
Fairfax County Police Department, Division of Animal Services  
Fairfax County Public Schools  
Fairfax County Restoration Project  
Fairfax County Wetlands Board  
Fairfax County Wildlife Management Specialist  
Fairfax Joint Local Emergency Planning Committee  
Fairfax Master Naturalists  
Fairfax ReLeaf  
Fairfax Water  
Federal Aviation Administration  
Illuminating Engineering Society of North America  
International Dark-Sky Association  
Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin  
Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority  
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments  
National Park Service  
Northern Virginia Conservation Trust  
Northern Virginia Regional Commission  
Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District  
NOVA Parks (Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority)  
Occoquan Watershed Monitoring Laboratory  
Potomac Conservancy  
Reston Association  
United States Fish and Wildlife Service  
United States Geological Survey  
United States National Museum of Natural History  
Upper Occoquan Service Authority  
Virginia Cooperative Extension, Fairfax County

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
Virginia Department of Forestry  
Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries  
Virginia Department of Transportation  
Virginia Division of Legislative Services  
Virginia Outdoor Lighting Taskforce  
Virginia Outdoors Foundation

Finally, EQAC wishes to acknowledge the efforts of the county's interagency Environmental Coordinating Committee, which coordinated the staff responses to the recommendations within EQAC's 2014 *Annual Report on the Environment*, as well as the ongoing efforts of the interagency Energy Efficiency and Conservation Coordinating Committee.





# County of Fairfax, Virginia

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To protect and enrich the quality of life for the people, neighborhoods and diverse communities of Fairfax County

Board of Supervisors  
County of Fairfax  
12000 Government Center Parkway  
Fairfax, VA 22035

November 17, 2015

The Environmental Quality Advisory Council (EQAC) is pleased to present the 2015 Annual Report on the Environment. In this report, we discuss various environmental issues in Fairfax County and make recommendations as to what actions the county should take to resolve identified problems. This report covers 2014, but also includes significant actions from 2015 that could impact EQAC's comments and recommendations.

We realize that the report does not cover all ongoing actions; if we tried to accomplish this, the report would never be finished. The report consists of nine chapters – each chapter addressing a different aspect of the environment. The chapters are arranged to reflect the order of topics listed in the Board of Supervisors' Environmental Agenda.

We have:

- Created two versions of the report; one a printed summary version, and two, an electronic complete version with supporting information included, available both on-line and in the CD attached to this report.
- Highlighted environmental stewardship opportunities within the report chapters and have retained a summary of these opportunities.
- Included within the detailed report an appendix on the Environmental Improvement Program funding, explaining the program, what the funds are used for and what the selection process is for the funds.
- Included a section within both versions of the report summarizing EQAC's activities over the past year.

EQAC thanks the board for its continued strong support of environmental programs. We understand that budget constraints still continue to impact all programs within the county.

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EQAC's priority recommendations this year focus on two areas:

**The first** is the need for continuing long-term financial support to sustain environmental programs that will only be effective and lasting if funded through multiple years. This includes:

- **Increase in the Stormwater Service District rate by one-quarter penny** that would again result in more funding for modest watershed improvement programs and a somewhat more realistic infrastructure replacement timeline.
- **Continued funding of Environmental Improvement Program projects**, most of which will be cost effective and result in significant cost reduction.
- **Funding for an approved Ecologist position in the Fairfax County Park Authority.**
- **Funding for the Assistant Wildlife Management Specialist position.**

**The second** recommendation asks that the county develop policies that address development and redevelopment within areas that are vulnerable to sea level rise.

As we do each year, EQAC would like to commend the outstanding efforts of the following groups whose actions improve and safeguard the environment in Fairfax County:

- The Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District continues its work to provide excellent education programs, to consult with the county on innovative stream restoration work, to have a large and successful stream monitoring program and to be available to residents and developers alike for site work consultation.
- The Northern Virginia Conservation Trust continues to obtain easements on privately owned environmentally sensitive land.
- Fairfax ReLeaf continues to promote tree preservation and tree replacement programs.
- The Park Authority Natural Resources staff continues to provide exemplary service due to a small group of dedicated individuals, working with a very small budget, who are slowly enhancing environmental efforts in the county's parks.

The members of EQAC thank all these groups, and all others who work to preserve and enhance the environment of the county.

Once again, EQAC would like to thank and commend the county staff for its continued outstanding work. We thank staff especially for providing the data for this report and for a continued willingness to meet with EQAC to discuss various issues. We commend the county's Environmental Coordinating Committee (ECC), which is chaired by Deputy County Executive David Molchany, for its continued efforts at managing environmental action within the county. We appreciate ECC's willingness to meet with EQAC twice each year and to discuss issues of environmental significance.

Board of Supervisors  
Continued

As I do every year it gives me great pleasure as the representative of EQAC to thank and acknowledge the work of two individuals. Every year we do this and every year the members of council continue to be impressed with the work and input of these two people.

First, we need to truly thank Noel Kaplan of the Environment and Development Review Branch, Department of Planning and Zoning. Noel provides county staff support to EQAC. Noel sets up and tapes every EQAC meeting, follows up on actions generated from the meetings and coordinates the inputs and publication of the Annual Report. Although the members of EQAC write the Annual Report, it is Noel who makes publication of the document possible. Again EQAC cannot thank him enough for his hard work and long hours in our support.

Second, we thank Kambiz Agazi, Environmental Coordinator, Office of the County Executive, who also attends all of our meetings and provides helpful advice and suggestions. His insight and his overview of county environmental activities are invaluable to our work. EQAC thanks him for his assistance and valuable contributions.

Finally, as I did last year, I would like to personally recognize my fellow EQAC members. They represent a diversity of views that allows for knowledgeable discussions and results in thoughtful recommendations. They spend extensive time investigating issues, write excellent resolutions and produce comprehensive chapters on subjects they have carefully researched. They are to be commended for their efforts.

EQAC asks that you continue to support the environmental programs you have established. These programs are important if we are to maintain the high quality of life we have in Fairfax County and the high standards we have set for ourselves. We note that for Fairfax County residents, quality of life is not just about good schools and jobs but also about having a clean and healthy environment in which to live and recreate.

The members of EQAC thank the Board of Supervisors for its leadership and look forward to continue working with you to achieve the goals of the Environmental Agenda and protecting and enhancing Fairfax County's quality of life in the coming years.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stella M. Koch".

Stella M. Koch, Chairman

# SUMMARY OF EQAC ACTIVITIES NOVEMBER 2014 THROUGH OCTOBER 2015

Between November 1, 2014 and October 31, 2015, EQAC held 12 meetings, including one public hearing and two joint meetings with the Fairfax County Environmental Coordinating Committee. During this period, EQAC issued five resolutions and positions, with one clarification (see Appendix B of the detailed version of this report). On November 18, 2014, EQAC presented its 2014 Annual Report on the Environment to the Board of Supervisors. On October 6, 2015, EQAC presented the 2015 Environmental Excellence Awards (see Appendix C of the detailed version of this report).

## **Key agenda items from EQAC's meetings were as follows:**

### November 12, 2014

- The FY 2016 Fairfax County budget process.
- Perspectives on PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy).
- Grant funding through Virginia's Stormwater Local Assistance Fund (SLAF).
- Consideration of correspondence to the Board of Supervisors regarding transportation.
- 2014 Annual Report on the Environment.

### December 10, 2014

- Discussion of spraying to control the fall cankerworm.
- Environmental Improvement Program project proposals.

### January 21, 2015

- Election of officers for 2015.
- EQAC's annual public hearing.
- Consideration of correspondence to the Board of Supervisors regarding control of the fall cankerworm.
- The MITRE building energy technology report.

### February 11, 2015

- County water quality monitoring programs.
- Stormwater education efforts in the public schools.
- Status of the county's MS4 permit.
- Review of issues identified at the January 21 public hearing.

March 11, 2015

- Joint meeting with Fairfax County’s Environmental Coordinating Committee.
  - The FY 2016 Advertised Budget Plan.
  - The Deer Management Program audit.
  - County activities supporting pollinators.
  - Climate change/energy efforts in the community.
- Energy dashboards.
- Freshwater mussels and the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality’s proposed ammonia criteria.
- Concerns identified in response to EQAC’s January 22, 2015 memorandum to the Board of Supervisors regarding fall cankerworm control.
- Review of issues identified at the January 21 public hearing.
- The annual report preparation process.

April 8, 2015

- Climate change/energy efforts in the community: emissions reductions in the utility sector.
- Climate change/energy efforts in the community: regional efforts and county support.
- 2015 Annual Report on the Environment.
- 2015 Environmental Excellence Awards.

May 13, 2015

- Tour of the Norman M. Cole, Jr. Pollution Control Plant.
- The Gunston Cove Study.
- EQAC notifications of certain development proposals.
- 2015 Annual Report on the Environment.
- 2015 Environmental Excellence Awards.

June 10, 2015

- Joint meeting with Fairfax County’s Environmental Coordinating Committee.
  - Fairfax Forward.
  - Proposed revision to the Noise Ordinance.
  - Overview of the county’s Wastewater Management Program.
  - Update on development of a Web-based energy dashboard for county government facilities.
- Student member search.
- 2015 Annual Report on the Environment.
- 2015 Environmental Excellence Awards.

July 8, 2015

- Cleanup of dump sites.
- Preparation for September 2015 budget discussion.
- Staff response to the EQAC recommendation addressing impacts of climate change to Fairfax County.
- Legislative proposals for the 2016 General Assembly.
- 2015 Annual Report on the Environment.
- 2015 Environmental Excellence Awards.

August 12, 2015

- Legislative proposals for the 2016 General Assembly.
- 2015 Annual Report on the Environment.

September 9, 2015

- The FY 2017 Fairfax County budget process.
- Legislative proposals for the 2016 General Assembly.
- 2015 Annual Report on the Environment.

October 14, 2015

- 2015 Annual Report on the Environment.

Approved minutes of EQAC meetings are available from EQAC's website, at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/eqac/minutes](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/eqac/minutes).

**EQAC resolutions and positions were as follows:**

- November 12, 2014: Support for grant funding through the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund
- January 21, 2015: EQAC position on the county's fall cankerworm spray program.
- February 11, 2015: EQAC comments on the MITRE building energy technology report.
- March 11, 2015: Clarification on the January 21 position on the county's fall cankerworm spray program.
- April 8, 2015: Testimony in support of the proposed budget for the environment.
- September 9, 2015: EQAC support for the Board of Supervisors legislative position on reducing environmental contamination from plastic and paper bags.

Details are available in Appendix B of the detailed version of this report as well as EQAC's website, at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/eqac/resolutions/dpz\\_eqac\\_resolutions.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/eqac/resolutions/dpz_eqac_resolutions.htm).

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**SCORECARD**  
**Progress Report on 2014 Recommendations**

**I. CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY**

<b>Climate Change &amp; Energy Recommendation</b>	<b>Action taken by Agency or Department</b>	<b>EQAC Comments</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<p>1. EQAC is very encouraged to hear that a process has been established through which funding can be provided for a variety of environmental initiatives through the county's Environmental Improvement Program (EIP), including education programs (including social media) and other programs to promote energy efficiency. However, EQAC is concerned that the EIP activities were eliminated as part of budget negotiations for the FY 2015 budget. EQAC appreciates the Board of Supervisors' restoration of funding for EIP projects through the FY 2014 carryover process, but the FY 2015 budget decision suggests that future funding of EIP projects may be uncertain. EQAC recognizes that these programs hold promise for efficiencies that might not be identified by other means. It is EQAC's view that, if Fairfax County is going to continue to compete with neighboring jurisdictions for progressive companies to enhance our workforce, Fairfax County must be a leader in energy efficiency, outreach and education, and environmental stewardship in general. EQAC recommends that the County Executive and the Board of Supervisors support and fund those projects that are recommended by staff. Moreover, EQAC recommends that funding for the EIP be structured so that it is not as vulnerable to future actions like the one that would have eliminated it for FY 2015.</p>	<p>The County Executive recognizes the value of EIP project funding and will make every effort to include funding for this program in his Advertised budget annually. The new evaluation process for reviewing EIP projects has been extremely beneficial and enhanced the process for determining the level of project funding. All EIP projects are funded by the General Fund, and as with all other department and program funding, is subject the availability of General Fund revenue. Project funding will be evaluated each year based on the fiscal environment. It should be noted that the Board of Supervisors specifically requested that beginning in the FY 2016 budget, the funding that supports the Invasive Plant Management Program be included as a baseline funding adjustment outside the project selection process. All other EIP project will be evaluated using the new selection process annually.</p>	<p>EQAC is pleased to see that the County Executive and Board of Supervisors are supporting the EIP. We believe that the EIP should be used to support promising initiatives that will provide for energy efficiencies and other worthwhile environmental projects.</p>	<p>Yes.</p>

<p align="center"><b>Climate Change &amp; Energy Recommendation</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Action taken by Agency or Department</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>EQAC Comments</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Completed</b></p>
<p>2. EQAC recommends that the Board of Supervisors direct county staff to evaluate alternatives for the county to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions from either incineration of waste or placement of waste in landfills. The long-term goal should provide for expanding the recycling of all waste streams, including composting of compostable waste. The expansion of waste streams recycled should be considered as the county develops a strategic plan for the management of county waste. Specific recommendations related to the support of recycling are included in the Solid Waste chapter.</p>	<p>This recommendation was presented in the EQAC report in 2012 and staff responded with information regarding the status of food waste composting in the northern Virginia region. As an update, Prince William County has recently announced an agreement to develop a composting facility on its Balls Ford Road property that will be capable of processing food waste, yard waste and wood waste. We hope to continue and expand our composting diversion rates with this program.</p> <p>EQAC's recommendation further requests that the county "provide for the recycling of all waste streams" and that this should be considered as the county develops its strategic plan for waste management. The county's Solid Waste Management Plan clearly identifies recycling as preferable over incineration and landfilling. Opportunities to enhance recycling are routinely explored.</p>	<p>The EQAC is pleased to see that progress has been made in this area, but further work is necessary to establish networks for the recycling of all waste streams.</p>	<p>No.</p>

<b>Climate Change &amp; Energy Recommendation</b>	<b>Action taken by Agency or Department</b>	<b>EQAC Comments</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<p>3. The work of the Private Sector Energy Task Force was intended to help Fairfax County position itself as a leader in the area of energy efficiency, sustainability and “green” technology. The Private Sector Energy Task Force was a good beginning, but the work recommended by the task force is languishing and needs to be reinvigorated. As an example, EQAC recommends that Fairfax County place a priority on supporting education and recognition for companies that adopt energy efficient approaches as part of their business practices.</p>	<p>Yes and further work is underway. As described in the FY2015 Sustainability Initiatives report, <a href="http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/environment/sustainability/">http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/environment/sustainability/</a>, Fairfax County is a leader in the areas of energy efficiency, sustainability and "green" technology. The county recognizes the value in working more closely with the business community to achieve even greater gains in these areas. Work to address the recommendations of the Chairman's Private Sector Energy Task Force is ongoing. County staff has continued to develop policies like the Green Building Policy Comprehensive Plan Amendment and programs like the Energy Action Fairfax to position Fairfax County as a leader on energy efficiency and sustainability as recommended by the task force. Other recommendations rely on private investment and partnership with the private sector and efforts to identify partnership opportunities continue. As proposed in the response to EQAC's Climate Change and Energy Recommendation #3 in the 2013 Annual Report on the Environment, staff re-connected with the Chamber of Commerce and other key partners on forming an alliance or fostering a transformative project. Unfortunately, due to regional economic dynamics, these organizations are in no better position to lend resources to the creation of an alliance now than they were a year ago and there is no guarantee of when these circumstances will change.</p>	<p>While efforts continue to be made to address this recommendation, EQAC does not agree that this recommendation has been addressed. Funding of the Energy Action Plan and completion of the Sustainability Report are positive steps, but this work has not brought stakeholders together as envisioned by the Private Sector Energy Task Force.</p>	<p>No.</p>

<b>Climate Change &amp; Energy Recommendation</b>	<b>Action taken by Agency or Department</b>	<b>EQAC Comments</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<p>4. Fairfax County should undertake an effort to identify all the impacts of climate change that might reasonably be expected to impact the county. This information will help to: 1) better plan for potential impacts; and 2) initiate mitigation or adaptation efforts where appropriate.</p>	<p>This recommendation has been addressed only to the extent that an unqualified list of impacts has been identified below; a more rigorous quantification of potential impacts has not been performed.</p> <p>Staff recognizes the value of identifying potential impacts of climate change that might reasonably be expected to impact the county. Staff also recognizes the need for the county to review and assess the impacts of climate change on the future of the county’s operations and the need to monitor and evaluate impacts as they occur and develop recommendations.</p>	<p>Other jurisdictions have placed a focus on the identification of areas that might be flooded as a result of climate change and are adjusting planning and permitting (e.g., comprehensive plan, permitting) so that building will not continue in areas that may be flooded. Also, mitigation measures to address existing facilities should be undertaken (e.g., construction of levies) to the extent appropriate and feasible.</p>	<p>No.</p>

<b>Climate Change &amp; Energy Recommendation</b>	<b>Action taken by Agency or Department</b>	<b>EQAC Comments</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<p>5. Fairfax County has made significant strides in monitoring energy use, identifying opportunities for reducing energy use, and reporting this information to the county government. Just as this information has been useful to the county, it would also be helpful for businesses and residents to see the benefits of monitoring energy use. EQAC recommends that monitoring information that shows the benefits of monitoring be made available to the public and private sectors.</p>	<p>The Facilities Management Department (FMD) maintains 205 Board of Supervisors owned sites with more than 8.5 million square feet of space. These sites include numerous types of buildings, including offices, libraries, police and fire stations, community centers and vehicle maintenance facilities. FMD uses EnergyCAP software and a comprehensive database of building utility information to track and analyze energy consumption in each of the 205 buildings in its inventory. EnergyCAP allows FMD to identify high energy use buildings, develop a building's energy baseline and track changes in its energy use from year to year, or forecast energy usage for each utility.</p> <p>In addition to its use of EnergyCAP, FMD has installed a real-time building energy management system, or BEMS, in 94 of the 205 sites in its inventory. With BEMS, FMD can monitor and remotely control lighting and/or heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC) systems in buildings. The number of building energy management systems will increase over time because BEMS installation is specified for all new building construction projects and for all end-of- lifecycle HVAC replacements. Investing in BEMS has allowed the County to achieve significant reductions in energy use while accruing energy savings.</p> <p>Data regarding the energy consumption of county buildings is not currently displayed via an energy dashboard on the county's website. However, at the Board of Supervisors Environmental Committee meeting on Tuesday, February 3, 2015, county staff presented various energy dashboard scenarios for the committee's consideration. The committee asked that staff pursue the low-cost option and create an energy dashboard that can be shown on the county website.</p>	<p>EQAC commends county staff for the focus on an energy dashboard that can show results on a website for the public.</p>	<p>No.</p>

## II. LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION

Land Use & Transportation Recommendations	Action taken by Agency or Department	EQAC Comments	Completed
<p><b>1. Continue to Innovate with Social Media</b></p> <p>EQAC commends the county for embracing new technology and leveraging the Web to share and interact with the public. We recommend that the county continue to integrate social media into the planning process and other outreach efforts. This allows community participation through the Internet technologies and is more cost effective and far reaching than traditional media and outreach. The concept of a virtual town-hall meeting with community participation and instant feedback is now possible. Social media is very powerful for encouraging and educating people about alternative transportation options.</p>	<p>Staff agrees that integrating social media into the planning process can be a powerful and effective tool to enhance public outreach capabilities and public participation opportunities. The Department of Planning and Zoning (DPZ) already has been using social media and continues to explore ways to expand its activities.</p> <p>Coordinating traditional outreach methods with social media can be an effective strategy to increase the number of community stakeholders who are reached. As the county explores new social platforms, DPZ will continue to look at using more social and public participation tools in concert with county policy to adopt the use of specific social media platforms on a countywide basis, not agency by agency.</p>	<p>EQAC agrees that the county is adopting social media for outreach. We continue to encourage new innovative approaches such as virtual town hall meetings and forums. This includes necessary policy expansion to accommodate new media approaches.</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p>
<p><b>2. Urban Design Standards</b></p> <p>Urban standards are designed to improve the environment, quality of life, balance and safety of a well-planned mixed-use place. These new standards are driving the potential in Tysons Corner and can apply equally well to all transit areas, as well as suburban centers and community business centers. EQAC recommends that the county allow a wide range of urban design standards, including green spaces, to be adopted and applied to all mixed-use centers.</p>	<p>Fairfax County has adopted Urban Design Guidelines for many of its mixed-use activity centers, including Tysons, and is moving towards adoption of such standards for additional areas including Seven Corners. The adopted Comprehensive Plan guidance for the Reston Transit Station Areas includes a section on urban design and placemaking.</p>	<p>EQAC supports urban standards adopted for Tysons. We encourage applying them broadly to Suburban, CBC, and Transit areas. The Urban Standards should be the baseline with exceptions as necessary. This is preferable to developing many site specific urban standards.</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p>

<p align="center"><b>Land Use &amp; Transportation Recommendations</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Action taken by Agency or Department</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>EQAC Comments</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Completed</b></p>
<p><b>3. Data and Modeling</b></p> <p>EQAC recommends that nonresidential development data be comprehensively integrated into the county’s Integrated Parcel Lifecycle System and used for forecasting, as demonstrated by residential data that have been harnessed in IPLS for that purpose. Currently, nonresidential data on proposed development projects are captured in disparate systems for zoning and site plan applications, but have not been fully brought into IPLS, and, therefore, cannot be used for forecasting.</p>	<p>Building on the momentum gained in 2013, staff continues to focus on this recommendation, propose improvements, and see progress.</p> <p>In 2014, DPZ staff briefed and subsequently gained the support of DPWES and DIT staff regarding a change to the IT system that captures site plans data (PAWS).</p> <p>Staff still believes that the IT project funding for the replacement of the FIDO and LDS (ZAPS and PAWS) systems (Fund 10040) presents a good opportunity to capture and track a development project and its associated data as it is processed at different stages, beginning with a zoning case and through project completion at the building permit stage.</p> <p>Having a unified IT system that tracks this "evolution" of development cases would allow one to address the question: <i>What development is in the pipeline?</i> However, this Fund 10040 project has not yet been approved.</p>	<p>EQAC continues to support this project.</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p>
<p><b>4. Data and Modeling</b></p> <p>EQAC continues to recommend that the Comprehensive Plan be reflected and modeled in the GIS. Applications such as the internal Comprehensive Plan Potential and the Comprehensive Plan Amendment applications (used to gather data for the State of the Plan report) are very useful for understanding the real time status of the Comprehensive Plan. These applications should be available to the public on the Comprehensive Plan website.</p>	<p>Land uses and densities are key pieces of information. That information is shown on the County's Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map available online at the County's map portal.</p> <p>The Comprehensive Plan also recommends land uses and densities that are different than the baseline for approximately 10% of the County. For these areas, DPZ created a Comprehensive Plan Potential database in 2006 to track the permutations of land use recommendations.</p> <p>While the database has been kept up-to-date as Plan Amendments have been approved, it has only been available to DPZ planners for land use modeling and forecasting work. The next step is to make this dataset publically-accessible.</p>	<p>EQAC continues to support this project.</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p>

<b>Land Use &amp; Transportation Recommendations</b>	<b>Action taken by Agency or Department</b>	<b>EQAC Comments</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<p><b>5. Data and Modeling</b></p> <p>EQAC recommends that the county acquire new data sources and incorporate them into the business process. Planimetric data have proven to be both cost effective and transformative. Multi-spectral imagery has the potential to enhance our knowledge of the county by answering questions such as tree species identification and tree canopy density.</p>	<p>DPWES and DIT have partnered to obtain new satellite imagery in the summer of 2015 and to retain the services of a contractor to process the imagery and LIDAR to create land use and land cover data for the county. It will also identify changes from 2011 to 2015.</p> <p>DPWES were able to use those data to develop a GIS toolkit for facilitating and streamlining area delineation. These are essential analyses and with these tools Stormwater can do analyses in half the time.</p> <p>These recommendations have long-range fiscal impact. The four types of data must be refreshed on a cycle that provides sufficient value to the county to justify the investment. Ideally a predictable budgeting approach would assist in budgeting.</p>	<p>EQAC continues to support GIS and data acquisition projects.</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p>

<b>Land Use &amp; Transportation Recommendations</b>	<b>Action taken by Agency or Department</b>	<b>EQAC Comments</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<p><b>6. Transportation</b></p> <p>EQAC recommends that the county provide priority for non-motorized/multi-modal transportation options. The county has been developing a comprehensive bicycle master plan that is ready for implementation. This complements requirements for pedestrian facilities in mixed-use centers. Proper implementation of the non-motorized/multi-modal master plan needs to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of the bicycle master plan. Bicycle paths provide healthy and effective options to move about the county and between connected destinations.</li> <li>• Expanded bicycle parking guidelines modeled on successful programs such as the new secure bicycle parking facilities at Silver Line stations and other county park-and-ride/transit facilities.</li> <li>• Funding for implementation of both capital and non-capital elements of the county’s bicycle master plan.</li> <li>• Implementation of an outreach and education program for encouraging/promoting bicycling as a transportation mode. This could be called “Bike Fairfax!”</li> <li>• Engagement of the private sector. One example of this can be seen in New York City, where CitiBank underwrites 100 percent of the cost of a bikeshare program. This could work today in several suburban and transit centers.</li> </ul>	<p>The majority of the recommendations are being addressed. "Bike Fairfax" is still under consideration and funding opportunities for a "Bike Fairfax" program are currently being explored by DOTs Marketing Division.</p>	<p>EQAC fully supports these multi-modal programs and will continue to advocate for them.</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p>

### III. AIR QUALITY

There were no recommendations in the 2014 Annual Report

#### IV. WATER RESOURCES

Water Resources Recommendations	Action taken by Agency or Department	EQAC Comments	Completed
<p>1. EQAC recommends that Fairfax County continue to adequately fund and implement its ongoing stormwater program, which includes dam maintenance, infrastructure replacement, water resource monitoring and management, watershed restoration and educational stewardship programs. EQAC realizes the funding for the stormwater program will come entirely from funds generated through the Service District rates. EQAC also realizes that there is a need for increasing capacity within the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services to provide these services.</p> <p><b>EQAC recommends that the Stormwater Service District rate be increased in FY 2016 by at least one-quarter penny, from a rate of 2.25 cents per \$100 assessed real estate value to 2.50 cents per \$100. EQAC understands that this increase would not fully meet stormwater management needs and therefore suggests that additional increases be continued each fiscal year until adequate funding to support the program is achieved.</b> This would, once again, result in more funding for modest watershed improvement programs and a somewhat more realistic infrastructure replacement timeline. We realize that there will be a need for additional increases in funding for water quality projects to meet future permit conditions, and for infrastructure reinvestment, as the system is continually growing and aging.</p>	<p>The Board of Supervisors addressed this recommendation by increasing the Stormwater Service District rate to 2.50 cents per \$100 of assessed real estate value.</p>	<p>EQAC thanks the Board for increasing the funding for stormwater programs by the one-quarter penny.</p>	<p>Yes.</p>

## V. SOLID WASTE

Solid Waste Resources Recommendations	Action taken by Agency or Department	EQAC Comments	Completed
<p>1. While the County's 48 percent recycling rate exceeds the minimum state requirement, it is considerably less than Montgomery County Maryland's rate of 58 percent. Additional means of increasing recycling should be investigated and implemented. In particular, recycling requirements for commercial properties should be enforced and additional requirements should be considered.</p>	<p>The county is investigating organics recycling with Prince William County. In addition, the county has expanded service for electronics and household hazardous waste disposal.</p>	<p>The County's 2015 recycling rate remains unchanged from 2014. In addition, it is a concern that glass contamination and market conditions have reduced the actual recycling rate substantially.</p>	<p>No.</p>
<p>2. EQAC recommends the continued investigation of alternative waste stream reduction including food waste composting. Regional cooperation should be considered.</p>	<p>A cooperative effort with Prince William County for food waste composting is planned to begin in July of 2017.</p>	<p>It will take continued action to bring this plan to fruition.</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p>
<p>3. EQAC recommends that opportunities to minimize redundant trash truck collection trips in the same neighborhoods be examined for implementation while not increasing cost.</p>	<p>County Staff has laid out the issues of implementing a franchise program.</p>	<p>It will take Board of Supervisors support for this recommendation to move forward.</p>	<p>No.</p>
<p>4. To increase the value and environmental benefit of recycled materials, the county should investigate ways to improve the quality of recyclables collected at residential and commercial properties. Removing glass from residential collection systems could significantly improve the quality of paper and plastic recycled. As such, alternative methods of glass recycling should be considered in addition to other ways to improve the quality of recyclables collected. One potential method to reduce the quantity of glass in the waste stream would be to establish a container redemption fee; such a fee would also reduce litter and increase the recovery of containers. EQAC therefore supports a statewide container redemption fee.</p>	<p>Staff has investigated several means of increasing the value of recyclables. In addition, the administrative steps and code changes needed have been identified.</p>	<p>Implementation will take Board of Supervisors support and changes to the county recycling code.</p>	<p>No.</p>

<b>Solid Waste Resources Recommendations</b>	<b>Action taken by Agency or Department</b>	<b>EQAC Comments</b>	<b>Completed</b>
5. The county should investigate the potential for increased county participation in recycling of materials such as asphalt, glass and organic materials.	County staff described how materials under county control are used. They have examined additional options for adding to these programs.	This program should be considered for expansion.	Ongoing.

## **VI. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

There were no recommendations in the 2014 Annual Report
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## VII. ECOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Ecological Resources Recommendations	Action taken by Agency or Department	EQAC Comments	Completed
<p>1. The Fairfax County Park Authority approved a Natural Resource Management Plan in 2004. This partially fulfilled a long-standing EQAC recommendation to develop and implement a countywide Natural Resource Management Plan. In 2014, the Park Authority adopted a revised Natural Resource Management Plan that more closely focused on adaptive management of natural resources. However, full funding to implement the plan is not yet in the Park Authority budget. The Park Authority has managed to secure some funding from several sources but lacks most of the amount to implement fully the plan. For the 2004 plan, FCPA staff estimated that full implementation would require approximately \$8 million per year and dozens of staff positions. This included about \$3.5 million to focus on general natural resource management and \$4.5 million for a non-native invasive plant control program. A more phased approach to funding would have allowed FCPA to begin to manage 10 percent of parklands and set up the program to be phased in over time. Phase 1 with this approach would have required \$650,000 and six positions. Implementation of the new plan will require similar funding and positions. EQAC strongly feels that the Natural Resource Management Plan needs to be fully implemented. Therefore, EQAC recommends that the Board of Supervisors provide sufficient funding to implement an initial phase for natural resource management efforts and that the Fairfax County Park Authority Board apply this funding accordingly. EQAC further recommends that, over time, the full plan be funded.</p>	<p>The Park Authority has not received recurring funding to fully implement Phase 1 of the Natural Resource Management Plan. It has, however, received dedicated recurring funding for one position, is making administrative changes in anticipation of additional funding such as reclassifying positions, and continues to pursue alternative funding strategies, which include further volunteer development, to implement the newly adopted plan.</p> <p>Fairfax County dedicated recurring funding for the Invasive Management Area (IMA) Volunteer Coordinator position beginning in FY14, which has ensured a consistent level of service provided by this program. In addition to the IMA Volunteer Coordinator merit position, the agency has identified a second merit position for plan implementation. The second position is vacant and will remain so until funding is available. Finally, all five merit positions in the branch were reclassified from the Naturalist to the Ecologist class in 2013.</p> <p>The newly adopted Natural Resource Management Plan will require approximately \$8 million and dozens of staff position annually to fully implement. This includes approximately \$3.5 million to focus on general natural resource management and \$4.5 million for a non-native invasive plant control program. Five additional merit positions and \$705,000 would be required to fund Phase 1 of the Natural Resource Management Plan.</p>	<p>EQAC commends the Park Authority for finding funding sources to fund a limited amount of activities called for in the Natural Resource Management Plan. EQAC continues its recommendation that Phase 1 be funded by the Board of Supervisors.</p> <p>Additionally, EQAC recommends that the unfunded merit position be funded by the Board of Supervisors.</p>	<p>No.</p>

## VIII. WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

### VIII-1. IMPACTS OF DEER IN FAIRFAX COUNTY

Deer Management Recommendations	Action taken by Agency or Department	EQAC Comments	Completed
<p>I. Managed hunts should be continued as they have become both cost-effective and efficient in reducing excesses in the deer herd.</p>	<p>This recommendation has already been addressed. In FY 2015, managed shotgun hunts were coordinated by the Fairfax County Wildlife Management Specialist, Animal Control (FCPD), and the Fairfax County Park Authority at the Sully Woodlands area. Additional public hunts were held by federal and state agencies at Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge and Mason Neck State Park (this program has been in place since 1993).</p> <p>Managed hunts are safe and often highly efficient for deer population control at select sites. Over the past five years of the program, managed hunts have contributed to approximately 13 percent of the total deer harvest even though this method is only implemented on a small proportion of total hunt acreage included in the Deer Management Program. Public managed hunts will continue to be used at selected parks to implement sustainable hunting pressures.</p>	<p>The previously authorized position of Assistant Wildlife Management Specialist, which has been in abeyance due to county budget constraints, should be restored as soon as possible and the Wildlife Management Program should receive a specific allocation in the county budget.</p>	<p>Yes, within the limits of available staff resources.</p>

Deer Management Recommendations	Action taken by Agency or Department	EQAC Comments	Completed
<p>2. The sharpshooter events should be continued because they are both humane and cost-effective.</p>	<p>This recommendation has already been addressed. Sharpshooting is a safe and highly efficient method for deer population control at select sites. Over the past five years of the program, sharpshooting operations have contributed to approximately 21 percent of the total deer harvest even though this method is only implemented on a small proportion of total hunt acreage included in the Deer Management Program.</p> <p>Sharpshooting is especially important for deer population control on public lands where other methods, such as archery and managed shotgun hunting, are not determined to be appropriate due to park operations and/or environmental features that make implementation difficult (i.e., large open fields, recreational complexes, botanical gardens). Sharpshooting allows for a targeted harvesting effort when parks are closed to minimize disruption to park operations and use by park patrons.</p> <p>Although sharpshooting is efficient, it does contribute to higher operational costs than other control methods because additional personnel are needed on sharpshooting nights for park security, harvesting and processing of deer. Improvements were made for the sharpshooting tactical operations in FY 2015 to increase efficiency of harvest and minimize suffering of deer.</p>	<p>The previously authorized position of Assistant Wildlife Management Specialist, which has been in abeyance due to county budget constraints, should be restored as soon as possible and the Wildlife Management Program should receive a specific allocation in the county budget.</p>	<p>Yes, within the limits of available staff resources.</p>

<b>Deer Management Recommendations</b>	<b>Action taken by Agency or Department</b>	<b>EQAC Comments</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<p>3. The archery program should be continued as a means of controlling deer depredation of vegetation on residential properties where firearms cannot be used. Archery is also particularly cost-effective, relying on hundreds of qualified volunteers contributing thousands of hunt hours to the program at no cost.</p>	<p>This recommendation has already been addressed. Archery is a safe, cost-effective, and highly efficient method for deer population control at select sites. Since the archery program was initiated in FY 2010, it has contributed to approximately 66 percent of the total deer harvest. By FY 2015, the archery program has been expanded to include 24 qualified volunteer archer groups assigned to approximately 65 parks countywide. This includes over 10,000 acres of FCPA parkland and 3,300 acres of NVRPA parks. The archery program continues to increase the number of hunt sites available in the county through participation by ethical, qualified archers with superior skill. All parks where the archery program is implemented remain open to the public due to the continued excellent record ensuring public safety and participant safety.</p> <p>Currently, the Fairfax County Deer Management Program only implements archery as a management tool on public parklands, which represent less than 20 percent of total county acreage. The county program does not currently coordinate hunting on private property, which also provides refuge and food that sustain overabundant deer. However, private citizens do hunt in these areas. Reduction of deer densities to more sustainable, healthy levels is likely to require coordination of hunting on both public and private lands within Fairfax County.</p>	<p>The previously authorized position of Assistant Wildlife Management Specialist, which has been in abeyance due to county budget constraints, should be restored as soon as possible and the Wildlife Management Program should receive a specific allocation in the county budget.</p>	<p>Yes, within the limits of available staff resources.</p>

## VIII-2. IMPACTS OF GEESE IN FAIRFAX COUNTY

Geese Management Recommendations	Action taken by Agency or Department	EQAC Comments	Completed
<p>1. EQAC strongly recommends that the goose management program be continued, particularly the public outreach and training activities so that a cadre of volunteers can be created to provide the labor to do the actual egg-oiling that is the principal control measure. In addition, the shotgun hunt pilot test conducted by the Park Authority should be expanded into an established program.</p>	<p>This recommendation has already been addressed. Community outreach and a public education program to train volunteers to "addle" (oil) eggs will continue to be used as management tools to control the resident Canada goose population at selected sites.</p> <p>To date, the majority of the egg oiling activity remains concentrated on public lands. In order to be effective at reducing local resident goose populations, efforts will need to be greatly expanded on both public and private lands county- and region-wide, particularly by land managers and volunteers working on properties which contained large amounts of managed turf and/or water features.</p> <p>Egg oiling efforts should be combined with habitat modification to reduce the amount of suitable habitat for resident geese; behavior modification to discourage use of lands by resident geese; and goose population control (hunting) to better manage resident good populations.</p>	<p>The previously authorized position of Assistant Wildlife Management Specialist, which has been in abeyance due to county budget constraints, should be restored as soon as possible and the Wildlife Management Program should receive a specific allocation in the county budget.</p>	<p>Yes, within the limits of available staff resources.</p>

## VIII-3. COYOTES IN FAIRFAX COUNTY

There were no recommendations in the 2014 Annual Report

## VIII-4. WILDLIFE BORNE DISEASES OF CONCERN IN FAIRFAX COUNTY

There were no recommendations in the 2014 Annual Report

## IX. NOISE, LIGHT POLLUTION AND VISUAL POLLUTION

There were no recommendations in the 2014 Annual Report



## **Spotlight on Fairfax County Public Schools**

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) is the largest school district in Virginia (the 10th largest in the U.S.) and has an enrollment of over 187,994 students for the 2014-2015 school year. Over 14 percent of Virginia’s K-12 students are enrolled in FCPS.

In this Spotlight, EQAC wants to provide recognition and to highlight three areas where FCPS is working towards improved environmental performance. These areas are:

- High Performance and Sustainable Schools.
- Get2Green Environmental Education and Action.
- Collaboration between FCPS and the county’s stormwater program.

**High Performance and Sustainable Schools** (Facilities and Transportation) – A high performance school implements design, construction and implementation strategies intended to create a learning environment which is: healthy; thermally, visually and acoustically comfortable; efficient in its use of energy, water and materials; easy to maintain and operate; environmentally responsible; a learning tool; safe and secure; and a community resource. Benefits of a high performance school include: heightened student performance; increased daily attendance; better student and teacher health; improved teacher satisfaction; improved indoor air quality; and reduced environmental impact.

FCPS uses the Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS), (see <http://www.chps.net/dev/Drupal/node>), specifically the Virginia-CHPS Criteria, as its standard for sustainable design and benchmarking. CHPS offers resources for different phases and types of projects, including planning, designing, operating, commissioning or maintaining a school. In addition, it offers a “Best Practices Manual” to help schools, districts and practitioners to achieve: high performance design, construction and operations; assessment tools for new construction, major modernizations and relocatable classrooms; and recognition programs.

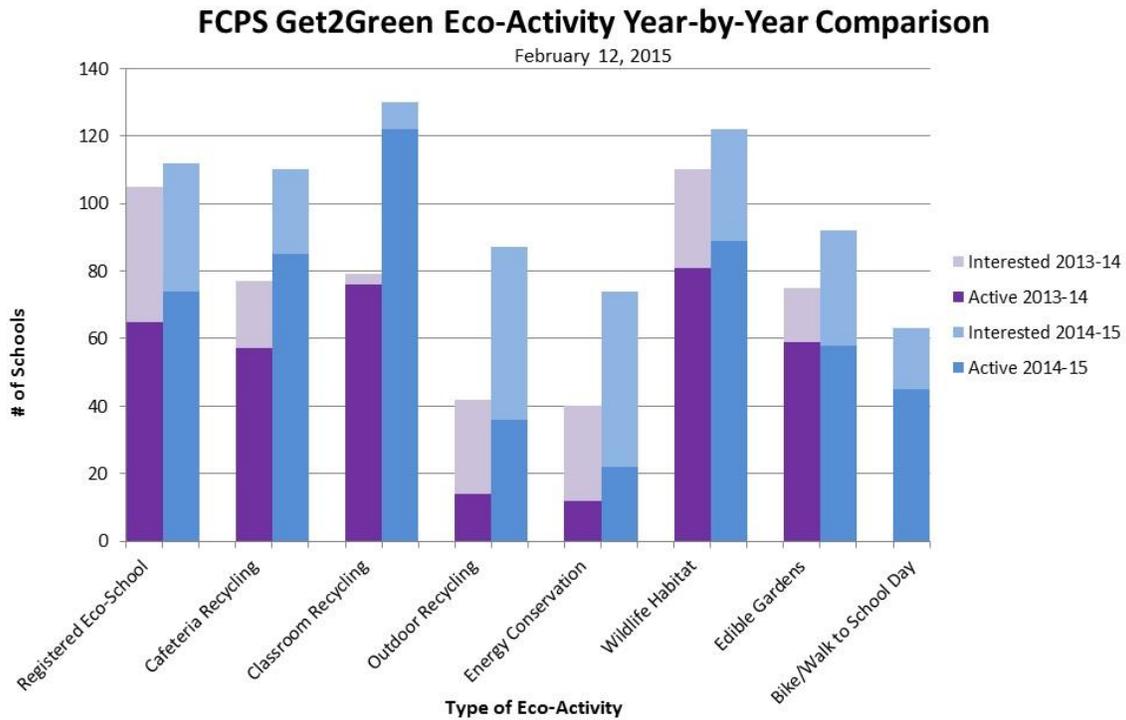
FCPS policy is for all 2013 bond (and beyond) projects to be CHPS-designed under the VA-CHPS Criteria.

The Office of Facility Management Energy Management Section prepares an annual greenhouse gas inventory for all of FCPS (annual reports from 2008 to 2013 are available at <http://www.fcps.edu/fts/facmanagement/greenhousegas/index.shtml>).

FCPS has contracted with Cenergistic, Inc., to implement an energy conservation program. Work started February 1, 2014, and Cenergistic engineers and experts are working throughout the school district to implement conservation procedures in all facilities. Ten energy specialists are conducting energy audits to ensure that students and teachers are comfortable during class time and scheduled activities and that energy is used only as necessary. Energy specialists are responsible for helping to motivate everyone in the school district to use energy wisely, keep

classrooms comfortable and practice smart energy strategies—ensuring that the energy management program is implemented district-wide.

**Get2Green Environmental Education and Action** – FCPS Get2Green (see <http://www.fcps.edu/is/science/get2green/>) is in its fifth year. It was started as a means to help attain the School Board goal to graduate environmental stewards. The school district defines stewardship as a combination of knowledge and action.



\* The increase between years is partially attributable to improvements in data collection. The 2014-15 school year is also the first year data was collected on Bike/Walk to School Day.

To assist schools with a framework for student action, Get2Green partnered with the National Wildlife Federation Eco School USA program. Through this program, FCPS efforts focus on developing student driven action teams within Eco Schools across the county. These teams work on a variety of environmental topics (pathways) under the Eco School umbrella. In addition, FCPS focuses efforts on teacher professional development to assist teachers in running eco teams, working with students on Eco School USA activities, and in taking students outdoors for lessons.

Given the new focus of FCPS on the Portrait of a Graduate, a strategic focus to graduate global citizens, the environmental stewardship work that Get2Green fosters is integral in helping FCPS meet its goals. Through collaboration with initiatives such as Service Learning and Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math (STEAM) and the overall curriculum integration efforts of the Department of Instructional Services, Get2Green can help to offer teachers, staff and students opportunities to work on authentic problems with the environment as the integrating concept. This problem-based learning is shown to

enhance critical thinking and other 21<sup>st</sup> century skills.

FCPS has 75 registered Eco Schools and 7 of those have achieved Green Flag status, the highest honor in that program. They are Lanier Middle School, Churchill Road ES, Centreville ES, Lake Anne ES, Franklin Sherman ES, Longfellow Middle School and Flint Hill ES. In addition, FCPS records at least 75 more schools working on related projects. Most common areas of work include; energy conservation, reduction of waste, building wildlife habitat and studying biodiversity, sustainable food and edible gardens, water conservation, transportation improvements, and healthy living-exercise and nutrition. Additional metrics include: schoolyard habitats (90+ schools); edible gardens (60+ schools); and Blackboard Get2Green Community Members (600).

Get2Green collaborates with a wide variety of internal FCPS departments to assist schools in their “greening” efforts, as well as a group of Get2Green principals. Get2Green is collaborating with Cenergistic in the district’s efforts to conserve energy and will jointly plan a student energy conservation initiative in the 2015-2016 school year. The school district works with many external partners across the county and region to bring expertise and resources to the schools. Work is underway with the Fairfax County Park Authority to train teachers to use parks adjacent to the schools as additional outdoor classroom space. Students are engaged in service learning projects to improve the parks by removing invasive plants and litter. A grant from NOAA, where FCPS is partnered with both DPWES and FCPA and others, was received in 2015 to train middle school teachers to run stewardship projects with students over the next three years.

### **Recycling and Waste Reduction**

In an effort to creatively increase the amount of recycling in schools, FCPS ran a business case competition with Ernst and Young for high school teams. The teams designed a marketing plan to increase recycling and waste reduction. As part of this effort, a set of signs designating what is recyclable and what is trash were developed and distributed to all schools. The high school students then created a contest for schools to build their mascots out of recyclable materials. The mascots were displayed and judged at the NoVA Outside/GMU School Environmental Action Showcase in April 2015.

### **Wildlife Habitat and Garden Implementation**

Get2Green is assisting many schools to develop and expand their wildlife habitat. These habitats may take the form of meadows, enhanced woodland areas or butterfly and bird attracting gardens. Many of them are created to alleviate erosion issues and enhance storm water management on local campuses. Significant progress has been made to work with the Department of Public Works on increased stormwater education in the classroom and planning student wildlife habitat projects. FCPS is partnering with federal, state and local organizations to form an Urban Wildlife Habitat Program whose purpose is to educate students, faculty, staff and the general public about the importance of protecting and maintaining local wildlife habitats and gardens on campus. Although these habitats may be small, their collective impact can be felt district wide. To better understand this impact, Get2Green is piloting biodiversity studies to measure the positive effect these wildlife habitat constructions are having on the animal population within school grounds and the surrounding communities. The centerpiece of these

materials is the Fairfax County Field Guide that DPWES designed with FCPS. The US Fish and Wildlife Service provided an intern for the summer of 2015 to enhance and expand this program.

Get2Green is also partnered with the Fairfax County Health Department in a grant and other planning to develop edible gardens in locations in the county that have been designated as areas where fresh food and produce is not available.

### **Collaboration between Fairfax County Public Schools and the County's Stormwater Planning Division on Stormwater Management Plans**

In November 2012, staff from FCPS and SWPD provided a briefing to EQAC regarding the identification of opportunities to enhance stormwater management efforts (beyond code requirements) on school properties through FCPS and DPWES collaboration. These include: evaluation of opportunities to provide additional stormwater management onsite during the design and construction of projects in the FCPS Capital Improvement Program (CIP); opportunities for SWPD to construct stormwater management facilities on school properties which are not part of the CIP; and education and outreach opportunities in the FCPS science curriculum.

FCPS and SWPD coordinate throughout the planning and design of FCPS CIP projects to identify opportunities to enhance the code required stormwater management provided by FCPS. For projects where additional stormwater management measures are found to be feasible, SWPD provides technical support and funding, through the Stormwater Service District revenue. The support is provided to FCPS for the design and construction of additional stormwater management measures to be permitted and built as part of the FCPS CIP. A list of FCPS CIP projects where SWPD and FCPS were able to provide additional stormwater management is included below. These additional stormwater management measures help us improve water quality in our streams and meet our Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) requirements. It is anticipated that these efforts will continue with future FCPS CIP projects. A broader list that also identifies joint projects that are being planned is provided in the detailed Water Resources chapter of this report.

EQAC notes that it would be beneficial if the advanced stormwater management activities that are installed at FCPS facilities would include visible signage that describes the nature of the improvement. Such signage could help students and others at the schools to increase their appreciation of the efforts and be useful as an educational tool. SWPD will work with FCPS to identify opportunities to install signage on school stormwater management facilities.

<b>FCPS and SWPD Stormwater Collaborations as of July 2015</b>		
<b>Location</b>	<b>Plan Status</b>	<b>Facility Descriptions</b>
Langley High School	Under construction	Underground storage / filtration (Bay Filter)
Marshall High School	Construction substantially complete	Cistern - irrigation system
Mt Vernon High School	Construction complete	Added storage under turf field
Ravensworth Elementary School	Under construction	Bioretention, amended soils
Sunrise Valley Elementary School	Under construction	Permeable pavers, vegetative swale, underground detention / infiltration trench
Terraset Elementary School	Under construction	Pervious pavement, Filterrass, permeable pavers, Underground Detention
Keene Mill Elementary School	Under construction	Vegetative swales, permeable pavers, amended soils, sheet flow
North Springfield Elementary School	Under construction	Bioretention, amended soils
Hayfield High School	Under construction	Additional storage under turf field

## **Environmental Stewardship/Volunteer Opportunities in Fairfax County**

Environmental quality is a team effort. We need partnerships with government, commercial and volunteer organizations to strive to improve our environment as is described throughout this annual report. We give details of stewardship efforts and best practices supporting government and non-government resources and broader environmental needs. This section is provided to highlight a group of governmental and non-governmental opportunities that individuals or organizations might consider supporting with their time and focus. Many of these organizations rely on volunteer resources to be effective, and greater participation may allow the organizations to expand the scope of their current work. EQAC does not assert that these are the only organizations making a valuable contribution to our environment. Some government organizations are listed if they either organize environmental activities or provide a good source for members of the community who want to contribute their time to improving environmental quality.

### **1. NOVA PARKS (NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL PARK AUTHORITY)**

For the environmentally-conscious park enthusiast, we recommend contacting NOVA Parks (the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority), [www.NVRPA.org/](http://www.NVRPA.org/). NOVA Parks continues to have a roving park naturalist regularly visit the high-attendance parks such as pools, campgrounds and golf courses, bringing live wildlife and other exhibits and providing programming about nature and the environment. The naturalist also attends events and functions such as the Dominion W&OD Trail Mix, the Walter Mess 5K race and the Friends of the W&OD 10K race.

The Northern Virginia Regional Park Foundation gives grants, through its Nature Nuts, to Fairfax County public schools for children to attend environmental education camps at Hemlock Overlook Regional Park. Adventure Links at Hemlock Overlook Regional Park in Clifton offers a variety of outdoor and environmental education, and team development programs for public and private schools, religious and community groups, sports teams, corporations, professional organizations and local, state and federal government and military agencies. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens partnered with the Volgenau Foundation to provide teacher training and student field trips to Meadowlark Botanical Gardens and Potomac Overlook Regional Park. These trips focus on the natural history of the Potomac River basin and conserving native plants and animals.

NOVA Parks partners with REI's adventure school, introducing people to the outdoors at Pohick Bay, Hemlock Overlook and Fountainhead Regional Parks. NOVA Parks' naturalists hold regular educational canoe and kayak trips at Pohick Bay, and the roving naturalist conducts environmental programs at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens as well as at Bull Run and Pohick Bay Regional Park

campgrounds. Potomac Overlook Regional Park and W&OD Trail staff has hosted booths at various county fairs to give environmental information to the public.

In 2015, Friends of the Occoquan hosted five cleanup events on the Occoquan River, at host sites Fountainhead and Occoquan Regional Parks, the town of Occoquan, Lake Ridge Marina and Bull Run Marina. Over 250 volunteers removed 154 bags of trash and 16 bags of recyclables. Many Girl and Boy Scout troops, as well as student organizations got involved.

Environmental stewardship opportunities for volunteers are available at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, Potomac Overlook Regional Park, Upton Hill Regional Park, Pohick Bay Regional Park and various other parks on occasion. NOVA Parks implemented a program that allows youths to access its fee-based park facilities through volunteer service. It has a wide variety of community partnerships in place that encourage groups to take advantage of the regional parks for environmental and historic education and service projects. More information can be found at [www.nvrpa.org/park/main\\_site/content/volunteer](http://www.nvrpa.org/park/main_site/content/volunteer).

## **2. FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY**

The Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) offers a number of opportunities for volunteers, and EQAC encourages county residents to take advantage of these opportunities. Information about these opportunities is available at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/volunteer/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/volunteer/). More information about FCPA and its programs is available at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/resources](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/resources).

Many of the stewardship activities that occur on parkland could not take place without the efforts of many volunteers and partners. Groups and individuals participate in a wide range of volunteer opportunities in environmental stewardship on parkland, from becoming a permanent volunteer for the Park Authority to one-off events.

Specifically, volunteers engage in programming, leading walks and tours, writing fliers or brochures, answering the phone when a resident calls with an environmental question and/or hands-on resource management. FCPA partners with local agencies and nonprofits in two different annual stream cleanup events, although many individuals and friends groups participate in more regular cleanups along certain sections of stream throughout the year. FCPA also has habitat restoration events, including invasive plant removal and native species planting that attract day participants and more committed volunteers, e.g. the IMA Volunteer Leaders. Wildlife monitors work on birds and salamanders and everything in between, often in coordination with a long-term wildlife monitoring program such as the Virginia Bluebird Society. The Fairfax Master Naturalists have taken on some of these projects or created new opportunities to contribute hundreds of hours to Park Authority sites. FCPA continues to offer many of its environmental stewardship

opportunities for youths to get involved in their local parks - as permanent volunteers, as students for their community service hours and as scouts for Eagle and Gold Award projects. FCPA encourages its volunteers, be they individuals, groups, students or scouts, to propose ideas of how they can help steward the parks.

Fairfax County residents and other interested parties can donate to the Fairfax County parks through the Fairfax County Park Foundation. The Fairfax County Park Foundation is a nonprofit 501(c) (3) organization and donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. The foundation's mission is to raise funds to support the parks and land under the stewardship of the Fairfax County Park Authority. Those interested in giving tax-deductible donations to the foundation can contact the foundation at:

Fairfax County Park Foundation  
12055 Government Center Parkway  
Fairfax, VA 22035  
(703) 324-8581  
[SupportParks@aol.com](mailto:SupportParks@aol.com)  
[www.fairfaxparkfoundation.org](http://www.fairfaxparkfoundation.org)

### **3. NORTHERN VIRGINIA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

The Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District (NVSWCD) supports numerous opportunities throughout the year to participate in stream cleanups and restorations, storm drain labeling, rain barrel workshops, native seedling sales, volunteer water quality monitoring and tree planting projects. Interested parties can send an e-mail to NVSWCD at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/contact/mailform.aspx?ref=9990> or call 703-324-1460.

NVSWCD runs Envirothon, an annual environmental science competition for high school students.

NVSWCD is also a good resource for advice to homeowners on problems with ponds, eroding streams, drainage, problem soils and other natural resource concerns. More information about managing land for a healthier watershed is available from the NVSWCD publications "You and Your Land, a Homeowner's Guide for the Potomac River Watershed" and the "Water Quality Stewardship Guide" ([www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/youyourland/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/youyourland/)).

NVSWCD can assess the problems and advise on possible solutions.

#### **4. FAIRFAX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

There are numerous opportunities throughout the year to participate in stream cleanups, storm drain labeling, volunteer water quality monitoring and tree planting projects. Interested parties can send an e-mail to NVSWCD at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/contact/mailform.aspx?ref=9990> or call 703-324-1460. Additionally, DPWES-Stormwater Management provides links to information about these popular volunteer programs on its website at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/stormwater/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/stormwater/). For a list of common household hazardous materials and how to dispose of them, go to [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/trash/disphw.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/trash/disphw.htm).

#### **5. ENERGY ACTION FAIRFAX PILOT PROGRAM**

Fairfax County has implemented the Energy Action Fairfax pilot program to provide ways for residents to learn about their energy consumption and how to reduce it through improved energy efficiency. The program's direct outreach has included presentations at homeowner association meetings, small "audit parties" within selected communities and the distribution of informative brochures at events and fairs. The program also generated stories for local media and created a multi-faceted presence on the county website ([www.fairfaxcounty.gov/energyactionfairfax/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/energyactionfairfax/)) that includes tips sheets, checklists and short how-to videos. Groups or individuals may want to contact Energy Action Fairfax to discuss ways to support their educational efforts within a specific community ([energyactionfairfax@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:energyactionfairfax@fairfaxcounty.gov)).

#### **6. THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA CLEAN WATER PARTNERS EFFORTS TO MANAGE PET WASTE**

Northern Virginia Clean Water Partners is a group of 19 Northern Virginia local governments, school systems, independent water and sanitary sewer authorities, and local businesses that are concerned with local water quality. Examples of the activities of this group include its Dog Blog and Facebook pages for dog owners. Clean Water Partners also provides sustainable landscaping, home and vehicle tips.

Find out more about this organization at its website at [www.onlyrain.org](http://www.onlyrain.org).

#### **7. CLEAN FAIRFAX**

Clean Fairfax Council, now known as Clean Fairfax, is a private, nonprofit 501(c) (3) corporation dedicated to educating residents, students and businesses in Fairfax County about litter prevention and recycling. Clean Fairfax focuses on environmental education provided to students and adults throughout the county. Clean Fairfax continues efforts of updating the educational and interactive programs for students, community service opportunities for students (i.e., support at the council's office or

organizing cleanups), classroom presentations and presentations to homeowner associations, church groups, small businesses and more.

For over 30 years, Clean Fairfax has been working to make Fairfax County clean, green and sustainable. In the last three years, community cleanups have yielded 975 cubic yards of trash. In addition, the organization has presented sustainability workshops to over 50 groups and has visited 39 schools. All of this was accomplished by the equivalent of 1.25 full-time employees and upwards of 7,000 volunteer hours.

Clean Fairfax serves on the county and statewide litter control and recycling committees. Clean Fairfax produces the county's official Earth Day and Arbor Day event, called SpringFest Fairfax, with the financial and personnel help of DPWES, and the Fairfax County Park Authority. Over 5,000 residents and children spend the day learning about the county agencies and nonprofits that work to keep their county clean and green.

A key effort of the council is the sponsorship of spring and fall cleanups. These cleanups rely on volunteers who desire to clean up a certain area of the county. The council asks volunteers to plan their cleanup by selecting a site, gathering volunteers and setting a date and time. Clean Fairfax supplies all the necessary tools (gloves, trash bags, recycling bags, vests and safety tips as well as assistance in large scale pickups by connecting residents with the county's trash pickup program) for a successful cleanup. A follow-up form is available on the Clean Fairfax website to track progress, tally volunteer hours and trash pickup tonnage.

In 2014, community cleanup programming yielded 82 neighborhood cleanups, with 2,200 volunteers putting in approximately 2,343 volunteer hours (a value of over \$263,000) and collecting over 355 cubic yards of trash. In addition, Clean Fairfax supports several individuals who provide daily or weekly cleanups in their community, adding an additional 600 volunteer hours, and over 10,000 illegally placed signs picked up.

Clean Fairfax also organizes periodic cleanup projects around the Fairfax County Government Center (with Fairfax County employees and area businesses) and supports the Virginia Department of Transportation with its Adopt-a-Highway program.

Clean Fairfax continues to organize and lead the Earth Day/Arbor Day event, now called SpringFest Fairfax, in partnership with the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, the Fairfax County Park Authority and Workhouse Arts. Now in its third year at the Workhouse, over 5,000 children and families attended this all-day, Virginia Green certified event which included environmental education and entertainment, local food vendors, urban forestry workshops and open studio artist exhibitions. County agencies such as the Health Department, DPWES and the Park Authority as well as many local and regional environmental nonprofits were key to the success of the event. However, funding continues to be a challenge to this very

popular event, as the bulk of the costs are borne by Clean Fairfax and the Park Authority.

This is also the third year of the Clean Fairfax Environmental Passport which is a SpringFest Fairfax booklet that encourages attendees to visit each table/tent or booth to learn what each organization supports and represents. For every visit, children earn a sticker or a stamp and can show their passports at Clean Fairfax to be presented with an Environmental Good Citizen award (a globe “medal” made of recycled paper and seeds that can be planted in a pot or the family’s backyard). Clean Fairfax also encourages other festivals, events, fairs and carnivals.

Clean Fairfax also supports and promotes the Johnnie Forte, Jr. Environmental Education Program, which awards small grants to applicants from the Fairfax County Public Schools to promote sustainable programming, increase recycling, school cafeteria composting and other environmental projects with students from elementary, middle and high schools. Clean Fairfax funded the following projects: a rain barrel creation project to water a school’s community and pollinator gardens; establishing heavy duty recycling bins for outdoor playing fields as well as the same in school cafeterias; retrofitting drinking water fountains to fill reusable water bottles; and continuing to support cafeteria composting and saving of uneaten/unopened food which is then donated to a local food bank. In the past, the program was co-funded by Clean Fairfax and the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, but this year DPWES was not able to fund the program and without additional resources it may be put on hold until more funds can be raised.

Clean Fairfax reports that the Report-a-Litterer program was dismantled due to Fairfax County Police Department budget limitations. The Clean Fairfax website asks that litter reports be sent to them and to the county Board of Supervisors’ office of the person observing the litterer.

Clean Fairfax continues to look for new opportunities to assist the county in litter reduction and enforcement and will continue to advocate and encourage participation in the State Police’s Cover Your Load campaign, which happens in the early spring.

Other major continuing projects include: outreach on reducing residents’ reliance on plastic grocery bags; cigarette butt litter education; promotion of the use of rain barrels; advising and mentoring environmental clubs in the school system; creating opportunities for college students wishing to explore the fascinating and important world of environmental advocacy; encouragement of small scale, backyard composting, grass-cycling, rain and pollinator gardens and other sustainable practices; and encouragement of community gardens and micro farms at schools and churches. This year, Clean Fairfax finished an 18 month process of updating the digital educational materials with four new short videos on Recycling and Trash, Water Quality and Conservation, Alternative Energy and Clean Fairfax.

Clean Fairfax is provided office space by DPWES, and the executive director works directly with many county staff on litter control and recycling education issues. The executive director also serves on the cross-agency Litter Task Force and the MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) Tactical Team on Public Outreach. The Memorandum of Understanding between the county and Clean Fairfax allows the organization to be deployed to assist on important tasks such as information dissemination in stormwater management, recycling, urban forestry and other crucial county environmental endeavors.

Clean Fairfax reaches thousands of Fairfax County residents, employees and businesses through e-newsletters, Facebook and Twitter as well as an environmental blog at [www.cleanfairfax.org](http://www.cleanfairfax.org). The organization also provides the Fairfax County Visitors Center with thousands of auto litter bags each year plus informational bookmarks and brochures and this year will provide two Fairfax County Farmers Markets (the Workhouse Farmers Market and Town of Herndon Farmers Market) with branded reusable grocery and produce bags as part of the #PlasticFreeProduce pilot program.

2015 marks 35 years that Clean Fairfax has been an active partner in Fairfax County's environmental mission. For more information, please visit the website at [www.cleanfairfax.org](http://www.cleanfairfax.org) or the SpringFest Fairfax website at [www.springfestfairfax.org](http://www.springfestfairfax.org)

## **8. ALICE FERGUSON FOUNDATION**

The nonprofit Alice Ferguson Foundation was established in 1954. While chartered in Maryland, it has implemented programs throughout the Potomac River watershed, with benefits to the main stem of the river as well as tributaries in Washington, D.C., Maryland, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Virginia. As stated on its website, the foundation's mission is "to connect people to the natural world, sustainable agricultural practices and cultural heritage in their local watershed through education, stewardship and advocacy."

In April 2015, the foundation held its 27<sup>th</sup> annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup. Reports from 77 cleanups throughout Fairfax County involved 1,643 volunteers removing almost 75,000 pounds of trash from local watersheds. This included 176 tires, 34,700 beverage containers, 10,402 plastic bags and 3,742 cigarette butts. For full cleanup results and information on volunteer opportunities, visit the cleanup Web page at [www.potomaccleanup.org](http://www.potomaccleanup.org).

Other programs implemented by the foundation include:

- **Trash Free Potomac Watershed Initiative:** Celebrating its tenth anniversary, this is a program to reduce trash, increase recycling and provide education regarding trash issues in the watershed. Multiple years of data are available for specific areas. There is a free toolkit available to help supporters change behavior

regarding littering and illegal dumping. See <http://fergusonfoundation.org/trash-free-potomac-watershed-initiative/>.

- Potomac Watershed Trash Summit: The foundation convenes this meeting annually to provide a venue for key stakeholders to collaborate on strategies to eliminate trash from waterways, communities, streets and public lands, including regional public policy, model best management practices, business actions and public education.
- Enforcement: In February 2015, the foundation received unanimous support from the Police Chiefs of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments for its fifth Annual Litter Enforcement Month. This is a campaign to reduce littering and illegal dumping through enforcement of local laws. This effort provided a focus on litter-related crimes and raised awareness of the harmful effects trash has on communities and the environment.

There are numerous other programs and initiatives that are implemented by the foundation that can be found on the foundation's website at [www.fergusonfoundation.org](http://www.fergusonfoundation.org).

## 9. CLEAN AIR PARTNERS

Residents of Fairfax County have many opportunities to contribute to improvements in air quality. While some of the metropolitan Washington area's ozone problem originates outside of the area and is beyond the control of Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia, there are many aspects of our daily lives that can affect the quality of our air. A significant contributor to air quality issues is vehicle miles traveled. Virginians drive many millions of miles each year. Reducing the amount of driving, as well as the use of other combustion devices, especially during times where ground-level ozone is of concern (e.g., on hot days with lots of sun and little or no wind), can help to improve air quality. Examples of actions that can be taken include: carpooling; taking mass transit; reducing or postponing lawn-mowing, paving and outdoor painting; limiting vehicle idling; bringing a lunch to work; avoiding drive-thru windows; and refueling after dark.

The following are tips provided on the Clean Air Partners website ([www.cleanairpartners.net](http://www.cleanairpartners.net)):

### ***Small Changes Make A Big Difference***

*Begin the day right. Check [today's air quality forecast](#) and modify your plans if unhealthy air quality is predicted. Protect yourself and others in your care, by taking the appropriate actions. Making small changes in your lifestyle at home, at work, and on the road can make a big difference.*

*At Home:*

- *Postpone mowing and trimming or use electric garden equipment.*
- *Postpone painting or use water-based paint instead of oil-based paint.*
- *Replace your charcoal grill with a propane gas grill.*
- *Choose ENERGY STAR™ appliances and lighting.*
- *Cut back on heating and air conditioning when you can and turn off lights and appliances when not in use.*
- *Clean heating filters each month.*

*At Work:*

*Employers have a unique opportunity to make a difference. They can promote programs that help employees make positive lifestyle changes. For example, employers can encourage staff to use public transportation or carpool. Employers also can give employees the option of working from home. Encourage employees to sign up for [AirAlerts](#), a free service that delivers air quality information straight to their inbox.*

*On the Road:*

- *Keep driving to a minimum.*
- *Fill up your gas tank during evening hours. Avoid spilling gas and “topping off” the tank. Replace gas tank cap tightly.*
- *Have your car tuned regularly by replacing the oil and air filter, and keep tires properly inflated and aligned.*
- *Carpool or use public transportation when possible.*
- *Combine your errands into one trip.*
- *Avoid revving or idling your engine.*
- *Avoid long drive-through lines; instead, park your car and go in.*
- *Looking for a new vehicle? Consider purchasing a fuel-efficient model or a hybrid that runs on an electric motor and gasoline engine.*

<b><u>HOW TO REPORT ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES OR CONCERNS IN FAIRFAX COUNTY</u></b>	
<b><u>TTY 711 for all phone numbers</u></b>	
<b>Type of Incident</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
<p><b><u>RELEASE OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INTO THE ENVIRONMENT—ACTIVE RELEASE, DANGEROUS, OR UNKNOWN</u></b></p> <p>If the dumping of any substance into a stream, into a manhole, into a storm drain or onto the ground is witnessed, assumptions regarding the contents of the materials should not be made. 911 should be called immediately. When calling 911, be prepared to provide specific information regarding the location and nature of the incident. The local office of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (703-235-1113) can be called in addition to (but not instead of) 911.</p>	<b>911</b>
<p><b><u>RELEASE OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INTO THE ENVIRONMENT—NO IMMEDIATE DANGER</u></b></p> <p>If a known discharge of hazardous materials has occurred in the past and no lives or property are in immediate danger; this should be reported to the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department’s Fire and Hazardous Materials and Investigative Services Section at this number (includes Towns of Clifton, Herndon and Vienna). If there is any question about whether a release may still be active or whether there may be any immediate danger, 911 should be called.</p>	<b>703-246-4386 (working hours)</b>  <b>703-691-2131 (after hours)</b>
<p><b><u>RELEASE OF ANY MATERIAL INTO THE ENVIRONMENT</u></b></p> <p>Any release of materials into the environment, whether hazardous or not, should be reported to the Northern Regional Office of the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality at the above number. If the release is an active one, call 911.</p>	<b>703-583-3800</b>  <b>OR</b>  <b>911</b>
<p><b><u>LAND CLEARING; TREE REMOVAL; DUMPING OF FILL</u></b></p> <p>To report the suspected illegal removal of trees, clearing of land, digging or dumping of fill dirt, contact the Department of Code Compliance, or visit <a href="http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code">www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code</a>.</p>	<b>703-324-1300</b>
<p><b><u>SOIL EROSION</u></b> To report soil erosion from private properties or construction sites, contact the Site Development and Inspection Division of the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services</p>	<b>703-324-1720</b>

<b>Type of Incident</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
<p><b><u>GENERATION OF DUST FROM CONSTRUCTION, GRADING OR LAND CLEARING</u></b>                      Contact the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Northern Regional Office</p>	<b>703-583-3800</b>
<p><b><u>TRASH/DEBRIS ON CONSTRUCTION SITES</u></b>                      Contact the Site Development and Inspection Division of the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services</p>	<b>703-324-1720</b>
<p><b><u>CONSTRUCTION NOISE</u></b>                      To report construction noise outside between 9 p.m. and 7 a.m. or before 9 a.m. on Sundays and federal holidays, contact the Department of Code Compliance, or visit <a href="http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code">www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code</a>.</p>	<b>703-324-1300</b>
<p><b><u>NOISE IN A RESIDENTIAL AREA</u></b>                      To make a complaint about nuisance noises (e.g. barking dogs or loud music) in residential areas only, call the Fairfax County Police non-emergency number.</p>	<b>703-691-2131</b>
<p><b><u>TRASH COLLECTION BETWEEN 9:00 P.M. AND 6:00 A.M.</u></b>                      Call the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services. If possible, provide descriptive information about the truck, such as color, truck number, and license plate number.</p>	<b>703-324-5230</b>
<p><b><u>OTHER SOLID WASTE COMPLAINTS ASSOCIATED WITH WASTE COLLECTORS/HAULERS</u></b>                      Call the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services.</p>	<b>703-324-5230</b>
<p><b><u>SOLID WASTE COMPLAINTS ASSOCIATED WITH WASTE HANDLING WITHIN BUILDINGS (E.G., TRASH CHUTES)</u></b>                      Contact the Department of Code Compliance, or visit <a href="http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code">www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code</a>.</p>	<b>703-324-1300</b>
<p><b><u>SIGNS ON ROADS AND MEDIANS</u></b>                      If a sign on a road or median poses a safety hazard, call the Virginia Department of Transportation to have it removed. Fairfax County performs monthly collections of illegal roadway signs on certain designated roads. More information can be found at <a href="http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code/signs">www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code/signs</a>.</p>	<b>1-800-367-7623</b>
<p><b><u>SIGNS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY</u></b>                      There are restrictions for signs on private property. For more information contact the Department of Code Compliance, or visit <a href="http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code">www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code</a>.</p>	<b>703-324-1300</b>

<b>Type of Incident</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
<p><b><u>POORLY MAINTAINED HOMES OR OTHER BLIGHTED PROPERTIES</u></b>                      To report problems including broken windows and gutters, junk or debris in yards and tall, uncut grass, contact the Department of Code Compliance, or visit <a href="http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code">www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code</a>.</p>	<p><b>703-324-1300</b></p>
<p><b><u>ABANDONED VEHICLES (FIVE OR FEWER)</u></b>                      Contact the Fairfax County Police Department’s Traffic Division Impound Section; e-mail: <a href="mailto:FCPDJunkVehicle@fairfaxcounty.gov">FCPDJunkVehicle@fairfaxcounty.gov</a>.</p>	<p><b>703-280-0716</b></p>
<p><b><u>ABANDONED VEHICLES (SIX OR MORE)</u></b>                      Contact the Department of Code Compliance, or visit <a href="http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code">www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code</a>.</p>	<p><b>703-324-1300</b></p>
<p><b><u>OUTDOOR LIGHTING CONCERNS</u></b>                      To report problems with glare, overlighting or other issues, contact the Department of Code Compliance, or visit <a href="http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code">www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code</a>.</p>	<p><b>703-324-1300</b></p>
<p><b><u>AIR POLLUTANTS</u></b>                      Air pollutants are emitted by stationary sources, such as power plants, gasoline service stations, and dry cleaners, as well as by mobile and area sources, such as from automobiles, trucks and other highway activities. This phone number is for the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality Northern Regional Office.</p>	<p><b>703-583-3800</b>   <b>After hours, call 1-800-468-8892</b></p>
<p><b><u>NO RECYCLING IN SCHOOLS</u></b>                      Section IX of the Fairfax County School Board’s Policy 8542 states that “Schools and centers will have mandatory recycling programs for paper products, cans, and bottles. Construction waste materials will be separated and recycled.” To report schools that are not recycling in accordance with this policy, contact the Fairfax County Public Schools Office of Facilities Management, Plant Operations Section. More information is available at: <a href="http://www.fcps.edu/fts/facmanagement/recycle.shtml">www.fcps.edu/fts/facmanagement/recycle.shtml</a>.</p>	<p><b>703-764-2459</b></p>
<p><b><u>BUSINESS OR RESIDENTIAL RECYCLING</u></b>                      To report a suspected violation of recycling requirements (whether residential or business), contact the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services—Solid Waste at the phone number provided or through the Online Complaint/Comment Form at <a href="http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/trash/dispcompform.htm">www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/trash/dispcompform.htm</a>.</p>	<p><b>703-324-5230</b></p>
<p><b><u>HEALTH HAZARDS</u></b>                      For information and guidance on a suspected environmental hazard that may pose a public health risk, call the Health Department’s Division of Environmental Health. These hazards include unsanitary storage or disposal of waste; unburied dead animals; medical waste; insect infestations; and mosquito breeding sites.</p>	<p><b>703-246-2444</b></p>

