



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



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For Immediate Release

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May 14, 2014
PR-031

Ribbon Cutting Set For Saturday

Joint Wakefield Run Restoration Project Completed

What was once a degraded, eroding and unstable stream is now a restored waterway with meanders and gentle slopes, planted banks, and shorter, more effective rip-rap outfalls. The natural channel design methods used by the team in the Wakefield Run Stream Restoration project will ultimately improve water quality in Accotink Creek. Public ribbon cutting ceremonies to mark the completion of the project, which began last July, will be held at Wakefield Park Saturday, May 17, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.

Attendees are asked to meet in the Audrey Moore RECenter parking lot located at 8100 Braddock Road in Annandale, Va. Park Authority vehicles will shuttle attendees from the recycling drop-off area to the site of the ceremony between 8:45 and 9:15 a.m. A walking tour will follow the ceremony.

The Wakefield Run Stream Restoration project established a stable channel along 820 linear feet of Wakefield Run, a flood plain that was no longer functioning properly due to highly-eroded stream banks and a deep channel carved out by fast-moving water. The team installed various structures to slow down the flow of water during flooding events, including root wads, logs, and rock steps and vanes. Imported sand and gravel was used to create the new stream bed. Native vegetation was planted to promote natural reforestation of the site. Each year the restored stream will prevent 40 pounds of phosphorous, 355 pounds of nitrogen, and 76,000 pounds of suspended solids from entering Accotink Creek. Plants and animals throughout the stream valley, as well as downstream in the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay, will benefit from the cleaner water. An abutment to a steel bridge along the Cross County Trail that had been severely eroded was repaired by the Park Authority.

This project is made possible by a dynamic partnership: Fairfax County Park Authority, The Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District, Fairfax County DPWES - Stormwater Planning, Dominion Virginia Power, Braddock District Supervisor, VDOT/Fluor - 495 Express Lanes, Friends of Accotink Creek, Fairfax County Park Foundation, Mid-Atlantic Off-Road Enthusiasts, and Earth Sangha.

For more information, call the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662.

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If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call (703) 324-8563, at least 10 working days in advance of the registration deadline or event. TTY (703) 803-3354.