



# FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



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## 2015 Elly Doyle Park Service Award Recipients Announced

The Fairfax County Park Authority Board has named this year's recipients of the 2015 Elly Doyle Park Service Awards, which recognize individuals and organizations that contribute outstanding volunteer service to the Park Authority. This is the agency's top honor for volunteer service.

The non-profit Friends of Accotink Creek (FACC) was honored for its work in restoring, promoting and protecting the Accotink Creek watershed to enhance the enjoyment of biking, fishing, jogging, walking and bird watching along a major portion of the Gerry Connolly Cross County Trail. FACC is active in watershed clean-ups, works to arrest erosion, rescues stranded mussels, and helps fight invasive plants.

The non-profit Friends of Huntley Meadows (FOHMP) is celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> year of providing support to Huntley Meadows Park financially, politically and personally. FOHMP helped the park continue to run smoothly during lean budget times, advocated to protect viable wetlands from development, and shared their members' expertise, passion and talents with innumerable hours of volunteer service annually.

Susan L. Voss, a Green Spring Master Gardener, was cited for her leadership role as board president for the Friends of Green Spring (FROGS). Under her leadership, FROGS has conducted two annual appeal fundraising campaigns that have brought in nearly \$50,000 to support projects and make purchases.

Elly Doyle Special Recognition awards will also go to:

- Jay Barracato, who was honored for his help in creating the Fairfax County Park Authority's first winter concert series, Bluegrass Barn at Frying Pan Farm Park.
- Roger Dittman, a Twin Lakes Golf Course volunteer since 1999, who was cited for his willingness to respond on a moment's notice to fill emergency volunteer position vacancies.
- Dottie O'Rourke, who has been enchanting audiences with her stitchery and handicrafts, storytelling and history programs at Sully Historic Site for more than 18 years. She has provided more than 5,400 hours of volunteer service during her tenure.
- Tom Webster, who was honored for his commitment and dedication to great customer service at Greendale Golf Course and his willingness to work whenever needed on variable weekend shifts.

The Elly Doyle Park Service Award program was established by the Fairfax County Park Authority in 1988 in recognition of former board member and Chair Ellamae Doyle's years of outstanding service. Various awards will be presented at a gala evening ceremony honoring dozens of park volunteers as well as local philanthropists, historians and environmentalists in November. The awards program is sponsored in part by the Fairfax County Park Foundation.

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



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