



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



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Information Release

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DPWES Wins 2016 Harold L. Strickland Partnership Award

Fairfax County’s Department of Public Works and Environmental Services (DPWES) has been selected to receive the 2016 Harold L. Strickland Partnership and Collaboration Award. At its meeting on September 14, 2016, the Fairfax County Park Authority Board voted to honor DPWES for a long list of storm water projects it has completed in partnership with the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) for the benefit of the community.

Storm water runoff from rain and melting snow can cause flooding and pollution in lakes and streams that degrade water quality and threaten sensitive stream valleys. By partnering with FCPA, DPWES has solved past storm water problems and helped to address and hopefully prevent problems in the future.

These collaborative efforts have taken place at locations throughout the county, such as Kings West Swim Club/Rabbit Branch Park, Brookfield Park, Lee District Park, and the Spring Hill and South Run RECenters. Stream restoration efforts include work at Rabbit Run/Quincy Park, Sandy Creek Stream, Mason Neck West Park, and Big Rocky Run. The partnership also included the upgrading of Great Falls Nike Field. Parks have benefitted from \$29 million in leveraged funding from the work.

Established in 2015, the Harold L. Strickland award recognizes the value and importance of the teamwork and cooperation necessary to provide varied constituencies with state-of-the-art facilities in Fairfax County parks, often at limited or reduced capital expense to the taxpayer. The Board asks that Strickland nominees demonstrate significant long-term accomplishments that illustrate tangible benefits from partnerships and collaborations.

“I am ecstatic about our collaboration with DPWES on storm water projects and-natural resource stewardship. Through the DPWES/FCPA partnership, more than 2,500 pounds of pollutants and 110,000 pounds of sediment are removed annually. In addition to improving water quality in county waterways, the projects significantly enhance park habitats, streams, and ecosystems, and create an improved park experience for all. Working together, we are improving the water quality in-our watershed and protecting our stream valley parks and waterways,” said Park Authority Director Kirk Kincannon.

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

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