



# County Response to the Bamboo Ordinance on Public Land

Update to the Board of Supervisors' Environmental Committee

Joint Agency Presentation

February 28, 2023

# Background on the Bamboo Ordinance

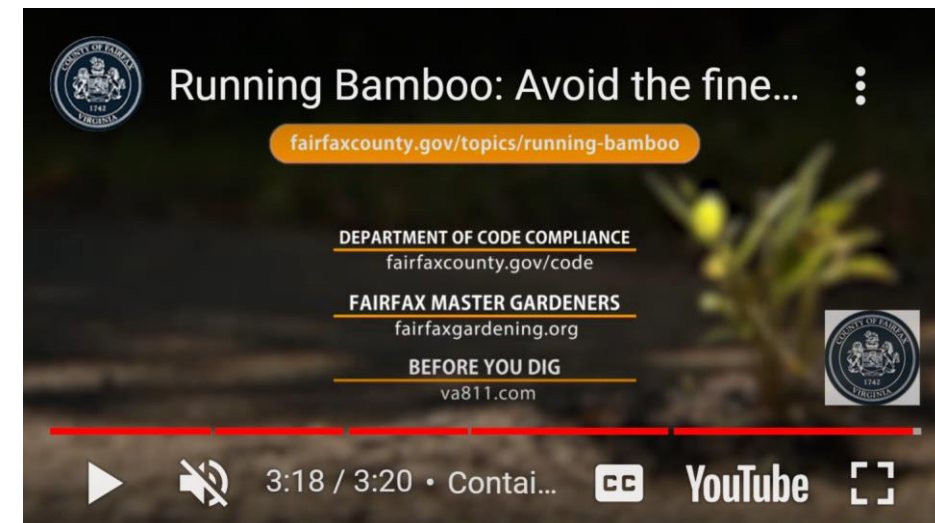
# Overview of Running Bamboo Ordinance

- A landowner must not allow running bamboo to spread from his or her property to any public right-of-way or adjoining property not owned by the landowner.
- Civil Penalties sought in General District Court
  - \$50: first unresolved violation (representing 1 day of violation)
  - \$250: If violation remains unresolved (representing 5 days of violation)
  - \$200: If there is a separate bamboo encroachment from the property within 12 months
  - \$2,000: Maximum in a 12-month period, per encroachment

# Cooperative Outreach Initiatives

## Websites:

- [Invasive Species | Public Works and Environmental Services \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/public-works-environmental-services)
- [Running Bamboo | Topics \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/topics/running-bamboo)
- Educational videos on bamboo removal techniques/policy
- Mailers on identification and management options



# Department of Code Compliance's Response

- Focuses on establishing a dialogue and working agreement with landowners
- DCC seeks compliance or progress towards compliance within a reasonable timeframe
- Conducts investigations to assess progress and effectiveness of management strategies
- Based on current complaint volume, DCC predicts it has sufficient staff to enforce the ordinance, but may need to reassess for future budget cycles.

# Response to the Bamboo Ordinance on Public Land

# Fairfax County Public School's Response

- Aware of two schools with bamboo growth on the property.
  - FCPS Grounds Crews taking action to suppress.
- FCPS grounds management will continue to work with neighboring property owners to maintain compliance with bamboo ordinance.
- FCPS will continue to prioritize use of native plants during construction and grounds related projects in compliance with the PFM and School Board Policy 8542 – Environmental Stewardship.



# Facilities Management Department's Response

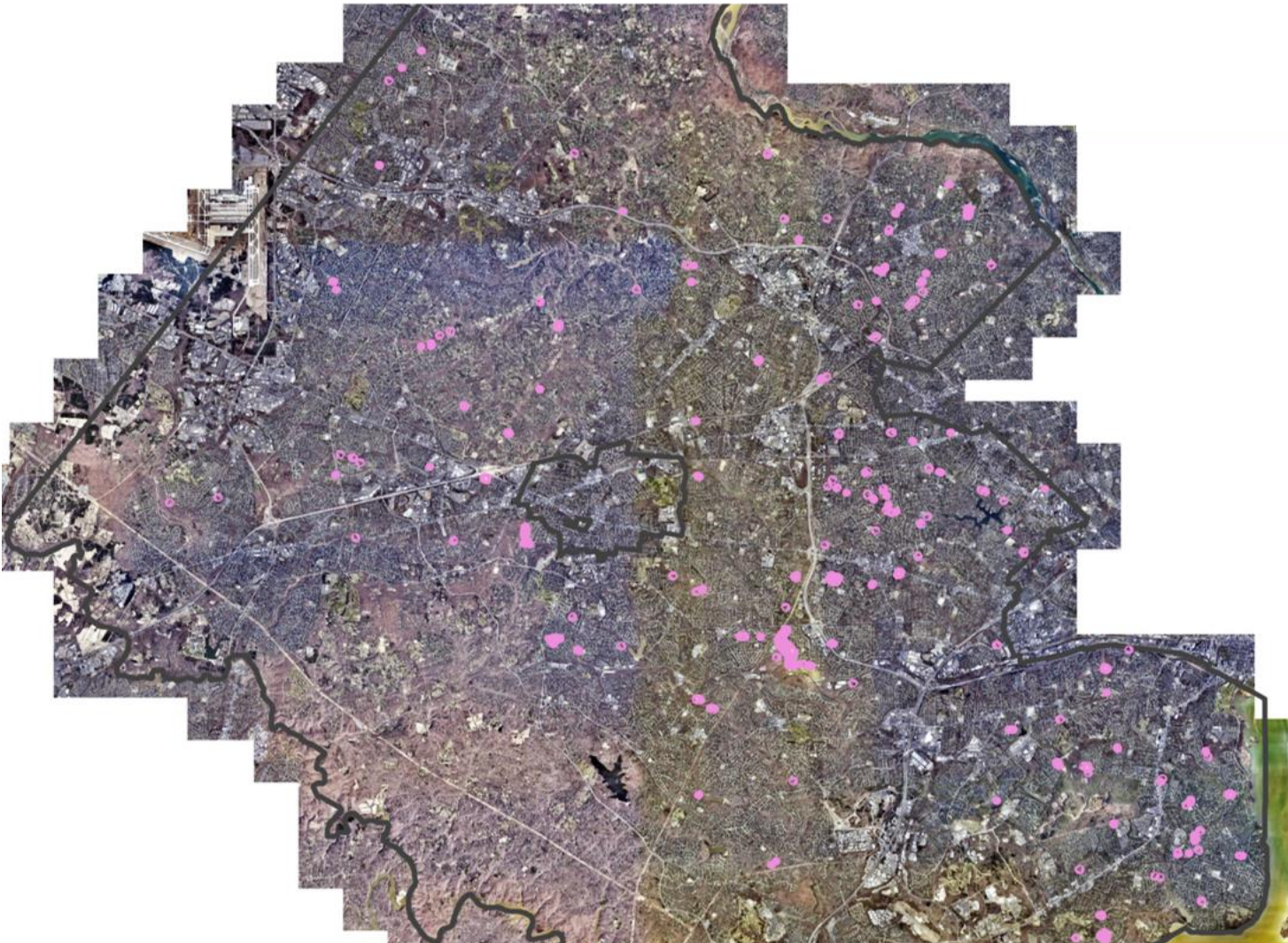
FMD 2023 Bamboo  
Removal Count

Total: 1.5 ACRES

<i>Property name</i>	<i>Square Footage</i>
<b>Dranesville District Government Center</b>	<b>2000</b>
<b>School Lane lot</b>	<b>6480</b>
<b>Woodrow Wilson Library</b>	<b>3500</b>
<b>Penn Daw Fire Station 11</b>	<b>4800</b>
<b>Hollin Hall Center</b>	<b>6600</b>
<b>James Lee Comm Center</b>	<b>650</b>
<b>Lewinsville Parcel</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>Mason District Government Center</b>	<b>43,000</b>
<b>TOTAL IN ACREAGE</b>	<b>1.5 ACRES</b>



# Fairfax County Park Authority



## Current Status of Bamboo on Parkland

- 185+ Bamboo Patches on FCPA property identified since 2015
- ~250 acres of bamboo

# Fairfax County Park Authority's Response

- Established the Bamboo Project Prioritization Protocol based on
  - Site Conditions
    - *Ease of access*
    - *Size*
    - *Proximity to rare resources*
  - Cooperation from neighboring landowners
  - Fairfax County Vulnerability Index
  - Other factors
- Continues to support outreach by distributing running bamboo educational materials
- Records and tracks complaints and occurrences of bamboo on FCPA property



# Fairfax County Park Authority's Response

- Bamboo management on parkland will be a long-term issue
- FCPA has requested recurring and dedicated funds for contracted bamboo removal and suppression projects on FCPA property
- Questions?

