



County Response to the Bamboo Ordinance on Public Land

Update

Joint Agency Presentation

October 3, 2023

Background on the Bamboo Ordinance

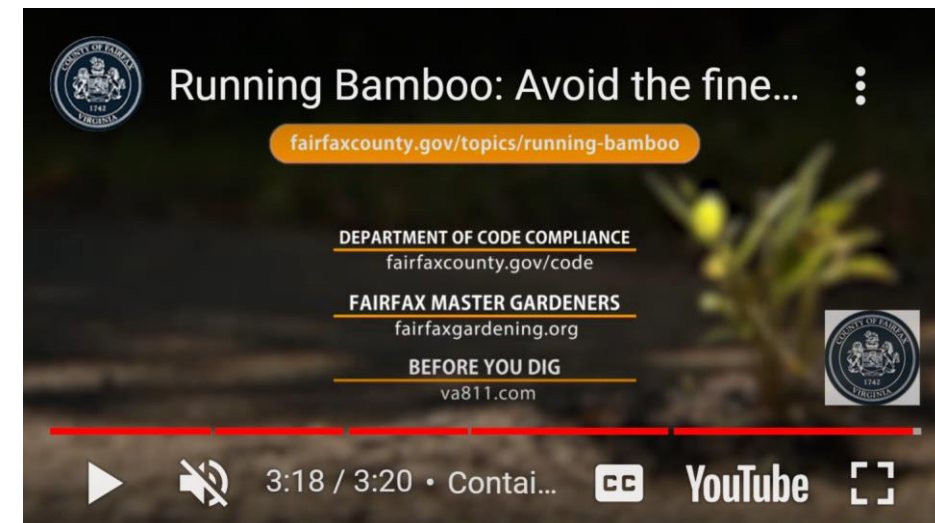
Overview of Running Bamboo Ordinance

- 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-and-environmental-services/invasive-species)
- [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
- Bamboo Management Webinar to be offered



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 Redevelopment and Housing Authority Response

- Limited presence of bamboo on FCRHA owned and operated properties
 - Kingsley (Providence)
 - Briar Cliff (Providence)
 - Penderbrook (Springfield)
 - Cedar Ridge (Hunter Mill)
- Elimination/remediation underway
- Incorporate into maintenance plans and oversight monitoring



Fairfax County Public School's Response

- FCPS grounds management works with neighboring property owners to maintain compliance with bamboo ordinance.
- FCPS prioritizes the use of native plants during construction and grounds-improvement projects in compliance with the PFM and School Board Policy 8542 – Environmental Stewardship



Fairfax County Public School's Response, Cont.

- Five school properties with bamboo growth:
 - Hybla Valley ES, Wolf Trap ES, North Springfield ES, Rose Hill ES, Wilton Woods Admin Center
- FCPS is working to suppress the growth at these locations.
- FCPS has developed an ongoing process for bamboo removal and containment:
 - Staff have been trained in invasive plant identification.
 - FCPS uses third-party contractors for the containment and eradication of bamboo.
 - FCPS tracks and monitors bamboo complaints and progress for eradication in a work order database.



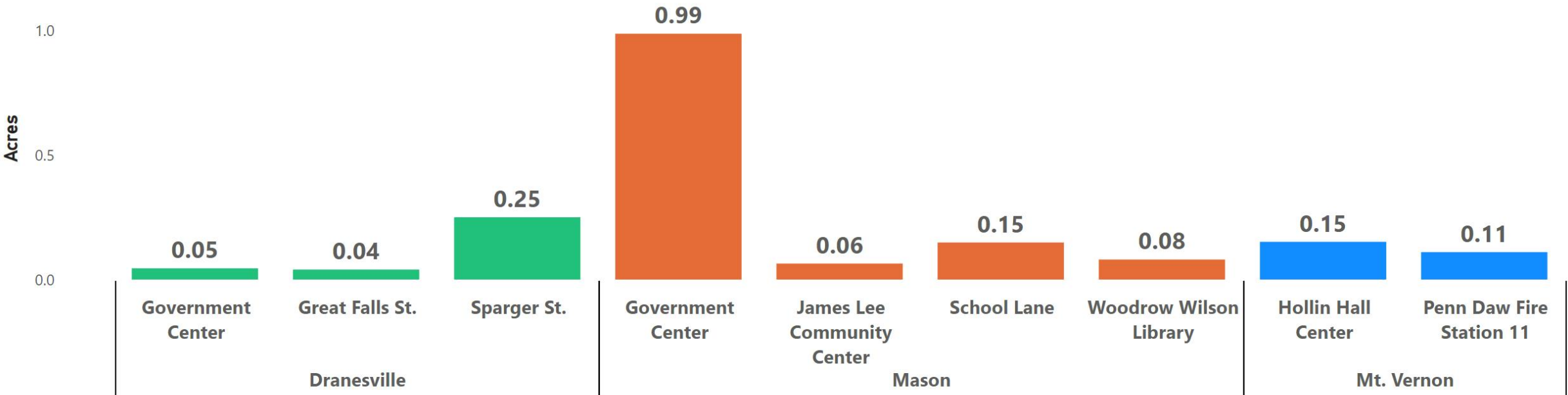
Facilities Management Department Bamboo Report September 2023

The Facilities Management Department has identified, removed and is treating 1.8 acres of bamboo located throughout nine sites.



1.88
Total Acres of Bamboo
Removed

Acres of Bamboo Removed by Property Name and District

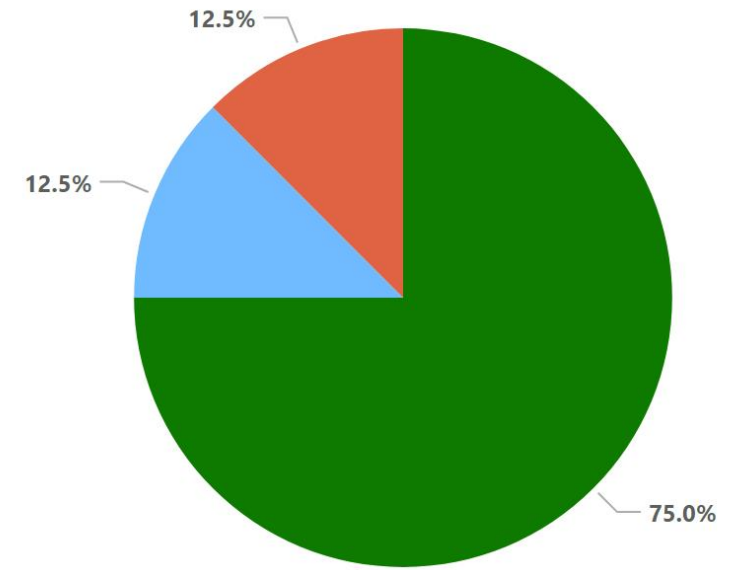


30,973

Total Acres of Land Owned by
Fairfax County



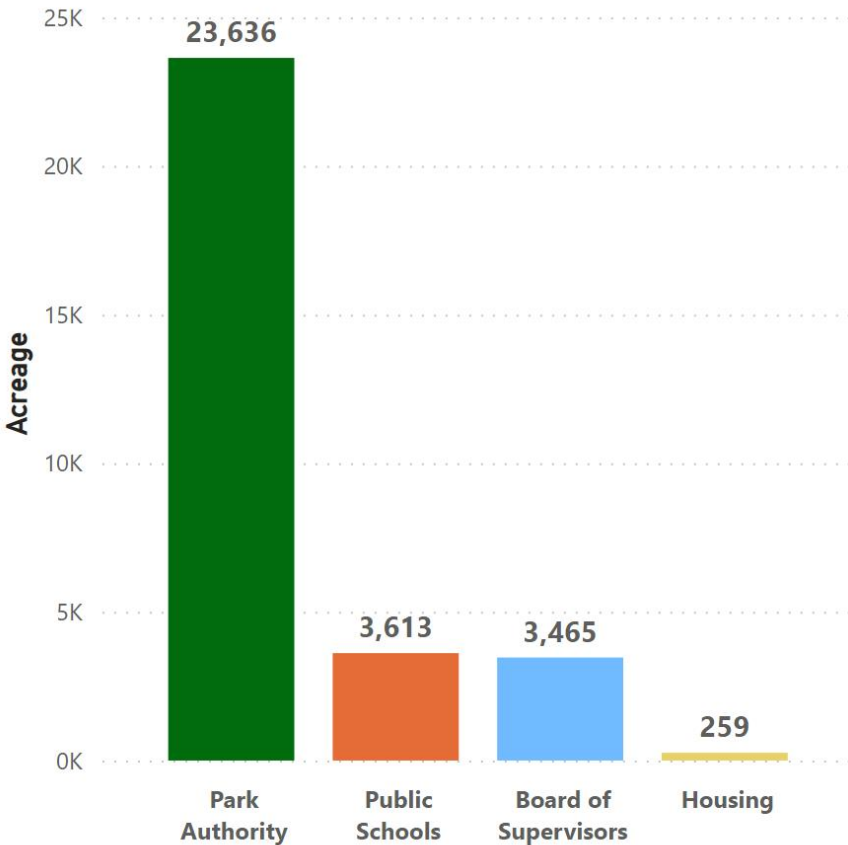
Breakdown of County Owned Land



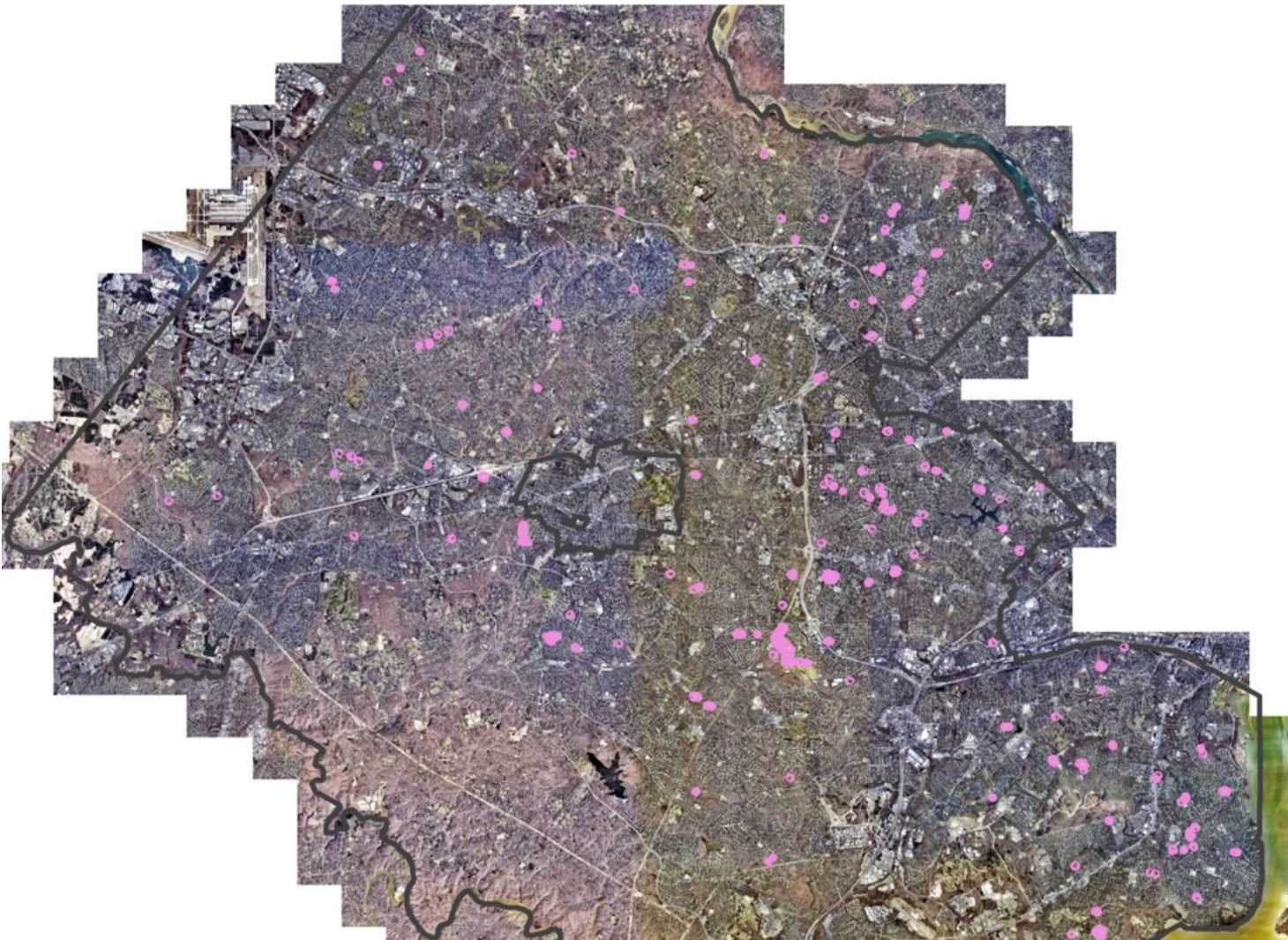
County Entity ● Park Authority ● Board of Supervisors ● Public Schools

*The Facilities Management
Department will continue to
respond to, remove and treat
bamboo infestation.*

Acreege Owned Per County Entity



Fairfax County Park Authority



Current Status of Bamboo on Parkland

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

Note the patches in the map are enhanced to improve visibility. They are not to scale.

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



Next Steps

- Bamboo management will be a long-term issue, especially on parkland
- FCPA requests recurring funds for dedicated staff and contractor-supported bamboo removal and suppression projects on FCPA property
 - Estimates 15 years and \$9.25M necessary to treat FCPA's identified acreage
- Questions?

