



Tree Action Plan 2018

Update

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October 2, 2018

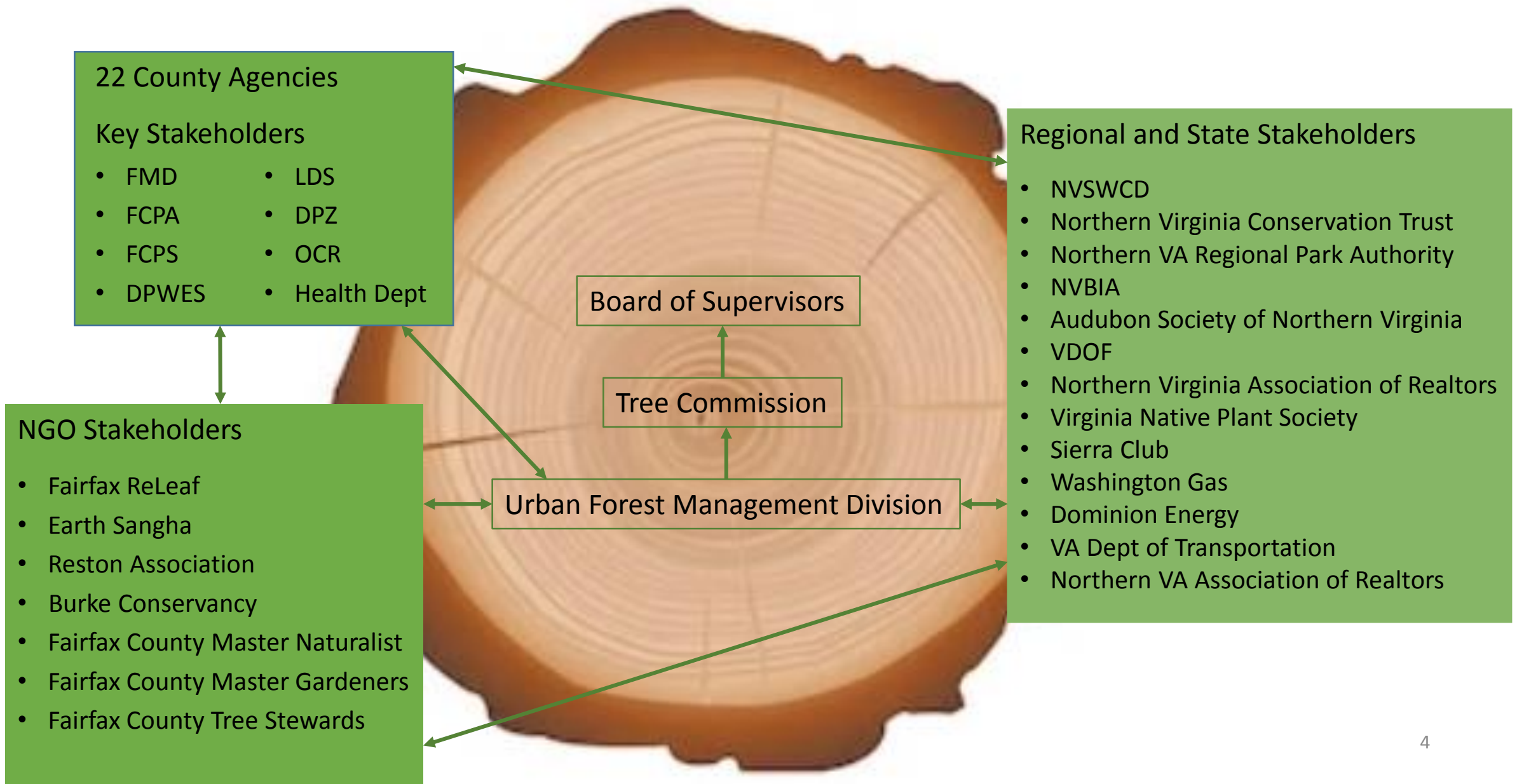
Tree Action Plan 2018 - Background

- Tree Action Plan adopted by Board in December 2006
- Tree Commission and UFMD began update process in 2015
- Stakeholder reviews and community input process
- Approval of Tree Action Plan by Tree Commission Sept. 20
- Brief Board Environmental Committee and request endorsement of the Tree Action Plan 2018 – Oct. 2, 2018
- Board of Supervisors' approval of Tree Action Plan 2018

Tree Action Plan 2018 - Work Group

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Robert Vickers | Tree Commission, Chair (Dranesville District) |
| Jim McGlone | Tree Commission, Vice-chair (VA Dept of Forestry) |
| Gerald Peters | Tree Commission (NVSWCD) |
| Jeanne Kadet | Tree Commission (Braddock District) |
| Charles Smith | Stormwater Planning Division, Branch Chief |
| Hugh Whitehead | Urban Forest Management Division, UF III |
| Eleanor Quigley | Tree Commission (retired) |

Tree Action Plan 2018 – Stakeholders



Tree Action Plan 2006 vs. 2018

Urban Forest: Trees and forest resources in and around urban community ecosystems that are managed for the physiological, sociological, economic, and aesthetic benefits that trees provide society.

| Initial Tree Action Plan - 2006 | TAP 2018 |
|--|--|
| Our relationship to and management of the urban forest less well understood | Urban Forest more clearly defined relative to interaction with people, behavior, and activities |
| Less known about benefits of the urban forest from a quality of life perspective | Greater emphasis on benefits and contribution to quality of life |
| Complex detailed strategy | Clear goals, relatable to stakeholder operational plans |
| Lacked clear mechanism for engagement and implementation | Plan applied to operations of multiple agencies and organizations to develop a Community of Practice with clear pathways for communication and reporting |
| | |

Clear, Relatable Goals

| TAP Recommendation | Agency or Organization | Practice | Status |
|--|--|--|--------|
| 1. Expand What We Have | | | |
| a. Plant trees on residential and commercial properties, public lands, and adjacent to streams, streets, and trails. | | | |
| i. Plant trees on residential properties, parks, commercial and public properties and extend outward into linear corridors both to expand the environmental benefits and provide connection through the landscape. | FCPA, SPD, CAP, MTF, UFMD, FMD, FR, ES | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outreach and education promoting tree planting and preservation on private properties. - Pursue tree planting opportunities on county properties. | |
| ii. In planting design and installation, use good quality plant materials that are inspected and properly installed in accordance with state standards and the Fairfax County PFM. | FCPA, SPD, CAP, SDID, UFMD, FMD | - Effectively restore natural resources adversely impacted by activities within forested areas for long term viability and delivery of urban forest benefits. | |
| iii. Plant native trees and other vegetation to mimic natural forest community types. Plant native trees now for the next generation of canopy trees. | FCPA, SPD, CAP, SDID, UFMD, FMD, ASNV | - Encourage expansion of natural areas beyond park and common open space boundaries. | |



Urban Forest of Fairfax County



Natural Area:

- Ecologically intact
- Built-in sustainability (resilient)
- Greater environmental services



Built Environment:

- Ecologically compromised (fragmented)
- Increased stress (maintenance required)
- Greater potential socio-economic services (proximity to people)

Achieving Urban Forest Sustainability

Asset Management Goals

1. Know what we have
2. Protect and improve what we have
3. Expand what we have
4. Improve UF Policies & Processes
5. Communicate & Build Partnerships

Sustainability

- ❖ Establishing appropriate balance between **mitigation of stress** and **benefits** at acceptable risk
- ❖ Improve forest health for resilience
- ❖ Community of Practice = Collective Impact
- ❖ Periodic monitoring to assess the structure, function and value of our trees and forests

Recognizing the Benefits

“Rather than set a new tree canopy goal, we believe it is most important to focus on raising awareness of the full spectrum of benefits that trees provide.” - Tree Action Plan 2018

Urban Forestry/Urban Greening Research

Green Cities: Good Health


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INTRODUCTION RESOURCES FUTURE RESEARCH REFERENCES

Metro nature - including trees, parks, gardens, and natural areas - enhance quality of life in cities and towns. The experience of nature improves human health and well-being in many ways. Nearly 40 years of scientific studies tell us how. Here's the research ...

RESEARCH THEMES

- Livable Cities
- Social Strengths
- Local Economics
- Place Attachment & Meaning
- Crime & Public Safety
- Safe Streets
- Active Living
- Reduced Risk
- Wellness & Physiology
- Healing & Therapy
- Mental Health & Function
- Work & Learning
- Lifecycle & Gender



credit: Guy Kramer

Livable Cities

Throughout time people have noted that nearby nature is an important part of places that are livable and have a high quality of life. Having gardens, parks, and trees in cities leads to life satisfaction and a positive outlook. [READ ABOUT THE RESEARCH](#)

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Environmental Benefits

- Air Quality
- Soils
- Stormwater Management
- Water Quality
- Carbon Storage

Quality of Life Benefits

- Health Benefits
- Wildlife Habitat
- Economic Benefits

Supports Board Vision and Initiatives

- Board's Environmental Vision: "It is the county's overarching vision to attain a quality environment that provides for a high quality of life and is sustainable for future generations."
- Board's Strategic Plan to Facilitate the Economic Success of Fairfax County
 - Create Places Where People Want to Be
 - Invest in Natural and Physical Infrastructure
- Live Healthy Fairfax
 - Urban Greening = Stress Reduction = Disease prevention
- One Fairfax
 - Racial and Social Equity

