## The Virginia Water Preservation Alliance Endorses a Declaration of Fairfax County's Commitment to Protecting Local Waterways

## Whereas,

Fairfax County is home to vital water resources, including the Potomac River, Occoquan Reservoir, Accotink Creek, and numerous smaller lakes, streams, and wetlands;

These water bodies provide recreational opportunities, habitat for wildlife, and essential ecological services for County residents;

Pollution from stormwater runoff, litter, fertilizers, and improper disposal of waste threatens the health of these natural resources and the communities that depend on them;

Protecting local water quality aligns with Fairfax County's Environmental Vision, stormwater management programs, and regional commitments to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed;

Community education, voluntary stewardship, and youth engagement are essential strategies in advancing sustainable water protection;

## Therefore, be it resolved that the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors:

- 1. Publicly reaffirms its commitment to protecting local water resources through ongoing public education, departmental cooperation, and existing environmental programs;
- 2. Encourages residents, schools, and businesses to continue voluntary pollution reduction efforts such as rain gardens, proper fertilizer use, and litter prevention;
- 3. Recognizes the value of community and youth engagement in water stewardship and encourages continued collaboration with existing programs and partners;

- 4. Supports increased awareness of existing public resources on stream health, such as water quality reports and stormwater information already made available by county agencies;
- 5. Encourages county staff and relevant departments to identify and promote opportunities for residents to participate in water protection efforts using current tools and programs;
- 6. Recognizes the importance of access to clean water resources regardless of individuals race, nationality, ethnicity, or other protected class.

<b>PASSED</b>	<b>AND</b>	<b>ADOPTED</b> this	day of	, 2025