



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



INFORMATION RELEASE

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September 11, 2025

FCPA Hosts Drop-In Interviews at Frying Pan Farm Park and Burke Lake Park

The Fairfax County Park Authority is hiring at two of its most popular parks. Looking for a fun and fulfilling part-time job this fall and winter? Join the team at Frying Pan Farm Park in Herndon or Burke Lake Park in Fairfax Station.

Drop-in interviews will be held at **Frying Pan Farm Park** on **Sept. 13 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Sept. 17 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.**

Burke Lake Park in Fairfax Station will also host drop-in interviews at the **Burke Lake Park Info Center** on **Sept. 18 and 25 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.**

Appointments are not necessary, just come by to explore job opportunities, complete an application and interview on the spot, all in one visit.

Frying Pan Farm Park is located at 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Available positions at Frying Pan Farm Park include:

- Maintenance worker
- Equestrian assistant
- Farmhand
- Country Store cashier

Burke Lake Park is located at 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Available positions at Burke Lake Park include:

- Manager on duty (MOD)
- Maintenance

Can't make it to the drop-in interviews? No worries! View job ads and apply now for open positions at the Burke Lake Jobs webpage at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/burke-lake/employment-opportunities; or at the Nature & History Jobs webpage at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/resource-management/employment-opportunities.

View all employment opportunities by visiting the Park Authority Jobs website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/jobs. To apply for any of the positions listed, email resume to: FCPAJOBS@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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Resident Curator Applications Accepted for Dranesville Tavern through Oct. 10

An application for curatorship has been received for the historic Dranesville Tavern. The Fairfax County Park Authority will continue to accept resident curator applications for the rehabilitation and long-term maintenance of the tavern until Friday, Oct. 10, 2025, at 5 p.m.

The Resident Curator Program offers long-term lease agreements to qualified tenants in beautiful public park settings. The curator leases are without charge in exchange for a financial commitment and approved rehabilitation of the Park Authority's underutilized historic properties.

The Dranesville Tavern is one of the few remaining examples of a rural Virginia inn or ordinary. Built at the intersection of two major roads (Georgetown Pike and Alexandria Leesburg Pike), it served travelers moving through the region. Built in 1823 by Stanford Cockerille, it originally consisted of two two-story log structures connected by a dogtrot. The inn changed hands over the years with various owners adding onto the original structure. The tavern remained open to the public until 1946, and to boarders until 1968. In the 1970s, the tavern was threatened by the expansion of Route 7 until FCPA purchased it and moved it 135 feet away from its original location.

To identify potential lessees in the Resident Curator Program, FCPA is seeking proposals for the rehabilitation of the house in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. Curators will be determined through an open and competitive process, based on several criteria, including a formal proposal, demonstrated experience and competency in historic preservation techniques, financial capabilities and the incorporation of public benefits.

Complete application forms and additional information about the properties are available by visiting the Resident Curator Program's Dranesville Tavern webpage at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/resident-curator-program/dranesville-tavern.

For more information, contact Stephanie Langton, Resident Curator Program manager, at 571-407-6586 or by email at stephanie.langton@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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NEWS RELEASE

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September 11, 2025

Join the Park Authority To Celebrate National Public Lands Day

The Fairfax County Park Authority invites residents to join in the nationwide celebration of National Public Lands Day on Saturday, Sept. 27. Community members are encouraged to get involved by taking part in a wide variety of service activities that help protect the natural, cultural and recreational resources of our treasured park system.

With the help of partners and community organizers, the Park Authority is pleased to host volunteer opportunities in every supervisory district across Fairfax County.

- **Braddock District – Wakefield Recreation Center**
Trash cleanup
Saturday, Sept. 27 | 9–11 a.m.
- **Dranesville District – Difficult Run Stream Valley Park**
Trash cleanup and trimming overgrowth along trail
Saturday, Sept. 27 | 9–11 a.m.
- **Franconia District – Huntley Meadows Park**
Watershed cleanup
Saturday, Sept. 27 | 9–11 a.m.
- **Hunter Mill District – Colvin Run Mill Park**
Invasive plant pull
Saturday, Sept. 27 | 10 a.m.–noon
- **Mason District – Hidden Oaks Nature Center**
Invasive plant pull
Saturday, Sept. 27 | 9–11 a.m.
- **Mount Vernon District – Laurel Hill Park**
Vegetation removal around historic rail boxcar feature along the Cross County Trail
Saturday, Sept. 27 | 10 a.m.–noon
- **Providence District – Oakmont Park**
Hands-On Local Habitat (HOLH) restoration project
Saturday, Sept. 27 | 10 a.m.–noon
- **Providence District – Eakin Community Park**
Invasive Management Area (IMA) Workday
Saturday, Sept. 27 | 9 a.m.–noon
- **Springfield District – Twin Lakes Golf Course**
Invasive Management Area (IMA) workday
Saturday, Sept. 27 | 9–11 a.m.



- **Sully District – Sully Historic Site**
Invasive Management Area (IMA) workday
Saturday, Sept. 27 | 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

Full details are available on the National Public Lands Day webpage. While some opportunities already have enough volunteers, many are still accepting sign-ups. For those unable to attend on Sept. 27, additional opportunities to serve can be found year-round through the Volunteer Management System (VMS).

Since 1994, National Public Lands Day has mobilized volunteers of all ages to engage in a celebration of service and stewardship of America’s public lands. The event is the largest single-day national volunteer effort to preserve, restore, improve and enjoy these shared spaces. This year’s theme, “Our Home Outdoors,” highlights the importance of parks as places where we connect with nature, history and each other.

“The Fairfax County Park Authority is proud to be the steward of more than 23,000 acres of parkland and 334 miles of trails,” said Park Authority Executive Director Jai Cole. “Our parks truly are ‘our home outdoors,’ places where people come together to explore, play, learn and recharge. We are deeply grateful for the thousands of volunteers whose time, energy and passion ensure these spaces continue to thrive for generations to come.”

For questions about National Public Lands Day, contact the Public Information Office at parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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NEWS RELEASE

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August 21, 2025

Discover the History of Fairfax County at the 2025 Historic Oak Hill Open House

Step back in time and explore one of the oldest homes in Fairfax County during the annual Historic Oak Hill Open House on Saturday, Sept. 20, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Built in 1790 by Richard Fitzhugh, a descendant of one of the first land-grant holders in Northern Virginia, Oak Hill reflects the county's deep historic roots. Originally constructed in the late Georgian style, the home was renovated in the 1940s in the Colonial Revival style by noted restoration architect Walter M. Macomber.

In 2004, Seville Homes, the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust, the Fairfax County Park Authority and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors partnered to preserve Oak Hill through a historic and conservation easement, which also protects its centuries-old boxwoods.

Important Visitor Information

Historic Oak Hill is a private residence and is only open to the public during this once-a-year event. Visitors are encouraged to carpool and use parking available along the residential streets adjacent to Oak Hill.

Event Partners

The Historic Oak Hill Open House is made possible through the partnership of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, the Fairfax County Park Authority, the Fairfax County Park Foundation and the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust.

For more information about Oak Hill and this year's open house, please visit the Oak Hill website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/oak-hill.

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The Fairfax County Park Foundation is a nonprofit 501(c)(3), that provides funds, obtains grants, and creates partnerships that supplement tax dollars to meet the needs of the Fairfax County parkland, facilities and services. For more information about the Foundation, visit the foundation's website or call 703-324-8582.

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September 11, 2025

Improvements Planned for Franconia Rec Center To Include Dedicated Racquet Courts for Tennis and Pickleball

The Fairfax County Park Authority recently announced a proposal to establish dedicated tennis and pickleball courts at Franconia Rec Center, building on improvements currently in progress and recently completed on the property. These changes would involve returning the existing dual-use pickleball/tennis court, “Tennis Court #3,” back to a tennis-only court and converting half of the existing tennis practice courts to pickleball-only. The proposed redesign would provide a total of three dedicated tennis courts, six dedicated pickleball courts and two practice courts with a stroking wall to better serve the two racquet sports.

The Park Authority is committed to meeting the diverse recreational needs of the community and invites the public to provide input on the proposal for racquet courts. In an effort to provide comparative playing opportunities for both racquet sports, the Park Authority is beginning a search for sites to provide each sport with dedicated courts by utilizing the existing court surfaces and creatively working within those spaces. To meet the growing demand for racquet facilities, the Park Authority opened dedicated racquet courts for both pickleball and tennis players at Wakefield Park in Annandale.

The proposed practice court conversion to two pickleball courts could start as early as late September. The converted courts could be open this winter with a blacktop surface, fencing, nets and playing lines available. The project’s final completion would be in spring 2026. Until the final completion of the converted pickleball courts, “Tennis Court #3” will remain a dual-use court for both pickleball and tennis, with the portable pickleball nets available. Additionally, community members are encouraged to use the Park Amenity Locator to identify courts throughout the county available for play.

The public is invited to share feedback on the proposed changes at Franconia Rec Center. Comments will be accepted until 5 p.m. on Sept. 28, 2025. To submit comments online, visit the PublicInput project page.

Franconia Park is located at 6601 Telegraph Road in Alexandria. For more information, contact the Public Information Office at Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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Strawberry Park Playground Offers Dynamic New Destination at Mosaic

Fairfax County Park Authority and EDENS are pleased to welcome the community to a celebration for the opening of Strawberry Park Playground at Mosaic District in Fairfax at 5 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 26. The event will include a ribbon-cutting ceremony, live music, face-painting and activities for kids.

“The Strawberry Park Playground is a wonderful addition to the community and Fairfax County Parks,” said Jai Cole, executive director of the Fairfax County Park Authority. “We are grateful to EDENS for investing in this beautiful park and fun play space. Recreational spaces belong in both suburban and micro-urban areas. We appreciate EDENS’ partnership in bringing this fun play space to life in an area that has so many families, so much energy, and such a range of activity for people to enjoy.”

Located at 2911 District Ave., around the corner from Jinya, the playground features a vibrant mural and an array of play features, including a climbing cube, spinner and springer rides, and outdoor drums. This public-private partnership enhances access to urban high-quality recreational experiences in the Fairfax County Park system.

“It’s been an honor to work alongside Fairfax County Park Authority in bringing this new playground to life for the Mosaic community,” said Bill Caldwell, chief development officer of EDENS, which owns and operates Mosaic District. “We are proud to celebrate the addition of a new park. Over more than 15 years, Mosaic has grown into a vibrant canvas for shopping, dining and genuine human connection. A new playground adds yet another dimension — a space where families and neighbors gather.”

The new Strawberry Park mural, which faces the playground and features long-time Mosaic District resident, Thy Pham, was created by deaf painter and muralist Nico Cathcart, whose work creates realistic, socially informed works on walls and canvas. Her paintings can be found in the permanent collection of the Virginia Museum of History and Culture and have been featured in prominent galleries across the county.

Strawberry Park will be open to the public from 8 a.m.-10 p.m.

About Fairfax County Park Authority

Fairfax County Park Authority enriches the quality of life for all members of the community through an enduring park system that provides a healthy environment, preserves natural and cultural heritage, offers inspiring recreational experiences and promotes healthy lifestyles. Learn more by visiting the FCPA website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/.

About EDENS

12055 Government Center Parkway
Fairfax, VA 22035-5500
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks

   @fairfaxparks



For Inclusion and ADA Support,
call 703-324-8563, TTY 711.

EDENS is a retail and mixed-use real estate owner, developer and steward of a nationally leading portfolio of more than 100 open-air retail and mixed-use places in high-growth markets coast to coast. The company's purpose is to enrich community through human engagement because when people come together, they feel a part of something bigger than themselves and prosperity follows— economically, socially, culturally and soulfully.

EDENS has offices in key markets including D.C., Boston, Dallas, Columbia, South Carolina, Atlanta, Miami, Charlotte, Houston, Denver and San Francisco. For additional information about the company and its portfolio, visit the EDENS website at www.edens.com.