It’s Almost Here! - Waste and Recycling Workers Week - June 17, 2022

The time to celebrate Waste and Recycling Workers Week is coming soon! Are you ready? Join the celebration the week of June 17. Here’s the link to a website that has celebration resources if you need some ideas: Celebration Resources - Waste and Recycling Workers Week (wasterecyclingworkersweek.org)

The SWMP is taking this opportunity to recognize the work our county solid waste workers do every day. Next month we will feature profiles of solid waste workers from our collectors community. If you’d like one of your workers featured in the next edition of the Hauler Newsletter, please email us at recycling@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Virtual Collectors Meeting - Thursday June 2, 5 p.m.

Mark your calendar! The first quarterly Collector’s Meeting is this Thursday, June 2, from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

This will be a virtual meeting in Microsoft Teams. You will received an email invite with the link to the meeting a few days before June 2.

The draft agenda for the meeting includes:

- Safety Minute
- Introductions
- Permitting News
- Enforcement News
- Communications with Customers

If you have any questions please contact Charlie Forbes at Charles.forbes@fairfaxcounty.gov.

See you there!
June is National Safety Month

National Safety Month (NSM) is an annual month-long observance each June. During National Safety Month, individuals and organizations participate by making efforts to reduce the leading causes of unintentional injury and death at work, on the road, and in homes and communities.

The weekly topics for NSM 2022 are Musculoskeletal Disorders; Workplace Impairment; Injury Prevention; and Slips, Trips, and Falls.

Please visit the National Safety Council’s website for more information and resources to share with your employees.

https://www.nsc.org/workplace/national-safety-month

Fairfax County Recycling Rate at 47% for CY 2021

Fairfax County recorded a 47% recycling rate for calendar year 2021. This was down slightly from the previous calendar year - partly because a significant portion of yard waste not being recycled in 2021 (due to on-going labor shortages in the industry); and the increase in municipal solid waste tonnage. The largest portion of our recycling consisted of yard waste; followed by metal, paper and cardboard, and single stream recyclables. Glass and food recycling continued to increase in 2021, but still make up a smaller portion of the recycling stream. The other categories consist of materials like glass, food, motor oil, oil filters, antifreeze, batteries, electronics, and textiles.

Fairfax County is required by law to report to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) the county’s recycling rate each year. The reports received from the waste collectors are vital to ensuring that the SWMP accurately captures all recycling taking place in the county. Thank you for assisting us in completing this important reporting requirement!