
Prince William County Environmental Services takes the Lead in Promoting Clean Waterways within the District

Prince William County Government and its residents care about the health of their local streams. During the first half of 2016, a total of 699 volunteers put in over 2176.5 hours to clean up waterways in Prince William County under the District/Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Adopt-A-Stream programs. These volunteers covered over 62.59 miles stretch of County streams, pulling out a total of approximately 12899 pounds of trash.

Kudos to all the volunteers for achieving these outstanding results!



The North Face Outlet Staff of Potomac Mills Mall- Neabsco Creek Watershed

With the commencement of the new Floatable Monitoring (FM) program across the County this July (2016), it is believed that better results will be achieved within the District to promote good water quality in Prince William County. The FM program is aimed at assessing trash loadings to streams thereby reducing non-point source pollutant that impact water quality from urbanized and industrialized areas. The program will also help strengthen the County's Municipal Separate Storm Sewers (MS4) permit and work closely with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to promote the well-being of County residents.

The Floatable Monitoring program will kick off in the following communities and sites:

- Andrew Leitch Park (Neabsco Creek watershed)
- Manassas Forge Drive Community (Bull Run Watershed)
- Dawkins Branch (Broad Run Watershed)
- Flat Branch (Bull Run Watershed)
- Cornice Place and Old Bridge Road Community (Occoquan Watershed)
- Dewey's Creek- Dumfries (Quantico Creek Watershed)

County residents are all invited to take part in this new program in their respective communities. For more information about monitoring events at the different locations, please write to: waterquality@pwsxcd.org.



Add-on to the May Newsletter Adopt-A-Stream Volunteers List

The following list is an addition to the Adopt -A- Stream list of volunteers that was published on the May edition of the Newsletter.

A special "Thank You" goes to the following:

- The City of Manassas - 27 trash bags
- Friends of Occoquan -135 trash bags
- Eden Potter- 3 trash bags
- Boy Scout Troop 1188 - 12 trash bags
- Lyon Family - 6 trash bags
- Girl Scout Troop 4134 -13 trash bags
- Cub Scout Pack 35 - 12 trash bags
- The North Face Outlet Potomac Mills Mall - 260 Pounds of trash

Promoting Clean Communities and Clean Waterways in PWC



The North Face Outlet Staff of Potomac Mills Mall- Woodbridge Under the Leadership of [Lara Cohen](#)

Prince William Soil & Water Conservation District and the County Government Appreciate Volunteers' Efforts



Community Recognition Award by Congressman Hon. Gerald E. Connolly of Virginia for Volunteer Prince William



Volunteer Recognition Award: Prince William Soil & Water Conservation District

How can you help Prince William County Waterways to be trash free?

To check cleanup programs in your neighborhood please, click [here](#).

To help you get started with a new cleanup site: [visit](#).

Prince William Soil and Water Conservation District is working together with other organizations to reduce the amount of trash in local waterways in the District. The District will provide the needed support and cleanup supplies to residents who would like to help make an impact in their communities at no cost. Residents will also be given an Adopt-A-Stream sign from the Department of Conservation and Recreations (DCR) for their adopted site in recognition of their efforts. For more information write to waterquality@pwsacd.org.

Your can also register your local events with the [Trash Free Potomac network](#)



Water Quality Programs

Stream Cleanup Programs



The District promote 4 options for cleaning streams:



1. **Adopt-A-Stream Program** - clean at least once a year for a two year commitment (Any time)
2. **Potomac River Watershed Cleanup** (Alice Ferguson Foundation)- one-time cleanup
3. **International Coastal Cleanup** (Clean VA Waterways) -one-time cleanup (September- October)
4. **Earth Team Volunteer Cleanup** - one time cleanup(Any time)

For some cleanup sites in your neighborhood, click [here](#)

On how to get started with any of the Stream Cleanup programs or any questions about which of the 4 options is best for you, please contact:

waterquality@pwsacd.org.

Water Quality Monitoring

Some Answers to your Questions



How often can a site be monitored?

Not more than 4 times in a year (quarterly).

What does it take to become certified?

1. Be able to [identify the critters](#).
2. Be able to properly [demonstrate the field protocol](#) in data collection.

Both 1 and 2 are easy and open book!

Must I be a certified stream monitor?

No, you can help the existing monitoring teams, too! But DEQ only accepts data that comes from certified stream monitors.

What is recommended before taking the certification test?

Take part in at least 2-3 stream monitoring events before sitting for the certification test.

Floatable Monitoring Program

Assess and trace trash that load into streams to reduce non-point source pollutant from urbanized and industrialized areas. This program is related to the County's Municipal Separate Storm Sewers (MS4) permit.

Volunteers are recommended to dress in rain boots and ready to get their feet wet.

The District will provide cleanup supplies (grabbers, gloves, vests and trash



bags). RSVP is recommended.

Watch Video : [Our Plastic Society](#)

Prince William County Water Quality Directory: Please Click [HERE](#)



WHATS COMING UP

Saturday, July 9 -Water Quality Monitoring : Cedar Run at 10 a.m.

Sunday, July 10 - Water Quality Monitoring: James Long Park at 12 noon.

Saturday, July 16- Floatable Monitoring : Manassas Forge Dr. at 10 a.m.

Tuesday, July 19- Water Quality/Floatable Monitoring-Dawkin's Branch-10 a.m.

Saturday, July 23- Water Quality Monitoring- Young's Branch at 9.30 a.m.

Tuesday, July 26- Water Quality/Floatable Monitoring - Dewey's Creek at 10 a.m.

Saturday, July 30 - Water Quality/Floatble Monitoring- Flat Branch at 10 a.m.



Water Quality Monitoring Events

Saturday, July 9

Water Quality Monitoring : Cedar Run- Broad Run Watershed

Time: 10a.m - 12.30pm

Location: Evergreen Acres 12801 Hazelwood Dr. Nokesville, VA 20181

Access this beautiful 3/4 miles long of the Cedar Run in the Evergreen Acres Farm for citizen science water quality monitoring in the Nokesville area.

The Evergreen Acres Farm was the recipient of the Department of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR's) Bay Friendly Clean Water Farm 2015 Award. Residents especially those in the Nokesville area are invited to come learn more about the health of their stream as it makes its way into the Occoquan Watershed.

For more information, contact Veronica Tangiri: waterquality@pwsacd.org or call 571-379-7514.

Sunday, July 10.

Water Quality Monitoring: James S. Long Park - Catharpin Run

Time: 12 Noon - 2.30 p.m.

**Location: James S. Long Park, 4603 James Madison Hwy (Rt. 15)
Haymarket, VA 20169**

Join Elaine Wilson, one of the District's pioneer/certified monitor and her team for

summer monitoring at this beautiful site in the Gainesville area. This site has some outstanding critters that are very unique to the site compared to other monitoring locations in the County. Spots are limited.

Parking: Old Library parking lot (first right past the horse field).

For more information and RSVP, contact Elaine Wilson:
Elaine.Wilson@dewater.com

Saturday, July 16

Floatable Monitoring: Manassas Forge Dr./ Signal Hill Road

Time: 10 a.m.

Residents in and around this community are invited.

RSVP is recommended. For more information contact Veronica Tangiri:

waterquality@pwsacd.org

Tuesday, July 19

Water Quality Monitoring/ Floatable Monitoring: Dawkin's Branch

Time: 10.am - 12.30pm

Parking Location: Victory Elementary School :12001 Tygart Lake Bristow, VA 20136

Come learn more about the Dawkins Branch as its enters the Broad Run in the Bristow area.

RSVP to Veronica Tangiri: waterquality@pwsacd.org

Saturday, July 23

Water Quality Monitoring- Young's Branch

Time: 9.30 a.m.

Location: Manassas Battlefield Park

Join this team of dedicated pioneer volunteers in monitoring this beautiful historic stretch of the Young's Branch in the Bull Run Watershed. Spots are limited.

RSVP to Stephanie Martin : stephmartin60@aol.com

Tuesday, July 26

Water Quality/Floatable Monitoring - Dewey's Creek in Dumfries

Time: 10 a.m.

Parking location: Near 17119 Wayside Drive in Dumfries

Residents in and around the Wayside Drive communities in the Dumfries area are invited to join learning more about the quality of their stream.

RSVP to Veronica Tangiri: waterquality@pwsacd.org

Saturday, July 30

Water Quality/Floatable Monitoring- Flat Branch, Manassas

Time: 10 a.m.

Parking Location : Impalla Dr. Manassas, VA 20110

Residents in and around this community are invited.

RSVP to Veronica Tangiri: waterquality@pwsacd.org



Are you interested in learning more about E.coli ?

Volunteers are needed in an E.coli Study at the Quantico Creek

Prince William Soil & Water Conservation District has an ongoing study/ research on Escherichia Coli (E.coli) in the Quantico Creek Watershed area. No rocket science involved as a volunteer! (2 Volunteers needed to assist in this project).



Residents who are interested in learning more about this important model organism that relates the fields of molecular biology, genetics, and biochemistry are welcome to contact **Veronica Tangiri** at waterquality@pwsacd.org for more information.



The World Water Monitoring Challenge (WWMC) is on until December 31st

Thanks to all those taking part in this event under the District

Prince William County is part of this World Challenge event. Monitoring goes all the way to December 31st.

Thanks to all the County citizens who are taking part in this event under the District.

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) gave out free water monitoring kits to test for dissolved oxygen, pH, turbidity, and temperature. Through this event residents will also learn more about the water quality in their local streams. Virginia DEQ will also extract the data collected to identify problem areas. For more information on data updates from participants taking part in this World Water Monitoring Challenge (WWMC), visit: <http://www.monitorwater.org/>.



Watershed Education, Events and Opportunities

- Do you know that Virginia Naturally is your gateway to statewide environmental education? Visit: [Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation.](#)
- Virginia Governor's Executive Order on "Establishing the Virginia Environmental Literacy Challenge." For more information Click [here](#) or [visit](#) .



More Events and Opportunities

Awards and Scholarships

Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program -National Science Foundation

Deadline : September 06, 2016;

The Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program seeks to encourage talented science, technology, engineering, and mathematics majors (STEM) and professionals to become K-12 STEM teachers.

For more information visit: [Here](#)

Plants and Landscape Events

Virginia Cooperative Extension-PWC Office Trainings

Saturday in the Garden Classes

Dates: July 16, August 20, September 17, October 15.

Time: 9.00am -Noon.

Venue: St. Benedict Monastery, 9535 Linton Hall Road, Bristow 20136.

Free training. To register contact: master_gardener@pwcgov.org or call 703-792-7747

10 Steps to a Greener Lawn / Building Environmental Sustainable Turf-BEST Lawns Programs

For more information on these low cost research based program for lawn education, contact: bestlawns@pwcgov.org or call 703792-4037.

Fairfax Master Naturalist (FMN) Basic Training Course: Fall 2016

The FMN Basic Training course will be held in Fall 2016. Applications for the Fall 2016 course is now open. Forms are available for download from the [FMN website](#). Please direct any questions to the FMN Outreach Committee at vmnfairfax@gmail.com



Projects in your Backyard

...aimed at improving Prince William Watersheds

Prince William Soil & Water Conservation District: [Visit](#)
Prince William County Government: [Visit](#)
Prince William Native Plant Society: [Visit](#)
Prince William Master Gardeners: [Visit](#)
Prince William Trails and Streams Coalition [Visit](#)
Prince William Conservation Alliance: [Visit](#)
Keep Prince William Beautiful: [Visit](#)
Virginia Master Naturalist: [Visit](#)
Trees Virginia: [Visit](#)
Plant NOVA Natives: [Visit](#)
Friends of Occoquan [Visit](#)
Northern Virginia Soil & Water Conservation District: [Visit](#)

...aimed at improving the Chesapeake Bay

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay: [Visit](#)
Audubon Naturalist Society: [Visit](#)
Chesapeake Bay Foundation: [Visit](#)
Clean Virginia Waterways: [Visit](#)
Department of Environmental Quality: [Visit](#)
Department of Conservation and Recreation's: [Visit](#)
Environmental Protection Agency: [Visit](#)
Trashnetwok-Alice Ferguson Foundation: [Visit](#)
National Park Service: [Visit](#)
Virginia Citizen for Water Quality: [Visit](#)
Virginia Save Our Streams: [Visit](#)
Virginia Water Monitoring Council: [Visit](#)
Virginia Green Travel Alliance: [Visit](#)



[EPA Website Allows Public to Track Drinking Water Quality Nation-Wide](#)

EPA has released the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) dashboard, a website that presents data about violations and the compliance status of public water systems. Visit: [dashboard](#).

[Potomac Earns Best Score Yet in State of the Nation's River Report](#)

For the first time, the Potomac earned an overall health score above a C in the Potomac Conservancy's 9th State of the Nation's River report. While the Potomac's score (B-) reveals that much work still needs to be done, the river's improving health is a cause for celebration. Read about the river's declining pollution, improved fisheries, and abundant recreational assets in the full report, [available online](#)

2016 IWLA Clean Water Report:

Based on state reports to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), more than half (55%) of the streams and rivers states tested were not safe for designated uses such as swimming, fishing, and as sources of drinking water. The Commonwealth State of Virginia stood out in its involvement in citizen volunteer water quality monitoring programs to work more closely with the Department of Environmental Quality(DEQ). For more information on the results, please [visit](#):

Potomac Basin News and updates: [Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin: Visit](#)

How can you help Prince William County have good water quality?

- ***Volunteer** for the Save Our Streams Citizen Science program.
- ***Adopt a stream** of your choice or work with existing sites
- * **Monitor** only 3 times a year - spring, summer and fall.
- * **Get monitoring equipment** once you become certified.
- * **Track your volunteer hours** working for the District.
- ***Volunteer** in the District's **Stream Cleanup**

programs.

*>>Volunteer timesheet is available. Ask your monitoring coordinators<<
<Water quality monitoring also counts towards Virginia Master Naturalists service hours <*

For all Monitoring events updates/cancellation visit:

[PWSWCD Facebook page](#)



"Like" [PWSWCD Facebook page](#) for more Environmental Awareness & "Help Do Water Good"

[Share This Newsletter with Friends](#)

Thanks again for making a difference!

Prince William Soil & Water Conservation District is funded by Prince William County Public Works Department, Stormwater Management Branch, and through financial and administrative assistance provided by the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board, and the Department of Conservation and Recreation, Division of Soil and Water Conservation.

Programs, activities and employment opportunities are available to all people regardless of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, or political affiliation. Prince William Soil and Water Conservation District is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

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See whats happening on our social sites.

