



## "Farm to Table Dinner"

*Come promote and support personal responsibility for natural resources conservation and environmental education in Prince William County*



**September 8, 2016 at**

**6PM**

**Evergreen Country Club**

**Haymarket, VA**



[Online registration here](#)

or Call: 571.379.7514



*Come meet the farmers and have a taste of fresh locally grown produce from Prince William County!*



*Come support and promote citizen science for data to help shape our changing environment!*



*Come support learning among students and kids for a sustainable environment for the next generation!*



*Come support clean waterways and promote good water quality in Prince William County!*

*All donations/contributions are fully tax deductible.*



*Don't delay purchasing your tickets.*



The Prince William Environmental Excellence Foundation (Foundation), in coordination with the Prince William Soil and Water Conservation District (PWSWCD), will be hosting its first farm to table fundraising dinner. This Foundation's mission of funding agricultural and environmental education beyond the walls of the classroom is achieved with the assistance of many of the district's programs, such as: Farm Field Days, Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences (MWEE's), Water Quality Monitoring, and Adopt-A-Stream, to name a few.

The meal that will be served will highlight the rich culture and diversity of Prince William County's agricultural community. There will also be a tour of the historic Evergreen Manor House, followed by a wine tasting expedition provided by LaGrange Winery Located in Haymarket, VA.

To reserve your seat or to donate to the Foundation, either contact the district office at 571.379.7514 or pay/donate online at [www.pswcd.org/prince-william-environmental-excellence-foundation.html](http://www.pswcd.org/prince-william-environmental-excellence-foundation.html). Ticket prices are as follows; \$85 a ticket, or \$160 per couple, or \$600 for a table sponsorship that includes 8 seats.

Without the support of the Foundation and the community, we would not be able to carry out our outreach programs. We look forward to meeting many of you at this event and thank you for your continued support of both the PWSWCD and the Foundation.



## **Promoting Clean Communities and Clean Waterways in PWC**



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## **Water Quality Monitoring and Community Awareness**

*Save the date! October 22nd- Certification of NOVA Monitors*



Water Quality Monitoring at Prince William Forest Park - Quantico Creek Watershed



Water Quality Monitoring at Airport Creek – Occoquan Watershed

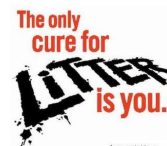
## **How can you help Prince William County Waterways to be trash free?**

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 waterways within the District. The District will help provide support with cleanup supplies to residents who would like to help make an impact on 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](mailto:waterquality@pwsacd.org).



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



## Water Quality Programs

### Stream Cleanup Programs



The District promotes 4 options for cleaning streams:



*Fall is the perfect time to help keep our waterways clean.  
Contact the District to volunteer now!*

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 have any questions about which of the 4 options is best for you, please contact:

[waterquality@pwsacd.org](mailto: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.*** Contact: [waterquality@pwsacd.org](mailto:waterquality@pwsacd.org)



**Watch Video : [Our Plastic Society](#)**

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

*Recycling in Prince William County: Please Click [Here](#)*



### **WHATS COMING UP**

**Thursday, September 8:** "Farm to Table Dinner" with PWSWCD -6 p.m.

**Saturday, September 10 :** Water Quality Monitoring - Hooes Run at 10 a.m.

**Sunday, September 18:** Stream Monitoring workshop - Cub Run Centreville

**Saturday, September 24:** National Public Land Day at Doves Landing Park

**Thursday, September 29:** Floatable Monitoring - Cornice Place at 10 a.m.

**Save the Dates!-**

**October 12 & 13:** Farm Field Days -8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**October 20:** Developmental Workshop for K-5 teachers- Windy Knoll Farm at 4.30pm

**October 22:** NOVA Water Quality Monitoring Certification- 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.



## **Water Quality Monitoring Events**

**Thursday, September 8**

**Farm to Table Dinner**

**Time:** 6pm.

**Location:** Evergreen Country Club at Haymarket

Join the District to a fundraising dinner to support the district's programs and promote more environmental awareness in Prince William County.

To donate or pay tickets, please click [here](#) or call 571-379-8213.

**Saturday, September 10**

**Water Quality Monitoring: Hooes Run - Occoquan Watershed**

**Time: 10 a.m - 12.30 p.m.**

**Location:** Castile Ct, Woodbridge, VA 22192

Parking: Visitors parking lot and curb.

Join in monitoring this beautiful site of the Hooes Run as it enters the Occoquan Reservoir / River area.

Chemical and biological data will be collected.

RSVP to Veronica Tangiri at [waterquality@pwsxcd.org](mailto:waterquality@pwsxcd.org).

**Sunday, September 18**

**Stream Monitoring Workshop**

**Time: 2 p.m.- 4:30 p.m.**

**Location: Cub Run, Centreville**

Help monitor big, rocky Cub Run as it flows past a popular hiking trail on its way to the Occoquan River. To RSVP and get directions, please contact

[Dan Schwartz](#).

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**Thursday, September 29**

**Floatable Monitoring- Cornice Place- Hooes Run Watershed**

**Time: 10 a.m.**

**Location** (GPS Guide) : 3442 Cornice Pl. Woodbridge, VA 22192

Residents in and around this community are invited to the program.

RSVP to Veronica Tangiri: [waterquality@pwsxcd.org](mailto:waterquality@pwsxcd.org)

**Saturday, October 22**

**NOVA Water Quality Monitors Certification Training**

**Time:** 9 a.m. - 3 p.m

**Location:** To be determined

This event is jointly organized by the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District and the Prince William Soil and Water Conservation District and is open to anyone aspiring to become a Certified Stream Monitor. Once certified, a monitor can adopt their own stream site and monitor it quarterly. The certification/training follows the Virginia Save Our Streams (SOS) monitoring protocol and the data collected is sent to the Department of

Environmental Quality (DEQ). To register and for more information, please contact **Dan Schwartz** ([Daniel.Schwartz@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Daniel.Schwartz@fairfaxcounty.gov)) or **Veronica Tangiri** ([waterquality@pwsxcd.org](mailto:waterquality@pwsxcd.org)).



## **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](#) .

### **District Conservation Capsule To-Go season.**

Teachers welcome back! Our capsules are ready to go, so reserve early, as they are first come, first served. You may reserve capsules now for anytime during the school year. For your reservations, please visit:



*Volunteers needed!*

## **27th Annual Farm Field Days (2016)**

**October 12 and 13, 2016!**

**Time: 8 a.m. -2 p.m.**

**Location:** Prince William County Fairgrounds, 10624 Dumfries Road, Manassas

For more than a quarter of a century, Farm Field Days have helped students connect to their agricultural heritage and sowed the seed of environmental stewardship among students. This year, over 1600 students will be hosted at no cost from over 15 county schools and the City of Manassas. Over 150 volunteers are needed to support the activities of the event.

Students will rotate through seven barns. Farm critters like bees, oxen, alpacas and more will be on exhibition. Demonstrations on wool spinning, butter churning and scientific experiments on photosynthesis, soil erosion, to name a few are some highlights featuring on the list.

This is a great opportunity for students to connect to different educational fields and to learn more on natural resources and how to protect them.

To volunteer, please contact: [education@pswcd.org](mailto:education@pswcd.org) or call **571.379.7514** or [click here](#). No previous experience is necessary.

*This event is Funded by generous donations to the Prince William Environmental Excellence Foundation, a 501(C)3 non-profit organization, an affiliate of Prince William Soil & Water Conservation District.*

## **Sprouting Success 2016 :**

### **A Professional Development Workshop for K-5 teachers**

**Thursday, October 20**

**Time: 4:30 p.m. -6:30 p.m.**

**Location:** Windy Knoll Farm, 11602 Kettle Run Road, Nokesville 20108.

This workshop which is presented by Agriculture in the Classroom in partnership with Prince William Soil & Water Conservation District will be followed by a Virginia themed dinner prepared by the Fairfax/Prince William Farm Bureau Women's Committee. The workshop consists of SOL aligned, cross-curricular lessons using proven methodology, hands-on activities, ready for instant use in the classroom. Teachers receive CEU's for attending this workshop.

Register by Monday, October 3rd. For more information about the program, please visit: <https://www.agintheclass.org/Teachers/LessonPlans.aspx>.

For any questions, call **571-379-7514** or email [education@pswcd.org](mailto:education@pswcd.org).

## 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: 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](mailto:master_gardener@pwcgov.org) or call 703-792-7747

### **Buffer Cleanup**

**Saturday, September 17**

**Time: 9:a.m**

**Location: K9Gunner Dog Park, 13000 Minnieville Rd Woodbridge, VA 22192**

Join the Prince William Conservation Alliance to help beautify and remove invasive plants that are infiltrating the native plant buffer at K9Gunner Dog Park on Minnieville Road. For questions and to RSVP, contact us at [alliance@pwconserve.org](mailto:alliance@pwconserve.org) or 703.499.4954

### **National Public Lands Day with Prince William Trails and Streams Coalition (PWTSC) at Doves Landing Park**

**Saturday, September 24**

Join the Prince William Trails and Streams Coalition (PWTSC) in making the Doves Landing Park more accessible for recreational activities such as hiking and riding or just enjoying nature. Help expand and improve the trail network at this new Park on National Public Lands Day. Planning and coordination with the PWC Parks Department is underway.

More information about this event will be communicated to those who register for the event. To register, please click [here](#) or visit <http://www.pwtsc.org/>

## **How to Compost**

**Sunday, September 11**

**Time: 1:30 - 2:30pm**

Location: Potomac Overlook Regional Park, 2845 N. Marcy St, Arlington  
Horticulture Extension Agent Kirsten Buhls will describe what to put in a compost pile, how to maintain it so the materials break down properly, and how to use compost to enrich and improve garden soil. Free and no need to register - just show up!

## **Potomac River Festival and Great Falls Race**

**Saturday, September 10 - Sunday, September 11**

**Time: Great Falls Race starts at 11am on the 10th. River Festival starts at 6. Little Falls races starts at 11am on the 11th**

**Location: Great Falls, Virginia and Maryland**

Head down to the river for the annual Great Falls Race! The main event begins at 11 am on Saturday. Watch top kayakers from around the nation dash down the falls and compete for the Great Falls Race trophy. After the race, join the fun at the Potomac River Festival in Poolesville for food, music and other activities. Families are welcome and camping is available. On the 11th, wrap up the weekend with the Little Falls Race. More information is available on the event website.

## **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](mailto:bestlawns@pwcgov.org) or call 703792-4037.

## **Fairfax Master Naturalist (FMN) Basic Training Course**

For more information [FMN website](#).

**Merrimac Farm Master Naturalist.** visit: <http://merrimacfarmvmn.weebly.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](#)

Active Prince William: [Visit](#)

Friends of Occoquan [Visit](#)

Keep Prince William Beautiful: [Visit](#)

Northern Virginia Soil & Water Conservation District: [Visit](#)

Plant NOVA Natives: [Visit](#)

Trees Virginia: [Visit](#)

Virginia Master Naturalist: [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](#)

Trashnetwork-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](#)**



**For more Environmental Awareness and to "Help Do Water Good", like [PWSWCD Facebook page](#)**

### ***Call to Action***

**Share this Newsletter with Friends**

**Join Now!**

**See whats happening on our social sites!**



### **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.*

*PWSWCD, 8850 Rixlew Lane , Manassas, VA 20109, Ph.: 571-379-7514 ,Fax: 571-379-8305*