



www.pwsacd.org

November 2017

Watershed Newsletter

Prince William County & Water Quality

What is the Solution to PWC's Trash?





Trash/Pollutants



Woodware



Frosty Woodbridge



© x 1073 - clipart-library.com



Glisa.umich.edu



Pbs.org



Neabsco Creek - Route 1 - June 2016 after a storm

What is the Solution to this Continuous Accumulation?



- More awareness?
- Recycling ? and/or

-The Water Bottle Bill?

Join the District to promote a "Trash Free Community" in Prince William County. Contact: waterquality@pwsxcd.org.

Recent Studies: Plastics as pollutants, Plastic Fibers in Drinking Water

A recent study found that 94% of tap water sampled in the US contained micropolastic fibers, but the significance to human health is not well understood. Read more [here](#).

Join the District for Clean Streams and Waterways in Prince William County



Diarrhea



Vomiting



Typhoid



Diphtheria



Hepatitis



Kidney Damage



Nerve Disorders



Skin Lesions

Lesson Plan of Effects of Pollution on Environment

© 2015 Effective and Creative Lesson Plans 1

Adopt-A- Stream Program Notice

The District will continue to work with other partners to make sure that streams cleanup volunteers have all the support they need for trash removal. The District looks forward to having a stronger working relationship with its volunteers in keeping County streams clean for good water quality. To adopt a stream or get a proposed site, please visit [this Map](#) or email: waterquality@pwsxcd.org.

Impacts of Plastics in the Aquatic Environment

An EPA's Trash Free Waters program [webinar](#) by Dr. Chelsea Rochman, a leading expert on the effect of human litter.



Thank You



For Water Quality Monitoring

Buck Arvin and Team - Powells Creek Watershed

Janis Cook and Team - Airport Creek- Occoquan watershed

Elaine Wilson and Team- James Long Park, Catharpin Creek (Bull Run)

Stephanie Martin and Audubon Group- Young's Branch, Bull Run

Adopt-A-Stream Cleanup (AAS)/ Clean Virginia Waterways (CVW)

Myra Lau and the Belmont Bay Paddlers- Belmont Bay (AAS)

Woodard Family- Flat Branch (AAS)

Sarrs Family- Bull Run (AAS)

Friends of the Occoquan- Lower Occoquan River (AAS)

Prince William Soil and Water Conservation Staff- Rosemount Park (CVW)

Water Health Educators & GMU Sustainability & Advocacy Students -Lake Jackson Dam (AAS)

Fay Cochran and the Sudley Neighbors - Bull Run Watershed (AAS)

Gail Williams and the Nokesville- Bristow Ruritans, CPES, MMS,TCW & PHS Ruriteens-(AAS)

Video on water quality/cleanup event visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ef4JLlhFcbU>

Virginia Water Radio

<http://www.viriniawaterradio.org/>

Water Quality Monitoring Events





Water Quality Monitoring at Airport Creek



James Long Park- Catharpin in Gainesville

Stream Cleanup Events



Thanks to all our Farm Field Days Volunteers and Sponsors



Thanks to all our Meaningful Watershed Educational

Experience (MWEE)



Some Dates

All year round- Horticulture and Environmental Education-VCE-(See details below)
Through Oct.:Clean Virginia Waterways-(Longwood University Campaign) [Signup Now](#)

November 9 - Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience (MWEE) at Windy Knolls

November 11- Water Quality Monitoring at Deweys Creek- Dumfries @ Noon.

November 16- Alice Ferguson Foundation's Potomac Trash Summit in DC

November 18- **NOVA Certified Stream Monitors Network/Team Building Workshop**

November 28 - Floatable Monitoring at Flat Branch

November 30 - Floatable Monitoring at Andrew Leitch Park

December 2/9 -Jingle Bell Run

January 7 - Water Quality Monitoring at James S. Long Park Gainesville @ Noon

April 21- PWSTC- Occoquan River Annual Cleanup (April 28- Rain date)

April 21 -Potomac Mills Mall waterways/pond cleanup

Need help with erosion and run-off control on your private property?

Contact the District for VCAP Assistance
Call 571-379-7514 or visit: <http://vaswcd/vcap>



Promote trash free waterways in Prince William

Fall is Here! Start planning for your spring cleanup events now!

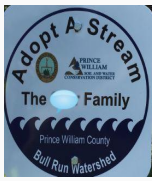
For cleanup programs in your neighborhood please click [here](#).

Prince William Soil and Water Conservation District is working together with other organizations to reduce the amount of trash in waterways. The District provides cleanup supplies to residents who would like to make an impact at no cost. Participating groups receive an Adopt-A-Stream sign from PWC Public Works Department in recognition of their stewardship. For more information write to 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;

1. **Adopt-A-Stream / Adopt-A- Creek 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.

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.

["Prioritization Report: How volunteer and nontraditional monitoring can help fill data gaps in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed"](#)



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

Cleanup supplies are provided. Contact: waterquality@pwsxcd.org



Trash Awareness Videos :- [Our Plastic Society](#)

County Directories Water Quality: Click [Here](#) Recycling : Click [Here](#)

WHATS COMING UP UNDER THE DISTRICT

[November 9](#) - Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience (MWEE) at Windy Knolls

[November 11](#)- Water Quality Monitoring at Deweys Creek- Dumfries @ 10 am.

[November 16](#)- Alice Ferguson Foundation's Potomac Trash Summit in DC

[November 18](#)- NOVA Certified Stream Monitors Network/Team Building Workshop

[November 28](#) - Floatable Monitoring at Flat Branch

[November 30](#) - Floatable Monitoring at Andrew Leitch Park

Water Quality Monitoring Events

Saturday, November 11

Stream Monitoring: Deweys Creek , Dumfries

Time: 12 noon.

Parking location: Near 17119 Wayside Drive in Dumfries

Join the American Nepalese Society for monitoring at this adopted site. Residents are invited to come learn more about the quality of their stream.

RSVP to Veronica Tangiri: waterquality@pwsxcd.org

Thursday, November 16

Alice Ferguson Foundation's Potomac Trash Summit

Time: 9am - 4pm

Location: Nationals Stadium, Norfolk Southern Club

The 11th Annual [Potomac Trash Summit](#) will bring together hundreds of community members, business leaders, elected officials, non-profit partners and municipal staff to explore local to regional solutions to litter in our local waterways. The summit will include a variety of round table discussions, panels, and presentations on litter and an awards ceremony recognizing outstanding community members working towards a trash free watershed. The day concludes with boat tours on the Anacostia River.

Saturday, November 18

Certified Stream Monitors Networking and Team Building Workshop

Time: 11am - 1pm

Location: Manassas National Battlefield, Administrative HQ Building

The Northern Virginia and Prince William Soil and Water Conservation Districts are proud to announce the first networking and team building event for certified volunteer stream monitors! Meet fellow certified monitors, discuss best practices with long-time volunteers and staff from the two Conservation Districts, and hear about new national-level stream initiatives from the Izaak Walton League, the coordinators of the Virginia Save Our Streams Program. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Veronica Tangiri at waterqualiy@pwsxcd.org. Open only to volunteer monitors who have passed their certification test.

Tuesday, November 28

Floatable Monitoring- Flat Branch, Manassas

Time: 11.30 a.m.

Parking Location : Impalla Dr. Manassas, VA 20110

Residents in and around this community are invited.

RSVP to Veronica Tangiri; waterquality@pwsxcd.org

Thursday, November 30

Floatable Monitoring- Andrew Leitch Park

Time: 10 a.m.

Location: Andrew Leitch Park, Dale City

Residents in an around this community are invited.

RSVP to Veronica Tangiri: waterquality@pwsxcd.org

Sunday, January 7

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

Time: 12 Noon - 2.30 p.m.

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

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

Join Elaine Wilson, one of the District's pioneer/certified monitor and her team for fall monitoring at this beautiful site in the Catharpin Creek in the Gainesville area. This site has some outstanding critters that are unique only to this site. STEM kids are welcome. Spots are limited.

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

DEQ's 2016 Citizen/Non-Agency Monitoring Activity Report

Each year, the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) develops a report summarizing the contributions of monitoring organizations to the agency's water monitoring program. [Visit](#) website.

Incorporating Citizen Science Into EPA's National Environmental Work

One of the challenges of running a citizen science program like stream monitoring is that one can never be entirely sure what the program's impact will be. To that end, an EPA advisory body recently submitted a report to agency leadership recommending that the EPA proactively and fully integrate citizen science into its work, embrace it as a core tenet of environmental protection, and use citizen science data directly. The full report can be found online. Please direct comments to Green.Eugene@epa.gov and citizenscience@epa.gov.

Water Monitoring Test Kits Available

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality is distributing a limited number of water monitoring kits to test for dissolved oxygen, pH, turbidity, and temperature. These kits are available for free to schools and organizations that do not have water monitoring equipment. DEQ requests that participants use these kits as part of the EarthEcho Water Challenge (formerly known as World Water Monitoring Challenge). See <http://www.worldwatermonitoringday.org/>. Groups with their own monitoring equipment are also invited to participate in the event. If you are a teacher or work with a large number of students, you can request a free kit. Contact Mr. [Stuart Torbeck](mailto:charles.torbeck@deq.virginia.gov) at charles.torbeck@deq.virginia.gov and provide (1) your mailing address, (2) number of monitoring locations (3) number of participants, and (4) the total number of participants from your organization or school that you expect to participate in the EarthEcho Water Challenge. This information will determine how many kits you will likely need. The Virginia Water Monitoring Council (www.VirginiaWMC.org) provided the kits for this effort.

National Water Resource Surveys

The EPA partners with the states and tribes to conduct surveys that separately assess the quality of the nations' lakes, wetlands, rivers and streams, and coastal waters. The most recent assessment reports are available on the [EPA's National Aquatic Resource Survey website](#).

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](#) .

[**The Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts**](#) provides more on Conservation and Environmental education. For more visit: <http://vaswcd.org/#>

District Conservation Capsule To-Go season.

Our watershed capsules are ready to go. First come, first served. This is outstanding tool for kids and students to learn about the important role of the watersheds. For your reservations, please visit: <http://www.pswcd.org/educators.html> or contact: education@pswcd.org

November 9

Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience (MWEE) programs

Time: 9am - 2pm

Location: Windy Knoll Farm, 11602 Kettle Run Rd. Nokesville, VA 20181

Volunteers are needed!

Kids will gain education on the importance of watersheds, soil types and their components, the relationship between soil and water and how human impact them. As Virginia Standards of Learning to promote stewardship in our communities, these students will in general be groomed with responsible citizenship ethics. Students love and enjoy this program! [See video](#).

To volunteer, RVSP to the MWEE Coordinator mwee@pswcd.org

Awards and Scholarships

2018 Virginia Governor's Volunteerism and Community Service Awards

Nominations are being accepted from October 27 - December 22, 2017.

Nominate an outstanding volunteer today! The Governor's Volunteerism and Community Service Awards recognize the significant contributions of Virginia citizens to the life and welfare of the Commonwealth and its people. One award is presented in each of 9 categories

.These outstanding award winners represent the millions of generous Virginians who offer their time and talents to others each year.

Apprentice Ecologist Scholarship

Application Deadlines: December 31, Annually

The Apprentice Ecologist Initiative has engaged tens of thousands of young volunteers from around the world in environmental cleanup and conservation projects since 1999. Three (3) scholarships are awarded annually to the authors of the three best Apprentice Ecologist essays. For more information, Visit:

http://www.wildernessproject.org/volunteer_apprentice_ecologist

Full Scholarship for Week of Professional Development in Maine

Application Deadline: 1st February

The Audubon Society of Northern Virginia is taking applications from public school educators for an all-expenses paid week of professional development at Hog Island Camp in Maine from July 15-20, 2018. Applicants must be public classroom teachers, specialists, or school administrators working in Northern Virginia. [Apply online](#) For questions, please contact Youth Education Chair **Stacy Evers**.

The Bay Backpack

The Bay Backpack is an online resource for educators with information about funding opportunities, field studies, curriculum guides and lesson plans related to the Chesapeake Bay. Provided by the Chesapeake Bay Program's Education Workgroup. [Read More](#).

Plants and Landscape Events

2017 Horticulture Education with VCE

Sustainable Vegetable Gardening Series :Ask a Master Gardener your gardening questions:
For more information please call 703-792-7747 or email ; master_gardener@pwcgov.org

Sunday, November 26

Bird Walk

Time: 8 am

Location: Merrimac Farm

RSVP to PW Conservation Alliance at alliance@pwconserve.org or call 703-499-4954

Sneak Peaks

12 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.

Stormwater Management Education Site Visits

For businesses and non-profits, landscaping and turf management, stormwater pond management, wildlife concerns, recommendations for maintaining landscapes, protecting water quality and pollution prevention. Call 703-792-6285 to schedule a free visit.

Become a Virginia Master Naturalist

The [Master Naturalists](#) are a core of volunteers that perform service to manage and protect natural areas through activities such as plant and animal surveys, stream monitoring, trail rehabilitation, and teaching in nature centers. The basic training courses trains new volunteers to become Master Naturalist. Topics covered include ecology, geology, soils, native flora and fauna, habitat management and more

and more:

For more information visit:

Fairfax Master Naturalist Chapter at [FMN website](#).

Merrimac Farm Master Naturalist : [Website](#).



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](#)

American Rivers: [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](#)

Virginia Water Resources Research Center: [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

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 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.

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