



Happy spring, NoVa! We are so excited to celebrate the warmer weather with you, especially this month in observance of Earth Day. On April 22, we are reminded to care for our environment and protect it as best as we can. Whether it's picking up litter, gardening with native plants, or finding a way to collect stormwater, these small actions make a larger impact. Incorporate tips into your everyday habits and see the change you can make for our earth and our local waterways.



Litter Pollution Solutions

Litter threatens our local waterways, turning pristine environments into dumping grounds. Every piece of trash impacts wildlife and water quality. We can make a difference by:

- Becoming a "Trash Hero" by picking up litter during daily activities.
- Organizing neighborhood cleanup events.
- Educating others about litter's environmental impact.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Partner Litter Clean Up Events

Join other engaged NoVa residents and start making a difference in cleaning up our local waterways and communities by attending these litter clean-up events this month!

Dumfries Spring Clean Up

When: Saturday, April 5, 9:00am-5:00pm

Where: Jeff Simpson Community Center

[Learn More](#)

Fairfax Community Clean Up

When: Sunday, April 6, 9:00am-12:00pm

Where: Van Dyck Park pavilion

[Learn More](#)

Potomac River Earth Clean Up

When: Saturday, April 19, 9:00am-11:00am

Where: Gravelly Point Park

[Learn More](#)

Earth Day Stream Clean Up

When: Tuesday, April 22, 5:00pm-7:00pm

Where: Bon Air Park

[Learn More](#)

Park and Stream Cleanup

When: Saturday, April 26, 8:00am-12:00pm

Where: Runnymede Park

[Learn More](#)



Native Plant Power

Native plants are nature's superheroes, protecting our watersheds and supporting local ecosystems. By choosing native species, we can:

- Create natural water filters that reduce runoff.
- Support local pollinators and wildlife.
- Build beautiful, low-maintenance landscapes.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Stormwater Solutions

Stormwater carries pollutants through our communities, threatening local environments. We can transform this challenge by:

- Creating rain gardens and using strategic landscaping.
- Reducing runoff volume and speed.
- Protecting local streams and the Chesapeake Bay.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Partner Highlights:

Here are some additional offerings from our #cleanwaterpartners for those who want to continue their conservation efforts.

[Conservation Assistance Programs](#)

The Conservation Assistance Programs (CAP) are urban cost-share programs that provide financial and technical assistance to property owners who would like to manage stormwater on their property using environmentally-friendly practices. These practices can be installed to address problems like erosion, poor drainage, or poor vegetation. Restrictions Apply.

[Flood Mitigation Assistance Program](#)

Funded by Fairfax County and administered by the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District, the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMAP) offers applicants 50% reimbursement—up to a maximum of \$5,000—for the costs of projects that protect their properties from flood damage. Projects on FMAP's [Approved List of Practices](#), or those approved on a case-by-case basis by the Northern Virginia Soil & Water Conservation District, are eligible for reimbursement.

[Youth Conservation Camp](#)

Students in 9th-12th grade are invited to join a week-long camp experience from July 13th-29th. Meals, lodging, activities, and transportation included. Applications are due April 20th.

[Conservation Poster Contest](#)

The 2025 Conservation Poster Contest is now open for students in grades K-12, offering four diverse participation categories: Hand-drawn, Digital, Braille, and Additional Assistance Poster Contests, all featuring the theme "Home is where the Habitat is". Submissions due June 30th.

[Fairfax County Community Clean Up Program](#)

Fairfax residents, looking to get involved? Here's a site for all the information and resources you need to host your own Clean Up Event!

[Stafford County Tree Giveaway | Friends of the Rappahannock](#)

Stafford County Tree Giveaway is on April 19 from 10am-1pm : Reserve up to FIVE native trees or plants for your household! After you reserve your trees, the pick-up will be on April 19th from 10 AM – 1 PM at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Stafford, VA

[Stormwater Infrastructure Grant](#)

The Neighborhood Stormwater Infrastructure Grant(NSIG) program Pre-Application is open starting Apr 1 for prospective projects seeking reimbursement in 2025. The Application period will open up May 1 for potentially eligible pre-application submittals.

[Spring Native Plant Sale](#)

Arlington residents, whether you're looking to add to your shade or rain garden, we have a plant for you. Pre-order by Friday, April 25 for the best selection. You will be contacted to schedule a pick-up time at Long Branch Nature Center between 10 am - 4 pm. Orders not picked up cannot be refunded. Registration Not Required.

Partner Meetings and Events:

City of Alexandria

The City of Alexandria is celebrating Earth Month now through May with educational events, workshops, and more. Find the full list [here](#).

Four Mile Run Wildlife Bike Ride

When: Friday, April 18, 10:30am-12:00pm

Where: Glencarlyn Park

[Learn More](#)

7th Annual EcoExtravangza

When: Thursday, April 24, 6:00pm-8:00pm

Where: Clare & Don's Beach Shack

[Learn More](#)

Historic Manassas Farmer's Market

When: Saturday, April 24, 8 AM - 1 PM.

Where: Manassas Water Tower Parking Lot

[Learn More](#)

LPW Connections Day

When: Saturday, April 26, 10:00am-3:00pm

Where: Baldwin Elementary

Langston Boulevard Earth Day Every Day Festival

When: Sunday, April 27, 11 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.,

Where: Arlington 22205

[Learn more](#)

Home Efficiency 101

When: Wednesday, April 30, 6:00pm-8:00pm

Where: Virtual

[Learn More](#)

Public Works Day

When: Thursday, May 15, 2:00pm-6:00pm

Where: Town of Vienna's Northside Property Yard

[Learn More](#)

Historic Manassas Farmer's Market

When: Saturday, May 17, 8 AM - 1 PM.

Where: Prince William Commuter Lot

[Learn More](#)

City of Manassas: National Turtle Day

When: May 23, Time TBD

Where: Lucasville Stormwater Pond



The Northern Virginia Clean Water Partnership is coordinated by the Northern Virginia Regional Commission and funded in part by a grant from the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program.

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