



Happy Fall! As we welcome the new season, we have some tips and resources to help you and your loved ones continue to prevent pollution from entering our local waterways, and a chance to learn about our partners at Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District (NVSWCD):

The Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District is a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Its boundaries are the same as those of Fairfax County, home to nearly one million people. Founded in 1945 by citizens concerned about conserving natural resources, NVSWCD is now one of 47 conservation districts in Virginia and approximately 3,000 nationwide. The agency is governed by a five-member Board of Directors who employ sixteen staff to carry out the organization's technical and educational programs.

The agency's goal is to promote clean streams and protect natural resources. We achieve this through effective leadership, technical assistance, and outreach programs in collaboration with government, industry, and the public. NVSWCD is not a regulatory agency. Instead, the agency provides conservation information, technical services, educational programs, and volunteer opportunities to residents on many aspects of water quality, nonpoint source pollution, and stream health.



Terrain Testing Time

Did you know that testing your soil before adding fertilizer can help the health of your yard and plants while also helping our ecosystem? The test will tell you what types of nutrients your plants may need, can help to save money on unnecessary fertilizer application, and

prevent fertilizer chemicals from turning into runoff and going down the drain and into our waterways.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Rooted in Conservation

Taking care of our gardens makes a house feel like home. Plant smarter with native Northern Virginia species! These local plants thrive naturally, needing less care and helping filter rainwater. As storms approach, your native garden becomes a shield for our water quality. Learn more with Plant NoVa natives.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Transform Your Yard Waste!

Transform fallen leaves and trimmings into free, nutrient-rich fertilizer through composting. This natural process enriches your soil, nourishes plants, and reduces household trash. By composting, you're creating a thriving garden and minimizing landfill waste that creates runoff in our waterways.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Partner Highlights:

The Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District (NVSWCD) is delighted to share two assistance programs 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.

Partner Meetings and Events:

Bug Fest

When: Saturday, September 28, 10:00am-2:00pm

Where: Lake Accotink Park, Springfield

[Learn More](#)

Runnymede Nature Fest

When: Sunday, September 29, 1:00pm-5:00pm

Where: Runnymede Park, Herndon

[Learn More](#)

The Arlington Environmental Collection and Recycling Event (E-CARE)

When: Saturday, October 5, 8:30am to 3:00pm

Where: Wakefield High School, Arlington

[Learn More](#)

Rain Barrel Workshop City of Fairfax

When: Saturday, October 5, 1:00pm to 3:00pm

Where: Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, Alexandria

[Learn More](#)

Potomac Watershed Roundtable

When: Friday, October 11, 10:00am

Where: Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, Alexandria

[Learn More](#)

Green Breakfast Webinar

When: Saturday, November 9, 9:00am

Where: Virtual

[Learn More](#)



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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