



Natural Landscaping at County Facilities

Planning Commission Members
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On behalf of Friends of Accotink Creek, I would like to extend our support for Comprehensive Plan Amendment 2018-CW-2CP for the inclusion of Natural Landscaping at County facilities. As a group dedicated to preserving and protecting the natural resources within the Accotink Creek watershed, we applaud the County's efforts to restore native vegetation at County facilities within our watershed with the goal of reducing the need for fertilizer, pesticides, and water; and reduction of runoff and improved stormwater management. Use of native species will benefit native insect pollinators and provide improved habitat diversity for wildlife at County facilities.

While we appreciate the use of natural landscaping practices for the installation of stormwater management BMPs/LID and stream restoration projects, Capital Facilities projects and Fairfax County Park Authority projects, we ask that County also look for opportunities to improve landscaping at existing County facilities not undergoing renovations or other capital improvements, or stormwater management projects, particularly those near stream corridors and woodlands, where the implementation of these improvements, even when small, have the potential to result in benefits to water resources and wildlife. Providing the information to the public on the County's natural landscaping installations, possibly through an interactive web site, but at a minimum through public information signs at suitable installations to educate the public on the value of native plantings in the environment of Fairfax County, would help lead the way for the implementation of natural landscaping on private properties.

We thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Primary Conservator

Friends of Accotink Creek

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