



**Live Testimony of the Friends of Accotink Creek
for the General Assembly Delegation’s Pre-2021 Session Public Hearing**

Hi, I've 3 thank you's and one request:

The Friends of Accotink Creek fully support the Fairfax County Legislative Program's Environment, Water Quality, and Proffer items. Thank you for that.

Friends of Accotink Creek thanks the Fairfax legislators for passing Senator Petersen's and Senator Ebbin's plastic bag tax bill and we hope to see next a bottle deposit bill and a ban on expanded polystyrene. so Virginia will have less trash in its woods and streams.

We also thank our General Assembly members for passing the Wildlife Corridor Action Plan sponsored by Senator Marsden and Delegate Bulova. Wildlife corridors will save both human and animal lives on our roads. And this relief is vital to Virginia's fish and aquatic life. The I-66 project is wiping out fish and wildlife on several tributaries of Accotink Creek.

And now our request: Delegate Bulova's invasive plant study bill. We urge each one of you to vote yes for Bulova's study. Invasive plants are a huge problem in Virginia because they are destroying our trees. Volunteers spend thousands of hours every year risking Lyme disease and back injury removing invasive plants from our parks. What's ridiculous is that many of these tree killers like English ivy and Chinese wisteria continue to be sold in garden centers all over the state. We already lose countless trees for roads, housing, and malls, Permitting the sale of plants that destroy even more trees is obscene and must stop.

Delegate Bulova's study bill is a first step to controlling such useless, pernicious vegetation. Please support it. Thank you.

Friends of Accotink Creek

><(((°>`·,·,·~`·,·><(((°> “Find just one other person who cares.” ><(((°>`·,·,·~`·,·><(((°>`·,·,·~`·,· ><(((°>