

July 2014



OVER THE FENCEPOST



Dale City Celebrates “America’s Independence Day”

It’s that time again! Mark your calendars for the Dale City Independence Day Parade and Family Fun Day. The parade starts at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, July 4, and runs along Dale Boulevard between Ridgefield Road and the Center Plaza Shopping Center. I will be participating in the parade as I do every year and hope to see you there. There are many opportunities for people of all ages to participate in the parade, volunteer and help make the event a success, contact my office if you are interested.



The fun continues at the Family Fun Day that will be held immediately following the parade. This annual event features food, entertainment, games for the whole family, crafts, information booths and surprises. The Family Fun Day event will be held until 2:00 p.m. in the commuter lot located behind Center Plaza at Dale Boulevard and Gemini Way (between Dairy Queen and Comcast).

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Electronic Newsletter Now Available

To sign up to receive the County’s monthly e-mail newsletter, visit <http://www.pwcgov.org/News/Pages/default.aspx>.



Prince William Update

The official newsletter of Prince William County, Virginia

June 2014

Featured Story



Prince William Science Accelerator Opens its Doors in Innovation Technology Park

Prince William Chairman Corey A. Stewart said the opening of the new facility represents work that started 20 years ago when the Prince William Board of County Supervisors set aside 500 acres for what is now Innovation Technology Park. [Read More](#)

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If You Light It, We'll Write It!

During the month of June and continuing through the latter part of July, fireworks-related injuries peak. In 2011, there were an estimated 9,600 injuries treated in U.S. emergency facilities. Of those injuries, 65% (6,200) occurred during June 17th – July 17th. A major component of total fireworks-related injuries was children, age 15 and younger, accounting for approximately 26 % of estimated injuries.

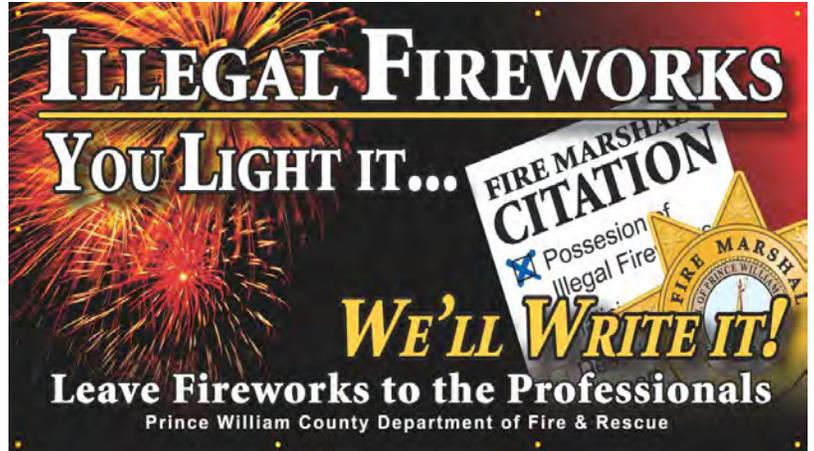
Although the fireworks injury rate has declined as the result of public information and public education, more needs to be done. In an attempt to reduce the number of fireworks-related injuries and deaths, the Fire Marshal's Office, a division within the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue, has initiated a Fireworks Enforcement Campaign to stop possession and use of illegal fireworks. The campaign's slogan, *Illegal Fireworks, "If You Light It, We'll Write It!" Leave Fireworks to the Professionals* is a means by which the Department is able to educate the community about the dangers of illegal fireworks while informing them about Prince William's zero tolerance for possession and use of

illegal fireworks. This year, as in the past, Fire Marshals will be teaming up with Police for their annual fireworks safety initiative and deploying personnel throughout the County in an effort to prevent injury and fires due to illegal or unsafe use of fireworks. In addition, the team will write summons to individuals who possess and/or light illegal fireworks and will confiscate any and all illegal fireworks found in their possession. In Prince William County, the discharge of illegal fireworks is a Class 1 misdemeanor punishable by fines up to \$2,500.00 and or up to one year in jail.

Safety experts agree that the best way to protect your loved-ones from fireworks-related injuries or worse is to **not use fireworks** — "No Firework is a Good Firework!" Numerous professional organizations often provide fireworks displays for public enjoyment during the holiday and throughout the year. Check your local newspaper or web site for listings of fireworks displays in your area.

Should you choose to use legal fireworks, the Fire Marshal's Office would like to help you celebrate safely by suggesting the following safety tips:

- Fireworks should only be used under adult supervision.
- Fireworks should only be used outdoors on a driveway, sidewalk or other fire-resistant surface. Remember, fires are caused by careless handling of fireworks in areas exposed to sparks or live fireworks.
- Never ignite fireworks during high winds where flying sparks can start a fire.
- Keep a bucket of water handy in case sparks start a fire.
- Be sure children around fireworks know to stop, drop and roll if their clothing catches on fire.
- Deposit sparklers in a metal container as they may be stepped on while hot or lost in the grass and stepped on while playing.
- Never aim or throw fireworks at another person.
- Do not wear loose clothing when using fireworks.
- Never experiment or make your own fireworks.
- Never carry fireworks in your pocket.



For more information about selecting and using legal fireworks, or if you would like to safely dispose of illegal fireworks, contact the Fire Marshal's Office at (703)792-6360, or visit our website at www.pwcgov.org/fire.

Turning in illegal fireworks will not result in any fines or summons, and no questions will be asked.

Fireworks Safety Quiz

The National Council on Fireworks Safety invites you to test your knowledge of fireworks safety by taking the fireworks safety quiz. Click on the link to take the quiz http://fireworkssafety.org/?page_id=188.

Police Basic Recruit School Graduates

The Prince William County Criminal Justice Academy Basic Law Enforcement 34th Session graduated on Friday, June 20, 2014, at 10 a.m. at the Hylton Performing Arts Center, 10960 George Mason Circle, in Manassas. This class was composed of 25 Prince William County Police officers, one Prince William County fire marshal, and one officer from the Town of Dumfries police department.

The 27 men and women completed a 24-week course of training in all aspects of police work, including classes in firearms, use-of-force decision making, driver training, legal training, patrol techniques, criminal investigation and crash investigation. The graduating law enforcement personnel are listed below, and brief biographies of each graduate follow:

Prince William County Police Department: Adam R. Beard, Paul G. Belobrajdic, Jonathon D. Bradford, Alexander M. Corder, Brandon J. Craft, Christopher S. Eccard, Alexis R. Eguino, Casey A. Fines, Eric T. Green, Joshua B. Hain, Kyle O. Herndon, Daniel T. Langford, Scott D. Long, Glenn A. Marshall, Kori E. McMillan, Ravinder S. Mehta, Brian E. Mundon, Truman M. Paul, Eric J. Penn, Aaron M. Reddell, Mario F. Schulz, Matthew T. Sciabica, Anthony J. Sparico, Raymond J. Starkey, Jordan M. Thayres

Prince William County Department of Fire & Rescue: Justin J. Lefever

Town of Dumfries Police Department: Matthew D. Arnsparger



Program Offers Home Cooling Assistance

People who are having trouble paying the bill to cool their homes for the summer may be able to get some help from the Prince William County Department of Social Services. In order to qualify, households must meet certain income requirements; have someone in the household that has a disability; have someone in the household who is 60 years of age or older; or someone in the household under six years of age.

People who receive cooling may be eligible for the following:

- Self-pick-up of a portable fan
- Purchase and installation of a window air conditioner
- Repair of a central air conditioner or heat pump
- One-time payment of electric deposit
- Purchase and installation of a ceiling, attic or whole house fan
- Repair of ceiling, attic or whole house fan
- One-time payment of electric bill
- Self-pick-up and installation of a window air conditioner

To apply in person, visit the Sudley North Community Services office at 7987 Ashton Avenue, Suite 18, in Manassas or the Dr. A.J. Ferlazzo Building at 15941 Donald Curtis Drive in Woodbridge.

For information about the program visit the Virginia Department of Social Services webpage at <http://www.pwcgov.org/government/dept/socialservices/Pages/Department-of-Social-Services.aspx>.

County Offices Closed for Independence Day

County offices, including the Prince William County Landfill and Balls Ford Road Yard Waste Composting Facility, will be closed on Friday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day.

The Landfill and Balls Ford Road Yard Waste Composting Facility will resume normal operations on July 5.

County offices will re-open at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, July 7.



County Crime Rate Continues Downward Trend

The overall crime rate in Prince William County declined from 17.04 crimes per 1,000 people in 2012 to 16.14 crimes per 1,000 people in 2013. In 2009, the Prince William county Police Department reported 19.5 crimes per 1,000 people.

Prince William County Police Chief Steve Hudson, who recently presented a report to the Prince William Board of County Supervisors, said he attributes the overall decrease in crime to community awareness. "I can certainly point to the fact that we have a very engaged community. Citizens pay attention. They're observant. They're willing to call the police when necessary. They're willing to report suspicious behavior. That certainly contributes to having a safe community with reduced crime."

Hudson's report also showed that while the overall crime rate decreased, murders jumped to six in 2013 compared to two in 2012.

Hudson said that murders, which generally happen among people who know each other, are hard to predict and difficult to prevent. Preventing murders, Hudson said, depends on whether police have prior contact with the people involved. If police become aware of a dangerous situation, they might be able to intervene. "It all depends on whether we have any engagement with the situation prior to it blowing up into something that results in a murder. In many cases, we don't."

Hudson went on to say that if people who are in dangerous, domestic environments reported to police or social services sooner rather than later, violent crimes such as assaults, rapes and murders might be prevented.

"When people see those kinds of volatile situations worsening in family relationships or friendships, if they get social services or they get public safety involved, they could possibly help to prevent some violent crimes."

Rapes in Prince William County decreased from 67 in 2012 to 58 in 2013. Between 2012 and 2013, aggravated assaults increased from 168 to 188. Robberies increase from 201 to 228. Burglaries decreased from 889 to 664 at the same time larcenies decreased from 5,367 to 5,310.

Hudson said the overall decrease in the crime rate puts Prince William County's crime rate below the national average. "If you look back 25 or even 20 years, our crime rate was 40 crimes/1000. Now it's almost a third of that. We're typically lower than the national trends, and we're also typically in the lowest third of the national capital region jurisdictions. Prince William County trends very well in that regard."

In addition to the statistics in the Crime report, Hudson said police have noticed an upward trend in drug overdoses and abuse of powerful narcotic drugs in recent years, which mirrors national trends. There are ever increasing overdoses from prescription painkillers and heroin. Often people who become addicted to prescription medication will go from doctor to doctor to get painkillers. As their access to pain killers evaporates, they will often turn to illegal drugs like heroin to satisfy their addiction.

Hudson said the public could often help prevent overdoses. "What we find in situations with people who are addicted to prescription pain killers, is that those close to them often know about it. In most cases, somebody who is close to a person with a narcotics or heroin problem is going to observe some of the signs."

Anyone seeking help for substance abuse should call Prince William County Community Services. For help, call (703)792-7800 (Manassas office) or (703)792-4900 (Woodbridge office).

Congressman Wittman to Hold Forum on Lyme Disease

Congressman Robert J. Wittman will hold a Lyme and other Tick-Borne Diseases Forum on Thursday, July 10, at 7:00 p.m. in the Locust Shade conference room in the Dr. A.J. Ferlazzo Building which is located at 15941 Donald Curtis Drive in Woodbridge.

The purpose of the meeting is to give parents and educators the information and resources they need to protect themselves and our community's children from Lyme Disease and other tick-borne illnesses. The panel includes representatives from the Prince William Health District, The Jemsek Clinic, The National Capital Lyme Disease Association, Parents of Children with Lyme Support Network, and George Mason University.

Please contact Karen Jeffers at Karen.Jeffers@mail.house.gov or (540)659-2734 to let them know if you plan to attend the meeting.



From left to right: Deer Tick, Lone Star Tick and American Dog Tick

Flag Collection Center Now Open at County Landfill

The American Flag Collection Center at the Prince William County Landfill is now open and the service is available to citizens and businesses. The American Flag Collection Center is a joint effort between the Boy Scouts of America Occoquan and Bull Run Districts, Keep Prince William Beautiful and Prince William County's Solid Waste Division.

The opening of the center was commemorated with a ribbon cutting on Flag Day. I was joined at the ceremony by Supervisor John Jenkins, Boy Scout Occoquan District Executive Ben Hazekamp, and Solid Waste Division Chief Tom Smith. During the ceremony I shared that as a young scout, my favorite project was my Flag Day presentation, and challenged Scouts to go out into the community and educate citizens on proper care, presentation and retirement of the American Flag as an Eagle Scout project.

Tom Smith noted that this collection program was something he'd wanted for the landfill for a number of years and he presented numerous flags a retired Solid Waste employee had been saving for the occasion. He also cited the project as a true community effort because the metal collection bin was donated by Prince William County Library and refurbished by Prince William County Fleet Management.



Program founder David Byrne in his closing remarks stated, "I want to encourage you to be active in preserving the respect that our Stars and Stripes deserves. Look around as you drive through your neighborhood, to church or to work. You'll see flags everywhere. It's an awesome sight. Every once in a while, you'll see a flag that could use some help. Take a few minutes out of your day to let someone know that their flag could use replacement. It's not an opportunity to shame them but to engage them in conversation. Maybe they didn't know their flag was torn. Maybe they just suffered a loss and just haven't gotten to it yet. Maybe it's the flag they were flying when 9/11 occurred. Most of the times, it'll simply be an oversight we make in our busy lives."



The Collection Center is located at the Prince William County Landfill and is available during normal operating hours. The Collection Center will also be staffed by Boy Scouts every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. to allow citizens the opportunity to present their flags in person. Scouts will be prepared to demonstrate proper folding techniques and will be happy to personally fold a citizen's flag for them. Scout staff will also answer general questions about flag etiquette and history. Citizens may also place folded flags in the special collection bin during unstaffed times.

The program will provide a service where citizens and businesses can bring their torn, faded, worn and old American Flags. All flags received at the collection center will be picked up on a regular basis by local Boy Scout troops and will be distributed among the troops and local civic organizations such as the VFW and American Legion to be retired in their regularly scheduled Flag Retirement Ceremonies. All flags will be retired during a solemn, dignified ceremony.

In accordance with the United States Flag Code, all appropriate flags will be burned during the ceremony in a manner consistent with the traditions of the responsible organization. Although most ceremonies are private, arrangements may be made to accommodate citizens interested in participating in a flag retirement ceremony.

The Flag Collection Center received almost 100 flags in the first weekend. Most of those flags were ceremoniously retired during a joint retirement ceremony at Quantico National Cemetery on June 18th. Prince William County Sheriff's deputies, Fire and Rescue personnel and local Boy Scout troops were involved in the retirement ceremony.

Citizens can follow the Flag Collection Center through its Facebook page at www.facebook.com/pwcflagcollection, or search for Prince William County Flag Collection Center.

Donations to support the program can be made through Keep Prince William Beautiful (www.kpwb.org) and will be used to support awareness and expand the program. Please make sure to note that the donation is for the Flag Collection Center.

For more information on the program, please contact program coordinator, David Byrne via e-mail at pwcflagcollection@gmail.com or by phone at (703)680-6060 (just ask for David).

Photos courtesy of Genesis Productions.

Study Outlines Options for Land Preservation in Rural Area

An online survey, three public meetings, several focus groups and a day-long, interactive workshop guided a Rural Preservation Study which showed that a wide range of people from across the county support maintaining a rural area. The online survey results showed, among other things, that most respondents believe that a rural area should be used as a place for people to enjoy open space, a place to emphasize environmental protection, a place to celebrate the county's historical heritage, and a place to be preserved as agricultural and forest land. Few people agreed that a rural area should be a place for future suburban development.

According to County documents, more than 200 people attended the meetings while nearly 400 people responded to the online survey questions. "There's a strong sentiment that a rural area is important," said Prince William County Planning Director Chris Price. "It's something that we've heard from different groups from different areas of the county."

Roughly, 26,299 acres, or 28 percent, of the rural area has been permanently preserved. The study showed that 37 percent of respondents believe that the preserved area is "about right," while 42 percent believed that the number was "too low." Of those who responded, 80 percent believed that a combination of public and private funds should be used for land preservation.

In a recent presentation of the study to the Prince William Board of County Supervisors, Price said that the goals of the study included providing an overview of the County's rural preservation policies, identifying preservation tools that might be effective, and recommending possible amendments to the County's land use policies.

Tools, or measures, that County planners might use to preserve the rural area include zoning and ordinances, purchase of development rights and transfer of development rights. Transfer of development rights gives property owners the ability to accept compensation for transferring those rights to others who would then use them in other parts of the county. For transfer of development rights, a developer purchases the development rights from a property owner in a "sending area" and transfers them to a "receiving area." These areas would be identified in the County's Comprehensive Plan. Payments for the transfer of development rights would offset any profit loss landowners might experience in giving up their development rights. Purchase of development rights means that a local, state or federal government or non-profit would pay landowners to forgo their right to development in exchange for keeping their land in agricultural or conservation use. The state allows jurisdictions to use those tools to preserve land, but Prince William County doesn't currently employ such measures.

Another tool that might be used is clustering, which allows for lot sizes that are less than the usual minimum lot sizes, but with a large area set aside as open space. The county's current ordinance allows clustering, but does not allow the overall density to exceed one unit per ten acres, whether for a conventional 10-acre lot subdivision or a cluster subdivision.

Clive Graham, a consultant with Environmental Research Management, the firm that conducted the study, said that the County would need to use purchase and transfer of development rights as well as alternative cluster development options if preserving land is the goal. "Zoning alone is not enough to achieve preservation goals unless you have very, very protective zoning like one unit per 50 or 60 acres. Unless you're going to go that route, zoning alone is not enough. You need more tools."

Current zoning allows for one house per 10 acres. "Our view, on balance, is that overall it has been a good policy. It did reduce the development capacity in the rural area," Graham said of current zoning. However, Graham noted that the current policies have had some unintended consequences and that "Unless some policy changes are made, the rural area will likely continue to develop in a manner that's dominated by large 10-acre-style lots with little connected, contiguous open space, and there'll continue to be loss of agricultural land."

Tom Daniels, with the University of Pennsylvania, also consulted on the study and told the supervisors "We think it would be a good idea for the County to review its agricultural ordinances, codes and regulations to make it more possible to develop more agricultural businesses here in the county."

Daniels said that a U.S. Department of Agriculture study showed that the value in output from agricultural land in the county increased from \$10 million in 2007 to more than \$12 million in 2012. Daniels also said that agriculture in the county has changed to alternative uses such as wineries, strawberry farms and hydroponics.

Graham said that adopting some or all of the policies indicated by the study would contribute to land preservation. "If these recommendations are adopted, and implemented, we think that what you'll get is a clear vision and an increase in preserved land. The existing zoning would largely stay in place. There would be more choices for landowners. There would be a modest increase in the number of dwelling units in the rural area, but that would be balanced by a significant increase in the amount of preserved land."

The next steps will be for the Planning Office to review the consultants' report and make recommendations to the Board of County Supervisors. If any action were to be taken on the County's land use policies, it would have to be initiated by the Board and would be subject to public hearings before both the Planning Commission and the Board.

Visit <http://www.pwcgov.org/government/dept/planning/Pages/Rural-Preservation-Study.aspx> for more information.

The Importance of Stream Restoration

Stream restoration is a practice that helps to keep the Chesapeake Bay Watershed clean and provides several benefits for the local community. Virginia — along with Delaware, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and the District of Columbia — are in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed and are governed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations. Those regulations dictate how much nutrients and sediments, such as nitrogen and phosphorus, are permitted to be released from a given area into the Bay daily. It is the responsibility of local governments, like Prince William County, to meet the regulatory requirements through practices such as stream restoration.

Aside from keeping streams flowing cleanly into the Bay, stream restoration has benefits for local residents. Streams that don't receive excessive stormwater runoff, or streams that are designed to handle the current storm water runoff conditions, won't flood property or cause other damage. Restored or stabilized streams can improve our local communities, according to Tom Dombrowski, Prince William County Environmental Engineer.

Farming practices over the years contributed to excess of sediment and nutrients that reached the Chesapeake Bay through erosion. Development, in its turn, with parking lots and roads, created "impervious areas" that keep water from being absorbed into the ground. Lacking absorption, water runs into the streams that can't always handle the excessive influx of stormwater. Both practices changed the landscape of the watershed over the years.

Reinforcing/stabilizing stream banks and planting a tree buffer outside the edge of the stream can help stabilize a degraded stream channel, Dombrowski said. "Historically, we cleared all of this land for farming and in doing that, the erosion factor increased significantly. What we have as the flood plain now is not what existed a long time ago, and the current excessive storm water runoff has created an unbalanced stream system," Tom Dombrowski said. "One of the major goals in the science of stream restoration is to reconnect the stream to the flood plain so the stream may find this balance."

"When it gets out of whack or out of balance, excessive storm water starts cutting into the stream bank and channel trying to find a way to accommodate the excess flow. It's trying to find its own equilibrium. It's trying to find the best way to flow," Dombrowski said.

The county just finished reinforcing an eroded stream bank behind the baseball fields at Andrew Leitch Park. Other stream restoration projects that are completed or coming up include projects at James Long Park, Locust Shade Park, Cow Branch along U.S. 1 Corridor, Powell's Creek, and Dewey's Creek located in Dumfries.

Dombrowski said the restoration construction process can be a bit painful, but the results are worth the trouble. "Sometimes you have to make it look worse before it gets better. We have to dig and cut some trees. We have to cut into the banks. It's a messy ordeal, but in the long run when the results are in, the payoff is it's going to be stable; it's going to look neat; it's going to protect County infrastructure, protect property and achieve the goals of habitat enhancement and improve water quality."

"The selection of a stream project is based on the condition of the stream and how is it affecting our infrastructure. If based on our assessment a stream's in good shape we won't touch it."

For more information about stream restoration or information on how you can help with stream issues, please contact the Prince William County Department of Public Works, Watershed Management Branch, at (703)792-7070 or the Prince William Soil and Water Conservation District at (571)379-7514.

Coles District Dumpster Day Coming in August

The next Coles District Dumpster Day will be held on Saturday, August 9, from 8 a.m. until noon at Emmanuel Baptist Church located at 8006 Centreville Road in Manassas. The Coles District Dumpster Day is part of the P.R.I.D.E. in Prince William Days program which is facilitated by the Prince William County Department of Public Works, Neighborhood Services Division.

The program provides free access to dumpsters to all County residents to remove clutter and debris from their yards or other areas around their home. This is a great opportunity for you to spruce up and clean out your yard and home, as well as nearby streets, common areas, parks and streams. Residents are encouraged to take part in local litter pickups or community cleanups in their neighborhoods and simply utilize the free dumpsters to dispose of the refuse collected. Please keep in mind that certain items cannot be accepted at the dumpsters such as commercial waste and hazardous materials.

For more information, including a schedule of all Dumpster Days and a list of items that cannot be accepted at the dumpsters, visit www.pwcgov.org/junk or call the Neighborhood Services Division at (703)792-7018.



Yorkshire Residents Receive Advance Life Support Unit

On June 23rd residents of the Yorkshire community received a new ambulance capable of administering advanced life support services. Medic 508 will provide services that will include heart monitoring, medication administration, cardiac defibrillation and other lifesaving skills.

The unit was funded by the Prince William County Board of County Supervisors Fiscal Year 2014 Budget as a means to further enhance public safety in the community. Medic 508 is assigned to the Yorkshire Volunteer Fire Station located on Patton Lane in Manassas and staffed by advanced life support providers of Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue. The unit will provide service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; it is the first 24 hour staffed unit in the Yorkshire station.

Although Medic 508 will primarily serve the Yorkshire community, the unit will also provide support and services to residents residing in western Prince William County and the cities of Manassas and Manassas Park. Estimates indicate the unit will respond to approximately 1400 EMS (emergency medical services) incidents during its first year of service.

Department of Fire and Rescue Chief Kevin McGee is excited about the expansion of ALS care to the citizens of Yorkshire and surrounding communities; this initiative was a collaborative effort with the leadership of the Yorkshire Volunteer Fire Department. Jerry Deem, Yorkshire Volunteer Chief and his members, welcome the new ambulance and are looking forward to working with Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue in providing the community with a high level of EMS care.

Chiefs McGee and Deem encourage citizens to stop by the Yorkshire Volunteer Fire Department or any one of the fire and rescue stations anytime to visit with and learn elements of public safety provided by our fire and rescue service members.



Pictured left to right are ALS Providers Tech II Marshall Wharam and Tech II Matthew Stewart .

Donating When a Disaster Strikes

Whenever a disaster hits a community, citizens and community organizations quickly reach out and want to assist. Volunteer Prince William has put together some helpful guidelines that will make a significant difference in meeting the needs of survivors and help them get back to a sense of normalcy as quickly as possible.

Voluntary relief organizations are called upon to carry out various facets of the rescue, recovery and rebuilding phases of a natural disaster. These organizations require financial support to purchase supplies, cover labor costs, and maintain effective and efficient operations. Financial contributions are considered a top priority because donated goods require labor and expenses of sorting, packing, transporting and distributing donated goods; voluntary relief agencies responding to the disaster can use cash to quickly meet the specific needs of the survivors; and the local economy can recover more rapidly if relief supplies are purchased directly in the impacted community.

Volunteer Prince William works with the local governments' public information offices to provide a message to the media describing the supplies that are most needed. Anyone not able to provide financial support is encouraged to donate supplies on the list provided by the local government. To gather the needed supplies, some individuals organize collection sites in local communities.

To ensure an effective "donated goods drive," please follow these guidelines:

1. Collect only items on the government's publicized list of needed supplies
2. Sort like items together and include a description of the contents on the label
3. Provide a written inventory of the boxes.
4. Limit the weight of the boxes to 30 pounds
5. Tape boxes shut securely and label the boxes on at least two sides
6. Boxes should be on pallets and shrink-wrapped, if at all possible
7. Be prepared to provide transportation of the donated goods and coordinate delivery with the warehouse manager
8. Do not donate clothing – unsolicited donations of clothing have hidden costs and create problems that impede relief efforts.

For this reason, sending or delivering clothing to areas impacted by disaster is not recommended

For more information, visit Volunteer Prince William at www.volunteerprincewilliam.org or call (703)369-5292.

PRTC Data Now on Google Transit

PRTC is pleased to introduce two online improvements for passengers: a redesigned website and the inclusion of PRTC bus information on Google Transit.

With Google Transit, anyone who searches for directions in our area and selects the public transportation option now can see PRTC bus route information. As part of this collaboration, PRTC integrated Google Transit as the trip planning tool on its redesigned website. Those interested in using PRTC's schedule data to develop apps can find the information at PRTCtransit.org on the Tools for Developers page.

Using Google Transit, riders can plan a trip based on using public transportation, driving, walking and/or biking. And because Google Transit includes data from other regional transit providers, it's easy to plan trips that include transfers to Metrorail or Fairfax Connector, for example. Users also can plan long-distance trips.

"Having PRTC bus information included on Google Transit is a useful tool for both seasoned and occasional riders," said PRTC Executive Director Alfred Harf. "By making transit services more comprehensible, Google Transit becomes a catalyst for convincing those who don't regularly use public transportation to give it a try."

The trip planner can be found in the new Rider Tools section of PRTC's website, which also features ways to search for bus routes and nearby bus stops. Also new to the website are: a Frequently Asked Questions page that will act as an online Customer Service Agent to answer many routine questions; and a customizable section that permits regular users to tailor the information they see to the items most relevant to them. The PRTC website was last updated in 2008 and is now more user-friendly for those using mobile devices. The public can check out the new website at PRTCtransit.org.

These improvements are just the latest efforts to enhance the PRTC customer experience. In November 2013, a new Rider Express email and text message notification system was launched to keep subscribers informed about events that could affect their daily commutes such as inclement weather, detours and missed bus stops.



In the future, the Rider Express system will enable passengers to see real-time data so they can more efficiently plan trips and know exactly when the bus will arrive. PRTC anticipates that real-time data features will be available in 2015.

While the new online trip planner is available 24/7, PRTC's friendly Customer Service Agents are also available to assist passengers Mondays through Fridays, except some holidays, from 5:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. For assistance, call (703) 730-6664 or send an email to Omni@OmniRide.com.

Information provided by the Potomac Rappahannock Transportation Commission.

Contacts

Governor Terence R. McAuliffe
(804)786-2211

Lieutenant Governor Ralph S. Northam
(804)786-2078

Attorney General Mark R. Herring
(804)786-2071

Federal Representatives

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(202)224-4024

Senator Mark Warner
(202)224-2023

Congressman Robert J. Wittman, 1st District
(202)225-4261

Congressman Frank Wolf, 10th District
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Congressman Gerry Connolly, 11th District
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State Senators

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Richard Stuart, 28th District
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Chuck Colgan, 29th District
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Toddy Puller, 36th District
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George Barker, 39th District
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Prince William School Board

Dr. Michael Otaigbe, Coles District
(703)791-2475

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(571) 494-1520, (804) 698-1002

Bob Marshall, 13th District
(703)853-4213, (804)698-1013

Scott Lingamfelter, 31st District
(703)580-1294, (804)698-1031

Tim Hugo, 40th District
(703)968-4101, (804)698-1040

Jackson Miller, 50th District
(703)244-6172, (804)698-1050

Rich Anderson, 51st District
(804)698-1051, (571)264-9983

Luke Torian, 52nd District
(703)785-2224, (804)698-1052

David Ramadan, 87th District
(804)698-1087, (703)348-7015

Community Announcements

- Inova and Sheila Johnson, President and Managing Partner of the WNBA Washington Mystics, will sponsor the 2014 Inova Youth Sports Safety and Health Day on Saturday, July 26 from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. at The Patriot Center at George Mason University's Fairfax campus. At this free event you will learn what you need to know to keep your young athletes safe and healthy! There will be workshops, education and exhibits from sports medicine experts. For more info, visit http://www.inova.org/inova-in-the-community/youthsports?utm_source=InHealth&utm_medium=print&utm_campaign=youth+safety+expo.
- Based on the success of the Leadership Prince William adult professional program, a new Youth Leadership Prince William program has been designed to help existing and emerging student leaders engage with business, local government and community leaders. Youth Leadership Prince William will inspire, enlighten and connect students as they develop personal and professional leadership skills that will forge the future of the our community. During each session of this 10-day program, students will be introduced to community issues through panel and group discussions, tours and simulations. Youth Leadership Prince William selects student leaders from a cross section of Prince William County, Manassas City and Manassas Park residents. The program begins on Monday, July 7 and breakfast and lunch is included. Applications are still being accepted. For more information, visit [https://www.leadershipprincewilliam.org/\(NEW\)YouthLeadershipPrinceWilliam.aspx](https://www.leadershipprincewilliam.org/(NEW)YouthLeadershipPrinceWilliam.aspx).

Ways To Get Involved

ACTS - www.actspwc.org
 Coles District Civic Association - <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Coles-District-Civic-Association/152351374830027>
 Coles District Volunteer Fire Department - www.cdvd.org
 Court Appointed Special Advocates of Greater Prince William - www.casaofgpw.org
 Dale City Civic Association - <http://sites.google.com/site/dccawebsite/>
 Dale City Volunteer Fire Department - www.dcvfd.org
 Equality Prince William - www.equalityprincewilliam.org
 Habitat for Humanity - www.habitatpwc.org
 Historic Prince William - <http://www.historicprincewilliam.org>
 Hylton Performing Arts Center - <http://hyltoncenter.org/preview/>
 Keep Prince William Beautiful, Inc. - www.kpwb.org
 Lake Jackson Citizens' Association - lakefacebook@hotmail.com
 Lake Jackson Volunteer Fire Department - <http://www.ljvfd.com/>
 Lake Ridge Occoquan Coles Civic Association - www.loccapelt.org
 Leadership Prince William - www.leadershipprincewilliam.org
 Meals-On-Wheels - (703)792-4156
 Mid County Civic Association - www.midcopw.net
 Neabsco Action Alliance - www.neabscoactionalliance.org
 NAACP of Prince William County - www.pwnaacp.org
 NAMI Prince William, Inc., an affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness - www.nami-pw.org
 Occoquan-Woodbridge-Lorton Volunteer Fire Department - www.owlvfd.org
 Prince William Chamber of Commerce - www.pwchamber.org
 Prince William Conservation Alliance - www.pwconserve.org
 Prince William Area Members-at-Large Unit, League of Women Voters of Virginia - www.lwvpwamal.org
 Prince William Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals - www.pwspca.org
 Prince William Soil & Water Conservation District - www.pwswcd.org
 Prince William Special Olympics - www.pwsova.org
 Prince William Neighborhood Leaders Group - www.pwcgov.org/neighborhoodleaders
 Prince William Trails and Streams Coalition - www.pwtsc.org
 Register to Vote - www.pwcgov.org/vote
 SERVE - http://www.nvfs.org/pages/page.asp?page_id=91788
 The House (a Student Leadership Center) - <http://www.thehouse-inc.com/#/welcome/>
 Virginia Cooperative Extension - www.pwcgov.org/vce
 Volunteer Prince William - www.volunteerprincewilliam.org

If you know of a way for citizens to get involved in the community that is not listed, send it to us at dmoyers@pwcgov.org.



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 Coles Magisterial District
 Prince William
 Board of County Supervisors
 13476 Dumfries Road
 Manassas, Virginia 20112
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mnohe@pwcgov.org



Friend my office on Facebook,
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Office-of-Supervisor-Marty-Nohe/257450714285639?ref=hl>

WWW.COLEDISTRICT.ORG
WWW.PWCGOV.ORG

To subscribe or unsubscribe
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 send an e-mail to dmoyers@pwcgov.org.

July Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4 County Offices Closed	5
6	7	8 Board of County Supervisors Meeting, 2 p.m., McCoart Board Chambers Historical Commission, 7:30 p.m., Development Services Building	9 Architectural Review Board, 7 p.m., McCoart Building	10 Seniors 4th of July Celebration, noon, Manassas Senior Center	11	12 Brentsville Court and Trades Day/Flea Market, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m., Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre
13	14	15 Board of County Supervisors Meeting, 2 p.m., McCoart Board Chambers	16 Planning Commission Meeting, 7 p.m., McCoart Board Chambers Park Commission Meeting, 7 p.m., Hellwig Building	17	18	19
20	21	22 Trails & Blueways Council, 6:30 p.m., Hellwig Building	23	24	25	26
27 Historic Sunday at Brentsville Union Church, 11 a.m., Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre	28 100th Anniversary Commemoration of World War I, 7 p.m., Old Manassas Courthouse	29	30	31 Ice Cream Social, 12:30 p.m., Manassas Senior Center	Aug 1	Aug 2