



# OVER THE FENCEPOST

## Text-to-911 is Now Available



Calling is still the best way to contact 911 in an emergency, but in certain situations, a text might be better. The Prince William County Office of Public Safety Communications can now accept text-to-911 emergency messages from AT&T, Sprint, T-Mobile and Verizon Wireless customers who find themselves needing assistance in Prince William County and the cities of Manassas and Manassas Park. The service should only be used when someone has a physical disability or special need where calling is not possible or when speaking out loud would put the caller in danger.

Certain communities will find text-to-911 particularly helpful, said Prince William Public Safety Communications Director Captain Alfred Miller. People who are deaf or hard of hearing, those with speech disabilities or who are unable to speak, and community service or suicide hotlines will find the service useful.

The texts can be up to 140 characters and should include the location and type of emergency. They should be short, with simple words, and without abbreviations or slang. People should be prepared to answer questions and follow directions provided by the 911 call taker. They should not text and drive.

Miller warned that there are some potential drawbacks to texting 911. "Just like any text message, there could be a delay in the pipeline sending it. It could be misdirected. There's all kinds of things that could happen. It's not as foolproof as calling 911. We always prefer to talk to people over the phone. What we're trying to emphasize is 'Call if you can. Text if you can't.'" People who text a message to 911 and don't receive an immediate response will need to make an emergency voice call.

Miller also warned that photos and videos cannot be sent via text-to-911; and the text cannot include more than one recipient, 911. The service won't be available when cell service is in roaming mode and should not be used for non-emergencies. Rather, those types of incidents should be reported through the Police non-emergency phone number, 703-792-6500.

While text-to-911 is available in Northern Virginia and Washington, D.C., it is not available everywhere in Virginia and the United States. If a person texts 911 and the service is not available, the person will receive a response stating that the service is not available and they should call 911. A text or data plan is required to place a text to 911.

For more information about text-to-911, visit [www.pwccgov.org/pscc](http://www.pwccgov.org/pscc) and look under News & Announcements.

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## Design Options Presented for New Animal Shelter

The Prince William Board of County Supervisors recently saw a presentation that included four design options for the construction, outfitting, operations and maintenance of a new Animal Shelter.

The current shelter, built in 1975 and expanded in 1990, receives 85,000 visitors and 4,100 animals per year. The main shelter is 6,646 square feet with two modular buildings and 12 outbuildings included in the complex; and there are currently 16 double-sided and 14 single-sided dog kennels and eight double-sided and 77 single-sided cat kennels.

Recognizing that the current shelter inadequately meets the needs of the animals, employees and visitors to the facility, the Board directed staff in June 2016 to come up with design options that address those needs. The design team included the Department of Public Works, as well as Cole & Denny Architects and Jackson & Ryan Architects, which both have significant experience with the design of animal shelters throughout the country, including Fairfax County's animal shelter.

All of the options provided to the Board of County Supervisors would include double-sided dog and double-sided cat kennels, which would allow for efficient cleaning and expanded space for animals. The various options also meet state and local requirements to varying degrees. The Association of Shelter Veterinarians, or ASV, establishes standards of animal care; the Virginia Department of Agricultural and Consumer Services, or VDACS, determines state veterinary requirements; and a recent internal county audit all helped to determine the county's requirements.

**Option A**, the least expensive, would cost \$11.35 million and would include 18,000 square feet of new construction to replace the existing shelter, which would be torn down when the new construction is complete. The expansion would allow for 90 cat kennels, 40 dog kennels and dedicated space for animal isolation, quarantine and recovery. This option would retain and use some of the outbuildings to meet space needs, but veterinarian and office space would be limited. Option A would fully meet VDACS requirements and mostly meet the internal audit and ASV requirements.

**Option B** would renovate the interior of the current shelter and add 17,782 square feet of new buildings to the complex. The new buildings would be separate from the existing shelter, which would remain in place, and would cost \$12 million. The renovation and new buildings would include a welcoming adoption lobby, a multi-purpose room for staff and community enrichment, 90 cat kennels and 40 dog kennels. Partial interior building renovation would be required under this option. Operations would be split between the existing shelter and new facilities once construction is completed. The renovations to the existing shelter would allow for some veterinarian and office space, and would include an additional 16 cat kennels and 15 dog kennels for isolation, quarantine and recovery. The existing building, which is nearing the end of its useful life, will need major maintenance in the next five to 10 years. Option B would fully meet the requirements of the ASV and VDACS and mostly meet the county's internal audit.

**Option C** would build a new 28,105-square-foot shelter to replace the old shelter and all of the out buildings. The new shelter would have 106 cat kennels and 56 dog kennels. The building would include a welcoming adoption lobby and provide complete space for veterinarian and office space, as well as dedicated space for animal isolation, quarantine and recovery. The building would also include a multi-purpose room. The new construction would cost \$14 million. Option C would meet all state and local requirements.

**Option D** would include renovation to the existing shelter and add 21,769 square feet of new construction with 96 cat kennels and 47 dog kennels. The renovation to the existing building would include a new roof, new walls, new dog kennels and new windows. Option D would include 3,813 square feet of offsite adoption space with 10 cat kennels and eight dog kennels in each of two new buildings. Construction and renovation would allow for a welcoming adoption lobby, complete veterinarian and office space, dedicated animal isolation, quarantine and recovery, and a multipurpose room. Option D would meet all state and local requirements at a total cost of \$16 million.

All of the options would allow operations to continue during construction and would reuse the recently updated heating, ventilation and air conditioning system at the current shelter.

The Board will consider taking action on the proposed options during their evening meeting on Sept. 19, 2017. If the Board adopts an option at that time, the cost of the new shelter would be budgeted and appropriated and a design contract would be authorized.

To view the presentation made to the Board of County Supervisors, visit [www.youtube.com/princewilliamcounty](http://www.youtube.com/princewilliamcounty).

## Virginia Designates Six County Roads as Scenic Byways



Six roads in Prince William County recently received the scenic byways designation from the state of Virginia. Aden, Bristow, Joplin, Waterfall and Antioch roads, plus John Marshall Highway are the first in the county to receive the designation, adding 40 miles to Virginia's Scenic Byways network.

The Prince William Conservation Alliance (PWCA) and the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) worked with the Board of County Supervisors to gain the designation for the roads that include views of 11 nationally recognized and two state-listed historic sites.

According to Kim Hosen, PWCA executive director, the roads take travelers through the County's most cherished places: forests, working farms, mountains, historic homes, churches and cemeteries. "These new scenic byways are an important step in showcasing and protecting our unique natural and cultural resources, a legacy for future generations," Hosen said in a press release.

The Board of County Supervisors, alongside representatives from the PWCA and CTB, unveiled a scenic byways sign at the corner of Joplin and Bristow roads. Vice Chairman Jeanine Lawson said the sign should remind people to take the time to enjoy the county's scenic sites. "Let this sign serve as a reminder to the folks that drive by that it's OK to slow down and really enjoy this scenery that's a treasure in this county."

Supervisor Maureen S. Caddigan noted that some of the roads pass by county landmarks that include Quantico National Cemetery, The National Museum of the Marine Corps, Quantico Marine Corps Base and Prince William Forest Park. She said she's pleased that some of the roads are in the Potomac district. "I'm very happy that we can be a part of it."

"These roads have always been scenic byways," noted Supervisor Marty Nohe. "Now we're acknowledging that reality in a formalized way. We're not changing these roads. We're protecting them for what they are. This is a really exciting day."

Designating the roads as scenic byways aligns with the board's goals of protecting cultural resources, property values, water quality, natural beauty, quality of life and ecological diversity.

F. Gary Garczynski, CTB vice chairman, said the county board's vision dovetails with the intent of the scenic byways system. "There's a lot of construction going on throughout Northern Virginia and here in Prince William County. We can't forget to balance that with the scenic byways that make Virginia, Virginia."

Hosen said she believes Prince William County is unique among states that are included in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. "I am reasonably sure that Prince William is the only locality in the Chesapeake Bay watershed that stretches from the tidal shore to the mountains. And that makes Prince William County special."

Visit the Prince William Conservation Alliance's website here: <http://www.pwconserve.org/issues/scenicbyways/main.html> for more information on the scenic byways program in Prince William County.

## Route 28 Community Meeting

Many of you have written to me in the past about the horrible traffic congestion that we all experience every day on Route 28 and the need for additional capacity in this heavily traveled transportation corridor. I am writing today to let you know that there is some good news on the horizon and that the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) is looking for your input.

Over the past year, the NVTA and Prince William County have been engaged in a study to identify feasible alternatives which will allow us to either add more lanes to Route 28, or build a new facility which allows commuters to bypass Route 28, with the goal of regionally significant, long-term congestion relief. The preliminary phase of that study is coming to an end and our consultant has evaluated four different alternatives that we will be investigating in more detail in the coming months. These alternatives will be presented to the community at a public information meeting on the evening of Thursday, September 7, beginning at 6:30 at the Manassas Park Community Center. I do not yet have all of the details about this meeting, and we will provide those specifics as the date gets closer. But I wanted you to know about this meeting as quickly as possible so that you can mark your calendars now. The meeting will include an open house during which our consultant will have graphic displays available, followed by a presentation and an opportunity for citizens to ask questions. I certainly hope that you will be able to join us because your input is critical to identifying the solutions that work best for our community.

You may know that the district that I represent on the Board of County Supervisors includes the section of Route 28 between Manassas Park and Fairfax County, and that I also serve as chairman of the NVTA. Identifying the best alternative to relieve congestion and securing the funding for this much needed project is my top transportation priority. There will be no quick or easy solution to this problem, but I am enthusiastic about the opportunity that the NVTA has to advance this desperately needed project and begin identifying funding necessary to provide the long-term solution that we all are looking forward to.

I hope that this information comes as good news, and that you will be able to join us on Thursday, September 7 at the Manassas Park Community Center. Again, I will be back in touch with more details about the meeting as they gets closer, and we will be publicizing this meeting in other ways throughout the community. I look forward to seeing you then.

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## Community Feedback Wanted for Library's Strategic Plan

The Prince William County Library System is launching a strategic plan process that will provide direction to the libraries over the next five years. The process includes the discovery, engagement, development and implementation phases.

"The end goal is to make sure that the services we are providing to our community are the best they can be," said Library Director Deborah Wright. "

During the discovery period, which will run between August and October of this year, the library system will gather input from community members, the Library Board of Trustees, members of different library groups, elected officials and other stakeholders in order to determine baseline demographics and analyze best trends and practices. A SWOT analysis, which is a tool to examine the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats an organization faces, will also be conducted.

As part of the discovery phase, Wright said that the public will be able to provide input by answering questions online here: <http://www.pwcgov.org/government/dept/library/pages/strategicplan.aspx> or in person at all of the library branches. The questions will come out once a week.

During the engagement phase, between November and January, stakeholder focus groups will provide insight and perspectives on the needs of the community. In addition, one-on-one interviews will take place with non-library users and community leaders. A Library Advisory Committee will be established to review results and prepare solutions for the next phase in the strategic plan process; and a comprehensive analysis and results from the first two phases will be presented to the Library Board.

The development phase will occur between February and July of 2018, and it will include compiling results from the surveys, the various analyses, focus groups and trustee guidance. The Library Advisory Committee and library staff will then work to develop areas of strategic focus. Once those areas of focus are finalized, library staff will produce a strategic plan document to present to the Library Board of Trustees at its July 2018 meeting. Once the Library Board approves the strategic plan, staff will begin the organizational process to implement it. The plan will be updated annually.

People can follow along with the library's 2018-2023 Strategic Plan process online at [www.pwcgov.org/library](http://www.pwcgov.org/library).

## Board Establishes Office of Tourism

The Prince William Board of County Supervisors voted unanimously to merge the Convention and Visitors Bureau into the county's Department of Parks and Recreation as the Office of Tourism.

The merger comes after the board's internal audit of the CVB revealed specific risk factors with the organizational structure of the CVB. High risk factors included the governance of the CVB, a memorandum of understanding that had expired in 2013, and finance/accounting practices. Moderate risk factors included purchasing guidelines and monitoring and evaluating contractors.

The CVB has had success in marketing Prince William County as a tourism destination and even recently earned its accreditation as a destination marketing organization. The merger keeps the CVB staff in place, and addresses the issue of governance by eliminating the agreement, consolidating accountability so that one organization is now responsible for tourism in the county, and allowing more staff time to be devoted to specific tourism initiatives instead of administrative issues. The merger also creates a net savings in transient occupancy tax (TOT) revenues of \$191,400, which will be applied to further tourism initiatives.

"This past year, much success has occurred," said Rojan Robotham, the current vice chair of the CVB Board. "The... team has achieved national accreditation... won a national award for video content marketing and a state award from the Virginia Convention of Visitor's Bureau for sales manager of the year.... However, I believe that the new organizational construct will enable Ann Marie and her team to accomplish even more than we did this past year. I continue to remain excited about the future of Prince William County being a top destination and look forward to the team's continued success under this new organizational structure."

The Office of Tourism will receive guidance from a Tourism Advisory Board comprised of members of the tourism industry. This will leverage the private sector resources and expertise to make certain Prince William County continues to address the needs of the county's tourism industry.

With the Board's authorization of the merger, county staff will begin work with the CVB to wind down their current operations, transfer the positions to the Department of Parks and Recreation, and create a tourism industry advisory board.

A complete copy of the Board of Supervisor's agenda item and the full audit report is available on the county's website here: <http://eservice.pwcgov.org/documents/bocs/agendas/2017/0801/11-D.pdf>.

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## Growing a Garden at Manassas Senior Center

The all-organic and sustainability garden behind the Manassas Senior Center is full of life and color, including different shades of purples, greens and reds. While the garden is pretty to look at, it is also put to good use by the center.

Len Postman is the volunteer who planted and oversees the garden. She said the garden produces all kinds of vegetables; and when the vegetables are ready, Postman picks them and gives them to the kitchen where they're prepared.

"What's lovely about it is that it's all organic," said Bonnie Swank, the lead cook at Manassas Senior Center. "It's approved by the Health Department. So, we can actually use the produce that we grow to serve to our seniors that come to visit and also to our seniors that we have for our Meals on Wheels program."

The garden, tended by Postman and a few gardening helpers, produces various lettuces, chard, green beans, peppers, squash, zucchini, turnips, greens, onions, peas, herbs, eggplant, carrots, cucumbers and radishes.

"They love it," Postman said of the folks at the senior center who are the recipients of the fresh vegetables. "When they use the vegetables to make a meal, they'll say, 'I knew it came from the garden.'"

Postman said the vegetables ripen "in their season," so the garden produces vegetables from spring to fall.

Swank said that the garden sometimes produces more than the kitchen can use. She recently prepared roasted turnips from the garden with the greens that were leftover. "The greens we actually put out for people to take home."

Swank said she thinks it's fortunate for the kitchen at the senior center to have a garden out back "We're able to bring fresh produce to them," she said of the senior center patrons.

For more information about the senior centers, visit [www.pwcgov.org/seniorcenters](http://www.pwcgov.org/seniorcenters).

## Board Approves Restructuring of Fire and Rescue System

The Prince William Board of County Supervisors voted unanimously to adopt a new ordinance to restructure the Prince William County Fire and Rescue Service. The new structure includes a system chief, an executive committee, and a budget advisory and financial planning committee.

The Board's decision came after the Fire and Rescue Reform Steering Committee – comprised of the County Executive, the Department of Fire and Rescue (DFR) Chief, the DFR Deputy Chief, a DFR Assistant Chief, and chiefs from the Occoquan-Woodbridge-Lorton (OWL), Yorkshire and Dale City volunteer fire and rescue companies – unanimously recommended this model as the best alternative to provide service and assistance to county residents.

The system chief will report to the County Executive while taking and considering advice from the executive committee. The executive committee will include three volunteer chiefs, elected by all of the volunteer chiefs from across the county, the operational medical director, the DFR deputy chief and two DFR assistant chiefs. The executive committee will act in an advisory capacity to the system chief with regard to policies, strategic planning, finances, audits, training requirements, discipline and other duties assigned by the system chief. Its purpose is not to be involved with the day-to-day operations of the volunteer companies unless there is a direct conflict with the system's mission, goals and objectives.

The Budget Advisory and Financial Planning Committee will be created by the executive committee in cooperation with the system chief to provide advice and counsel on operating and capital needs of the fire system. The budget and finance committee will review financial documents, including funding sources and reserve balances, in order to provide advice and counsel to the executive committee and the system chief on the financial health of the fire and rescue system. The input from the committee will be incorporated into the county's annual budget and planning process, as directed by the County Executive and Prince William County Office of Management and Budget.

Now that the board has adopted the new ordinance, operations will switch immediately to the new system. Services to Prince William County residents will continue without interruption.

The volunteer chiefs will meet in the coming days to elect their three representatives to the executive committee. The DFR chief will appoint three career staff to the executive committee. The seventh representative is the operational medical director. A chair and a vice chair will be elected from among those seven committee members.

To see the presentation the steering committee gave to the Board of County Supervisors on July 11, visit [www.youtube.com/princewilliamcounty](http://www.youtube.com/princewilliamcounty).

## Training For Faith-based Organizations is August 30th

The Police Department's Crime Prevention Unit is hosting a Worship Watch training for faith-based organizations on Thurs., Aug. 30, 2017, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the McCoart Government Building, 1 County Complex Court, in Woodbridge (22192).

The informative session is open to all faith-based organizations. Seats are limited, so RSVPs are requested. Please visit:

<https://worshipwatchpwcdaugust2017.eventbrite.com> to RSVP by Aug. 22, 2017.

Worship Watch is a program intended to encourage houses of worship to become more involved in reducing the opportunity for crimes to occur on their premises.

For a flier with more information, please visit this Police Department webpage:

<http://www.pwcgov.org/government/dept/police/Pages/Special-Events.aspx>

**Worship Watch Training**  
For Faith-based Organizations

Please join us for an informative session on how to create a safer house of worship. Topics include:

- Safety Team and Building Security
- Responses to Active Violence
- Crime Reporting
- Worship Watch program
- Emergency Preparedness

**Thursday, August 30, 2017**  
9am to 12:30pm

McCoart Building  
1 County Complex Court  
Woodbridge VA, 22192

Conference Room: Powells Creek A & B

Prince William County Police  
Crime Prevention Unit  
Please RSVP on the link below by August 22, 2017  
<https://worshipwatchpwcdaugust2017.eventbrite.com>

Hosted by the Crime Prevention Unit

## County Recycling Rate Increases to 36.8%

Prince William County achieved a recycle rate of 36.8% in 2016. The Prince William County Public Works, Solid Waste Division Recycling Office received confirmation from Virginia Department of Environment Quality (DEQ) of the County's Recycling Rate in July. This was an increase from the 2015 rate of 33.7%.

Recycling laws in the Commonwealth of Virginia are somewhat complicated. The state is comprised of approximately 41 solid waste planning units (SWPU) and these SWPU are required to achieve and maintain a minimum 25% annual recycling rate, unless the population density of the SWPU is less than 100 persons per square mile, or the civilian unemployment rate is 50% or more above the state unemployment average. SWPUs which have a population density less than 100 persons per square mile or a civilian unemployment rate 50% or more above the state unemployment average are required to achieve and maintain a minimum 15% recycling rate and are only required to report on recycling activities every 4 years. Prince William County's SWPU includes only Prince William County and is subject to the 25% recycling rate. Prince William County exceeded the mandated recycling rate for calendar year 2016, as and it has done every year since mandatory recycling rates took effect in the early 1990's. Prince William County also exceeded the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 2010 national goal of 35%.

The recycling rate is a measure of the materials diverted for reuse, recycling, or composting from the waste stream compared to materials that go into the trash. Regular trash is buried in the County's sanitary landfill located on Dumfries Road or combusted at the Fairfax County I-95 Energy/Resource Recovery Facility in Lorton. Items diverted for recycling and composting are sorted, processed, and converted into materials to produce new products.

Although the recycling rate appears to be moving in the right direction, Scott MacDonald, the County's recycling manager, cautions against becoming too complacent. There is still work to do because currently, 62% of the County's waste goes into the landfill. Likewise, Prince William County's recycling rate is below both the Northern Virginia average of 47.4% and the statewide average of 44.2% for calendar year 2016 (the most recent year for which statewide results are available).

"Residents and businesses need to pay more attention to what items they place in their trash because too much recyclable paper and other recyclable materials are going into the County landfill," said MacDonald.

According to a 2013-2014 study of waste going into the landfill, 70% of the waste should have been recycled or composted. The largest single component were recyclable paper (e.g. cardboard boxes, cereal/tissue cartons, newspapers, magazines, juice boxes and milk cartons, etc.) for which recycling programs are widely available in the county and yard waste.

"There is a real financial impact to the county when recycling is placed in the trash," MacDonald said. "In 2016, an estimated 57,200 tons of recyclable paper was disposed of as trash, which cost County taxpayers an estimated \$1.4 million in disposal cost, plus this material consumed almost two months' worth of disposal capacity at our County landfill. If this paper had been recycled, the County's recycling rate would be 48.6% and the materials would have been used to make new products."

The Solid Waste Division is currently working on updates to the Refuse Code with community and business stakeholder representatives. One of the items that the committee is considering is yard waste composting, which will also help divert material from the landfill and increase the recycling rate. Prince William County is the only major county in Northern Virginia that does not require source-separation of yard waste for composting. "We need to get that yard waste out of our landfill and divert it to our compost facility at Balls Ford Road where it can be used to make soil amendments and other products," MacDonald said. We expect that the proposed changes will significantly improve the County's recycling rate and reduce the material being buried in the County Landfill which will extend the life of our county landfill, he added."

Prince William County families, businesses, schools, organizations, and the recycling markets all play a crucial part in the county's recycling rate", said MacDonald. "We are fortunate to have two material recovery facilities (MRF) as well as metal recyclers in our area. These businesses are prime examples of the benefits recycling provides communities". Overall, the County is seems to be headed in the right direction with recycling, but we have lots of opportunities to improve with simple changes in how we dispose of trash versus recyclable materials.

For additional information on what you can do to reduce your waste footprint, please visit [www.pwcgov.org/trashandrecycling](http://www.pwcgov.org/trashandrecycling).

## New Businesses Bring \$746 Million of Intended Capital Investment

Prince William County, Virginia's second-largest locality, today announced it has logged \$746 million in intended capital investment from nine projects during the first six months of 2017. Those projects are expected to bring approximately 636 new jobs to the County.

The nine projects, all of which are represent new and diverse businesses, will operate across a broad spectrum of industries including manufacturing, data centers, commercial real estate, outdoor retail and utility support services. In March, the County welcomed Cabela's, which opened the doors to its only store in the Metro D.C. Area, bringing close to 200 jobs to the County. Earlier in the year,

Dulles Glass and Mirror, Inc., announced that it had decided to move its corporate headquarters along with its research and development, manufacturing and warehousing operations to Prince William County, bringing a total of 136 jobs to the County.

"We are very proud of our economic development achievements to date," said Jeffrey Kaczmarek, Executive Director, Prince William County Department of Economic Development. "It is a testament to the innovative and vibrant business community we have here in Prince William County."

"We anticipate even more exciting developments during the second half of 2017. Look out for the grand opening of the Iron Mountain Data Center Campus (VA-1) this fall and the opening of the highly anticipated Farm Brew Live – Prince William County's first destination brewery at Innovation Park." added Kaczmarek.

In the last five calendar years [2012-2016], projects closed by the Prince William County Department of Economic Development alone intend to invest a record of nearly \$4.0 billion and create approximately 2,600 new jobs.

As of December 2016, the County was home to over 9,100 businesses providing jobs for approximately 128,000 people. As a result, the (unadjusted) unemployment rate was at 3.5% - 0.6% lower than the national rate. Prince William County's business community is largely comprised of small businesses (over 65% employ 20 people or less). That notwithstanding, several of our local companies have been blazing a trail within their respective industries and have been earning the recognition of their industry peers and the wider region. Over forty Prince William County businesses topped the 2017 Washington Business Journal Book of Lists. Three Innovation Park enterprises were recognized at this year's Greater Washington Innovation Award Ceremony. Scriyb LLC, a Virginia Serious Game Institute-based startup, won the 'Public Service Innovator of the Year' award and George Mason University (Mason) and Ceres Nanosciences, Inc. were recognized as finalists in Public Service and Health & Life Sciences categories, respectively. Ceres Nasnosciences was successful in raising funding of \$3.8 million to further its groundbreaking work on Lyme disease, Zika, and other infectious diseases; and was named among Biz Wire's Game Changers.

## Educating Water Ambassadors



WATER ACADEMY

The Prince William County Service Authority's inaugural Water Academy was a tremendous success.

This summer, the Service Authority invited 30 customers to participate in a program designed to educate the public on the importance of water and wastewater and to learn about the Service Authority's daily operations.

The five two-hour sessions, which ended in early August, covered everything from the wastewater treatment process to how the utility maintains its water and sewer system. The program also included tours of both the H.L. Mooney Advanced Water Reclamation Facility as well as Fairfax Water's Griffith Water Treatment Plant in Lorton.

"I am amazed at how much work goes into us having quality water," said Manassas area attendee Chris Pannell. "I will never take it for granted again. I am surprised that we have prices as low as we do when you see how much work goes into it."

"I knew the basics like where water comes from and where it goes, but I have learned so much more in this program," added Bristow attendee Jason Richardson. "There is a ton of information I leave here with after each session."

Community Outreach Assistant and program organizer Audrey Arnold has been very pleased with the positive feedback she's received regarding the Water Academy and would like to see it continue in future years.

"We hope our participants will not only have a better appreciation of what goes into providing clean water and reliable and environmentally-friendly wastewater treatment, but that they will inform their family and friends about this terrific educational opportunity," said Audrey.

## Contacts

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## Ways To Get Involved

ACTS - [www.actspwc.org](http://www.actspwc.org)

Arc of Greater Prince William/INSIGHT, Inc. - <http://arcgpw.org/>

Coles District Civic Association - <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Coles-District-Civic-Association/152351374830027>

Cooperative Council of Ministries (CCoM) - <http://www.ccomcares.org/>

Court Appointed Special Advocates of Greater Prince William - [www.casaofgpw.org](http://www.casaofgpw.org)

Dale City Civic Association - <http://sites.google.com/site/dccawebsite/>

Dale City Volunteer Fire Department - [www.dcvfd.org](http://www.dcvfd.org)

Equality Prince William - [www.equalityprincewilliam.org](http://www.equalityprincewilliam.org)

Habitat for Humanity - [www.habitatpwc.org](http://www.habitatpwc.org)

Historic Prince William - <http://www.historicprincewilliam.org>

Hylton Performing Arts Center - <http://hyltoncenter.org/preview/>

Keep Prince William Beautiful, Inc. - [www.kpw.org](http://www.kpw.org)

Lake Jackson Citizens' Association - [lakefacebook@hotmail.com](mailto:lakefacebook@hotmail.com)

Lake Jackson Volunteer Fire Department - <http://www.ljvfd.com/>

Lake Ridge Occoquan Coles Civic Association - <http://www.loccapeltva.org/>

Leadership Prince William - [www.leadershipprincewilliam.org](http://www.leadershipprincewilliam.org)

League of Women Voters - [www.princewilliamlvw.org](http://www.princewilliamlvw.org)

Meals-On-Wheels - (703)792-4156

Mid County Civic Association - [www.midcopw.net](http://www.midcopw.net)

NAACP of Prince William County - [www.pwnaap.org](http://www.pwnaap.org)

NAMI Prince William, Inc., an affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness - [www.nami-pw.org](http://www.nami-pw.org)

Occoquan-Woodbridge-Lorton Volunteer Fire Department - [www.owlvfd.org](http://www.owlvfd.org)

Prince William Chamber of Commerce - [www.pwchamber.org](http://www.pwchamber.org)

Prince William Conservation Alliance - [www.pwconserve.org](http://www.pwconserve.org)

Prince William Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals - [www.pwspca.org](http://www.pwspca.org)

Prince William Soil & Water Conservation District - [www.pwswcd.org](http://www.pwswcd.org)

Prince William Special Olympics - [www.pwsova.org](http://www.pwsova.org)

Prince William Neighborhood Leaders Group - [www.pwcgov.org/neighborhoodleaders](http://www.pwcgov.org/neighborhoodleaders)

Prince William Trails and Streams Coalition - [www.pwtsc.org](http://www.pwtsc.org)

Rainbow Therapeutic Riding Center - [www.rainbowriding.org/](http://www.rainbowriding.org/)

Register to Vote - [www.pwcgov.org/vote](http://www.pwcgov.org/vote)

SERVE - [http://www.nvfs.org/pages/page.asp?page\\_id=91788](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](http://www.pwcgov.org/vce)

Volunteer Prince William - [www.volunteerprincewilliam.org](http://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 [kclark@pwcgov.org](mailto:kclark@pwcgov.org).



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[WWW.COLESDISTRICT.ORG](http://WWW.COLESDISTRICT.ORG)

[WWW.PWCGOV.ORG](http://WWW.PWCGOV.ORG)

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## August Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Board of Supervisors 2:00 pm and 7:30 pm McCoart Build Board Chambers	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Historical Commis- sion 7:30 pm-10:00 pm Development Services Building, Room 202 A&B	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 Parks Commission 7:00 pm- 9:00 pm George Hellwig Me- morial Park	17	18	19
20	21 Board of Zoning Appeals 2:00 pm-4:00 pm McCoart Build Board Chambers	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 Trails and Blueways Council Meeting 6:30 - 9:30 pm Hellwig Memorial Park	30	31		