



Bulletin of the Proceedings of the Friends of Accotink Creek

Our meeting notes serve as bulletins of our activities, interests, and discussions, supplemented by your submissions.

Friends of Accotink Creek Town Meeting – June 16, 2020

Next Meeting: July 21, 2020 (Third Tuesday of each month)

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It's easy & free!

The meeting was skipped for lack of participation, but here are some items to report:

• [I-66 Outside the Beltway:](#)

The Notice of Violation issued by DEQ to the I-66 contractor will come up in the next several weeks for public comment on the appropriateness of the penalty and remedies. Philip prepared a few ideas for comments:

- Echo whatever the Potomac Riverkeepers submit
- Propose that inspections be paid for by contractors, but conducted or contracted by DEQ
- Urge that inspections be conducted on foot not and not from vehicle alone.
- Urge that inspections include observations from outside of work zones
- Call for VDOT to engage with Fairfax County Stormwater Planning Division on stormwater upgrades the Division has requested.
- Call for VDOT to engage with the Fairfax County Restoration Project and with Plant NOVA Natives on replanting with suitable native species.
- Call for all culverts enclosing perennial streams (and the approaches to the culverts) be made adequate for fish passage.
- Call for all stormwater ponds be designed as wetland habitats
- Urge that the Braddock Road project forego Danbury Forest Drive realignment in the interest of watershed habitat preservation.
- Call for resolution of two lingering 495 Express Lanes issues adjacent to the 236 interchange –
 - Damage to a natural spring
 - Erosion on a connection to the Cross County Trail
- Call for completion of the unfinished replanting in the Barta Road/Fairfax County Parkway interchange.
- Call for VDOT to engage neighbors and stakeholders of the new 495 Express Lanes extension, including advocacy groups, in design consultation.

- [Northfax West Development:](#)

The June 23rd decision by the City Council is rapidly approaching.

Philip has been standing on the street near the site most days with a “Save the Salamanders” sign. Audubon Naturalist Society has been hosting weekly online information sessions to raise public awareness. The last one yesterday attracted three City Council members.

Audubon is submitting additional comments to the Planning Commission and City Council, so we should, too. Philip shared [comments for the Fairfax City Council](#).

The issue did get a mention in the [Fairfax Connection](#).

- [Vernal Pool:](#)

The pond along the Lake Accotink Park entrance road adjacent to the dam is undergoing repairs to the blown out drain pipe that was filling it with sediment. So far, the pond has not been drained, so this year’s tadpoles should have a chance to mature.

- [Operation Stream Shield:](#)

A 2020 Fairfax County Team Excellence Award went to Beverley for support of Operation Stream Shield.

NBC4 did a [story on the program](#) yesterday. Philip was interviewed. The location was Towers Park, located in our watershed near Fairfax Circle.

**Don't Bury
Accotink Creek!**

**Save the
Salamanders!**

FREAK OUT NOW!



- Donations:

We received a \$10.70 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of activity between January 1 and March 31, 2020.

Philip placed [Nextdoor ads](#) for \$220.97 as part of the Northfax West issue which we may consider a donation.

- Whither FACC:

We discussed changing our meeting place. Philip will check on the possibility of the [Anita's](#) restaurant near the Audrey Moore RecCenter.
