

Environmental Addendum to Fairfax Federation of Citizen Associations 2019 Budget Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) has removed more than 4,000 trees over the past three years from its properties; and has oversight for 427 parks and over 20,000 acres and is the largest land owner of natural areas in Fairfax County;¹ and a goal of the Fairfax County Tree Action Plan is to increase the County's tree cover to 45% by the year 2037.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Fairfax County Park Authority Board should direct FCPA staff to establish a Tree Replacement Plan for all FCPA properties; this plan could include ecological restoration projects that include tree plantings.

WHEREAS, the County's Solid Waste Management Program provides refuse collection, recycling, and disposal services for county businesses and residents; and is tasked with providing an accessible waste reduction and recycling program that meets the current and future needs of the County.

WHEREAS, Fairfax County has 850 miles of perennial streams with almost 70% qualifying as fair to poor quality; and litter is threatening water quality which can be attributed to population growth and inefficient public outreach regarding litter and recycling²; and whereas plastic bottles and jugs are the only types of plastics required to be recycled in Fairfax County yet are one of the largest contributors of litter found by residents in local streams during community clean-ups.³

WHEREAS, one million-plus residents in Fairfax County account for an estimated annual use of 129,000,000 water bottles and an estimated 23-37% of those are recycled.⁴

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

- (a) the Board of Supervisors should be a visionary for the future and lead by example by providing reusable water refilling stations to encourage the reduction of single bottle use; and eliminate use and distribution of single use water bottles at all Fairfax County sponsored events.
- (b) the Board of Supervisors should develop/review trash/recyclable bin distribution throughout the county and identify opportunities to provide additional trash and recycle bins as well as provide additional public education and outreach to affected areas with a disproportionately higher incidence of litter in their communities and stream valleys.

¹ Article of interest from the Fairfax County Park Authority. "Trees, Trees Everywhere, But None to Share" Scott Diffenderfer. <https://ourstoriesandperspectives.com/2018/03/14/the-wind-in-the-willows-and-oaks-and-pines-and/>.

² <http://fergusonfoundation.org/trash-free-potomac-watershed-initiative/information-about-littering/>

³ <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news2/bottles-beer-and-dirty-diapers-litter-leaves-little-to-like/>

⁴ Clean Fairfax Council: *Science Advances (journal)*, 2014 Eriksen M, Lebreton LCM, Carson HS, Thiel M, Moore CJ, Borerro JC, et al. (2014) *Plastic Pollution in the World's Oceans: More than 5 Trillion Plastic Pieces Weighing over 250,000 Tons Afloat at Sea. The New Plastics Economy: Rethinking the future of plastics*, World Economic Forum, January 2016 *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (journal)*, May 2017, www.terracycle.com, EPA, International Bottled Water Association, fairfaxcounty.gov—Demographic Report