



# Take Care of What We Have So What We Have Will Take Care of Us

Parks promote mental and physical health, reduce flooding and erosion, sequester carbon, clean our water and air, provide cooling, build community, and increase home values.

## ***We need Parks more than ever.***

The Fairfax County Park Authority is key to the county's Climate Plan. With 9% of the county's land, the FCPA has greater ability to conserve and increase **essential tree canopy** than any other county agency.

- **Fully Fund the FCPA request for \$739,463 for Forestry from the General Fund (includes 3 positions).**

FCPA is key to **One Fairfax** and must create more equitable access to quality parks. We appreciate the General Fund increase of \$500,000 to avoid raising summer camp fees this year, but more is needed.

- **Fund the market-rate adjustment for FCPA Revenue Fund employee salaries to prevent higher park user fees.**
- **Fully Fund the FCPA request for \$229,279 for Mobile Parks from the General Fund (includes 2 positions).**

FCPA is key to keeping trash out of our parks and waterways.

- **Fund the FCPA request for more maintenance staff to adequately remove trash from our parks. Use the General Fund for this purpose.**

FCPA has added 100 parks and 10,000 acres over the last 30 years and yet its percentage of the General Fund steadily dropped from about 3% in 1988 to only **0.6% since 2013.**

- **Increase FCPA's slice of the General Fund pie to 1%.**

## ***Contractors and volunteers come and go. It takes professional Staff to manage the County's precious natural and cultural resources.***

Due to chronic budget constraints, the FCPA is forced to keep positions open and to rely too heavily on low-wage, non-merit positions, making it difficult to hire and keep qualified staff. Meanwhile, new acquisitions and responsibilities such as White Gardens and the Fairfax Museum require additional staffing.

- **Properly staff the FCPA so it can fulfill its mission of preserving natural and cultural heritage.**

**Friends of Accotink Creek • Friends of Colvin Run Mill • Friends of Frying Pan Farm Park  
Friends of Green Spring (FROGS) • Friends of Historic Huntley • Friends of Holmes Run  
Friends of Huntley Meadows Park**