On an annual basis, the Alice Ferguson Foundation invites jurisdictions in the Potomac River Watershed to share the accomplishments and programs of their government agencies, non-profits, community groups, and citizens relating to a trash free river. These highlights are shared with attendees of the 12th Annual Trash Summit. The reports are also available on the AFF website in an effort to educate residents of the Potomac River watershed and foster inter-jurisdictional collaboration.

Thank you to all the government agencies and partners for providing the information included in this report. Questions? Please contact us at trash@ferugsonfoundation.org.

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Requested Information

The following information was requested of each jurisdiction:

1. LEGISLATION/REGULATION: List legislation and/or regulation regarding litter, solid waste, illegal dumping, single use products, and/or recycling.

2. EDUCATION: List public education and outreach efforts to reduce litter and increase waste management.

3. LAW ENFORCEMENT: List actions to enforce litter laws and reduce litter.

4. STORMWATER: List best management practices to reduce trash in the Potomac River and its tributaries.

5. TRASH HOT SPOTS: List how trash hot spots are monitored and share associated data as available.

6. COST OF LITTER CLEAN-UP ON LAND AND IN WATER: What are your total costs for trash reduction programs? Including, volunteer coordination, outreach, street sweeping, stormwater bmps, etc.

7. RECYCLING RATE: What is your jurisdiction’s current recycling rate? What’s your composting rate? Share goals to increase these rates.

8. COLLABORATION: How do you foster collaboration between different agencies within your jurisdiction? Are you collaborating with other jurisdictions? How?

9. BUSINESS OUTREACH: How do you engage businesses, chambers of commerce, and business improvement districts to reduce trash and litter?

10. WASTE DIVERSION: What new technologies and infrastructures are you using? Have they been successful?

11. OTHER: Any other highlights you want to share?
Arlington County

LEGISLATION/REGULATION

The year-round yard trimmings collection program has been considered very successful, with 7,242 tons of materials collected in FY 2017. The program began in April 2016, with materials collected from green 64-gallon carts provided by the County. Residents can also use a personal container, bag materials in kraft bags, or bundle materials such as brush. Collected materials are mulched or turned into compost.

Recent residential waste audit data indicates that yard trimmings now make up about 5 percent of the residential trash stream, down from 26 percent in the last full year prior to program implementation. Arlington residents are now recycling more than 50 percent of their solid waste.

The County Board adopted changes to County Code in late 2017 which clarify recycling requirements for multi-family properties and commercial establishments, and established a new Multi-Family and Commercial Recycling Program fee structure.

EDUCATION

Multi-Family & Commercial Sector (MF/C)

Recycling education is provided to MF/C properties by our Recycling Outreach Specialists (ROSs). ROSs speak one-on-one with business owners and property managers to review and provide technical assistance to improve the effectiveness of the recycling system in these areas. Educational materials are provided during the site visits and are available on the County’s recycling website.

The MF/C website is regularly updated to assist property owners and managers comply with the recycling Code amendments.

Curbside Residential

In FY 2018, four cart hangers were distributed to 33,000 curbside customers, promoting fall leaf collection season, recycling tips, and spring yard waste collection. The SWB also dedicated a cart hanger as a guide to services. Arlington’s Adopt a Street Program leverages community volunteers to clean the curb and gutter lines and collect litter.

The annual leaf collection program includes an online mapping function allowing residents to follow the progress and better track the vacuum collection schedule helping them to see when the truck will be in their neighborhood.

Additionally, EcoAction Arlington provides education and outreach at schools and community events. ACE does 45 school presentations each year, with most including some litter prevention education.

Arlington County continues to support the regional Only Rain Down the Drain stormwater education campaign. This campaign uses television and online ads to educate residents about preventing water pollution. In FY18, the campaign used cable TV ads that ran 18,000 times and reached over 6 million residents in Northern Virginia.

LAW ENFORCEMENT
Arlington County utilizes a civil penalty system for MF/C properties not in compliance with Chapter 10 of the Arlington County Code, the refuse and recycling code. The penalty system is as follows: Violation Notice (30-day warning), Order of Correction (15-day warning), and Civil Penalty which includes a fine up to $300/day for non-compliance.

**STORM WATER**

Arlington County has an extensive street sweeping program. In FY 2018, the County swept 10,082 lane miles, and collected 1,432 tons of particulate matter (including litter).

For seven months out of the year, Arlington County conducts the residential street sweeping program, giving each neighborhood street one sweeping pass each month April through October. Residents are provided the street sweeper schedule and are encouraged to move their vehicles from the street on their scheduled days to allow access to the curb and gutter. The County aims to sweep commercial areas 26 times per year to further storm water management efforts.

Arlington County has completed watershed retrofit plans for all areas of the County. The process involved studying all the watersheds to find space where new stormwater treatment facilities can be installed. Currently, all of the watersheds have been studied, resulting in over 1100 potential locations for new stormwater facilities. Nine green street rain garden facilities have been constructed and additional projects are in design. These facilities will collect trash and litter from the street, in addition to filtering sediment and other pollutants from stormwater runoff.

Arlington County has retrofitted the County’s Trades Center with additional stormwater management devices. A stormfilter device was installed and 85 filters were installed in 17 storm drain catch basins on site. Arlington County will begin construction on the Ballston Pond stormwater facility retrofit in 2019. The pond receives drainage from 400 acres and will include two litter control devices.

Through Arlington County’s green building programs, many redevelopment projects include new stormwater management and filtration devices on site.

**TRASH HOT SPOTS**

Trash hot spots are areas with repeated litter problems identified by County staff and citizen input. Staff currently monitors 34 hot spot locations, approximately five days per week. Additionally, dedicated crews work daily on Columbia Pike and the Rosslyn/Ballston corridor to collect litter.

In 2015, the County began a four-year initiative to provide recycling collection containers adjacent to trash containers at all 160 bus shelters in the County. As of FY2017, approximately half of the bus shelters have co-located trash and recycling containers. In conjunction with this program, the County purchased two dual-stream collection truck to be used along the litter collection routes. These vehicles allow for one vehicle to be used in the collection of both trash and recyclables, thus increasing efficiency.

**RECYCLING RATE**

For calendar year 2017, Arlington reported an overall 48.8 percent recycling and diversion rate. Perhaps more importantly, Arlingtonians generated .82 tons of solid waste per capita in 2017, which is down from a level of about 1.20 tons per year 10 years ago (2008).

In late 2015 the Arlington County Board adopted a ‘Zero Waste’ goal of 90 percent diversion from landfills and incineration by 2038, the first jurisdiction in the Commonwealth to do so. The Solid Waste Bureau will be starting this multi-year planning process in 2019.
COLLABORATION

Arlington County is an active participant in the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Recycling Committee, as well as the Northern Virginia Waste Management Board and the Virginia Recycling Association (VRA).

BUSINESS OUTREACH

The County Recycling Outreach Specialists visit commercial and multi-family establishments in the County annually to ensure recycling compliance. Through this effort, the County aims to divert more materials from the waste stream. Approximately 4,000 MF/C properties were visited in 2017.

The County works with the various business improvement districts to provide recycling containers for special events and to improve their recycling efforts.

In developing the above-mentioned recommended Code changes, the SWB conducted an extensive outreach effort with the MF/C sector, which included:

- February 2017 MF/C focus group
- Presentations to County’s Solid Waste Committee
- Presentation/meeting with Arlington Chamber of Commerce
- MF/C on-line surveys:
  - August 2017 (on MF/C fee structure)
  - October 2017 (overall code change suggestions)

WASTE DIVERSION

The Arlington County Detention Center continues to compost their food waste. The food is collected on site and picked up by a collection company and taken to Prince Georges County for composting. Approximately 58 tons of materials were collected in 2017. The County also started collecting food scraps to compost in its new in-vessel composter in 2017. Food scraps are collected from a local food bank, an elementary school and from residential drop-off locations at the Solid Waste Bureau and two local farmers’ markets. Approximately 8.5 tons of food scraps were collected in FY 2017 for this purpose. Additionally, around 1.5 tons of banana and watermelon rinds were collected for composting from the Army 10-Miler and Marine Corps Marathon events.

OTHER

ECARE is a biannual event for collecting electronics, household hazardous materials, metal, and the donations of books, bikes, and other reusable items for Arlington residents. For the Fall 2017 event, 1159 residents participated and disposed of 55,000 pounds of household hazardous waste and 30,000 pounds of electronics.

The County maintains two Recycling Drop-off Centers – each recycling center provides recycling for cardboard, mixed paper, bottles and cans, and one recycling center contains recycling for small metal items. In 2017, the County recycled approximately 323 tons of materials collected from the drop-off centers. Arlington County requires that Special Events, such as festivals, fairs and sporting events held in the County, provide recycling.

Some notable events in which the County is actively working with event organizers to increase recycling rates include the Army 10-Miler, the Marine Corp Marathon, the Taste of Arlington.
District of Columbia

LEGISLATION/REGULATION

The Sustainable DC Omnibus Amendment Act of 2014 (food service ware requirements) banned the use of foam food service ware to sell or serve consumers in the District (effective Jan. 2016) and requires the same regulated entities to only use recyclable or compostable food service ware (effective Jan. 2017, enforcement delayed to Jan. 2018 to complete expansive outreach campaign-see below). Compostable and recyclable is defined according to the Mayor's List of Compostables and Recyclables (see below), which as of October 2018, has been updated to exclude plastic straws from the list of compliant materials or items.

The Anacostia River Clean Up and Protection Act (bag law) requires businesses selling food and/or beverages to charge 5 cents for every disposable bag issued (effective 2009).

The Sustainable Solid Waste Management Amendment Act of 2014: creates a single comprehensive list of recyclable and compostable materials for DC residents and businesses (new list effective Jan. 2018).

EDUCATION

The District Department of Public Works (DPW) manages the Waste Less, Recycle More campaign to inform the District on the expanded recycling list and new zero waste website (http://zerowaste.dc.gov).

DPW also currently implements an outreach campaign to alert the regulated community about upcoming changes in recycling requirements and compostable/recyclable food service ware requirements. The campaign includes mailers, phone calls and emails, and a door-to-door campaign to all major commercial corridors in the District (specifically for restaurants and other food-oriented businesses).

The District Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) is currently funding the Alice Ferguson Foundation (AFF) to implement their Potomac Watershed Anti-Littering Campaign throughout the District. AFF is working with local communities to spread the word on the importance of litter prevention.

DOEE also implemented the TrashFree DC campaign this past year by posting advertisements on the effects litter has on local waterbodies at sports venues, local newspapers, and through social media.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

List actions to enforce litter laws and reduce litter. DOEE inspects at least 550 businesses for compliance with the bag law every year, and 300 for the foam ban and food service ware regulations.

Over the past year, DOEE, MPD 6th District, and DPW continued to implement the DumpBusters illegal dumping enforcement program. Since starting the program in 2016 close to 40 people have been prosecuted for illegal dumping both east and west of the Anacostia River.

STORM WATER

List best management practices to reduce trash in the Potomac River and its tributaries.

The District employs the following best management practices to reduce the amount of stormwater trash from entering local waterways:
• Trash traps – DOEE currently has 8 trash traps installed in the Anacostia River and its tributaries. The installation of the 9th trash trap will be completed during Fall 2018.
• Street Sweeping – DPW operates a street sweeping fleet that operates throughout the city.
• Clean Teams – The District Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD) provides grants to local organizations to hire underemployed and unemployed citizens to help keep business corridors clean.
• Stream and Watershed Cleanups – DOEE and DPW implement multiple volunteer trash cleanups on an annual basis.
• Education and Outreach – DOEE and DPW currently fund a variety of education and outreach programs focused on waste diversion and anti-littering.
• Enforcement – DPW and the Metropolitan Police Department enforce against illegal dumping throughout the District. Illegal dumping penalties in the District can carry a $40,000 fine, up to five years imprisonment, loss of driver’s license, and loss of business license.

TRASH HOTSPOTS

The District uses the term “hotspot” to identify two different types of areas with high trash concentrations. First, using data collected by the Anacostia Watershed Society for the 2008 Anacostia River Trash Reduction Plan, DOEE designated several blocks in Wards 5, 7 and 8 as trash hotspots. These areas have been targeted for an extra day of street sweeping per month. DOEE continues to coordinate with DPW on street sweeping activities. For the trash TMDL, DOEE estimates that approximately 70,000 pounds of trash per year are collected from sweeping these hotspot areas.

The second type of trash hotspot designation pertains to the sewersheds in the District’s portion of the Anacostia River watershed. These are areas served by the District’s municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4), which generate greater than average loads of trash. To address trash loads from these areas, the District has worked to install as many end-of-pipe or in-stream trash traps to reduce trash emanating from these areas. Six hotspot sewersheds have been identified and trash traps have been installed at four of them. With the exception of one trap, all traps are monitored and maintained by local non-profits through grants issued by DOEE. Funding from the Bag Law has gone towards installation and maintenance of most of these devices.

COST OF LITTER CLEAN-UP ON LAND AND IN WATER

In FY 18, DPW spent over $50 million on activities such as public space cleaning (e.g. street sweeping) and littering/illegal dumping enforcement. In FY18, DOEE supplemented DPW’s funding with $222,000 to maintain street sweepers for use in parts of the District served by the municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4).

In FY 17, the Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD) provided over $3.5 million in Clean Team grants. These Clean Teams hire unemployed residents to conduct activities, such as litter removal, in the District’s business corridors. In FY17, over 9 million pounds of trash and debris was removed from District streets by this program.

In FY18, DOEE provided over $600,000 in grants and contracts to maintain trash traps, conduct education and outreach, implement stream and river cleanups, and monitor for trash in District waterways. This is in addition to other programs DOEE offers to address the impacts of stormwater runoff, including but not limited to trash pollution.

RECYCLING RATE

FY17 Residential Diversion Rate: 22.96%
• This residential diversion rate includes curbside single stream recycling, leaves and holiday trees collected for composting, HHW, electronics, and shredded paper. The diversion rate is based on 105,000 households DPW services with 3 units or less.
• DPW’s food waste drop-off program, where District residents can drop-off food waste to be composted for free, has seen significant growth in both participation and tonnage of food scraps being diverted. The program can boast over 39,590 visitors to the program and 238,547 pounds of composted food waste during FY 18.
• DPW distributed a plastic bag mailer to all serviced residents, and placed ads in bus, rail, & newspaper/print media to educate the public to not bag recyclables and to not dispose of plastic shopping bags in recycling containers.
• DPW gave out a total of 500+ kitchen caddies for Earth Day to support in-home composting efforts.

COLLABORATION

The Interagency Waste Reduction Working Group is a coalition of DC agency stakeholders charged with creating a path to zero waste for the District of Columbia. Working Group members shape the implementation of waste programs, provide feedback and support for waste diversion operations, design and develop cohesive waste diversion education and outreach materials, and support the continued evolution of the District’s waste diversion policies.

This year, the Interagency group jointly worked to develop content for the new http://zerowaste.dc.gov. The workgroup is also working together on education & outreach through meeting collaboration.

DC has been involved with the MWCOG regional recycling campaign and was a sponsor for the spring recycling campaign. DPW also participates in the MWCOG meetings to collaborate with other jurisdictions.

Several District agencies participate in the monthly District Stormwater Technical Workgroup. This group meets to discuss progress being made to meet MS4 Permit requirements, including trash reduction requirements.

The District also participates in the MWCOG trash workgroup, along with representatives from Prince Georges and Montgomery Counties, and the Maryland Department of Environment. The purpose of this workgroup is to collaborate on trash reduction efficiencies that can be applied uniformly to the same best management practices for trash being implemented by all three jurisdictions in the Anacostia River watershed.

BUSINESS OUTREACH

DOEE partnered with the Founding Farmers Foundation summer 2018 to launch their Our Last Straw initiative, encouraging businesses to pledge to eliminate use of plastic straws. DOEE has begun outreach to regulated entities about the updated Mayor’s List banning plastic straws as of October 2018, working with several NGOs, environmental stakeholders, and advocates to assist the business community with the transition. DOEE will also be mailing out flyers with information on the new requirements to over 4,000 regulated businesses.

DPW and DOEE sent 5,000 flyers to businesses regarding the expanded recycling list and its related recycling requirements.

WASTE DIVERSION

During FY 18, DPW launched the Solid Waste Collector Registration and Reporting system which requires private/commercial haulers to; 1) register their business and their collection vehicles with DPW (in addition to DCRA licensing requirements), and 2) report tonnage collected/transported within the District. The end-goal of these new requirements is to better account for citywide solid waste streams and to establish a baseline to track future performance.
In Spring 2018 DPW launched the What Goes Where tool on the Zero Waste DC website. This search tool allows residents to type in an item they wish to dispose and the tool will provide instructions on how it should be recycled, composted, or go in the trash. Since the launch 22,691 materials have been searched.

OTHER

DOEE currently funds MWCOG to conduct trash monitoring in rivers and streams located throughout the District. This work is being conducted to help the District gauge progress towards meeting its trash reduction requirements under the MS4 permit.

As part of this project, MWCOG is also collaborating with Tetra Tech, Inc. to conduct a microplastics survey of submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) beds in the District’s portion of the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers. SAV beds serve as important habitat for a variety of fish and invertebrate species, including the District’s state fish, the American Shad. This is the first time research on the accumulation of microplastics in SAV beds has been conducted. If study findings prove to be compelling, DOEE hopes this will inspire upstream jurisdictions to do more to reduce the input of trash to the Potomac River, Rock Creek, and the Anacostia River. The first round of sampling was conducted during Fall of 2017 and sample analysis results are expected in Fall of 2018. DOEE received funding from the EPA Trash Free Waters Program in 2018 to continue sampling in the Anacostia River in 2019.

DOEE, in collaboration with the Chesapeake Bay Program Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Workgroup and Tetra Tech, received funding from the Chesapeake Bay Program Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee in 2018 to hold a workshop on microplastics in the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed. This two-day workshop will bring together researchers from throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed, and beyond, to discuss the state of the science and additional research questions that need to be addressed. The workshop is scheduled to happen during the winter of 2019.
Fairfax County

LEGISLATION/REGULATION

Fairfax County regulates solid waste, illegal dumping, litter, and recycling through the following ordinances:

- Chapter 46
- Chapter 43.1
- Chapter 62
- Chapter 82-1-29.1
- Chapter 68.1
- Chapter 69.1
- Chapter 109
- Chapter 109.1
- Chapter 118
- Chapter 112
- Chapter 124

The Fairfax County Environmental Quality Advisory Council proposed a draft state legislative initiative aimed at disposable bag litter abatement. The legislative initiative proposed giving local jurisdictions the ability to ban and or place a fee on bags.

EDUCATION

- The Clean Fairfax Council (CFC) has a memorandum of understanding with the County to promote and publicize litter prevention strategies. CFC seeks to reduce littering and to encourage recycling, promotes community action by supporting cleanups and serves as a clearinghouse for environmental information. CFC coordinates volunteers and neighborhood cleanups; provides educational programs and presentations to schools and other groups; plans and produces SpringFest; distributes reusable bags and brochures; and maintains social media and websites related to litter prevention.

- SWPD has also developed a Citizen Scientist Floatables Monitoring program that engages students to participate as a citizen scientist to help County staff monitor the floatables loading in and adjacent to local streams. This program is designed to create a strong bond between staff and students through repeated interactions. The monitoring program spans across several watersheds and creates a monitoring network across Fairfax County that will allow students to share stories and data from one school to another.

- The County has adopted “Stormy the Raindrop” as its mascot for helping to connect primarily with younger County residents. In addition to the “Only Rain Down the Storm Drain” message, this effort focuses on the importance of litter prevention and picking up after pets. Other programs that promote the “Only Rain Down the Storm Drain” message that are geared towards younger residents are EnviroScape, MWEE programs, Sewer Science, and Stream Crime Investigation Lab.

- The Industrial and High Risk Runoff program inspects businesses that are potential sources of pollution to the storm sewer. Inspectors distribute pollution prevention materials to business owners that includes information about parking lot management (sweeping, cleaning up litter, trash & recycling receptacles) and dumpster management (to prevent litter from escaping).

LAW ENFORCEMENT
Fairfax County Chapter 82-1-29.1 will allow Fairfax County Police Department (FCPD) to issue an arrest/misdemeanor charges punishable by a maximum fine of $2,500 and up to 12 months in jail for littering.

**STORM WATER**

- Fairfax County is in the process of building a band-a-long (trash trap) similar to the ones found on the Anacostia. This is a proactive step the County is taking to reduce litter within our local streams.
- Fairfax County provides good housekeeping and illicit discharge recognition and reporting to County staff.
- The Industrial and High Risk Runoff program inspects businesses that are potential sources of pollution to the storm sewer. Inspectors distribute pollution prevention materials to business owners that includes information about parking lot management (sweeping, cleaning up litter, trash & recycling receptacles) and dumpster management (to prevent litter from escaping).

**TRASH HOT SPOTS**

- Clean Fairfax County developed the Clean Fairfax Community Map to track hot spots, cleanup opportunities, restoration opportunities, etc. Hot spots are identified through County staff or citizen complaints. Since this map is so new, there is no data to share at this time.
- CFC also developed a Clean Streams Initiative. This program is an important tool in evaluating the effectiveness of targeted litter prevention strategies. Five monitoring sites have been selected that will be monitored four times a year to count visible trash or floatables. The monitoring data will be used to identify sources of litter and to develop and implement a targeted education and outreach plan to reduce the litter. Litter prevention strategies that show success in these targeted areas will be deployed more broadly.

**RECYCLING RATE**

The recycling rate for calendar year 2017 is 48.8%. The 48.8% recycling rate includes composted yard waste.

**COLLABORATION**

- County staff maintain communication through in-person and phone meetings, as well as through email. The County has a team dedicated to the public education and participation MS4 permit element which meets several times a year to encourage collaborative efforts on new or existing outreach material. The team includes members from NVSWCD, CFC, Solid Waste, Clean Virginia Waterways, Virginia Cooperative Extension and Clean Water Partners. Small workgroups get together to work through challenges and to develop new material.
- Solid Waste Management coordinated with the Lake Barcroft Association to clean debris from the lake as needed on an annual basis.
- MSMD staff removes debris from stormwater facilities during maintenance activities.
- MSMD coordinates with CLF to remove trash from stormwater ponds.

**BUSINESS OUTREACH**

Clean Fairfax Council recently started working with businesses to encourage reduction of trash on their facility. As this is a new outreach effort, the focus will be in the Mount Vernon District during the pilot study.
WASTE DIVERSION

Both of the efforts listed below are pilot studies:

• Fairfax County is in the process of installing a band-a-long (trash trap) similar to the ones found on the Anacostia. This is a proactive step the County is taking to reduce litter within our local streams.

• Fairfax County is in the process of installing StormX on a property to reduce the litter that is coming from the MS4.
City of Greenbelt

LEGISLATION/REGULATION

The City of Greenbelt has solid waste ordinances (Chapter 17) that prohibit dumping, littering and hand billing. The ordinance also forbids sweeping into storm gutters, and bagging leaves in plastic bags.

EDUCATION

*The City of Greenbelt communicates with residents using a variety of modes: a quarterly printed publication called The Greenbelt Bulletin; our local newspaper The News Review; the City’s web site; the City’s Facebook page; twitter; the Greenbelt_Community listserv; the Greenbelter’s Facebook page; fliers; and signs around town.

*Once a year, for a whole month, a display case showcases recycling and litter reduction information at the Community Center

*The Office of Sustainability gives presentations by request, and organizes workshops a few times per year. Information is also shared at special events such as Earth Day/PW Open House, Labor Day Festival, Greenman Festival, etc.

*The City “Zero Wastes” its events (Green Man Festival in May; Labor Day Festival in September; Fall Fest in October; Festival of Lights Tree Lighting Ceremony & New Year’s Eve in December)

*Volunteer watershed cleanups for Earth Day in April and National Public Lands Day in June.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Code enforcers and Police are on the lookout for litterers. The public informs City staff of illegal dumpings.

STORM WATER

The City of Greenbelt follows the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), conducts quarterly water inspections, daily Public Works inspections, daily litter pickup, etc.

- The City organizes cleanups around streams, lakes and parks.
- The City supports groups that want to perform cleanups.
- The City encourages reusable bags for the grocery store, and reusable bottles for water. Bags and bottles are given out as prizes at our educational events

For water quality:

- We have rain gardens and rain barrels throughout the City.
- Free workshops have been held to teach residents about Prince George’s County Rain Check Rebate Program.

Residents are encouraged to install:

- Rain gardens
- Rain barrels / cisterns
- Permeable pavement
- Composting

TRASH HOT SPOTS
Trash hotspots are brought to our attention by community members who monitor the area for litter. Then Public Works keeps an eye on those areas on the daily litter pickup route.

Trash hot spots occur mostly at picnic areas within parks. Refuse crews are instructed to monitor and pick up trash at least once a week. Citizens participate a few times per year doing cleanups.

**COST OF LITTER CLEAN-UP ON LAND AND IN WATER**

- The City of Greenbelt shares a street sweeper with three other jurisdictions.
- The City coordinates several cleanups per year, including the Alice Ferguson Foundation Potomac River Watershed Cleanup.
- The City launches a boat at least once per year to collect trash from the lake.
- Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and Cadettes organize cleanups, with Public Works help, at Ora Glen Pond, Greenbrier Park and other locations.
- We also maintain several rain gardens and bioretention areas.

**RECYCLING RATE**

For FY 18, the City of Greenbelt’s recycling rate is 63%. Yard waste 1354 tons. And we collected 0.7 tons of compostable materials from Zero Waste events and from composting at our Public Works facility.

To increase rates we continue to provide recycling information on our website and promote in social media. The City continuously looks for opportunities to recycle more. We just recently partnered with Yuck Old Paint, with Turnkey Enterprises (for textiles recycling), and with TerraCycle.

**COLLABORATION**

We partner to host educational, outreach, and volunteer opportunities with Prince George’s County Department of Environment; Chesapeake Education, Arts and Research Society (CHEARS); Greenbelt Forest Preserve; and the Green Team.

We also collaborate to write grants with other groups. The Organics Task Force of the Zero Waste team obtained a grant by partnering with Public Works, The New Deal Café, and MakerSpace.

**BUSINESS OUTREACH**

The City recently spoke with Beltway Plaza management to encourage them to provide recycling opportunities for their customers. If everything goes according to plan, the Beltway Plaza should have paired bins throughout the plaza in 2019.

The City partnered with the New Deal Café, Maker Space and the Organics Task Force to obtain a grant from the County to compost food waste using different technologies: vermicomposting, and hot composting (3 bin system).

The City has partnered with Mom’s Organic Market / MOM’s of College Park for use of Biobin to dispose of compostable materials from zero-wasting events. When we have a large amount of compostables we take it to Prince George’s County Western Branch.

We host zero waste events such as New Year’s Eve Celebration, and GreenMan Festival where we collect food scraps from various businesses around the Roosevelt Center such as the Greenbelt Theater, Co-Op Supermarket, and New Deal Café.
**WASTE DIVERSION**

The City of Greenbelt is using a state of the art MRF owned by Prince George’s County and managed by Maryland Environmental Services (MES).

The City rents the MES grinder to chop yard waste that then stays in static piles that are left to heat up for composting.

The City encourages residents to do backyard composting of food scraps; we have partnered with Backyardcomposting.org to sell highly discounted composting bins. Public Works is composting all the lunch leftovers of the workers at a small pile in our facility. A select number of families bring their food waste to the 3 bin system located at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center.

The City has partnered with Yuck Old Paint and Turnkey Enterprises to upcycle paint and textiles. The City has a TerraCycle station where 6 different items to be upcycled.
Prince William County

LEGISLATION/REGULATION

The following divisions within the Prince William County Public Works Dept. manage programs. The Solid Waste Division implements the County wide recycling program required by state law. The Neighborhood Services Division enforces local zoning ordinances that control litter and illegal dumping. The Environmental Services Division implements the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit requirements and Illicit Discharge, Detection and Illumination (IDDE) Program.

EDUCATION

For years, Prince William County Public Works has implemented a Public Outreach Program that involves hosting and/or sponsoring a variety of programs, events and activities for residents to learn about watershed protection, stormwater management, litter control, recycling and waste reduction, among other local environmental issues. Public outreach includes partnerships with Keep Prince William Beautiful, Prince William County Soil and Water Conservation District, the County Cooperative Extension and many local non-profit groups. Events include Earth Day, Prince William Recycling Day, Prince William Compost Day and county-wide volunteer Adopt-a-Stream/Pond cleanups and annual Occoquan River cleanup. Information is provided online, through social media and in printed format. This year, the outreach program is being extended to include the business community.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Prince William County Police and Property Code Enforcement in the Public Works Dept. issue notice of violations to control litter and illegal dumping. In FY’18, the County Police issued 78 littering and dumping violations and 19 unsecured vehicle loads associated with violations. In FY’18, Property Code Enforcement responded to 418 dump heap cases. Of these cases, 374 sites were abated and 40 remain in violation as active cases.

STORM WATER

The Environmental Services Division of Public Works manages the MS4 Permit requiring a robust stormwater management inspection and maintenance program.

Environmental Services oversees the annual inspection and maintenance program for over 2,100 stormwater facilities. Facility owners have maintenance agreements requiring “removal of debris and other such matter”. BMP facilities have debris cages and trash racks capturing significant stormwater litter. Inspectors report findings of excessive litter in stormwater facilities. Facility inspectors report findings on facilities with excessive litter and require facility owners to resolve it.

The local Soil and Water Conservation District office plays an important role in the Public Works MS4 Outreach Program that involves a very robust volunteer program. In FY’18, the volunteer Adopt-a-Stream/Pond Program resulted in 425 volunteers donating 5,007 hours to clean up 57.5 miles of urban streams and 36 adopted streams and stormwater ponds. This resulted in the removal of 17.75 tons (or 35,493 lbs) of litter and trash. Their Water Quality Program includes five floatable litter monitoring sites.

In addition, the non-profit environmental organization, Keep Prince William Beautiful (KPWB), implements the County’s Storm Drain Labeling Program. In FY’18, KPWB labeled 940 Storm Drain Inlets with “Drains to Chesapeake Bay” labels. The labeled storm drains are now tracked with GPS in GIS maps.
The Environmental Services Division of Public Works is begun implementing a volunteer pilot study to install low cost, easy-to-install litter traps at point source, drainage outfall pipes where excessive stormwater litter is found on County owned land (Parks, vacant properties, etc.).

TRASH HOT SPOTS

Public Works has a fulltime Litter Crew that regularly patrols and cleans the County’s most traveled roads. They also respond to citizen reports of illegal dump sites. The crew picks up litter and removes illegal roadside signs. Among the current “trash hot spots” are Route 234 between the landfill and Balls Ford Road, the PWC Parkway, the sections of the Route 1 corridor and Sudley Road. In FY’18, the Litter Crew cleaned up 1,504.7 total lane miles, disposed of 125.44 total tons of trash/litter, and removed 12,253 roadside signs. This includes 133 special cleanup requests.

Keep Prince William Beautiful (KPWB) has a robust volunteer Adopt-a-Spot Program to clean up trash hot spots. Currently, KPWB has active 60 Adopt-a-Spot sites. In FY’18, the Adopt-a-Spot Program had 452 volunteers and 836 labor hours, and collected a total of 11,825 lbs of trash plus 2,500 lbs. of recyclable materials. In FY’18, KPWB also had 25 Community Cleanups with 509 volunteers and 2,369 labor hours, and collected a total of 16,050 lbs. of trash plus 1,740 lbs. of recyclable materials.

COST OF LITTER CLEAN-UP ON LAND AND IN WATER

In FY’18, the Neighborhood Services Division of Public Works funded a Litter Crew budget of $895,000.00 which supported a fulltime Litter Crew and supervisor with management support. (Results noted above.)

In FY’18, the Public Works Dept. funded PWC Soil and Water Conservation District office with $80,000 for supplies and support personnel who coordinate volunteer water quality monitoring, the Adopt-a-Stream/Pond Program and the annual cleanup of the Occoquan River and more. (Results noted above.)

In FY’18, the Public Works’ Neighborhood Services Grant funded $77,000 to the non-profit environmental organization, Keep Prince William Beautiful (KPWB). (Results noted above.)

RECYCLING RATE

The County recycling rate for CY’17 was 34.6%. The County goal is to continue the implementation of a County-wide recycling plan, including yard waste composting, that will meet or exceed the recycling rate mandated by the Virginia DEQ. Continue and expand solid waste source reduction and reuse programs. One example of this involves collaborative project with the Parks Dept. to reduce plastic bottles at ball fields by installing water stations for refillable bottles.

The County has a plan to construct and operate a new facility to process yard waste, food scraps and wood waste at the County’s Balls Ford Road Composting Facility, as well as provide organics waste management services at the site and the County’s landfill. When fully developed, the compost facility will recycle over 80,000 tons per year of organic waste into high-value compost, soil products, and non-synthetic fertilizers. It will also generate baseload renewable energy and environmental attributes. Finally, it will produce sustainable and locally-grown fresh fruits and vegetables for sale back into the community. Facility construction will begin this fall and anticipated to be completed the summer of 2020.

COLLABORATION

For many years, the Environmental Services Division and Watershed Mgmt Branch (ESD-WMB) has established public outreach programs with other divisions within Public Works Dept. like Neighborhood Services and Solid Waste/Recycling; and local agencies like Soil and Water Conservation District and
Cooperative Extension; local NGOs like Keep Prince William Beautiful, Prince William Conservation Alliance and Habitat For Humanity; and local colleges like George Mason University and NoVA Community College. This year, we’ve begun collaborating with the PWC Parks Dept. to coordinate a major cleanup event at Veterans Park and doing a pilot study with Parks to install low-cost litter traps at drainage outfall pipes to control point source stormwater litter. Future collaborative opportunities for Prince William County Public Works may include the City of Manassas City and Manassas Park.

**BUSINESS OUTREACH**

Public Works is a member of the Chamber of Commerce. As part of the MS4 Public Outreach Program, public communication is made through direct mail, websites and social media pages to engage the business community in preventing littering, dumping and illicit discharges in parking lots and storm drain systems. This year, the Environmental Services Division has focused on including stormwater litter hot spots specific to commercial property managers for condominiums, apartments and retail shopping districts where excessive stormwater litter are found in nearby streams and stormwater ponds. This includes a pilot study to install litter traps at point source drainage outfall pipes from parking lots at large retail shopping center.

**WASTE DIVERSION**

Public Works just launched a pilot study to test the effectiveness of installing low-cost, easy-to-install litter traps at point source, drainage outfall pipes where excessive amounts of stormwater litter are found. The litter traps will be monitored and cleaned out, and the amount of litter collected will be tabulated. In addition, the litter traps are being inventoried via GPS/GIS maps.

The Parks Dept and Environmental Services in Public Works are seeking a federal grant from NOAA’s Marine Debris Program to install an in-stream Bandalong litter collection system to prevent urban stormwater litter from flowing to a park estuary.

Public Works’ Building and Grounds Division has installed numerous refillable water stations in County facilities designed to refill plastic bottles and refillable containers. The Parks Dept. is also beginning to install refillable water stations at ball fields. These investments will help reduce plastic litter/pollution.