



News Release

For Immediate Release
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9th Annual Family Stream Day

Bring your friends and family to this year's Family Stream Day event, held October 16, from 10 AM to 3 PM at Claude Moore Park's Historic Area, 21668 Heritage Farm Lane, Sterling, VA. Family Stream Day is an interactive, outdoor environmental education event for students and their parents where they can learn about their Loudoun County Streams and the plants and animals that these streams and streamside habitats support – the only event of its kind in Loudoun. It is scheduled each year in October to pay local tribute to World Water Monitoring Day and the Anniversary of the Clean Water Act. Loudoun Watershed Watch and the Loudoun Environmental Stewardship Alliance (LESA) are co-sponsoring this event; Claude Moore Park is again hosting this year's event.

Several interactive water learning "stations" will be located by the Frogshackle Nature Center. Kids and their parents can pick up a Stream Day passbook at the starting point, and then visit all the stations where their participation in a water education activity gets them a stamp in their passbook. When their passbooks are full, they can pick up a reusable tote bag and giveaways while supplies last. The stations will showcase all the ways in which Loudoun residents both benefit from and impact local streams by offering hands-on activities that will help students recognize wetland habitats, learn what not to pour down storm or household drains, how to test stream water quality and more.

The Frogshackle Nature Center will be open during stream day, so there's lots of activity for children and adults alike. Visitors should use the Loudoun Park Lane entrance at Claude Moore Park and park at the Heritage Farm Museum. Admission is free and the event will be held rain or shine.

Event Background

This annual event tips our local hat to World Water Monitoring Day (September 18) and commemorates 38 years of the Clean Water Act and watershed awareness. It is being planned and organized by several County organizations including: Loudoun Watershed Watch, Loudoun Environmental Stewardship Alliance, Loudoun County Department of General Services, Loudoun Water, Loudoun County Department of Building & Development, Loudoun Soil and Water Conservation District, Audubon Naturalist Society, Piedmont Environmental Council, Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy, Claude Moore Park and many more.

LWW Background:

Formed in 2000, the primary goal of the LWW is to monitor and protect water resources in Loudoun County by raising local students' and others' awareness of Loudoun's water resources and engage them in meaningful, hands-on water science activities. LWW has been working in three areas: compiling and examining existing water quality data; designing a comprehensive surface water monitoring program covering all significant streams in the county; and implementing a public outreach program to raise citizen awareness and involvement in local water quality. LWW hopes its reports and initiatives will encourage citizens and elected officials to take actions that support environmental stewardship that benefits our local waters. For more information, or to find out how you can get involved with Loudoun Watershed Watch, go to www.loudounwatershedwatch.org.

LESA Background:

LESA was formed in 2007 as a voluntary coalition of individuals from Loudoun nonprofits, schools, governments and corporations who shared a desire to promote environmental awareness and learning through resource sharing, environmental education, and offering meaningful outdoor experiences and stewardship projects in Loudoun. LESA is a neutral and objective source of information related to environmental opportunities in Loudoun County and enthusiastically supports the 'No Child/No Family Left Inside' initiatives started by noted author and outdoor educator, Richard Louv. LESA members provide programs, sites and learning resources for children and adults that encourage family exploration and appreciation of the natural wonders that lie within Loudoun County and adjacent areas. For more information, or to find out how you can get involved with the Loudoun Environmental Stewardship Alliance, go to www.loudounnature.org.

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