YOU CAN SAVE ACCOTINK CREEK!

Stop the warm, dirty water reaching and destroying life in Accotink Creek!

Rain on roofs and streets heats up and rushes into the storm drain carrying pollution and trash directly to the stream! Warmer water has lower oxygen than cooler water. Aquatic life needs oxygen! We all need clean drinking-water!

• Responsibly use pesticides/ fertilizers!

Only fertilize lawns in the fall and use phosphate-free fertilizer. Encourage the natural predators to control your pests. Use boric acid or insecticidal soap; they're less toxic to aquatic life than pesticides.

• Plant native plants!

Grow varieties of attractive native plants that require fewer chemicals, less maintenance and support native wildlife.

• Practice Good Water Stewardship!

PIRECT DOWN SPOUTS AWAY FROM YOUR DRIVEWAY! Keep our stream from drowning! Use the natural cooling and pollutant-filtering ability of soil & plants. Install dry wells, rain gardens & rain barrels to capture water and release it slowly! Use porous materials such as spaced bricks or gravel for driveways & patios instead of asphalt or concrete, slowing stormwater runoff and increasing infiltration into the groundwater. Financial incentives help make it happen: www.accotink.org/ConservationAssistance.htm

• Be the voice of your watershed!

Elected officials, property managers, and neighbors need to know what they can do to preserve our streams and need to know that you care. Raise your voice on behalf of Accotink Creek!



GET YOUR BRAIN WET!

Join Friends of Accotink Creek, an allvolunteer organization restoring Accotink

Creek watershed!

Accotink Creek runs through one of the finest wildlife corridors in Fairfax County. Accotink Creek passes through Eakin, Wakefield, Lake Accotink and Accotink Stream Valley Parks; Ft. Belvoir and the Accotink Bay Wildlife Refuge, then drains into the Potomac River, affecting waters of Chesapeake Bay. Additional information is at www.accotink.org and

http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-accotink/thebay.htm

Help "Team Accotink" to conserve, restore, and enhance enjoyment of the flora, fauna, and natural habitat of our watershed.

Care about Accotink Creek!











Contact us at: contact@accotink.org

Join at www.accotink.org



VOLUNTEER!

JOIN OUR ALL VOLUNTEER WATERSHED GROUP!

PROTECT OUR STREAM!

Volunteer Activities Include:



Stream Monitoring Projects



- · Nature Walks •
- Invasive Plant Removal
- Storm Drain Marking
 - · Stream Cleanup ·
- Habitat Restoration •

Friends of Accotink Creek Vision

We, the Friends of Accotink Creek, are committed to protecting, promoting and restoring the water quality, natural habitat, and ecological wellbeing of the Accotink Creek watershed.

We intend to:

- 1. Foster environmental awareness, education, and enhance recreational use;
- 2. Reduce storm runoff and its effects, restore habitats, preserve land; and
- 3. Enlist broad-based public and organization participation and support.



"Team Accotink" volunteers sweep the creek bed to beat the litterbugs during our twice-annual stream cleanups along the length of Accotink Creek.

Friends of Accotink Creek

Version: September, 2016 Graphic Design: Michele & Clair Garman, Robert Murphy

What is a Watershed?

A watershed is an area of land in which



groundwater and surface water drain to a particular waterway. We all live, drive and work in a watershed. So no matter where one lives or works, watershed protection

begins on one's own roof, driveway, yard, the roadway and workplace!

The Storm Drain Connection!

Storm drains convey rain water, trash and pollutants from our work sites and homes, parking lots, roads, driveways, roofs and lawns directly to our streams.

The sudden rush of runoff that accompanies each rainstorm scours overwhelmed stream channels, speeding erosion. The resulting fine



sediment smothers the bottom-dwelling invertebrates that form the foundation of the food chain.

So what?

By reducing runoff and erosion, we can keep the creek cleaner and more inviting for frogs, fish, trees, and people, too!

Financial incentives to help your creek and community!

We can make it happen at our homes, civic associations, houses of worship, and more. Financial incentives from the <u>Virginia</u>
<u>Conservation Assistance Program</u> make it easy to care about Accotink Creek!

www.accotink.org/ConservationAssistance.htm

Accotink Creek Watershed



