

# Potomac Watershed Roundtable

Claude Moore Recreation Center

46105 Loudoun Park Lane

Sterling, VA 20164

(for directions see <https://goo.gl/maps/vAszUtoc8kw>)

Friday, October 2, 2015

**9:30 Registration and Morning Refreshments Served Prior to the Meeting**

*(The Potomac Council will meet from 9:00 to 9:50)*

**10:00 Call to Order and Introductions** – Hon. Penny Gross, Chair

**Approval of the Minutes** of the July 10, 2015 meeting at Stratford Hall, in Stratford, VA

**10:15 Updates** from the Chair

**10:30 Empowering Partner Watershed Groups and Individuals through the Communities for Clean Streams Campaign**

**Lisa Alexander**, Executive Director, Audubon Naturalist Society

**Monica Billger**, Virginia Conservation Advocate, Audubon Naturalist Society

*Communities for Clean Streams is a regional campaign of the Audubon Naturalist Society designed to inspire individual and community stewardship and advocacy on behalf of clean streams by building online and on-the-ground communities of people and partners for stream stewardship, growing the number of clean stream stewards and advocates, inspiring individuals to take action on private property to produce cleaner streams in the region, and galvanizing citizens to take advocacy actions that support the development of local clean water policies.*

**11:15 Potomac Environmental Research and Education Center (PEREC)**

**Dr. Chris Jones**, Professor-GMU Environmental Science & Policy and Director of PEREC

**Dr. Cindy Smith**, Professor-GMU Environmental Science & Policy and K-12 Education Director with PEREC

*The Potomac Environmental Research and Education Center is one of the key components of George Mason University's new Potomac Science Center. Its mission is to utilize the tools of scientific research, restoration, education, and policy analysis to help society understand and sustain natural processes in ecosystems, watersheds, and landscapes. Research focuses on Potomac River & Chesapeake Bay Restoration, Sustaining Natural Ecosystems in Suburban Areas, Impact of Global Climate Change on Management of Aquatic Ecosystems. In addition, PEREC provides Environmental Studies courses at GMU and K-12 and Community Education Programs.*

**12:00 Lunch and Networking** – \$15 in cash or check (made out to the Northern Virginia SWCD); receipts will be provided.

**1:00 Regional Water Quality Partnerships**

**Tanya Spano**, Chief, Regional Water Quality Management, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

*The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is an independent, nonprofit association that brings area leaders together to address major regional issues in the District of Columbia, suburban Maryland and Northern Virginia. Members include 300 elected officials from 22 local governments, the Maryland and Virginia state legislatures, and U.S. Congress. COG's vision is [Region Forward](#) – a commitment to create a more accessible, sustainable, prosperous, and livable National Capital Region; while COG's mission is to make Region Forward happen by being a discussion forum, expert resource, issue advocate, and catalyst for action. COG's Department of Environmental Programs staff support a wide range of committees and partnerships that actively address regional water issues: quality, resources, infrastructure, climate, restoration, and security.*

**1:30 Virginia Master Naturalists – Celebrating 10 Years!**

**Jim McGlone**, Local Chapter Coordinator, Fairfax Master Naturalists

*The Virginia Master Naturalist (VMN) program was officially launched in 2005. That year, the coordinators established basic guidelines and structure of the program, recruited the first set of 10 chapters, hired a statewide coordinator, and funded the statewide efforts of the program with support from founding sponsoring agencies. Since then, sponsors, local partnering organizations, and volunteers have helped VMN grow to a thriving program having significant positive impacts on Virginia's natural resources.*

**2:00 Members Time and Announcements**