

Potomac Watershed Roundtable
A Virtual Microsoft Teams meeting
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Friday January 10, 2025, at 10:00 am
Meeting Summary

Voting Members/Alternates

Dana Barakat, Northern Virginia SWCD
Derrick Clarke, Loudoun SWCD
Janelle Downes, Fauquier County
Daniel Goodale-Porter, Tri-County City SWCD
Charles Grymes, Prince William Conservation Alliance
Chuck Koch, Tri-County City SWCD
Will Lintner, Prince William SWCD
Robert Pickett, Northern Neck SWCD
Dan Storck, Fairfax County
Nancy Vehrs, Prince William SWCD
Richard Wilkins, Northern Neck SWCD
Willie Woode, Northern Virginia SWCD

Advisory Members/Alternates (Non-Voting)

Renee Bourassa, ICPRB
Kirsten Conrad, VCE
Debbie Cross, Virginia DCR
Rebecca Shoemaker, Virginia DEQ
Jacob Zielinski, Virginia DOF

Presenters

Anne Little, Tree Fredericksburg
Heather Colter, Northern Virginia SWCD
Michael Lott, DCR

Interested Parties

Dongmei Alvi, Virginia Tech
Eden Anderson, Northern Virginia SWCD
Scott Baron, Northern Virginia SWCD
Nicki Bellezza, Fairfax Water
Rhonda Bitterli, Northern Virginia SWCD
Maura Christian, Virginia DEQ
Melina Cienski, Virginia DOF
Renee Davis, Tri-County City SWCD
Anna Dixon
Evelyn Eichorn
Trish Feth, Northern Virginia SWCD
Penny Gross
Tricia Hailey, John Marshal SWCD
Brianna Heath, GWRC
Heather Hunter-Nickels, Northern Virginia SWCD
Mindy Kania, Potomac Conservancy
Don Lacquement, Northern Virginia SWCD
Laila Leikvold
Christine McClean, Tri-County City SWCD
Madison Morgan, Tri-County City SWCD
Grace Murdoch, Northern Virginia SWCD
John Peterson, Northern Virginia SWCD
Paul Reynolds, Fairfax County
Heather Shackley, Northern Virginia SWCD
Cindy Speas
Vera Tangiri, Prince William SWCD
Elizabeth Ward

Welcome and Introductions

Robert Pickett called the meeting to order at 10:02am. People introduced themselves.

Minutes – October 6, 2024

The minutes of the October 6, 2024 Potomac Watershed Roundtable (PWR) meeting had been distributed in advance of the meeting.

Mr. Pickett asked if the George Washington University speakers were listed correctly. Ms. Gross noted that the date of the October meeting listed in the minutes was incorrect. Ms. Feth said she would make the necessary corrections to the minutes.

A **motion** by Nancy Vehrs seconded by Chuck Koch to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2024 meeting, with the corrections outlined above, passed by voice vote.

Updates from the Potomac Council Chair

Chuck Koch reported that there is approximately \$10,000 in the Potomac Council budget. He said several things had been accomplished under the umbrella of “The Way Forward” future planning process:

- Approved raising PWR registration fee to \$25, and clarification that this is registration fee and not tied to lunch.
- Approved use of MyRec ecommerce platform for meeting registration.
- Approved four-year schedule with two virtual and two in person meetings per year.
- Nancy Vehrs was reelected Vice Chair and Chuck Koch reelected Chair of the Potomac Council.

Presentations

Anne Little, Co-Founder of Tree Fredericksburg, gave a presentation titled “Trees Really are the Answer”. She then answered questions from attendees.

Michael Lott, Northern Regional Supervisor for the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, gave a presentation titled “The Crow’s Nest Collaboration: Bridging Public and Private Sectors for Conservation”. He then answered questions from attendees.

Heather Colter, Urban Conservation Specialist with NVSCWD, gave a presentation titled “Fairfax County’s Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMAP)”. She then answered questions from attendees.

Announcements

Nikki Bellezza said Fairfax Water is gearing up for their source water protection grant program, which funds Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience as well as other education programs, and shoreline stabilization projects. Fairfax Water retail and wholesale customers within the Potomac and Occoquan watersheds are eligible to apply. The application window opens in February, and the deadline to apply is May 15, 2025.

Nancy Vehrs announced the next meeting of the PWR will be at the Potomac Science Center in Woodbridge, Virginia, on April 11, 2025.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 12:42

Next meeting will be held on Friday, April 11, 2025

Additional details will be provided closer to that date