



Clean Fairfax

2025

ANNUAL REPORT

Yearly Snapshot

COMMUNITY CLEAN UP PROGRAM



212 Community Cleanups



2.8k Community Volunteers



8k Volunteer Hours



\$262k Value of Volunteer Time



21 Public Presentations



78 Meetings and Workshops



12 Fairfax Streams Monitored



49.5k Impressions on Social Media



875 Attendees at Earth Day Events



82k Partner Newsletter Audience

About Clean Fairfax

Mission

The mission of Clean Fairfax is to encourage environmental stewardship & urban sustainability in Fairfax County, Virginia through education, programming, and community involvement.

Vision

To be Fairfax County's non-profit leader in environmental and sustainability education, advocacy and action by creating relationships with schools, businesses, municipalities and other organizations.

Leadership & Partnership

Our service to the environmental community remains as strong as ever. Clean Fairfax is an active member of:

- Virginia Conservation Network (VCN)
- The Virginia Plastic Pollution Prevention Network (VP3N)
- Fairfax County's Green Business Partners (Ally)
- Safiya completed the Clean Water Advocates Program by Wild Virginia in 2025
- Jen Cole is President of Clean Virginia Waterways (where Zach Huntington, our Board President and past Clean Streams Coordinator is now the Policy Director).

The natural, built, and policy environments are constantly changing, which is why we are committed to staying informed and connected to the emerging issues facing our region. This year, Clean Fairfax attended **20+** educational webinars, workshops, presentations, and conferences.



2025 Director's Statement



2025 has been a year of change for Clean Fairfax.

Not all change is bad of course—we don't always have the ability to change a bad thing that is happening, but what we do have is the power to determine how we can react to it. Despite the chaos around us in our region, we have success stories from this year.

Our first challenge of 2025 was releasing Elli Kluegel, our Clean Streams Coordinator and Social Media Manager into the world of international corporate stormwater consulting! I truly believe a mark of a good manager and a great organization is when staff members leave for beneficial career opportunities, because that is exactly what we've prepared them to do. **Safiya Farid** joined us after a competitive search and is already proving that she not only knows the work, but also everyone in Fairfax County.

Our **Speakers Bureau**, launched in 2024, has been a popular program for Clean Fairfax and helpful for our partners in Solid Waste who can easily refer requests for speakers right to us while they concentrate on other priorities. Giving talks in the community is my love language and this year we presented at libraries, schools, businesses, social clubs, community service organizations, scouting groups, garden clubs, county agencies, HOAs, and senior living facilities.

And of course, we continue our important work **monitoring streams** in five different land uses across the county for our colleagues at Fairfax County's Stormwater Management for the County's MS4 permit—a public private partnership that started in 2017, as well as promoting and supporting our 40+ year old **community cleanup program**.

Our **partnership** with our friends at the Fairfax County Farmers Market has borne **fruit** in the form of No More Single Use Plastic Bags! It has been a decade long effort, and it has been worth all the work for Fairfax County to lead in this area. We are continuing our advocacy, assistance and action by **beefing** up our educational materials and **beaning** in attendance at markets this summer to help consumers and vendors **pear** down their other single use plastic usage.

Clean Fairfax also worked to start translating our digital and print outreach materials into Spanish and Korean. To that end, with the help of a grant from The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia, we hired a part-time Bilingual Spanish Outreach Associate, **Daniel Malagon**, and are launching a full website refresh. We're excited for Daniel to help us bring Spanish resources to events in the community.

It is an unsettled and challenging time here in our region and in the nonprofit sector. Clean Fairfax has not been immune to that. Our annual funding has been cut significantly the last two years, which affects programming decisions moving into 2026--and thus, we'll forgo our annual Earth Daze in favor of attending other events around the County. Our small size affords us the ability to be as creative and agile even during adversity, and we look forward to another year of moving the millions of residents, students, business people and government entities away from single use *anything* and toward a more sustainable and clean Fairfax County.

Be well, and stay safe.*

*and by safe, I mean from me finding you with a grocery cart full of plastic bags.