

Goose Creek Scenic River Program

In 1976, the main channel of Goose Creek in Loudoun County was designated "Scenic" and entered into the Virginia Scenic Rivers Program. In 2007, the designation was extended into Fauquier County, State Code § 10.1-411.

The program's intent is to identify, designate, and help protect rivers and streams that possess outstanding scenic, recreational, historic, and natural characteristics of statewide significance for future generations. This program is managed by the State and should not be confused with the U.S. National Park Service Wild and Scenic Rivers Program. One of the program's strengths is the partnership forged between citizens, local governments, and the State. This partnership began with an evaluation phase and continued through and after the designation process.

Benefits of Scenic River Designation:

- Encourages closer review of projects and proposals by state agencies and localities.
- Requires General Assembly authorization for dams.
- Provides for continued existing appropriate riparian land uses.
- Allows for project review and monitoring of designated river segments by Governor-appointed Virginia Scenic Rivers Board.

Limitations of Scenic River Designation:

- Does not give the State control over land use.
- Does not give the public any right to use privately owned land.
- Does not require Virginia to commercially promote its scenic rivers.
- Recreational use of rivers currently in the Scenic Rivers System has not increased any more than the use of high quality streams that are not in the system.

Full details about Virginia's Scenic Rivers Program are available at:
http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational_planning/srmain.shtml

Help Preserve and Protect Goose Creek!

State-appointed committee supported by
the Loudoun County government.



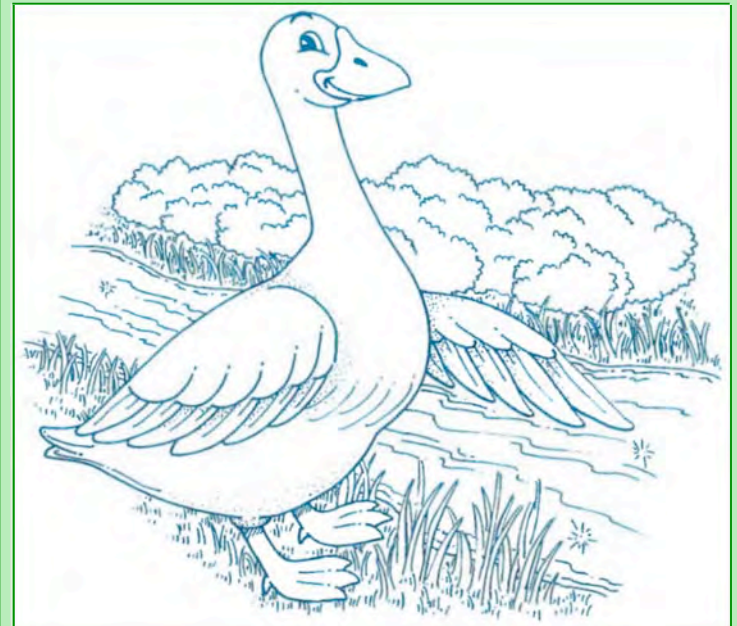
Goose Creek Stone Bridge

For meeting schedules and minutes, visit:
<http://townhall.virginia.gov>
and search for "Goose Creek"

E-Mail: GooseCreekScenicRiver@yahoo.com
www.loudounwatershedwatch.org/scenicriver



Goose Creek Scenic River Advisory Committee



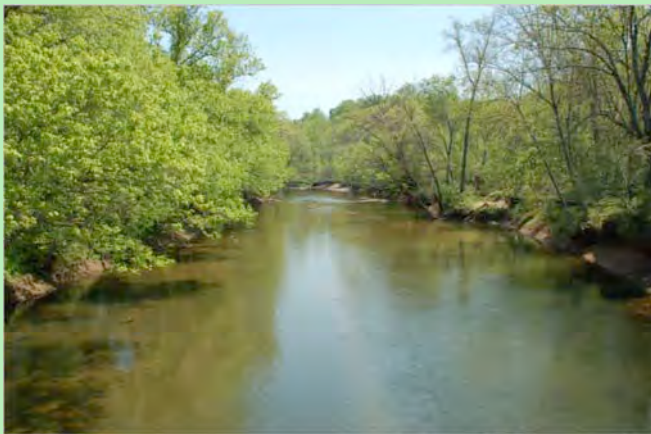
The Goose says: "Get Involved!"



Lime Kiln Rd, west of Crooked Bridge



Between Rt 626 and Rt 733



Lime Kiln Road, west of Rt 15

Views of Goose Creek

Photos by : Ann Higgins, Mark Jeffries, Carol Clay-Ward

What Can You Do?

Anyone who values the benefits and scenic beauties of Goose Creek must actively participate in its stewardship. If you are a creek-bordering landowner, you can be instrumental in preserving the Creek while increasing the value of your property and receiving tax credits as well.

Plant a Native Tree

A "riparian buffer" of trees and shrubs not only retains the scenic views along the Creek's banks, but provides effective flood control and protects against bank erosion. Also, this buffer provides food and habitat for wildlife, moderates water temperatures, and is the foundation for natural greenways and wildlife corridors.



Clean and Maintain

Monitoring the creekline for litter and debris will further enhance the quality of the Creek and its neighboring environment.



Goose Creek Scenic River Advisory Committee

Rapid growth and urban development can alter the scenic beauty and stream health and potentially impact Goose Creek unless steps continue to be taken to protect the river and its banks and shores.

Goose Creek, a source of drinking water to Loudoun County, originates in the Blue Ridge Mountains and travels 48 miles through Fauquier and Loudoun before discharging into the Potomac River.

The Advisory Committee meets routinely to review proposed land use changes and development activities. Applicants often incorporate suggestions and alter development plans that will help preserve the scenic buffer.

