



## **News Release**

**For Immediate Release**  
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### **From Loudoun Backyards to the Chesapeake Bay 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Stream Day**

Bring your friends and family to this year's Family Stream Day event, held October 17, from 10am to 3pm at Claude Moore Park's Historic Area, 21668 Heritage Farm Lane, Sterling, VA. Loudoun County children of all ages are invited to learn about their local waters and the habitats they support. Family Stream Day is an interactive, outdoor environmental education event for students – the only event of its kind in Loudoun. It is scheduled each year in October to coincide with World Water Monitoring Day and the Anniversary of the Clean Water Act. Loudoun Watershed Watch and its partners are the sponsors; Claude Moore Park is the host for this year's event.

Several interactive water learning "stations" will be located by the Frogshackle Nature Center and The Lanesville House. Kids and their parents can pick up a Stream Day passbook at the starting point, and then visit all the stations where their participation in a water education activity gets them a stamp in their passbook. When their passbooks are full, they can pick up a reusable grocery tote bag and giveaways while supplies last. The stations will showcase all the ways in which Loudoun residents impact our waters, such as recognizing wetland habitats, learning what not to pour down storm or household drains, water quality monitoring and more. Scheduled nature walks will also be provided. Participants are encouraged to wear proper walking shoes.

As a special treat, Reptiles Alive!, a traveling wildlife education organization that features amazing animals and dynamic wildlife educators will perform at 12:30pm, after the contest award ceremony at noon. Prizes will be awarded to the top entries in this year's Stream Day poster, prose and photography contest, "From Loudoun Backyards to the Chesapeake Bay." This contest was open to all K–12 Loudoun County Public, Private and Home School students.

Both the Frogshackle Nature Center and The Lanesville House will be open during stream day, so there's lots of activity for children and adults alike. Visitors should use the Loudoun Park Lane entrance at Claude Moore Park and park at the Heritage Farm Museum. Admission is free and the event will be held rain or shine.

### **Event Background**

This annual event coincides with World Water Monitoring Day (September 18) and commemorates 37 years of the Clean Water Act and watershed awareness. It is being planned and organized by several County organizations including: Loudoun Watershed Watch, Loudoun County Department of General Services, Loudoun Water, Loudoun County Department of Building & Development, Loudoun Soil and Water Conservation District, Audubon Naturalist Society, Piedmont Environmental Council, Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy, Claude Moore Park and many more.

### **LWW Background:**

Formed in 2000, the primary goal of the LWW is to monitor and protect water resources in Loudoun County by raising local students' and others' awareness of Loudoun's water resources and engage them in meaningful, hands-on water science activities. LWW has been working in three areas: compiling and examining existing water quality data; designing a comprehensive surface water monitoring program covering all significant streams in the county; and implementing a public outreach program to raise citizen awareness and involvement in local water quality. LWW hopes its reports and initiatives will encourage citizens and elected officials to take actions that support environmental stewardship that benefits our local waters. For more information, or to find out how you can get involved with Loudoun Watershed Watch, go to [www.loudounwatershedwatch.org](http://www.loudounwatershedwatch.org).

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