

## NCA Environmental Committee Report March 2021

Last meeting was held on Feb 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 at 7pm. One member in attendance, Mike Smith. The only topic on the agenda was finalizing the date of the next community clean-up event.

Next Clean-up Event – March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 (First day of spring) at 10:00am EST.

Supplies have been requested from the Springfield District office.

Other news: On January 25<sup>th</sup> I listed in on the CECAP (Community-wide Energy and Climate Action Plan)

In short, this program aims to reduce Energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions in Fairfax county. A link to their website and a couple videos they produced are below:

Website: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/environment-energy-coordination/about-us>

Videos: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gFQiGBxmYFE&feature=youtu.be>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7glnln5wlJY&feature=youtu.be>

### **Newsletter from CECAP:**

Did you know, 68 percent of Fairfax County residents believe that individual citizens should do more to address climate change? Climate change is a global problem, but it also stands to impact us locally and we have a responsibility to address it head on. That's why the NCA Environmental Committee (NCA EC) pleased to share some information with you about Fairfax County's efforts to create a Community-wide Energy and Climate Action Plan, or CECAP.

The facts can be hard to swallow: climate change is expected to alter the geographic reach, seasonal distribution, and abundance of disease vectors, like mosquitoes and ticks. Infectious diseases that were once considered tropical or subtropical may become commonplace in our region. On top of that, the economic sector most at risk due to climate change is agriculture. For each degree Celsius our global thermostat increases, there will be a 5 to 15 percent decrease in overall crop production. As supply decreases, and demand remains the same or increases, the price of food could very well rise.

The good news is no action is too small to make a difference. From changing a light bulb, to choosing to drive an electric vehicle, to weatherizing a home or business, we can all participate in climate action in multiple ways according to our means and abilities. There is no guarantee that our individual actions will directly alter our experience of climate change here in Fairfax County in the short term, but inaction is not an option if we want to see positive change here and elsewhere in our region in the long term. The CECAP is our path forward – a roadmap for our community, showing us the many ways we can start to address climate change locally.

The NCA EC encourage you to [learn more about climate action in Fairfax County](#). Later this month, online surveys will be available, and the county will host public meetings to gather community input on climate change mitigation strategies and actions. The NCA EC will share more information about opportunities for you to participate in the coming weeks.