Green Breakfasts

Laura Grape, District Manager
Northern Virginia SWCD
In 2012, we had:
* 1.1 Million Residents
* 400,000 Households

In 2025, we anticipate:
* 1.2 Million Residents
* 450,000 Households

Between 2011 and 2012, roughly 8% of the population were new to the area.
Our vision: An informed community working together to protect natural resources.
Working as a Team

Conservation Specialist
Urban Conservation Engineer
Watershed Specialist
Environmental Educator
Soil Scientist
Admin and Technical Assistant
Financial Assistant

Engage
Partner
Plan
Implement
Monitor
Promote
Celebrate
Success
Education & Engagement
- Watershed Science
- Stream Monitoring
- Storm Drain Marking
- Watershed Friendly Garden Tours

Technical Assistance
- Soil Characteristics
- Drainage
- Erosion
- Plan Review
- Stormwater Permit Support

Urban Conservation
- Stream Restoration
- Rain Gardens
- Rain Barrels
- Composters
- Conservation Landscaping
- Ag Cost-Share

Collaboration & Partnering
- Local, State, & Federal Govt
- Industry
- Nonprofits
- Community Leaders
- Watershed Roundtables
Green Breakfasts

A casual forum for the exchange of information and the opportunity to network.
When it all began...

* Sally Ormsby, former NVSWCD Director
* In 2003, evolving local water quality programs
* Sought an alternative to traditional public meetings
How Green Breakfasts work...

Six Saturdays per year
Jan • Mar • May • Jul • Sep • Nov

Buffet at Local Restaurant

Self-supporting program
Local staff and officials to NGO representatives to university professors

Topics are informational and usually have a stewardship component
NVSWCD Roles

Associate Director and Directors
* Coordinate topic and speaker(s)
* Emcee
* Participate

Staff
* Promote and distribute email notices
* Manage logistics
The Program

8:30 a.m. Buffet opens
9:00 Presentation begins
9:45 Audience Announcements
10:00 a.m. Depart
Keys to Success

- Provide timely local topics and speakers
- Maintain a neutral forum
- Allow time for announcements
- Rally local pride with the restaurant
  - Partner to keep breakfast cost to a minimum
- Have an engaging emcee
Evaluating the Program

Consistent participation
Distribution list continues to grow
Speakers are finding us
Folks linger long after the program ends
Thank you!

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