



January 31, 2020

A Message from Kathy Smith

If you have a dog four months and older they must be licensed in Fairfax County, and the deadline to get a dog license, or renew one, is **today, Friday, January 31, 2020**. If you need to update your dog's information with the county, contact the Department of Tax Administration at 703-222-8234 (TTY 711) or send an email to dtadog@fairfaxcounty.gov. More information is below in the "Reminders" section.

This coming **Tuesday, February 4, 2020**, the Human Services Council will hold a Community Engagement Session at **Ox Hill Baptist Church (4101 Elmwood Street, Chantilly, VA 20151) from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** The council wants to hear from you about the strengths and opportunities in the county's Housing, Health, and Human Services' Organization. For more information about the event, [click here](#).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathy".

Reminders!

2020 Dog License and Renewal Due January 31, 2020:

All dogs four months and older must be licensed, and the deadline to get a dog license, or renew one, is **Friday, January 31, 2020**. The license fee is \$10 per dog and is good for one year (excluding service dogs, which receive licenses free of charge). After we receive your information and fee, you will be mailed a license tag for your dog's collar.

Please let the Department of Tax Administration (DTA) know if you no longer own your licensed dog, if it passed away, or is living outside the county. You can do so [online](#). You will need your registration number and previous license number that was sent to you in November.

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If you do not have that information, contact the DTA at 703-222-8234 (TTY 711) or by email at dtadog@fairfaxcounty.gov. For more information about dog licenses, [click here](#).

2020 Fairfax County Cable Television Survey:

Fairfax County is interested in your thoughts and opinions regarding cable television services within our community. Please provide your feedback, as part of the cable TV franchise renewal process. Your responses will be kept strictly confidential. All data and reports will include aggregated data, only, not data for any specific respondent. Furthermore, this information will not be used for any marketing or solicitation. [Click here](#) to take the survey! The survey will close **on January 31, 2020**.

Human Services Council Community Engagement Session:

Tuesday, February 4, 2020

7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Ox Hill Baptist Church (4101 Elmwood Street, Chantilly, VA 20151)

The Fairfax County [Human Services Council](#) is committed to receiving feedback and input from diverse and representative community members. Through Community Engagement Sessions, the Human Services Council is able to gather information to inform the Fairfax County Executive and Elected Leaders about the strengths and opportunities in the county's Housing, Health, and Human Services' Organization. For the full schedule of community engagement sessions, [click here](#).

Sully District Police Station - Valentine's Day Sock Drive:

The Sully District Police Station is hosting a Sock Drive for Fairfax County students in need. **Accepting donations until Monday, February 10, 2020. NEW** socks can be dropped off or mailed to: Fairfax County Police Department, Sully Station c/o PFC Hawkins, 4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly, VA 20151. The donation box is located in the lobby of the Sully District Station. For questions, contact PFC Meg Hawkins at 703-814-7100 or by email at megan.hawkins@fairfaxcounty.gov.

VDOT - Public Information Meeting on Braddock Road and Old Lee Road Safety and Operational Improvements Study:

Thursday, February 13, 2020 (Inclement weather date: Thursday, February 20, 2020)

6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Westfield High School in the Lecture Hall (4700 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly, VA 20151)

Find out about a study assessing potential safety and operational improvements at the intersection of Braddock Road (Route 620) and Old Lee Road, and the S-curve on Braddock Road just west of Old Lee Road. Stop by between 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. to view displays and learn more about the study. **A presentation will begin at 7:00 p.m.** Study staff will be available to answer your questions.

Give your written comments at the meeting, **or submit them by February 24, 2020** to Mr. Andrew Beacher, P.E., Virginia Department of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030 or send an email to meetingcomments@VDOT.virginia.gov. Please reference "Braddock Road and Old Lee Road Safety and Operational Improvements Study" in the subject line.

Coats for Kids - CSB Coat Drive:

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The Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board (CSB) Youth & Family Outpatient staff are holding a coat drive to benefit CSB clients and the community. Bring new or gently used coats, hats, scarves, and gloves **to CSB's Chantilly Office** (14150 Parkeast Circle, Suite 200, Chantilly, VA 20151) **now through February 28, 2020**. For more information, [click here](#).

Important Dates for the March 3, 2020 Democratic Presidential Primary Election:

- **Now until Saturday, February 29, 2020** - Absentee voting begins.
- **Now until Saturday, February 29, 2020** - In-person absentee voting is available at the Fairfax County Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035) in Conference Rooms 2/3. [Click here](#) to view voting hours.
- **Monday, February 10, 2020** - Voter registration deadline. In-person/by mail: 5:00 p.m.; online: 11:59 p.m.
- **Saturday, February 22, 2020** - In-person absentee satellite locations open, including the [Sully Governmental Center](#) (4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly, VA 20151)
- **Tuesday, February 25, 2020** - Deadline to apply to receive an Absentee Ballot by mail, fax, and online: 5:00 p.m.
- **Saturday, February 29, 2020** - Deadline for in-person absentee voting: 5:00 p.m.
- **Tuesday, March 3, 2020** - 2020 Democratic Party Presidential Primary Election Day. Polls are open from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. On Election Day you vote at your polling place. Absentee Ballot return deadline: 7:00 p.m.

For more information about the 2020 Democratic Presidential Primary Election, [click here](#).

Rocks with Cops 2.1

Let's hope mother nature plays nice with us this go around! Reserve your spot ASAP as there will only be 200 slots. All ages are welcome at this "Kindness Rock" event.

Join us on Saturday, February 15, 2020, at the Sully District Station (4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly, VA 20151) to paint rocks with Cops! Come by anytime between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. We will have rocks & supplies but please feel free to bring your own as well.

Make sure to RSVP so we can ensure we have enough rocks! [Click here to register](#).

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Rocks With Cops 2!

NOW - Saturday, February 15, 2020
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Sully District Community Room
4900 Stonecroft Blvd, Chantilly

Come paint rocks with the police!
This is a free event and all ages are welcome!



For more info & to RSVP: <http://bit.ly/rockswithcopsfeb15>

February Events at Centreville Regional Library



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Introduction to Mindfulness (Four Part Course)

[Monday, February 3, 2020](#)

[Monday, February 10, 2020](#)

[Monday, February 24, 2020](#)

[Monday, March 2, 2020](#)

10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Learn about the practice of mindfulness meditation and its benefits. Find out how mindfulness can reduce stress and anxiety and help you increase focus and improve coping skills. Ages: Adults.

Raising a Screen Smart Kid

Monday, February 10, 2020

7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Have you ever lamented how difficult it is being a parent in the digital age? If so, you will not want to miss Author Julianna Miner's presentation based on her new book, *Raising a Screen Smart Kid*. She gives straight forward advice to help savvy parents set sensible guidelines for their kids and still make the most of the wonders of technology. Ms. Miner is an instructor at George Mason University. Book signing to follow. Ages: Adults.

The World's Religions (Seven Part Series)

[Judaism: Sunday, February 16, 2020](#)

[Christianity: Sunday, February 23, 2020](#)

[Islam: Sunday, March 1, 2020](#)

[Hinduism: Sunday, March 8, 2020](#)

[Buddhism: Sunday, March 15, 2020](#)

[Sikhism: Sunday, March 22, 2020](#)

[Baha'i Faith: Sunday, March 29, 2020](#)

2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Learn about the beliefs, values, and practices of major world religions, presented by Laura Shulman, Professor of Religion at Northern Virginia Community College in this seven-part series. Event will include a lecture, Q&A, and additional resources. No registration required. Ages: Teens and adults.

Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss

Saturday, February 29, 2020

10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Celebrate Dr. Seuss's upcoming birthday with stories, crafts, and your friend, Cat in the Hat. Ages: 6 to 10. [Registration](#) opens at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, February 15, 2020.

The [Centreville Regional Library](#) is located at 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville, VA 20121. For more information about these events contact the library by [email](#), or call 703-830-2223, TTY 711.

February Events at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park

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Groundhog Day!

Saturday, February 1, 2020

1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Learn the story behind Groundhog Day and some interesting facts about this animal. Visit the home of the Walney garden groundhog and play some groundhog games. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Ages: 4 to 12. Cost: \$7.00.

Winter Tree Detectives

Sunday, February 9, 2020

3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

No leaves? No problem! Learn to use clues like buds, bark, and fruit to identify and enjoy the winter beauty of some of our park's native trees. Ages: 8 and older. Cost: \$7.00.

Courtship in the Animal World Campfire

Friday, February 14, 2020

6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

What does it take to attract a mate in the animal world. Turtles, frogs, insects, birds, and even fish all have unique techniques for finding that special someone. Learn about these unique specialties and enjoy a short hike before sitting around a campfire to roast marshmallows. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Ages: 4 and older. Cost: \$7.00.

Home Made Bird Feeders

Sunday, February 16, 2020

1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Bring your empty milk jugs and/or two liter soda bottles to make bird feeders. We discuss tips for feeding birds and learn to identify common birds that visit home bird feeders. Dress for the weather and bring binoculars. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Ages: 2 and older. Cost: \$8.00.

[Ellanor C. Lawrence Park](#) is located at 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly, VA 20151. For more information about these events contact the park by [email](#) or call 703-631-0013, TTY 711.

Volunteer Opportunity



Sully Historic Site: Touring Docent

Do you like history? Do you like conversation? Volunteer at Sully Historic Site conducting tours that showcase 1794 home of Richard Bland Lee. If you like history and have a desire to share your knowledge with others than Sully might be right for you!

Guides small groups and individuals on tours of the historic site. Facilitates discussion and answers questions relevant to the site's history, buildings, grounds, and collections. Supports scheduled site programs and special events. Every day except Tuesdays. Minimum age: 18.

Location: Sully Historic Site (3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly, VA 20151)

Contact:

Darlene Szudera; Volunteer Coordinator
darlene.szudera@fairfaxcounty.gov
703-437-1794

Northern Virginia Soil & Water Conservation District Seedling Sale

The annual [Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District](#) (NVSWCD) seedling sale is underway! Using native plants in your home landscape can help you attract wildlife, protect water and air quality, conserve energy, and reduce carbon emissions. The program is offered in partnership with Fairfax County's [Urban Forestry Management Division](#) and the Virginia Department of Forestry's Potomac Work Area.

For more information, contact the NVSWCD at 703-324-1460 (TTY 711) or send an email to conservationdistrict@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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NORTHERN VIRGINIA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Annual Native Seedling Sale

The 2020 seedling sale features two packages of shrubs that are not only curated to be hardy in smaller spaces, but to also serve as valuable food sources for wildlife and delicious treats for us! They help clean our water and air, prevent soil erosion, provide valuable habitat, sequester carbon, and add beauty to your landscape. Enjoy!

| SUPER SHRUBS & TINY TREES | | \$15 | |
|--|--|---|---|
| <p>2 Silky Dogwood (<i>Cornus amomum</i>) 6-12' tall. Full to part sun. Moist to wet soils.</p> <p>Beautiful white clustered flowers May-June and orange, red, or purple fall color. High wildlife value for birds and small mammals. Perfect for areas near wetlands or streambanks.</p> | <p>2 Common Buttonbush (<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>) 6-12' tall. Full sun to full shade. Moist to wet soils.</p> <p>Produces fragrant creamy white flowers July-Aug. and interesting fruit in the fall. Grows well in wetlands and along lake and pond edges. Tolerates drought and flooding to 36". Used by butterflies and other beneficial insects.</p> | <p>2 Smooth Sumac (<i>Rhus glabra</i>) 2-20' tall. Full sun. Dry to moist soils.</p> <p>Fruits fuzzy red berry clusters Aug.-Oct. and turns red in the fall. High wildlife value for songbirds, small mammals, and beneficial insects. Extremely drought resistant, perfect for dry slopes and open areas.</p> | <p>2 Eastern Redbud (<i>Cercis canadensis</i>) 20-35' tall. Part to full shade. Dry to moist soils.</p> <p>Pink and lavender flowers Apr.-May and turns a golden yellow in the fall. Commonly found along streambanks. Fixes nitrogen.</p> |

| SPACE SAVERS | | \$15 | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <p>2 New Jersey Tea (<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>) 3' tall. Full to part sun. Dry soils.</p> <p>Clusters of white flowers May-Sept. and yellow fall color. Does well in meadows and other open areas. Fixes nitrogen.</p> | <p>2 Mapleleaf Viburnum (<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>) 3-6' tall. Full sun to full shade. Dry to moist soils.</p> <p>White flower clusters in June, edible black berries Aug.-Dec. Orange, red, or purple fall foliage. High wildlife value for songbirds and small mammals. Performs well in rocky areas and slopes.</p> | <p>2 Aromatic Sumac (<i>Rhus aromatica</i>) 6' tall. Full to part sun. Dry soils.</p> <p>Fuzzy edible wine red berry clusters July-Mar. and aromatic leaves. Red fall foliage. High wildlife value for songbirds, small mammals, and beneficial insects. Performs well in rocky areas and slopes.</p> | <p>2 Beautyberry (<i>Callicarpa americana</i>) 6' tall. Full to partial sun. Dry to moist soils.</p> <p>Lavender-pink flowers June-Aug. and lavender berries Sept.-Mar. Can be easily pruned if overgrown to 18" and will regrow in a season.</p> |

ORDERING OPENS ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2020

Purchase your seedling packages online, at:
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/soil-water-conservation/native-seedling-sale



Orders must be picked up on Friday, April 17 or Saturday, April 18, 2020, otherwise they will be donated to a reforestation project in Fairfax County.

A full, nonrefundable payment must accompany your order.

You will receive a confirmation receipt and directions to the pickup site at the Sleepy Hollow Bath and Racquet Club in Falls Church.

Questions?

Call us at 703-324-1460, TTY 711 or email us at ConservationDistrict@fairfaxcounty.gov

This program is offered in partnership with the Virginia Department of Forestry's Potomac Work Area and Fairfax County's Urban Forestry Management Division.

February Workshops at the Parent Resource Center



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[Preschool Transition to Kindergarten for Students with Disabilities](#)

Friday, February 7, 2020

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The transition to kindergarten is a big one for kids and can be even more so for children with disabilities. Please join us to discuss how parents can collaborate with FCPS to ensure their students have a smooth transition to Kindergarten. Presented by Kurt Soderstrom and Laurie Andrews, FCPS Special Education Preschool teachers. This workshop is for adults only.

[Fostering Protective Factors in Children and Adolescents to Promote Social-Emotional Wellness](#)

Thursday, February 13, 2020

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Every adult can foster protective factors and build resiliency in children and adolescents. Identify protective factors and assets (Three to Succeed). Learn strategies for building protective factors and assets, and how to increase your child's ability to respond to challenges. Presented by Ryan Dickerson, FCPS School Psychologist and Jenn Spears, FCPS Mental Wellness Specialist. This workshop is for adults only.

[Parenting Your Teen While Keeping Your Sanity](#)

Friday, February 21, 2020

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Learn important strategies to help form a positive relationship with your teen. Identify constructive discipline approaches. Learn how to increase more productive and effective communication strategies. Presented by Michele Tureaud, FCPS Behavior Intervention Teacher. This workshop is for adults only.

[Adversity and Trauma in Childhood: Building Resilient Communities](#)

Friday, February 28, 2020

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

In the past couple of decades, there has been an explosion of new understanding about how and why adversity and trauma can reliably predict risks for mental, physical, behavioral health and productivity in the population. The presentation includes in-depth information about: neurobiological effects of adversity on development, impacts of childhood adversity and trauma on population health, and what we can all do to improve health and well-being across the lifespan. Presented by Karen Brown, FCPS Psychologist, Sarah Ince, FCPS School Social Worker and Jenna White from the Fairfax County Council of PTA's. This workshop is for adults only.

All workshops will take place at the Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services (2334 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring, VA 22027) in Room 100. All workshops are **FREE** to parents, educators, and community members.

For more information, call 703-204-3941 or [click here](#). Please call to make a request for ADA accommodations. Interpreters are available with at least two weeks' notice.

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program

The [AARP Foundation Tax-Aide program](#) provides **free** federal tax return preparation and e-filing **from February 1 through April 15, 2020** by volunteers certified by the IRS. The 12 centers (shown below) in Northern Virginia also prepare Virginia returns. Although the program has no income limits, Tax-Aide clients are generally low and middle income taxpayers. No site requires appointments. You do not have to be an AARP member to take advantage of this service, which is available to taxpayers of all ages, with special attention to seniors.

FREE TAX PREP! 

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Locations in Northern Virginia

| | |
|--|---|
| <p><u>Mason District Government Center</u> 6507 Columbia Pike Annandale, VA 22003 Tue, Wed, Fri 9:30 am - 1 pm (Open Jan 30th) Mon & Thur 1 pm - 8 pm (Closed Feb 17th) Saturday 9 am - 1 pm Optional Appointments Tue & Wed 571-281-8532</p> | <p><u>Bull Run Regional Library</u> 8051 Ashton Avenue Manassas, VA 20109 Mon 10am – 4:30pm Thurs 10am - 7pm (Closed Feb 27th & Mar 26th) Sat 10am-3pm (Feb 8, 22, 29 & Mar 14, 28 & Apr 11) (Opens Jan 30th)</p> |
| <p><u>Sherwood Regional Library</u> 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane Alexandria, VA 22306 Monday - Saturday 10:15am - 2pm Evening Hours, Mon – Thurs 5pm – 8pm (Closed Feb 17th)</p> | <p><u>Providence Community Center</u> 3001 Vaden Drive Fairfax, VA 22031 Saturday 9:30 am - 1:30 pm (Closed Feb 15th)</p> |
| <p><u>SunTrust Bank of Vienna</u> 515 Maple Avenue East Vienna, VA 22180 Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 10 am - 2 pm (Closed Feb 17th)</p> | <p><u>Mott Community Center</u> 12111 Braddock Road Fairfax, VA 22030 Thursday 9:30 am - 1:30 pm Saturday 1 pm - 5 pm (Closed Feb 15th)</p> |
| <p><u>Arlington Central Library</u> 1015 North Quincy Street Arlington, VA 22201 Tuesday 10 am – 6:30 pm Thursday 10 am – 3:30 pm Monday April 15th, 10 am – 6:30 pm Optional Appointments (703) 829-6192</p> | <p><u>Reston Community Center</u> 2310 Colts Neck Road Reston, VA 20191 Tuesday 9 am - 2 pm Thursday 4:30 pm - 8:30 pm Saturday 9 am - 3 pm</p> |
| <p><u>Centreville Regional Library</u> 14200 St. Germain Drive Centreville, VA 20121 Tuesday 4 pm - 8 pm (Closed Mar 3rd) Wednesday 1 pm - 5 pm</p> | <p><u>Chinn Park Regional Library</u> 13065 Chinn Park Drive Woodbridge, VA 22192 Tues & Thurs 10 am – 3 pm Sundays (Feb 23, March 8 & 22) 12 pm - 3 pm Mondays (Feb 10, March 16 & 30) 5 – 8 pm</p> |
| <p><u>Columbia Pike Branch Library</u> 816 South Walter Reed Drive Arlington, VA 22204 Tuesday 1:15 pm - 7:45 pm Friday & Saturday 10 am - 2 pm (Open Jan 31st)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Available Feb. 1st - April 15, 2020 • For taxpayers with low and middle income • All ages, with special attention to seniors • FREE, quality, and confidential service • Federal, VA & some MD and DC tax returns prepared & electronically filed FREE • Tax questions can be answered • Provided by dedicated IRS-certified volunteers • AARP TaxAide is a program of the AARP Foundation, offered in conjunction with the IRS |
| <p><u>James Lee Community Center</u> 2855 Annandale Road Falls Church, VA 22042 Tuesday & Thursday 1 pm - 4:30 pm</p> | |

Bring your photo ID(s), Social Security Card(s), Tax Documents, and Prior Year Tax Return.

January is National Radon Action Month



January is National Radon Action Month. You can't see, smell or taste it, but radon is considered second only to smoking as the leading cause of lung cancer. Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that results from the natural decay of uranium that is found in nearly all soils. It can seep into your home from cracks and other holes in the foundation. The highest levels of radon are typically found in the lowest livable areas of the home, such as basements or other rooms in direct contact with the ground. The higher the radon level and the longer a person is exposed to it, then the greater the health risk. And radon can only be detected by testing. Virginia residents can order a \$3 test kit at www.vdhradon.org. You can also use that link to find certified radon professionals who can test and fix the problem.

For more information on radon, [click here](#) or call the National Radon hotline at 1-800-55RADON (557-2366).

The Green Column



FCPS to Add Electric School Buses to Its Fleet

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Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) has been selected to receive funding assistance to purchase eight electric school buses as part of Dominion Energy's initial deployment of 50 buses across the Commonwealth. These buses will join FCPS' current fleet of roughly 1,625 diesel-fueled buses.

Dominion Energy will cover the difference in cost so that school districts pay no more for electric buses than they would for diesel models. Dominion will also subsidize the cost of necessary charging infrastructure.

Electric School buses in FCPS will benefit not only the school division and its community, but the entire national capital area as they will help reduce carbon emissions, serve as a resource for national emergency planning efforts, provide stability and capacity to the grid with meeting increasing energy demands, and provide charging facilities for other jurisdictions in the area to use when traveling through Fairfax County.

To read the full article, [click here](#).

Animal Shelter Corner



Meet Sire!

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Can you believe Sire is 14 years old??? She is tiny and very spry, and she looks like a kitten! She is super super tiny and only weighs 5.5 pounds. She was rather put out when she first arrived at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter, but now she lives in a staff person's office and she is just the most gregarious little thing! As soon as anyone comes into the office, she has to walk over to say hello to them and get pets. She is always purring and giving headbutts. They don't have too much info on her history, but based on their observations since she's been with them, they think she'd be happiest in a home without other cats. She was always growling when she was in a room with other cats, but ever since she's been a solo cat in her office she's super happy, so their guess is that it was the other cats making her upset! No idea on how she would do with dogs, but maaaybe with a slow intro to a chill dog she would be ok. In any case, this is one super sweet and super tiny little cat, and she's got a great personality to match her beautiful exterior! That tiny pink nose, those ear tufts - perfect!!!

For more information about Sire, contact the [Fairfax County Animal Shelter](#) at 703-830-1100 or send an email to AnimalShelter@fairfaxcounty.gov.
