



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**HELP PLANT TREES TO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY DURING THE APRIL 29
DISCOVER NATURE'S SECRETS EVENT AT THE CHAPMAN DEMARY TRAIL!**

PURCELLVILLE, Va., April 23, 2018 — Come to the next Discover Nature's Secrets event at the Chapman DeMary Trail from 1 to 3 p.m. on Sunday, April 29 to help plant 150 seedlings and find out how trees improve water quality. The Purcellville Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will be joined by the Purcellville Tree and Environment Sustainability Committee to host the April 29 event. This will be the first of three community planting days for a project funded through a grant the Town received from the Virginia Department of Forestry to restore the riparian buffer at the Chapman DeMary Trail. It also part of the first annual Loudoun Nature Days hosted by the Loudoun Environmental Stewardship Alliance, a month-long effort to encourage people of all ages to spend time in Loudoun's great outdoors and experience nature through recreation, citizen science, and community service (learn more at www.LoudounNature.org). The walk and planting will be led by forester Kyle Dingus of the Virginia Department of Forestry. Bring your own shovel, work gloves, a hammer, and water to drink, and volunteer to be part of this important effort! Please sign up online through the Events and Activities page of the Town of Purcellville's website: www.PurcellvilleVA.gov.

The Chapman DeMary Trail is a 10-acre area considered to be the last stand of old-growth forest in the Town of Purcellville. It runs along the South Fork Catoctin Creek which is part of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. The area is open to the public for environmental recreation, exploration, and education. The Town of Purcellville holds the conservation easement for this privately-owned property. The Chapman DeMary Trail is part of a partnership among the Town of Purcellville, The Nature Generation, Loudoun Valley High School, and the Piedmont Environmental Council. The entrance and parking are behind the building at 205 East Hirst Road in Purcellville.

The Discover Nature's Secrets guided nature walks are held the last Sunday of each month at the Chapman DeMary Trail. Throughout 2018, walks will be led by experts from the Virginia Department of Forestry, Loudoun Watershed Watch, Loudoun County Tree Stewards, the Piedmont Environmental Council, Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy, and an Environmental Explorations Teacher from Loudoun Valley High School. Topics will include water quality, pollinators and monarchs, wildflowers, birds, tree identification, and more. The walks are held rain or shine; bring your family! Learn more and RSVP on the Events and Activities page of the Town of Purcellville's website at www.PurcellvilleVa.gov.

The Town of Purcellville, Virginia

Purcellville is an award-winning town of over 9,000 residents located in Loudoun County, approximately 40 miles west of Washington, DC. Having received the prestigious Siemens Sustainability Award for Small Communities, Purcellville continues to be honored for its green initiatives with most recently being the Tree City USA recipient for the 10th year. The Town was reaffirmed as a AAA rated community by S&P Global Ratings, the highest credit rating possible, and is recognized as one of the safest towns in Virginia. Once a stop along the W&OD rail line, Purcellville has maintained its historic old-town feel through the restoration and maintenance of its many downtown structures, reflecting the Victorian architecture popular during the early 1900s. Today, Purcellville is the economic hub of western Loudoun County and a popular weekend destination for antiquing, entertainment, farmer's markets, wineries, breweries, distilleries and restaurants. More info at www.purcellvilleva.gov.

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