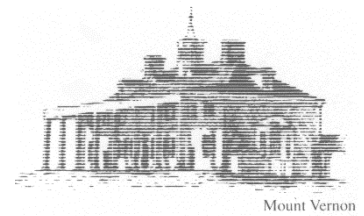




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Recognizing March 12 -18 as Flood Awareness Week Joint Board Matter with Supervisor Storck and Supervisor Gross February 7, 2023

As climate change increasingly impacts communities around the country and around the world, its effects also will continue to reach Fairfax County. Floods related to inclement weather, rising sea levels, and potentially from climatological changes, remain the most common and costly natural disaster in the United States.

Flood Awareness Week is recognized by municipalities nationwide throughout the year. In the Commonwealth of Virginia, we recognize Flood Awareness Week in March. The goal is to stress to residents and business owners that it is vital for them to understand the best and safest ways to protect themselves and their property during flood events.

Flood Awareness Week provides an annual opportunity to raise awareness to flooding issues and concerns in the County, including paying attention to weather warnings; stressing the dangers associated with flooding; educating the public on safety measures during floods and how residents can better protect themselves and their property from the effects of flooding; obtaining flood insurance (particularly for properties that exist with existing floodplains); and knowing if your home or business is in a floodplain.

Fairfax County's Department of Public Works and Environmental Services responds to service requests and implements projects to mitigate structural flooding. The Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District provides onsite technical assistance to residents and commercial owners on minimizing negative impacts from drainage. In extreme flood situations, Fairfax County launches multi-departmental emergency response including the Fire and Police Departments, the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, and the Department of Emergency Management and Security. Per its One Fairfax Policy, the county strives to ensure equitable outcomes for all, particularly marginalized populations and underserved communities.

Mr. Chairman, without objection, we ask that we recognize March 12 - March 18, 2023, as Flood Awareness Week in Fairfax County and that a proclamation be signed by the Chairman, myself, and Supervisor Gross and be presented out of the Board room to Department of Public Works and Environmental Services.