



## Comments for Draft Fairfax County

### [Chloride TMDL Action Plan for Accotink Creek](#)

Dated February 1, 2026; Permit No. VA0088587

We the Friends of Accotink Creek are committed to protecting, promoting, and restoring the water quality, natural habitat and ecological well-being of the Accotink Creek watershed for over 20 years.

According to the drafted plan: “This plan addresses the requirements of the county’s MS4 permit by evaluating significant sources of chloride, assessing the adequacy of existing programs and legal authorities, identifying new action items and associated schedules and milestones, and determining how the effectiveness of the plan will be assessed.”

We note that much of the plan relies on the Virginia Salt Management Strategy (SaMS) which was put in place December 2020. This strategy provides the usage of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to encourage voluntary reduction of road salt usage. However, we must point out that this strategy has failed to impact wasteful and unnecessary salting, piles of salt in parking lots uncovered, and minimal outreach to citizens. It is no surprise that the TMDLs (chronic and acute) concentrations continue to be grossly exceeded.

Therefore, while this drafted plan may meet the regulatory requirements for the permit, we find it woefully inadequate to address TMDLs that have been established. At the very least Fairfax County should be reporting to the Board of Supervisor’s Environmental Committee actual chloride concentration readings after each winter storm event, how that relates to water quality, and after action ideas on how these excessive readings can be reduced.

Only by displaying serious concern by the Supervisors will the public and industry recognize changes need to be made.

## Friends of Accotink Creek

><(((°>`~..~`~><(((°> “Find just one other person who cares.” ><(((°>`~..~`~><(((°>`~..~`~><(((°>