

# Environmental Affairs - Background

- Urban Forest
  - March 2021 resolution - immediately update tree canopy assessment before FNRP preparation
  - Public Collaborative on Tree Preservation in Arlington - 2020-2022
    - 3 meetings, over 100 participants, all stakeholder groups
    - Priorities summary referenced for FNRP
  - June 2023 – “Urban Tree Canopy Assessment of Arlington County: An Analysis of Forest Cover and Benefits” – 33% canopy not 40% stated
  - ACCF public plenary on 2023 assessment report
- Deer Management
  - Town hall with difference perspectives to deer management - County plan still in progress

# Environmental Affairs – 2024-2025 Priorities

- Top priority – urgent need to preserve remaining urban forest and natural ecosystems
  - Identify all remaining woodlands and valuable natural resource areas
  - Evaluate the importance and role of each
    - Climate change. air quality, health, ecosystems, etc.
  - Identify public lands & impose strict limits on any planned disturbance
  - Enhance education and training on tree preservation requirements for County staff and contractors
  - Explore preservation initiatives in other jurisdictions
- Collaborate with other ACCF committees on climate change issues
- Monitor implementation plans for FNRP