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Protecting and Restoring Urban Tree Canopy for Stormwater Management

Harrisonburg, Va. – The city of Harrisonburg will be hosting a presentation and discussion for members of the community to review the city’s urban tree canopy management initiatives.

On Thursday, May 25 from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. city representatives will present information on current tree canopy coverage in the city and invite the community to share ideas for improving the city’s stormwater management efforts through tree canopy enhancement, protection, and restoration. The meeting will be held in the grand room at the Massanutten Regional Library, 174 S. Main St.

Following the presentation, attendees will be asked to provide input on specific locations in Harrisonburg that need more tree canopy. It is also encouraged that participants share ideas for tree-related practices and programs that are not currently in place.

“Harrisonburg is one of only three municipalities in Virginia selected by the Virginia Department of Forestry to study how urban trees can be used to improve the quality of local waterways,” explained Kelley Junco, environmental compliance manager with the Public Works Department. “With the city currently working on the comprehensive plan and stormwater improvement plan, the timing for this project was ideal. These initiatives each play an important role in the city’s future.”

Through the city’s partnership with the Green Infrastructure Center and the Virginia Department of Forestry, this forum will explain the issues, show the city’s current tree canopy, explore potential planting areas, and get feedback from participants on ways to improve.

This will also be an opportunity for residents to discuss strategies for reducing their stormwater utility fee.

Additional information can be found at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/tree-canopy-public-meeting.

The City of Harrisonburg is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to almost 55,000 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is online at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov.



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