

Friends of Prince William Forest Park

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LOCAL GROUP RAISES MONEY FOR PRINCE WILLIAM FOREST PARK

National Trails Day "March for Parks" To Be held June 1, 1997

Triangle, Virginia - A National Trails Day "March for Parks" - a walk event for the Geology Trail project in Prince William Forest Park - will be held on June 1st. The March will be from noon to five o'clock at the Turkey Ridge Environmental Center (TREC) and will feature a selection of trails ranging from 2 to 14 miles through the Park. Also featured will be a free child identification service and free historical and environmental exhibits. The March is sponsored by the Friends of Prince William Forest Park (FPWFP) and by the National Parks and Conservation Association (NPCA). Several students from Hylton High School are volunteering to help. If you would like to take part in the March, call Debra Gross Tozer at 703-792-6866 or Susan Bond at 703-790-4006.

FPWFP hopes the March for Parks will raise approximately \$20,000 for the new Geology Trail in Prince William Forest Park. "Through March for Parks, thousands of Americans each year show that they ultimately own the parks by protecting and restoring them," said NPCA President Paul C. Pritchard. "This event is crucial to raising funds to assist the Park in improving and maintaining its facilities," added Susan Bond, co-chairperson of the March for Parks committee of FPWFP. "The Park's budget just can't handle all the projects required."

March for Parks is America's only national walk event for parks and open spaces. NPCA sponsors the event to raise awareness and funds for America's national, state, regional and local parks. The March for Parks at Prince William Forest Park is one of hundreds of marches in all 50 states and around the world. The events are being organized by local environmental, school, youth business and other citizen groups around the country. All money raised stays at the local level for the park projects identified by each organizing group.

NPCA is America's only private nonprofit citizen organization dedicated solely to protecting, preserving and enhancing the U.S. National Park system. Founded in 1919, NPCA has more than 450,000 members.

FPWFP is a non-profit organization formed in 1989. Its purposes include preserving and enhancing the Park and its natural and cultural resources, monitoring any actions that affect the Park and its ecosystem, and serving as a forum for citizens in decisions affecting the Park.

Prince William Forest Park is part of the U.S. National Park system. Its nearly 18,000 acres make it the largest National Park in the Washington Metropolitan Area. It includes 37 miles of hiking trails, cabin camps for both group and individual use and a variety of other facilities.