

The Riverkeeper

Fall 2018

What are PCBs?

How much do you know about PCBs?

Learn more about PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) [here](#)

What are PCBs?



Farewell Florence

Gratefully, Hurricane Florence has passed us over with minimal damage. We are grateful to all of the hard work and preparation from City staff! Employees from multiple departments, communications staff, as well as police and fire/ems staff all came together to prepare for and respond to Florence.

Thank You!

Are you prepared?

Standard homeowner's insurance does not cover floods...are you [prepared](#) for the next storm? Learn about flood insurance and the City of Roanoke's participation in federally backed programs [here](#).

There is normally a 30 day waiting period before flood insurance goes into effect, so the time to apply is now! The cost of flood insurance will vary depending on the amount of coverage and the degree of flood hazard. [Check your property](#) to find your [flood risk](#).

Your current insurance agent may be able to help you get flood insurance. Find local agents [here](#) or call the toll free number 1-888-379-9531 to ask for a flood insurance agent referral.

No one can stop a flood, but there are things you can do before to protect your home!

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*Autumn has arrived!
There are plenty of opportunities to
enjoy our waterways and get involved
with your local water quality...*

Stay In Stream

Fall Waterways Clean-up
September 29th

National Park Service Ranger Programs
September- October

GO Fest
October 12-14

Freshwater Snorkeling
October 13-14

Rain Barrel Workshop
October 20th

Fall Colors Canoe Excursion
October 22nd



Be part of a team that keeps our Valley clean! Every year volunteer teams from all over the Roanoke Valley will join forces to remove trash from our creeks and rivers. Supplies are provided. Register with CVC.

A series of free educational sessions will be held at the Explore Park Visitor Center hosted by a National Park Service Ranger. Events include campfires, star gazing, river talks, and more.

Combining the things outdoor enthusiasts love – camping, music, gear, races, and demos all in a beautiful outdoor setting – GO Fest is a celebration of everything outdoors. With tons of activities, vendors, food and music, there is something for everyone. We hope to see you there!

Experience the Roanoke River in a whole new way and learn about unique local species. You will be amazed at what is right under the surface!

A fun walkthrough of how to make a rainbarrel. All tools are supplied and you get to take a rain barrel home with you! Register with CVC.

Explore and experience the cove while you take in the vibrant reds, oranges and yellows of the surrounding mountains.

*We hope to see you out there. Together,
we can Create A Clean Water Legacy!*



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Spring 2018

Inlet Art

Keep your eyes on the [inlets](#)! Roanoke Stormwater and [Art in Roanoke](#) have collaborated with local artists to paint murals on six inlets in the City. The new public art will help build awareness about water pollution and its impact on local river ecosystems. All City storm drains lead directly to local streams.

You can also participate in this public art! Vote for your favorite painting on Earth Day, April 21st, on the Art in Roanoke Facebook page or in person at the Roanoke Stormwater booth in Grandin Village Center.



“What will these look like when they are finished?”



How are trees #1 at Water Quality?



Absorb

Trees and other plants capture runoff from heavy rains by absorbing water. This reduces soil erosion, traps sediments, and allows water to infiltrate or be used by other plants and wildlife.



Slow

Trees protect the land from erosion by acting like an umbrella, slowing the impact of rain.



Filter

Tree roots trap sediments and pollutants in water, acting like giant filters.

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Things are heating up this time of year. There are plenty of opportunities to get in the water and get involved with your water quality..

Stay In Stream

40th Clean Valley Day
April 7th

This valley-wide clean up promotes respect and care for the beautiful community we share. Help CVC to keep our valley beautiful and its waterways clean.

River Clean Up with RMA
April 17th

With Summer on the horizon and long days of floating down the Roanoke in our dreams let's spend the afternoon tidying up our local river. Canoes, PFD's, Trash bags and gloves will be provided.

Earth Day
April 21st

Earth Day has been celebrated in Roanoke since 1990. You make a difference everyday! Meet Roanoke's environmental organizations at the festival and learn what you, your friends and family can do.

#RoanokeEarthMonth
Month of April

Keep up with the City of Roanoke on its Facebook page to see exciting short videos and posts about how Roanoke is protecting our great quality of life in the beautiful Roanoke Valley.

Kids to Parks Day
May 19th

Kids to Parks Day is an annual nation-wide event that encourages outdoor play. This year's event will include a scavenger hunt, face painting, climbing wall, relay races, slackline, food trucks, and so much more!

Roanoke Riverfest
June 30th

Join CVC and Roanoke Stormwater for a day full of fun, laughter, competition, ingenuity, and watershed education to be held along the Roanoke River!



We hope to see you out there. Together, we can Create A Clean Water Legacy!



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Summer 2018

Roanoke Riverfest

In case you missed it: [Clean Valley Council](#) had a successful Roanoke Riverfest on June 30th! It was a sunny day full of fun, laughter, competition, and watershed education. Roanoke Stormwater was honored to win first place for fastest boat in the Recycle Regatta race. There were plenty of creative and ingenious designs on display. We look forward to next year, hope to see you out there!



Pictures from: RVTV3, 2018

TIRE-D?

DISPOSE OF YOUR TIRES FOR **FREE!**

Residents of the City of Roanoke, Salem, Roanoke County, and the Town of Vinton can dispose of up to **4 passenger car tires per trip for free**, 12 per year, at the Tinker Creek Transfer Station and Salem Transfer Station.

Check out www.rvra.net for more details or call **540-857-5050**

City of Roanoke residents may leave 2 tires (without rims) per week at the curb at regular pick-up times.



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*Summer is in full swing!
There are plenty of opportunities to
get in the water and get involved with
your water quality...*

Stay In Stream

Deschutes Street Pub
July 14th

The Deschutes Street Pub is back! Street Pub is **free** and is a giant, family-friendly one-stop shop for beer tastings. Live music and local chefs will be there too!

Rainwater Catchment 101
July 21

Explore the techniques of collecting rainwater for use in a vegetable, forest, or rain garden. Learn about how to use rainwater in different ways on your property!

Fish Printing
August 4th

Stop in at the Mill Mountain Discovery Center to learn about fish in Virginia and make a one of a kind fish print to take home.

Beginner Downriver SUP
August 4-5th

Explore your local waterways, get a great full body workout, and learn one of the fastest growing outdoor sports on the market today.

* 3rd Annual Tinker Creek
Clean-up with Deschutes
August 18th

Mark your calendars! Tinker Creek Clean-up is back! Last year we removed 3.79 tons of garbage and 95 tires from Tinker Creek and the Roanoke River. Let's see what we can do this year. Follow us on [Facebook](#) to see updates and to sign up.

Evening Canoe Excursion
August 22nd

Explore Carvins Cove, the second largest municipal park in the nation and a major local water source, and learn the basics of canoeing.



*We hope to see you out there. Together,
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Winter 2018

Winter is Coming

Some simple tips to help you be prepared.

1



Clear your downspouts

This allows melting roof snow to flow freely and not collect at your foundation.



Depending on conditions, melting snow can cause local or community-wide flooding as well as pick up pollutants.

2

Make sure your nearest storm drains are clear

Do not pile snow on storm drains and clear away any snow that may have been pushed onto the drains by passing cars to allow melting snow to drain properly.



3

Use de-icers/salts judiciously

Use what you need to make your walkways and driveways safe, but try to avoid sensitive areas like waterways and your private well. Keep your [pets safe](#) too!



4

Open rain barrel spigots

Prevent your rain barrel from filling with ice and possibly cracking.



[Click](#) to learn about the pros and cons of using different types of to find what is best for your home.

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[Snow Removal Information](#)

[Elmwood On Ice](#)

[2018 Holiday Events](#)

[Roanoke Outdoors Winter Events](#)



Lick Run Stream Restoration Stakeholder Meeting

Come explore the future of Washington Park!

Learn about the upcoming restoration and talk to the project partners. Together, we can transform our waterways into community assets, focal points, and a source of pride for those that live, work, learn and play in the Upper Roanoke River Watershed.

🕒 January 9, 2018 @ 6:30

📍 Gainsboro Public Library

15 Patton Ave. NW. Roanoke VA 24016

🔗 www.roanokeva.gov/stream-restorations

wishing you a
Wonderful
HOLIDAY SEASON & a HAPPY NEW YEAR

from: *all of us at Stormwater*



May you have a season of gladness, a season of cheer, and to top it all off - a wonderful year!