



Franklin Garden Club

## April 2018 is Clean Rivers Month

**Clean Rivers Month** is a community effort to clean up the Blackwater & Nottoway Watershed. Since the Blackwater/Nottoway Riverkeeper Program has organized this event in the past and has now been dissolved, the Historic Southside Chapter of the Virginia Master Naturalists and the Franklin Garden Club are sponsoring the event this year. Organizations, church and civic groups, schools, or any groups or individuals can participate in cleaning up our piece of earth. Since this program began in 2001, there have been 100,000 pounds of trash picked up by over 2300 volunteers!

Picking up the abundance of litter, trash, and other junk no matter where it is found will make our community a better place. Some will go by boat on our rivers; some will hit streams or ditches, parking lots, your front yard or anywhere you desire. **This is a great opportunity for folks to contribute to the health of the Blackwater and Nottoway watershed community in which we live in. You may choose any date in April that best suits your group.**

- **We have litter-getters, reflective vests, and bags for those who need them. Just contact either Dick Gilbert or Anne Parker. Dick's email is [rbgilbert124@gmail.com](mailto:rbgilbert124@gmail.com). His phone number is 757-562-2682. Anne's email is [annegbparker@gmail.com](mailto:annegbparker@gmail.com). Her phone number is 757-562-4804.**
- Start looking at river and swamp bridge crossings or ditches in your area and scope out a place for your team to clean. There are plenty of storm water ditches in Franklin that need attention.
- **If your group wants to participate contact either Anne or Dick by March 31. Tell us the location and date you have picked. If you want to be assigned an area, let us know.**
- Keep track of the number of bags and tires you pick up and report this to Anne or Dick by the end of April. Please also report any unusual trash that you found. Email us pictures of the cleanup so that we can publicize the event. Trash bags collected in Franklin may be left at the boat ramp at Barrett's Landing, in the rear of Hunterdale Christian Church on Delaware Road, in home trash containers or taken to the SPSA transfer station at 30521 General Thomas Highway . Trash collected in Southampton County may be left at one of the dumpster collection sites in the county.

This is a great community event. Get yourself, your group or your family involved this year and let's show the world just how much this proud community cares about our environment!!!