



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 927
Fairfax, VA 22035-1118



January 29, 2009

Subject: Meadow Management at Huntley Meadows Park

Dear Park Neighbor:

You are receiving this letter because you live near Fairfax County Park Authority's Huntley Meadows Park. This natural area is unique in Fairfax County for its size and diversity of habitats. A portion of this park, located between Telegraph Road and Route 1, contains a complex of meadows. As part of a long-term plan to properly maintain this thriving meadow complex, the Park Authority is planning to conduct a controlled burn of about 10 acres in early to mid February. It is anticipated that some portion of the meadows at Huntley Meadows Park may be burned every year.

In meadow ecosystems, fire is the single best management method for promoting good quality native habitat, limiting or eliminating invasive plant species and reducing the risk of unplanned fires. This meadow complex is well removed from homes and businesses, and a controlled burn should have little to no impact on the park neighbors.

The controlled burn will be conducted in coordination with the Fairfax County Fire Marshal's Office, Fairfax County Fire and Rescue and the Virginia Department of Forestry. Hundreds of controlled burns occur every year throughout the state of Virginia and thousands throughout the United States. The burn will be conducted on a weekday in the morning or afternoon and geared to avoid peak traffic times. Controlled burns can only be conducted if site and weather conditions fall within tight state guidelines.

If you have any questions about this letter or the planned controlled burn, please call me at 703-765-8285.

Sincerely,

David M. Lawlor
Natural Resource Manager
Huntley Meadows Park

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If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call (703) 324-8563, at least 10 working days in advance of the registration deadline or event. TTY (703) 803-3354