



APPLICATION ACCEPTED: January 26, 2009
PLANNING COMMISSION: May 14, 2009
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS: May 18, 2009 @ 3:30 pm

County of Fairfax, Virginia

WSPOD

April 28, 2009

STAFF REPORT

CRAWFORD LOCAL AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTAL DISTRICT

APPLICATION AF 2009-SP-002

SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT

APPLICANT: Raymond S. Crawford III and Teresa A. Crawford
ZONING: RC and WS
PARCEL(S): 85-2 ((10)) 1, 2, 3, and 4
ACREAGE: 21.24 acres
PLAN MAP: Residential, 0.1-0.2 du/ac
PROPOSAL: The establishment of a Local Agricultural and Forestal District

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Staff recommends that the request to amend Appendix F of the Fairfax County Code to establish the Crawford Local Agricultural and Forestal District be approved, subject to the Ordinance Provisions listed in Appendix 1.

It should be noted that approval of an agricultural and forestal district application does not automatically qualify a property for land use value assessment. Upon application to the Department of Tax Administration (DTA) for taxation on the basis of land use assessment, DTA must independently determine if the subject property meets the definition of either agricultural and/or forestal use, as well as the appropriate guidelines, including minimum acreage, for either use, as required by Title 58.1 of the Code of Virginia, which is found in Appendix 7.

Suzie Zottl

Department of Planning and Zoning
Zoning Evaluation Division
12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 801
Fairfax, Virginia 22035-5509
Phone 703-324-1290 FAX 703-324-3924
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/



It should also be noted that it is not the intent of staff to recommend that the Board, in adopting any conditions proffered by the owner, relieve the applicant/owner from compliance with the provisions of any applicable ordinances, regulations, or adopted standards.

It should be noted that the content of this report reflects the analysis and recommendation of staff; it does not reflect the position of the Board of Supervisors.

For information, contact the Zoning Evaluation Division, Department of Planning and Zoning, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 801, Fairfax, Virginia 22035-5505, (703) 324-1290 or TTY 711 (Virginia Relay Center).

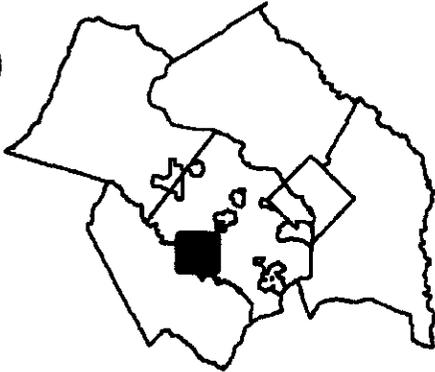
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Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): Reasonable accommodation is available upon 7 days advance notice. For additional information on ADA call (703) 324-1334 or TTY 711 (Virginia Relay Center).

A&F District

AF 2009-SP-002



Applicant:

RAYMOND S CRAWFORD III & TERESA A CRAWFORD

Accepted:

01/26/2009

Proposed:

AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTAL

Area:

21.24 AC OF LAND, DISTRICT - SPRINGFIELD

Zoning Dist Sect:

Located:

12655 WILTONSHIRE DRIVE

Zoning:

R- C

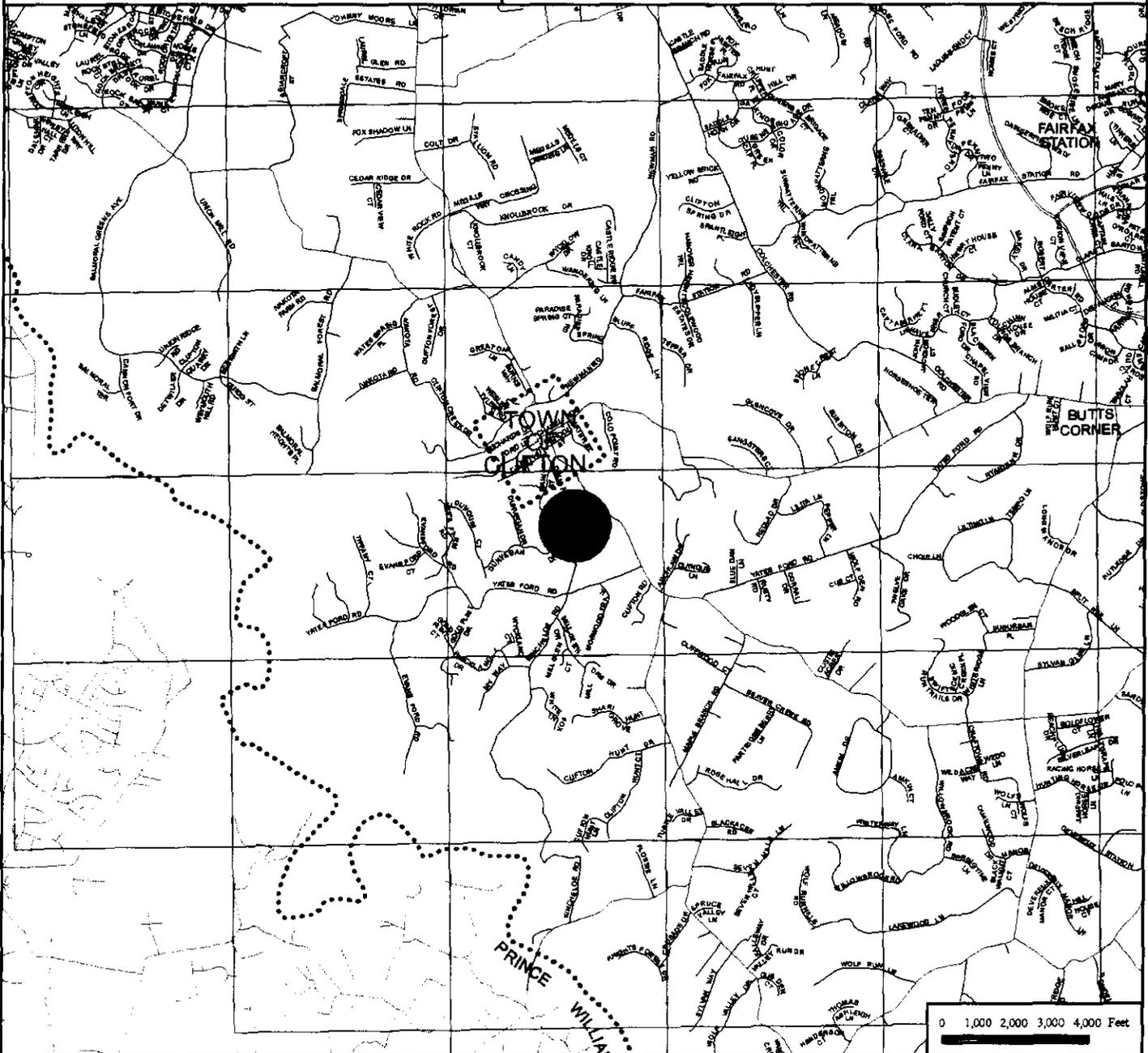
Overlay Dist:

WS

Map Ref Num:

085-2- /10/ /0001 /10/ /0002

/10/ /0003 /10/ /0004

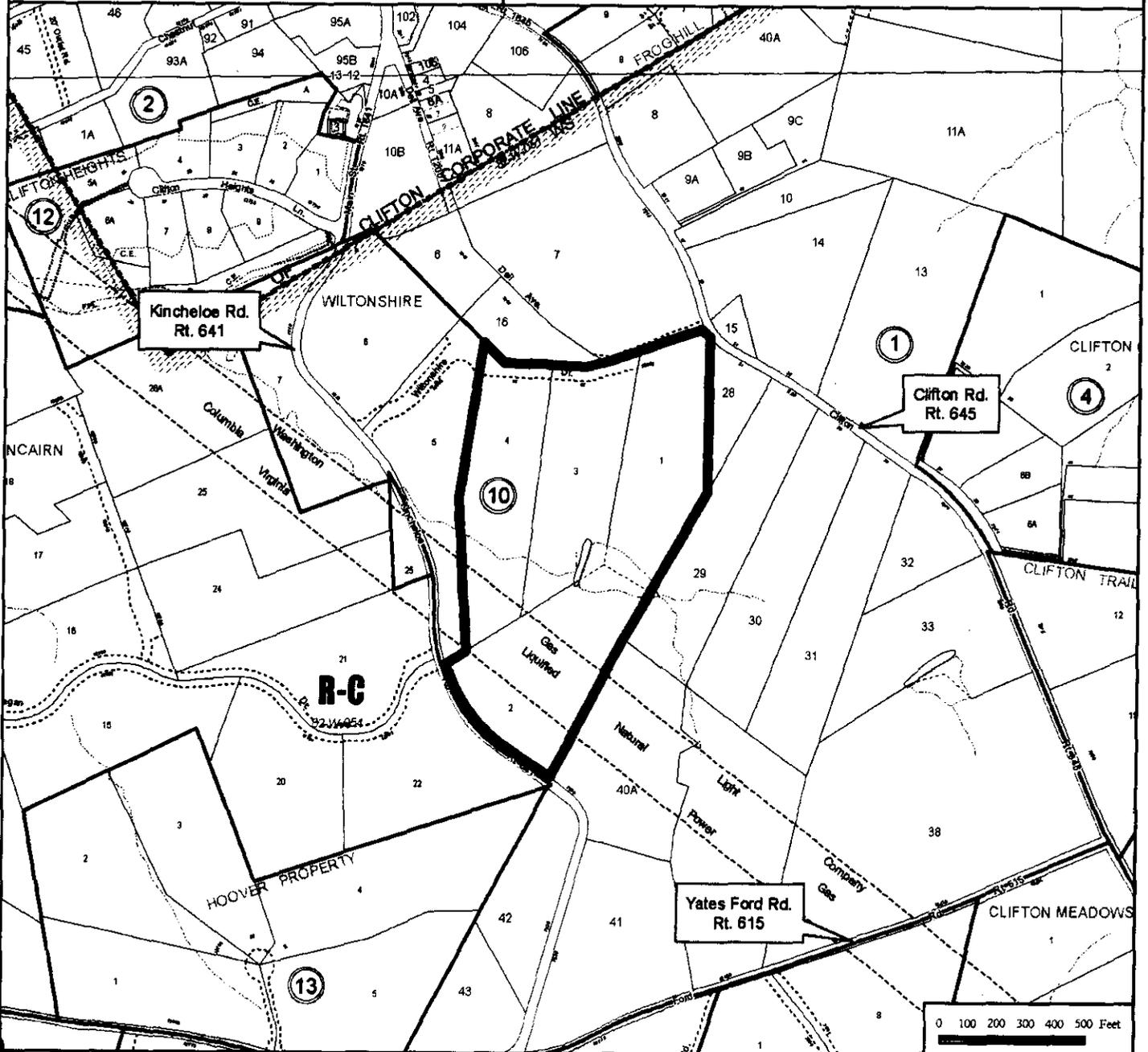


A&F District
AF 2009-SP-002

Applicant: RAYMOND S CRAWFORD III & TERESA A CRAWFORD
Accepted: 01/26/2009
Proposed: AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTAL
Area: 21.24 AC OF LAND; DISTRICT - SPRINGFIELD



Zoning Dist Sect:
Located: 12655 WILTONSHIRE DRIVE
Zoning: R- C
Overlay Dist: WS
Map Ref Num: 085-2- /10/ /0001 /10/ /0002
/10/ /0003 /10/ /0004



**A GLOSSARY OF TERMS FREQUENTLY
USED IN STAFF REPORTS WILL BE
FOUND AT THE BACK OF THIS
REPORT**

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION

Proposal: AF 2009-SP-002 is a request to establish the Crawford Local Agricultural and Forestal (A&F) District for an eight year term under the provisions of Chapter 115 of the Fairfax County Code. The subject property is located north of Yates Ford Road and between Kincheloe and Clifton Roads in the Springfield District.

Copies of the applicant's Statement of Justification and related application materials are contained in Appendix 2. Staff's Proposed Ordinance Provisions are contained in Appendix 1.

Applicant: Raymond S. Crawford III and Teresa A. Crawford

Acreage: 21.24 acres

Use: Open space/Forested – 17.24 acres
Residential – 3 acres

BACKGROUND

There are no previous land use applications associated with the application property.

LOCATION AND CHARACTER

Surrounding Area Description:

The subject property and surrounding area is zoned R-C and WS and is planned for residential use at 0.1 to 0.2 dwelling units per acre and private open space. The subject property is surrounded by single family detached units on all sides.

Location and Character of the District:

The 21.24 acre site is located in the Johnny Moore Community Planning Sector (P3) of the Pohick Planning District. The property contains the following structures:

Structure	Year Built	Use
Main dwelling	1994	Residence
Outbuilding	2004	Horse stall
Greenhouse	2005	Greenhouse
Outbuilding	2007	Storage

This request seeks approval for an Agricultural and Forestal District which would encompass approximately 21 acres of land located south of the town of Clifton in southwestern Fairfax County. The subject site is located in the Popes Head Creek watershed. A Resource Protection Area (RPA) and Environmental Quality Corridor (EQC) associated with an unnamed tributary of Popes Head Creek traverses the proposed district in an east/west direction through the center of the property. Very steeply sloping terrain characterizes the banks along the stream valley. Approximately two thirds of the proposed 21 acre district is EQC as defined by the Policy Plan and RPA under the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance (CBPO). A Virginia Power and Columbia Gas Pipeline easement traverses the southern portion of the property. This easement encroaches into the EQC and RPA on the property and it is barren of vegetation.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PROVISIONS

Plan Area: Area III
Planning District: Pohick Planning District
Planning Sector: Johnny Moore Community Planning Sector (P3)
Plan Map: Residential at a density of 0.1 to 0.2 du/ac

ANALYSIS

Land Use Analysis (Appendix 3)

Approval of this Agricultural and Forestal District would be compatible with the existing and planned very low density residential character for the site and the surrounding area.

Transportation Analysis (Appendix 4)

This request does not represent any conflict with the Countywide Plan transportation recommendations and would have no traffic impact. The Fairfax County Department of Transportation emphasizes that future conditions may warrant road improvements along the road frontage of the proposed district, and that appropriate areas should be excluded from this district. However, in the

subject case no projects that would affect the site area are included in the Adopted Plan or in current construction programs; exclusion of land for right-of-way purposes should not be necessary at this time.

Environmental Analysis (Appendix 3)

The Forest Management Plan is contained in Appendix 5, and the Soil and Water Conservation Plan is included as Appendix 6.

The Forest Management Plan, dated April 2, 2009, breaks the property down into two Parcel areas (see map in Appendix 5).

Parcel 1 contains a mature acidic Oak-Hickory forest. Species present in this area are white oak, northern red oak, southern red oak, black oak, beech, tulip poplar, and hickory. The understory is made up of beech regeneration with a few American holly. The only shrub present is mountain laurel. The timber quality in this area is good, and there is no evidence of epidemic disease in the forest. However, deer browse in this area is evident and creates an unhealthy forest. This area is mostly meeting the landowner's needs, but the forest should be monitored for infestations of non-native invasive species and for overall tree health. Deer management techniques are recommended to allow the reestablishment of the understory and shrub layers and to allow the canopy trees to regenerate.

Parcel 2 is an early successional forest of eastern red cedar that has colonized abandoned pasture. This area is also colonized by many non-native invasive species. This area is still quite young, and the presence of the non-native species will stress the native cedars. This area is marginally meeting the landowner's objectives. It is recommended that the landowner continue to replace the non-native invasive species along the stream and widen the forested area to a minimum of 35 feet. Special attention should be paid to removing autumn olive and callery pear as these plants can invade good quality pasture by seeding through turf.

To ensure consistency with the Comprehensive Plan guidance that "careful attention should be paid to insure that agricultural and forestal techniques are supportive of water quality goals for the Occoquan Reservoir watershed," the property owners should relocate the garden plot and the composting area out of the RPA/EQC and restore these areas as a natural buffer. Areas where lawn encroaches into the RPA/EQC buffer should also be allowed to revert to a natural state and be enhanced with appropriate native tree and shrub species, as recommended by the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District (NVSWCD).

The applicant is encouraged to reforest that portion of the RPA/EQC buffer which is currently developed as lawn, garden and composting areas with native tree and plant species as recommended by the Soil and Water Quality Conservation Plan and the Forestry Management Plan.

Completion and implementation of the recommendations in the Soil and Water Quality Conservation Plan and the Forestry Management Plan would conform to the County's CBPO for agricultural activities. Approval of this Agricultural and Forestal District would be consistent with the environmental goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan.

Agricultural and Forestal District Criteria Analysis

Article 5 of Chapter 115 of the Fairfax County Code contains two sets of criteria which are designed to serve as a guide in the evaluation of proposed Local Agricultural and Forestal Districts. All of the criteria in Group A, and least two criteria from Group B should be satisfied by the proposed district. It is important to note that these criteria are a guide to be applied when establishing, renewing or amending a District; they are not prerequisites. The following is an evaluation of the proposed district's conformance with these criteria:

Criteria Group A:

1. All district acreage should be currently devoted to agricultural use or forestal use or should be undeveloped and suitable for such uses, except that a reasonable amount of residential or other use, related to the agricultural or forestal use and generally not more than five acres per district, may be included.

The subject property is 21.24 acres in size and is mostly in forest use, with the exception of 3 acres used for residential purposes. This criterion has been satisfied.

2. All lands in the district should be zoned to the R-P, R-C, R-A, or the R-E District.

The property is zoned R-C and WS. This criterion is satisfied.

3. In general, the district should be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan. The following land uses identified in the Plan are appropriate for a district: 0.1-0.2 dwelling units per acre; 0.2-0.5 dwelling units per acre; 0.5-1.0 dwelling units per acre; Private Recreation; Private Open Space; Public Park; Agriculture; Environmental Quality Corridor. Lands not planned as such may be considered for a district if they meet at least 3 of Criteria Group B.

The property is planned for residential use at a density of 0.1 to 0.2 dwelling units per acre (du/ac). Therefore, this criterion has been satisfied.

4. A majority of the surrounding land within one-quarter mile of the district should be planned according to the Comprehensive Plan for uses

identified in A(3) above. Exceptions may be made for lands located at the edge of a planned growth area or which meet at least three of the criteria of Criteria Group B, if no conflicts with surrounding uses, existing and planned, are evident or likely.

The Comprehensive Plan designates a majority of the surrounding land within one-quarter mile of the district for low density residential use at 0.1 to 0.2 units per acre or private open space. Therefore, this criterion has been satisfied.

5. All farms to be included in a district should be at least twenty (20) acres in size. A farm may include several parcels of land; however, all parcels must have the same owner or else owners must be members of the same immediate family or a family trust or family corporation. A farm must contain at least fifteen acres of land in agricultural use. A farm may include non-contiguous parcels within one mile of the core acreage (the largest parcel or group of contiguous parcels or the parcel where the farm buildings are located) as long as the non-contiguous parcels are predominately agricultural in use and as long as the total acreage of each individual farm (including contiguous and non-contiguous land) is at least twenty acres.

Although the County Code allows non-contiguous parcels to be included in the land area, these parcels are not eligible to receive the special tax assessment granted to parcels in the A&F Program. Parcels in the A&F Program are taxed under the State Code, which mandates that the minimum acreage requirements (for special classifications of real estate) shall be determined by adding together the total area of contiguous real estate excluding recorded subdivision lots recorded after July 1, 1983, titled in the same ownership. For purposes of this section of the State Code, properties separated only by a public right-of-way are considered contiguous.

This property qualifies as open space and forestal uses. Therefore, this criterion is not applicable.

6. All other properties not included in a farm as defined in (5), that is, forested and partially forested properties, and properties with less than 15 acres in agricultural use, should be at least twenty acres in size. These properties may contain several parcels, but all parcels must be contiguous, and all must have the same owners or else owners must be members of the same family or a family trust or family corporation.

The proposed district consists of 21.24 acres. Therefore, this criterion is satisfied.

7. Approximately 2/3 of the land in agricultural use in the district should contain Class I, II, III, or IV soils as defined by the USDA Soil Conservation Service. Districts having more than 1/3 of the land in

agricultural use containing Class V-VIII soils may be considered if such lands have been improved and are managed to reduce soil erosion, maintain soil nutrients, and reduce non-point pollution.

This criterion is not applicable because the majority of the site is in forestal, not agricultural, use.

8. Agricultural land in the district should be used in a planned program of soil management, soil conservation, and pollution control practices which are intended to reduce or prevent soil erosion, maintain soil nutrients, control brush, woody growth and noxious weeds on crop land, hay land, and pasture land, and reduce non-point source pollution. Exceptions to this criterion may be made only for those agricultural lands which, upon initial application for the establishment of a district are not used in such a program, but for which a conservation plan is being prepared or has been requested from the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District.

This criterion is not applicable because the majority of the site is in forestal, not agricultural, use.

9. Forest land and undeveloped land in the district should be kept in an undisturbed state, or if periodically harvested or experiencing erosion problems, shall be used in a planned program of soil management, soil conservation, and pollution control practices which are intended to reduce or prevent soil erosion, maintain soil nutrients, and reduce non-point source pollution. Exceptions to this criterion may be made only for those lands which upon initial application for the establishment of a district are not used in such a program but for which a conservation plan is being prepared or has been requested from the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District or the Virginia Division of Forestry.

The majority of the subject property is forested and maintained as an undisturbed, wooded conservation area. The applicant has a Forest Management Plan, dated April 2, 2009; therefore, this criterion is satisfied.

10. There should be evidence of a history of investment in farm or forest improvements or other commitments to continuing agricultural or forestal use(s) in the district. In particular, districts with no history of investments in farm or forest improvements must evidence a firm commitment to agricultural or forestal uses for at least the life of the district.

The applicant is committed to maintaining the forestal and open space uses on this property for the life of the district, and to following the suggestions of the State Forester. Staff believes this criterion has been satisfied.

Criteria Group B:

1. Farm and/or forest products have been regularly produced and sold from the property during the last five years.

The applicant has not indicated that farm or forest products have been produced and sold from the property in the last five years; therefore, this criterion is not satisfied.

2. The land provides scenic vistas, improves the aesthetic quality of views from County roads or contributes to maintaining the existing rural character of an area.

The wooded and open lands of the subject property help maintain the rural character of the Clifton area by providing aesthetic quality of views from County roads. Therefore, staff believes this criterion is satisfied.

3. The property contains a historically and/or archaeologically significant site which would be preserved in conjunction with the establishment of a district. A site that is listed on the Federal Registry of Historic Places, the State Registry of Historic Places and/or the County Inventory of Historic Places will be considered historically and/or archaeologically significant. A property which contains a site that is historically and/or archaeologically significant by the County Archaeologist, or is located in an area with a high potential for archaeological sites, provided that the property owner has agreed to permit the County Archaeologist access to the site, may also be considered historically and/or archaeologically significant.

There are no known historical sites on the property. Therefore, this criterion is not applicable.

4. Farming or forestry operations practice unique or particularly effective water pollution control measures (BMPs).

There are no unique farming or forestry operations on this site. Therefore, this criterion is not met.

5. The land is zoned R-A, R-P, or R-C.

The subject property is zoned R-C. This criterion is satisfied.

6. The land is entirely in a permanent open space easement.

The subject property is not located within a permanent open space easement; therefore, this criterion is not satisfied.

As previously noted, these criteria serve as a guide in determining whether or not an agricultural district should be established; they are not a prerequisite for establishing a district. As previously stated, all of the criteria in Group A and at least two criteria in Group B should be satisfied. It is staff's opinion that this application satisfies all of the applicable criteria in Group A and two of the criteria in Group B.

AFDAC RECOMMENDATION (Appendix 8)

On April 21, 2009, the Agricultural and Forestal Districts Advisory Committee voted to recommend that the Crawford Local Agricultural and Forestal District be established for an eight year term, subject to the Ordinance Provisions consistent with those contained in Appendix 1 of this report.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff Conclusions

Staff believes that the creation of the Crawford Local Agricultural and Forestal District satisfies the criteria contained in Sect. 115-5-1 of the County Code, and that commitments made by the applicant for maintenance of the property are consistent with the intent of the program. In addition, the property meets the minimum acreage requirement and is in conformance with the Comprehensive Plan.

Staff Recommendations

Staff recommends application AF 2009-SP-002, to amend Appendix F of the Fairfax County Code to establish the Crawford Local Agricultural and Forestal District, be approved subject to the proposed Ordinance Provisions contained in Appendix 1.

It should be noted that it is not the intent of staff to recommend that the Board in adopting any conditions proffered by the owner, relieve the applicant/owner from compliance with the provisions of any applicable ordinances, regulations, or adopted standards.

It should be further noted that the content of this report reflects the analysis and recommendations of staff; it does not reflect the position of the Board of Supervisors.

APPENDICES

1. Proposed Ordinance Provisions
2. Statement of Justification and Application Material

APPENDICES

3. Land Use and Environmental Analysis
4. Transportation Analysis
5. Forest Management Plan
6. Soil and Water Conservation Plan
7. Virginia State Tax Code Provisions
8. Agricultural and Forestal Districts Advisory Committee Recommendation
9. Glossary

PROPOSED ORDINANCE PROVISIONS**April 28, 2009****AF 2009-SP-002**

If it is the intent of the Board of Supervisors to establish the Crawford Local Agricultural and Forestal District as proposed in Application AF 2009-SP-002 pursuant to Chapter 44 of Title 15.2 of the Code of Virginia and Chapter 115 of the Fairfax County Code on Tax Maps 85-2 ((10)) 1, 2, 3 and 4, staff recommends that the approval be subject to the following Ordinance Provisions:

Standard Provisions (From Chapter 115)

- 1) No parcel included within the district shall be developed to a more intensive use than its existing use at the time of adoption of the ordinance establishing such district for eight years from the date of adoption of such ordinance. This provision shall not be construed to restrict expansion of or improvements to the agricultural or forestal use of the land, or to prevent the construction of one (1) additional house within the district, where otherwise permitted by applicable law, for either an owner, a member of an owner's family, or for a tenant who farms the land.
- 2) No parcel added to an already established district shall be developed to a more intensive use than its existing use at the time of addition to the district for eight years from the date of adoption of the original ordinance.
- 3) Land used in agricultural and forestal production within the agricultural and forestal district of local significance shall automatically qualify for an agricultural and forestal value assessment on such land pursuant to Chapter 4, Article 19 of the Fairfax County Code and to Section 58.1-3230 et seq. of the Code of Virginia, if the requirements for such assessment contained therein are satisfied.
- 4) The district shall be reviewed by the Board of Supervisors at the end of the eight-year period and that it may, by ordinance renew the district or a modification thereof for another eight-year period. No owner(s) of land shall be included in any agricultural and forestal district of local significance without such owner's written approval.

Additional Provisions

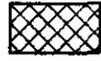
- 5) The applicant shall implement and abide by the recommendations of the Forest Management Plan dated April 2, 2009, for the life of the Crawford Local Agricultural and Forestal District. The Forest Management Plan may be updated from time to time as determined necessary by the State Forester. If the applicants choose to harvest the timber on the lands within this Agricultural and Forestal District, such harvesting shall be in coordination with the State Forester so that special techniques designed to protect water quality may be utilized.
- 6) The applicants shall implement and abide by the recommendations of the Soil and Water Conservation Plan dated March 29, 2009, for the life of the Crawford Nursery Local Agricultural and Forestal District. The Soil and Water Conservation Plan may be updated from time to time as determined necessary by the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District.
- 7) Those areas delineated as Environmental Quality Corridors (EQCs) shall be left undisturbed, with the exception of selective thinning operations performed to enhance existing vegetation and the removal of dead, dying and diseased vegetation in accordance with the Forest Management Plan and as approved by the Urban Forester. The boundaries of the EQC shall be the permanent limits of clearing and grading for the life of the District (see Attachment A).
- 8) The areas within the RPA that are currently developed as till-garden shall be relocated to the proposed area outside the RPA as shown on the Soil and Water Conservation Plan. Immediately after the garden is relocated, the disturbed area shall be stabilized, using a mixture of grass seeds, and then planted with a mixture of native shrubs and trees.
- 9) The establishment and continuation of this district depends upon the continuing legality and enforceability of each of the terms and conditions stated in this ordinance. This district may, at the discretion of the Board of Supervisors, be subject to reconsideration and may be terminated if warranted in the discretion of the Board of Supervisors upon determination by a court or any declaration or enactment by the General Assembly that renders any provisions illegal or unenforceable. The reconsideration shall be in accordance with procedures established by the Board of Supervisors and communicated to the property owner(s) to demonstrate that the determination by a court or the declaration or enactment by the General Assembly does not apply to the conditions of this district.

AF 2009-SP-002 Crawford Properties

Map prepared by the Fairfax County
Department of Planning & Zoning, March 2009



Areas of AF 2009-SP-002

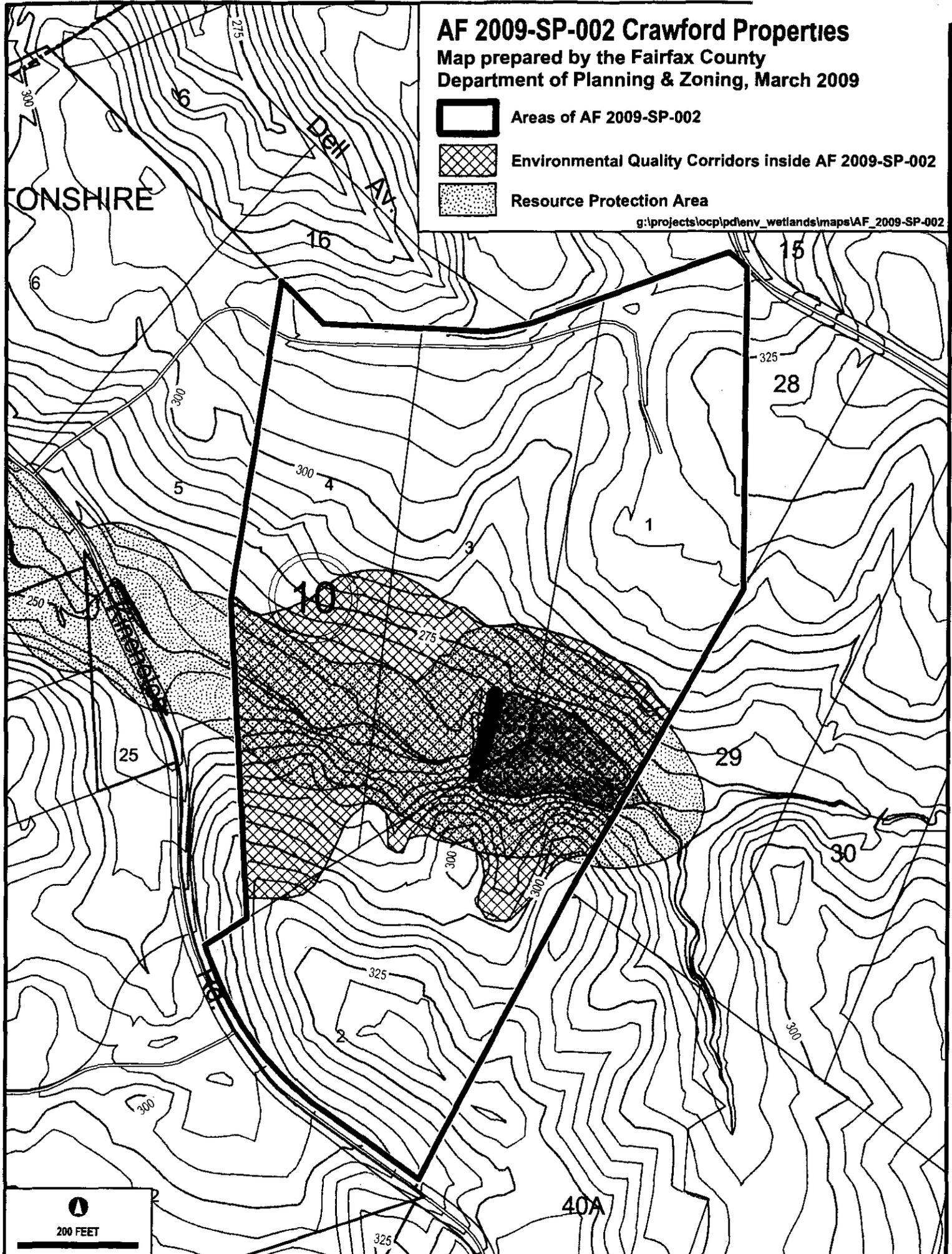


Environmental Quality Corridors inside AF 2009-SP-002



Resource Protection Area

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40A

**Written Statement in Support of Agricultural and Forestal District
Application**

by
Raymond S. Crawford, III and Teresa A Crawford

We, the undersigned, provide this written statement in support of our Agricultural and forestal District application for our 21.24 acres composed of four contiguous parcels: 085210 0001, 0002, 0003, and 0004. We are committed to maintaining this entire parcel in an undeveloped (wooded and pastured) state.

Below are our justification statements for Article 5 of Chapter 115 of the Fairfax Count Code, "Local Agricultural and Forestal Districts" Criteria Group A and B.

Criteria Group A:

1. All district acreage should be currently devoted to agricultural use or forestall use or should be undeveloped and suitable for such uses, except that reasonable amount of residential or use, related to the agricultural or forestall use and generally not more than five acres per district, may be included.

The subject property is 21.24 acres in size and is entirely in forest conservation and agricultural uses, (or is undeveloped) except for approximately 3 acres used residential purposes.

2. All lands in the district should be zoned to the R-P, R-C, and R-A, or the R-E district.

The property is zoned ad R-C.

3. In general, the district should be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan. The following land uses identified in the Plan are appropriate for a district: 0.1-0.2 dwellings per acre; 0.2-0.5 dwelling units per acre; 0.5-1.0 dwelling units per acre; Private Recreation; Private Open Space; Pubic Park; Agriculture; Environmental Quality Corridor. Lands not planned as such may be considered for a district if they meet at least 3 of Criteria group B.

The property is planned for residential use at a density of 0.1-0.2 dwellings units per acre (du/ac).

4. A majority of the surrounding land within one-quarter mile of the district should be planned according to the Comprehensive Plan for uses identified in A(3) above. Exceptions may be made for lands located at the edge of a planned growth area or which meet at least three of the criteria of Criteria Group B, if no conflicts with surrounding uses, existing and planned, are evident or likely.

The Comprehensive Plan designates a majority of the surrounding land within one-quarter mile of the district for low density residential use at 0.1-0.2 units per acre.

5. All farms to be included in a district should be at least twenty (20) acres in size. A farm may include several parcels of land; however, all parcels must have the same owner or else owners must be members of the same immediate family or a family trust or family corporation. A farm must contain at least fifteen acres of land in agricultural use. A farm may include non-contiguous parcels within one mile of the core acreage (the largest parcel or group of contiguous parcels or the parcel where the farm buildings are located) as long as the non-contiguous parcels are predominately agricultural in use and as long as the total acreage of each individual farm (including contiguous and non-contiguous land) is at least twenty acres.

Although the County Code allows non-contiguous parcels to be included in the land area, these parcels are not eligible to receive the special tax assessment granted to parcels in the A&F Program. Parcels in the A&F Program are taxed under the State Code, which mandates that the minimum acreage requirements (for special classifications of real estate) shall be determined by adding together the total area of contiguous real estate excluding recorded subdivision lots recorded after July 1, 1983, titled in the same ownership. For purposes of this section of the State Code, properties separated only by a public right-of-way are considered contiguous.

This property measures 21.24 acres in size and is entirely owned by the applicants.

6. All other properties not included in a farm as defined in (5), that is, forested and partially forested properties, and properties with less than 15 acres in agricultural use, should be at least twenty acres in size. These properties may contain several parcels but all parcels must be contiguous, and all must have the same owners or else owners must be members of the same family or a family trust or family corporation.

The proposed district consists of 21.24 acres.

7. Approximately 2/3 of the land in agricultural use in the district should contain Class I, II, III, or IV soils as defined by the USDA Soil Conservation Service. Districts having more than 1/3 of the land in agricultural use containing Class V-VIII soils may be considered if such lands have been improved and are managed to reduce soil erosion, maintain soil nutrients, and reduce non-point pollution.

Soil types 21D2, 21E2, 10B+ are indicated on the enclosed soil maps.

8. Agricultural land in the district should be used in a planned program of soil management, soil conservation, and pollution control practices, which is intended to reduce or prevent soil erosion, maintain soil nutrients, control brush, woody growth and noxious weeds on crop land, hay land, and pasture land, and reduce non-point source pollution. Exceptions to this criterion may be made only for those agricultural lands which, upon initial application for the establishment of a district are not used in such a program, but for which a conservation plan is being prepared or has been requested from the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District.

This subject property is not in active agricultural use, however, that said, we are maintaining the pond's dam and the land bordering the creek to prevent erosion, and planting grass in areas of the pasture that need it and allowing new tree growth in areas that were previously grassland only.

9. Forest land and undeveloped land in the district should be kept in an undisturbed state, or if periodically harvested or experiencing erosion problems, shall be used in a planned program of soil management, soil conservation, and pollution control practices which are intended to reduce or prevent soil erosion, maintain soil nutrients, and reduce non-point pollution. Exceptions to this criterion may be made only for those lands which upon initial application for the establishment of a district are not used in such a program but for which a conservation plan is being prepared or has been requested from the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District or the Virginia Division of Forestry.

Approximately 1/3 of the subject property is forested and maintained as an undisturbed wooded conservation area, and 1/3 is maintained as pasture.

10. There should be evidence of a history of investment in farm or forest improvements or other commitments to continuing agricultural or forestal use(s) in the district. In particular, districts with no history of investments in farm or forest improvements must evidence a firm commitment to agricultural or forestal uses for at least the life of the district.

The applicants have owned this property since 1997, and since that time have made various improvements to the property, including the installation of horse stalls, fencing, the purchase of mowing equipment for pasture maintenance, development of a large vegetable garden and fruit orchard, and allowing portions of the property to naturally re-forest.

Criteria Group B:

1. Farm and/or forest product have been regularly produced and sold from the Property during the last five years.

This property has not been producing or selling farm and/or forest products, so this criterion is not applicable

2. The land provides scenic vistas, improves the aesthetic quality of views from County Roads or contributes to maintaining the existing rural character of an area.

The wooded and open lands of the subject property help preserve a portion of the rapidly disappearing rural character of the Clifton area.

3. The property contains an historically and/or archaeologically significant site which would be preserved in conjunction with the establishment of a district. A site that is listed on the Federal Registry of Historic Places, the State Registry of Historic Places and/or the County Inventory of Historic Places will be considered historically and/or archaeologically significant. A property which contains a site that is historically and/or archaeologically significant by the county Archaeologist, or is located in an area with a high potential for archaeological sites, provided that the property owner has agreed to permit the County Archaeologist access to the site may also be considered historically and/or archaeologically significant.

The property does not contain a historic site. Therefore this criterion is not applicable.

4. Farming or forestry operations practice unique or particularly effective water pollution control measures (BMPs).

There are no unique farming or forestry operations on this site. Therefore, this criterion is not met.

5. The land is zoned R-A, R-P, or R-C.

The subject property is zoned R-C.

6. The land is entirely in a permanent open space easement.

The subject property is not located within a permanent open space easement; there, this criterion is not satisfied.

Raymond S. Crawford, III

Teresa A. Crawford

Date

Date

DEC 18 2008

Application No. AF 2009-SP-002

Zoning Evaluation Division

AF 2008-0344

**APPLICATION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTAL DISTRICT**

FAIRFAX COUNTY

- Type of application: Local Statewide
Initial Amendment Renewal
- Please list the Tax Map number, the name and address of each owner and other information for each parcel proposed for this district:

Owner's Name & Address	Tax Map Number	Year Acquired	Zoning District	Acres
<u>Raymond S Crawford III</u>				
<u>+ Teresa A Crawford</u>				
	<u>085210 0001</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>Springfield</u>	<u>5.001</u>
	<u>085210 0002</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>6</u>
	<u>085210 0003</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>5.001</u>
	<u>085210 0004</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>5.2375</u>

- Total acreage in the proposed district: 21.24 acres.
- Using the definitions on the instruction sheet, indicate the number of properties included in this application: farm _____ forest 4

5. Name, address and telephone number of the property owner or representative who will act as a contact person for this application:

Name: Raymond S Crawford III
Address: 12655 W/ Hampshire Dr
Clifton, VA 20124
Telephone: 203 346 7390

6. Signature of all property owners:

RC Crawford III
Jessie Crawford

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE COUNTY

Date application accepted: 11/26/09

Date of action by Board of Supervisors: _____

- Approved as submitted Denied
- Approved with modifications

\$50.00
Virginia
Angela

ALL APPLICANTS

1. List all structures on the property, the year the structure was built and the present use of the structure:

Structure	Year built	Use
House	1994	Dwelling
Outbuilding	2004	Horse stall
Green house	2005	Greenhouse
Outbuilding	2007	Storage

use additional page(s) if necessary

2. List any historic sites, as listed on the Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites, located on the subject property:

None

3. List any improvements made to the property in the past 10 years, including buildings, fencing, equipment, drainage projects, and conservation measures:

3 outbuildings
Wooden fence
1

4. Is a Soil and Water Conservation Plan on file with the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District (NVSWCD): yes no

If yes, date prepared: _____

If no, has an application been filed with NVSWCD: yes no

If yes, date submitted: _____

5. List the products and yields from this farm or forest property:

Product	Past year's yield	Average yield for previous 4 years
N/A		



County of Fairfax, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

March 20, 2009

TO: Regina Coyle, Director
Zoning Evaluation Division, DPZ

FROM: Pamela G. Nee, Chief *PHN*
Environment and Development Review Branch, DPZ

SUBJECT: LAND USE ANALYSIS & ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT for:
AF 2009-SP-002 Crawford

This memorandum, prepared by Mary Ann Welton, includes citations from the Comprehensive Plan that list and explain land use recommendations and environmental policies for this property. The extent to which the application conforms to the applicable guidance contained in the Comprehensive Plan is noted.

DESCRIPTION OF THE APPLICATION

The applicant seeks approval to establish a 21.24-acre Agricultural and Forestal (A & F) District which is comprised of four parcels owned by the Crawford family and is located in the Springfield Magisterial District. A major pipeline and power easement traverses the southern portion of the subject property, as does a stream valley associated with an unnamed tributary of Popes Head Creek immediately north of the easement. The proposed A & F District is located in the Johnny Moore Community Planning Sector (P3) of the Pohick Planning District. The proposed district is characterized by terrain with significant topographic relief.

LOCATION AND CHARACTER

The subject property is located in southwestern Fairfax County within the Popes Head Creek Watershed as well as within the Occoquan Reservoir Watershed. The proposed district is surrounded by land which is planned for residential use at .1-.2 dwelling unit per acre (du/ac) or 5-10 acre lots and private open space.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN MAP: private open space and residential use at .1-.2 dwelling unit per acre

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN CITATIONS

The Comprehensive Plan is the basis for the evaluation of this application. The assessment of the proposal for conformity with the land use and environmental recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan is guided by the following citations from the Plan:

Land Use

In the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan, 2007 Edition, Area III, Pohick Planning District, as amended through September 8, 2008, P3-Johnny Moore Community Planning Sector on pages 42- 44, the Plan states:

- “1. The entire P3 Planning Sector is located within the watershed of the Occoquan Reservoir. Protection of the Occoquan Reservoir water quality is the primary objective for this area. Land in this sector should be planned for residential use within a density range of .1-.2 dwelling unit per acre. This conforms with findings in the Occoquan Basin Study and is commensurate with predominant densities and the well-established character of existing development in this sector.
...
3. Agricultural and forestal uses are alternatives to residential uses in Low Density Residential Areas. Such uses, depending upon the techniques used, can have positive impacts on water quality. Careful attention should be paid to insure that agricultural and forestal techniques are supportive of water quality goals for the Occoquan Reservoir watershed.”

Environment

In the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan, 2007 Edition, Policy Plan, Environment, as amended through February 25, 2008, on pages 7-9, the Plan states:

- “Objective 2: Prevent and reduce pollution of surface and groundwater resources. Protect and restore the ecological integrity of streams in Fairfax County.**
- Policy a. Maintain a best management practices (BMP) program for Fairfax County and ensure that new development and redevelopment complies with the County’s best management practice (BMP) requirements. . . .
- Policy d. Preserve the integrity and the scenic and recreational value of stream valley EQCs. . . .
- Policy l. In order to augment the EQC system, encourage protection of stream channels and associated vegetated riparian buffer areas along stream channels upstream of Resource

Protection Areas (as designated pursuant to the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance) and Environmental Quality Corridors. To the extent feasible in consideration of overall site design, stormwater management needs and opportunities, and other Comprehensive Plan guidance, establish boundaries of these buffer areas consistent with the guidelines for designation of the stream valley component of the EQC system as set forth in Objective 9 of this section of the Policy Plan. Where applicable, pursue commitments to restoration of degraded stream channels and riparian buffer areas. . . .

Development proposals should implement best management practices to reduce runoff pollution and other impacts. Preferred practices include: those which recharge groundwater when such recharge will not degrade groundwater quality; those which preserve as much undisturbed open space as possible; and, those which contribute to ecological diversity by the creation of wetlands or other habitat enhancing BMPs, consistent with State guidelines and regulations.”

In the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan, 2007 Edition, Policy Plan, Environment, as amended through February 25, 2008, on page 10, the Plan states:

“Objective 3: Protect the Potomac Estuary and the Chesapeake Bay from the avoidable impacts of land use activities in Fairfax County.

Policy a. Ensure that new development and redevelopment complies with the County’s Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance. . . .”

In the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan, 2007 Edition, Policy Plan, Environment, as amended through February 25, 2008, on pages 14-15, the Plan states:

“Objective 9: Identify, protect and enhance an integrated network of ecologically valuable land and surface waters for present and future residents of Fairfax County.

Policy a: For ecological resource conservation, identify, protect and restore an Environmental Quality Corridor system (EQC) Lands may be included within the EQC system if they can achieve any of the following purposes:

- Habitat Quality: The land has a desirable or scarce habitat type, or one could be readily restored, or the land hosts a species of special interest.

- "Connectedness": This segment of open space could become a part of a corridor to facilitate the movement of wildlife.
- Aesthetics: This land could become part of a green belt separating land uses, providing passive recreational opportunities to people.
- Pollution Reduction Capabilities: Preservation of this land would result in significant reductions to nonpoint source water pollution, and/or, micro climate control, and/or reductions in noise.

The core of the EQC system will be the County's stream valleys. Additions to the stream valleys should be selected to augment the habitats and buffers provided by the stream valleys, and to add representative elements of the landscapes that are not represented within stream valleys. The stream valley component of the EQC system shall include the following elements:

- All 100 year flood plains as defined by the Zoning Ordinance;
- All areas of 15% or greater slopes adjacent to the flood plain, or if no flood plain is present, 15% or greater slopes that begin within 50 feet of the stream channel;
- All wetlands connected to the stream valleys; and
- All the land within a corridor defined by a boundary line which is 50 feet plus 4 additional feet for each % slope measured perpendicular to the stream bank. The % slope used in the calculation will be the average slope measured within 110 feet of a stream channel or, if a flood plain is present, between the flood plain boundary and a point fifty feet up slope from the flood plain. This measurement should be taken at fifty foot intervals beginning at the downstream boundary of any stream valley on or adjacent to a property under evaluation.

Modifications to the boundaries so delineated may be appropriate if the area designated does not benefit habitat quality, connectedness, aesthetics, or pollution reduction as described above. In addition, some intrusions that serve a public purpose such as unavoidable public infrastructure easements and rights of way are appropriate. Such intrusions should be minimized and occur perpendicular to the corridor's alignment, if practical.

Preservation should be achieved through dedication to the Fairfax County Park Authority, if such dedication is in the public interest. Otherwise, EQC land should remain in private ownership in separate undeveloped lots with appropriate commitments for preservation. The use of protective easements as a means of preservation should be considered....”

Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan, 2007 Edition, Policy Plan, Environment, as amended through February 25, 2008, on page 16, the Plan states:

“Objective 10: Conserve and restore tree cover on developed and developing sites. Provide tree cover on sites where it is absent prior to development.

Policy a: Protect or restore the maximum amount of tree cover on developed and developing sites consistent with planned land use and good silvicultural practices.

Policy b: Require new tree plantings on developing sites which were not forested prior to development and on public rights of way.”

LAND USE ANALYSIS

Approval of this Agricultural and Forestal District would be compatible with the existing and planned very low density residential character for the site and the surrounding area.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

Water Quality Protection

This request seeks approval for an Agricultural and Forestal District which would encompass approximately 21 acres of land located south of the town of Clifton in southwestern Fairfax County. The subject site is located in the Popes Head Creek watershed. A Resource Protection Area (RPA) and Environmental Quality Corridor (EQC) associated with an unnamed tributary of Popes Head Creek traverses the proposed district in an east west direction through the center of the property. Very steeply sloping terrain characterizes the banks along the stream valley. Approximately two thirds of the proposed 21 acre district is EQC as defined by the Policy Plan and RPA under the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance (CBPO). The extent of the EQC and RPA are identified on the attached map. A Virginia Power and Columbia Gas Pipeline easement traverses the southern portion of the property. This easement encroaches into the EQC and RPA on the property and it is barren of vegetation.

The property is developed with one single-family residence surrounded by lawn and linear evergreen hedges which partition off the grazing pasture for two horses. An active household garden plot and composting area are located south of the residence. The garden plot and composting area encroach within the RPA/EQC. The aerial photography map of the proposed district shows a significant buffer deficiency immediately north of the stream valley RPA/EQC.

To ensure consistency with the Comprehensive Plan guidance that “careful attention should be paid to insure that agricultural and forestal techniques are supportive of water quality goals for the Occoquan Reservoir watershed,” the property owners should relocate the garden plot and the composting area out of the RPA/EQC and restore these areas as a natural buffer. Areas where lawn encroaches into the RPA/EQC buffer should also be allowed to revert to a natural state and enhanced with appropriate native tree and shrub species, as recommended by the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District (NVSWCD). The NVSWCD in conjunction with the applicant is developing a Water Quality Management Plan for the proposed district.

Because a portion of the proposed district is forestland, the applicant should work with the Virginia Department of Forestry to develop a Forestry Management Plan as prescribed by the Virginia Department of Forestry’s Best Management Practices Handbook for Forestry Operations. The applicant is encouraged to reforest that portion of the RPA/EQC buffer which is currently developed as lawn, garden and composting areas with native tree and plant species as recommended by the Water Quality Plan and the Forestry Management Plan.

Completion and implementation of the recommendations in the Water Quality Management Plan and the Forestry Management Plan would conform with the County’s CBPO for agricultural activities. Approval of this Agricultural Forestal District would be consistent with the environmental goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan.

COUNTYWIDE TRAILS MAP:

The Countywide Trails map depicts a natural surface or stone dust trail, which is typically 6 to 8 feet in width along the west side Clifton Road adjacent to a very small portion of the subject property’s northeast corner.

PGN: MAW

Attachment



County of Fairfax, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 27, 2009

TO: Regina Coyle, Director
Zoning Evaluation Division
Department of Planning and Zoning

FROM: Angela Kadar Rodeheaver, Chief
Site Analysis Section
Department of Transportation

FILE: 3-4 (AF 2009-SP-002)

SUBJECT: Transportation Impact

REFERENCE: AF 2009-SP-002; Raymond S. Crawford, III & Teresa A. Crawford
Land Identification Map: 85-2((10)) 1, 2, 3, and 4

This application does not represent any conflict with the Countywide Plan transportation recommendations and would have no traffic impact. However, this department is concerned that approval of agricultural and forestall districts may inhibit the ability of the County and/or VDOT to obtain rights-of-way for needed transportation improvements. If this is the case, the land that would reasonably be needed for right-of-way during the eight-year life of the approval should be excluded from the district.

However, in the subject case no projects that would affect the site are included in the Adopted Plan or in current construction programs. Therefore, exclusion of land for right-of-way purposes should not be necessary at this time. It is emphasized that future conditions may warrant road improvements along the road frontage of this property and that appropriate areas should be excluded from this district to accommodate these improvements in the future.

AKR:crt



EVERETTE L. KLINE, JR.
Regional Forester

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY

470 George Dean Drive
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903
(434) 977-5193
FAX (434) 296-3290

April 2, 2009

AF 2009-SP-002
DOF# FAX09001

Mr. Raymond S. Crawford III
12655 Wiltonshire Way
Clifton VA 20124

Dear Mr. Crawford

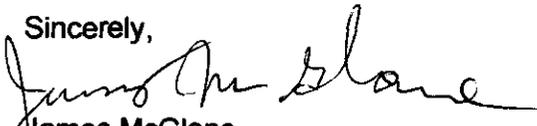
It was a pleasure to meet you and walk your property.

Enclosed is a forest management plan for your property, which has been prepared based on your objectives and sound forest management practices. Your property has many natural resource features and outstanding forest resources making it a valuable addition to the Agriculture and Forestal program in Fairfax County.

The aerial photo map accompanying this plan is intended to support the recommendations made and clarify the areas of your property discussed in the plan. They are not intended for determining property boundaries.

I have included information on invasive species we noted on your property. If you have any questions about this plan, please contact me.

Sincerely,


James McGlone
Urban Forest Conservationist



REPORT ON FORESTLANDS
OF
Raymond S. Crawford III
12655 Wiltonshire Dr.
Clifton, VA 20124

Location: The property is south east of the town of Clifton. This property is A&F number AF-2009-SP-002

Examined by: James McGlone, Urban Forest Conservationist

Landowner's Objectives: To enhance wildlife habitat; to maintain healthy trees for a quality forest.

Introduction: This is a 21.24 acre property southeast of Clifton with rolling to steep terrain. There is a resource protection areas associated with the pond and stream that bisect the property. Approximately two thirds of the property is forested and the rest is in a home site, a field and a fenced pasture. There is a good quality mature upland acidic oak forest on the south side of the property and an early successional forest in the north and central part of the property.

Parcel 1

Forest Type: Mature acidic Oak-Hickory forest (see attached description). Species present are white oak (*Quercus alba*), northern red oak (*Quercus rubra*), southern red oak (*Quercus falcata*), black oak (*Quercus velutina*), beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), tulip poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) and hickory (*Carya* spp.). The understory is made up of beech regeneration, with a few American holly (*Ilex opaca*) and the only shrub is mountain laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*).

Soils: The upland area is glenelg silt loam, formed from weathering of micaceous schist and is a deep, well to somewhat excessively well drained, acidic soil that is excellent for growing oak. The bottomland area along the stream is sumerduck silt loam, a very deep, moderately well drained and somewhat poorly drained alluvial soil derived from the upland glenelg soil. Sumerduck soil supports mixed riparian hardwoods.

Quality/Size: The timber quality is good, with most trees being of saw timber size (>18 inches diameter at breast height), and the parcel is well stocked.

Forest Health: No evidence of epidemic disease was observed in the forest and the trees seemed generally healthy. There is ample evidence of excessive deer browse in the forest.

The browse line on the mountain laurel, a starvation food for deer, is obvious and there is no regeneration except for beech. Therefore, although the trees are healthy, the forest is unhealthy due to poor age distribution.

Forest pests and diseases prevalent in the Northern Virginia area: Gypsy moth (oak trees), Woolly adelgid (hemlock trees), Anthracnose (dogwood and sycamore trees) and Emerald Ash Borer (ash trees). The best way to combat outbreaks of these diseases is to know your forest. Walk it frequently and note trees that are looking sickly. Different diseases/ infestations manifest themselves in different ways, some of the common characteristics to note are: severe defoliation, curling discolored leaves (look moldy), masses of insects present in larval forms (worms) or insect fecal matter (masses of black or white droppings). Small holes in the trunk of a tree generally indicate borers and require immediate attention. If you suspect your trees are being attacked by disease or pests contact a certified arborist, the Fairfax County Urban Forest Management Branch at 703-324-1770, the county extension agent at 703-324-5369 or this office at 703-324-1489.

Water Quality: There is a perennial stream along the north edge of the parcel. The forest in this area is doing an excellent job of protecting the stream and controlling stormwater.

Wildlife Habitat: Deer sign was observed in the forest in the form of browse lines on the mountain laurel. While the forest provides good to excellent habitat for canopy species, the total lack of an herbaceous layer, a sparse shrub layer consisting entirely of mountain laurel and young holly and lack of regeneration reduces the wildlife habitat for most species that rely on the lower levels of the forest.

Recreation / Aesthetics: this area is desirable for passive recreation such as walking, photography, bird and wildlife watching, and the general observation of nature. It would also be productive for deer hunting.

Recommendations: This area is currently meeting most of the landowners needs. The forest should be monitored for infestations of non-native invasive species, which should be removed when detected. The forest should also be monitored for the health of the trees. Deer management (see below) would help achieve more of the landowner's goals by allowing the reestablishment of the missing herbaceous plants and shrubs, and allowing regeneration of the existing canopy species.

Parcel 2

Forest Type: This is an early successional forest of eastern red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) that has colonized abandoned pasture. This area has also been colonized by many non-native invasive species – tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), autumn olive (*Elaeagnus umbellata*), callery (Bradford) pear (*Pyrus calleryana*), multi-flora rose (*Rosa multiflora*), honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*), Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*), and wine berry (*Rubus phoenicolasius*).

Forest Health: This forest is still quite young. The trees are overstocked and some will soon start to decline due to crowding. The presence of many non-native invasive species will also stress the native cedars.

Soils: The soils in this parcel are essentially the same as those in Parcel 1 and would be suitable for growing oak.

Wildlife Habitat: the combination of field, fencerow and nearby forest creates a habitat mosaic that is potentially very beneficial to a variety of wildlife. Eastern red cedar is food crop for many types of birds and animals. Since the cedar fruit persists through the winter is a good winter food source.

Water Quality: Mowed grass is a poorer manager of stormwater than forest, due in part to the lower surface area per square foot. The leaves, stems and branches of trees greatly increase the vegetative surface area and intercept about 12% of annual rainfall and prevent from ever reaching the ground.

One water quality improvement that can be made in this area is to increase the width of the forested riparian buffer. The forested buffer should be a minimum of 35 feet on either side of the stream, but 100 feet is preferable.

Recommendations: This area is marginally meeting the landowner's objectives. Continue to replace the non-native invasive species along the stream and widen the forested area to a minimum of 35 feet. In the upland area begin to remove and control non-native invasive species with a particular focus on autumn olive and callery pear. The olive and pear, like red cedar can invade good quality pasture by seeding in through turf.

Deer Management

The most pressing problem of sound forest management in Fairfax County is managing deer herds. Due to deer browsing we are missing an entire age class of trees throughout the County and the youngest canopy trees in most forest parcels are about 30 years old. That equates to more damage than gypsy moths (and probably all other mortality sources combined) have been able to inflict. While the deer do not threaten our existing trees, they do make regeneration of the forest impossible and lead to the prospect that forests will disappear from Fairfax County over the next hundred years.

There are two solutions. First the property can be fenced and the deer removed. The second is to reduce the number of deer on the property through hunting. Relocation is not possible since all white tail deer habitat is full, so there is nowhere to send them. Managing fertility has proven effective only in captive deer herds. I am enclosing a brochure on deer management in Fairfax County.

Any property owner can bowhunt on their property or allow bowhunting on their property anywhere in Fairfax County. There is no minimum acreage required. Fairfax County has a longer bow season than any other county in Virginia. Ours begins the third Saturday in September and continues through the last Saturday in March. As far as safety goes, the only people who get hurt in bowhunting are the hunters themselves. The Fairfax County Animal Control office reports they have not been able to find an example of a non-participant being injured. Not just here, but anywhere. The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (www.dgif.virginia.gov) can provide citizens with details on seasons and other requirements. Property owners do not need a hunting license to hunt on their own property. In cases of extreme damage, the VDGIF can issue a kill permit, which allows taking of deer outside normal hunting seasons

There are organizations which cater to urban deer control on private property. You can contact the local sport hunting groups through the Virginia Bowhunters Association on the web <http://www.geocities.com/~vbarchers/>. Another local organization, Northern Virginia Suburban Whitetail Management (www.deerdamage.org), focuses on deer management rather than sport hunting and can help you work with the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries to control deer populations on your property.

Wildfire:

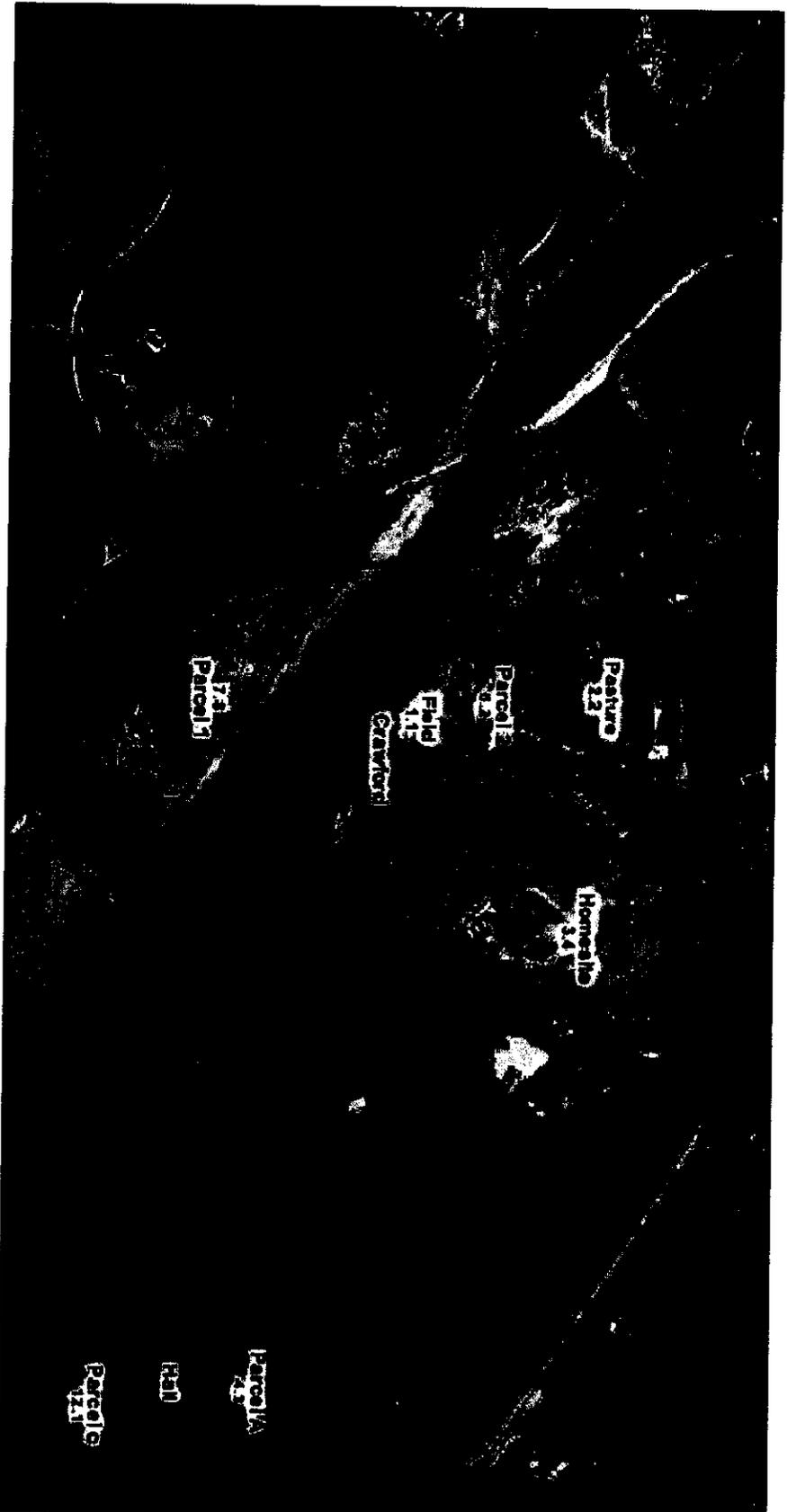
Protection of this property from wildfire is essential. Wildfire destroys valuable timber and property. Should wildfire occur on this or adjacent property call 911 immediately to report it to the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department.



Virginia Department of Forestry
Protecting and Developing Healthy, Sustainable Forest Resources

Crawford A&F District

AF 2009-SP-002 FAX09001



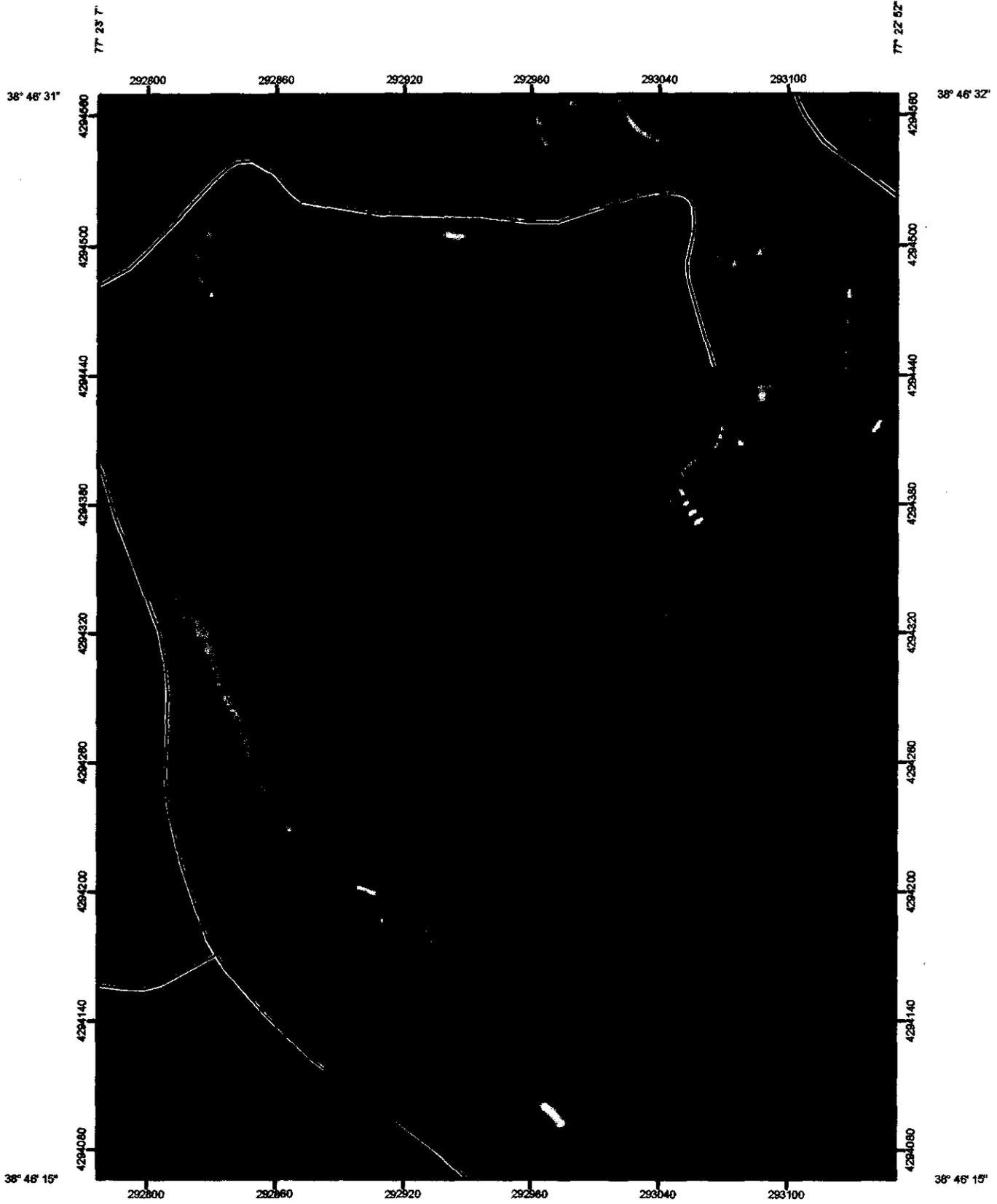
Map derived from aerial photography and not to be used for boundary determination.

Map By: James M. McGlone

Generated by the Integrated Forest Resource Information System - Copyright 2006 Virginia Department of Forestry

Report Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Soil Map—Fairfax County, Virginia
(Crawford A&F)



Map Scale: 12,400 if printed on A size (8.5" x 11") sheet.

0 20 40 80 120 Meters

0 50 100 200 300 Feet

Map Unit Legend

Fairfax County, Virginia (VA068)			
Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
39C	Glenelg silt loam, 7 to 15 percent slopes	1.7	9.3%
39D	Glenelg silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	8.4	45.4%
93B	Sumerduck loam, 2 to 7 percent slopes	2.6	13.7%
104B	Wheaton-Fairfax complex, 2 to 7 percent slopes	0.0	0.1%
105C	Wheaton-Glenelg complex, 7 to 15 percent slopes	4.5	23.9%
105D	Wheaton-Glenelg complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	1.4	7.6%
Totals for Area of Interest		18.6	100.0%



Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District
 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite #905
 Fairfax, VA 22035
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/>
 Tel: 703-324-1460
 Fax: 703-324-1421

Soil and Water Quality Conservation Plan

Property Owner/Operator:

Teresa A. & Raymond S. Crawford III
 12655 Wiltonshire Drive
 Clifton, VA 20124
 Tel: 703-346-7390

Plan Prepared by:

Willie Woode, Senior Conservation Specialist, NVSWCD

Date:

March 29, 2009

Summary of operation:

The subject property is approximately 21-acres, consisting of four parcels on Wiltonshire Drive in Clifton. It is located in the Popes Head Creek Watershed (PL46). This plan is prepared in response to a request by the owners for the property to be registered under Fairfax County's Agricultural and Forestal District Program. Approximately 2.5 acres of the property is a horse keeping operation for two horses. A small plot (approximately 60' x 100') is used for subsistent gardening. A farm pond (approximately 1.0-acre) exists onsite, feeding an unnamed perennial stream. These water features form the core components of the delineated 1,480 linear feet of RPA within the property. Other outstanding land use features are the residential area; a wooded area divided into two sections by the Columbia Washington Plantation Gas Line and the Virginia Power Line Easements that trend across the southern region of the property. Dense clusters of evergreen trees form an outstanding mosaic across what would otherwise have been a wide expanse of just grassy area.

Observations and Recommendations:

- 1) Approximately two-thirds of the home Till-garden area is within the RPA. Till-garden operations are not acceptable agricultural practices allowed within an RPA. This plan recommends that the garden be relocated to an area outside of the RPA limits. A proposed location is shown on the site map.
- 2) The horse waste being dumped in the garden to decompose is also not an acceptable practice, especially with the current location being mostly within the RPA. Specific manure storage/composting area should be established, wherein

waste will be stored/composted and then either spread on the pasture or incorporated into the garden.

- 3) Immediately after the garden is re-located, the disturbed area should be stabilized using a mixture of grass seeds, and then plant with a mixture of native shrubs and trees. Other areas that are currently grassed (north of the pond and channel, but within the delineated RPA) should also be planted in shrubs and trees. Having mixed vegetation within a buffer increases its pollution extraction potential.

Practices:

1) Nutrient Management (590):

Nutrients will be applied based on soil test results for expected yield goals. All sources of available nutrients will be credited. The rate, timing and method of application are shown on the attached Nutrient Management Plan. This plan was developed and signed by a Nutrient Management Planner, certified by the Commonwealth of Virginia's Nutrient Management Program.

Fields	Planned			Applied	
	Amount	Month	Year	Amount	Date
Pasture Field	2.5	3	2009		
Total	2.5 ac.				

2) Pest Management (595)

Pest Management will be carried out to control agricultural pest infestation (pasture weeds, aquatic weeds, insects, diseases) according to current recommendations from the Cooperative Extension Service. The Pest Management Guide is updated annually.

Fields	Planned			Applied	
	Amount	Month	Year	Amount	Date
Pasture Field	2.5	3	2009		
Residential Area	4.0	3	2009		
Pond	1.0	3	2009		
Wooded Areas	8.1	3	2009		
Garden Area	0.1	3	2009		
Easement	3.0	3	2009		
Landscape Trees Area	2.3	3	2009		
Total	21.0ac.				

3) Buffer Management - Chesapeake Bay Resource Protection Area (RPA)

The shaded area on your site map is the County delineated Chesapeake Bay Resource Protection Area (RPA) - it is a 100-ft. wide buffer (wider in some areas where it encounters wider flood plains). This is the last area that provides opportunity for filtration/infiltration of pollutants in runoff from adjacent land before such polluted runoff enters state waters. This area is required to be kept vegetated. The best vegetated buffer has been proven to a forested buffer.

These areas need special attention. Pesticide and fertilizer use within these areas should be used discretionally. The NVSWCD Technical Advisory Committee recommends that those areas that are RPA undergoing regular soil disturbing activities (i.e., the till-garden) should be graded, compacted and planted in permanent vegetation. Plant options can be provided upon request.

Fields	Planned			Applied	
	Amount	Month	Year	Amount	Date
RPA Buffer	1,480	3	2009		
Total	1,480 ft.				

4) Waste Storage/Composting Facility

A stacking/composting facility should be installed for proper handling of solid animal or other organic agricultural waste. The current practice of dumping of waste in the garden must be stopped.

A proposed location outside of the RPA is shown of the site map. Waste management should be done in a specific area, with an impervious base and cover. See proposed waste management facility provided.

Fields	Planned			Applied	
	Amount	Month	Year	Amount	Date
Storage/Composting Facility	1	3	2009		
Total	1 Unit				

5) Pond Maintenance

The existing farm pond should be maintained. It serves water quality as well as wildlife enhancement functions.

Management of pond regarding aquatic weeds, erosion, etc. can be provided by the District upon request.

Fields	Planned			Applied	
	Amount	Month	Year	Amount	Date
Pond	1	3	2009		
Total	1 ac.				

6) Record Keeping

A system of records indicating the dates and applications of nutrients, or pesticides should be developed and maintained. A specimen record sheet is included.

Fields	Planned			Applied	
	Amount	Month	Year	Amount	Date
Pasture Field	2.5	3	2009		
Residential Area	4.0	3	2009		
Pond	1.0	3	2009		
Wooded Areas	8.1	3	2009		
Garden Area	0.1	3	2009		
Easement	3.0	3	2009		
Landscape Trees Area	2.3	3	2009		
Total	21.0ac.				

SIGNATURES OF PARTICIPANTS – Crawford A&F District

Landowner/Operator:

Teresa A. & Raymond S. Crawford III **Date**

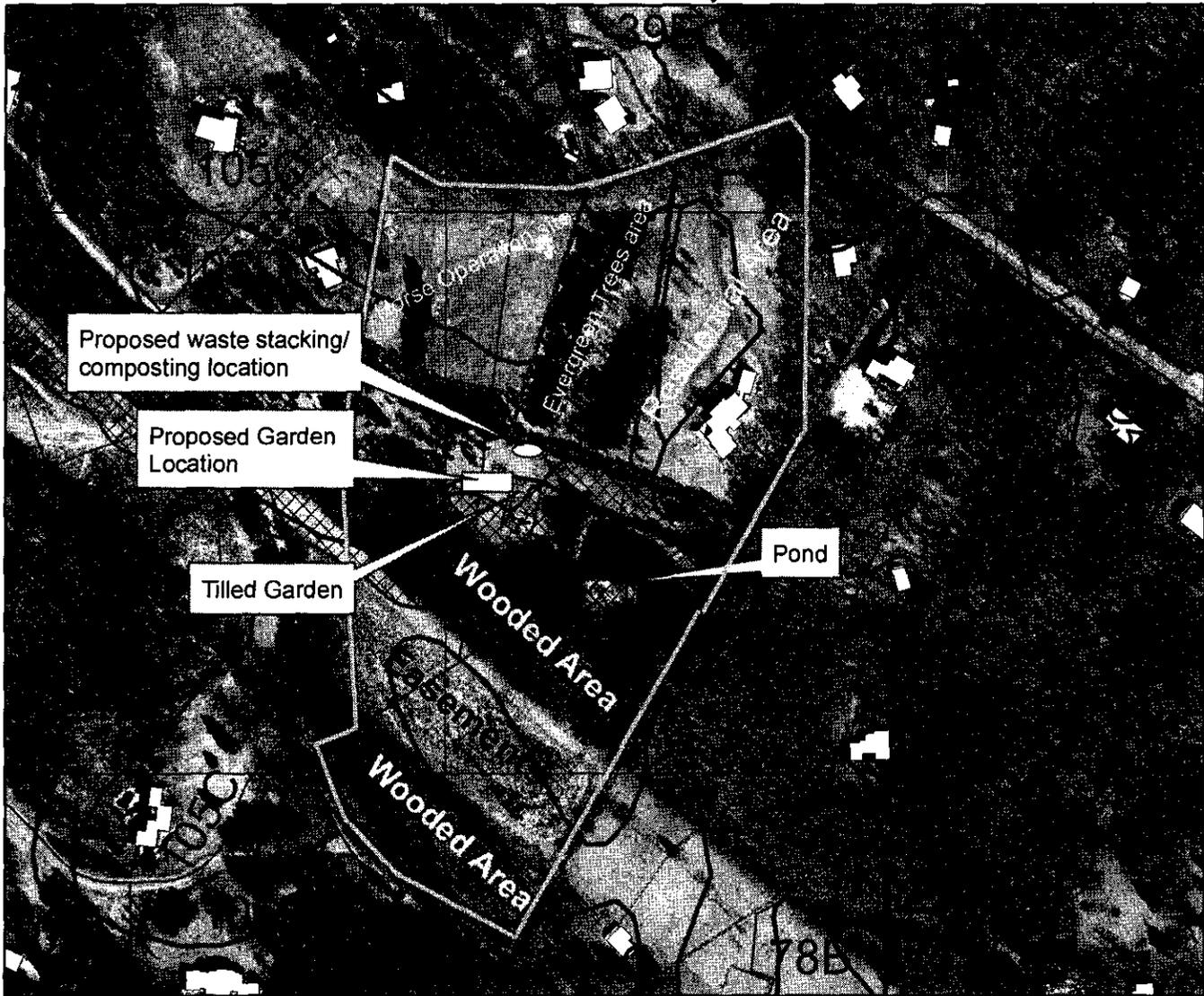
Planner:

Wilfred D. Woode **Date**

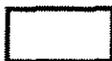
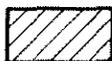
District Authority:

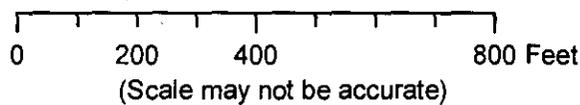
Chairman **Date**

Crawford A&F District 12655 Wiltonshire Drive, Fairfax Station



Legend

-  Soils_USDA (polygon)
-  1993 RPAs
-  2003 RPAs
-  2003 (Rev) RPAs
-  Resource Management Areas (RMAs)



§ 58.1-3230. Special classifications of real estate established and defined.

For the purposes of this article the following special classifications of real estate are established and defined:

"Real estate devoted to agricultural use" shall mean real estate devoted to the bona fide production for sale of plants and animals useful to man under uniform standards prescribed by the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services in accordance with the Administrative Process Act (§ 9-6.14:1 et seq.), or devoted to and meeting the requirements and qualifications for payments or other compensation pursuant to a soil conservation program under an agreement with an agency of the federal government. Real estate upon which recreational activities are conducted for a profit or otherwise, shall be considered real estate devoted to agricultural use as long as the recreational activities conducted on such real estate do not change the character of the real estate so that it does not meet the uniform standards prescribed by the Commissioner.

"Real estate devoted to horticultural use" shall mean real estate devoted to the bona fide production for sale of fruits of all kinds, including grapes, nuts, and berries; vegetables; nursery and floral products under uniform standards prescribed by the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services in accordance with the Administrative Process Act (§ 9-6.14:1 et seq.); or real estate devoted to and meeting the requirements and qualifications for payments or other compensation pursuant to a soil conservation program under an agreement with an agency of the federal government. Real estate upon which recreational activities are conducted for profit or otherwise, shall be considered real estate devoted to horticultural use as long as the recreational activities conducted on such real estate do not change the character of the real estate so that it does not meet the uniform standards prescribed by the Commissioner.

"Real estate devoted to forest use" shall mean land including the standing timber and trees thereon, devoted to tree growth in such quantity and so spaced and maintained as to constitute a forest area under standards prescribed by the State Forester pursuant to the authority set out in § 58.1-3240 and in accordance with the Administrative Process Act (§ 9-6.14:1 et seq.). Real estate upon which recreational activities are conducted for profit, or otherwise, shall still be considered real estate devoted to forest use as long as the recreational activities conducted on such real estate do not change the character of the real estate so that it no longer constitutes a forest area under standards prescribed by the State Forester pursuant to the authority set out in § 58.1-3240.

"Real estate devoted to open-space use" shall mean real estate used as, or preserved for, (i) park or recreational purposes, (ii) conservation of land or other natural resources, (iii) floodways, (iv) wetlands as defined in § 58.1-3666, (v) riparian buffers as defined in § 58.1-3666, (vi) historic or scenic purposes, or (vii) assisting in the shaping of the character, direction, and timing of community development or for the public interest and consistent with the local land-use plan under uniform standards prescribed by the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation pursuant to the authority set out in § 58.1-3240, and in accordance with the Administrative Process Act (§ 9-6.14:1 et seq.) and the local ordinance.

§ 58.1-3231. Authority of counties, cities and towns to adopt ordinances; general reassessment following adoption of ordinance.

Any county, city or town which has adopted a land-use plan may adopt an ordinance to provide for the use value assessment and taxation, in accord with the provisions of this article, of real estate classified in § 58.1-3230. The local governing body pursuant to § 58.1-3237.1 may provide in the ordinance that property located in specified zoning districts shall not be eligible for special assessment as provided in this article. The provisions of this article shall not be applicable in any county, city or town for any year unless such an ordinance is adopted by the governing body thereof not later than June 30 of the year previous to the year when such taxes are first assessed and levied under this article, or December 31 of such year for localities which have adopted a fiscal year assessment date of July 1, under Chapter 30 (§ 58.1-3000 et seq.) of this subtitle. The provisions of this article also shall not apply to the assessment of any real estate assessable pursuant to law by a central state agency.

Land used in agricultural and forestal production within an agricultural district, a forestal district or an agricultural and forestal district that has been established under Chapter 43 (§ 15.2-4300 et seq.) of Title 15.2, shall be eligible for the use value assessment and taxation whether or not a local land-use plan or local ordinance pursuant to this section has been adopted.

Such ordinance shall provide for the assessment and taxation in accordance with the provisions of this article of any or all of the four classes of real estate set forth in § 58.1-3230.

In addition to but not to replace any other requirements of a land-use plan such ordinance may provide that the special assessment and taxation be established on a sliding scale which establishes a lower assessment for property held for longer periods of time within the classes of real estate set forth in § 58.1-3230. Any such sliding scale shall be set forth in the ordinance.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the governing body of any county, city or town shall be authorized to direct a general reassessment of real estate in the year following adoption of an ordinance pursuant to this article.

§ 58.1-3232. Authority of city to provide for assessment and taxation of real estate in newly annexed area.

The council of any city may adopt an ordinance to provide for the assessment and taxation of only the real estate in an area newly annexed to such city in accord with the provisions of this article. All of the provisions of this article shall be applicable to such ordinance, except that if the county from which such area was annexed has in operation an ordinance hereunder, the ordinance of such city may be adopted at any time prior to April 1 of the year for which such ordinance will be effective, and applications from landowners may be received at any time within thirty days of the adoption of the ordinance in such year. If such ordinance is adopted after the date specified in § 58.1-3231, the ranges of suggested values made by the State Land Evaluation Advisory Council for the county from which such area was annexed are to be considered the value recommendations for such city. An ordinance adopted under the authority of this section shall be effective only for the tax year immediately following annexation.

§ 58.1-3233. Determinations to be made by local officers before assessment of real estate under ordinance.

Prior to the assessment of any parcel of real estate under any ordinance adopted pursuant to this article, the local assessing officer shall:

1. Determine that the real estate meets the criteria set forth in § 58.1-3230 and the standards prescribed thereunder to qualify for one of the classifications set forth therein, and he may request an opinion from the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the State Forester or the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services;
2. Determine further that real estate devoted solely to (i) agricultural or horticultural use consists of a minimum of five acres, (ii) forest use consists of a minimum of twenty acres and (iii) open-space use consists of a minimum of five acres or such greater minimum acreage as may be prescribed by local ordinance; except that for real estate adjacent to a scenic river, a scenic highway, a Virginia Byway or public property in the Virginia Outdoors Plan or for any real estate in any city, county or town having a density of population greater than 5,000 per square mile, for any real estate in any county operating under the urban county executive form of government, or the unincorporated Town of Yorktown chartered in 1691, the governing body may by ordinance prescribe that land devoted to open-space uses consist of a minimum of two acres.

The minimum acreage requirements for special classifications of real estate shall be determined by adding together the total area of contiguous real estate excluding recorded subdivision lots recorded after July 1, 1983, titled in the same ownership. For purposes of this section, properties separated only by a public right-of-way are considered contiguous; and

3. Determine further that real estate devoted to open-space use is (i) within an agricultural, a forestal, or an agricultural and forestal district entered into pursuant to Chapter 43 (§ 15.2-4300 et seq.) of Title 15.2, or (ii) subject to a recorded perpetual easement that is held by a public body, and promotes the open-space use classification, as defined in § 58.1-3230, or (iii) subject to a recorded commitment entered into by the landowners with the local governing body, or its authorized designee, not to change the use to a nonqualifying use for a time period stated in the commitment of not less than four years nor more than ten years. Such commitment shall be subject to uniform standards prescribed by the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation pursuant to the authority set out in § 58.1-3240. Such commitment shall run with the land for the applicable period, and may be terminated in the manner provided in § 15.1-1513 for withdrawal of land from an agricultural, a forestal or an agricultural and forestal district.

§ 58.1-3234. Application by property owners for assessment, etc., under ordinance; continuation of assessment, etc.

Property owners must submit an application for taxation on the basis of a use assessment to the local assessing officer:

1. At least sixty days preceding the tax year for which such taxation is sought; or
2. In any year in which a general reassessment is being made, the property owner may submit such application until thirty days have elapsed after his notice of increase in assessment is mailed in accordance with § 58.1-3330, or sixty days preceding the tax year, whichever is later; or
3. In any locality which has adopted a fiscal tax year under Chapter 30 (§ 58.1-3000 et seq.) of this Subtitle III, but continues to assess as of January 1, such application must be submitted for any year at least sixty days preceding the effective date of the assessment for such year.

The governing body, by ordinance, may permit applications to be filed within no more than sixty days after the filing deadline specified herein, upon the payment of a late filing fee to be established by the governing body. An individual who is owner of an undivided interest in a parcel may apply on behalf of himself and the other owners of such parcel upon submitting an affidavit that such other owners are minors or cannot be located. An application shall be submitted whenever the use or acreage of such land previously approved changes; however, no application fee may be required when a change in acreage occurs solely as a result of a conveyance necessitated by governmental action or condemnation of a portion of any land previously approved for taxation on the basis of use assessment. The governing body of any county, city or town may, however, require any such property owner to revalidate annually with such locality, on or before the date on which the last installment of property tax prior to the effective date of the assessment is due, on forms prepared by the locality, any applications previously approved. Each locality which has adopted an ordinance hereunder may provide for the imposition of a revalidation fee every sixth year. Such revalidation fee shall not, however, exceed the application fee currently charged by the locality. The governing body may also provide for late filing of revalidation forms on or before the effective date of the assessment, on payment of a late filing fee. Forms shall be prepared by the State Tax Commissioner and supplied to the locality for use of the applicants and applications shall be submitted on such forms. An application fee may be required to accompany all such applications.

In the event of a material misstatement of facts in the application or a material change in such facts prior to the date of assessment, such application for taxation based on use assessment granted thereunder shall be void and the tax for such year extended on the basis of value determined under § 58.1-3236 D. Except as provided by local ordinance, no application for assessment based on use shall be accepted or approved if, at the time the application is filed, the tax on the land affected is delinquent. Upon the payment of all delinquent taxes, including penalties and interest, the application shall be treated in accordance with the provisions of this section.

Continuation of valuation, assessment and taxation under an ordinance adopted pursuant to this article shall depend on continuance of the real estate in a qualifying use, continued payment of taxes as referred to in § 58.1-3235, and compliance with the other requirements of this article and the ordinance and not upon continuance in the same owner of title to the land.

In the event that the locality provides for a sliding scale under an ordinance, the property owner and the locality shall execute a written agreement which sets forth the period of time that the property shall remain within the classes of real estate set forth in § 58.1-3230. The term of the written agreement shall be for a period not exceeding twenty years, and the instrument shall be recorded in the office of the clerk of the circuit court for the locality in which the subject property is located.

§ 58.1-3235. Removal of parcels from program if taxes delinquent.

If on April 1 of any year the taxes for any prior year on any parcel of real property which has a special assessment as provided for in this article are delinquent, the appropriate county, city or town treasurer shall forthwith send notice of that fact and the general provisions of this section to the property owner by first-class mail. If, after the notice has been sent, such delinquent taxes remain unpaid on June 1, the treasurer shall notify the appropriate commissioner of the revenue who shall remove such parcel from the land use program. Such removal shall become effective for the current tax year.

§ 58.1-3236. Valuation of real estate under ordinance.

A. In valuing real estate for purposes of taxation by any county, city or town which has adopted an ordinance pursuant to this article, the commissioner of the revenue or duly appointed assessor shall consider only those indicia of value which such real estate has for agricultural, horticultural, forest or open space use, and real estate taxes for such jurisdiction shall be extended upon the value so determined. In addition to use of his personal knowledge, judgment and experience as to the value of real estate in agricultural, horticultural, forest or open space use, he shall, in arriving at the value of such land, consider available evidence of agricultural, horticultural, forest or open space capability, and the recommendations of value of such real estate as made by the State Land Evaluation Advisory Council.

B. In determining the total area of real estate actively devoted to agricultural, horticultural, forest or open space use there shall be included the area of all real estate under barns, sheds, silos, cribs, greenhouses, public recreation facilities and like structures, lakes, dams, ponds, streams, irrigation ditches and like facilities; but real estate under, and such additional real estate as may be actually used in connection with, the farmhouse or home or any other structure not related to such special use, shall be excluded in determining such total area.

C. All structures which are located on real estate in agricultural, horticultural, forest or open space use and the farmhouse or home or any other structure not related to such special use and the real estate on which the farmhouse or home or such other structure is located, together with the additional real estate used in connection therewith, shall be valued, assessed and taxed by the same standards, methods and procedures as other taxable structures and other real estate in the locality.

D. In addition, such real estate in agricultural, horticultural, forest or open space use shall be evaluated on the basis of fair market value as applied to other real estate in the taxing jurisdiction, and land book records shall be maintained to show both the use value and the fair market value of such real estate.

§ 58.1-3237. Change in use or zoning of real estate assessed under ordinance; roll-back taxes.

A. When real estate qualifies for assessment and taxation on the basis of use under an ordinance adopted pursuant to this article, and the use by which it qualified changes to a nonqualifying use, or the zoning of the real estate is changed to a more intensive use at the request of the owner or his agent, it shall be subject to additional taxes, hereinafter referred to as roll-back taxes. Such additional taxes shall only be assessed against that portion of such real estate which no longer qualifies for assessment and taxation on the basis of use or zoning. Liability for roll-back taxes shall attach and be paid to the treasurer only if the amount of tax due exceeds ten dollars.

B. In localities which have not adopted a sliding scale ordinance, the roll-back tax shall be equal to the sum of the deferred tax for each of the five most recent complete tax years including simple interest on such roll-back taxes at a rate set by the governing body, no greater than the rate applicable to delinquent taxes in such locality pursuant to § 58.1-3916 for each of the tax years. The deferred tax for each year shall be equal to the difference between the tax levied and the tax that would have been levied based on the fair market value assessment of the real estate for that year. In addition the taxes for the current year shall be extended on the basis of fair market value which may be accomplished by means of a supplemental assessment based upon the difference between the use value and the fair market value.

C. In localities which have adopted a sliding scale ordinance, the roll-back tax shall be equal to the sum of the deferred tax from the effective date of the written agreement including simple interest on such roll-back taxes at a rate set by the governing body, which shall not be greater than the rate applicable to delinquent taxes in such locality pursuant to § 58.1-3916, for each of the tax years. The deferred tax for each year shall be equal to the difference between the tax levied and the tax that would have been levied based on the fair market value assessment of the real estate for that year and based on the highest tax rate applicable to the real estate for that year, had it not been subject to special assessment. In addition the taxes for the current year shall be extended on the basis of fair market value which may be accomplished by means of a supplemental assessment based upon the difference between the use value and the fair market value and based on the highest tax rate applicable to the real estate for that year.

D. Liability to the roll-back taxes shall attach when a change in use occurs, or a change in zoning of the real estate to a more intensive use at the request of the owner or his agent occurs. Liability to the roll-back taxes shall not attach when a change in ownership of the title takes place if the new owner does not rezone the real estate to a more intensive use and continues the real estate in the use for which it is classified under the conditions prescribed in this article and in the

ordinance. The owner of any real estate which has been zoned to more intensive use at the request of the owner or his agent as provided in subsection E, or otherwise subject to or liable for roll-back taxes, shall, within sixty days following such change in use or zoning, report such change to the commissioner of the revenue or other assessing officer on such forms as may be prescribed. The commissioner shall forthwith determine and assess the roll-back tax, which shall be assessed against and paid by the owner of the property at the time the change in use which no longer qualifies occurs, or at the time of the zoning of the real estate to a more intensive use at the request of the owner or his agent occurs, and shall be paid to the treasurer within thirty days of the assessment. If the amount due is not paid by the due date, the treasurer shall impose a penalty and interest on the amount of the roll-back tax, including interest for prior years. Such penalty and interest shall be imposed in accordance with §§ 58.1-3915 and 58.1-3916.

E. Real property zoned to a more intensive use, at the request of the owner or his agent, shall be subject to and liable for the roll-back tax at the time such zoning is changed. The roll-back tax shall be levied and collected from the owner of the real estate in accordance with subsection D. Real property zoned to a more intensive use before July 1, 1988, at the request of the owner or his agent, shall be subject to and liable for the roll-back tax at the time the qualifying use is changed to a nonqualifying use. Real property zoned to a more intensive use at the request of the owner or his agent after July 1, 1988, shall be subject to and liable for the roll-back tax at the time of such zoning. Said roll-back tax, plus interest calculated in accordance with subsection B, shall be levied and collected at the time such property was rezoned. For property rezoned after July 1, 1988, but before July 1, 1992, no penalties or interest, except as provided in subsection B, shall be assessed, provided the said roll-back tax is paid on or before October 1, 1992. No real property rezoned to a more intensive use at the request of the owner or his agent shall be eligible for taxation and assessment under this article, provided that these provisions shall not be applicable to any rezoning which is required for the establishment, continuation, or expansion of a qualifying use. If the property is subsequently rezoned to agricultural, horticultural, or open space, it shall be eligible for consideration for assessment and taxation under this article only after three years have passed since the rezoning was effective.

However, the owner of any real property that qualified for assessment and taxation on the basis of use, and whose real property was rezoned to a more intensive use at the owner's request prior to 1980, may be eligible for taxation and assessment under this article provided the owner applies for rezoning to agricultural, horticultural, open-space or forest use. The real property shall be eligible for assessment and taxation on the basis of the qualifying use for the tax year following the effective date of the rezoning. If any such real property is subsequently rezoned to a more intensive use at the owner's request, within five years from the date the property was initially rezoned to a qualifying use under this section, the owner shall be liable for roll-back taxes when the property is rezoned to a more intensive use. Additionally, the owner shall be subject to a penalty equal to fifty percent of the roll-back taxes due as determined under subsection B of this section.

F. If real estate annexed by a city and granted use value assessment and taxation becomes subject to roll-back taxes, and such real estate likewise has been granted use value assessment and taxation by the county prior to annexation, the city shall collect roll-back taxes and interest for the maximum period allowed under this section and shall return to the county a share of such taxes and interest proportionate to the amount of such period, if any, for which the real estate was situated in the county.

§ 58.1-3237.1. Authority of counties to enact additional provisions concerning zoning classifications.

Any county not organized under the provisions of Chapter 5 (§ 15.2-500 et seq.), 6 (§ 15.2-600 et seq.), or 8 (§ 15.2-800 et seq.) of Title 15.2, which is contiguous to a county with the urban executive form of government and any county with a population of no less than 65,000 and no greater than 72,000 may include the following additional provisions in any ordinance enacted under the authority of this article:

1. The governing body may exclude land lying in planned development, industrial or commercial zoning districts from assessment under the provisions of this article. This provision applies only to zoning districts established prior to January 1, 1981.

2. The governing body may provide that when the zoning of the property taxed under the provisions of this article is changed to allow a more intensive nonagricultural use at the request of the owner or his agent, such property shall not be eligible for assessment and taxation under this article. This shall not apply, however, to property which is zoned agricultural and is subsequently rezoned to a more intensive use which is complementary to agricultural use, provided such property continues to be owned by the same owner who owned the property prior to rezoning and continues to operate the agricultural activity on the property. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, such property shall be subject to and liable for roll-back taxes at the time the zoning is changed to allow any use more intensive than the use for which it

qualifies for special assessment. The roll-back tax, plus interest, shall be calculated, levied and collected from the owner of the real estate in accordance with § 58.1-3237 at the time the property is rezoned.

§ 58.1-3238. Failure to report change in use; misstatements in applications.

Any person failing to report properly any change in use of property for which an application for use value taxation had been filed shall be liable for all such taxes, in such amounts and at such times as if he had complied herewith and assessments had been properly made, and he shall be liable for such penalties and interest thereon as may be provided by ordinance.

Any person making a material misstatement of fact in any such application shall be liable for all such taxes, in such amounts and at such times as if such property had been assessed on the basis of fair market value as applied to other real estate in the taxing jurisdiction, together with interest and penalties thereon. If such material misstatement was made with the intent to defraud the locality, he shall be further assessed with an additional penalty of 100 percent of such unpaid taxes.

For purposes of this section and § 58.1-3234, incorrect information on the following subjects will be considered material misstatements of fact:

1. The number and identities of the known owners of the property at the time of application;
2. The actual use of the property.

The intentional misrepresentation of the number of acres in the parcel or the number of acres to be taxed according to use shall also be considered a material misstatement of fact for the purposes of this section and § 58.1-3234.

§ 58.1-3239. State Land Evaluation Advisory Committee continued as State Land Evaluation Advisory Council; membership; duties; ordinances to be filed with Council.

The State Land Evaluation Advisory Committee is continued and shall hereafter be known as the State Land Evaluation Advisory Council. The Advisory Council shall be composed of the Tax Commissioner, the dean of the College of Agriculture of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, the State Forester, the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

The Advisory Council shall determine and publish a range of suggested values for each of the several soil conservation service land capability classifications for agricultural, horticultural, forest and open space uses in the various areas of the Commonwealth as needed to carry out the provisions of this article.

On or before October 1 of each year the Advisory Council shall submit recommended ranges of suggested values to be effective the following January 1 or July 1 in the case of localities with fiscal year assessment under the authority of Chapter 30 of this subtitle, within each locality which has adopted an ordinance pursuant to the provisions of this article based on the productive earning power of real estate devoted to agricultural, horticultural, forest and open space uses and make such recommended ranges available to the commissioner of the revenue or duly appointed assessor in each such locality.

The Advisory Council, in determining such ranges of values, shall base the determination on productive earning power to be determined by capitalization of warranted cash rents or by the capitalization of incomes of like real estate in the locality or a reasonable area of the locality.

Any locality adopting an ordinance pursuant to this article shall forthwith file a copy thereof with the Advisory Council.

§ 58.1-3240. Duties of Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the State Forester and the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services; remedy of person aggrieved by action or nonaction of Director, State Forester or Commissioner.

The Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the State Forester, and the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall provide, after holding public hearings, to the commissioner of the revenue or duly appointed assessor of each locality adopting an ordinance pursuant to this article, a statement of the standards referred to in § 58.1-

3230 and subdivision 1 of § 58.1-3233, which shall be applied uniformly throughout the Commonwealth in determining whether real estate is devoted to agricultural use, horticultural use, forest use or open-space use for the purposes of this article and the procedure to be followed by such official to obtain the opinion referenced in subdivision 1 of § 58.1-3233. Upon the refusal of the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the State Forester or the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation to issue an opinion or in the event of an unfavorable opinion which does not comport with standards set forth in the statements filed pursuant to this section, the party aggrieved may seek relief in the circuit court of the county or city wherein the real estate in question is located, and in the event that the court finds in his favor, it may issue an order which shall serve in lieu of an opinion for the purposes of this article.

§ 58.1-3241. Separation of part of real estate assessed under ordinance; contiguous real estate located in more than one taxing locality.

A. Separation or split-off of lots, pieces or parcels of land from the real estate which is being valued, assessed and taxed under an ordinance adopted pursuant to this article, either by conveyance or other action of the owner of such real estate, shall subject the real estate so separated to liability for the roll-back taxes applicable thereto, but shall not impair the right of each subdivided parcel of such real estate to qualify for such valuation, assessment and taxation in any and all future years, provided it meets the minimum acreage requirements and such other conditions of this article as may be applicable. Such separation or split-off of lots shall not impair the right of the remaining real estate to continuance of such valuation, assessment and taxation without liability for roll-back taxes, provided it meets the minimum acreage requirements and other applicable conditions of this article.

No subdivision of property which results in parcels which meet the minimum acreage requirements of this article, and which the owner attests is for one or more of the purposes set forth in § 58.1-3230, shall be subject to the provisions of this subsection.

B. Where contiguous real estate in agricultural, horticultural, forest or open-space use in one ownership is located in more than one taxing locality, compliance with the minimum acreage shall be determined on the basis of the total area of such real estate and not the area which is located in the particular taxing locality.

§ 58.1-3242. Taking of real estate assessed under ordinance by right of eminent domain.

The taking of real estate which is being valued, assessed and taxed under an ordinance adopted pursuant to this article by right of eminent domain shall not subject the real estate so taken to the roll-back taxes herein imposed.

§ 58.1-3243. Application of other provisions of Title 58.1.

The provisions of this title applicable to local levies and real estate assessment and taxation shall be applicable to assessments and taxation hereunder mutatis mutandis including, without limitation, provisions relating to tax liens, boards of equalization and the correction of erroneous assessments and for such purposes the roll-back taxes shall be considered to be deferred real estate taxes.

§ 58.1-3244. Article not in conflict with requirements for preparation and use of true values.

Nothing in this article shall be construed to be in conflict with the requirements for preparation and use of true values where prescribed by the General Assembly for use in any fund distribution formula.

FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 22, 2009

TO: Members, Planning Commission
Members, Board of Supervisors

FROM: Agricultural and Forestal Districts Advisory Committee

SUBJECT: Recommendation on the Crawford Local Agricultural and Forestal District;
Application AF 2009-SP-002

The Agricultural and Forestal Districts Advisory Committee met on April 21, 2009, to review the application to establish the Crawford Local Agricultural and Forestal District. The Committee found the following:

- The Crawford Local Agricultural and Forestal District meets the minimum district size contained in Section 115-3-2;
- The Crawford Local Agricultural and Forestal District conforms with the Policy and Purpose of Chapter 115 of the Fairfax County Code;
- The Crawford Local Agricultural and Forestal District fulfills the majority of the applicable criteria found in Chapter 115 of the Fairfax County Code.

The Agricultural and Forestal Districts Advisory Committee therefore recommends that Appendix F of the Fairfax County Code be revised to establish the Crawford Local Agricultural and Forestal District. The Advisory Committee further recommends that the establishment of this district be subject to the Ordinance Provisions which are contained in Appendix I of the staff report.

GLOSSARY

This Glossary is presented to assist the public in understanding the staff evaluation and analysis. It should not be construed as representing legal definitions.

AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTAL DISTRICT - A land use classification created under Chapter 114 or 115 of the Fairfax County Code for the purpose of qualifying landowners who wish to retain their property for agricultural or forestal use for use/value taxation pursuant to Chapter 58 of the Fairfax County Code.

AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTAL DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AFDAC) - A committee composed of four farmers, four freeholder residents of Fairfax County, the Supervisor of Assessments and one member of the Board of Supervisors. AFDAC is formed to advise the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors regarding the proposed establishment, modification, renewal and/or the termination of an Agricultural and Forestal District and to provide expert advice on the nature of farming and forestry in the proposed district and the relation of such activities to the County.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS - Crops, livestock, and livestock products which shall include but not be limited to the following:

- 1) Field crops, including corn, wheat, oats, rye, barley, hay, tobacco, peanuts and dry beans.
- 2) Fruits, including apples, peaches, grapes, cherries, and berries.
- 3) Vegetables, including tomatoes, snap beans, cabbage, carrots, beets and onions.
- 4) Horticultural specialties, including nursery stock ornamental shrubs, ornamental trees and flowers.
- 5) Livestock and livestock products, including cattle, sheep, hogs, goats, horses, poultry, fur-bearing animals, milk, eggs and furs.

AGRICULTURALLY SIGNIFICANT LAND - Land that has historically produced agricultural products, or land that AFDAC considers good agricultural land based on factors such as soil quality, topography, climate, agricultural product markets, farm improvements, agricultural economics and technology and other relevant factors.

AGRICULTURAL USE - Use for the production for sale of plants and animals; fruits of all kinds, including grapes, nuts and berries; vegetables; nursery and floral products useful to man under uniform standards prescribed by the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services of the State of Virginia, or when devoted to and meeting the requirements and qualifications for payments or other compensation pursuant to a soil conservation program under an agreement with an agency of the federal government. Land or portions thereof used for processing of retail merchandise of crops, livestock products is not considered to be in agricultural use.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE (BMP) - Stormwater management techniques or land use practices that are determined to be the most effective, practicable means of preventing and/or reducing the amount of pollution generated by non-point sources in order to improve water quality.

CHESAPEAKE BAY PRESERVATION ORDINANCE - Regulations which the State has mandated to protect the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. See Fairfax County Code, Chapter 118, Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance.

CLEARING - Any intentional or negligent act to cut down, remove all or a substantial part of or

damage a tree or other vegetation which will cause the tree or other vegetation to decline and/or die.

COMMERCIAL FOREST - Land which is producing or is capable of producing forest products.

DEFERRED TAX - The difference between market tax value and use value tax is known as deferred tax. The deferred tax is still owed but is not due until the use of any part or the whole of the land in an A&F District is changed. The deferred tax plus the interest due on the deferred tax is known as rollback tax. Sixty days after the use of the land is changed, notice of the change must be filed with the County Department of Taxation.

DEVELOPED LAND - The total of all parcels containing permanent structures valued at \$2,500 or more, plus all parcels not generally available for development (e.g. tax exempt land, private rights-of-way, parcels owned in common by homeowner's associations, etc.).

EASEMENT - A right to or interest in property owned by another for a specific and limited purpose. Examples: access easement, scenic easement, utility easement, open space easement, etc. Easements may be for public or private purposes.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CORRIDOR (EQC) - An open space system designed to link and preserve natural resource areas, provide passive recreation and wildlife habitat. The system includes stream valleys, steep slopes and wetlands. For a complete definition of EQCs, refer to the Environmental section of the Policy Plan for Fairfax County contained in Volume 1 of the Comprehensive Plan.

ERODIBLE SOILS - Soils that wash away easily, especially under conditions where stormwater runoff is inadequately controlled. Silt and sediment are washed into nearby streams, thereby degrading water quality.

FLOODPLAIN - Those land areas in and adjacent to streams and watercourses subject to periodic flooding; usually associated with EQCs. The 100 year floodplain drains 70 acres or more of land and has a 1% chance of flood occurrence in any given year.

FORESTAL PRODUCTS - Products for sale or for farm use, including but not limited to lumber, pulpwood, posts, firewood, Christmas trees and other wood products.

FORESTALLY SIGNIFICANT LAND - Land that has historically produced forestal products, or land that AFDAC considers good forest land based upon factors such as soil quality, topography, environmental quality and other relevant factors.

FORESTAL USE - Use for tree growth in such quantity and so spaced and maintained as to constitute a forest area under standards prescribed by the Director of the Department of Conservation and Economic Development of the Commonwealth of Virginia pursuant to Section 58-769.12 of the Code of Virginia, including the standing timber and trees thereon.

OPEN SPACE EASEMENT - An easement usually granted to the Board of Supervisors which preserves a tract of land in open space for some public benefit in perpetuity or for a specified period of time. Open space easements may be accepted by the Board of Supervisors, upon request by the land owner, after evaluation under criteria established by the Board. See Open Space Land Act, Code of Virginia, Sections 10.1-1700.

QUALIFYING USE - A land use which is eligible for use value taxation under Section 4-19 of the Fairfax County Code.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AREA (RMA) -The component of the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area comprised of lands that, if improperly used or developed, have a potential for causing significant water quality degradation or for diminishing the functional value of the Resource Protection Area. See Fairfax County Code, Chapter 118, Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance.

RESOURCE PROTECTION AREA (RPA) - That component of the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area comprised of lands at or near the shoreline or water's edge that have an intrinsic water quality value due to the ecological and biological processes they perform or are sensitive to impacts which may result in significant degradation of the quality of state waters. In their natural condition, these lands provide for the removal, reduction or assimilation of sediments from runoff entering the Bay and its tributaries, and minimize the adverse effects of human activities on state waters and aquatic resources. New development is generally discouraged in an RPA. See Fairfax County Code, Chapter 118, Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance.

ROLLBACK TAX - Whenever an owner changes the acreage of an eligible tract by splitting off a parcel, or by changing the use of the land to a non-qualifying use, each applicable deferred tax plus annual simple interest at the rate annually applied to delinquent taxes becomes due and payable as a lump sum, known as the rollback tax. The rollback tax is applied to the year in which the use is changed and the previous five years the land was qualified for and assessed at use value rates.

TIDAL WETLANDS - Vegetated and nonvegetated wetlands as defined in Chapter 116 Wetlands Ordinance of the Fairfax County Code: includes tidal shores and tidally influenced embayments, creeks and tributaries to the Occoquan and Potomac Rivers. Development activity in tidal wetlands may require approval from the Fairfax County Wetlands Board.

UNDEVELOPED LAND - Unimproved or under utilized land. Land containing no structures valued at \$2,500 or more.

WETLANDS - Land characterized by wetness for a portion of the growing season. Wetlands are generally delineated on the basis of physical characteristics such as soil properties indicative of wetness, the presence of vegetation with an affinity for water, and the presence or evidence of surface wetness or soil saturation. Wetland environments provide water quality improvement benefits and are ecologically valuable. Development activity in wetlands is subject to permitting processes administered by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers.

WILDLIFE HABITAT - Areas which contain the proper food, water, and vegetative cover to support a diverse community of animals, birds and fish; some examples include floodplains, upland hardwoods, pinewoods, meadows and marshes.