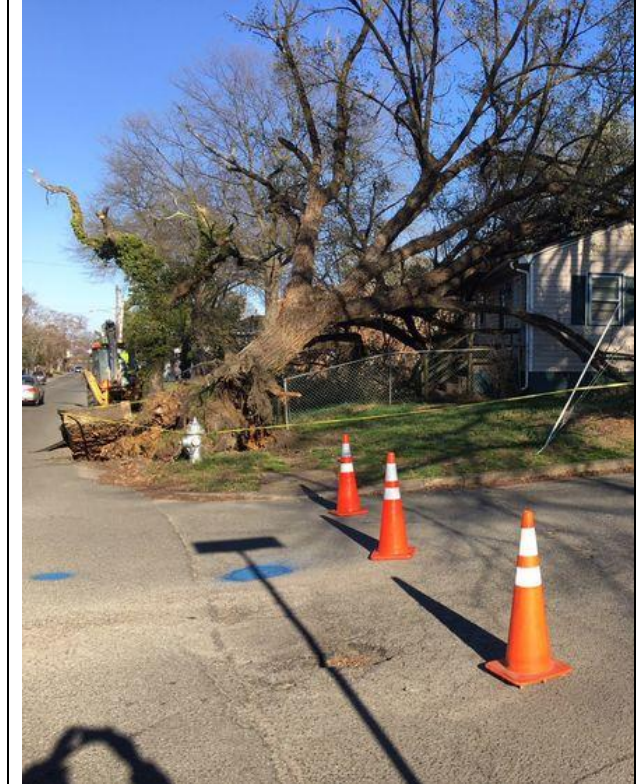


Presidents message

With the recent winter storm Riley, with this Nor'easter's wind conditions and damage (some wind entry of March like a lion). Our public works agencies were again in the forefront as first responders, working closely with public safety officials to provide safe access for power company professionals to the damaged infrastructure including roadways, parks, construction sites, transformers, downed power lines, gas connections, to name a few.



Photos courtesy of *Richmond Time Dispatch*

The Chapter is thriving, with much activity underway associated this year's annual "WRX" Mid-Atlantic Public Works conference and equipment show, led by co-chairs Steve Yob (Chapter President-Elect) and Dave King (Chapter Past-President). We expect another banner year for the Mid-Atlantic Road-E-O, to be held May 1st in the parking lot of the Fredericksburg, VA Expo Center parking lot. Matt Villareale, Chapter Past-President and Prince William County Asst. Public Works Director is once again leading the Road-E-O competition. Special thanks to Baltimore County DPW Director Tom Kiefer and the Baltimore County DPW for stepping in to provide critical components and support enabling our leaders to once again host the Mid-Atlantic Road-E-O. Kelly Mattingly has done a masterful job of pulling together the technical program. Travis Davis (Chair), Phil Koetter and Judi Hines have spearheaded the Awards Committee and the recipient notifications are underway. Don Cole and Doug Fawcett continue to lead the Scholarship Golf Outing. Kudos to the 2018 Fredericksburg WRX Committee for their untiring leadership and getting tasks completed so that all of us can enjoy this experience. Refer to the enclosed 2018 Fredericksburg "WRX" report on the Mid-Atlantic Public Works conference and equipment show. Registration is open for exhibitors and attendees, so we hope to see you there.

Speaking of awards, I am extremely pleased to report that the Chapter has *endorsed Fairfax County's Public Works Director James Patteson* as our nominee as a worthy candidate for this year's APWA Top Ten. James has an outstanding record of accomplishments and the merits in his application more than meet the Top Ten requirements. Best wishes to James and Fairfax County as we await word on the Top Ten application.

One of the pleasures I get from being active with APWA all these decades is seeing first-hand the passion and un-selfish commitment of our members who continuously volunteer their time and talents for the good of not only APWA members, but the entire public works profession. March 1st was a classic example of this leadership. The Chapter's Sustainability Committee, led by Jennifer Privette, chair and several of her committee members including Denise Nelson, Nell Boyle, Dine Linderman and John Parkinson, collaborated to produce the "Town and Gown" Lunch-n-Learn March 1st collaboration with George Mason University and water resources professors and staff from GMU's recently opened Potomac Environmental Research and Education Center (PEREC). Not only were representatives from across the region represented at the "Town and Gown" Lunch-n-Learn, members of APWA's national Center for Sustainability (C4S) were in the audience, with chair Matt Rodrigues participating as one of the panelists, bringing the national sustainability perspective. The Chapter hosted the C4S as they held their annual meeting in Alexandria and traveled to GMU's PEREC to continue their business meetings and meet with the Chapter's Sustainability Committee after the "Town and Gown" Lunch-n-Learn. Special thanks also to the City of Alexandria and member Yon Lambert (Alexandria T&ES Director) for hosting the C4S business meetings Friday at the Alexandria City Hall. Lastly, recognition needs to go to Fairfax County's James Patteson for suggesting the joint Chapter/C4S collaboration, where James was supported by Fairfax County PW staff Juan Reyes (Asst. PW Director) and Judy Finchman (Wastewater Management Outreach Coordinator). For more details refer to the "Town and Gown" Lunch-n-Learn and related C4S meeting feature articles.

The next round of the Mid-Atlantic Public Works Institute (M-PWI) MPWI continues to flourish, the Chapter Steering Committee has the full slate of instructors on-board for the April 3-5th session. Very limited student openings remain for the April 3-5th session. For public works agencies not able to get students enrolled due to the cut-off, please touch base with Steering Committee chair Scott Smith, refer to his article in this newsletter. Scott will be presenting on the M-PWI at this year's annual "WRX" Mid-Atlantic Public Works conference and equipment show in Fredericksburg.

Help us celebrate 2018 National Public Works Week (NPWW-May 20-26) as we want to hear stories about your agency's local Road-E-O competition and other outreach activities. The City of Newport

News is planning week-long NPWW events, so we hope your agency's efforts reflect somewhat of what the Newport News DPW is launching.

The Hampton Roads and Richmond area Activity Committees continue to be very active, refer to the March 29th "*GASIFICATION – Waste to Energy?*" Lunch-n-learn in Hampton, VA and the May 14th "*Central Virginia Projects Look Ahead*" being held in Henrico County, VA. Check the Chapter's website for registration and sponsorship opportunities.

This year's PWX will be held in KC August 26-29. Check the APWA national website for registration, expected to be available sometime late May.

In-roads continue with the West Virginia LTAP leaders, where myself and member Jeff Wilkerson, City of Martinsburg, WV Public Works Director (recent graduate of the Mid-Atlantic Public Works Institute), will be given opportunity during their March 21st Board meeting to discuss benefits of aligning resources for common services to the public works profession. Look for additional updates and details.

The Chapter leadership seeks volunteers to serve and be active on committees, refer to the enclosed request in this newsletter. Additionally, we are in need of developing a member survey assessing ways we can engage members at all levels and cross the diverse public works disciplines, and enhance their membership experience.

Best wishes to an enjoyable end of winter, here is looking ahead to March exiting as being more aligned with the "lamb" connotation.