

## Arlington in the 1970s

## **Protecting Our Environment**

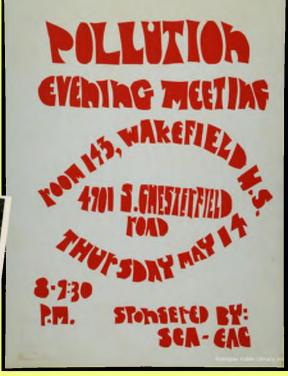
In the 1970s, taking care of our planet became part of our everyday lives. People discovered many ways to help keep our environment healthy and discovered that we often do our best when we all work together. Earth Day, which was first held on April 22, 1970, is a good example of the benefits of teamwork.

Ivy and her best friend Julie would have felt very much at home at group events such as the "Pollution" meeting sponsored by the Student Conservation Association and the Cleanarama beautification and cleanup effort, while the opening of a facility such as the Arlington Recycling Center allows each person in Arlington County the opportunity to help maintain a livable environment.



Clockwise from top: October 17, 1971 Northern Virginia Sun article about the opening of the Arlington Recycling Center at 1300 N. Quincy Street; 1974 Wakefield High School poster for Pollution meeting sponsored by the Student Conservation Association; Members of Girl Scout Troop 658 participating in the Cleanarama cleanup effort at Bon Air Park.





## Facing Change/Sports

It may seem hard to picture a school without an official girls sports program, but that actually was the case in many areas until the 1970s. For instance, there was not a varsity sports program for girls at Washington Lee High School until 1973, and, there was not a girls basketball team there until 1975. Previously, girls sports activities were put under the category of clubs or organizations rather than sports... something that Ivy, an excellent gymnast, would have certainly

had plenty to say about!









## **Equality**

In 2009, women made up half of the United States workforce for the first time. Many of these workers had the doors opened for them by progress made in the 1970s, when women made strides in politics, sports, business, and many other areas, holding jobs and positions that were previously held only by men. Ivy and Julie would often visit Julie's mother's consignment shop, and Julie ran for school president. In Arlington, Ellen Bozman was a six-time County Board Chairwoman while Judith Brewer was the first female American full time, paid professional firefighter.





Courtesy of the Virginia Room at Arlington Public Library