



RIVANNA RIVER STEWARD REPORT

River Stewards: Dan Triman

Date: 10-05-18 and 10-06-18

Overall Summary:

This report has been prepared to provide details of a joint effort by RCA, Charlottesville Parks & Rec, Lake Monticello Water Rescue, and Charlottesville Albemarle Rescue Squad (CARS) to remove a large culvert plastic pipe from just downstream of the Crofton boat ramp and South Boston Rd bridge.

The pipe was first reported by Dan Triman on September 12, 2018 in another Steward report. The pipe may have been there for a while, since the Crofton boat ramp and parking area was closed for several months due to the debris build up at the base of the South Boston Rd bridge. After RCA sent out the report to our community partners, Chris Gensic from Charlottesville Parks & Rec contacted Dan Triman to say they were looking for a pipe similar to this one for an upcoming event. So Chris and Dan made a plan to go out to Crofton and attempt to cut the pipe into several smaller pieces, so they could be transported back to Charlottesville.

On October 5th, 2018, Chris and Dan, as well as Mario Brown from Charlottesville Parks & Rec drove out to Crofton to retrieve the pipe. We decided it would be easier to try and remove the pipe pieces on the same side of the River it was located, rather than try to haul them upstream to the Crofton boat ramp, since we didn't have the right equipment. We were assisted by Aqua Virginia when we arrived in providing us a place to leave our vehicles as well as a description of the trail access down to the River behind their property where their outfall pipe is for the wastewater treatment facility.

After we made our way down to the River and found the pipe, we realized just how big it was. It was about 30-40 feet long and 4 foot in diameter. The pipe was caught up in some debris and trees along the bank at River right, so our first action was to pull the pipe down onto the ground with a rope. Then once it was lying flat, we were able to saw it into 3 smaller pieces so we could move it. We determined that the pipe was built in a way that actually meant it held water in the ribs of the pipe, so we had to cut some holes in the pipe to drain the water, so we could reduce the weight and move the pipe pieces.

We then rolled 1 piece of the pipe up the hill and through the woods to where we could come pick it up with the Parks & Rec dump truck and put it



in the back of the truck. The 1 piece of pipe was big enough to fill up almost the entire dump truck. So we decided we needed to leave the other 2 pieces behind for another trip on another day. We secured the 2 pipe pieces remaining along the river by strapping them to a tree.

As part of the process we coordinated with Jamie Beadle from Lake Monticello Water Rescue to have him, as well as several others from Lake Monticello Water Rescue and CARS come back the following day, October 6, 2018 and use their Jon boat to haul the remaining 2 pieces of the pipe back to the Crofton boat ramp, where Charlottesville Parks & Rec could come and pick them up later in the week. Jamie was joined by Mike Hinton and Jon Lye in the Jon boat on October 6th for the pipe removal, and there were many other members of the Lake Monticello Water Rescue and CARS teams that assisted on shore as well.

Overall, this was a really successful effort that took a lot of help from several organizations, and not only were we able to remove the pipe from the river bank, but we also found a home for the pieces of pipe, so they will be used for years to come.

Below are some photos of the pipe that was found along the river bank, the process of cutting it into pieces, and then the process of hauling the pieces in the dump truck and on the Jon boat.

Thanks again to everyone who helped with this project.



Figure 1: Pipe as first seen on Sept 12th



Figure 2: Another photo on Sept 12th



Figure 3: First photo of pipe on October 5th



Figure 4: Pipe caught up on tree and other debris



Figure 5: Mario sawing away some tree limbs



Figure 6: Mario throwing the rope around the pipe



Figure 7: Mario securing rope on the pipe to pull it down



Figure 8: Reference for how large the pipe was next to Chris



Figure 9: Mario sawing the pipe into pieces



Figure 10: More sawing



Figure 11: Removing water from pipes to make them lighter



Figure 12: Pipe cut into pieces on the beach



Figure 13: 1st of 3 pieces of pipe removed in dump truck



Figure 14: 2 remaining pieces of pipe secured to a tree



Figure 15: Showing location of pipes below bridge at Crofton



Figure 16: Pipe piece removed on Oct 5th



Figure 17: Rescue team using their Jon boat on October 6th



Figure 18: Another shot of pipe being loaded on the boat



Figure 19: Taking the pipe back to Crofton boat ramp



Figure 20: Arriving at Crofton boat ramp with pipe