

DAYLIGHTING CEDAR RUN

In 2016 a Virginia Tech Design team performed preliminary design work for a project to daylight portions of Cedar Run (Trout Run), including the section that runs underneath the Coca-Cola plant. The open portion of the stream upstream of the plant will be cleaned up, and the culverted portion under the plant will be rerouted to a natural drainage way located on the north/east sides of the plant. Daylighting the entire stream would preserve and enhance the natural hydrology of the stream, improve water quality, and allow the stream to serve as an outdoor lab for the Carver Center.

Daylighting Cedar Run will restore the channel to a more natural condition, and help to mitigate downstream and downtown flooding by redirecting runoff into a natural channel and reducing peak flows by increased infiltration and regained access to its floodplain. This project also provides an opportunity to educate the community on stormwater management techniques and low impact development (LID) that could be used to decrease stormwater fees in the



community. The intent of this project is to lay the ground work to revitalize the community and its economy, and involve the community in the design process. Daylighting Cedar Run will not only address flash flood concerns, but also improve the livability of the community and provide walkable access from the neighborhood to downtown.

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STEERING COMMITTEE

Rev. Carroll Carter – President
Ms. Evangeline Jeffrey—Vice-President
Mr. Andre Peery – Treasurer
Dr. Gene Yagow – Secretary
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ONE VALLEY

is a 501(c)(3) non-profit

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One Valley is an environmental, educational, and civil rights non-profit founded in 2014 in Roanoke, Virginia

Our mission statement:

“To create an inclusive community that celebrates both diversity and commonality with opportunities for all to learn and prosper.”

VISION STATEMENT

1. To lift and unite our entire Valley community through the following educational and environmental actions: Creation of sustainable community-centered institutions such as the George Washington Carver Environmental Education Center, including
 - a. Support for urban farming community gardens like the Star City Food Systems project, and other activities that promote healthy living and food accessibility,
 - b. Demonstration and implementation of local storm water management stewardship options and opportunities,
 - c. Continuation of community conversations that address underlying racism in our valley,
 - d. Provision of job-training opportunities to raise Northwest Roanoke economically, and
 - e. Promotion of alternative energy, green infra-structure, and technologies that link communities.
2. The forging of partnerships with businesses, local governments, educational institutions, faith based entities, and other non-profits in the creation of a valley-wide corridor of lifelong learning.”



Urban Farming Initiative

An ongoing One Valley project, is called the Neighborhood Secure Star City Food Systems Project. The NSFSP is a collaborative effort to effectively address health and economic disparities facing neighborhood families and to develop a sustainable local food system within the food desert of Northwest Roanoke. This initiative will create a network of urban farms on vacant lots owned by the NNEO.



The sites will act as working food production and vocational training facilities in cooperation with the Carver Center. The Project will **provide** workforce development, and community work experience. The first of such sites is the currently functioning G.W. Carver Community Garden located at 525 Loudon Ave, NW.

These urban farms will feature hoop houses, outdoor demonstration gardens, farm stands, solar powered drip irrigation systems, trails and environmental spaces, and outdoor education areas. Community members involved in this initiative will be taught to run independent commercial agriculture operations on the farm lots, which will transform the network into Roanoke's first community-led commercial urban agricultural enterprise, and serve as a model for other neighborhoods throughout the Roanoke Valley.

CARVER CENTER

Our centerpiece project is the **George Washington Carver Environmental Education Center** to be located on five lots fronting 5th Street NW across from the Coca Cola plant. The Carver Center will be the first independent educational entity in Northwest Roanoke designed to attract and teach students and adults from every part of the Roanoke Valley.



It will contain a science lab and classrooms to deliver environmental and healthy living education for students K-12 as well as for adults. It will include a working and teaching kitchen to provide education, training and career opportunities as well as locally grown food for a restaurant and market on the grounds of the Center. It will also include a community room and a library, and house two “anchor” tenants, offering additional employment in the community. And it will host programs, speakers and seminars designed to inspire African-American and other students to follow career paths into “green collar” and environmental work, fields that are growing rapidly in our country but are very under-represented by people of color.

It is our intent that The Carver Center will develop and offer educational programs that encourage human health, job creation, and social interchange within the community. We also plan for the Carver Center to serve as a community resource and to promote dialogue that addresses lingering issues of social injustice.