



Potterton Revitalization

Congressman Tom Davis, who arranged a \$200,000 grant, is one of the ribbon cutters at the entrance to the debris diversion facility. Others include WID's Stu Finley, LBA's Dave Feld, Delegate Leslie Byrne, Mason District Supervisor Penny Gross, Delegate Bob Hull, School Board Member Kay Kory, and WID's Davis Grant.

What was a flood-prone causeway decorated by a perpetual collection of floating debris is now a handsome VDOT Highway Bridge protected by an upstream diversion debris maintenance system. This group assembled despite winter weather to celebrate the new facilities.

After years of dangerous storm overflows, WID suggested to the *Virginia Department of Transportation* that new larger stormwater culverts should be installed at the Potterton Causeway. Recognizing the enormity of the problem, VDOT substituted the ideal solution of building a bridge over Tripps Run. This would necessitate removing the old debris floating boom trap. LBA and WID protested that this would pollute the lake after every storm. The upshot was a coordinated VDOT and WID joint project with VDOT doing most of the construction and WID designing and paying for most of the innovative new diversion debris structure.

The cooperation of VDOT, WID and VDOT's contractor *Moore Brothers Company, Incorporated* was a remarkable example of government inter-agency collaboration. This \$1,400,000 project was completed without erosion, accident or arguments. There was temporary detour inconvenience and occasionally the weather slowed progress.

Today, the new bridge is handsome and solid as a rock. The debris trapping and clean out procedure is being worked out thanks to Fairfax County and WID maintenance cooperation. The construction process conformed to VDOT pollution control standards which means that during construction Tripps Run was actually pumped dry with the water being bypassed through a filtration system augmented by a downstream debris curtain. Numerous Barcroft neighbors commented that they had never seen the lake so clean!