## **HC CERTIFICATION** EUUNIY LAND

For more than 30 years, WM has partnered with WHC (Wildlife Habitat Council) to enhance and protect thousands of acres to support sustainability programs, biodiversity initiatives and environmental education. By transforming land into certified wildlife habitats, WM is helping communities thrive. At King George County Landfill in King George, Virginia, employees actively manage conservation projects focused on awareness and engagement, birds, landscaped habitats and reptiles and amphibians. The conservation program at King George County Landfill has been WHC-certified since 2009.

## PRACTICES AND IMPACTS

- The awareness and community engagement tours educate the public about the conservation projects on-site. Pre- and post-tour quizzes show a vast increase in knowledge from the learners.
- Purple martin houses were installed on-site to provide this native species with nesting opportunities as they rely heavily on artificial structures for nesting.
- The pollinator garden was reseeded in 2021 to establish new native wildflower and grass growth to attract pollinator species.
- In June 2021, several large and small basking structures were added to ponds on-site to provide basking opportunities for the native eastern painted turtle.
- Eastern bluebird nesting boxes were installed in 2019, with two additional boxes added in 2022 due to the huge success of these boxes. Seven broods were found nesting in all of these boxes by the end of the season.
- In April 2021, four native species of trees were planted in a grassy area previously used to store equipment.





AWARENESS AND ENGAGEMENT Site Tours and Community Engagement



LANDSCAPED Pollinator Garden, Earth Day Trees



**REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS** Turtle Project

RESOURCES

sustainability.wm.com