

The Problems with Digging in the Parks

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Soil conservation is a major Fairfax County issue and is one of the factors driving the [Shanes Creek restoration project](#). Anyone digging for worms, "buried treasure," or other reasons, please do so on your property and not in the parks or common land. Pictured here at Royal Lake Park is typical of a bank where fishermen dig for bait worms and cause shoreline erosion. Furthermore, park workers have twisted ankles when they did not see the holes left and stepped in them, especially in forested sections. A great way to grow your own worms is with a compost pile; how to do so is easy and outlined in the article, [Free, Easy, Plentiful Live Bait for Fishing \(June 2020\)](#). Parents, if your kids are going fishing or exploring the parks, please make sure their shovels and picks stay home. Leaving no trace is the best way to visit natural areas. Thanks!

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