HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 78

Commending the Loudoun County Master Gardeners of Virginia Cooperative Extension.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 7, 2022

WHEREAS, the Loudoun County Master Gardeners of Virginia Cooperative Extension, a group of volunteer horticulturists dedicated to improving land and resource management in Loudoun County, earned an Achievement Award from the Virginia Association of Counties in 2021; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Cooperative Extension is a partnership between the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Virginia State University, the United States Department of Agriculture, and local governments that was developed to provide agricultural and natural resources education and other outreach services to residents of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the Loudoun County Master Gardeners of Virginia Cooperative Extension are trained volunteer educators whose mission is to encourage and promote environmentally sound horticulture practices through sustainable landscape management education and training; and

WHEREAS, the Loudoun County Master Gardeners of Virginia Cooperative Extension earned the Virginia Association of Counties award in recognition of the success of its site assessment program, in which the group provides free land health assessments to property owners in Loudoun County, including suggestions for improved erosion control; and

WHEREAS, as a result of its site assessment program, the Loudoun County Master Gardeners of Virginia Cooperative Extension facilitated the discovery of the invasive aquatic plant *Trapa bipinosa* in Loudoun County, enabling the locality to address the issue and better protect the vitality of its ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, the tireless efforts of the Loudoun County Master Gardeners of Virginia Cooperative Extension have directly impacted the Chesapeake Bay watershed while greatly serving the residents of Loudoun County; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Loudoun County Master Gardeners of Virginia Cooperative Extension hereby be commended for receiving a 2021 Achievement Award from the Virginia Association of Counties; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Loudoun County Master Gardeners of Virginia Cooperative Extension as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the group's contributions to the Commonwealth.