

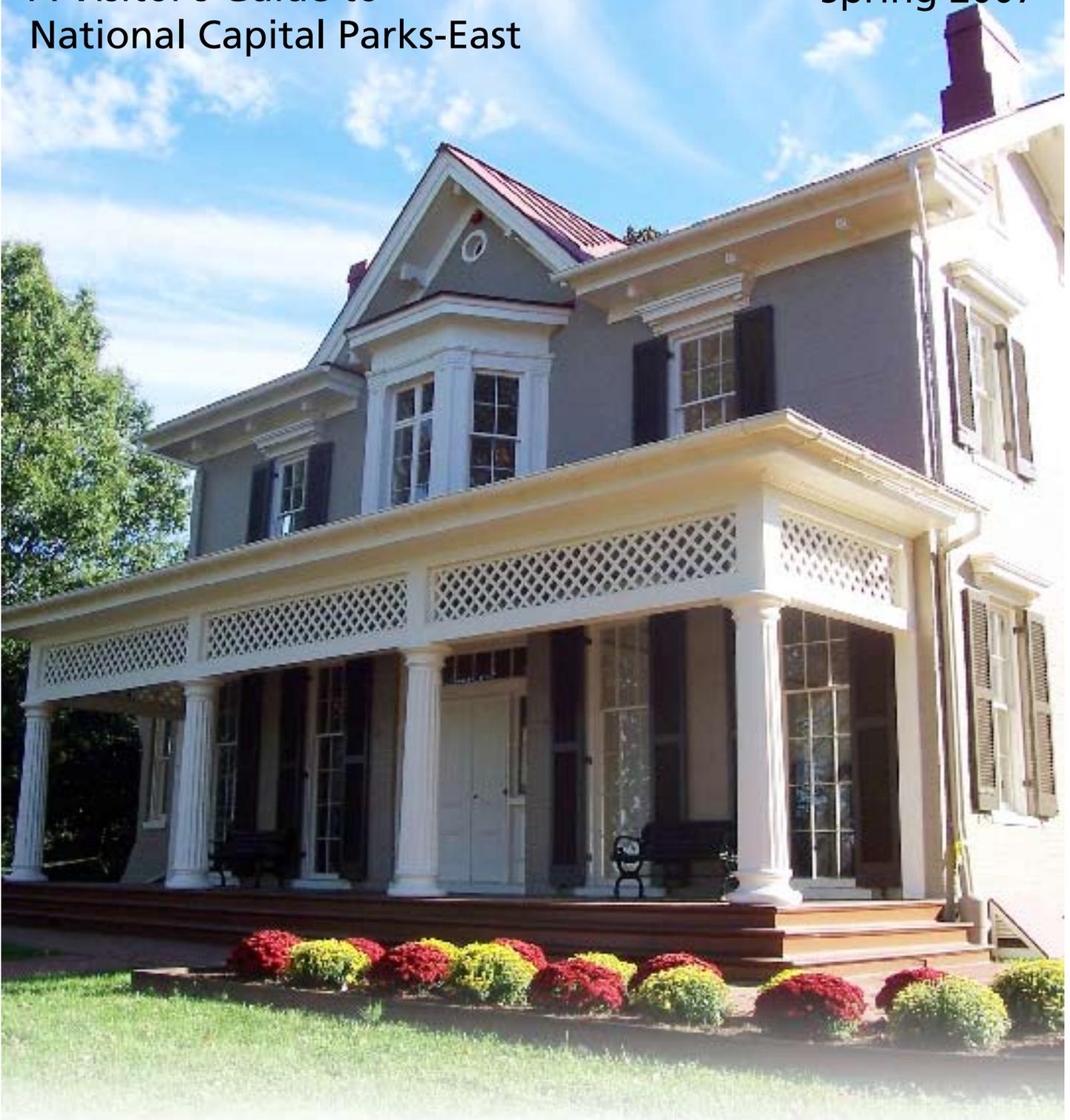
# Beyond the Capital

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



A Visitor's Guide to  
National Capital Parks-East

Spring 2007



*Charting the Future While Preserving the Past* [www.nps.gov/nace](http://www.nps.gov/nace)



## Superintendent's Message

Dear Visitor:

Welcome to National Capital Parks-East! The beginning of spring in our parks is always a welcome sign. Nature seems to come to life with the sounds of birds chirping and the beauty of flowers blooming.

This edition's cover highlights the newly restored home at Frederick Douglass National Historic Site. You are invited to tour the home of the former slave who became the father of the civil rights movement, Frederick Douglass.

You will find a myriad of programs and activities throughout this visitor's guide. Come out with your entire family to discover, explore, and be inspired by your national parks.

We look forward to your next visit with us.

Gayle Hazelwood



Printed on recycled paper.

# Mission

The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The National Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country.



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*Did you know that National Capital Parks-East is one of almost 400 National Parks found all across America?*

## What's Inside:

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Volunteers beautify Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens. NPS photo.



Front page photo: Newly restored Frederick Douglass home. NPS photo.

# F or Y our I nformation

## Camping

The 174-site campground at Greenbelt Park is open all year. Sites are available for tents, recreational vehicles, and trailers up to 30 feet long. Restrooms, showers, picnic tables, water, and fire grates are provided. There are no electric hookups and camping is limited to 14 days. Overnight fees are dependant on the number of campers. For camground reservations, call 1-800-365-CAMP or 301-344-2929.

## Special Services

NCP-East makes every effort to provide access to all of our facilities and programs for the broadest possible range of visitors. From children and the elderly to those who are physically challenged, NCP-East strives to create inclusive opportunities for all people. For detailed information on special services, visitors should contact the park Accessibility Coordinator at 202-690-5188.

## Park Regulations

To help protect park resources and ensure an enjoyable visit for everyone, please follow park rules and posted regulations.

- Pets are welcome in all of NCP-East, except at Oxon Cove Park. Pets must be on a leash no longer than 6 feet and under control at all times.
- Discharging firearms anywhere on NCP-East lands is unlawful.
- Please dispose of your garbage and other refuse in park-provided containers or take it with you when you leave.
- For your safety while hiking, stay on the established trails and watch your footing at all times.
- Prevent damage to resources by bicycling on paved roads and designated bike trails only.

## Road Construction

Due to ongoing construction at the Woodrow Wilson Bridge and the Indian Head Highway interchange of I-95, visitors to Fort Washington Park and Oxon Cove Park may encounter traffic detours or changes in ramp alignments serving these sites. Please drive carefully. For construction and detour updates, contact park staff at 301-763-4600 for Fort Washington Park or 301-839-1176 for Oxon Cove Park.

## Important Phone Numbers

Emergencies	911
U.S.Park Police Communications Center	202-619-7105
Park Headquarters	202-619-5185
Local Weather	202-936-1212
Metro Rail and Bus	202-637-7000
Frederick Douglass NHS Tours	877-444-6777 or visit <a href="http://www.recreation.gov">www.recreation.gov</a>

## Safety In Your National Parks

### On the Road

- Buckle Up! Seat belts are required by law.
- Slow down at dawn and dusk.
- Watch out for pedestrians, other motorists, and animals on roadways.
- Pedestrians have the right-of-way.
- Follow park speed limits.
- Be aware that traffic in parks can be very heavy so be patient.
- Always yield to emergency vehicles.
- Always keep watch for bicyclists, especially when turning, merging, changing lanes, or entering intersections.

### Fortifications

Climbing any part of fortifications or on the batteries around them is unsafe. Many historic surfaces are uneven and some areas can be slippery when wet. Please stay off earthworks and watch your children.

### Sun and Heat Protection

- Apply a broad spectrum sunscreen with a Sun Protection Factor (SPF) of at least 15. Reapply sunscreen every 2 hours when outdoors, even on cloudy days.
- Drink lots of water to avoid dehydration.

### Hiking Precautions

- Hiking off trails is unsafe, damages vegetation, causes erosion, and creates unsightly paths.
- Choose hiking trails suitable to your physical condition.
- If you plan to hike solo, give your intended route and length of trip, to a park ranger or friend.
- Wear proper clothing. Hiking boots should be sturdy, with good traction and ankle support, and should be well broken in ahead of time.
- Bring bottled water.

### Bites and Stings

Reduce the risk of bites or stings by taking the following steps:

- Avoid peak mosquito hours. The hours from dusk to dawn are peak biting times of many species of mosquitoes.
- To reduce your contact with poison ivy and ticks, stay on trails. Wearing a hat, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt helps considerably.
- Do not leave open drinks uncovered. Stinging insects, attracted by the sweet beverage, may crawl inside.

### Always Put Out Your Fires!

Fires left unattended are dangerous. Be sure your fire is put out completely with water before leaving the area.

# Points of Interest

Anacostia Park	Capitol Hill Parks	Fort Dupont Park	Fort Washington Park
<p><b>ANACOSTIA PARK</b> presently spans over 1,200 acres stretching the length of the Anacostia River from the Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge north approximately five miles to the District/Maryland line. It includes Langston Golf Course and River Terrace and it is one of Washington, D.C.'s largest and most important parks with diverse recreational opportunities, natural areas, and historic sites.</p> <p>This multi-use recreation park, with shoreline access, skating pavilion, ball fields, basketball and tennis courts, and picnic areas attracts people from throughout the city and across the nation. The shorelines also provide opportunities for river access, fishing, birding, and just relaxing!</p> <p>The park is open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. except January 1, Thanksgiving Day, and December 25.</p> <p><b>Contact Information</b> 1900 Anacostia Drive, SE Washington, D.C. 20020 202-472-3884 www.nps.gov/anac</p>	<p>When L'Enfant submitted his design for the national capital of Washington in 1790, a system of grand avenues, public buildings, and grounds dominated the overall plan. Many of the parks, medians, circles, and squares of Capitol Hill evolved from this plan and its subsequent modification in 1901 by the McMillan Commission.</p> <p>The <b>CAPITOL HILL PARKS</b>, located between 2nd Streets NE and SE and the Anacostia River, provide elegant and open greenspace within the city of Washington for relaxation, aesthetic enjoyment, and historic commemoration.</p> <p>Included in this group are: Lincoln, Folger, Stanton, and Marion Parks; Maryland Avenue Triangles; Pennsylvania Avenue Medians, Squares and Triangles, including Seward Square; Potomac Avenue Metro Station; Twining Square, and other inner city green spaces.</p> <p><b>Contact Information</b> 1318 Vermont Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20005 202-673-2402 www.nps.gov/cahi</p>	<p><b>FORT DUPONT PARK</b> is the largest of the Fort Circle Parks. Here you will find earthwork fortifications used in the Civil War in defense of Washington, D.C.</p> <p>Today, Fort Dupont Park is a heavily wooded, 400-acre site that protects an important sub-watershed of the Anacostia River and contains tennis and basketball courts, softball fields, and a community ice-rink. Its rolling wooded hills are an important visual element of the nation's capital and provides an attractive setting for community garden plots, frolicking children, and an annual summer concert series. There you will also find picnicking areas and hiking and biking trails. The park is open to the public daily, from dawn to dusk.</p> <p><b>Contact Information</b> 1411 W Street, SE Washington, DC 20020 202-426-5961 www.nps.gov/fodu</p>	<p><b>FORT WASHINGTON PARK</b> is a 19th century fortification that was built to defend the nation's capital from naval attacks. It remained active through 1946.</p> <p>Tours of the fort are available daily. Picnicking areas, river views and access, extensive woodlands, and hiking trails are also available. Fort Washington Park hosts a number of special events annually including Civil War artillery firing demonstrations and living history programs.</p> <p>The fort is closed on Thanksgiving Day, December 25, and January 1. The grounds are open from sunrise to sunset and the fort and visitor center are open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Memorial Day through Labor Day and from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Labor Day through Memorial Day. An entrance fee is charged from April through October.</p> <p><b>Contact Information</b> 1355 Fort Washington Road Fort Washington, MD 20744 301-763-4600 www.nps.gov/fowa</p>
<p><b>Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS</b></p> <p>Nestled in the heart of the Logan Circle Historic District in Washington, D.C. is the <b>MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE COUNCIL HOUSE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE</b>. Bethune founded the National Council of Negro Women and the site served as its national headquarters from 1943 to 1966.</p> <p>The National Archives for Black Women's History, housed at the site, has materials pertaining to black women and their organizations and contains extensive correspondence, photographs, and memorabilia related to the National Council of Negro Women.</p> <p>The site is open to the public Monday through Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. It is closed January 1, Thanksgiving Day, and December 25.</p> <p><b>Contact Information</b> 1318 Vermont Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20005 202-673-2402 www.nps.gov/mamc</p>	<p><b>Oxon Cove Park Oxon Hill Farm</b></p> <p>Located in the District of Columbia and Prince George's County, Maryland, <b>OXON COVE PARK</b> features the 63-acre <b>OXON HILL FARM</b>, a working historic farm. Visitors can explore the early 19th century farm house (Mount Welby) and other historic barns, stables, and outbuildings. Animals, crops, orchards, and gardens are also found on the farm site. The park's 485 acres provide recreational opportunities for hiking, biking, and picnicking, and are an excellent resource for environmental studies and wildlife observing.</p> <p>The farm is open to the public daily from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. except January 1, Thanksgiving Day, and December 25. Reservations are required for special programs, education offerings, and popular activities such as milking cows, gathering eggs, and wagon rides.</p> <p><b>Contact Information</b> 6411 Oxon Hill Road Oxon Hill, MD 20745 301-839-1176 www.nps.gov/oxhi</p>	<p><b>Piscataway Park</b></p> <p>Situated along the Potomac River in Maryland, <b>PISTCATAWAY PARK</b> was created to preserve the historic views from Mount Vernon, home to President George Washington, to Fort Washington. Piscataway Park is a natural area and is home to bald eagles, beavers, fox, osprey, and many other species. The forested coves and tidal marshes located along the Piscataway Park shoreline are a great place for exploring by canoe. Piscataway Park is a beautiful place for picnicking and fishing. <b>National Colonial Farm</b>, located in the park, is an outdoor living history museum founded by the Accokeek Foundation. The park offers a public fishing pier, two boardwalks over freshwater tidal wetlands, and a variety of nature trails.</p> <p>The park is open from dusk to dawn.</p> <p><b>Contact Information</b> 13551 Fort Washington Road Fort Washington, MD 20744 301-763-4600 www.nps.gov/pisc</p>	<p><b>Sewall Belmont House and Museum</b></p> <p>The <b>SEWALL-BELMONT HOUSE AND MUSEUM</b> is the site where suffrage leader Alice Paul and the women of the National Woman's Party led the fight for equal rights for women in the United States and throughout the world. The National Woman's Party was instrumental in gaining the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution giving women the right to vote.</p> <p>Alice Paul, the author of the Equal Rights Amendment, lived and worked in the house for many years. The library, which contains an unparalleled collection of suffrage and equal rights artifacts and documents, is dedicated to the history of the party and the history of the suffrage and equal rights movements. Please call for tour availability.</p> <p><b>Contact Information</b> 144 Constitution Avenue, NE Washington, D.C. 20002 202-546-1210 www.sewallbelmont.org</p>

## Frederick Douglass NHS

**THE FREDERICK DOUGLASS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE** houses an impressive collection of original furnishing and artifacts from Frederick Douglass.

The site is open to the public daily, except January 1, Thanksgiving Day, and December 25. Visitors learn about the life of Frederick Douglass through exhibits, a film in the park's visitor center, and ranger-led tours of the home. Reservations are required for groups of more than 10, maximum of 60 persons per group. Groups of 10 or less are strongly encouraged to make reservations. Tickets are available on-site the day of the tour on a first-come, first-served basis.

For further information, please call 1-877-444-6777 or visit [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov). Tours are free; however, reservations require a service charge of \$1.50 per person. School groups pay a flat service fee of \$5.00 per reservation.

**Contact Information**  
1411 W Street, SE  
Washington, DC 20020  
202-426-5961  
[www.nps.gov/frdo](http://www.nps.gov/frdo)

## Greenbelt Park

**GREENBELT PARK** is a natural oasis situated just 12 miles from Washington, D.C. and 23 miles from Baltimore, Maryland. The park's 1,100 acres of oak, maple, sweetgum, and old pine are a retreat from the pressures of city life and a forested refuge for native plants and animals.

A wide range of recreational opportunities and educational programs are available year-round, including facilities for picnicking, camping, backpacking, biking, bird watching, hiking, and wildlife viewing.

The park is open daily from dawn to dusk. The ranger station is open year-round from 8:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., except January 1, Thanksgiving Day, and December 25.

**Contact Information**  
6565 Greenbelt Road  
Greenbelt, MD 20770  
301-344-3948  
[www.nps.gov/gree](http://www.nps.gov/gree)

## Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens

**KENILWORTH AQUATIC GARDENS** is the only National Park Service site devoted to the cultivation of flowering aquatic plants. It is a 12-acre sanctuary that features serene ponds, flowering water lilies and lotus, as well as many species of birds and wildlife. The Aquatic Gardens' annual Waterlily Festival in July, the peak of the blooming season, attracts thousands of visitors. The visitor center is open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. except January 1, Thanksgiving Day, and December 25.

**KENILWORTH MARSH** is a 77-acre freshwater tidal marsh that borders the Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens. The marsh includes 32-acres of marsh restored in the 1990s to provide habitat for a wide array of wildlife and wetland plants native to the region. An interpretive boardwalk and the river trail from the Aquatic Gardens provide visitors access to various marsh zones and the Anacostia River.

**Contact Information**  
1550 Anacostia Avenue, NE  
Washington, D.C. 20019  
202-426-6905  
[www.nps.gov/keaq](http://www.nps.gov/keaq)

## Langston Golf Course

Named for John Mercer Langston, an African American elected to Congress in 1888, **LANGSTON GOLF COURSE** offers an 18-hole course, driving range, and clubhouse.

The course opened in 1939, as a 9-hole facility when very limited golfing facilities were available to African Americans. Nine additional holes were constructed in the 1950s. Although the layout and landscape has evolved over time, Langston Golf Course was placed on the National Register of Historic Places for its efforts to provide equal access during the era of racial segregation. Historically, it was a pioneer in establishing African American golf clubs and professional golfers.

Langston's Pro Shop and snack bar are open from dawn to dusk year-round. The driving range is open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily, except December 25.

**Contact Information**  
26th & Benning Road, NE  
Washington, D.C. 20019  
202-397-8638  
[www.golfdc.com](http://www.golfdc.com)

## Activities At Your Fingertips

	Anacostia Park	Fort Dupont Park	Fort Washington Park	Frederick Douglass NHS	Greenbelt Park	Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens	Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS	Oxon Cove Park	Piscataway Park
Biking	●	●	●		●			●	●
Birding	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●
Camping					●				
Education Programs	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Hiking	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●
Live Music		●							
On-site Parking	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●
Picnicking	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●
Ranger-led Programs	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sports Fields	●		●		●				
Visitor Center		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

## Events



## May Events

### Invasive Plant Removal

*Greenbelt Park -  
Sweetgum Picnic Area  
11:00 a.m. Saturday, May 5  
301-344-3944*

*Ages 8 to Adult*

Make a difference and help preserve Greenbelt Park's native plants. Join in a hands-on nature preservation activity as we pull non-native plants and help preserve Greenbelt Park for future generations. Please wear sturdy shoes, long pants, long sleeved shirt, and bring work gloves.

### Watercolors in the Garden

*Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens -  
Visitor Center  
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, May 5  
202-426-6905*

*All ages*

Paint with water colors in a water setting and take home your own inspired artwork.

### Keep America Beautiful- The Great American Clean-up

*Greenbelt Park -  
Sweetgum Picnic Area  
1:00 p.m. Sunday, May 6  
301-344-3944; RSVP*

*with Ranger Barry*

*All ages*

Join Greenbelt Park for the Keep America Beautiful Great American Cleanup™, the nation's largest annual community improvement program. Help beautify our park. Projects include clean-up and painting picnic tables. Clean up tools will be supplied. Wear appropriate clothing.

### Artillery Demonstration

*Fort Washington Park-Old Fort  
1:00, 2:00, 3:00 p.m. Sunday, May 6  
301-763-4600*

*All Ages*

Volunteers in Civil War period uniforms will demonstrate and explain the procedures used during the muzzle-loading era of American arms. Visitors will have the opportunity to participate in a non-firing artillery drill after each demonstration.

## Volunteer Opportunities at NCP-East

Want to give back to the park that gives so much? Ever thought of volunteering your time and talents to the National Park Service? Become a steward of the park by joining the VIP (volunteers-in-parks) program at National Capital Parks-East.



Volunteers contribute not just to the mission of the National Park Service, but to the communities they serve. NCP-East VIP job opportunities are as diverse as the parks. VIPs welcome visitors to the parks, conduct guided tours, assist with special events, maintain trails, serve as campground hosts, work with computers, and much more. Contact one of the volunteer coordinators listed below to inquire about volunteer opportunities at our parks.

PARK	COORDINATORS	PHONE
Anacostia Park	Wayne Phillips	202-472-3884
Fort Dupont Park	Paul Gross	202-426-5961
Fort Washington Park	Barbara Wadding	202-763-4600
Frederick Douglass NHS	Paul Gross	202-426-5961
Greenbelt Park	Kevin Barry	301-344-3944
Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens	Debbie Kirkley	202-426-6905
Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS	Joy Kinard	202-673-2402

## Join the Quest for Native Plants

*Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens – Visitor Center*  
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Sunday, May 6  
202- 426-6905

Age 10 and up  
Unravel the mystery of plants found in the park using your own field guide. Learn to tell poison ivy from blackberry and Virginia creeper.

## Alien Invaders

*Kenilworth Aquatic Garden – Visitor Center*  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Monday through Wednesday  
May 7, 8, & 9  
202-426-6905

Teachers Only – RSVP required.  
Attention teachers! Join a park ranger to learn a “Bridging the Watershed” program and how you can use it in your classroom.

## College Park and Mt. Airy

### Bicycle Races

*Greenbelt Park*  
6:00 to 8:00 p.m.  
Wednesdays, May through August  
301-344-3944

All ages  
Please call for more information. Spectators are welcome.

## Historical Farm Equipment

*Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn*  
12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 13  
301-839-1176  
All ages

Did you ever wonder what a strange looking piece of farm equipment was used for? Take a walking tour and learn how technology has changed from horse to machine power.

## Children’s Stories

*Kenilworth Aquatic Garden – Visitor Center*  
11:00 a.m. to 12 noon

Saturday, May 19  
202-426-6905  
Ages 5 to 15

Join a park ranger in reading nature stories that features the life cycles of animals and their habitats.

## Volunteer Garden Guides Needed!

*Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens – Visitor Center*  
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, May 19 and 20  
202-426-6905

Ages 17 and older  
Join us to learn about water gardening and wetlands. Use your knowledge and become a part of the team that shares this amazing place with park visitors by becoming a volunteer garden guide.

## Life Cycle of a Butterfly

*Greenbelt Park – Ranger Station*  
11:00 a.m. to 12 noon Sunday, May 20  
301-344-3944

Ages 5-12  
Come and learn how butterflies transform from eggs to flying beauties.

## Sheep Shearing

*Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn*  
10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. May 22, 23, & 24  
301-839-1176

All ages  
Watch the Oxon Hill Farm flocks of sheep get their annual haircut and learn how wool goes from sheep to sweater.

New Scout Loop Now Available for Camping

*Greenbelt Park*  
301-344-3948

Campground A Loop in Greenbelt Park is now a Scout Loop. There is a six person limit to each campsite. All scouting troops should call 301-344-3948 and reserve space in the campground. Scouts must have a tour permit and proof of insurance. All campground rules are in effect for the A Loop.

## Garden Morning

*Oxon Cove Park – Garden Area*  
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.  
May 6 and May 20  
301-839-1176

All ages  
Help us in the garden and learn about vegetables. Depending on what needs to be done, we will weed and water our garden. Meet the park ranger in the garden area.

## Marsh Boardwalk Clean-up

*Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens – Visitor Center*  
9:00 a.m. to 12 noon Saturday, May 26  
202-426-6905

All ages  
Join others volunteering to pick up trash and debris along the Anacostia River and marshes at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens. Please wear appropriate clothing.

## Celebrate National Wetlands Month

*Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens – Visitor Center*  
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday, May 27  
202-426-6905

All ages  
Visit a remnant of the wetlands that once covered the lowlands of the nation’s capital. Learn how wetlands sustain life on a garden and marsh boardwalk tour.

## Memorial Day Celebration

*Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS*  
1:00 p.m. Pre-Concert, 2:00 p.m. Program, Monday, May 28  
202-673-2402

All ages  
The D.C. Youth Orchestra will open this event that features speeches from NPS officials and a mayoral ambassador. Our guest is speaker Commander Carlton Philpot, Commander U.S. Navy, CDR, USN (Ret.) and Chairman and Project Director of the Buffalo Soldier’s Educational and Historical Committee. A wreath laying ceremony will be followed by an open house and garden reception.

## Events



Visiting with the farm animals at Oxon Hill Farm. NPS photo.

### June Events

#### Family Farm Flicks

*Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn*

*1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.*

*Saturdays, June 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30*

*301-830-1176*

*All ages*

Relax, sit for a spell, and watch movies with a farm animal theme.

#### Junior Ranger Program

*Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn*

*9:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.*

*June through August*

*301-839-1176*

*Ages 9 to 13*

Pick up a free book on the National Park Service at the park's visitor center. Complete the activities in the book and receive your Junior Ranger badge and certificate.

#### Invasive Plant Removal

*Greenbelt Park –*

*Sweetgum Picnic Area*

*11:00 a.m. Saturday, June 2*

*301-344-3944*

*Ages 8 to Adult*

Make a difference and help preserve Greenbelt Park's native plants. Join in a hands-on nature preservation activity as we pull non-native plants and help preserve Greenbelt Park for future generations.

#### DuPont Kalorama

#### Museums Consortium

*Mary McLeod Bethune*

*Council House NHS*

*10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.*

*Saturday, June 2*

*1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Sunday, June 3*

*202-673-2402*

*All Ages*

The Mary McLeod Bethune Council House Museum Walk Weekend Consortium activities include: Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., a jazz garden reception, poets reading original works from the American Poetry Museum, and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., African drummers from the Washington, D.C. area's African Heritage Dance Center will perform.

#### River Clean-Up

*Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn*

*9:00 a.m. to 12 noon Saturday, June 9*

*301-839-1176*

*All ages*

Volunteers will join forces with the park ranger in caring for our valuable natural resources. Wear sturdy shoes, work clothes, and bring lots of energy. Call to sign up and earn community service credits.



Park Ranger Margaret Coleman leads a talk at the Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS. NPS Photo.

## The New Still Creek Bridge Walk

Greenbelt Park - Ranger Station

2:00 p.m. Sunday, June 10

301-344-3944; RSVP with

Ranger Barry

All ages

Join a park ranger to discover the new bridge on a two mile walk through Greenbelt Park.

## Special Morning Wagon Rides

Oxon Cove Park - Visitor Barn

9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Wednesdays, June 6, 13, 20 & 27

301-839-1176

All ages

Come out and take a wagon ride through the park.

## Reptile Explorers

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens -

Visitor Center

11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 16

202-426-6905

All ages

Explore the gardens to search for reptiles. Take a break at noon to craft your own paper snake to take home.

## Lost...But Found, Safe and Sound

Greenbelt Park - Ranger Station

11:00 a.m. to 1:00 Sunday, June 17

301-344-3944

Ages 5 to 12

“Lost... But Found, Safe and Sound”

is a safety program on hiking in the woods with discussions on how to prepare yourself in the event you are separated from a group or parents.

## Volunteer Project Day

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens -

Visitor Center

9:00 a.m. to 12 noon Saturday, June 23

202-426-6905

All ages

Volunteers will beautify the park by planting, mulching, and picking debris from the river. Please wear appropriate clothing.

## Visitor Safety Forum

Greenbelt Park - Ranger Station

11:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, June 24

301-344-3944

All ages

How safe do you feel away from home? Come and share safety ideas and tips with fellow campers and park visitors.

## Help with the Spring Chores at Oxon Hill

### Meet the Dairy Cow

Oxon Cove Park - Visitor Barn

11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Mon-

days, Tuesday and Thursday

11:30 a.m. Wednesday

10:00 a.m. Sunday

301-839-1176

All ages

Join a park ranger to see a cow being milked and learn fun cow facts, proper milking techniques and more.

### Chicken Program

Oxon Cove Park - Visitor Barn

11:00 a.m. Sunday

301-839-1176

All ages

Do you know the difference between brown and white eggs? How are chickens important to a farm's economy? Learn the answer to these and other fascinating facts about chickens.

### Wagon Ride

Oxon Cove Park - Visitor Barn

1:30 p.m.

Sunday through Thursday

301-839-1176

All ages

Take a scenic ride through the park and learn about the environment and the park's history.

### History of the Farm

Oxon Cove Park - Visitor Barn

1:00 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday

301-839-1176

All ages

Join us for a walk to discuss the history of Oxon Hill Farm.



Enjoying spring weather in Piscataway Park. NPS photo.



# The Frederick Douglass Home Restored to its Victorian Splendor

The last residence of Frederick Douglass the great abolitionist, self-taught author, and statesmen, reopened to the public in February 2007, after undergoing a \$2.7 million restoration project.

This 3-year effort had two main purposes. First, the Nation Park Service (NPS) wanted to address the physical needs of the Douglass home and the collection of artifacts usually on display within it. The building's failing heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system was replaced with new equipment and a computerized climate control system. This system now regulates temperature and humidity, providing a stable environment for the museum collection. Fifty-six historic windows, previously painted shut, were completely restored to their original luster. Sixty-one new louvered shutters replace replica shutters installed in the 1980's. The home also received a fire protection system for the first time.

The second goal focused on restoring the home to its 1893-1895 appearance when Douglass was in residence. This house where he spent the last 18 years of his life remains a symbol of his success and of the status he achieved during his lifetime. Research conducted during the past 3 years revealed that Douglass expanded the house from 6 to 20 rooms. Following the last addition (1892-1893), he painted the house dark beige, one of the earth tones stylish in the Victorian period. The NPS has returned the home to this historic color scheme. Inside, new wallpaper also accurately reflects popular Victorian-era patterns and colors.

The home is now open for tours. Reservations are encouraged for all people wishing to tour the Douglass home and are required for groups of more than 10. For further information on tours and programs at the Frederick Douglass National Historic Site, call 202-426-5961 or visit us on the web at [www.nps.gov/frdo](http://www.nps.gov/frdo).



Photos from top to bottom: Frederick Douglass NHS Park Ranger Ka'mal McClarin gives a tour of the Douglass Home to residents of the Anacostia Community ; The desk and chair in Douglass' library at Cedar Hill, where he probably wrote his final autobiography, *The Life and Times of Frederick Douglass*. The wallpaper pattern was changed during the restoration to more closely resemble wallpaper shown in original photographs of the home; The laundry room at Cedar Hill after the three year restoration.  
NPS Photos.





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Earthday at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens. NPS Photo.