



Beyond the Capital

The official newspaper of
National Capital Parks-East
Washington, D.C. and Maryland

Winter/Spring 2012

A Visitor's Guide to National Capital Parks-East

Portrait of Frederick Douglass. Credit:
Frederick Douglass National Historic Site.



National Capital Parks-East

Superintendent

Alex Romero

Mailing Address

1900 Anacostia Drive SE
Washington, D.C. 20020-6722

E-Mail

alex_romero@nps.gov

Phone Number

202-690-5185

Fax Number

202-690-0862

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Editing and Writing

Alex Romero
Peter Lonsway
Wanda L. Washington
Lori McKenzie Spillman

Layout and Design

Kenneth J. Chandler and the
NPS Graphic Identity Program
Team

Map Design

James Hemsley
Tammy Stidham

Please tell us what you think.

Beyond the Capital: A Visitor's Guide to National Capital Parks-East is a publication of the National Park Service.

Correspondence should be addressed to:

National Capital Parks-East
Attn: Editor
1900 Anacostia Drive SE
Washington, D.C. 20020-6722

Or you can e-mail:
peter_lonsway@nps.gov

What's Inside:

- For Your Information**3
- Important Phone Numbers**3
- Become a Volunteer**3
- Parks of National Capital Parks-East** 4-5
- Park Partners and Cooperating Associations**.....6
- Articles**7-10
- Events** 11-14
- Park Map**..... 15
- Activities at Your Fingertips** 16

Message from the Superintendent

Dear Visitor,

We are very excited about the numerous ways that you can connect with your parks as National Capital Parks-East moves into 2012. Throughout the parks, opportunities abound. Here are some highlights in the coming months.

- We invite you to attend the 194th birthday celebration for Frederick Douglass at the Frederick Douglass National Historic Site. Learn about the life and legacy of one of the great civil rights activists of the 1800s. His work and philosophy resonate today. Musical performances, living history demonstrations, historical discussions, lectures, and youth activities will make up this fun filled day. (Details on page 11)
- The National Park Service is seeking your comments about the General Management Plan for the Carter G. Woodson Home National Historic Site. A public meeting to present the plan and to receive your feedback will be held on February 22. (Details on page 11)
- On April 24th, many park sites will participate in the 24th Annual Potomac Watershed Cleanup. We all live near the Potomac or one of its tributaries. A clean, healthy river provides better drinking water, recreational opportunities, helps the environment, and creates a better habitat for wildlife. In just a few hours, you can make a big difference. Help out at a cleanup site near you. (Details on pages 13-14)
- On April 28th, bring your family and friends to the Anacostia Park. The National Park Service and the Smithsonian Institution will host the first annual Anacostia River & Jazz Fest. You can paddle on the Anacostia, try your hand at fishing, listen to world-class Jazz musicians, and learn about the recreational, cultural, and natural treasures throughout the Anacostia watershed. The day will be filled with music and activities for all. (Details on page 14)
- Through advances in technology, our park rangers are not only serving visitors who come to our parks but are reaching out to students across the United States. National Capital Parks-East has created a studio utilizing a teleconference system that allows students and teachers, while at their school, to interact with a park ranger and learn about the park's unique resources. (We recommend that you use a standards-based, stand-alone video-conference machine i.e., Polycom or Tandberg). For more information, please visit <http://www.nps.gov/frdo/forteachers/index.htm>.



It's hard to believe that spring is around the corner. Please take a few moments to walk, bike, hike, paddle, camp, and explore the parks of National Capital Parks-East. Spending time in the parks can improve your health and expand your mind.

Thank you,

Alexy Romero
Superintendent

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.

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

Become a Volunteer!

Do you want to give back to the park that gives you so much? Have you ever thought of volunteering your time and talents to the National Park Service (NPS)? Become a steward of the park by joining the VIP (Volunteers-In-Parks) program at National Capital Parks-East (NACE).



Volunteers contribute not just to the mission of the NPS, but to the communities they serve. NACE 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.

NACE offers a wide array of historic, cultural, and recreational areas that are part of Washington, D.C., and its eastern environs. The park is comprised of over 8,000 acres of federal land ranging from community parks and national historic sites to unique wetland ecosystems, meadows, and mature hardwood forests.

Contact the park at 202-690-5185 to find a coordinator near you or visit us at www.nps.gov/nace and click on the volunteer link.

Special Services

NACE 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, NACE strives to create inclusive opportunities for all people. For detailed information on special services, visitors should contact the park's Accessibility Coordinator at 202-690-5188.



Father and daughter volunteering for clean-up along the B-W Parkway. NPS Photo.

Important Phone Numbers

Emergency	911
U.S. Park Police Dispatch	202-610-7500
Park Headquarters	202-690-5185
Frederick Douglass NHS Tours	877-444-6777 www.recreation.gov
Metro Rail/Bus	202-637-7000 www.wmata.com

For Your Information

Hiking and Camping

As you take in the park's beautiful scenery, think ahead, be prepared and stay safe.

- Check the weather forecast before heading outdoors for a hike. It is not safe to hike when thunderstorms or heavy snowfall is expected. Immediately seek shelter if hazardous weather approaches.
- Carry drinking water. Don't drink from streams, springs, or lakes without first properly treating the water.
- Observe wildlife from a safe distance. Don't try to get too close to wild animals.
- Stay on the trail – if you leave it, you may get lost.
- To help prevent food poisoning keep cold foods cold and hot foods hot. Don't store perishable foods in a hot car.
- Clean all surfaces and utensils that come into contact with raw meat or meat juices before reusing them.
- Wash hands frequently when preparing food, and before serving and eating.
- Keep children away from grills and lighter fluid, and keep grills away from flammable materials.
- Be aware of tiny deer ticks that carry Lyme disease and know which symptoms to watch out for. When in a potentially infested area, apply insect repellent, wear light colored long sleeved-shirts, pants, and socks.
- Only build a fire in designated grills or fire rings.
- When extinguishing a campfire, let it die down then break-up the coals or logs, spread the pieces, and soak them with water.

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 areas of National Capital Parks-East (NACE), 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 NACE lands is unlawful.
- Please dispose of your garbage and other refuse in trash 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.

Parks of National Capital Parks-East

Anacostia Park

Anacostia Park 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 the largest and most important parks in Washington, D.C., with diverse recreational opportunities, natural areas, and historic sites.

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!

The park is open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. except January 1, Thanksgiving Day, and December 25.

Contact Information

1900 Anacostia Drive SE
Washington, DC 20020
202-472-3884
www.nps.gov/anac

Kenilworth Park & Aquatic Gardens

Kenilworth Park & 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 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 Park & Aquatic Gardens. The marsh includes 32 acres of marsh restored in the 1990s to provide habitat for a wide array of native wildlife and wetland plants. A boardwalk and trail from the Aquatic Gardens provide visitors access to various marsh zones and the Anacostia River.

Contact Information

1550 Anacostia Avenue NE
Washington, DC 20019
202-426-6905
www.nps.gov/keaq

Baltimore-Washington Parkway

Enjoy our scenic gateway into the Nation's Capital! Opened in 1954, the parkway is a 29-mile scenic park highway that connects Baltimore, Maryland to Washington, D.C. The "parkway concept" involves preserving a wide, scenic, mostly natural corridor along a limited-access divided roadway, following the "lay of the land" allowing the visitor to experience the local topography and natural scenery, undistracted by billboards, traffic signals, and adjacent dense development.

The Baltimore-Washington Parkway is one of four parkways that provide scenic access between major points in the National Capital Region. The National Park Service manages this parkway from Fort Meade south to the Nation's Capital.

Contact Information

Baltimore Washington Parkway
c/o Greenbelt Park
6565 Greenbelt Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770
202-619-7105: U.S. Park Police
301-344-3948: Parkway Maintenance
www.nps.gov/bawa

Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS

Nestled in the heart of the Logan Circle Historic District in Washington, D.C., is the Mary McLeod Bethune Council House National Historic Site. Bethune founded the National Council of Negro Women and the site served as its national headquarters from 1943 to 1966.

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.

The site is open to the public Monday through Saturday from 9 am to 5 pm. The park is closed January 1, Thanksgiving Day, and December 25.

Contact Information

1318 Vermont Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20005
202-673-2402
www.nps.gov/mamc

Capitol Hill Parks

When Pierre Charles 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.

The Capitol Hill Parks, located between 2nd Streets NE and SE and the Anacostia River, provide elegant and open green space within the city of Washington for relaxation, aesthetic enjoyment, and historic commemoration.

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.

Contact Information

1318 Vermont Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20005
202-673-2402
www.nps.gov/cahi

Oxon Cove Park/ Oxon Hill Farm

Located in the District of Columbia and Prince George's County, Maryland, Oxon Cove Park features the 63-acre Oxon Hill Farm, 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.

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.

Contact Information

6411 Oxon Hill Road
Oxon Hill, MD 20745
301-839-1176
www.nps.gov/oxhi

Carter G. Woodson Home NHS

Imagine a world in which people like you have no written history, or that which has been written is incomplete or distorted. Before Dr. Carter G. Woodson (1875–1950) began his work, there was very little information, and much of that stereotypical misinformation, about the lives and history of Americans of African descent.

The Carter G. Woodson Home at 1538 9th Street NW, in Washington, D.C., was Dr. Woodson's home from 1922 until 1950. From there, he directed the operations of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History and pursued his own studies of African American history.

The home was acquired by the National Park Service in 2005. The planning process is underway to restore the home and renovate the adjacent buildings into a visitor and research center. The site is closed to the public.

Contact Information

1318 Vermont Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20005
202-673-2402
www.nps.gov/cawo

Piscataway Park

Situated along the Potomac River in Maryland, Piscataway Park 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. National Colonial Farm, 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.

The park is open from dawn to dusk.

Contact Information

13511 Fort Washington Road
Fort Washington, MD 20744
301-763-4600
www.nps.gov/pisc

Parks of National Capital Parks-East

Civil War Defenses of Washington

To protect the District of Columbia from Confederate assault during the Civil War, a complex system of field fortifications was built on ridges and terraces encircling the outer edges of the Federal city. The section of the Fort Circle Parks now under the jurisdiction of National Capital Parks-East extends southward from Bladensburg Road in Northeast Washington, through the segment of the city which lies east of the Anacostia River, and to Fort Foote in Prince George's County, Maryland. It includes Forts Mahan, Chaplin, Dupont, Davis, Stanton, Carroll, Greble, and Foote, Battery Ricketts, and various land parcels, including Shepherd Parkway, which connect these sites.

Contact Information

1900 Anacostia Drive SE
Washington, DC 20020
202-690-5185
www.nps.gov/cwdw

Shepherd Parkway

Shepherd Parkway is actually not a roadway, but a "corridor park" encompassing a forested ridge line overlooking the Potomac River in southeast Washington, D.C. It forms the forested backdrop along the eastern side of Interstate 295, and also contains multiple historical Civil War defenses sites within its predominantly wooded, natural scenery. It contributes greatly to the "greenness" of our Capital City, as well as to our oxygen supply!

Shepherd Parkway is managed as a natural area by National Capital Parks-East.

Contact Information

1900 Anacostia Drive SE
Washington, DC 20020
202-472-3884
www.nps.gov/nace

Fort Washington Park

Fort Washington Park is a 19th-century fortification that was built to defend the nation's capital from naval attacks. It remained active through 1946.

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.

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.

Contact Information

1355 Fort Washington Road
Fort Washington, MD 20744
301-763-4600
www.nps.gov/fowa

Suitland Parkway

Suitland Parkway extends from Andrews Air Force Base in Camp Springs, Maryland to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Bridge (South Capitol St.) in Washington, D.C. It is the scenic "gateway" that countless visiting dignitaries, royalty, world leaders, and Presidents have traveled on their route into the Nation's Capital.

Originally built as a wartime access road to Andrews Air Force Base, the parkway was redeveloped in the 1950s into the scenic, forested park roadway that it is today. It is one of four scenic parkways in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, providing an aesthetic access to important destination points. The portion within Maryland is managed by the National Park Service.

Today, the parkway is extensively used by thousands of visitors to the Nation's Capital arriving from the east. Notably, the parkway is often the first image that foreign heads of state get of the United States.

Contact Information

1900 Anacostia Drive SE
Washington, DC 20020
202-472-3884
www.nps.gov/nace

Frederick Douglass NHS

The Frederick Douglass National Historic Site houses an impressive collection of original furnishings and artifacts from Frederick Douglass.

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.

The site is open to the public daily, except January 1, Thanksgiving Day, and December 25.

For further information, please call 1-877-444-6777 or visit 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

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



Mary McLeod Bethune statue, Lincoln Park, Washington D.C., NPS Photo.

Park Partners & Cooperating Associations

Accokeek Foundation

The ACCOKEEK FOUNDATION operates the National Colonial Farm, located in Piscataway Park. The farm was established by the foundation in 1958 to educate people about farm life. It is a recreation of a middle class farm dating back to 1775. Demonstrations depict the life of a typical family during colonial times. Visitors will find a circa 1780 farm dwelling, an 18th-century tobacco farm, a smokehouse, a public fishing pier and a riverside path with a beautiful view of Mount Vernon, the former home of President George Washington. The Ecosystem Farm offers educational opportunities through the Center for Land-Based Training.

Contact Information

3400 Bryan Point Road
Accokeek, MD 20607
301-283-2113
www.accokeek.org

Alice Ferguson Foundation

The ALICE FERGUSON FOUNDATION is a key environmental educational organization on the Potomac River in Piscataway Park. As a leader of watershed stewardship, it models innovative practices, outreach, partnerships, programs, and events that are replicated globally. Through its award-winning program for school children at Hard Bargain Farm and the Bridging the Watershed program, students are guided to conduct investigations of the local environment, including wetlands, farmlands and meadows while expanding their personal connection to the natural world.

Each year, more than 10,000 students from the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area come to Hard Bargain Farm for day or overnight education field trips, the Annual Potomac Watershed Cleanup and the Annual Spring Farm Festival.

Contact Information

2001 Bryan Point Road
Accokeek, MD 20607
301-292-5665
www.fergusonfoundation.org

Aquatic Resources Education Center

The AQUATIC RESOURCES EDUCATION CENTER (AREC) is located in Anacostia Park adjacent to the Anacostia Skating Pavilion. The Center is cooperative partnership between the District of Columbia's Fisheries and Wildlife Division, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service.

Visitors and students learn about the ecology, conservation and biology of local aquatic and fisheries resources through workshops, presentations and interactive displays. These activities and programs also serve to educate the local community on the need for awareness and protection of these fragile resources.

Contact Information

1900 Anacostia Drive SE
Washington, DC 20020
202-535-2260
www.doh.dc.gov/doh/cwp

Earth Conservation Corps

Earth Conservation Corps (ECC) is a non-profit youth development and environmental service organization located on the Anacostia River. ECC provides underprivileged young people with hands-on life skills, education, career, and environmental training with an overall goal to facilitate the restoration of the Anacostia River and its surrounding communities.

Since 1992, ECC has recruited and trained over 18,000 young people in an effort to reclaim the Anacostia River. In 2002, ECC was awarded a grant to construct the first three demonstration sites of the Riverwalk Trail: Henson Park, the Old Capital Pump House, and a trail beneath the 11th Street Bridge. ECC is a valuable partner to the National Park Service, assisting in the clean up, beautification, and restoration of several park sites.

Contact Information

First Street & Potomac Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20003
202-554-1960
www.ecc1.org

Eastern National

Eastern National is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit "cooperating association," that supports National Capital Parks-East and other National Park Service sites. Eastern National assists the educational and interpretive mission of the National Park Service primarily by procuring, distributing, and selling educational material in retail outlets located in national parks. Eastern National also assists by providing supplemental funding for land and artifact acquisitions, special events, educational and interpretive programs, and research grants. Since its incorporation in 1948, Eastern National has donated over \$100 million to the National Park Service, in the form of direct donations and grants.

Eastern National bookstores can be found in National Capital Parks-East at Frederick Douglass NHS, Fort Washington Park, Oxon Cove Park, Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, and Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS.

Contact Information

470 Maryland Drive, Suite 1
Fort Washington, PA 19034
215-283-6900
www.easternnational.org
www.eparks.com

Living Classrooms of the National Capital Region

Living Classrooms Foundation strengthens communities and inspires young people to achieve their potential through hands-on education and job training, using urban, natural, and maritime resources as "living classrooms."

Living Classrooms Foundation is a Baltimore-Washington based non-profit educational organization, founded in 1985 in Baltimore, and serving the National Capital Region since 2001.

Our maritime heritage programs create opportunities for employment training. Our education programs use our environmental and maritime resources as living learning laboratories. Our employability programs create stronger communities that are better prepared to exercise environmental stewardship.

Contact Information

515 M Street SE, Suite 222
Washington, DC 20003
202-488-0627
www.livingclassroomsdc.org

Sewall-Belmont House and Museum

The Sewall-Belmont House and Museum 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.

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.

Contact Information

144 Constitution Avenue NE
Washington, DC 20002
202-546-1210
www.sewallbelmont.org

Student Conservation Association

The Student Conservation Association (SCA) provides high school students, college students, and others with meaningful conservation service internships and volunteer opportunities in our national parks. Students enjoy adventure, gain experience, and make a difference. SCA has made an invaluable contribution to the beautification and conservation of the parks in National Capital Parks-East.

Contact Information

1800 North Kent Street,
Suite 102
Arlington, VA 22209
703-524-2441
www.thesca.org

Articles

Clean Up Planned For Former NPS Site Along Anacostia River

By Emily Ferguson, Environmental Protection Specialist, National Capital Parks-East

In December 2011, the National Park Service (NPS), in partnership with the District of Columbia, reached a proposed agreement with Washington Gas Light Company (Washington Gas) to clean up the land formerly owned by NPS and to prevent contamination from reaching the adjacent Anacostia River. This proposed agreement is subject to public comment and is currently pending before the United States District Court for the District of Columbia (Court).

The impacted land was formerly part of Anacostia Park, an urban waterfront park along the Anacostia River in Washington, D.C. The "Federal and District of Columbia Government Real Property Act of 2006" transferred the NPS land to the District of Columbia. Despite the transfer, NPS continues in its role as lead agency under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) responsible for overseeing cleanup of the site.

Immediately adjacent to the former NPS property is land owned by Washington Gas, who manufactured gas on its property from 1888 until the mid-1980s. Environmental investigations have confirmed that contamination extends from the Washington Gas property through the former NPS property into the Anacostia River. Contaminants generated

from the many years of gas production on the site include metals, oil, tar, coal, and other related contaminants. These manufactured gas by-products were placed on the NPS property as fill material or were transported via groundwater movement through the site.

Once approved by the Court, the signed agreement will require Washington Gas to remove up to three feet of contaminated soil covering the former NPS land. The excavated areas then will be re-filled to the current surface elevation to accommodate the area's proposed recreational uses. Washington Gas also will conduct a comprehensive investigation to determine if groundwater is an ongoing source of contaminants into the Anacostia River and to characterize site-related contaminants in Anacostia River sediments. Clean up of contamination in groundwater and sediments in the Anacostia River will be addressed in a future settlement or enforcement action following remedy selection by NPS.

For more information about this site located in National Capital Parks-East, please use the following link:

<http://www.nps.gov/nace/parkmgmt/washingtongas.htm>



Map of Washington Gas Site. NPS Map.



Anacostia River. NPS Photo.

Articles

Civil War Washington Teacher Fellowship Program

By Braden Paynter, Park Ranger, Frederick Douglass National Historic Site

Every summer for the past four years, teachers from across the country have come to the nation's capital to see the Civil War in a new light. The Catherine B. Reynolds Civil War Washington Teacher Fellowship Program hosts approximately fifty teachers, giving them the opportunity to explore the DC area and America's defining conflict in the cradle of the Union. This summer, the program will add a third session serving between 65 and 75 teachers, total.

The program is a partnership between several local sites. Ford's Theatre National Historic Site, Frederick Douglass National Historic Site, President Lincoln's Cottage, the National Mall and Memorial Parks, the U.S. Capitol Historical Society and Tudor Place Historic House and Garden team up for a week that is all about perspectives. Slaveholding Confederate sympathizers at Tudor Place saw a different war than the former slave Frederick Douglass did. The myths of Lincoln that began with his assassination at Ford's Theater are different than the life of Lincoln remembered at Lincoln's Cottage.

The program also tries to expand the ways teachers feel comfortable exploring these different perspectives. Teachers analyze historical maps and documents; but the program aims to expand their idea of what can serve as primary sources. Buildings, objects, speeches, and landscapes all become crucial parts of seeing the Civil War in Washington. Going on a "slave's view" walking tour of Georgetown and climbing through a historic earthwork on the city's outskirts give teachers a strong sense of just how Southern and vulnerable the nation's capital was during the war. Hearing Frederick Douglass's words on the front porch of his house, or Lincoln's at his home, give the words new depth.

The program is open to teachers of grades 3 to 12, including history, English, drama, and media and technology. So if you know an interested teacher, encourage them to attend. It is a week they won't forget.

SESSION I (K–5th Grade) Evening of June 24–June 29, 2012
FREE for qualifying DCPS and Public Charter School Teachers
\$300—commuter registration

SESSION II (Boarders, all grades) Evening of July 8–July 13, 2012
\$600—shared room and airfare
\$1000—single room and airfare

Session III (6–12th Grade) Evening of July 22–July 27, 2012
FREE for qualifying DCPS and Public Charter School Teachers
\$300—commuter registration

Registration deadline is March 30, 2012

Applications are available at: <http://www.fords.org/home/education/teacher-programs/professional-development>

Nathaniel Green wins National Park Service 2011 Youth Volunteer Service Award

by Wayne Phillips, Park Ranger, Anacostia Park

Nathaniel (Nate) Green, a volunteer at the Anacostia Skating Pavilion, within National Capital Parks-East, was the recipient of the National Park Service's 2011 George and Helen Hartzog Youth Volunteer Service Award. Nate better known to his friends as "Little Man" has been volunteering at the Anacostia Skating Pavilion for the past five years. Over the years, he has provided a spectrum of front line visitor services at the pavilion including presenting naturalist programs, conducting routine maintenance, and distributing skates.

During his time at the pavilion, Nate has been instrumental in piquing the interest of other young men and women as to how they too can volunteer with the National Park Service. Nate's outgoing personality, his knowledge of park operations, and his willingness to work often result with parents, teachers, and group leaders wanting to know how they can get other youth involved in National Park Service programs.

Nate was the youngest award winner this year and was honored by National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis at the Madison Hotel in Washington, D.C. The ceremony took in October 2011. Nate has also volunteered in other parks within National Capital Parks-East, such as Fort Dupont Park, Frederick Douglass National Historic Site, and Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens.



Top left: Nate Green received his award from NPS Director Jarvis. Bottom right: Nate Green working at Anacostic Skating pavilion. NPS photos.

Articles

Mary McLeod Bethune's Legacy:

An Intercultural Youth Experience to Understand Race in the 21st Century.

By Dr. Joy Kinard, Central District Manager, National Capital Parks-East

The Mary McLeod Bethune Council House National Historic Site held a three day Youth Leadership Workshop October 14–16, 2011, at the Council House and Colonial Farm's Education Center located in Accokeek, Maryland. This workshop brought together diverse facilitators with Native American, African American, and Latino roots who reached out to local high school youth from the Metropolitan area. The goal of this workshop was to teach youth how to believe in themselves as future leaders and share the likenesses we all have as members of the human race. This project was made possible in part by a grant from the National Park Foundation through the generous support of Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation, The Anschutz Foundation, and The Ahmanson Foundation.

The Youth Workshop kicked off with an introduction to the National Park Service and Mary McLeod Bethune NHS on the evening of Friday, October 14, 2011 at the Council House. On Saturday, October 15, 2011, the workshop moved to the Colonial Farm's Education Center with opening remarks by the National Park Service Director of Youth Programs, Mr. George McDonald, followed by Dr. Gabrielle Tayac, curator of the National Museum of the American Indian. She gave a brief lecture on her ancestry connected to the Piscataway Indians and how the location of the workshop played a major role in the history of Native peoples of the Chesapeake area. The thirteen participants were then introduced to the many youth programs available to them in the National Capital Region, such as the Youth Conservation Corps, Youth Ambassadors Program, Volunteer in the Parks program, and Student Conservation Corps managed in National Capital Parks-East. Afterwards, the youth went outside under a canopy tent and learned the meaning of Mrs. Bethune's Last Will and Testament. Through songs and storytelling, they created a talking stick and reflected on Bethune's moral principles and values that guided her; for example, love, faith, hope, the challenge of developing confidence in one another, a thirst for education, a respect for the uses of power, faith, racial dignity, and the desire to live harmoniously with your fellow men.

Later sessions included learning about the struggles of African American leaders that were at the forefront of the Civil Rights Movement. Youth digitally captured their experience through testimonials given on site. "This is worth waking up so early in the morning," stated Miss Miya Clay, as she learned that the National Park Service cares to preserve her ethnic interests. She further states, "I'm learning stuff that you can't find in any history class." That day ended with a highlight spotting two eagles that live in the area.

Lastly, day three began with everyone, including NPS staff, joining the youth in an interpretation of the song, "Lift Every Voice and Sing," written by James Weldon Johnson, while one of the youth played her violin. Mr. Juan Pacheco, our last facilitator, an ex-gang member and currently a student at George Mason University working on his third degree, began the healing circle. He shared how he cleaned up his act by simultaneously changing his costume from gang paraphernalia to a cap and gown. He encouraged the youth to share their own personal experiences while he facilitated their healing. United in a circle, we ended the workshop giving thanks to all who made this event possible, as Mrs. Bethune's spirit was felt by all.



Calton Johnson II and facilitator Mrs. Penny Williams using the talking stick to learn about Mrs. Bethune's legacy. October 15, 2011. NPS photo.



Participants learning about leadership and role models with facilitator Mrs. Dunn. October 15, 2011. NPS Photo.

“Fire on the Potomac”

Kickoff to the War of 1812 Bicentennial Celebration at Fort Washington

By Wesley Gant, Park Ranger, Fort Washington Park

On December 4th, 2011, Fort Washington hosted Mr. Patrick O’Neill, a local author and researcher, for a program about the War of 1812 on the Potomac. An audience of 50 was on hand to hear about the events that occurred before and after the destruction of the original Fort Washington on August 27, 1814. The first Fort Washington was built in 1808. Construction of the structure that stands today began in September 1814.

The program began with a lecture at the park’s visitor center, where Mr. O’Neill shed light on the situation faced by the Fort Washington garrison. During August 1814, while a British Army marched overland toward the capital, a fleet of British warships ascended the Potomac River to threaten and destroy the fort. On August 27, 1814, Fort Washington was destroyed by its own garrison when the British ships arrived. After occupying the city of Alexandria, the British fleet faced American artillery batteries at White House Landing (on the grounds of the modern day Fort Belvoir in Virginia), and Indian Head, Maryland, as they sailed down the Potomac River. The Battle of White House Landing took place from September 3-5, 1814. During the battle, David Porter (former Captain of *The Essex*) and sailors from the U.S. Navy, Virginia Militia, and a detachment of U.S. artillery from Fort Washington, attempted to “annoy or destroy” the British fleet. The battery of guns placed at White House Landing kept up a bombardment of the 10 British warships as they passed the bend in the river near Fort Washington. The British fleet included 21 prize vessels captured from the city of Alexandria; the ships carried goods, and a number of slaves that had fled to the British ships in search of freedom. Mr. O’Neill has drawn his research from the British ship logs and correspondence of the American commanders and hopes to publish them in a book in the future.

After the lecture, the group took a short Ranger-led walk to the fort as it exists today. The walk highlighted how the structures and landscape of the park have changed since the original Fort was destroyed in 1814.

Future War of 1812 Bicentennial commemoration events at Fort Washington are being coordinated with the War of 1812 Bicentennial Planning Committee. Fort Washington Park is a unit of National Capital Parks-East.

To learn more about Fort Washington and about future programs please contact the site at 301-763-4600 or visit: <http://www.nps.gov/fowa>

Community Garden Program

By Kevin F. Barry, Park Ranger, Fort Dupont Park

The Fort Dupont Community Garden Program is now accepting applications for community garden permits. Community members interested in obtaining a garden plot must register for and attend one of our garden orientation meetings at the Fort Dupont Activity Center during the winter of 2012. For information on obtaining a garden permit, please call the Fort Dupont Activity Center at 202-426-7723 or email: Kevin_F_Barry@nps.gov.



2011 Student Conservation Association harvest from the Fort Dupont Community Garden. NPS Photo.



Ranger Wesley Gant and Mr. O’Neill point out significant landmarks to the events of 1814 at Fort Washington. Photo courtesy of Patrick O’Neill.

Recurring Events

MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE COUNCIL HOUSE TOURS

Monday–Saturday
202-673-2402

Visitors can tour the Mary McLeod Bethune Council House. Please contact the site for tour details.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS HOME TOURS

Daily
202-426-5961

Ranger-led tours are the only way to see the inside of the Frederick Douglass house. Tours are ticketed, and there are a limited number of tickets available for each tour. Tour tickets are available by reservation or on a first-come, first-served walk-in basis. Visitors are strongly encouraged to make a reservation to guarantee their place on the tour. Tours last approximately 30 minutes. Visitors are encouraged to arrive at least 20 minutes early to pick up tickets at the Visitor Center and use restrooms.

PISCATAWAY PARK

Piscataway Park is open from dawn to dusk daily, year round.

NATIONAL COLONIAL FARM AND THE VISITOR CENTER (PISCATAWAY PARK)

Mid-December to Mid-March

The Visitor Center is open weekends only, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. from mid-December to mid-March. The National Colonial Farm exhibit site is closed for the

winter season, mid-December to mid-March.

Mid-March to Mid-December

The National Colonial Farm and the Visitor Center are open from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday.

ECOSYSTEM FARM (PISCATAWAY PARK)

The Ecosystem Farm is open to the public by appointment. Walking tours are available during the growing season and may be arranged by calling 301-283-2113.

February

A TACTICAL CIVIL WAR

Fort DeRussy
Sunday, February 5
1:00 p.m.
All ages
202-426-7723

With advancement in weaponry, the tactics of war changed. Join a ranger for a talk at the Fort DeRussy Earthworks and learn how the Civil War generals adapted to the changing battlefield. Onsite parking available, 5200 Glover Road NW, Washington, D.C.

FORT WASHINGTON TOURS BY THE FORT WASHINGTON GUARD

Fort Washington Park–Old Fort
Sunday, February 5
12:30 p.m.
All Ages
301-763-4600

Volunteers in Civil War uniforms will provide tours from 12:30 p.m.–2:00 p.m. Depending on the weather a musket demonstration will be provided at 1:00 p.m.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Frederick Douglass NHS–Visitor Center
Saturday, February 11
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
All Ages
202-426-5961

WHAT’S THAT, HABITAT?

Greenbelt Park–Ranger Station
Saturday, Feb 11
11:00 a.m.
Ages 6 to 8
RSVP at 301-344-3948 or 3944

Meet Park Ranger Debbie to learn and identify the basic needs of food, water and shelter for the wildlife animals in the park.

SLAVERY AT MT. WELBY

Oxon Cove Park–Visitor Barn
Saturday, February 11
12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Ages 8 to 14
301-839-1176

Oxon Cove Park used to have enslaved people who were forced to work here. Come hear some of their stories and learn about what life was like for enslaved people throughout this area. Let’s take a real look at some of these less-talked-about topics.

FORAGING FOR TREASURES

Alice Ferguson Foundation–Farm House
Tuesday, February 14
7:00 p.m.
301-292-5665

Bill Suworoff will share the secrets of finding mushrooms in our neighborhood. He will talk about the how to find the tasty

treasures and how to stay healthy by avoiding the dangerous ones. Valentine treats will be served.

JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM: ART WORKSHOP

Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS
Saturday, February 18
1:00 p.m.
Ages 8 to 12
202-673-2402

Junior Rangers, join an art workshop with facilitator, Gina Marie Lewis. Come on out and share your talents or discover your art abilities. You may be surprised with the final outcomes!

READING STORIES WITH RANGER STEPH: HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS!

Oxon Cove Park–Visitor Barn
Monday, February 20
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Ages 0 to 5, and accompanying adults
301-839-1176

Every third Monday of the month, come listen to stories, sing songs, and enjoy other activities. This month, join Ranger Steph as she takes a look at the different places that people and animals have lived at Oxon Cove Park over the years. Get a tour of the farmhouse where the DeButts family lived 200 years ago. Meet in the Visitor Barn.

CARTER G. WOODSON HOME NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN PUBLIC MEETING

African American Civil War Memorial and Museum,
1925 Vermont Avenue NW,
Washington, D.C.

Events

Wednesday, February 22
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
All Ages
<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/woodsongmp>

National Capital Parks-East will host a public meeting to present the Carter G. Woodson Home National Historic Site General Management Plan and to gather public input and comment. The plan describes alternatives for development, visitor use, and management of the national historic site. The general management plan and environmental assessment will be available for public review during the period of February 13 to March 13, 2012 on the National Park Service Planning, Environment, and Public Comment website at: <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/woodsongmp>.

BLACK SCIENTISTS & INVENTORS

Greenbelt Park-Ranger Station
Saturday, Feb 25
1:00 p.m.
All Ages
RSVP at 301-344-3948 or 3944

Park Ranger Debbie will present a video on Black Scientists and have an open discussion.

CIVIL WAR DEFENSES OF WASHINGTON BIKE TOUR

Fort Dupont Park-Activity Center
Saturday, February 25
10:00 a.m.
Ages 10 and up
202-426-7723

This mountain bike tour will journey along the Civil War Defenses of Washington Hiker-Biker Trail. The off-road trail takes riders through many parks exploring the Civil War earthworks and urban forest. Minimal

experience riders and kids are welcome. Please bring a bike, helmet, and water. Parking is available at the Fort Dupont Park Activity Center, Fort Dupont Drive SE, Washington, D.C. 20020.

WHO BELONGS ON THE FARM?

Oxon Cove Park-Visitor Barn
Sunday, February 26
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
For children ages 2 to 10, and accompanying adults
301-839-1176

Sheep, cows, pigs, chickens... and deer? Which of these animals doesn't belong on the farm? Discover the difference between wild and domestic animals. Find out which forest animals are often found at Oxon Hill Farm, or in the surrounding parkland. Enjoy a puppet show and a ranger-led tour of the farm. Meet at the Visitor Barn.

ESCAPE OF AN ASSASSIN

Fort Stanton
Sunday, February 26
1:00 p.m.
All ages
202-426-7723

Join a ranger at Fort Stanton to learn how John Wilkes Booth fled the capital after assassinating President Lincoln. Parking at the Anacostia Museum, 1901 Fort Place SE, Washington, DC.

March

FORT WASHINGTON TOURS BY THE FORT WASHINGTON GUARD

Fort Washington Park-Old Fort
Sunday, March 4
12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

All Ages
301-763-4600

Volunteers in Civil War uniforms will be giving tours from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Depending on the weather a musket demonstration will be provided at 1:00 p.m.

JACKSON'S VALLEY CAMPAIGN

Fort Dupont Park-Earthworks
Sunday, March 4
1:00 p.m.
All ages
202-426-7723

On the 150th Anniversary of the beginning of Stonewall Jackson's famous Valley Campaign, join a ranger at the Fort Dupont earthworks located near the Lanham Estates reserved picnic area, at the intersections of Massachusetts Avenue and Ridge Road on Alabama Avenues SE, to learn about the campaign and its impact on the Civil War Defenses of Washington.

PREPARING YOUR GARDEN

Alice Ferguson Foundation-Farm House
Tuesday, March 13
7:00 p.m.
Adults
301-292-5665

Program presenter, Shane LeBrake, will provide expert information about getting your garden ready for the growing season. Emphasis will be on the care and feeding of the soil to ensure garden success.

CHILDREN'S STORIES

Greenbelt Park-Ranger Station
Saturday, March 17
11:30 a.m.
Ages 4 to 8
RSVP at 301-344-3948 or 3944

Join Park Ranger Debbie in the classroom and pick your favorite book to read.

WOMEN AND THE POWER OF THE PEN: A PROGRAM TO CELEBRATE WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Oxon Cove Park-Visitor Barn
Sunday, March 18
12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Ages 7 to 14
301-839-1176
Reservations required.

Kids ages 7 to 14 are invited to visit the park and explore the letters of Mrs. DeButts, the mistress of Mount Welby (the 19th century name of the park property). We will discover how historians have used these documents to gain insight into 19th century life on the Mount Welby Plantation. We will also explore how women used their personal writings as a way to assert themselves in a world that seemed to have no place for them. Kids, be prepared to write a letter that might be used 200 years from now by historians to tell the story of Oxon Cove Park.

READING STORIES WITH RANGER STEPH: WHAT GETS YOUR GOAT?

Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn
Monday, March 19
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Ages 0 to 5, and accompanying adults
301-839-1176

Trip-trap, trip-trap! Who's that tripping over that bridge? Every third Monday of the month, come listen to stories, sing songs, and enjoy other activities. This month, listen to Ranger Steph tell the tale of the Three Billy Goats Gruff. Find out if it is true

Events

that a goat will eat anything, including tin cans! Meet in the Visitor Barn.

LET'S CELEBRATE NATIONAL AGRICULTURE MONTH

Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn
Sunday, March 25
12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Ages 6 to 12
301-839-1176
Reservations required.

A few generations ago, most Americans were directly involved in-or had relatives or friends involved in-agricultural-related endeavors. Today, that is no longer the case. We seldom think about our connections to the land and the products it produces. Come out to the farm and celebrate National Agriculture Day by completing the scavenger hunt entitled, "The More I Know About Food the Better Healthy Choices I can Make." Wear comfortable shoes and clothing.

BATTLEGROUND CEMETERY TO FORT STEVENS HIKE

Battleground Cemetery
Sunday, March 25
1:00 p.m.
All ages
202-426-7723

Join a ranger on a 1-mile round-trip hike; Battleground National Cemetery to Fort Stevens. Learn about the battle for Washington and visit the reconstructed earthworks of Fort Stevens. The hike begins and ends at Battleground Cemetery located at 6625 Georgia Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. Parking available on street (6600 block of Georgia Avenue NW).

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH SYMPOSIUM: A SALUTE TO MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE AND MAGGIE LENA WALKER

Cannon House Office
Building-Cannon Caucus Room
Wednesday, March 28
8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Adults
202-673-2402

Join us for discussions of "The Power of the Past and the Power of their Paths" and African American Women from Civil War to Civil Rights to Today. We will meet at the Cannon Office Building located at Independence Avenue and 1st Street SE, Washington, D.C. 20003. For additional information, contact the Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS.

YOUTUBE YOURSELF!

Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn
Saturday, March 31
9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
All ages
301-839-1176

Be a star! Come help make new videos for the park to put on YouTube! Learn how technology can help us protect things important to us. Help us put together new videos with you in them that you can share with family and friends! Tell us why you love Oxon Cove Park.

CIVIL WAR DEFENSES OF WASHINGTON BIKE TOUR

Fort Dupont Park-Activity Center
Saturday, March 31
10:00 a.m.
Ages 10 and up
202-426-7723

This mountain bike tour will journey along the Civil War Defenses of Washington

Hiker-Biker Trail. The off-road trail takes riders through many parks exploring the Civil War earthworks and urban forest. Minimal experience riders and kids are welcome. Please bring bike, helmet, and water. Parking is available at the Fort Dupont Park Activity Center, Fort Dupont Drive SE, Washington D.C. 20020.

LITTER WE KNOW

Greenbelt Park-Ranger Station
Saturday, March 31
11:00 a.m.
All Ages

RSVP at 301-344-3948 or 3944

Park Ranger Debbie, along with participants, will collect litter in the park and evaluate the effects of pollution.

April

ARTILLERY FIRING DEMONSTRATION

Fort Washington Park-Old Fort
Sunday, April 1
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
All Ages
301-763-4600

Ever wonder how Civil War cannons were fired? The Fort Washington Guard in period uniforms will demonstrate and explain the procedures used during the muzzle-loading era of American artillery. The park has two artillery pieces: a 6-pound field gun and a 12-pound mountain howitzer. Firings will be at 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m.

WILDFLOWER IDENTIFICATION

Kenilworth Aquatic
Gardens-Visitor Center
Saturdays, April 7 & 14

Sunday, April 15 w/outdoor lab time
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Ages 17 and up
202-426-6905

Meet at the visitor center and bring your lunch (microwave and refrigerator available). Recognize flowers and their families using the field guide of your choice. The course is a beginners one using field flowers in the park and some wetland plants. Contact Park Ranger Kate Bucco for additional information.

GENTLY WRITTEN: THE POETRY OF MRS. DEBUTTS

Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn
Saturday, April 7
2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Ages 5 to 10
301-839-1176

Mrs. DeButts, who lived on the land that is now Oxon Cove Park two hundred years ago, wrote a lot of neat things for us to read. Come explore some of her vivid writing. We'll explore the Park together and see what inspires us as we write poems of our own.

24TH ANNUAL POTOMAC RIVER WATERSHED CLEANUP

Saturday, April 14
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The Potomac River Watershed Cleanup includes hundreds of site locations throughout Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania. Volunteers will be supplied with trash bags and gloves. Help join the effort to ensure clean land, safe water and healthy lives for us all! For more information, to volunteer, or to sign up for a cleanup site, please

Events

visit: www.PotomacCleanup.org
or e-mail: potomaccleanup@fergusonfoundation.org

24TH ANNUAL POTOMAC WATERSHED CLEANUP

Fort Washington Park-Visitor Center
Saturday, April 14
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
All Ages
301-763-4600

Join in helping to clean up the Potomac River. Last year's event removed over 250 tons of trash from the river. Wear boots, gloves, and clothing appropriate for slippery and wet conditions. This is an excellent opportunity for student service learning credit and group volunteers. No need to pre-register. Just show up and join in this effort.

SPRING WALK

Greenbelt Park-Dogwood Trail
Saturday, April 14
10:30 a.m.
All Ages
RSVP 301-344-3948 or 3944

Join Park Ranger Debbie to discuss the wonders of springs on the trail.

ALICE FERGUSON FOUNDATION'S 24TH ANNUAL POTOMAC RIVER WATERSHED CLEANUP

Oxon Cove Park-Parking Lot
Saturday, April 14
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Ages 18 to adult (Children are welcome if accompanied by an adult.)
301-839-1176

Do your part to help clean up the Potomac River Watershed by picking up trash down at Oxon Cove. Earn service hours needed

for your organization! Wear old clothes and shoes/boots that you don't mind getting wet and muddy. Bring work gloves and rakes, if you have them. No need to pre-register. Just join us in this much needed effort! For more information, go to www.fergusonfoundation.org.

READING STORIES WITH RANGER STEPH: WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD!

Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn
Monday, April 16
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Ages 0 to 5, and accompanying adults
301-839-1176

Every third Monday of the month, come listen to stories, sing songs, and enjoy other activities. This month, get ready for Earth Day as we focus on our wonderful world and how we can keep it wonderful. It's never too early to start being a steward of our national parks. Meet Ranger Steph in the Visitor Barn.

GARDENING WITH WILDFLOWERS

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens-Visitor Center
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 21
Ages 17 and up
202-426-6905

Incorporate some of our area's natural legacy into your landscaping for a group of benefits and a different look. Have a dry place? Meet the aster family for sun or shade. Have a damp spot? Meet the lobelia family. Have dense shade? Meet the ferns. They are great neighbors to your cultivated plants. Contact Park Ranger Kate Bucco for additional information.

JAZZ FEST

Fort Dupont Park-Activity Center
Saturday, April 21
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
All Ages
202-426-7723

Come out to Fort Dupont Park for a afternoon of activities and music. Various recreational and educational programs and activities for all ages will be offered.

EARTH DAY 2012: JUNIOR RANGERS LEARN ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE!

Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn
Sunday, April 22
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Ages 5 to 12 and accompanying adults
301-839-1176

Come to Oxon Cove Park and celebrate Earth Day. Earn a special badge by completing the activities in the National Capital Parks-East Climate Friendly Junior Ranger Book. Find out what we can do to slow down climate change. Meet in the Visitor Barn.

AMERICA'S BEST IDEA: LET'S TAKE A WALK TO CELEBRATE NATIONAL PARK WEEK

Oxon Cove Park-Parking Lot
Sunday, April 22
12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
All ages
301-839-1176
Reservations recommended

Setting aside land to be used by everyone has often been referred to as "America's Best Idea." Join us for moderate paced 1.5 mile walk through Oxon Cove Park and discover why this site opened its gates to all and became a national park in 1967. Our Volunteer Coordinator will

be available after the walk to answer questions on how you can help to protect and preserve the park for the enjoyment of future generations. Meet at the parking lot. Please wear comfortable shoes and clothes for walking.

ANACOSTIA RIVER & JAZZ FEST

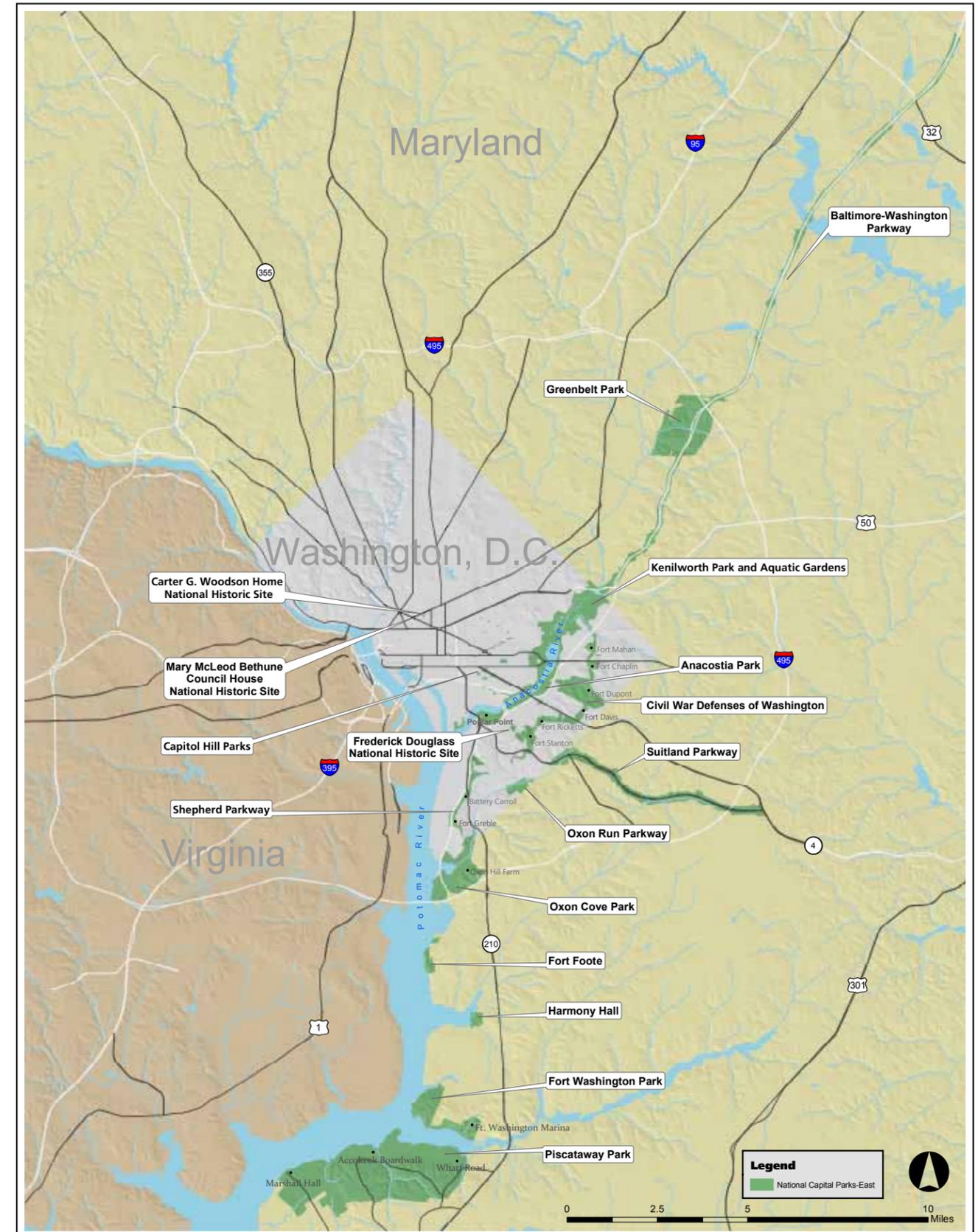
Anacostia Park Skating Pavilion
Saturday, April 28
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
All Ages

Come out to Anacostia Park for a day full of music and activities. The event will feature live Jazz music, paddling trips, fishing demonstrations, and many other opportunities to learn about the treasures of the Anacostia River and National Capital Parks-East.



Butterfly on a wildflower, Kenilworth Park & Aquatic Gardens, Washington D.C., NPS Photo.

Map





National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

National Capital Parks-East
1900 Anacostia Drive, SE
Washington, DC 20020-6722

First Class Mail
Postage and Fees
PAID
Washington, DC
80501233

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

Activities at your fingertips

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