

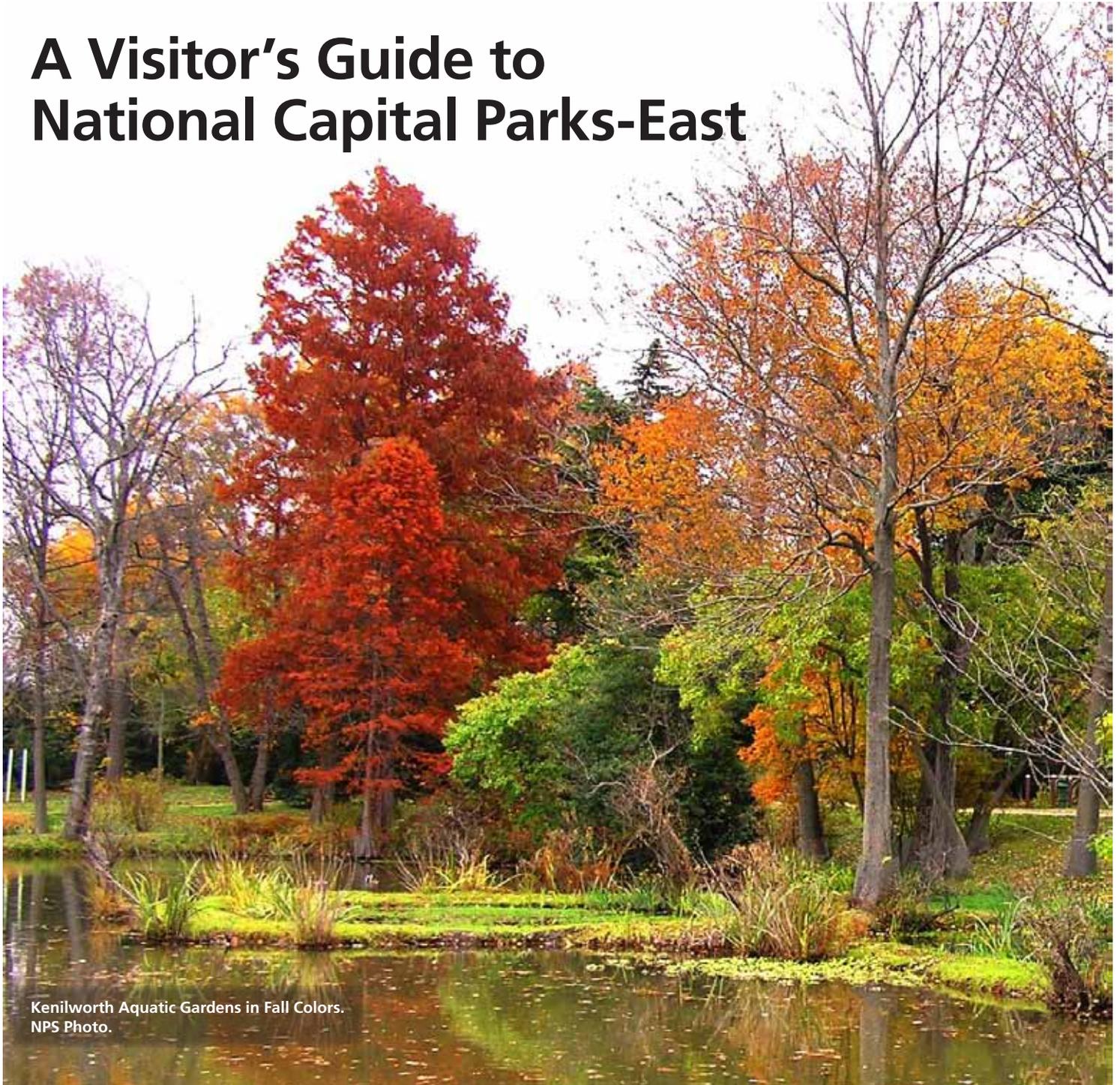


# Beyond the Capital

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

Fall/Winter 2011-2012

## A Visitor's Guide to National Capital Parks-East



Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens in Fall Colors.  
NPS Photo.



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

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

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**Please tell us what you think.**

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## Message from the Superintendent

Dear Visitor,

National Capital Parks-East has it all; from recreational areas, to natural beauty, to rich historical resources that contributed to our American History. Autumn is perhaps one of the best seasons to visit!

The Anacostia River is perhaps one of the most nationally recognized rivers in the country, and it is located here in the heart of our Nation's Capital. Many of the areas along the river and its tributaries are managed by National Capital Parks-East. There has been tremendous focus from all levels of the federal government to make the Anacostia River safe, easy to access, and enjoyable. Many federal plans, including the American Great Outdoors program, the Urban Waters Initiative, and the Director of the National Park Service's Call To Action center on urban communities and rivers and have specific goals to improve the conditions of the Anacostia River. To learn more about the plans, please visit the websites listed below.



My challenge to all our visitors is to learn more about the Anacostia River and Anacostia Park. Take some time to paddle the river and explore the park and learn about the incredible resources. You will find wetlands that skirt the park and provide habitat for plants and animals and clean the water. You will also discover rich history, including the "Bonus March." The Anacostia River and surrounding lands are a pleasant surprise to those that are not familiar with the resources. Please ask a Park Ranger for more information.

Thank you,

Alexy Romero  
Superintendent

<http://americasgreatoutdoors.gov/>

<http://www.urbanwaters.gov/>

<http://www.nps.gov/calltoaction/>

# 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 (**V**olunteers-**I**n-**P**arks) 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](http://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.

Left: Ft. Washington. 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 <a href="http://www.recreation.gov">www.recreation.gov</a>
Metro Rail/Bus	202-637-7000 <a href="http://www.wmata.com">www.wmata.com</a>

## For Your Information

### Hiking and Camping

As you take in autumn'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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.nps.gov/cwdw)

## 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](http://www.nps.gov/fowa)

## Frederick Douglass NHS

The Frederick Douglass National Historic Site houses an impressive collection of original furnishing 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](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)

## 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](http://www.nps.gov/nace)

## Suitland Parkway

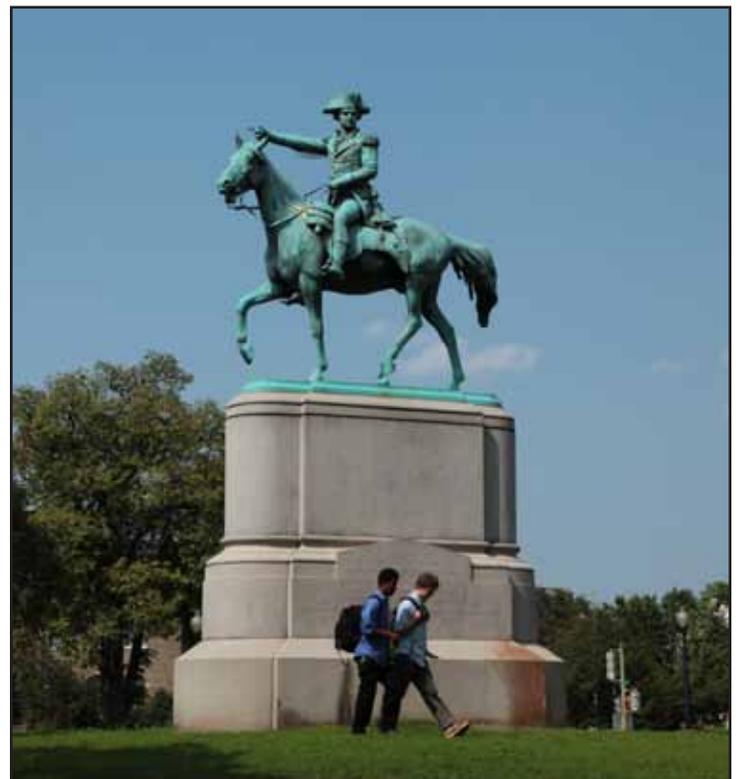
Suitland Parkway extends from Andrews Air Force Base in Camp Springs, Maryland to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Bridge (South Capitol St.) in Washington, D.C. It is the scenic "gateway" that countless visiting dignitaries, royalty, world leaders, and Presidents have traveled on their route into the Nation's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



Two students walk by the Nathaniel Greene statue in Stanton Park, one of the Capitol Hill Parks located at C Street NE and 4th Street NE, 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

## Feet in the Street Returns to Fort Dupont Park

### Car-Free Celebration on Saturday, October 15

The National Park Service (NPS), along with its partners the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the Metro Police Department, are teaming up again to host the third annual **Feet in the Street** celebration in Fort Dupont Park on Saturday, October 15, 2011, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. To help promote a healthy and active lifestyle this event invites visitors to explore all 361 acres and miles of trails within the park without concern of traffic. The event will host a wide range of activities including free bike rentals and tours, and a rock-climbing wall.

**Feet in the Street** promotes physical activity, sustainable transportation choices, and community spirit. Fort Dupont is a great setting for this car-free event. The park has been designated as a NPS site for the White House's "Let's Move Outside" initiative with the Office of the First Lady.

Regular exercise in nature is proven to improve children's physical and mental health. Outdoor activity helps kids maintain a healthy weight, boosts their immunity and bone health, and lowers stress. Let's Move Outside, administered by the Department of Interior, was created to get kids and families to take advantage of America's great outdoors—which abound in every city, town, and community. And together, these agencies oversee more than one-fifth of the nation's land.

— <http://www.letsmove.gov/lets-move-outside>

Fort Dupont Park is one of the largest parks in the District. On October 15, the roadways in the park, including Fort Davis Drive and Fort Dupont Drive, will be closed to motor vehicles. Residents and visitors are invited to come put their **Feet in the Street** and run, walk, bike, skate, and play. There will be organized activities and programs with local organizations including:

- Yoga Class
- 5k Walk/Run to kickoff the event
- Guided nature and Geocash hikes
- Rock climbing wall
- Community garden tours and farmers market
- Healthy cooking demonstrations
- Face painting and tattoo airbrushing
- Free bike rentals courtesy of Bike and Roll
- Boxing demo and clinic
- Capitol Bikeshare test rides
- Soccer Clinic
- Appearances by the Washington Nationals
- Dupont stage will host the "Boys and Girls Club's" steel drum band with DJ

Participants are encouraged to cycle, walk, or take public transit to the event if possible, but a limited amount of parking will be available at the Fort Dupont Park's parking lawn located off F Street SE. The park is also accessible by Metro. For more information, please visit our website: [www.nps.gov/fodu](http://www.nps.gov/fodu).

For more information and updates about the event, please visit [www.goDCgo.com](http://www.goDCgo.com), or contact Thomas Safranek at the National Park Service at [Thomas\\_Safranek@nps.gov](mailto:Thomas_Safranek@nps.gov) or 202-426-7723.



Two visitors scale the rock climbing tower at the 2010 Feet in the Street celebration at Fort Dupont Park, Washington, D.C. NPS Photo.

# Articles

## Living Classrooms

By Anne Zuk, Director of the Children's Museum and Summer Camps—Living Classrooms

This summer, thanks to a partnership between Living Classrooms of the National Region and National Capital Parks-East, two camps were simultaneously offered for seven weeks at two of the most beautiful National Parks in the Washington, D.C. metro area.

The Living Classrooms Ranger Camps held at Greenbelt Park and Kenilworth Park & Aquatic Gardens travelled throughout the region in June, July, and August. Field trips to Oxon Hill Farm, the historic home of civil rights leader Frederick Douglass, the Mary McLeod Bethune Council House, Anacostia Park, and Fort Dupont enabled Living Classrooms Educators to help the underserved youth of the National Capital Region understand and appreciate the value of the heritage preserved by the National Park Service.

Regular visits to the community gardens at Fort Dupont allowed campers the opportunity to learn about green spaces within the city. Campers worked with Park Rangers to learn about bees and pollination, and the ecosystem native to Washington, D.C. Hands-on activities such as planting vegetables or aquatic plants were led in conjunction with civil war stories and important lessons about the impact of humans on our local environment.

A favorite activity enjoyed by all of the campers was the animal encounters. They were very excited to discover turtles and snakes in the parks, and learn the importance of these habitants.

This year 162 campers had the opportunity to partake in the wonderful experience afforded by the grant. For many of the campers this was their first experience canoeing on the Anacostia River or fishing at the Aquatic Resources Education Center in Anacostia Park.

Campers were thrilled with their experience this summer. A camper from Riverdale Park wrote a letter to his Councilman (Ray Rivas of Riverdale Park) who enabled him to attend the camp to thank him for "saving his life from video games."



## Explore...Learn...Protect....

### Junior Rangers at National Capital Parks-East—This could be you!

By Lori Spillman

You may ask, "What is a Junior Ranger?" A Junior (Jr.) Ranger is a young person **exploring** their national parks. Why?—To **learn** more about our national treasures and the importance of **protecting** them for generations to come. Junior Rangers explore the people, places and things (we call them natural and cultural resources) of the National Park Service and learn how to be a part of protecting and preserving your parks. Participants do this by working on activity books found at many National Park sites. Junior Ranger activity books are flexible and give you time to explore parks at your own pace. You can learn about the sites in person and on-line. Once you complete the required number of activities, you receive a Jr. Ranger badge or patch and a certificate and are an official National Park Service Jr. Ranger.

So now we know who can be a Jr. Ranger—You! Jr. Ranger booklets are available at Anacostia Park, Civil War Defenses of Washington, Fort Washington Park, Frederick Douglass NHS, Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, Oxon Cove Park, and we have a book that highlights all sites of National Capital Parks-East. Contact the various sites or visit [www.nps.gov/nace/](http://www.nps.gov/nace/).

Not able to visit your national parks? You can still be a Jr. Ranger! Register as a WebRanger at [www.nps.gov/webrangers/](http://www.nps.gov/webrangers/) and earn patches. There are dozens of activities created just for you. Parents—you can learn along with your children. Teachers—while these activities were not designed to support curriculum, these activities illustrate principles of science and history in new ways.



One of our park visitors, Aida Ardon of Algonquin, Illinois, collects Jr. Ranger badges across the country. Aida has collected approximately 55 Jr. Ranger badges from 60 national parks she visited within one year! NPS Photo.

## Don't Get Ticked Off

By Eli T.S. Alford Jr., Park Ranger—Greenbelt Park

National Capital Parks-East features incredibly diverse sites with numerous recreational, cultural, and historical opportunities for the adventurous visitor. Throughout the year it is important to recognize that spending time outdoors has inherent hazards. Among these hazards are insects, arachnids, and mites that live in the outdoors. Mosquitoes are one of the most commonly recognized outdoor pests, but for anyone who spends time outdoors, ticks are a close second. Fortunately, there are several tactics you can use to prevent tick bites and reduce your risk of tick-borne illnesses.

One of the more common diseases you can get from a tick bite is Lyme disease. Lyme disease is a tick-borne illness that is transmitted to humans by the bite of infected ticks. People who spend extended periods in grassy and wooded areas during the active tick season (April to October); pose a high risk in contracting Lyme disease.

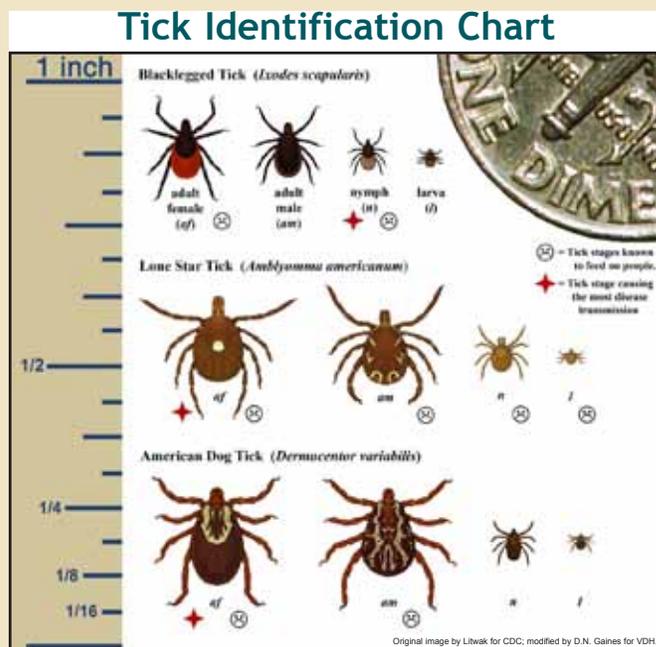
Lyme disease is spread to people by the bite of a blacklegged tick (*Ixodes scapularis*, commonly called a deer tick). Ticks must be attached to the body for at least 24 hours before they pass the Lyme disease bacteria to humans, but not every bite causes Lyme disease. If a tick does bite you, thoroughly check your body for tick attachments. If you notice a tick bite, immediately remove the tick with tweezers. Do NOT try attempt to remove the tick with hot matches, alcohol or petroleum jelly to coax the tick to 'back out.' These irritants may cause the tick to deposit more disease-carrying saliva into the bite site. If bitten by a tick, monitor the site of the bite for the appearance of a rash beginning 3 to 30 days after the bite. If a rash or other early symptoms develop, see a physician immediately.

The best way to prevent Lyme disease is to prevent tick bites. Each individual is responsible for taking precautions to reduce the likelihood of infection, such as:

- Wear light-colored, tight weave, long sleeved shirts, long pants, socks, close-toed shoes, and a hat.
- Apply 20-40% DEET or other tick repellent (e.g. Repel-Lemon eucalyptus) to exposed skin or clothing-but not to underclothing. Reapply as necessary.
- Apply permethrin insecticide to clothing (if not already using DEET on clothing)—but DO NOT apply to skin. Apply especially to shoe tops, socks, and lower portion of pants. One application of permethrin typically stays effective through several washings.
- Tuck pant legs into sock or boot tops to help delay ticks from getting in contact to skin.
- When you get back from the field, carefully inspect the entire body and remove any attached ticks. Immature ticks are very small and may be hard to see. Remember to check your hair, underarms, and groin for ticks. Most people are unaware that they have an attached tick without a careful check.

- Remove, wash, and dry your clothing. Unattached ticks brought in on clothing can potentially result in a latent tick bite. Blacklegged ticks (deer ticks) can survive for many days if humidity is above 65%, and can also survive a warm or hot water wash but they cannot withstand one hour in a hot dryer.
- Take a hot shower and wash off DEET with soap and water and re-check for ticks.

Taking small safety precautions and educating yourself on ticks and tick borne illnesses are great first steps in ensuring a safe and healthy outdoor recreational experience.



## Tick-borne Disease Chart

Tick-borne Diseases	Anaplasmosis	Ehrlichiosis	Babesiosis	Lyme Disease	Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	Tularemia
<b>Blacklegged Tick</b> <i>Ixodes scapularis</i>	Vector		Vector	Vector		
<b>Lone Star Tick</b> <i>Amblyomma americanum</i>		Vector				Vector
<b>American Dog Tick</b> <i>Dermacentor variabilis</i>					Vector	Vector
<b>Tick Stage that Transmits the Most Disease to People</b>	Nymph	Adult	Nymph	Nymph	Adult Only	Nymph or Adult
<b>Minimum Feeding Time for Disease Transmission</b>	24 hours	24 hours	36 hours	36 hours	4-6 hours	Not known

For more information on tick-borne diseases, visit [www.vdh.virginia.gov/TickBrochure](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/TickBrochure).

June 2010



# Events

## 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.

### JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAMS

Fort Dupont Park—Activity Center  
Tuesdays  
3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
202-426-7723  
Ages 5-12

Every Tuesday, children have the opportunity to Explore, Learn and Protect the park resources with a ranger led program. Weekly programs include

children actively learning how to protect and preserve the natural, cultural, and historical resources of Fort Dupont and the Civil War Defenses of Washington. Our Junior Ranger booklet invites kids to complete activities for points that will earn a Junior Ranger Badge and certificate. Fort Dupont Activity Center is located on Fort Dupont Drive, SE, Washington D.C. 20019.

### CIVIL WAR DEFENSES OF WASHINGTON BIKE PROGRAM—BIKE AND HIKE THE HIKER-BIKER TRAIL FORT DUPONT PARK

Call 202-426-7723 for availability  
Ages 12 and over

Come out and get information about the Civil War Defenses of Washington before hitting the trail on our bikes. Need to borrow a bike? Contact Fort Dupont for details and scheduling information.

### “RANGER ROLLOUTS”

Let Fort Dupont come to you! Park rangers can provide group bike tours in your community. Bikes can be provided and the rangers will bring them to you! Call the rangers for more information.

### GREENBELT PARK SCOUT LOOP CAMPING RESERVATION

Reservations for 2012 for the scout loop portion of the campground begin Tuesday, January 3, 2012. All Scout Troops are required to call 301-344-3948 and reserve space in the campground. Scouts must have a tour permit and proof of insurance. Reservations are taken over the phone. All campground rules are in effect for the Scout Loop.

## October

### BIKE HIKES ON THE HIKER-BIKER TRAIL

Fort Dupont Park—Activity Center  
Saturdays, October 1 and October 29  
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
202-426-7723  
Ages 12 and over

Learn about the Civil War Defenses of Washington on this 5-mile mountain bike ride and see how land that once defended the nation's capital is now natural forest areas. The tour will begin at the Fort Dupont Activity Center and stop at several sites, like Forts Davis, Chaplin, Dupont, or Mahan, to explore and learn about the earthen fortifications hidden within this urban forest. Spectacular views of Washington, D.C., can be captured from the hilltops around the city where the forts and the Hiker-Biker trail connect nature to history. Free parking is available on site. Meet at the Fort Dupont Activity Center, Fort Dupont Drive SE, Washington, D.C. 20019. Free.

### HISTORY, NATURE, AND CULTURE WITHIN THE CIVIL WAR DEFENSES OF WASHINGTON

Fort Stevens—Fort DeRussy—Fort Reno  
Saturday, October 1  
3:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.  
202-426-7723

Learn about the Civil War history of the fort sites; how they became important to the cultural development of surrounding areas, and see a unique natural environment within an urban landscape. The journey goes

from Fort Stevens through Rock Creek Park to Fort DeRussy and ends at Fort Reno Park. This will be a 3-mile, higher difficulty hike. Starts at Fort Stevens and ends at Fort Reno. Please plan accordingly.

### THE DEFENSES OF WASHINGTON EARLY IN THE CIVIL WAR

Fort Dupont  
Sunday, October 2  
1:00 p.m.  
202-426-7723

Join a Park Ranger at the Fort Dupont earthworks and learn about Civil War Defenses of Washington in the autumn of 1861. Learn about the pivotal Fairfax Court House Conference and the Confederates' opportunity to attack D.C. in 1861 on this date 150 years ago. Parking is available in the 4100 block of Alabama Ave SE, Washington, D.C.

### ARTILLERY DEMONSTRATIONS—CANNONEERS POST

Fort Washington Park—Historic Fort  
Sunday, October 2  
1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m.  
301-763-4600  
All ages

Join the Fort Washington Guard for a cannon-firing demonstration. Learn how muzzle-loading cannons were used during the Civil War. Contact Park Rangers Barbara Wadding or Bambi Sears for additional information.

# Events

## INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL

Greenbelt Park—Sweetgum Picnic Area

Monday, October 3  
11:00 a.m.

301-344-3944

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

## HIKING TOUR OF THE HIKER-BIKER TRAIL

Tuesdays, October 4 and October 11 at Fort Dupont Earthworks  
Tuesday, October 18 at Fort Stanton Park at the Anacostia Museum

5:30 p.m. to sunset  
202-426-7723

Ages 10 and over  
Free

Join a ranger led hike of National Capital Parks-East Hiker-Biker Trail. Explore the 7-mile trail in three segments from North to South. The three 4-mile-long hikes will familiarize visitors with the entire trail and help participants understand how the Civil War Defenses of Washington have become a Natural corridor in urban Washington, D.C.

- October 4, Segment I: Meet at the Fort Dupont Earthworks, 4160 Alabama Avenue, SE. This tour will cover the northern section of the trail from Fort Dupont to Fort Mahan.
- October 11, Segment II: Meet at the Fort Dupont Earthworks, 4160 Alabama Avenue, SE. This tour will cover the central section of the trail from Fort Dupont to Branch Avenue, SE.
- October 18, Segment III: Meet across from the Anacostia Museum 1901 Fort Place, SE. This tour will cover the southern section of the trail

from Fort Stanton to Branch Avenue, SE.

## TALK N' WALK—SATURDAYS

Fort Mahan Park  
Saturday, October 8  
10:00 a.m.

202-426-7723  
All ages

Do you want to know more about the National Park Service (NPS)? Do you want to increase your knowledge of the Civil War and the many NPS-managed forts across the city? Well, you've found your spot! Come and enjoy a walk and talk with a ranger at Fort Mahan. It's completely free and you'll love the beautiful scenery. Please visit our website for more information: [www.nps.gov/fodu](http://www.nps.gov/fodu). Meet at 42nd Street and Grant Street NE.

## OKTOBERFEST

Hard Bargain Farm  
2301 Bryan Point Road Accokeek MD 20607

Saturday, October 8  
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
301-292-5665

Admission is \$10.00 per person

This special event will feature entertainment by an original Bavarian dance group, Alt Washingtonia. Authentic German food will be available for sale. For additional information, please call.

## FIRE SAFETY FOR KIDS

Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station  
Sunday, October 9  
11:00 a.m.  
301-344-3944  
Ages 5-12

Join a park ranger as we learn about fire hazards and how to stay safe from fire in a home or while camping.

## FALLING INTO FALL

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens  
Saturday, October 15  
10:00 a.m.

202-426-6905  
All ages

Join a ranger for an easy walk around the ponds to see how wildlife adapts to winter. Some go south; some stock up on food and some just go to sleep. Which would you choose? Program is suitable for families.



## FEET IN THE STREET

Fort Dupont Park  
Saturday, October 15  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
202-426-7723  
All ages

Fort Dupont is one of the largest parks in the District of Columbia. On October 15, the roadways in the park, including Fort Davis Drive and Fort Dupont Drive, will be closed to motor vehicles from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Residents and visitors are invited to come put their Feet in the Street and run, walk, bike, skate, and just play. There will be organized activities and programs with local music performances at the Summer Theatre stage. Parking is available on site. Please visit our website for more information: [www.nps.gov/fodu](http://www.nps.gov/fodu). FREE!

## THE BATTLE OF BALL'S BLUFF

Fort Marcy—George Washington Memorial Parkway

Sunday, October 16  
1:00 p.m.

202-426-7723  
All ages

One hundred fifty years ago this week, Union forces had a disastrous encounter with Confederates along the Potomac. Come to Fort Marcy to learn more about the battle, its aftermath, and its impact on the city of Washington. Parking is available on-site, located northbound on the George Washington Memorial Parkway, Arlington, Virginia. For a map of the Parkway, please visit [www.nps.gov/gwmp](http://www.nps.gov/gwmp).

## READING STORIES WITH PARK RANGER STEPH: OINKERS AT OXON HILL FARM

Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn  
Monday, October 17

9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.  
301-839-1176

Ages 0-5 and accompanying adults

Every third Monday of the month, come listen to stories, sing songs, and enjoy other activities. This month go hog wild with Park Ranger Steph as she takes a closer look at those famous "Three Little Pigs" and other swine sweetsies. Meet in the Visitor Barn.

## HABITAT IN THE WINTER

Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station  
Saturday, October 22

11:00 a.m.

301-344-3944  
All ages

# Events

Join park rangers to learn about the different animals' habitats in the park.

## NATIVE PLANT WALK

Fort Dupont Park—Activity Center  
Saturday, October 22  
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
202-426-7723  
Ages 10 and up

We will walk through the park trails, especially the Hollow Tree Trail, the Hiker Biker Trail, and the Ridge Picnic Areas. A group of botanists and conservationists from the Maryland Native Plant Society and the Anacostia Watershed Society will identify the park's wonderful flora and its amazing natural history. The event will go on through a light rain but will be cancelled if there is a downpour. If you have any question please contact Jorge Bogantes at: 301-699-6204.

## IT'S WORLD APPLE DAY!

Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn  
Saturday, October 22  
1:00 p.m.  
301-839-1176  
All ages

Come celebrate World Apple Day at Oxon Hill Farm! Learn all about apples and why we love them. Bring your energy! Play fun games and enjoy neat activities as we celebrate with others throughout the world. Come find out why apples are so special! You may even want to bring your own apples to enjoy.

## READING RANGER

Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station  
Sunday, October 23  
2:00 p.m.  
301-344-3944

Join a park ranger to read "The Raft" and explore a young child's journey into nature.

## RANGER-LED BIKE RIDE: LET'S MOVE!

Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn  
Sunday, October 23  
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
301-839-1176  
Ages 6 to adult

Take the President's Challenge. Learn how to set your daily activity goal and create a fitness log. Bring your bike to Oxon Cove Park and take a bike hike with Park Ranger Steph around the park and down to the cove. Don't forget your helmet and water bottle. Get started on your path to the Presidential Active Lifestyle Award. Meet at the Visitor Barn. For more information, go to [www.presidentschallenge.org](http://www.presidentschallenge.org) or [www.letsmove.gov](http://www.letsmove.gov).

## WATERSHED WATCHDOGS CLUB

Greenbelt Park—Sweetgum Picnic Area  
Saturday, October 29  
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
301-344-3944  
All ages

Join us to help clean our part of the Potomac Watershed. Please call for more information.

## FORT WASHINGTON AT NIGHT

Fort Washington Park—Historic Fort  
Saturday, October 29  
5:30 p.m.  
301-763-4600  
All ages

Bring your flashlight to a nighttime exploration of the old historic fort. Listen for the nocturnal creatures, view the clear night sky, and find out if Joseph

Cameron's ghost still searches for Virginia secessionists. Contact Park Ranger Bambi Sears for additional information.

## PUMPKINS, THE SPECIAL SQUASH

Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn  
Sunday, October 30  
9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.  
301-839-1176  
Ages 5 to 12 (all are welcome)

Did you ever wonder why pumpkins are a prominent symbol of the fall holiday season? Gather around the fire for an early morning program of song, stories, poems to discover the cultural significance of pumpkins and their place in the American landscape. Each family will take home a pumpkin at the end of the program. Reservations required.

# November

## FREDERICK DOUGLASS NHS ORATORICAL CONTEST

Open to grades 1-12  
Application Deadline—  
November 14  
202-426-5961  
Free

The goal of the Oratorical Contest is for students to experience the same transformative power of language that Frederick Douglass did as a young man. Students memorize and present a portion of a Douglass speech from a stage at his home of Cedar Hill.

## CHILDREN'S STORIES

Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station  
Saturday, November 5  
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
301-344-3944  
Ages 5-8

Join a park ranger in reading nature stories introducing participants to trees and plants that live in the park.

## RANGER-LED HIKE: LET'S MOVE!

Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn  
Sunday, November 6  
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
301-839-1176  
Ages 6 to adult

Take the President's Challenge. Learn how to set your daily activity goal and create a fitness log. Join Park Ranger Steph on a hike around the park and down to the cove. While you work toward the Presidential Active Lifestyle Award, you can enjoy the changing colors of autumn all around Oxon Cove Park. Meet at the Visitor Barn. For more information, go to [www.presidentschallenge.org](http://www.presidentschallenge.org) or [www.letsmove.gov](http://www.letsmove.gov).

## FRIENDS OF STILL CREEK MEETING

Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station  
Monday, November 7  
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
Contact: Bill Duncan at  
301-345-6515

The Friends of Still Creek invites you to discover Greenbelt Park and the Still Creek watershed.

## INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL

Greenbelt Park—Sweetgum Picnic Area  
Saturday, November 12  
1:00 p.m.  
301-344-3944

# Events

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

## BIRDS OF PLENTY

*Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn  
Sunday, November 13  
8:00 a.m.  
301-839-1176  
All ages*

Come explore the farm and learn about the varying habitats of the parks' ground birds, twig birds, leaf birds, and tree birds. If you have field glasses/binoculars, please bring them with you. We have a limited supply.

## CELEBRATE THE FIELD ARTILLERY'S 237TH BIRTHDAY

*Fort Washington Park—Historic Fort  
Sunday, November 13  
1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m.  
301-763-4600  
All Ages*

The United States Field Artillery began in 1775 when Henry Knox was appointed Chief Artillery of the Continental Army. Artillerymen were considered the army's elite during the early years of America. When the Continental army was abolished in 1784, a detachment of 80 men remained to guard government stores. They were known as field artillerymen, making the artillery the only branch of the army with continuous service since the revolution. Join the Fort Washington Guard as they wish the Field Artillery Happy Birthday. The Guard will demonstrate field guns used during the muzzle-loading era of American Artillery. Contact Park Rangers Barbara Wadding

or Bambi Sears for additional information.

## CHILDREN STORYTELLING

*Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station  
Saturday, November 19  
12:00 p.m.  
301-344-3944  
Ages 5-8*

Join a ranger in the classroom and pick your favorite winter storytelling book.

## READING STORIES WITH PARK RANGER STEPH: CHECK OUT OUR CHICKENS!

*Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn  
Monday, November 21  
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.  
301-839-1176  
Ages 0-5 and accompanying adults*

Every third Monday of the month, come listen to stories, sing songs, and enjoy other activities. This month, find out why the chicken crossed the road, and what happened when the sky began to fall on Henny Penny. Be a good egg and do the chicken dance with Park Ranger Steph.

## MEET THE BEAVER

*Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station  
Sunday, November 27  
1:00 p.m.  
301-344-3944*

Join a park ranger as we learn about beavers and their habitat.

# December

## INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL

*Greenbelt Park—Sweetgum Picnic Area  
Saturday, December 3  
11:00 a.m.  
301-344-3944*

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

## BIKE HIKES ON THE HIKER-BIKER TRAIL

*Fort Dupont Park—Activity Center  
Saturday, December 3  
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
202-426-7723  
Ages 12 and over*

Learn about the Civil War Defenses of Washington on this 5-mile mountain bike ride and see how land that once defended the nation's capital is now natural forest areas. The tour will begin at the Fort Dupont Activity Center and stop at several sites, like Forts Davis, Chaplin, Dupont, or Mahan, to explore and learn about the earthen fortifications hidden within this urban forest. Spectacular views of Washington D.C. can be captured from the hilltops around the city where the forts and the Hiker-Biker trail connect nature to history. Free parking is available on site. Meet at the Fort Dupont Activity Center, Fort Dupont Drive SE, Washington, D.C. 20019. Free.

## WINTER FARM FESTIVAL

*Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn  
Sunday, December 4  
1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
301-839-1176  
All ages*

Winter is on the way and preparations are taking place to prepare for the upcoming months. Join us as we celebrate and prepare for the winter season from the African, European, and Native American perspective; these cultures have contributed to the Oxon Hill Farm history. Put on your scarf, gloves, and boots and come outside to help make apple cider, help with the winter chores, and take a horse drawn wagon ride. Come inside and get warm and listen to storytelling, join in on the singing and dancing, help with the canning and food preserving, and even make a holiday craft. Light refreshments will be served.

## PINE CONE BIRD FEEDER CRAFTS

*Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station  
Sunday, December 4  
11:00 a.m.  
301-344-3944  
Ages 5-12*

Join a ranger in fun as we make and take home natural bird feeders for our feathered friends.

## "TALK IN TRASH WITH SASHA THE SPIDER"

*Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station  
Saturday, December 10  
11:00 a.m.  
301-344-3944  
Children/Youth*

Do you want to become a puppeteer? "Talk in Trash with Sasha the Spider" is a play, which helps children learn about the animals that live in Greenbelt Park

# Events

and how they have easily adapted to an urban lifestyle. Come and join us as a puppeteer to educate those interested in learning about the park.

## JUNIOR RANGER DAY

*Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station  
Saturday, December 10  
1:00 p.m.  
301-344-3944  
Ages 6-12*

Learn how to put up a tent, enjoy a scavenger hunt, and listen to the story of Smokey Bear.

## ARTIST IN THE PARK

*Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station  
Saturday, December 17  
11:00 a.m.  
301-344-3944  
All ages*

Explore your talent by drawing your favorite animal and discover their characteristics.

## WINTER WALK IN GREENBELT PARK

*Greenbelt Park—Sweetgum Picnic Area  
Sunday, December 18  
2:00 p.m.  
301-344-3944 to RSVP*

Join a Park Ranger to discover the forest in winter.

## READING STORIES WITH RANGER STEPH: KITTY'S FAVORITE HOLIDAY "TAILS"

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

Every third Monday of the month, come listen to stories, sing songs, and enjoy other activities. This month, join Ranger

Steph and Kitty the Barn Cat for a purr-fectly pleasant morning learning about holiday traditions. Meet in the Visitor Barn.

## January

*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Film Festival  
Frederick Douglass NHS—Visitor Center  
Saturday, January 14 through  
Monday, January 16  
11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day  
202-426-5961  
All ages  
Free*

Join us for a film festival celebrating the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King.

## ANIMALS IN WINTER

*Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station  
Sunday, January 15  
11:00 a.m.  
301-344-3944  
Ages 5-12*

Join a park ranger as we learn how some animals survive in the cold and harsh conditions of winter.

## READING STORIES WITH PARK RANGER STEPH: FOUR SEASONS ON THE FARM

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

Every third Monday of the month, come listen to stories, sing songs, and enjoy other activities. This month, celebrate the coming of 2012 with a look at all four seasons of the year. Find out why sheep love the winter and why Park Ranger Steph

loves the summer. What's YOUR favorite season? Meet in the Visitor Barn.

## LET'S MOVE! WINTER EDITION

*Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn  
Sunday, January 22  
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
301-839-1176  
Ages 6 to adult*

Take the President's Challenge. Join Park Ranger Steph to learn how to set your daily activity goal and create a fitness log. Come prepared to get some exercise both inside and outside. Humans don't hibernate! Don't let a little chill in the air keep you from working toward the Presidential Active Lifestyle Award. Meet at the Visitor Barn. For more information, go to [www.presidentschallenge.org](http://www.presidentschallenge.org) or [www.letsmove.gov](http://www.letsmove.gov).

## WRITING RIGHT

*Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn  
Saturday, January 28  
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
301-839-1176  
Ages 5-12*

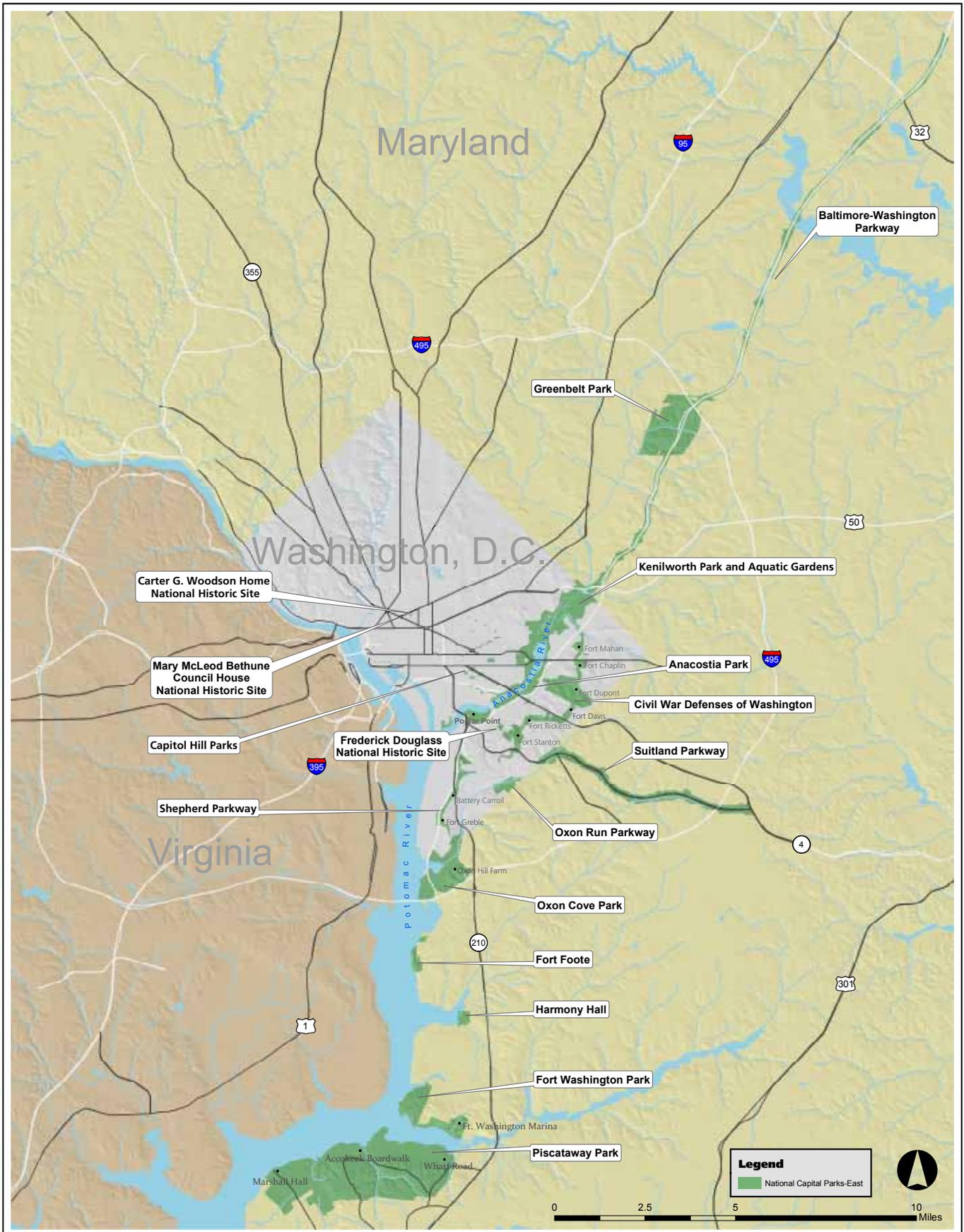
Have you ever wondered how people long ago wrote before

they had the nice fancy markers and mechanical pencils you buy at a store? Come look at handwriting from hundreds of years ago and learn about the tools they used. Join in the fun and see if you can write using the old pens, ink, and feathers.



A visitor and her child stroll past the Mary McLeod Bethune Memorial in Lincoln Park, Washington, D.C. NPS Photo.

# Map





National Park Service  
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## 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	●	●		●	●		●	●	●		●