



Beyond the Capital

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

Summer 2014

A Visitor's Guide to National Capital Parks-East

Sights of Summer. NPS Photo



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

National Capital Parks-East

Acting Superintendent

Gopaul Noojibail

Mailing Address

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

E-Mail

gopaul_noojibail@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

Lori McKensie Spillman

Layout and Design

Kenneth J. Chandler and the
NPS Graphic Identity Program
Team

Map Design

Jamese 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:
lori_m_spillman@nps.gov

What's Inside:

For Your Information3
Important Phone Numbers3
Become a Volunteer3
Parks of National Capital Parks-East 4-5
Park Partners and Cooperating Associations6
Articles7
Events8-14
Park Map 15
Activities at Your Fingertips 16

Message from the Office of the Superintendent

Dear Park Visitors,

Welcome to NACE's Beyond the Capital, your guide to upcoming spring/summer events, programs, and so much more. This guide will help you pre-plan your visits to the sites managed by NACE and our partners during this season. We offer a variety of activities for all ages, families, and groups.

Several of the sites offer recurring events. This means you will have a few dates to plan for on those visits to the park that really sparks your interest. You may want to take the Ranger Fit Challenge at Anacostia Park or Track the Trails at Fort Washington Park; or how about Morning Bird Watching at one of the Capitol Hill Parks? Maybe you would like for your child to participate in a Junior Ranger camp this summer or camp out at Greenbelt Park with the family for few days. The little ones may enjoy Reading with Ranger Steph at Oxon Cove or studying the Birds and the Bees at Fort Foote Park. I am sure that we offer something of interest for all.

During this season, the parks will be filled with lots of children and youth, from day camps to summer youth working with the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC), DC Summer Youth Employment Program (DCSYEP), Volunteers in the Parks (VIP), and our very own Junior Rangers. We welcome them all, full of energy, ideas and promise. Through their contributions, as well as their curiosities, and growth in knowledge, we will continue to explore the parks natural and cultural resources for this and future generations.

I wish you and yours a fun filled, educational, and memorable experience at any and all of the sites of National Capital Parks-East. I invite you to renew yourself this spring and summer at any National Capital Parks-East site. A reminder to all visitors: always be aware of your surroundings while visiting your national parks, and if you see something, say something.

Thank you for experiencing America at one of your national parks,

Gopaul Noojibail
Acting Superintendent



Gopaul Noojibail, Acting Superintendent. NPS Photo.

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 more than 400 National Park Service sites found all across America?

Become a Volunteer!

Do you want to give back to a 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.



Civil War life at Ft. Washington Park. NPS Photo.

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.

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 can carry Lyme disease. 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 dawn until dusk, 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.

Park will open from 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The park is closed Thanksgiving, December 25 and January 1.

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 National Capital Region's Museum Resource Center, 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
301-832-3977 (Archivist)
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 Joint Base Andrews in Camp Springs, Maryland to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Bridge (South Capitol Street) 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. Summer hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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

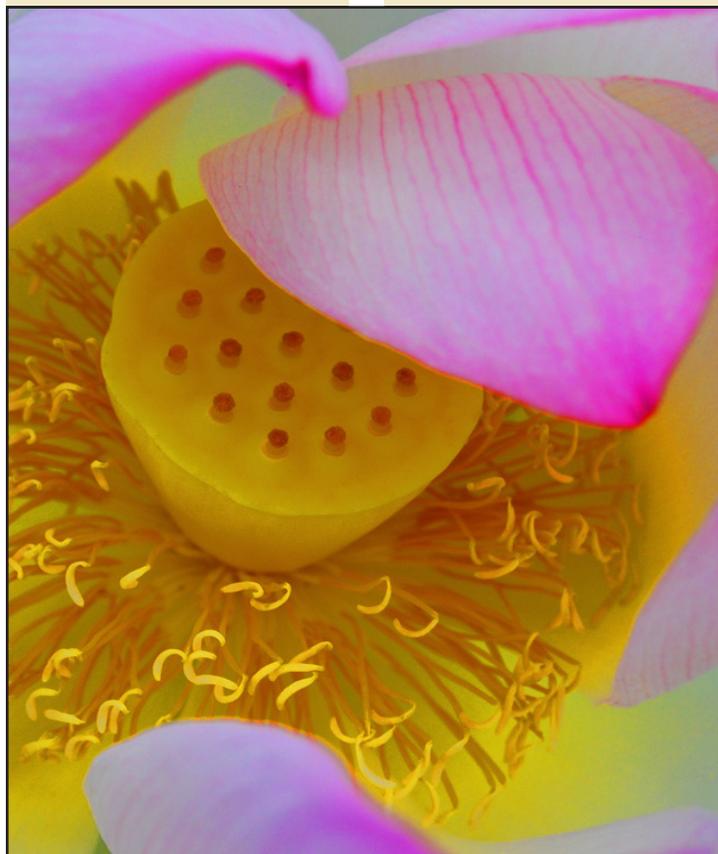
Greenbelt Park is a natural oasis situated just 12 miles from Washington, D.C., and 23 miles from Baltimore, Maryland. The park's 1,100 acres of oak, maple, sweetgum, and old pine are a retreat from the pressures of city life and a forested refuge for native plants and animals.

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



Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens ~ Lotus pod up close. 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

Anjela Barnes
Communications Manager
Accokeek Foundation
3400 Bryan Point Road
Accokeek, MD 20607
outreach@accokeek.org
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

Alena Rosen
Communications Manager
2001 Bryan Point Road
Accokeek, MD 20607
arosen@fergusonfoundation.org
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

Bryan King
Associate Director Fishers and Wildlife
1900 Anacostia Drive SE
Washington, DC 20020
bryan.king@dc.gov
202-535-2260
www.doh.dc.gov/doh/cwp

Earth Conservation Corps

The 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

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

www.thesca.org

Articles

Partnership with Forest Heights Elementary

War of 1812 Bicentennial— A Star-Spangled School Year

by Marilyn Cohen-Brown

Oxon Cove Park and Forest Heights Elementary of Prince George's County Public Schools have had an on-going partnership for two years. Activities are planned and presented to the fourth, fifth, and sixth graders each year encouraging students' and their families' participation in shared cultural and natural resource endeavors, while at the same time, becoming stewards in Oxon Cove Park's rich cultural and natural setting. With the bicentennial of the most important victory in the War of 1812, which took place in 1814 at Fort McHenry in the Baltimore Harbor, it was quite natural for planners representing Oxon Cove Park and Forest Heights Elementary to choose the theme, "A Star-Spangled School Year," for the 2013-2014 school year.

The kick-off event for the school year was a field trip to Fort McHenry National Historical Site. The students, teachers, and park rangers departed early in the morning for the hour-long trip to Baltimore. As the buses approached the site, the excitement that was felt by all intensified. Adventures for that day included: viewing of the inspiring orientation film; students folding a replica of the flag, the "Star-Spangled Banner"; a tour of the fort; and a climb along the fort's walls to see the exact location of the British Naval Fleet's attack on Fort McHenry in September 1814. They were so engaged that the fort staff invited the students back for a follow-up event in April 2014.



Forest Heights students fold a replica of the "Star-Spangled Banner."
NPS Photo.

Keeping Up with Jr. Ranger Aida Frey

By Lori M. Spillman

April 1, 2014

By age 10, Jr. Ranger Aida Frey had earned 60 badges. Now at age 13, she has 180 and counting. Aida's continuing journey with the National Park Service has brought her to a total of 162 parks out of 401 National Park Service units. In addition to the Junior Ranger badges, Aida has also amassed 300 pins and 84 patches. She has received private tours with park superintendents; is a guest blogger for the National Park Foundation; has a video on YouTube (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WKBC4kFC_iM) with Superintendent Dave Ruth of Richmond National Battlefield Park; and is a celebrity in her own right when she makes an appearance.

Aida and her parents, Shawn and Norma Frey from Algonquin, Illinois, visited the Washington, DC area again during the week of March 24–28, 2014. They visited several National Capital Parks-East sites including Greenbelt Park, Frederick Douglass NHS, and Anacostia Park. They also paid a visit to the Department of the Interior and met Julia Washburn, Associate Director of Interpretation, Education, and Volunteers. Director Jonathan Jarvis also took time out to meet Jr. Ranger Aida. Aida said, "I love nature and my favorite park is Oxon Cove Park/Oxon Hill Farm".

The Freys arrived at NACE Headquarters on Thursday, March 27 to meet in person with Lori M. Spillman, who has worked with Aida for the past three years. They spent a couple of hours there sharing stories and meeting the NACE staff. Acting Superintendent Gopaul Noojibail honored her with the grand NACE Blanket, which is normally reserved for NACE retirees.

The Freys are very excited and proud about Aida's accomplishments as a Junior Ranger. Her dad, Shawn said, "All of our vacations and business trips center around national parks.... People who live in areas close to national parks are so lucky." Their plans are to visit national parks out west in Colorado and southern Utah this summer. It is our hope that Aida continues her National Park Service journey for many years to come. She has a love for her national parks that may encourage others, young and old, to "Be Like Aida".



Aida Frey with Frank Young and Lori M. Spillman of National Capital Parks-East. NPS Photo.

Events

Recurring Events

KENILWORTH AQUATIC GARDENS POND TOURS

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens—Visitor Center
Saturdays and Sundays, April 26 through September 28
9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
202-426-6905
All Ages
Free

Come and enjoy a stroll around the beautiful Aquatic Gardens of Kenilworth. We will look at all aspects of pond life including varieties of plants, turtles, frogs, dragonflies and birds.

RANGER FIT CHALLENGE

Anacostia Park—Skating Pavilion
Thursdays: May 1 through October 30
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
202-472-3884
All Ages
Free

Challenge fitness course along the river trail with Rangers available to advise, encourage, and promote healthy lifestyles.

ARTILLERY DEMONSTRATION

Fort Washington Park—Historic Fort
Sundays: May 4, June 1, June 15, July 6, July 12, July 13, August 3, August 15, and September 7
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
301-763-4600
All Ages

Ever wonder how Civil War cannons were fired? The Fort Washington Guard dressed 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.

EXPLORING RIVER ECOSYSTEMS

Anacostia Park—Meet at the Skating Pavilion

Wednesdays: May 7 through August 27
11:00 a.m. to 12 noon
202-472-3873
All Ages

Free Come out to learn more about the Anacostia River and the reasons why it should be protected. Program will include a presentation on the importance of the Anacostia River ecosystem and brief outdoor activity.

NO FOOD, NO ARMY

Fort Washington Park—Historic Fort
Sundays: May 4, June 1, July 6, August 3, and September 7
11:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon
301-763-4600
All Ages
Free

Come experience the Civil War through the belly. Join a ranger and our Civil War volunteers as they demonstrate how the soldiers of Fort Washington prepared their food and what they ate from day to day during the Civil War.

WINGS IN THE SPRING

Various locations:
Piscataway Park—Boardwalk
Saturdays: May 3 & 31
9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Harmony Hall—Mansion
Sunday, May 4
9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
Fort Washington Park—Loop Road
Saturday, May 17
9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
Fort Foote—Main Parking Lot
Sunday, May 18
9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
301-763-4600
All Ages
Free

With the warmer temperatures, the birds come out! Join a ranger as we search for waterfowl, raptors, and songbirds among the beautiful backdrop of the budding spring forest and the Potomac riverfront. Please bring water.

MARSHALL HALL: A GRAVE TALK

Piscataway Park—Marshall Hall
Mondays: May 5, June 2, July 7, August 4, and September 1
11:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon
301-763-4600
All Ages
Free

Come learn about the history of Marshall Hall through the Marshall's who still reside there. The grave talk will dig deep into the Marshall family history and the multiple uses of the land from tobacco fields to amusement park.

NATURE AT CEDAR HILL

Frederick Douglass NHS—Grounds
Tuesdays: May 13, June 3, July 8, and August 5
9:00 a.m. to 12 noon
202-426-5961
All Ages
Free

Frederick Douglass loved to take walks to enjoy the sounds of

nature. Join a park ranger as we look for signs of nature and at some of the impressive buildings that can be seen from the top of Cedar Hill

FISHING WITH A RANGER

Fort Washington Park—Lighthouse
Tuesdays: May 13 & 27; June 3 & 17; July 8 & 14; August 5 & 19; and September 2 & 16
9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
301-763-4600
All Ages
Free

Grab your rod and reel, and head down to the Potomac! Cast a line with a ranger and learn about the fish you will be trying to catch, wildlife in the area, and the history of the river. Maybe you can swap some old fishing stories too. Be sure to bring your tackle, as well as a valid Maryland DNR fishing permit.

TRACK THE TRAILS

Fort Washington Park—Lighthouse
Fridays: May 16, June 20, July 18, August 15, and September 19
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
All Ages
Free

Do you know the difference between a raccoon track and a fox track? Take a mile hike on the river trail with a ranger and help us identify as many animal tracks as we can find. This walk will traverse moderate terrain within the park. Please bring water.

Events

BASEBALL IN THE CIVIL WAR

Fort Washington Park—Loop Road Field
Saturdays: May 17, June 14, and July 19
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Sundays: August 10 & September 14
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
301-763-4600
All Ages
Free

Baseball started as a town game in New England, but it became America's pastime during the Civil War. Join our park rangers and members of the Fort Washington guard in demonstrating the differences between the sport we know today, and the game they knew then. Please bring water.

LOAD IN NINE TIMES

Fort Washington Park—Historic Fort
Sundays: May 18 & September 21
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
301-763-4600
All Ages
Free

Join the Fort Washington Guard members as they demonstrate how the percussion rifle-musket is loaded and fired. Firings will take place throughout the afternoon.

TWILIGHT TOUR

Fort Washington Park—Historic Fort
Thursdays: May 22, June 26, July 24, and August 28
7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Thursday, September 25
6:45 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.
301-763-4600
Ages 18 & up
Free
Please provide your own flashlight.

Join a ranger as you walk through the 19th century fort on a tour with flashlights in hand. He will guide you through the history and uses of the first masonry fort to protect Washington, DC from naval attack.

THE BIRDS AND THE BEES

Fort Foote Park—Parking Lot
Mondays: May 26, June 16, July 28, August 25, and September 22
10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
301-763-4600
All Ages
Free

How does pollination work? Let's explore how plants are pollinated and how animals and insects help. This two-mile walk will traverse moderate terrain within the park. Please bring water.

URBAN ECOLOGY SCAVENGER HUNT

Capitol Hill Parks
Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.
Lincoln Park—June 5
Stanton Park—July 3
Marion Park—August 7
202-673-2402
Ages 4 to 10

Join a ranger to learn about the furry and feathered friends living in your neighborhood. Put what you've learned to the test and discover even more with our Urban Ecology Scavenger Hunt!

NATURE WALK

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens—Visitor Center
Saturdays: June 7, June 14, July 5, Jul 26, Aug 2, and Aug 23
Sundays: June 8, Jun 22, July 13, and Aug 3
11:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon
202-426-6905
All Ages
Free

Join a National Park Service ranger as we explore the gardens, marshes and woodlands of Kenilworth looking for turtles, butterflies, spiders, birds and much more.

HOME FRONT

Fort Washington Park—Historic Fort
Saturdays: June 14 & July 19
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
301-763-4600
All Ages

During the Civil War, local citizens were an important part of enabling the soldiers to keep fighting by providing goods, treats, morale, and spiritual support. Volunteers from the Potomac Citizens, a local group of living history interpreters, will portray Marylanders meeting the challenges of supporting the soldiers while missing their loved ones.

RUN WITH A RANGER: CAPITOL HILL PARKS TOUR ON TRAINERS

Capitol Hill Parks—Lincoln Park
Saturdays: June 14, July 12, and August 9
9:00 a.m.
202-673-2402
Ages 12 and above

Want a great workout for your body and mind? Following the NPS initiative, "Healthy Parks Healthy People," rangers will

take you for a refreshing 3-mile run through the Capitol Hill Parks with historical interpretation along the way. You'll finish the program feeling refreshed, rejuvenated, and enlightened.

HARMONY HALL MANSION GROUNDS TOUR

Harmony Hall Stables—Parking Lot
Sundays: June 15 & August 2
10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
301-763-4600
All Ages
Free

Come stroll the grounds and learn about Harmony Hall's past owners and the history of the mansion.

LET'S GIVE A HOOT

Fort Washington Park—Picnic Area D
Saturdays: June 21, August 16, and September 20
10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Friday, July 11
10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
301-763-4600
Ages: 6 to 10
Free

Join a ranger and explore the different types of owls of the area, play owl bingo and then dissect an owl pellet to learn what owls eat. Please bring water.

JUNIOR RANGER CAMP

Fort Washington Park—Historic Fort
Session 1: Monday, June 23 through Friday, June 27
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon
Session 2: Monday, July 21 through Friday, July 25
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon
301-763-4600
Ages: 7 to 11
Free
Reservations required.

Events

This camp will be an educational experience for any child. During this week-long camp, we will certainly Explore, Learn, and Protect. Campers will experience how to fire a cannon, study the history of Fort Washington and the defenses of the fort, identify animal tracks, go hiking the river trail, plant identification, and the importance of pollinators. Through games and hands on experiences, campers will discover Fort Washington Park. This camp will traverse moderate terrain within the park. Please bring water and wear appropriate clothing for weather conditions. For more information, please check our website at www.nps.gov/fowa/.

CAPITOL HILL PARKS MORNING BIRD WATCH

Capitol Hill Parks—Lincoln Park
Saturdays: June 28, July 26, and August 30
9:00 a.m.
202-673-2402
All Ages

Join a ranger in the stillness of the a.m. to observe our skyward companions. You will learn the basics of bird watching and help ornithologists better understand our feathered friends through your observations. All ages and experience levels are welcome.

CREEPY AND CRAWLIES ON THE BOARDWALK

Piscataway Park—Accokeek Creek/Boardwalk
Tuesdays: July 15 & 29, August 12 & 26, and September 9 & 23
2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
301-763-4600
All Ages
Free

Trek out onto the boardwalk in search of evidence of different insects that live around us. To

understand more about these little critters, we plan to scope out their homes, favorite munching grounds, and different life stages. Please bring water.

ARTS IN THE PARK

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens—Visitor Center
Sundays: July 27 & August 10
11:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon
202-426-6905
Ages 6 to 12
Free

Join a park ranger, explore Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, and get the opportunity to create works of Art. Express yourself with paint and pastels on paper. Art Supplies included. Wear appropriate clothing for walking and painting.

WOULD YOU SURVIVE A ZOMBIE APOCALYPSE AT FORT WASHINGTON?

Fort Washington Park—Historic Fort
Saturdays: September 13 & September 27
2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
301-763-4600
Ages 12 and up
Free
Adult must accompany children

The time has come when the dead walk the earth; what will you do to survive? Come and explore the 19th century fort that defended Washington, DC and see how to survive within its walls. Learn why this fort was designed and placed where it was, and how it could help you in the chaos against a zombie attack. Please bring water.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE ACCOKEEK FOUNDATION AT PISCATAWAY PARK

The Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park offers unique opportunities for volunteers who want to be a part of preserving the cultural history, natural resources, and agriculture of Southern Maryland. With the support of more than 200 volunteers each year, the foundation offers engaging and educational programs to the community. Volunteers work alongside staff members to help steward and maintain Piscataway Park, provide event and program support, and engage the community. Whether you would like to volunteer for one day, or are looking for a volunteer position, there are opportunities to fit all interests and skill levels. To learn more about becoming a volunteer with your park, join the Accokeek Foundation on the first Saturday or third Thursday monthly for a volunteer orientation and service project. Visit www.accokeekfoundation.org or email volunteers@accokeek.org for more information.

GREENBELT PARK CAMPGROUND

Making plans for the summer? Reservations are available for the Greenbelt Park campground from Thursday, May 22 through Labor Day. The campground is open all year round. Call 1-888-444-6777 or online at <http://www.recreation.gov>.

Make plans to visit Washington, DC, and stay at Greenbelt Park's campground. The Greenbelt campground is known for its affordability, peaceful

surroundings, and National Park Service hospitality.

CAMPGROUND A LOOP IS A SCOUT LOOP

There is a six-person limit to each campsite. 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 A Loop.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY RUNNING CLUB

Greenbelt Park—Meet at Sweetgum Picnic Area
Every Saturday
8:00 a.m.
301-337-7472
Ages 16 to adult
President Lydia Shell
Free

Join beginner and other runners in enjoying the outdoor beauty of Greenbelt Park. PGRC (Prince George's Running Club) is a running club based in Prince George's County, Maryland, near Washington, DC. We cover the range from folks just starting out slowly to some who are very fast. New people, regardless of speed or "seriousness," are always welcome. You're also welcome to run with us even before you join!

The PGRC is on Facebook and you can follow us on twitter @pgrunningclub

Events

INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL

Greenbelt Park—Meet at Sweetgum Picnic Area
Saturdays: May 3, June 7, July 5, and August 2
11:00 a.m.

Ages 8 to adult
RSVP: Ranger Staff at
301-344-3944

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

MT. AIRY BICYCLE RACES

Greenbelt Park
Wednesdays, May through August
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
301-344-3948

Enjoy the Tour de France-style bicycle races.

CAMPFIRE PROGRAMS IN THE SUMMER

Campfire programs are coming to the Greenbelt Park campground for summer 2014.

Please check the Greenbelt website at www.nps.gov/gree for the latest up to date program information.

THE COUNTY OF ARLINGTON: IS IT NORTH OR SOUTH?

Civil War Defenses of Washington—Arlington House
Thursday, May 8 and every other Thursday
11:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon
Ages 5 and above
Free

Arlington was the northernmost of the Confederate and the southernmost point of

the Union. Join a ranger from the Civil War Defenses of Washington at the Arlington House to explain the strategic importance of the county of Arlington during the Civil War.

Any questions visit the website www.nps.gov/cwdw or call 202-426-7723 ext. 101.

Meet the Beaver

Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station
Sundays: May 9 & June 22
11:00 a.m.

301-344-3948
Ages 5 to adult
RSVP Ranger Barry

Join a park ranger as we learn about beaver characteristics and habitats.

May

BIKE THE BATTERIES

Fort Washington Park—Visitor Center

Tuesday, May 6
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, May 21
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

301-763-4600
All Ages
Free

Ever wonder what those big concrete structures scattered around Fort Washington are? Well, put on your helmet, hop on your bike and join a park ranger on a ride around the park stopping to learn the history of our Endicott System gun batteries. Please bring your bike, water and appropriate safety equipment.

WALKING TOUR OF FORT CHAPLIN

Civil War Defenses of Washington—Fort Chaplin
Saturday, May 10
10:00 a.m.

202-426-7723
Ages 12 and above

Join National Park Service Historian, David Lowe, on a moderately strenuous hike to view the well-preserved remains of rarely-visited Fort Chaplin, one of the 10 Civil War (1861–1865) Defenses sites east of the Anacostia River. Learn how these forts were built, fort components, learn why some survived and others did not, and why it is important to preserve these remains today. Handouts and maps will be provided. Gather at the south trail head of the NPS Hiker-Biker Trail at Fort Chaplin Park, corner of Burbank and C Street, SE. There is plenty of parking available on C Street. For safety precautions, persons wearing open-toed shoe or sandals will not be allowed to participate. Please dress appropriately and bring drinking water.

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATORY BIRD DAY FESTIVAL—WHY BIRDS MATTER!

Piscataway Park—Accokeek Creek/Boardwalk
Saturday, May 10
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

301-763-4600
All Ages
Free Event

Let's celebrate birds at this family friendly event! Learn why birds matter. Did you know they help with crops? Do you know which birds migrate through Maryland? Various organizations will have displays, arts, activities, and food. Experience

guided bird walks, live raptor demonstrations, kayaking naturalist demonstrations, face-painting and bird talks will be offered throughout the day.

DISCOVER FORT CHAPLIN EARTHWORKS

Civil War Defenses of Washington—Fort Chaplin
Saturday, May 10
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon
Free of charge but strongly encouraged to make a reservation
All ages

Join us for a walking tour of the discovery of Fort Chaplin Earthworks as part of the Civil War defenses of Washington D.C. For additional information, visit www.nps.gov/cwdw or call 202-426-7723 ext. 101.

FROM SHEEP TO SWEATER

Oxon Cove Park
Wednesday, May 14
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon
301-839-1176
All ages

Once again, it is time for our flock of sheep to get their woolly coats sheared. Come out to the farm and watch the sheep shearer give our "sheepish friends" their annual haircuts. A spinner will be on hand to demonstrate how the wool is spun into yarn. Meet at the goat and sheep pen.

READING STORIES WITH RANGER STEPH: SPRINGTIME ON THE FARM

Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn
Monday, May 19
9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
301-839-1176
Ages 0 to 5, and accompanying adults

Events

Crops to plant, new animals to train, fences to mend... the list goes on and on! Come find out why spring is such a busy season on the farm. Every third Monday of the month, come listen to stories, sing songs, and enjoy other activities. This month, celebrate all the signs of new life at Oxon Hill Farm. Meet Ranger Steph in the Visitor Barn.

IT'S ALIVE!

Piscataway Park—Accokeek Creek/Boardwalk
Saturday, May 24
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
301-763-4600
All Ages
Free

Do you know what the term living shoreline means? Let our ranger take you on a shoreline mile walk while explaining what makes Piscataway shoreline living. This middle Potomac shoreline protects great views and diverse aquatic life, as well as wildlife. This walk is along a new boardwalk, but you may want to bring water and wear appropriate shoes.

MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION

Logan Circle Park
Monday, May 26
11:00 a.m.
202-673-2402
All Ages

Come celebrate Memorial Day in Logan Circle through musical selections and speeches honoring the legacy of Congressman John A. Logan, the founder of the great holiday.

SPRING BIRD WALK

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens—Visitor Center
Saturdays: April 5, April 19, and May 24
8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
202-426-6905
All Ages
Free

Join a National Park Service ranger as we explore Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens. To try to see how many species of birds we can identify. Binoculars and bird guides provided.

WOODLOT TRAIL HIKE

Oxon Cove Park
Friday, May 30
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
301-839-1176
Ages 6 to Adult.

An adult must accompany all children.

Let's go on a walk through the forest. Join a park ranger for a walk through Oxon Hill Farm's Woodlot Trail. Learn about the different trees and animals in the farm's backyard. Meet at the Visitor Barn.

June

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY

Greenbelt Park—Sweetgum Picnic Area
Saturday, June 7
8:30 a.m. to 12:00 Noon
RSVP at 301-344-3944
Ages 10 and up

Come, help make a difference, and help maintain one of the trails in the park.

DUPONT-KALORAMA MUSEUM "WALK WEEKEND"

Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS
Saturday, June 7
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Sunday, June 8
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
202-673-2402
All Ages

We invite the public to share in our educational and cultural programming focused on the National Council of Negro Women. Artists and activists in the civil rights struggle who maintain a long tradition of collaborative efforts will be highlighted this year through arts and crafts activities, and a jazz garden reception.

READING RANGER

Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station located near the campground
Sunday, June 8
301-344-3944
11:00 a.m.
Ages 5 to 12
RSVP Ranger Barry

Join a Park ranger to read "The Raft" and explore a young child's journey into nature on a summer vacation.

150-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF JUBAL EARLY'S RAID ON WASHINGTON (1864)

Greenbelt Park—Sweetgum Picnic Area
Saturday, June 14
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
All ages
RSVP Ranger John Reid at 301-344-3944

Visit an encampment of Confederate troops, circa 1864, and see the campaign life of a

Civil War soldier re-created in the field, with blank musket firing demonstrations to commemorate the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War, and the raid that threatened Washington City in July 1864 at Fort Stevens. Musketry demonstrations at 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

READING STORIES WITH RANGER STEPH: DONKEYS DOMINATE AND MULES RULE!

Oxon Cove Park
Monday, June 16
9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
301-839-1176
Ages 0 to 5, and accompanying adults

Do you know that mules are neither horse nor donkey, but a blend of the two? Every third Monday of the month, come listen to stories, sing songs, and enjoy other activities. This month, come to Oxon Hill Farm and meet Pat the Pony Mule. The focus of this story time will be the strength, intelligence, and stubbornness, of mules and donkeys! Meet Ranger Steph in the Visitor Barn.

OXON HILL FARM GARDEN TOUR

Oxon Cove Park
Saturday, June 28
9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.
301-839-1176
Ages 10 to adult

Come explore Oxon Hill Farm's multi-cultural organic garden. See the three major crops used by the Native Americans, learn about the different medical plants used by the 19th European owner of the farm, and see some of the crops the enslaved residents would have planted. Meet at the Visitor Barn.

Events

July

INDEPENDENCE DAY FIREWORKS

Fort Washington Park—Historic Fort

Friday, July 4

7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

301-763-4600

All Ages

Free

Would you like to avoid the traffic and crowds on the 4th of July? You can enjoy the National Mall fireworks from Fort Washington Park. Join us to see those and local fireworks viewing in the celebration of Independence Day in southern Maryland.

ANIMALS ON THE FARM

Oxon Cove Park

Saturday, July 5

2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

301-839-1176

All Ages

Relax for a spell and join us for an animal-themed movie in our Visitor Barn. We will also have on hand activities to do during movie viewing. Activities will focus on farm animals and their care.

IT'S MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE'S BIRTHDAY!

Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS

Location: Capitol Hill Parks—Lincoln Park

Thursday, July 10

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

202-673-2402

All Ages

The Mary McLeod Bethune Council House National Historic Site, along with the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. and the Capitol

Hill community, will celebrate the contributions of the famous Civil Rights leader on her 139th birthday. Meet us at the Bethune memorial statue in Lincoln Park.

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF FORT STEVENS

Civil War Defenses of Washington—Fort Stevens

Friday, July 11 through Sunday, July 13

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

All ages

Free

Join park rangers and others in commemorating the only time the Confederates attacked Washington and the Union soldiers who helped defend the Capital City.

Activities include:

- Crafts and games for children
- Civil War Re-enactors
- Live 18th century music
- Historians sharing the impact of the Battle of Fort Stevens
- Walking tours

Any questions visit www.nps.gov/cwdw or call 202-426-7723 ext. 101.

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WAR OF 1812

Fort Washington Park

Saturday, July 12 & Sunday, July 13

11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

301-763-4600

All Ages

Free

Fort Washington celebrates the bicentennial of the War of 1812. Walks and talks on the invasion of Washington, living history displays with historic weapons demonstrations will take place throughout both days. Cannon salutes will accompany the tall ship "Pride of Baltimore" as it

makes several day trips past the fort on Sunday. The event concludes with an evening concert from the Federal City Brass Band beginning at 6:00 p.m. near the visitor center.

CELEBRATING "WITH PRIDE" ON THE POTOMAC: THE CIVILIAN EXPERIENCE

Piscataway Park—National Colonial Farm

Saturday, July 12

11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

301-283-2113

\$10.00 per person

Living history performances at the National Colonial Farm will highlight challenges faced by ordinary Marylanders during the War of 1812, as British invaders offer freedom to escaped slaves and prepare to set fire to the nation's capital. This interactive experience will engage all ages in the sights, sounds, and smells of life on the Potomac during this eventful moment in history. Walk aboard the *Pride of Baltimore*, a reproduction Baltimore Clipper, and learn the critical role that these top-sail schooner privateers played in the war. Event includes music, food, and War of 1812 kayak tours. Visit www.accokeekfoundation.org or call 301-283-2113 for more information.

BUTTER UP!

Oxon Cove Park—Mount Welby

Sunday, July 13

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

301-839-1176

All Ages

Visit Mount Welby, the 19th century home of the DeButts, and learn how the women-folk during this time churned milk into butter. We will also take a look at some of the favorite recipes

of Mrs. DeButts and see how this delicious dairy product was more than a spread for biscuits.

KENILWORTH AQUATIC GARDENS ANNUAL LOTUS & WATER LILY FESTIVAL

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens

Saturday, July 19

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

202-426-6905

All Ages

Free

See a spectacular display of lotus and water lilies in full bloom! Tour the ponds, green houses, and wetlands. Meet exhibitors from gardening, nature, and cultural groups.

READING STORIES WITH RANGER STEPH: REPTILE ROUND-UP

Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn

Monday, July 21

9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

301-839-1176

Ages 0 to 5, and accompanying adults

Leaping lizards, slithering snakes, and trudging turtles... they all make a home at Oxon Cove Park. Every third Monday of the month, come listen to stories, sing songs, and enjoy other activities. This month, come to Oxon Cove Park and discover something new about our cold-blooded, scaly-skinned, fur-free reptile friends. Meet Ranger Steph in the Visitor Barn.

JUNIOR RANGER CAMP

Oxon Cove Park

Monday, July 28 through

Thursday, July 31

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

301-839-1176

Ages 7 to 12

Free

Events

Learn about the National Park Service, especially National Capital Parks-East and Oxon Cove Park. Enjoy crafts, games, and other learning activities, both inside and out. Take the Junior Ranger Pledge and earn a badge. The camp is free. Campers must bring a lunch, a water bottle, and a snack. Call or stop by for a registration application, beginning Monday, April 7 at 9:00 a.m. Enrollment is open to new campers only.

August

CORN GRINDING

Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn
Saturday, August 2
11:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon
301-839-1176
All Ages

Come help us grind corn to make chicken feed. After grinding, we will feed the chickens and learn some interesting history of and uses for corn. Meet at the Visitor Barn.

LIGHTHOUSE OPEN HOUSE

Fort Washington Park—Lighthouse
Saturday, August 9
10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
301-763-4600
All Ages

The Fort Washington Bell Tower/Lighthouse will open to allow the public to view the base of the lighthouse. Climbing of the tower is not permitted.

WAR OF 1812 COMES TO MOUNT WELBY: WHAT THE MISTRESS'S LETTER TELLS US ABOUT THE BRITISH ATTACK ON WASHINGTON

Oxon Cove Park
Sunday, August 10
2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
301-839-1176
All Ages

Mrs. DeButts, the 19th century mistress of the Oxon Hill Farm property, was a prolific letter writer. These letters tell what life was like here two hundred years ago...including revelations on how the tumultuous events of the summer of 1814 impacted a civilian family living so close to the line of fire. Come and listen to Mrs. DeButts, portrayed by Dory Gean Cunningham, read her letters and learn how a 19th century family coped with the impacts of war.

READING STORIES WITH RANGER STEPH: WHOOOO IS ASLEEP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DAY?

Oxon Cove Park
Monday, August 18
9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
301-839-1176
Ages 0 to 5, and accompanying adults

Are you nocturnal like an owl, or diurnal like a deer? Every third Monday of the month, come listen to stories, sing songs, and enjoy other activities. This month, come to Oxon Cove Park and join Ranger Steph as she looks at the different ways that animals sleep. Shhhhh... Don't wake up the foxes in the woods on your way into the Visitor Barn!

UNITED STATES SANITARY COMMISSION (USSC) AND GARRISON WEEKEND

Fort Washington Park—Historic Fort
Saturday, August 23 & Sunday, August 24
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (ending at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday)
301-763-4600
All Ages (some demonstrations areas closed to children under 7, these will be posted)
Free

Step back in time to the American Civil War with this first-person living-history event. During the Civil War, local citizens were an important part of enabling the soldiers to keep fighting by providing goods, treats, morale, and spiritual support. Volunteers from the Potomac Citizens, a local group of living history interpreters, will portray Marylanders meeting the challenges of supporting the soldiers while missing their loved ones.

GREENBELT PARK CELEBRATES NPS FOUNDERS DAY—SALUTE TO CHARLES YOUNG

Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station
Monday, August 25
11:00 a.m.
301-344-3948
All ages
RSVP Ranger Barry

Discover Charles Young, the first African American superintendent, and his contributions to the National Park Service.

PARK BINGO!

Oxon Cove Park
Sunday, August 30
2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
301-839-1176
Ages 5 to 12, and accompanying adults

Five in a row? Bingo! Take a ranger-led walk around Oxon Cove Park and use your observation skills to help you fill in a park bingo card. Meet in the Visitor Barn.

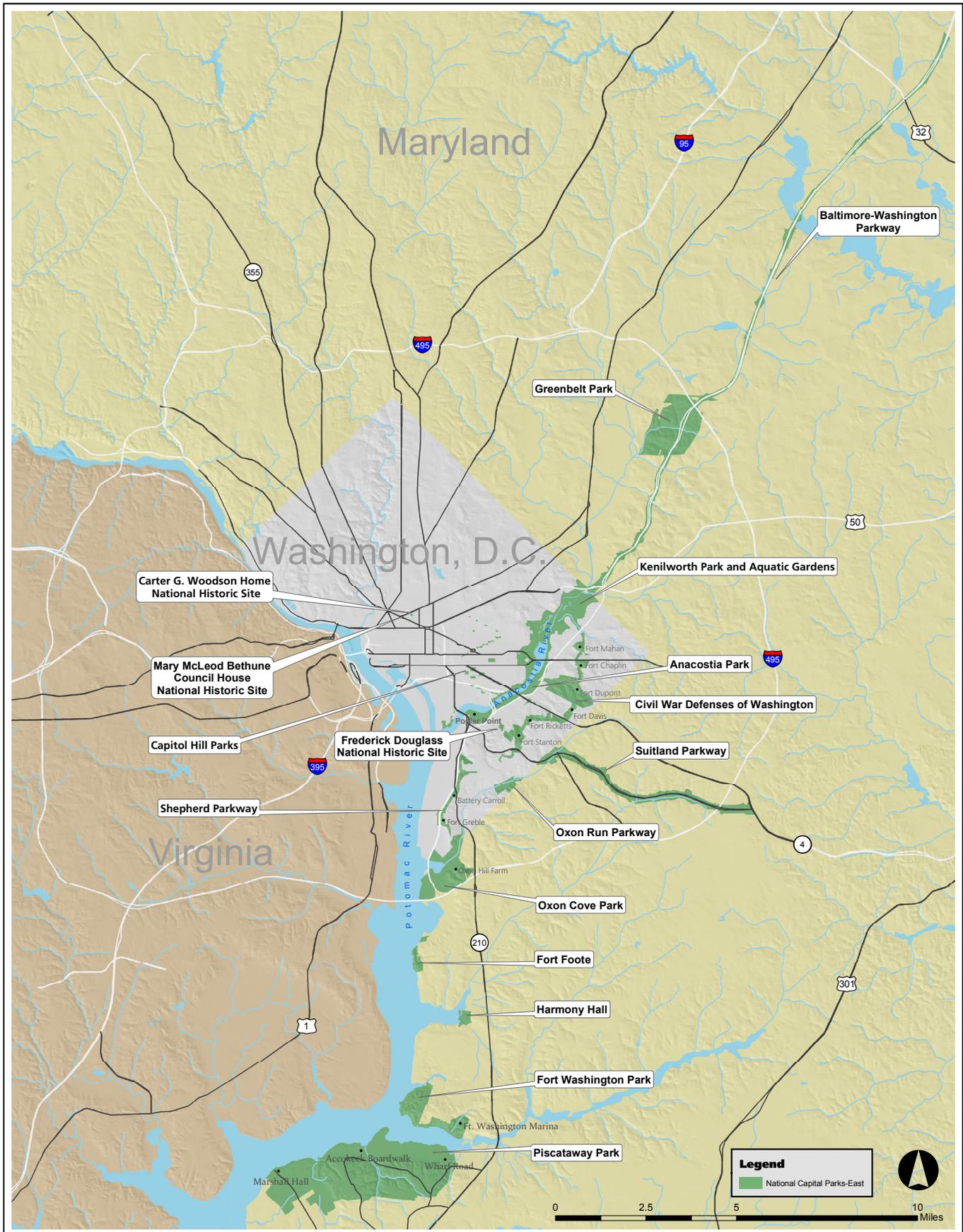
September

NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY—RIVER CLEANUP

Fort Washington Park—Lighthouse
Saturday, September 27
9:30 a.m. to 12:00 Noon
301-763-4600
All Ages

Volunteers wanted to help clean up the shore. Grab your gloves and join in the fun. We will have gloves and trash pickers available for use. Quantities are limited. Please bring water.

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	●	●		●	●		●	●	●		●