



# Beyond the Capital

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

Summer 2011

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



Visitors rowing on the Anacostia  
River in Anacostia Park.  
NPS Photo.



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

**National Capital Parks-East**

**Superintendent**

Alex Romero

**Mailing Address**

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

**E-Mail**

alex\_romero@nps.gov

**Phone Number**

202-690-5185

**Fax Number**

202-690-0862

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

**Editing and Writing**

Alex Romero  
Lori McKenzie Spillman  
Wanda L. Washington  
Omar Eaton-Martínez  
Kate Bucco  
Padric Benson

**Layout and Design**

Kenneth J. Chandler and the  
NPS Graphic Identity Program  
Team

**Map Design**

James Hemsley  
Tammy Stidham

**Please tell us what you think.**

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

Correspondence should be addressed to:

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

Or you can e-mail:  
wanda\_washington@nps.gov

# What's Inside:

**For Your Information..... 2**  
**Important Phone Numbers..... 3**  
**Become a Volunteer ..... 3**  
**Parks of National Capital Parks-East..... 4-5**  
**Park Partners ..... 6**  
**Articles ..... 7-11**  
**Events ..... 12-18**  
**Park Map ..... 19**  
**Activities at Your Fingertips .... 20**

## Message from the Superintendent

Welcome to the best kept secret in Washington D.C., National Capital Parks-East! We hope you take advantage of all the programs we have scheduled this summer season including all the public programs our park partners have to offer.

This year we are building on our youth employment programs. We have hired young adults from the ages of 15 to 21 in the Student Career Intake Program, Anacostia Watershed Ambassador Youth Stewardship Program, Youth Conservation Corps, Student Youth Employment Program, and have appointed college students into our Student Temporary Employment Program and Student Conservation Agency. Each program will offer students the opportunity to explore careers in the National Park Service with hands on training that will develop skill sets, life-long experiences, and memories that will leave them inspired. The goal of the youth programs is to engage every young mind with learning opportunities that would lead to volunteering for specific projects to eventually employment. We call this program Cradle to Steward where the students would gain a better appreciation and understanding of the National Park Service and encourage them to learn, explore, and consider employment or volunteer opportunities with a public land management agency. If you would like to learn more about our programs please visit our website—www.nps.gov/nace, visit our NACE Youth Programs at—www.facebook.com/pages/National-Capital-Parks-East-Youth-Programs/180042175357858, or you can give us a call at 202-690-5185. Thank you again for visiting our parks and I hope to see you again in the near future!



## For Your Information

### 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.

### Photo Contest

We invite you, our visitors, to enter your photo of your visit(s) to one of the parks of National Capital Parks-East. Your picture could be selected to represent one of our parks along with your name in our new calendar that we are in the process of developing for 2012.

Please submit your photos along with the name of the park to:

National Capital Parks-East  
Chief of Interpretation  
1900 Anacostia Drive SE  
Washington, D.C. 20020-6722

202-690-5185

# 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.

## 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>
Local Weather	202-936-1212



Top to bottom: Volunteers along the Anacostia River; Volunteer helping out at Greenbelt Park; Volunteers working on the trail. NPS Photos.

# 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)

## 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)

## 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)

## 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)

## 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)



Civil War artillery demonstrations at Fort Washington—Old Fort with re-enactors. NPS Photo.

# Park Partners

## 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.ecc1.org)

## 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](http://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](http://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](http://www.thesca.org)

## Sewall-Belmont House & Museum Reopens

After eleven months of renovation, conservation and cataloging of objects, exhibit and website design, and amazing efforts from partners like the National Park Service, the Sewall-Belmont House & Museum (SBHM) is once again open to the public and ADA accessible! Visitors to the Museum are invited to use the entrance on 2nd Street next to the Hart Senate Office Building. Tours are self-guided Wednesday through Sunday from noon to 5:00 p.m.

The renovation work allowed the Sewall-Belmont House & Museum to strengthen the foundations of the house, better preserve and exhibit the collections, and move its mission forward with state of the art accessibility to the fabulous collection. The Museum now exhibits 250 individual collection objects including Elizabeth Cady Stanton's chair, Susan B. Anthony's desk, an original Jail Door Pin presented to suffragists who were imprisoned after picketing the White House, and Votes for Women china commissioned by Alva Belmont. In addition, eight banners are on exhibit, including one reading "Working Women Need The Vote" and one reading "The Young Are At The Gates."

Today the Sewall-Belmont House & Museum is responsible for preserving and celebrating the remarkable and too often forgotten stories of women's pursuit of equality. Accessibility, collection conservation, and technology enhancements allow this story to reach farther and wider than ever before. In addition to the exciting new programs planned for the summer and fall, the Museum is working on productions of ipod applications, accessible guided and virtual tours, and more. Upcoming public programs include trivia night with Woodrow Wilson House, a National Trust Historic Site, on Thursday July 7th, and the annual Alice Award Luncheon on September 21st.



The Sewall-Belmont House & Museum, located at 144 Constitution Avenue NE, Washington, D.C.

## Virtual Visits

By Padric Benson, Park Ranger—Frederick Douglass NHS

**(Washington, D.C.)**—Park rangers can now visit people across the country live over the internet. National Capital Parks-East's new video conferencing system is capable of delivering live two-way interactive programs to those who might not otherwise get to experience our exciting resources. Leading the park into the 21st century, Superintendent Alex Romero has made keeping with new media a top priority.

The multimedia applications of the new video conferencing system present exciting opportunities for outreach. School children can take virtual field trips to the sites of National Capital Parks-East and rangers can lead distance education programs.

In its trial run last February, the video conferencing system enabled Frederick Douglass National Historic Site (NHS) to conduct a joint birthday celebration with New Bedford Whaling National Historic Park (NHP) in Massachusetts. Despite being nearly five hundred miles away, visitors to the abolitionist's home in Washington, D.C., were able to enjoy storytelling and poetry recitations fed live from the New England town where he first found sanctuary after his escape from slavery.

In turn, visitors to New Bedford Whaling NHP were able to sit in on the fun at the Frederick Douglass NHS.



Park Ranger Padric Benson demonstrating National Capital Parks-East's new video conferencing system. NPS Photo.

# Articles

## Improvements on the Anacostia River

By Kate Bucco, Park Ranger—Anacostia Park

**(Washington, D.C.)**—For years the first word associated with the Anacostia River was “polluted”. People talk as if all the legislation, all community efforts, Washington, D.C., Maryland and federal government efforts to clean the river were a waste of time. Spring peepers, a tiny tree frog that is an indicator of clean water, are challenging that assumption.

Kenilworth Park and Aquatic Gardens of National Capital Parks-East, began a student and adult volunteer frog count program. The first year, 1999, three Spring Peepers, sometimes four, were heard in a small swamp behind the greenhouses. By 2001, five or more were calling on occasion, but only from that one location. By 2003, five or more were common, but still localized. Then in 2009, Spring Peepers were heard throughout the park: a swampy area between the Aquatic Gardens visitor center and the D.C. Recreation building on Anacostia Avenue. On any given morning in early spring, the volunteers would hear five or more of these territorial frogs in both swamps.

This year, another change occurred. Spring Peepers have a distinct call when another male tree frog invades an established male’s territory. This year, the Spring Peepers were heard not just giving that “get out of my space” call, but they were calling from the ponds in front of the visitor center.

Does this mean the Anacostia River is now clean and we can relax? It means, we have come a long way and there is still plenty of work to be accomplished. A lot of hard work on the part of thousands of volunteers and government workers has paid off, with this species. What we do upstream matters. What we do in our daily routines matters. What this does mean is that from now on, before you “polluted” and “Anacostia River” as synonymous, remember that the Spring Peepers are singing a different song.



Recovering Spring Peeper habitat at Kenilworth Park and Aquatic Gardens. NPS Photo.

## ASALH Luncheon

By Omar Eaton-Martínez, Park Ranger—NACE

**(Washington D.C.)**—The National Park Service celebrated African American History Month with our partner, the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), founders of African American History Month. This event was ASALH’s 85th Annual Black History Month Luncheon, held at the Renaissance Washington, D.C., Hotel, 999 9th Street NW, 20001. The event was sold out and was attended by scholars, political leaders, and supporters of African American History.

The keynote speaker, Lerone Bennett, Jr., Executive Editor Emeritus of *Ebony Magazine*, gave a thought-provoking speech illustrating the point that African Americans have always had a proactive part in attaining their freedom and civil rights. His words left the audience enlightened and transformed. There were over a 1000 people that attended the luncheon and an aggregate of speakers kept the audience engaged with discussions on the theme for this year’s Black History Month: “African Americans and the Civil War.” Throughout the program, the audience was mesmerized by the beautiful performances of 105 Voices of History, a compilation of the top voices from Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

National Park Service had a strong presence in the audience and was acknowledged by the Executive Director of ASALH, Sylvia Cyrus. The Carter G. Woodson Home National Historic Site, located in the Shaw neighborhood of Washington, D.C., was dedicated as the 389th National Park Service unit in February 2006. Dr. Carter G. Woodson was the founder of ASALH (then called the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History), and started Negro History Week in 1926, which has since grown into African American History Month.



(l-r) Joy G. Kinard, Ph.D., Omar Eaton-Martínez, Lydia Sermons, Stephanie Toothman, Robert Parker, Marta Cruz Kelly (partially blocked), Ajena Rogers, Lewis Rogers, Robert K. Sutton, Ph.D. (blocked), Alex Romero, Julie Kutruff, Jenny Masur. NPS Photo.

# Articles

## 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. With summer upon us, 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 and thrive in warmer climates. Mosquitoes are one the most commonly recognized summer 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:

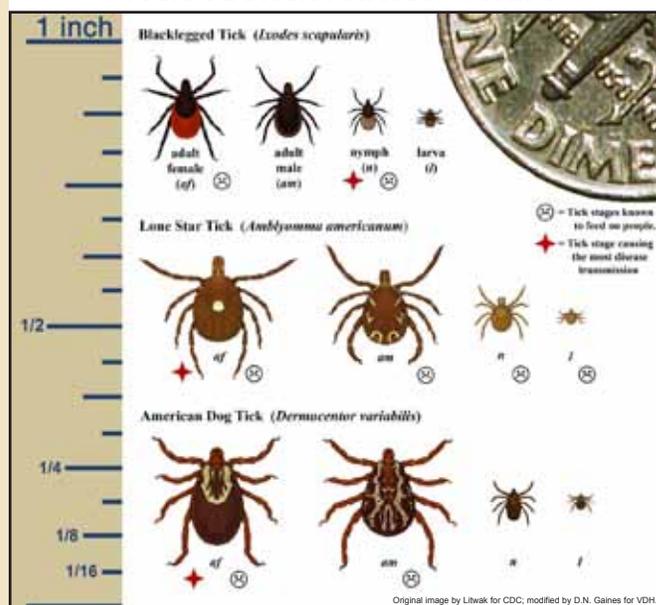
- Wear light-colored, tight weave, long sleeved shirts, long pants, socks, close-toed shoes, and a hat.
- Apply 20-40% DEET or other tick repellent (e.g. Repel-Lemon eucalyptus) to exposed skin or clothing-but not to underclothing. Reapply as necessary.
- Apply permethrin insecticide to clothing (if 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 summer.

### Tick Identification Chart



### 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

**VDH** VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
Protecting You and Your Environment

# Articles

## Fort Dupont Summer Theatre

The Fort Dupont Summer Theatre is a 39-year tradition in Southeast, Washington, D.C., of free high quality jazz and R&B performances that are primarily sponsored by the National Park Service. These popular shows attract large crowds to Fort Dupont and there continues to be a need to evaluate how the National Park Service can continue to operate an entertainment venue that is safe and family-oriented.

This summer the venue will be closed to the public at 3:00 p.m., to allow U.S. Park Police (USPP) to do a security sweep of the area prior to the concerts. Entry to the concert venue will open at 5:00 p.m. and will be through three entrance areas that will serve as security checkpoints where all bags and coolers will be inspected prior to entry into the concert area.

The National Park Service prohibits the following to be brought into the concert area:

- Alcohol
- Glass containers
- Barbeque grills
- Candles and incense (part of the ban on all open fires)
- Fireworks
- Items for vending/sales

Visitors arriving at checkpoints with these items will be given the opportunity to take items back to their vehicles or to voluntarily throw away items in trash containers prior to entry into the concert area. Park staff or USPP will not be responsible for holding coolers or items at the checkpoint locations.

Aisles have been established at the venue to permit park rangers, medical personnel, and USPP to respond to emergencies and to assist in being able to evacuate individuals during medical emergencies. The National Park Service asks that everyone assist us with helping to maintain the aisles for safety.

A new seating area will be located in the front section of the venue that will be open on a first-come first-served basis to members in the park's new Friends Group. Membership in the Friends of Fort Dupont is open to anyone who wishes to become a member.

Help us keep the park clean by disposing of all trash in bags provided at the event or in trash and recycling receptacles around the concert area.

Ample parking is available in the park off Minnesota Avenue at F Street. This area provides direct access to the concert area and includes better access for wheelchairs. Additionally there is a large parking lot on Ely Place at the Fort Dupont Ice Skating Rink that is available for concert parking. Both of these areas are short walks to the concert area. Parking is not permitted on Fort Dupont Drive in the park.

All concerts are held rain or shine. Concerts are only canceled in the event of electrical storms.

## National Park Foundation Awards Grant to a NACE Site

The National Park Foundation is proud to award the Mary McLeod Bethune Council House National Historic Site a grant to support the launch of the Mary McLeod Bethune's Legacy: An Intercultural Youth Experience to Understand Race in the 21st Century. The new innovative project will bring together a diverse group of youth and facilitators to empower and provide leadership skills based on Mrs. Bethune's *Legacy*. The grant is part of the National Park Foundation's *America's Best Idea*, a nationwide program that connects underserved and under-engaged populations throughout the United States with their national parks in innovative and meaningful ways.

"It is an honor to receive this grant to reach out to youth who will ultimately become future park goers' and employees of the National Park Service. Mrs. Bethune's life and Legacy of leadership will become a microcosm for youth to study and integrate her strategies in their own lives," said Alex Romero, Superintendent of National Capital Parks-East. "With this project, we will help youth to embrace cultural diversity and teamwork which are key elements needed for future success."

Before Mary McLeod Bethune passed away in 1955 she published her *Legacy*, which she titled "My Last Will and Testament," as a guide for interracial cooperation. This three-day workshop will celebrate and interpret her Legacy by bringing together youth of African American, Latin American, and Native American backgrounds. Students will create hands-on art activities, participate in a healing circle, and record the workshop through digital video and photography so they can publish their experiences online.

"We must create opportunities for all Americans to have access to and enjoy their national parks," said Neil Mulholland, President and CEO of the National Park Foundation. "With these grants we're connecting more and more people to the parks, while building and strengthening long-lasting support, appreciation and commitment to protecting 'America's Best Idea'."

Inspired by the epic Ken Burns documentary *The National Parks: America's Best Idea*, the National Park Foundation, in partnership with Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation, the Anschutz Foundation and the Ahmanson Foundation, awarded *America's Best Idea* grants to 19 national parks across the country.

A full list of grantees and project descriptions will be available on the National Park Foundation website.

# Articles

## National Capital Parks-East Open House

**(Washington, D.C.)**—On March 16, 2011, National Capital Parks-East (NACE), a unit of the National Park Service (NPS), hosted an open house at the Anacostia Community Museum.

The purpose of the open was to build stronger connections with our communities surrounding these amazing resources,” said Alex Romero, Superintendent of NACE. It was a chance to meet park staff and partner organizations; spark open dialogue, learn the mission of the NPS, and our role in managing and protecting park sites such as the Frederick Douglass Home, Greenbelt Park, Fort Washington, Kenilworth Park & Aquatic Gardens and the 15 park sites that make up NACE.

NPS 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. This will be an annual event at NACE so we hope that you will be able to share with us next year. Check out some of the photos from this year's event:



NACE Employees at the Open House in front of the Anacostia Community Museum. NPS Photo.



# Events

## Recurring Events

### CAMPGROUND A LOOP IS A SCOUT LOOP

Greenbelt Park

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.

### MAKING PLANS FOR THE SUMMER?

Greenbelt Park

Reservations are available now for the Greenbelt Park campground from Thursday, May 20 through Tuesday, September 7. Call 888-444-6777 or register online at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov). Make plans to visit Washington, D.C., and stay at Greenbelt Park's campground. The Greenbelt campground is known for its safety, affordability, peaceful surroundings, and National Park Service hospitality.

### CAMPFIRE PROGRAMS AT GREENBELT PARK

Campfire programs are coming to the Greenbelt Park Campground for summer 2011. Please check the Greenbelt web site at [www.nps.gov/gree](http://www.nps.gov/gree) for the latest up-to-date program information.

### COLLEGE PARK AND MT. AIRY BICYCLE RACES

Greenbelt Park  
Wednesdays, May through August  
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Enjoy the *Tour de France*-style bicycle races.

### GARDEN TOURS

Kenilworth Park & Aquatic Gardens  
Each Saturday and Sunday, May 28 through September 5  
9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
202-426-6905  
All ages

Take a walk around the garden to experience each unique day and the seasons of summer. A sensory experience at best.

## June

### THEATRE IN THE WOODS—FOXFIRE

Alice Ferguson Foundation—  
Hard Bargain Farm  
Friday, June 3 through  
Wednesday, June 18  
7:30 p.m.  
301-292-5665  
All Ages

This play is the first in a series of summer-season plays that are inexpensive, educational, and uplifting artistic experiences designed to reflect and invigorate the cultural identity of the community. Performances are held at an outdoor amphitheater and will only be cancelled in the event of severe weather conditions. Tickets are \$12 \$10 for adults; students, seniors, and members of the Alice Ferguson Foundation; and \$5 for children under twelve. Walk-ins are welcomed, registration is not required, but can be

made by e-mail to [reservations@hbplayers.org](mailto:reservations@hbplayers.org), by phone at 301-392-9901, or by using the online form at [www.hbplayers.org](http://www.hbplayers.org).

### TUB GARDENING

Kenilworth Park & Aquatic Gardens  
Saturday, June 4  
1:00 p.m.  
202-426-6905  
All ages

A little water and a lot of fun can make a water garden. A demonstration and information on starting your own water garden in a small space.

### DUPONT KALORAMA WALK WEEKEND

Various Locations  
Saturday and Sunday, June 4 and June 5  
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
All ages

The "Walk Weekend" is an annual event established in 1983 to promote "off-the-mall" museums and their neighborhoods, sponsored by the Dupont Kalorama Museum Consortium (DKMC). The members of DKMC include the Mary McLeod Bethune Council House National Historic Site; Meridian International Center; National Museum of American Jewish Military History; The Phillips Collection; The Society of the Cincinnati Museum at Anderson House; The Textile Museum, and Woodrow Wilson House. During the Walk Weekend, the consortium provides free shuttle buses between all DKMC sites. Please note that not all museums will be open on both days. This event is held rain or shine.

The Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS holds

special activities during the Walk Weekend. On Saturday, there will be a jazz garden reception, and poets from the American Poetry Museum will read from original works. On Sunday from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., African drummers from the Washington, D.C., area African Heritage Dance Center will perform. Both days will feature arts and crafts for children ages 8 to 12, interpretive tours of the historic headquarters of the National Council of Negro Women, and the site will host an education fair for educators.

### NATIONAL TRAILS DAY

*The Civil War Defenses of Washington*  
Several locations  
Saturday, June 4  
8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon  
202-426-7723  
All ages

Help the National Park Service make your Public Trails a better place for recreation and help the environment. A wide range of volunteer projects are available for you to earn community service hours or just plain help planet Earth. The National Park Service and its partners will hold park clean up, trail improvement, and similar service projects at a site near you. Please come out and do your planet some good. Call for more information and a location in your community.

### INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL

Greenbelt Park—Sweetgum Picnic Area  
Saturday, June 4  
9:00 a.m. (note special time)  
301-344-3944  
Ages 8 to Adult

# Events

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

## NATIONAL TRAILS DAY

*Greenbelt Park—Sweetgum Picnic Area*  
Saturday, June 4  
8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon  
301-982-9681  
Reservations required  
Ages 10 and up

Come, make a difference, and help maintain one of the trails or remove invasive plants in the park.

## PREDATOR VS. PREY

*Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn*  
Sunday, June 5  
12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
301-839-1176  
All ages

Come learn about the important tools or adaptations that woodland creatures use as they try to survive in their habitats. We will take a half-mile walk around the farm to explore and learn about the important relationships between predator and prey species that inhabit the farm. Visitors will have the opportunity to participate in a detailed interpretive walk, allowing them to appreciate the role that they can play in protecting these important habitats. The talk will end with a live birds-of-prey show.

## CIVIL WAR ARTILLERY DEMONSTRATION

*Fort Washington Park—Old Fort*  
Sunday, June 5  
1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., & 3:00 p.m.  
301-763-4600  
All Ages

Did you ever wonder how they fired a muzzle loading cannon?

Join the Fort Washington Guard as they load and fire the park's civil war cannons.

## OCCUPIED VIRGINIA

*Fort Marcy*  
Sunday, June 5  
1:00 p.m.  
202-426-7723

Join a park ranger and hear stories about what it was like for Northern Virginians when Federal troops surged across the Potomac and began constructing the Civil War Defenses of Washington. Parking is available on-site, located north-bound on the George Washington Memorial Parkway, Arlington, Virginia.

## ARE WE REALLY THAT DIFFERENT FROM EACH OTHER?

*Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn*  
Saturday, June 11  
2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
301-839-1176  
Reservations required  
Children ages 6-11

Did you know Oxon Hill Farm used to supply food for and house patients from St. Elizabeth's Hospital? The U.S. Government established St. Elizabeth's Hospital to help care for people with mental illnesses. Many people were scared of those with mental illnesses and wanted them kept separate from society because they were "different." Has anyone ever called you "different?" Join a park ranger as we explore what it means to be "different," and as we learn more about the things we all share together.

## FORT WASHINGTON PARK'S FOSSILS

*Fort Washington Park—Visitor Center*  
Saturday, June 11 and June 25  
2:30 p.m.  
301-763-4600  
All ages

Did you know Fort Washington Park's first visitors arrived in an ocean 60 million years ago; that they left their footprints for us to study? Meet Park Guide Bambi at the Visitor Center and learn about the fossils of Fort Washington Park.

## 4TH ANNUAL GET OUTDOORS DAY & 2ND ANNUAL KINGMAN ISLAND BLUEGRASS & FOLK FESTIVAL

*Kingman & Heritage Islands*  
(Parking available in RFK lot #6)  
Saturday, June 11  
11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
202-488-0627 x232

Get Outdoors Day encourages healthy, active outdoor fun! The action-packed day will feature food, mountain bike trails, fishing, golfing, boating, hands-on science, geocaching, face painting and more!

In addition, a bluegrass music festival will take place on Kingman Island. The Washington, D.C., area has a long and illustrious bluegrass history dating back to the early 1940s, when thousands of people arrived in the nation's capital to work for the Second World War effort. They came from rural areas and points South and many brought their banjos, fiddles, and guitars with them. Both events are FREE.

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

*Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn*  
Sunday, June 12  
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 a ranger down to the cove. Do not forget your helmet and water bottle. Get started on your path to the Presidential Active Lifestyle Award. For more information, go to [www.presidentschallenge.org](http://www.presidentschallenge.org) or [www.letsmove.gov](http://www.letsmove.gov).

## IRONCLADS AND AIRCRAFT CARRIERS

*Fort Foote*  
Sunday, June 12  
1:00 p.m.

The Civil War was a time of leaps forward in the technology of war. Take this chance to meet with a ranger and see the massive guns at Fort Foote and learn about the ships of the Civil War navies. Parking is available on-site, located at 8915 Fort Foote Road, Fort Washington, Maryland.

## MEET THE BEAVER

*Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station*  
Sunday, June 12  
2:00 p.m.  
301-344-3944  
Reservations required  
Ages 5 to Adult

Join a park ranger as we learn about beavers.

# Events

## WHAT DO WORMS EAT?

Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn  
Saturday, June 18  
12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
301-839-1176  
All ages

And you only thought worms where for fishing! Meet a ranger in the garden of Oxon Hill Farm to learn about the wormy world of worms. Help build a compost bin so they can have a home. In doing this, you can help Oxon Hill Farm become “green” by recycling organic waste into compost.

## SUMMER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION

Kenilworth Park & Aquatic Gardens  
Saturday, June 18  
1:00 p.m.  
202-426-6905  
All ages

Weather permitting; we will celebrate the summer weather with the tools that measure it. Let us look at the sun safely, and greet the energy that Earth gets for free, as we race around the solar system at around 67,000 mph.

## FROM SLAVERY TO FREEDOM

Theodore Roosevelt Island  
Sunday, June 19  
2:00 p.m.  
202-426-7723

Learn about the African American perspective of the Civil War and the transition many made from slavery to freedom. Learn from a park ranger about the contrabands, freedmen, and U.S. Colored Troops. Parking is available on-site, located north-bound on the George Washington Memorial Parkway, Arlington, Virginia.

## TOPOGRAPHY OF DEFENSE BIKE-HIKE

Fort Dupont  
Saturday, June 25  
11:00 a.m.  
202-426-7723

Join a ranger for a five-mile mountain bike ride and discover how the forts atop the hills around Washington, D.C., took advantage of the landscape to defend the capital in the past—and offer amazing views now. Bring your own bike. Parking is available at the Activity Center, located on Fort Dupont Drive SE, Washington, D.C.

## FORT WASHINGTON FOSSILS TALK

Fort Washington Park—Visitor Center  
Saturday, June 25  
2:30 p.m.  
301-763-4600  
All ages

Got Water? The Fort Washington area used to be under water. Join Park Guide Bambi Sears for a talk about fossils.

## CLIMATE CHANGE

Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn  
Sunday, June 26  
12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
301-839-1176  
Ages 5 and up, and accompanying adults

Learn what climate change is and why we should try to slow it down. Through discussions, games, and cooperative learning activities, discover what we can do to try to reduce our carbon footprint. Take a wagon ride down to the cove and imagine what climate change could mean for the Potomac River Watershed.

## THE WEEKS BEFORE FIRST MANASSAS

Fort Dupont  
Sunday, June 26  
1:00 p.m.  
202-426-7723

Come to the Fort Dupont earthworks and gain an understanding of the atmosphere culminating in the first major battle of the Civil War. Parking is available on-site, located at the 4000 block Alabama Avenue SE, Washington, D.C.

## FILM SERIES: THE PLOW THAT BROKE THE PLAINS, AND THE RIVER

Accokeek Foundation—National Colonial Farm  
Tuesday, June 28  
6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
301-283-2113

See two short films. First, *The Plow That Broke the Plains*, a 1936 film that explores the factors that led to the formation of the Great Plains Dust Bowl. Second, *The River*, from the following year, which documents the growth of trade and travel along and subsequent weakening of the Mississippi River. FREE.

## July

### THE HARD BARGAIN KIDS THEATER WORKSHOP

Alice Ferguson Foundation—Hard Bargain Farm  
Date: TBA  
301-292-5665

An annual event sponsored by the Alice Ferguson Foundation and the Hard Bargain Players, the summer theatre workshop is designed to introduce newcomers to the world of the theater,

and to challenge young veterans to manage advanced theatrical concepts and production techniques. The workshop culminates in a final production and promises to engage and entertain participants as they work in the areas of stage management, acting, costuming, lighting, set design, and construction.

### INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL

Greenbelt Park—Sweetgum Picnic Area  
Saturday, July 2  
11:00 a.m.  
301-344-3944  
Ages 8 to Adult

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

### INDEPENDENCE DAY CONCERT

Fort Washington Park—Visitor Center  
Saturday, July, 2  
7:30 p.m.  
301-763-4600  
All Ages

The Fort Washington Community Choir will present the annual 4th of July concert on the hill next to the visitor center. The concert band's performance will be announced at a later date. So bring a blanket or lawn chair and join us for an evening of patriotic music as the sun sets over the fort.

### GUARD DUTY AT FORT WASHINGTON

Fort Washington Park—Historic Fort  
Sunday, July 3  
11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
301-763-4600  
All ages

# Events

Do you have what it takes to guard Fort Washington? Are you prepared to defend it against all invaders? Do you know the secret password? If so, meet Park Guide Bambi inside the historic fort and learn about the rigors of 19th-century guard duty.

## URBAN OASIS

*Fort Marcy*  
Sunday, July 3  
1:00 p.m.  
202-426-7723

Meet up with a ranger and learn how the Civil War Defenses became a string of parks offering protection for animals and providing Washingtonians with a place to get away. Parking is available on-site, located north-bound on the George Washington Memorial Parkway, Arlington, Virginia.

## READING RANGER

*Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station*  
Sunday, July 3  
2:00 p.m.  
301-344-3944  
Reservations required  
Ages 5-12

Join a park ranger to read, “The Raft,” and explore a young child’s journey into nature.

## GARDEN TOUR: AN INDEPENDENT MIND

*Kenilworth Park & Aquatic Gardens*  
Monday, July 4  
9:00 a.m.  
202-426-6905  
All ages

Take a special tour of the garden on Independence Day on the theme: An Independent Mind, the Legacy of Walter Shaw and Helen Fowler. These admirable people overcame social and physical obstacles to find their

own independence and love in building the gardens.

## MAKE A PINWHEEL FLOWER

*Kenilworth Park & Aquatic Gardens*  
Monday, July 4  
1:00 p.m.  
202-426-6905  
All ages

Did you ever notice how a pinwheel and a flower shed the wind? Spend some time with a ranger, construction paper, and pushpins, to make a flower-colored pinwheel to take home.

## DON'T FENCE ME IN

*Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn*  
Wednesday, July 6  
12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
301-839-1176  
Ages 7 to 14

Through hands-on activities, we will look at the fence, an icon of the American landscape, and discover its important place in the development of our country. This program will feature games, discussion, role-playing, and a wagon ride. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes and be prepared to find out that a fence is more than a barrier around your neighbor’s front yard!

## MEANING AND MONUMENTS

*Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn*  
Saturday, July 9  
2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
301-839-1176  
All ages  
Reservations required

In 1814, British soldiers attacked and destroyed much of Washington, D.C., America’s capital city. Why did they choose that city? Join a park ranger as we discuss symbols and

meanings behind buildings, monuments, and memorials. We will look at pictures of well-known D.C. buildings, and discuss our thoughts and feelings as we see them. How did these buildings represent America and its values?

## FORT DUPONT SUMMER THEATRE CONCERT SERIES

*Ft. Dupont Park*  
Saturdays, July 9 through August 12  
8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.  
All Ages

Summer has arrived and music is in the air. We encourage music lovers of all ages to bring blankets to lie on, chairs to sit in, and lots of friends to enjoy great music all summer long. Please note that all shows go on, rain or shine. Performances are subject to change. All shows are FREE.

## MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE 136TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

*Lincoln Park*  
Sunday, July 10  
5:00 p.m.  
202-673-2404  
All ages

Join the National Park Service and the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. to commemorate the 136th Anniversary of the birth of Mary McLeod Bethune, as well as the 36th Anniversary of the dedication of the Bethune Memorial Statue in Lincoln Park. The statue was the first monument honoring a woman and the first monument honoring a woman in a public park in the nation’s capital. The program will include musical selections, appearances from local dignitaries, and

guest speaker Dr. Johnetta Cole, the director of the Smithsonian Institution’s African Art Museum. The program will conclude with a wreath-laying ceremony in Lincoln Park on East Capitol Street at 13th Street NE, Washington, D.C.

## A SALUTE TO DR. DOROTHY I. HEIGHT BY DR. BARBARA L. SHAW

*Lincoln Park United Methodist Church*  
1301 North Carolina Avenue NE  
Sunday, July 10  
7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
202-673-2402

Join the Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS in our celebrations at a book signing: *Living with Purpose* by Dr. Dorothy I. Height.

## CIVIL WAR ARTILLERY DEMONSTRATION

*Fort Washington Park—Old Fort*  
Sunday, July 10  
1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., & 3:00 p.m.  
301-763-4600  
All Ages

Did you ever wonder how they fired a muzzle loading cannon? Join the Fort Washington Guard as they load and fire the park’s civil war cannons.

## FORT STEVENS HIKE

*Sunday, July 10*  
1:00 p.m.  
202-426-7723

Join a ranger on a hike of the fort where President Lincoln came under direct enemy fire. Parking is available on the street, located in the 1300 block of Otis Street NE, Washington, D.C.

# Events

## LOTUS AND WATER LILLY FESTIVAL

*Kenilworth Park & Aquatic Gardens*

*Saturday, July 16*

*8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.*

*202-426-6905*

*All ages*

Special tours begin at 8:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., and 11:00 a.m., followed by tub gardening at 1:00 p.m. This is the same day as the Asian Cultural Festival of dance, music, and art. We need volunteers for parking management, set up, and take down.

## LEAVE NO TRACE

*Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn*  
*Sunday, July 17*

*1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.*

*301-839-1176*

*For children ages 5 and up, and accompanying adults*

What are the seven principles of “Leave No Trace?” Take a wagon ride down to the cove and discuss what it means to be a steward of our national parks. Through discussions, games, and cooperative learning activities, find out what you can do to minimize your impact on public lands.

## REBELS AND RAIDERS

*Fort Bayard*

*Sunday, July 17*

*1:00 p.m.*

*202-426-7723*

Join a ranger at one of the forts that protected the city from an elusive enemy that menaced the western forts. Parking is available on the street, located at 4665 Fessenden Street NW, Washington, D.C.

## HUG A TREE...AND OTHER WAYS TO SHOW TREES YOU LOVE THEM!

*Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn*

*Sunday, July 24*

*1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.*

*301-839-1176*

*For children ages 4 to 10, and accompanying adults*

We all love trees! Enjoy games and activities that will help you find out what trees need to grow, and what we can do to show trees we love them! Take a wagon ride down to the cove and feel the difference shade can make on a sunny afternoon.

## FAMILY CAMPOUT AT HARD BARGAIN FARM

*Alice Ferguson Foundation—Hard Bargain Farm*  
*Tuesday, July 26, Thursday, July 27, Saturday, July 30 & Sunday, July 31*

*301-292-5665*

*All Ages*

Come join the fun at our two-day overnight camp at Hard Bargain Farm (HBF) in Accokeek, Maryland. Open to Prince George’s County students and their families who have come to HBF through their schools, or have participated in a Bridging the Watershed field study program. Collect eggs, milk the cow, meet rabbits, goats, and so much more. FREE.

## FILM SERIES: FRESH

*Accokeek Foundation—National Colonial Farm*

*Tuesday, July 26*

*6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.*

*301-283-2113*

Celebrate the farmers, thinkers, and business people who are re-inventing America’s food system. The film confronts food

contamination, environmental pollution, and increasing human obesity on its search for healthier and more sustainable alternatives to industrial. FREE.

## SHHHH! HIKE

*Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn*

*Saturday, July 30*

*12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.*

*301-839-1176*

*All ages*

The best way to find out what really happens in nature is to be alone, still, and quiet. We will not speak on this one-mile walk. Visitors will engage in hands-on activities and direct observation to learn about a variety of habitats, and that all living things need food, water, shelter, and space to survive. Be prepared to sit on the ground for 15 to 20 minutes.

## “DRIVE THEM TO WASHINGTON!”

*Fort Dupont*

*Sunday, July 31*

*1:00 p.m.*

In the bloody aftermath of the First Battle of Manassas, the need for the construction of a network of forts became clear and was put into motion. Join a park ranger at Fort Dupont Park to learn about this pivotal point in history. Parking is available in the 4000 block Alabama Avenue SE, Washington, D.C.

## SUFFRAGE TEA TIME GALLERY TALKS

*Sewall-Belmont House & Museum*

*Thursdays and Saturdays in July and August*

*3:00 p.m.*

*202-546-1210*

*Adults and children over 13*

Spend tea time with Sewall-Belmont—learn about the American Suffrage movement and the historic National Women’s Party which sold tea to fund its efforts. Don’t miss this brief history talk—it’s spot on.

# August

## UNLEASH YOUR IMAGINATION!

*Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn*  
*Saturday, August 6*

*2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.*

*301-839-1176*

*Reservations required*

*All ages*

David Hyrum Smith was one of the most talented artists of whom you have probably never heard. In the late 1800s, he was put in a mental institution because some people thought he was “crazy.” Oxon Hill Farm used to grow food for St. Elizabeth’s mental hospital, home to many who were seen as “different.” Even while locked away, Smith unleashed his artistic talent through painting, poem, and song. Come celebrate American Artist’s month at the farm and see the creative power of the mind as we explore some of David Smith’s vivid artistic creations. You may even have the chance to make some of your own artwork, too!

## INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL

*Greenbelt Park-Sweetgum Picnic Area*

*Saturday, August 6*

*11:00 a.m.*

*301-344-3944*

*Ages 8 to adult*

Join in a hands-on nature preservation activity as we pull non-native plants and help preserve

# Events

Greenbelt Park for future generations.

## FIVE SENSES ON THE FARM

*Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn*  
Sunday, August 7  
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
301-839-1176  
For children ages 2 to 10, and accompanying adults

Use your five senses to discover how life on the farm looks, sounds, smells, feels, (and even tastes!) different from life in the city. Take a tour of the farm and get up close and personal with our dairy cow and our chickens. Bring a picnic lunch to enjoy afterward, if you like.

## CIVIL WAR ARTILLERY DEMONSTRATION

*Fort Washington Park—Old Fort*  
Sunday, August 7  
1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., & 3:00 p.m.  
301-763-4600  
All Ages

Did you ever wonder how they fired a muzzle loading cannon? Join the Fort Washington Guard as they load and fire the park's civil war cannons.

## WASHINGTONIANS IN THE CIVIL WAR

*Fort Marcy*  
Sunday, August 7  
1:00 p.m.  
202-426-7723

Explore the lives of the civilians around Washington who were directly affected by the Civil War and the constructions of forts on their property. Parking on is available on-site, located north-bound on the George Washington Memorial Parkway, Arlington, Virginia.

## A-MAIZE-ING! THAT'S CORN

*Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn*  
Saturday, August 13  
12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
All ages

Corn is an ingredient in everything from baby food to peanut butter, marshmallows to vinegar, soap to cooking oil, and auto fuel. Learn about this A-Maize-ing plant and help harvest this amazing versatile crop this fall.

## BUTTERFLIES OF AUGUST

*Kenilworth Park & Aquatic Gardens*  
Saturday, August 13  
1:00 p.m.  
202-426-6905  
All ages

After taking a tour to see the butterflies at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., join a ranger to make your own butterfly from construction paper, glue, and pipe cleaners.

## THE BRITISH ATTACK ON WASHINGTON!

*Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn*  
Sunday, August 14  
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
301-839-1176  
All ages

Rangers will lead this tour describing the British attack on Washington City in the summer of 1814. We will explore the park museum, examine the letters of Mrs. Mary Welby DeButts, and end with a short stroll to explain the attack in further detail.

## IRONCLADS AND AIRCRAFT CARRIERS

*Fort Foote*  
Sunday, August 14  
1:00 p.m.  
202-426-7723

The Civil War was a time of leaps forward in the technology of war. Take this chance to meet with a ranger and see the massive guns at Fort Foote and learn about the ships of the Civil War navies. Parking is available on-site, located at 8915 Fort Foote Road, Fort Washington, Maryland.

## A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS

*Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn*  
Wednesday, August 17  
12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
301-839-1176  
Reservations required  
Ages 7 to 14, but all are welcome

August is American Artist Appreciation Month and we will celebrate the occasion with a fun and educational exploration of the artist, Charles de Saint-Mémin. Saint-Mémin captured the image of Dr. and Mrs. DeButts, the early 19th-century owners of the Oxon Hill property, in his portrait engravings. Without Saint-Mémin's work, the couple's images would have been lost to future generations. We will also examine the role of portraits as a research tool of history. Be prepared to take your photo portrait. Bring a prop from home that will help to capture your image for future generations.

## WHO BELONGS ON THE FARM?

*Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn*  
Sunday, August 21  
12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
301-839-1176  
For children ages 2 to 10, and accompanying adults

Sheep, cows, pigs, chickens... and deer!? Which of these animals does not belong on the farm? Discover the difference

between wild and domestic animals. Find out which forest animals often are found on Oxon Hill Farm or in the surrounding parkland. Enjoy a puppet show and a wagon ride down to the cove.

## LIFE OF THE CIVIL WAR SOLDIER

*Fort Greble*  
Sunday, August 21  
1:00 p.m.  
202-426-7723

Learn about the daily life of the men who manned the Civil War Defenses of Washington. Parking is available on-site located at 200 Elmira Street SE, Washington, D.C.

## BACK-TO-SCHOOL READING RANGER

*Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station*  
Sunday, August 21  
2:00 p.m.  
301-344-3944  
Reservations required  
Ages 6 through 12

Join a park ranger as we discover the joy of reading.

## WHAT PARKS ARE TO ME?

*Kenilworth Park & Aquatic Gardens*  
Sunday, August 28  
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
202-426-6905  
All ages

Our National Parks are our nation's stories. We all have a story to tell. Join with your neighbors and share your stories about the National Parks you have visited and what the experiences have meant in your life.

# Events

## THE ENEMY WITHIN: MARYLAND CONFEDERATES

*Fort Bunker Hill  
Sunday, August 28  
1:00 p.m.  
202-426-7723*

Visit a fort that protected Washington from the Old Line State. Learn about Marylanders with divided loyalties, and the events that tested the strength of the Union. Parking is available on the street, located at the 1300 block Otis Street NE, Washington, D.C.

## NATIONAL TOASTED MARSHMALLOW DAY

*Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station  
Tuesday, August 30  
1:00 p.m.  
01-344-3944  
Reservations required  
All Ages*

Do you know what August 30th is? Do you? It is—are you ready? It is National Toasted Marshmallow Day!!! Now *that* is a day to celebrate! Join us as we have a campfire and toast marshmallows.

# September

## GARDEN TOUR: A LABOR OF LOVE

*Kenilworth Park & Aquatic Gardens  
Monday, September 5  
11:00 a.m.  
202-426-6905  
All ages*

Take a special tour of the garden on Labor Day on the theme: A Labor of Love, focusing on Helen Fowler, the woman who expanded and saved her father's beloved water gardens.

## CIVIL WAR ARTILLERY DEMONSTRATION

*Fort Washington Park—Old Fort  
Sunday, September 11  
1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., & 3:00 p.m.  
301-763-4600  
All Ages*

Did you ever wonder how they fired a muzzle loading cannon? Join the Fort Washington Guard as they load and fire the park's civil war cannons.

## 8TH ANNUAL MARYLAND LIGHTHOUSE CHALLENGE

*Fort Washington Park—Lighthouse  
Saturday, September 17 &  
Sunday, September 18  
8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
301-763-4600  
All Ages*

The challenge is back, are you up to it? The goal: nine land-based lighthouses and a lightship in 20 hours. Turkey Point, Concord Point, the Lightship Chesapeake, Seven Foot Knoll, Hooper Strait, Drum Point, Cove Point, Point Lookout, Piney Point and Fort Washington. Visit each light and get a souvenir. This is the only weekend that the Fort Washington Lighthouse opens to the public, no climbing allowed. Rain or shine. For more information and directions to each light, go to [www.cheslights.org](http://www.cheslights.org).

## NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

*Fort Washington Park—Visitor Center/Old Fort  
Saturday, September 24  
6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
301-763-4600  
All Ages*

It has been 150 years since the Civil War began. Fort

Washington Park will review the events of the war for the year of 1861. Volunteers in historic clothing will provide interpretation. Three tours will leave the Visitor Center, at 6:00, 7:00, and 8:00 p.m.

## NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

*The Civil War Defenses of Washington  
Several locations  
Saturday, September 24  
8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon  
202-426-7723  
All Ages*

Help the National Park Service make your public lands a better place for recreation and help the environment. A wide range of volunteer projects are available for you to earn community service hours or just plain help planet Earth. Park clean-ups, trail improvements and similar service projects will be held by the National Park Service and its partners at a site near you. Please come out and do your planet some good. Call for more information and a location in your community.

## NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

*Greenbelt Park—Sweetgum Picnic Area  
Saturday, September 24  
8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon  
301-344-3944  
Reservations required  
Ages 10 and up*

National Public Lands Day is the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance our public lands. Volunteers will have the choice of helping to clean Still Creek watershed, participate in a REI (301-982-9681) trail maintenance project, or remove invasive

plants in the park. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m., and the projects will begin at 9:00 a.m.

## AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE DAY

*Accokeek Foundation—National Colonial Farm  
Saturday, September 24  
11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
301-283-2113*

Join us for the 11th Annual African American Heritage Day, an event that honors the role that African Americans have played in our regional and national history and culture. There will be food, entertainment, and demonstrations held throughout the day. Admission \$5; Foundation members and children under 2 are free.

## FILM SERIES: HOMECOMING

*Accokeek Foundation—National Colonial Farm  
Tuesday, September 27  
6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
301-283-2113*

This month's film documents the story of African American farmers in the twentieth century. Drawing on the legacy of the Civil Rights Movement, the film documents the tradition and decline of black farming and explores the bittersweet legacy of land farmed and lost. FREE.





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	●	●		●	●		●	●	●		●