

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



National Capital Parks – East

# Educator's Resource Guide 2008 – 2009 Educational & Interpretive Programs





## Greetings Educators:

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the National Capital Parks – East (NCP – East) 2008 – 2009 Educator’s Resource Guide. National Capital Parks – East offers a wide array of historic, cultural, natural, and recreational park sites located in Washington, DC and Maryland. The

resource guide includes programs offered at Anacostia Park, Fort Washington Park, Frederick Douglass NHS, Greenbelt Park, Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS, and Oxon Cove Park.

We offer a variety of interpretive tours and curriculum-based educational programs for all grade levels. The program subjects range from sheep shearing to African American History; from bats to Bambi; from environmental education to Civil War fort tours. We also offer programs off-site. National park rangers can bring certain programs to your classroom. Our curriculum-based programs, such as the Exploring the Past at Oxon Cove Park, offer an interactive park/school experience. All sites require you to schedule an appointment prior to your visit. I hope you find the guide useful in planning your projects and field trips.

We are interested in receiving your comments on this resource guide. For additional information about the programs in the guide and/or to submit comments, contact:

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# Educational Programs

## **Bridging the Watershed (BTW)**

Several sites managed by National Capital Parks – East are involved in Bridging the Watershed, an outreach program of the Alice Ferguson Foundation in partnership with the National Park Service and area schools. Bridging the Watershed offers five multidisciplinary learning modules in Earth science, chemistry, environmental science, and biology. Field studies provide students with hands-on/minds-on experiences focused on current natural resource issues impacting the Potomac River and its major tributary, the Anacostia River.

## **Curriculum-Based Programs**

These programs have six components: they are tied to school curricula/learning objectives, an educator was involved in its development, it uses developmentally appropriate content and activities, and it includes pre- and post-visit activities and evaluations, and is resource-based and tied to park interpretive themes.

## **Parks as Classrooms (PAC)**

Seed money is used by many parks to develop new and innovative program opportunities for Americans to learn about their national parks. National Park Service rangers, interpreters, and education specialist work directly with educators and other partners to create new and unique opportunities for learning. PAC resources include: curriculum-based education programs, audio-visual materials, accredited teacher training and workshops, traveling trunks and kits, and teacher and student resource guides.

## **DC Urban Tree House (UTH)**

This community-based environmental education program designed to bring an understanding of natural resources and environmental concepts and careers to urban communities. UTH is supported by a partnership of local and federal government agencies, and non-profit organizations and neighborhood groups who share ideas, resources, and experiences to support environmental education in Anacostia Park.

Located in Anacostia Park in southeast Washington, DC, this outdoor structure is a place where learning can come in many forms. Education can be self-guided or through a partner provided program. Overlooking the Anacostia River, the curriculum is influenced by the surrounding aquatic environment, emphasizing education about our watershed, the independence of land and water, and the impact of an urban center on the health of our environment.

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# Anacostia Park

202-472-3884



## Bridging the Watershed Curriculum Based Program

Grades: 9 through 12

Season: *All Year*

Programs: -Talkin' Trash  
-Alien Invaders  
-Watershed Watchdogs  
-Don't Get Sedimental

## Aquatic Resource Education Center Program sponsored by DC Department of Health Fisheries & Wildlife Division

Grades: All

Season: *All Year*

Programs: -Free Fishing  
-Fishing Tackle Loaner Program  
-Teacher Workshops  
-Wetlands  
-Aquatic Ecology  
-Water as an Environment  
-Chesapeake Bay  
-Fish Biology

## DC Urban Tree House School Outreach Program

Grades: All

Season: *All Year*

Programs: -Resource Center  
-Outreach Projects  
-Service Projects

## School Group Programs

Grades: 5 through 9

Season: *Fall/ Spring*

*\*Offered to Junior Rangers during the summer.*

Programs: -Bats  
-Where Does Water Come From?  
-Nature Arts and Crafts  
-Talkin Trash/Garbiology  
-What's in the Water?  
-Sun/ Earth Connection  
-Watershed Models

# Mary McLeod Bethune NHS

202-673-2402



## Parks as Classrooms Programs

Grades: Pre-K through 1

Season: *All Year*

Program: -Elephant Program

Grades: 4 through 6

Season: *All Year*

Program: -Experience Your America

Grades: 7 through 9

Season: *All Year*

Program: -Social Action Through Music

Grades: 9 through 10

Season: *All Year*

Program: -Living the Legacy

## Distance Learning Curriculum Based Programs

Grades: 4 through 12

Season: *All Year upon request*

Programs: -Women's History:  
Video and Book Loan Program  
-Breaking Barriers Mrs. Bethune's Way:  
Travel Notebook  
-Civil Rights Educator's Packet

## Curriculum Programs

*Curriculum Programs offered to 20 Jr. Rangers during the summer to be offered to school groups fall/spring upon request.*

Grades: K through 3

Programs: -Adopt an Object  
-Just the Facts about Artifacts

Grades: K through 5

Program: -Artifact Search Contest

Grade: 4

Program: -The Alert Game

Grades: 6 through 8

Programs: -Genealogy Contest  
-Community Stories

Grades: 9 through 12

Programs: -There's History in Things  
-Community Stories  
-Photo Contest

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# Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens

202-426-6905



## Curriculum Programs

*Programs are offered all year upon request.*

Grades: Pre-K through 1

Program: -Seeds Alive

Grades: Pre-K through 6

Program: -Land of the Nacotchtank

Grades: Pre-K through 8

Program: -Bats

Grades: 3 through 12

Program: -Sun & Earth Connection

Grades: 4 through 12

Programs: -Wetland Ecology

Grades: 6 through 12

Program: -Watershed Models

Grades: 7 and up

Program: -Marsh Economics *(This is an on-line course that will begin in 2007 on the park's website.)*

## Educational Kits for Teachers to Borrow

Grades: Pre-K through 2

Program: -Pond Ecology

Grades: 1 through 5

Program: -Reptiles and Amphibians

Grades: 3 through 5

Programs: -Wild About Numbers

## Bridging the Watershed Curriculum Based Program

Grades: 9 through 12

Season: *Fall/Spring*

Programs: -Talkin' Trash

-Watershed Watchdogs

-Alien Invaders

# Greenbelt Park

301-344-3944



## Curriculum Programs

*Programs are offered all year upon request.*

Grades: K through 4

Program: -Earth Games - Habitat Sit

Grades: K through 6

Programs: -Reading Ranger  
-Life Cycle of a Butterfly  
-Fire Safety for Kids

Grades: 2 through 6

Program: -Creepy Crawlers

Grades: 3 through Adult

Program: -Life of a Fox

Grade 4

Program: -Home Sweet Home

Grade: 6

Program: -Going Green

Grades: All

Programs: -Azalea Trail Walk  
-Earth Games - Orb of Doom  
-How Trash Affects the Environment  
-Campfire Safety Program  
-Meet the Beavers  
-History of the National Park Service  
-Wilma Rudolph  
-George W. Carver  
-How Big is Your Tree  
-Seasonal Change  
-What's the Fuss With Squirrels  
-Telling History of Greenbelt, Maryland  
-Orienteering Workshops  
-Greenbelt Park: the Urban oasis  
-Baltimore Washington Parkway: A Scenic Memorial Honoring Gladys Noon

## Bridging the Watershed Curriculum Based Program

Grades: 9 through 12

Season: *Fall/Spring*

Programs: -Watershed Watchdogs, Don't Get Sedimental, Alien Invaders, and Water Canaries 7

# Oxon Cove Park

301-839-0211



## Curriculum Programs

Grades: Pre-K through 1

Program: -Animal Life on the Farm (*Fall/Spring*)

Grades: K through 3

Programs: -"Moo" velous Milk (*All Year*)

Grades: K through 6

Programs: -Sheep Sheering (*Spring*)

-Exploring the Past at Oxon Cove Park (*Fall/Spring*)

Grades: All

Programs: Apple Cider Days

Historical Farm Equipment

Gobble It Up

Women's Work on the Farm

Pumpkins: The Special Squash

African American History

Native American History

Cow Milking

Chicken and Egg

Spider Program

Living History

Rabbits

Horse and Tractor

Colonial Cooking

## Bridging the Watershed Curriculum Based Program

Grades: 9 through 12

Season: *Fall/Spring*

Programs: -Talkin' Trash

-Don't Get Sedimental

-Alien Invaders

# Frederick Douglass NHS

202-426-5961



## Curriculum Programs

Grades: 1 through 12

Season: *Various*

Programs: -Off-site Programs (*All Year*)  
-Oratorical Contest (*November*)

Grades: *All*

Season: *Various*

Programs: -Daily Interpretive Tours (*All Year*)  
-Frederick Douglass Birthday Celebration (*February*)  
-Annual Holiday Program (*December*)

*Reservations are required for groups of more than ten, with a maximum of 60 people per reservation. Group tours are given three times a day at 9:30, 10:45 and 2:00. Plan for your visit to last at least two hours as groups are broken down further onsite to smaller groups of 15 each for their 30-minute house tours. To make your reservation for a tour of Cedar Hill today, please call 1-877-559-6777. Reservations must be made at least a week in advance. Groups should try to arrive 20 minutes early to pick up their tickets at the Visitor Center to tour the home. We cannot honor reservations for groups that arrive more than 20 minutes late. For additional information, call (202) 426-5961.*

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# Fort Washington Park

301-763-4600



## Bridging the Watershed Curriculum Based Program

Grades: 9 through 12

Season: *Fall/Spring*

Programs: -Watershed Watchdogs  
-Talkin' Trash  
-Alien Invaders  
-Don't Get Sedimental

*Tours of the Fort are offered to all grades upon request.*

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# Junior Ranger Programs

**Anacostia Park** 202-472-3883  
**& Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens** 202-426-6905

Junior Ranger program is a series of activities that further the exploration of Anacostia Park starting either at the southern Anacostia end or the northern Kenilworth end. It encourages young people to explore the Anacostia River environment and watershed. At the end, Junior Rangers can get a certificate and button.

**Mary McLeod Bethune Council House**  
**National Historic Site** 202-673-2402

The Mary McLeod Bethune Council House offers a wealth of history pertaining to the life of Mrs. Bethune, the National Archives for Black Women's History and related points of interest, such as the Logan Circle Historic District; Lincoln Park; and the Black History Trail. Youth participating in various activities, on and off-site, receive a Jr. Ranger badge for their educational contributions. A workbook is available on site, also.

**Greenbelt Park** 301-344-3944

At Greenbelt Park, Jr. Rangers will learn to appreciate the need for conservation, and preservation of animals, plants, land and water. Jr. Rangers will participate in nature hikes, environmental education, recycling, and conservation. Ten youths ages 8 to 12 will be selected for each session. Contact the site for registration and sessions dates and hours.

**Oxon Cove Park** 301-839-1176

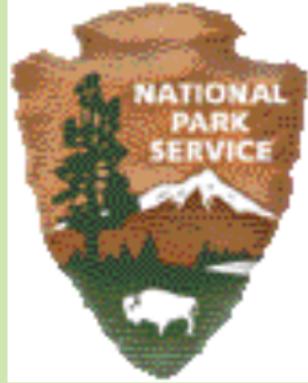
Pick up this thought provoking book, "Rangers", on the National Park Service. Complete activities in the book and receive your Jr. Ranger badge.

**Fort Washington Park** 301-763-4600

Fort Washington is the only permanent fortification built to defend the Nation's Capital. The 341-acre park offers a variety of natural, cultural, and recreational opportunities. A Junior Ranger booklet can be obtained at the Visitor Center. Answers can be found in the Visitor Center and in the fort. Booklets are available 7 days a week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for two age groups: 6 to 8 years and 9 to 12 years.

# 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 Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country.

National Capital Parks – East is one of 390 units of the National Park System.

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