



Beyond the Capital

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

Spring/Summer 2012

A Visitor's Guide to National Capital Parks-East



Dragonflies and hundreds of other species
make their home in the Anacostia River
watershed. NPS Photo.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

National Capital Parks-East

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

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Please tell us what you think.

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Message from the Superintendent

Dear Visitor,

Spring and summer are a wonderful time to explore the parks within National Capital Parks-East. The warm weather fills the parks with flowers, music, wildlife, and visitors seeking renewal. Take some time to explore these wonderful oases found throughout the Washington D.C. metropolitan area.



Anacostia Park and its environs in the heart of our nation's Capital are rich with natural, cultural, and recreational opportunities. It is the home to numerous historic and cultural areas that tell the story of human experience throughout the centuries. The lands and waters are the habitat to thousands of species of flora and fauna. People of all backgrounds enjoy the parks, trails, and waterways, and thousands of residents call this area home. Whether you experience the park for only a few moments or a lifetime, Anacostia Park leaves a lasting impression.

I encourage you to create your own connection with Anacostia Park and the many sites that make up National Capital Parks-East. Come and enjoy a paddle on the Anacostia or Potomac River, explore the parks, experience the incredible resources, or help us out by volunteering. Learn more about how the sites at National Capital Parks-East influenced the evolution of our great nation. Find yourself in this amazing place.

Thank you,

Alexcy Romero
Superintendent

Mission

The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The National Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country.

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

Become a Volunteer!

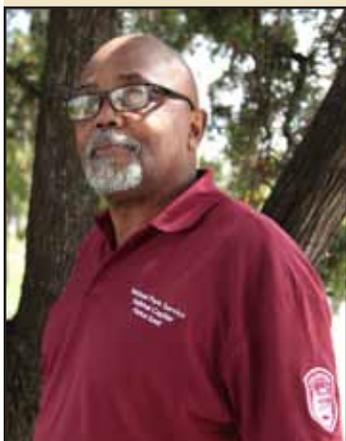
Do you want to give back to the park that gives you so much? Have you ever thought of volunteering your time and talents to the National Park Service (NPS)? Become a steward of the park by joining the VIP (**V**olunteers-**I**n-**P**arks) program at National Capital Parks-East (NACE).



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 and click on the volunteer link.



Volunteer Robert Cureton. 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 carry Lyme disease and know which symptoms to watch out for. When in a potentially infested area, apply insect repellent, wear light colored long sleeved-shirts, pants, and socks.
- Only build a fire in designated grills or fire rings.
- When extinguishing a campfire, let it die down then break-up the coals or logs, spread the pieces, and soak them with water.

Park Regulations

To help protect park resources and ensure an enjoyable visit for everyone, please follow park rules and posted regulations.

- Pets are welcome in all areas of National Capital Parks-East (NACE), except at Oxon Cove Park. Pets must be on a leash no longer than 6 feet and under control at all times.
- Discharging firearms anywhere on NACE lands is unlawful.
- Please dispose of your garbage and other refuse in trash containers or take it with you when you leave.
- For your safety while hiking, stay on the established trails and watch your footing at all times.
- Prevent damage to resources by bicycling on paved roads and designated bike trails only.

Parks of National Capital Parks-East

Anacostia Park

Anacostia Park presently spans over 1,200 acres stretching the length of the Anacostia River from the Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge north approximately five miles to the District/Maryland line. It includes Langston Golf Course and River Terrace and it is one of the largest and most important parks in Washington, D.C., with diverse recreational opportunities, natural areas, and historic sites.

This multi-use recreation park, with shoreline access, skating pavilion, ball fields, basketball and tennis courts, and picnic areas attracts people from throughout the city and across the nation. The shorelines also provide opportunities for river access, fishing, birding, and just relaxing!

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

Contact Information

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

Kenilworth Park & Aquatic Gardens

Kenilworth Park & Aquatic Gardens is the only National Park Service site devoted to the cultivation of flowering aquatic plants. It is a 12-acre sanctuary that features serene ponds, flowering water lilies and lotus, as well as many species of birds and wildlife.

The visitor center is open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. except January 1, Thanksgiving Day, and December 25.

Kenilworth Marsh is a 77-acre freshwater tidal marsh that borders the Kenilworth Park & Aquatic Gardens. The marsh includes 32 acres of marsh restored in the 1990s to provide habitat for a wide array of native wildlife and wetland plants. A boardwalk and trail from the Aquatic Gardens provide visitors access to various marsh zones and the Anacostia River.

Contact Information

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

Baltimore-Washington Parkway

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

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

Contact Information

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

Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS

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

The National Archives for Black Women's History, housed at the site, has materials pertaining to black women and their organizations and contains extensive correspondence, photographs, and memorabilia related to the National Council of Negro Women.

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

Contact Information

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

Capitol Hill Parks

When Pierre Charles L'Enfant submitted his design for the national capital of Washington in 1790, a system of grand avenues, public buildings, and grounds dominated the overall plan. Many of the parks, medians, circles, and squares of Capitol Hill evolved from this plan and its subsequent modification in 1901 by the McMillan Commission.

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

Included in this group are: Lincoln, Folger, Stanton, and Marion Parks; Maryland Avenue Triangles; Pennsylvania Avenue Medians, Squares and Triangles, including Seward Square; Potomac Avenue Metro Station; Twining Square, and other inner city green spaces.

Contact Information

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

Oxon Cove Park/ Oxon Hill Farm

Located in the District of Columbia and Prince George's County, Maryland, Oxon Cove Park features the 63-acre Oxon Hill Farm, a working historic farm. Visitors can explore the early 19th-century farm house (Mount Welby) and other historic barns, stables, and outbuildings. Animals, crops, orchards, and gardens are also found on the farm site. The park's 485 acres provide recreational opportunities for hiking, biking, and picnicking, and are an excellent resource for environmental studies and wildlife observing.

The farm is open to the public daily from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. except January 1, Thanksgiving Day, and December 25. Reservations are required for special programs, education offerings, and popular activities such as milking cows, gathering eggs, and wagon rides.

Contact Information

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

Carter G. Woodson Home NHS

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

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

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

Contact Information

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

Piscataway Park

Situated along the Potomac River in Maryland, Piscataway Park was created to preserve the historic views from Mount Vernon, home to President George Washington, to Fort Washington. Piscataway Park is a natural area and is home to bald eagles, beavers, fox, osprey, and many other species. The forested coves and tidal marshes located along the Piscataway Park shoreline are a great place for exploring by canoe. Piscataway Park is a beautiful place for picnicking and fishing. National Colonial Farm, located in the park, is an outdoor living history museum founded by the Accokeek Foundation. The park offers a public fishing pier, two boardwalks over freshwater tidal wetlands, and a variety of nature trails.

The park is open from dawn to dusk.

Contact Information

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

Parks of National Capital Parks-East

Civil War Defenses of Washington

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

Contact Information

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

Shepherd Parkway

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

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

Contact Information

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

Fort Washington Park

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

Tours of the fort are available daily. Picnicking areas, river views and access, extensive woodlands, and hiking trails are also available.

Fort Washington Park hosts a number of special events annually including Civil War artillery firing demonstrations and living history programs.

The fort is closed on Thanksgiving Day, December 25, and January 1. The grounds are open from sunrise to sunset and the fort and visitor center are open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Memorial Day through Labor Day and from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Labor Day through Memorial Day. An entrance fee is charged from April through October.

Contact Information

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

Suitland Parkway

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

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

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

Contact Information

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

Frederick Douglass NHS

The Frederick Douglass National Historic Site houses an impressive collection of original 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. 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



"Feline" artsy at the Frederick Douglass birthday celebration. 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

Angela 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

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

Annett Gantt (Executive Director)
agantt@ecc1.org, or
Kellie Bolinder
kbolinder@ecc1.org
First Street & Potomac Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20003
202-554-1960
www.ecc1.org

Eastern National

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

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

Contact Information

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

Living Classrooms of the National Capital Region

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

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

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

Contact Information

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

Sewall-Belmont House and Museum

The Sewall-Belmont House and Museum is the site where suffrage leader Alice Paul and the women of the National Woman's Party led the fight for equal rights for women in the United States and throughout the world. The National Woman's Party was instrumental in gaining the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution giving women the right to vote.

Alice Paul, the author of the Equal Rights Amendment, lived and worked in the house for many years. The library, which contains an unparalleled collection of suffrage and equal rights artifacts and documents, is dedicated to the history of the party and the history of the suffrage and equal rights movements. Please call for tour availability.

Contact Information

Elisabeth Crum
Public Programs & Outreach Manager
144 Constitution Avenue NE
Washington, DC 20002
elisabeth.crum@sewallbelmont.org
202-546-1210
www.sewallbelmont.org

Student Conservation Association

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

Contact Information

Deirdre Fitzgerald
Media Relations
1800 North Kent Street,
Suite 102
Arlington, VA 22209
dfitzgerald@thesca.org
703-524-2441
www.thesca.org

Events

Recurring Events

MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE COUNCIL HOUSE TOURS

Monday–Saturday
202-673-2402

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

FREDERICK DOUGLASS HOME TOURS

Daily
202-426-5961

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

ECOSYSTEM FARM (PISCATAWAY PARK)

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

MAKING CAMPING PLANS FOR THE SUMMER?

Reservations are available now for the Greenbelt Park campground from Thursday, May 24

through Tuesday, September 4. Call 1-888-444-6777 or register online at 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.

GREENBELT PARK CAMPGROUND A LOOP IS A SCOUT LOOP CAMPGROUND

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.

SUMMER CAMPFIRE PROGRAMS IN GREENBELT PARK

Campfire programs are coming to the Greenbelt Park campground for summer 2012. Please check the Greenbelt web site at www.nps.gov/gree for the latest up-to-date program information.

GREEN THUMBS VOLUNTEER "GARDENING CLUB"

Accokeek Foundation—Museum Garden
First and Third Thursday, and Third Saturdays
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
301-283-2113
All ages, Free

The Green Thumbs is a volunteer group that invites gardeners of all ages and skill level to lend a hand in the Accokeek Foundation's Museum Garden and, on occasion, the National Colonial Farm. Volunteers will

have an opportunity to learn more about the history of heirloom vegetables and the practices behind organic gardening, from planting and harvesting produce to better managing weeds and pests. We will work together in the garden space, sharing ideas, knowledge, skills, and stories. We will meet on the first and third Thursdays and third Saturdays of each month throughout the growing season. Water and light snacks will be provided.

INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL

Greenbelt Park—Sweetgum Picnic Area
Saturdays, May 5, June 2, July 7, & August 4
11:00 a.m.
301-344-3944
Ages 8 to adult

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

AQUATIC GARDEN TOURS

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens—Visitor Center
May 26 through Labor Day
Weekend Days, 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
202-426-6905

Garden Tours begin May 26 and continue through Labor Day every weekend at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Join a ranger and see the flowers fully open. The gardens tours vary with the ranger and circumstances, so each visit may be different. For information or large groups call the park a few days before you come at 202-426-6905.

YOUNG SUFFRAGIST

Sewall-Belmont House & Museum
Friday, June 1 through Monday, June 11
11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
202-546-1210
Registration Required
Ages 7-16 (Capacity: 15 participants throughout the day)
FEE: \$10.00/Girl Scout. Adults accompanying girls are free.

Visit the Sewall-Belmont House & Museum and become a Young Suffragist. Learn about the suffrage movement in the early 20th century and discover the strategies women used to lobby for and win the right to vote in 1920. Tour the museum to learn more about the historic National Woman's Party's suffrage work through original banners, pictures, and newspapers from the campaign. Then, make your own protest banners and experience firsthand the story of women's heroism.

ARTILLERY FIRING DEMONSTRATION

Fort Washington Park—Old Fort
Sundays, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, & September 2
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, 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. These are the annual training days. Firings will be at 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m.

Events

PONTOON BOAT TRIP FROM BLADENSBURG WATERFRONT PARK

4601 Annapolis Road,
Bladensburg, Maryland
May 3, May 18, June 5, June 20,
July 5, July 27, August 14, August 29
12:00 p.m.
301-779-0371
All ages, Free

Join a National Park Service park ranger and Bladensburg Waterfront Park staff on a free boat trip along the Anacostia River. During the 1 hour trip, visitors will view the plants and wildlife that make the Anacostia River home and discover the rich history that has taken place here over several centuries. For more information, please contact Bladensburg Waterfront Park, 301-779-0371.

SUMMER GARDEN TOUR

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens
Saturdays and Sundays
May 26 through September 2
9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
202-426-6905
All ages, Free

Join a ranger and explore the plants and wildlife of Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens. Learn about the history of the park and the special features of this one-of-a-kind national park site. The main focus of the tour is the aquatic flowers blooming in the ponds. A tour last approximately 45 minutes, but varies depending on weather conditions.

POND LIFE PROGRAM FOR AGES 8-12*

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens
Saturdays, May 26, June 23, July 28 & August 15
1:00 p.m.
202-426-6905
Ages 8-12

Hey kids come explore this complex habitat and observe the different plants and animals that make their homes in the park's ponds! Along with a park ranger, you will use nets (provided) and other learning tools to gently catch and release pond critters—from microscopic invertebrates to huge lotus blooms! You will also discover how these plants and animals depend on each other for survival. *Children must be accompanied by an adult.

TUB GARDENING WORKSHOP

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens
Saturday, June 2, Sunday, July 1,
Sunday, July 22 & Sunday,
August 5
2:00 p.m.
202-426-6905
All ages, Free

Limited on garden space? Don't have your own wetland in your backyard? Learn how to create your own tub garden to add natural beauty to your patio or balcony.

May

INTERPRETIVE TRAINING FOR VOLUNTEERS

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens—
Visitor Center
Saturday, May 5 and Sunday,
May 12
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
202-426-6905

If you are interested in finding out what rangers do and how they do it, this is your opportunity. The training is part an explanation of NPS jargon, part theory, and practical exercise. This course includes psychology of communication that would

be useful for teachers who feel lacking in that area. If later participants would like to volunteer to do programs in the park, we welcome that additional commitment.

BE A NATURE EXPLORER!

Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn
Sunday, May 6
9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
301-839-1176
Ages 3 to 8, and accompanying adults

If your children are not quite old enough to participate in the Junior Ranger Program, it is still possible for them to earn a patch and to have fun doing it! Oxon Cove Park is the first national park that many children ever visit and it is a perfect place for them to learn about nature and stewardship. Children and parents work together to complete the activities in the Nature Explorers Booklet. Meet in the Visitor Barn.

READING RANGER

Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station
located near the campground
Sunday, May 6
2:00 p.m.
Ages 5-12
301-344-3944 to RSVP

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

GARDENING WITH NATIVE PLANTS

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens—
Visitor Center
Sunday, May 6 and Saturday,
May 12
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
202-426-6905
All ages, Free

Join this gardening workshop to explore using native plants in your yard to attract native wildlife and protect the environment.

FRIENDS OF STILL CREEK MEETING

Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station
Monday, May 7
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Contact Bill Duncan, at
301-345-6515
Ages 16 and up

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

HERITAGE BREEDS OPEN BARN

Accokeek Foundation at
Piscataway Park
Saturday, May 12
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
301-283-2113
All ages, Free

Come and meet our heritage livestock! This spring, Livestock Manager, Polly Festa welcomes you to the barnyard to meet and learn about the various breeds of livestock which are part of the Accokeek Foundation's Heritage Breed Conservancy Program. During this free and open to the public "open house," you will have up close encounters with American Milking Devons (cows), Hog Island Sheep, Ossabaw Hogs, Buckeye Chickens, and Black Turkeys.

DOE THE DEER

Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station
Sunday, May 13
11:00 a.m.
301-344-3944 to RSVP
Ages 5 to Adult

Join a park ranger as we discuss the environmental adaptation of these large, fast moving, yet

Events

graceful mammals of Greenbelt Park.

FROM SHEEP TO SWEATER: SHEEP SHEARING AT OXON HILL FARM

Oxon Cove Park
Wednesday, May 16
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
301-839-1176
All ages

Come out to the farm and explore the world of wool production. Through sheep shearing demonstrations, we will see how the sheep get their “annual haircut.” Wool spinning demonstrations will also be available. Join us for this morning of fun and learning as we discover how the sheep’s wool transforms into sweaters, socks, mittens, etc.

HAPPY 200TH ANNIVERSARY!

Oxon Cove Park
Friday, May 18
12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
301-839-1176
All ages

Come celebrate the 200th wedding anniversary of John P. Dulany and Mary Ann DeButts, which happened here at Mount Welby on May 18th, 1812. Learn more about what life on this land was like during this period and about the people who lived here.

MONTHLY FOODWAYS: DEAR DEER

Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park
Saturday, May 19
12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the National Colonial Farm
301-283-2113
All ages, Free

Join us for a kitchen table conversation as we introduce you

to the epicurean delights of colonial Marylanders. Learn how our tastes and the food itself have changed over 300 years as we explore the “receipts” (recipes) and meal preparation. This month’s theme is “Dear, Deer” featuring: Pretty Dish of Breast of Venison and Venison Jerky.

VOLUNTEER SERVICE PROJECT WITH THE FRIENDS OF KENILWORTH AQUATIC GARDENS

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens—Visitor Center
Saturday, May 19
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
202-426-6905
All ages, minors must be accompanied by an adult

Join National Park Service staff and the Friends of Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens for a fun volunteer clean-up event. Become a park steward and help get the site ready for summer time with a variety of activities including: weeding, planting, trash clean-up, mulching, invasive plant removal, and trail maintenance.

GARDENING WITH CONTAINER PLANTS

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens—Visitor Center
Sunday, May 20
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
202-426-6905
All ages, Free

Limited on garden space? Learn how to create your own container garden to add natural beauty to your patio or balcony.

READING STORIES WITH RANGER STEPH: LET’S MOVE... INTERACTIVE TALES FOR WEE-WIGGLERS AND MINI-MOVERS!

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

Every third Monday of the month, come listen to stories, sing songs, and enjoy other activities. This month, jump your jiggles out with Ranger Steph as we focus on stories that get us moving! Meet in the Visitor Barn. For more information about the First Lady’s Let’s Move campaign, go to www.letsmove.gov.

BIRDING WITH BAMBI

Fort Washington Park—Visitor Center
Sunday, May 27
9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
301-763-4600
All ages

Learn about the birds of Fort Washington Park. Grab your binoculars and comfortable shoes for a stroll around the park in search of our fine feathered friends.

REMEMBERING WALTER SHAW

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens—Visitor Center
Monday, May 28
11:00 a.m.
202-426-6905

A special tribute to a gentle man, a wounded veteran of the Civil War who turned an adverse situation into a place of rest and beauty. Walk in Walter’s footsteps and find the inspiration to

make life better. Tour is wheelchair accessible

June

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY

Greenbelt Park—Sweetgum Picnic Area
Saturday, June 2
8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon
301-982-9681 to RSVP
Ages 10 and up

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

PISCATAWAY PARK PAINT-OUT

Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park
Saturday, June 2
Dawn until Dusk
301-283-2113
All ages, Free

In celebration of National Trails Day, area artists will gather at the Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park to get outside and paint. Join us for the Piscataway Park Paint-Out, as *plein air* artists capture on canvas the historic buildings of the National Colonial Farm, the heritage breed livestock grazing in green pastures, the flora and fauna of this picturesque site, or the inspiring views of the Potomac. Join in or just watch this exciting art phenomenon, and become inspired by this unique and meaningful place!

TUB GARDENING

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens—Visitor Center
Saturday, June 2
2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
202-426-6905

Events

You don't need a pond to grow water plants. See how to turn a sunny nook into a water garden with little maintenance. For more information call Ranger Kate at 202-426-6905.

DUPONT-KALORAMA MUSEUM "WALK WEEKEND"

Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS
Saturday, June 2 & Sunday, June 3
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
202-673-2402

Theme: Documenting Dupont. We invite the public to share in our educational and cultural programming focused on the National Council of Negro Women and The Arts. Artists and activists in civil rights struggle maintain a long tradition of collaborative efforts that will be highlighted in a panel discussion, vocal and theatrical performances, a book talk, arts and crafts, and a jazz garden reception.

TAKE A HIKE!

Oxon Cove Park
Saturday, June 9
12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
301-839-1176
Ages 6 and up

June is Great Outdoors Month. What better way is there to celebrate than at one of your national parks? Join a park ranger for an exhilarating half-mile hike of Oxon Cove Park's Woodlot Trail that is guaranteed to get your heart pumping. Make sure to wear comfortable shoes as we explore the great outdoors on this beautiful wilderness trail.

BASIC COMPASS USE

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens—Visitor Center
Saturday, June 9
1:00 p.m.
202-426-6905

Learn the basics of compass use and how to follow a course using a map and compass. Good for kids and adults.

LISTEN TO NATURE'S MUSIC

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens—Visitor Center
Sundays, June 10, June 17, and June 24
1:00 p.m.
202-426-6905

A combination of meditation, yoga and directed listening to the sounds of nature to heal the mind and body.

NATURE CRAFT WITH ALEXIS

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens—Visitor Center
Saturday, June 16
1:00 p.m.
202-426-6905

Release your creative side with paper, and natural materials. Good for grade school ages and up.

RABBIT VS. HARE

Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station
Sunday, June 17
11:00 a.m.
Ages 5-12
301-344-3944 to RSVP

Did you know that rabbits and hares are different? Join a park ranger to discover some of these curious animal's distinctions.

READING STORIES WITH RANGER STEPH: GOT MILK?

Oxon Cove Park
Monday, June 18
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
301-839-1176
Ages 0 to 5, and accompanying adults

Every third Monday of the month, come listen to stories, sing songs, and enjoy other activities. This month, celebrate National Dairy Month with Ranger Steph. Learn about dairy cows and the nutritional value of dairy products. Find out a simple way to make real, delicious butter. Meet in the Visitor Barn.

JUNETEENTH: THE HISTORY OF EMANCIPATION OF THE UNITED STATES

Oxon Cove Park
Saturday, June 23
12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
301-839-1176
All ages

Juneteenth, Freedom Day and Emancipation Day—What do each of these events have in common? They're all days set aside to celebrate the official ending of the institution of chattel slavery in America. Join Ranger Ebonee as she gives a presentation on emancipation in the United States and walks through the history and significance of "Juneteenth." Meet on the front porch of the Mount Welby house at 12:30 p.m.

VOLUNTEER SERVICE PROJECT WITH THE FRIENDS OF KENILWORTH AQUATIC GARDENS

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens—Visitor Center
Saturday, June 23
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
202-426-6905
All ages, minors must be accompanied by an adult

Join National Park Service staff and the Friends of Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens for a fun volunteer clean-up event. Become a park steward and help get the site ready for summer time with a variety of activities including: weeding, planting, trash clean-up, mulching, invasive plant removal, and trail maintenance.

SUMMER DAYS AT THE NATIONAL COLONIAL FARM

Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park
Tuesday, June 26 through Friday, June 29
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
301-283-2113
\$5 per youth

Experience 18th century farm life from a child's perspective during this interactive open house style program geared towards youth of all ages. Give Ben a break by visiting costumed interpreters at workstations around the colonial farm and help with farm chores like corn pounding, carding wool, beating dough, searching for hornworms, and playing colonial games. This is an excellent opportunity for youth group leaders and families seeking an outdoor field trip to help keep young minds and bodies active this summer!

Events

JUNIOR RANGER ACTIVITIES

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens—Visitor Center
Saturday, June 30
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
202-426-6905

Bring grade school age kids for an exploration of the park and Jr. Ranger activity.

July

TUB GARDENING

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens—Visitor Center
Sunday, July 1
2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
202-426-6905

You don't need a pond to grow water plants. See how to turn a sunny nook into a water garden with little maintenance. For more information call Ranger Kate at 202-426-6905.

WHAT TO THE AMERICAN SLAVE, IS THE 4TH OF JULY?

Frederick Douglass NHS
Wednesday, July 4
11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
202-426-5961
All ages

Listen to Douglass's famous speech delivered from the front porch of his home.

WHAT TO THE AMERICAN SLAVE, IS THE 4TH OF JULY?

Oxon Cove Park
Saturday, July 7
12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
301-839-1176
All ages

Come and enjoy a re-enactment of Frederick Douglass's

infamous speech, "What, to the American Slave, is the 4th of July?" Afterwards, listen as Ranger Ebonee takes you on a journey into this nation's grandest independence celebration from the perspective of a young enslaved woman. Meet on the front porch of the Mount Welby house at 12:30 p.m.

HAS THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE GONE TO THE DOGS?

Fort Washington Park-Visitor Center
Sunday, July 8
10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
301-763-4600
All Ages

How many types of dogs does the National Park Service employ? What do they do and where to they work? Ever wonder about these questions? Come out to the park and learn about these special dogs.

READING RANGER—CAMPFIRE PROGRAM

Greenbelt Park—Campfire Circle Located in the B Loop
Sunday, July 8
6:00 p.m.
Ages 7-12
301-344-3944 to RSVP

Join a reading ranger at the campfire circle for the "Lorax" by Dr. Seuss. This book focuses on the dangers that corporate greed poses to nature.

MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE'S BIRTHDAY!

Lincoln Park—Bethune Memorial Statue
Tuesday, July 10
6:00 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 137th birthday.

MEET THE BEAVER

Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station
Sunday, July 15
2:00 p.m.
Ages 5 to adult
301-344-3944 to RSVP and for additional information

Join a park ranger as we learn about beavers.

READING STORIES WITH RANGER STEPH: SUMMER ON THE FARM

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

Every third Monday of the month, come listen to stories, sing songs, and enjoy other activities. This month, find out why the busiest months for the farmer are the laziest months for the farm animals! Meet Ranger Steph in the Visitor Barn.

THE HOPPY WORLD OF RABBITS

Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn
Saturday, July 21
12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
301-839-1176
All ages

Everybody loves rabbits! Get up close and personal with Oxon Cove Park's bunnies and see how they live. Learn

with your hands by helping us take care of them. What do they eat? Where do they sleep? Let's explore together and find out!

ANNUAL LOTUS AND WATER LILY FESTIVAL!

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens
Saturday, July 21
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
202-426-6905
All ages, FREE

This year's theme, African Roots: a Celebration of Natural Beauty and Heritage, will explore the natural and cultural significance of African plants. Together, with festival partners Modern Buddhism, the National Park Service will celebrate the importance of aquatic plants in shaping and supporting human life on our planet. Enjoy African and Asian cultural performances, fun children's activities, garden and wetland tours, gardening demonstrations, displays from local environmental groups, and educational programs about African plants and their importance to people all over the planet. Our Artsafire! guest artist, Patricia Rottino Cummins, will also feature live painting demonstrations. Ms. Cummins has been a featured artist at seven national parks in her career!

TUB GARDENING

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens—Visitor Center
Sunday, July 22
2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
202-426-6905

You don't need a pond to grow water plants. See how to turn a sunny nook into a water garden with little maintenance. For more

Events

information call Ranger Kate at 202-426-6905.

“THAT’S ENTERTAINMENT: THE POLITICS OF MIRTH”

Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park
Saturday, July 28 and Sunday, July 29
4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
301-283-2113
\$10 non-members; \$7 members; Children 2 and under free
All ages

“That’s Entertainment: The Politics of Mirth” is an intensive program designed to introduce the 21st century visitor into the world of 18th century entertainments and the deep social meanings they held for all classes of early Marylanders. The “barbecues” held throughout the Tidewater area were often hosted or sponsored by wealthy gentlemen standing for election. Visitors will learn about colonial era electioneering and the ways in which sport were used to conduct such business. The Museum Theater Interns under the guidance of museum theater professionals and scholars will create characters and scenes designed to go far beyond the “this is what they played” presentation and focus on the deeper social benefits of such activities.

USING NATURE’S MATERIALS

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens—Visitor Center
Sunday, July 29
1:00 p.m.
202-426-6905

Nature is full of materials we can use in a variety of ways. See how the wetland and

other plants have been used in a nature program for middle school and up.

MORNING CHORES

Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn
Sunday, July 29
8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
301-839-1176
All ages

It’s time to get up early and help with the chores! Enjoy the fresh morning air while helping the farmer with the feeding of the rabbits, horses, goats, sheep, and chickens. Meet at the Visitor Barn.

August

LISTEN TO NATURE’S MUSIC

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens—Visitor Center
Saturday, August 4
1:00 p.m.
202-426-6905

A combination of meditation, yoga and directed listening to the sounds of nature to heal the mind and body.

NATIONAL LIGHTHOUSE DAY

Fort Washington Park—Lighthouse
Saturday, August 4
11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
301-763-4600
All ages

Celebrate National Lighthouse Day with a talk of the Fort Washington Bell Tower/Lighthouse. The base of the lighthouse will be open for public viewing, climbing is not permitted.

FAMILY FESTIVAL

Frederick Douglass NHS
Sunday, August 5
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
202-426-5961
All ages

Join us for fun, games, music, history, and ice cream for the whole family.

TUB GARDENING

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens—Visitor Center
Sunday, August 5
2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
202-426-6905

You don’t need a pond to grow water plants. See how to turn a sunny nook into a water garden with little maintenance.

ABOUT THE WATERSHED

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens—Visitor Center
Saturday, August 18 & Sunday, August 19
1:00 p.m.
202-426-6905

You hear the term watershed in the news, and in school, but do you understand what it is? If not meet Ranger Kate at the visitor center for some games, some models and some thinking about watersheds, pollution, nature’s vacuum and water cycles. Why does it matter? Hint: There’s money involved! A good program for grade school up and teachers who will be teaching science or sociology.

MONTHLY FOODWAYS: THE FRUITS OF OUR LABOR

Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park
Saturday, August 18
12:00 noon to 1 p.m.
301-283-2113
All ages, Free

Join us for a kitchen table conversation as we introduce you to the epicurean delights of colonial Marylanders. Learn how our tastes and the food itself have changed over 300 years as we explore the “receipts” (recipes) and meal preparation. This month’s theme is “Fruits of our Labor” featuring: Southern Maryland Preserved Figs, To Bake Apples and To Pickle Peaches.

BACK TO SCHOOL READING RANGER

Greenbelt Park—Ranger Station
Sunday, August 19
2:00 p.m.
Ages 6-12
301-344-3944 to RSVP

Join a park ranger as we discover the joy of reading by discovering the day in the life as a beaver.

CAMPFIRE PROGRAM—HISTORY OF THE NATIONAL PARKS: AMERICA’S BEST IDEA

Greenbelt Park—Campfire Circle Located in the B Loop
Sunday, August 19
6:00 p.m.
Ages 7-Adult
301-344-3944 to RSVP

Join a park ranger at the campfire circle to learn about the evolution of the national parks.

Events

READING STORIES WITH RANGER STEPH: BEES, BUTTERFLIES AND OTHER BEAUTIFUL BUG-LIKE BEINGS

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

What's the Buzz? Every third Monday of the month, come listen to stories, sing songs, and enjoy other activities. This month, join Ranger Steph for a look at insects, spiders, worms, and other creepy crawlers. Find out how these tiny creatures are important to humans and other creatures. Meet in the Visitor Barn.

REMEMBERING THE SLAVE TRADE

Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn
Thursday, August 23
2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
301-839-1176
Ages 8 and up

Every August 23, the United Nations observes "The International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition" to remind people of the tragedy of the transatlantic slave trade. This commemoration compels us to reflect on the causes, methods, and consequences of the slave trade. Oxon Cove Park will join this remembrance and reflect on the history of enslavement that occurred on this very ground. We will also consider how our understanding of history is improved by incorporating the contributions of all. Every person on this ground left her or his mark. Let's explore those!

BLACK COWBOYS

Oxon Cove Park—Visitor Barn
Saturday, August 25
12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
301-839-1176
All ages

Join Ranger Ebonee for a presentation on the history of Black cowboys in America. After the presentation you'll be able to meet and greet a local group of real life Black cowboys!

MEET DR. DEBUTTS

Oxon Cove Park
Sunday, August 26
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
301-839-1176
All ages

Take a tour of the Mount Welby home, step back in time, and strike up a conversation with Dr. DeButts, portrayed by a living history interpreter. Dr. Samuel DeButts was the owner of the Mount Welby plantation during the early years of the 19th century.!

WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, August 26
11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
RSVP to rsvp@sewallbelmont.org. The Open House is free to the public.
All Ages

Celebrate the Anniversary of Women's Right to Vote. The Sewall-Belmont House & Museum, home of the historic National Woman's Party, invites you to attend a public open house in celebration of Women's Equality Day. The Museum exhibits 250 collection objects including Elizabeth Cady Stanton's chair and Susan B. Anthony's desk.

Make Kids Smile Partnership

By: Frank Young, Chief of Maintenance

In June 2008, National Capital Parks-East was approached by a non-profit about providing assistance to replace the playground at Shepherd Parkway at Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Avenues, SE, Washington, D.C. The playground there had fallen into disrepair as vandals damaged the equipment, wrote graffiti and, at some point, started a fire. We were committed to making repairs to the equipment as well as the recycled rubber surface.

The non-profit, Make Kids Smile, Inc. (MKSI), builds playgrounds for under privileged children in the Washington Metropolitan area and offered to partner with the National Park Service (NPS) to replace the playground equipment, as they had done on numerous occasions for the D.C. Housing Authority, D.C. Parks and Recreation at various places throughout the city. As a result, on February 27, 2009, MKSI entered into an agreement with National Capital Parks-East (NACE) to procure the playground equipment, mobilize volunteers and provide a certified installer to be present during the installation.

After several delays, demolition of the site and construction of the new playground equipment and play surface started on September 17, 2011. In addition to donating and installing the playground equipment, MKSI and Foulger-Pratt (donor) made other site improvements including turf renovation, installed park benches and picnic tables, and mulched and planted flowers. While the playground is not yet complete due to temperature restrictions when laying the play surface, our partnership with MKSI to replace the playground at this location can be termed as nothing but a complete success.



MKSI representative, Pete Ognibene, is recognized by park managers for the donation of playground equipment. 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.

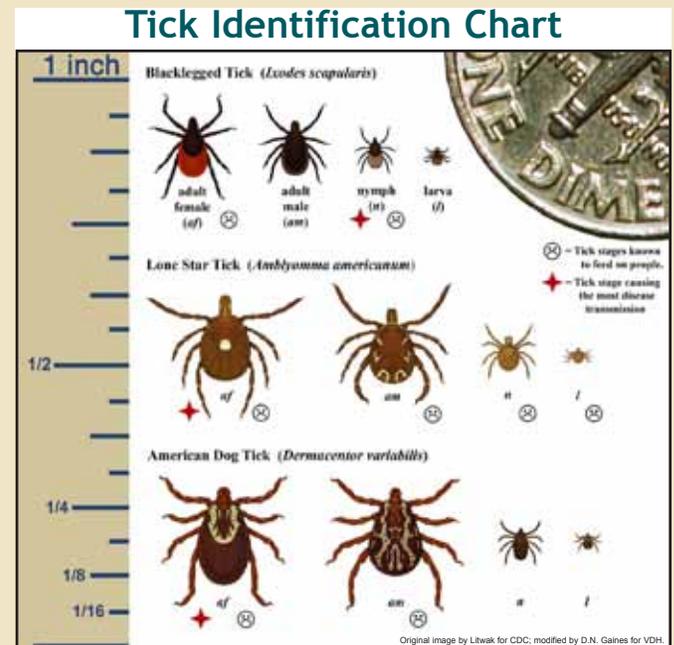
The best way to prevent Lyme disease is to prevent tick bites. Each individual is responsible for taking precautions to reduce the likelihood of infection, such as:

- 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.



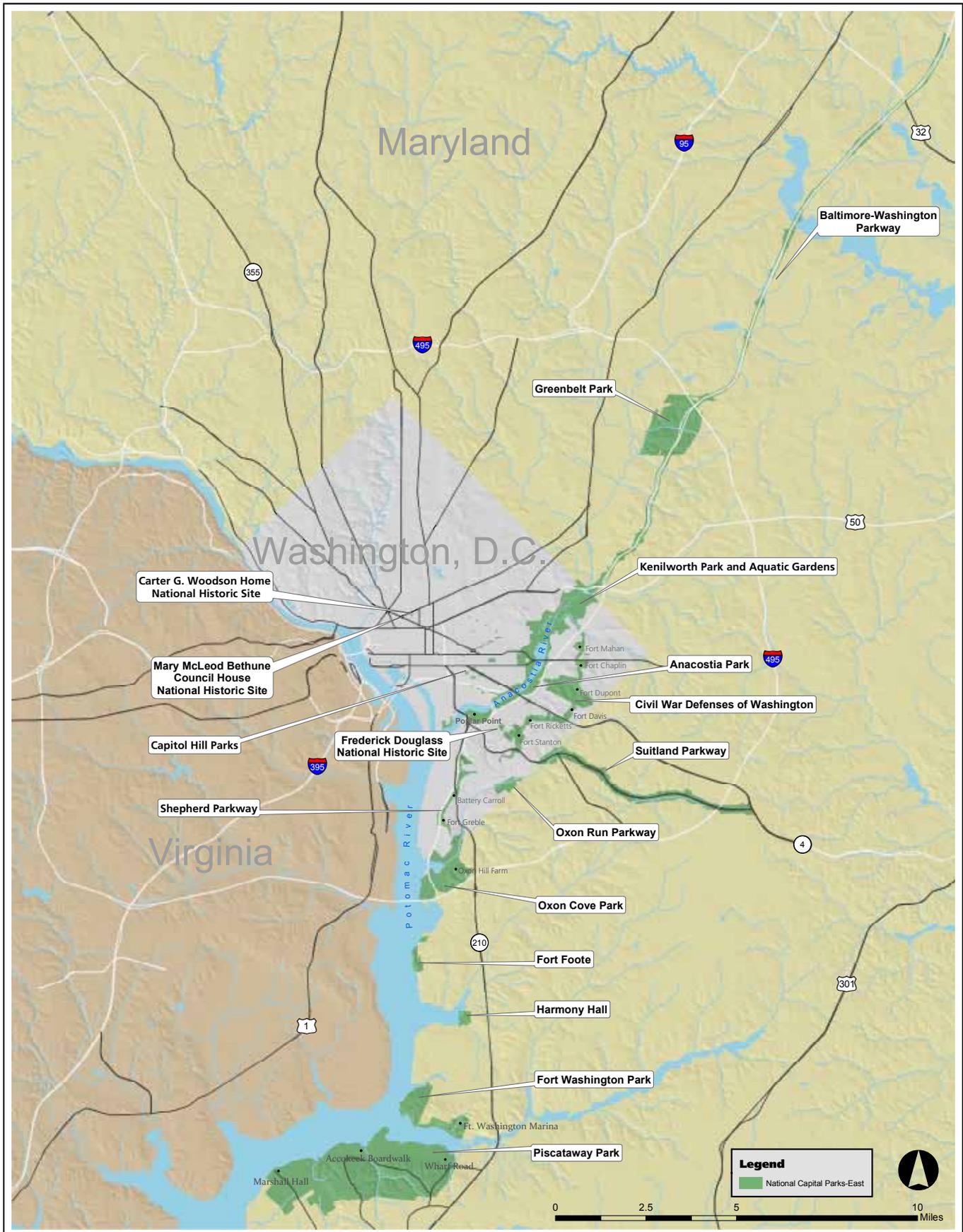
Tick-borne Disease Chart

Tick-borne Diseases	Anaplasmosis	Ehrlichiosis	Babesiosis	Lyme Disease	Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	Tularemia
Blacklegged Tick <i>Ixodes scapularis</i>	Vector		Vector	Vector		
Lone Star Tick <i>Amblyomma americanum</i>		Vector				Vector
American Dog Tick <i>Dermacentor variabilis</i>					Vector	Vector
Tick Stage that Transmits the Most Disease to People	Nymph	Adult	Nymph	Nymph	Adult Only	Nymph or Adult
Minimum Feeding Time for Disease Transmission	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.
June 2010

VDH VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Protecting You and Your Environment

Map





National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

National Capital Parks-East
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Washington, DC 20020-6722

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Activities at your fingertips

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