



# PASSPORT

— DC —

# WELCOME



The **Anacostia River Outdoor Volunteer Adventure Trail** is a powerful new collaboration transforming the volunteer experience across the Anacostia River area in D.C. Twelve local environmental organizations have joined forces to **break down barriers and create new pathways for everyone to discover the joy and benefits of volunteering.**

A Partnership Led By: Friends of the National Arboretum (FONA)

In Collaboration With:

- City Blossoms
- Anacostia Riverkeepers
- Ward 8 Woods Conservancy
- Dreaming Out Loud
- Friends of Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens
- DC Greens - The Well at Oxon Run
- Anacostia Watershed Society
- Friends of Anacostia Park
- National Links Trust
- Building Bridges Across the River - TheARC Farm
- Historic Congressional Cemetery

Do you represent an organization? We hope this model inspires other collaborations.

Contact us to learn more: [info@fona.org](mailto:info@fona.org)

# Discover Making a Difference!

We're turning volunteering into an adventure!

Have you wanted to spend more time outside, connect with nature, and make a direct impact in your community?

**Your Anacostia River Outdoor Volunteer Adventure Passport** is your guide to exploring all the amazing outdoor volunteer opportunities this area has to offer. With your participation, we can build a more connected, supportive, and vibrant volunteer ecosystem for the Anacostia River watershed here in D.C.

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## How it works:



- View the map and find organizations near you.
- Learn more about them on the pages that follow.
- Discover a volunteer activity to try, and sign-up!
- Earn a unique stamp from each organization when you volunteer.

- Use our transit tips to plan your adventure.
- Write in which volunteer opportunities you want to go to on the planner page.
- Check out the "Sidequests" for more fun outdoor recreational activities.
- Share your experiences with us online using #AROV.



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Check out our webpage to learn more about the project: [www.bit.ly/arovt](http://www.bit.ly/arovt)



ARBORETUM



U.S. CAPITOL

ANACOSTIA RIVER TRAIL



FORT DUPONT PARK



OXON RUN TRAIL



# TRAIL STOPS

**1. Friends of Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens**



**2. Friends of the National Arboretum**



**3. Dreaming Out Loud, The Farm at Kelly Miller**



**4. National Links Trust**



**5. Anacostia Watershed Society**



**6. Historic Congressional Cemetery**



**7. Anacostia Riverkeeper**



**8. Friends of Anacostia Park**



**9. City Blossoms, The Farm at Fort Stanton**



**10. Ward 8 Woods Conservancy**



**11. Building Bridges Across the River, THEARC Farm**



**12. The Well at Oxon Run - DC Greens**



MARVIN GAYE TRAIL





## Friends of Kenilworth

### Aquatic Gardens 3501 New York Avenue NE

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens is the only national park site devoted to cultivated water-loving plants. It features ponds filled with a variety of water lilies and lotus plants, an elevated boardwalk through the surrounding tidal marshes. Friends of Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens (FoKAG) was founded by volunteers enthralled by the park's unique beauty. FoKAG works in cooperation with the National Park Service to ensure the park is well-maintained and welcoming for neighbors and visitors.



#### Activities:

- Pulling invasives from ponds
- Seasonal garden activities
- Trash clean-ups
- Park Greeters

#### Dates & Times:

- Monthly events on every fourth Saturday
  - 9am-12pm
- March through October

#### How to Sign Up:

- Check for more information about different types of volunteer opportunities on their website.
- Sign-up for volunteer events on Eventbrite.







# STAMP

A colorful illustration of a person with dark hair, wearing a brown sweater and grey pants, holding a large green plant. The background features a pond with several water lilies in various colors (pink, blue, yellow, purple) and a white stork standing on a small pedestal. The scene is set against a light blue sky and a yellowish ground.

FRIENDS OF  
THE KENILWORTH  
AQUATIC GARDENS

## Transit Tips

-  Parking available
-  Orange & Silver Line, Deanwood stop
-  C35
-  Anacostia Riverwalk Trail



## Friends of the National Arboretum

3501 New York Avenue NE

The U.S. National Arboretum (USNA) is one of the largest green spaces in D.C. It's primary non-profit partner, the Friends of the National Arboretum (FONA) operates public outreach programs in the USNA and manages the Washington Youth Garden (WYG) on its grounds. FONA offers many volunteer opportunities from annual events like concerts, 5ks, and Garden Fair & Plant Sale to weekly drop gardening hours at the WYG.



### Activities:

- Gardening & Harvesting at the WYG
- Garden fair & plant sales
- FONA seasonal events

### Dates & Times:

- WYG Drop-In Hours:
  - Tues, Thurs, Sat
  - 9 AM to 12 PM
  - April through November
- FONA Events: Year Round
- Garden Fair: Late April

### How to Sign Up:

- Fill out Interest Form at [www.fona.org/volunteer](http://www.fona.org/volunteer)
- Monthly Volunteer Email Updates

FRIENDS  
OF THE  
NATIONAL  
ARBORETUM

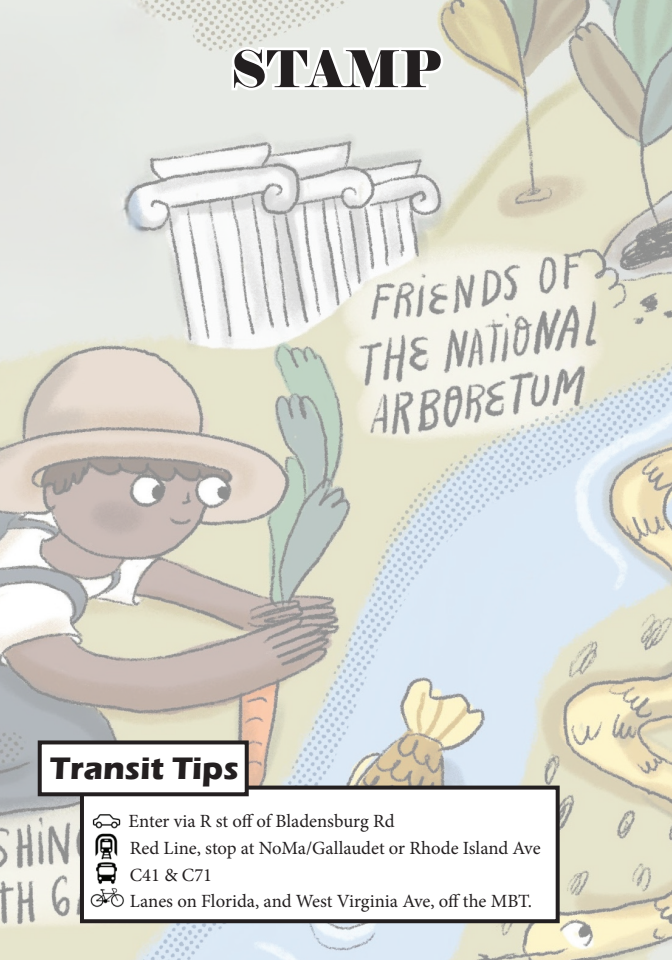


@fonarboretum

@washyouthgarden





[www.fona.org](http://www.fona.org)

# STAMP

A colorful illustration featuring a woman in a wide-brimmed hat holding a green plant. In the background, there is a classical column, a rainbow, and various plants and flowers. The text 'FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL ARBORETUM' is written in a hand-drawn style.

FRIENDS OF  
THE NATIONAL  
ARBORETUM

## Transit Tips

-  Enter via R st off of Bladensburg Rd
-  Red Line, stop at NoMa/Gallaudet or Rhode Island Ave
-  C41 & C71
-  Lanes on Florida, and West Virginia Ave, off the MBT.



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## Dreaming Out Loud, Inc.

### The Farm at Kelly Miller

301 49th St NE

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The Farm at Kelly Miller is a joint land stewardship project between Dreaming Out Loud and City Blossoms. They grow food, teach about responsible land stewardship, provide community garden plots, and hold two seasonal festivals. Dreaming Out Loud has been rebuilding community-based food systems, increasing access to healthy food, developing low-income entrepreneurs and cooperatives, and training residents for sustainable, family-supporting wages.



**DREAMING  
OUT LOUD**  
INC.

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#### Activities:

- Garden maintenance
- Community event support
- Stewardship


#### Dates & Times:

- Wednesdays and Fridays
- 3-5pm

#### How to Sign Up:

- Volunteering at Kelly Miller Farm is run by City Blossoms, please see their website.
- For other volunteer opportunities with DOL, please email them.

 @DOLDC

 [www.dreamingoutloud.org](http://www.dreamingoutloud.org)





 [development@dreamingoutloud.org](mailto:development@dreamingoutloud.org)



# STAMP

THE FARM AT  
KELLY MILLER  
"DREAMING OUT LOUD"

## Transit Tips

-  Parking at school or on street
-  Blue & Silver Line, Benning Rd stop
-  C31 & C37
-  Marvin Gaye Trail



## National Links Trust

Langston Golf Course - 2600 Benning Road, NE

National Links Trust is a non-profit organization dedicated to positively impacting our community through affordable and accessible municipal golf. NLT is the leaseholder for the National Park Service's three DC golf courses: Langston Golf Course, East Potomac Golf Links, and Rock Creek Park Golf. Our focus is to rehabilitate and restore these historic properties to provide better access to affordable recreation and green spaces in Washington, DC.



### Activities:

- Trash cleanups
- Habitat restoration
- Community event support

### Dates & Times:

- Weekly habitat restoration workdays: Tuesdays 7:30 - 10:30 AM
- NLT Community Events: April - October

### How to Sign Up:

- Fill out interest form and view upcoming events at [nationallinkstrust.org/volunteer](http://nationallinkstrust.org/volunteer)
- Sign up for monthly volunteer newsletter







NATIONAL  
LINKS TRUST

@nationallinkstrust @nlt\_sustainability

[nationallinkstrust.org](http://nationallinkstrust.org)

# STAMP

## Transit Tips

-  Parking available.
-  Orange, Blue or Silver lines stop at Stadium-Armory.
-  Bus routes C57 and D20
-  Biking via Anacostia River Trail.



## Anacostia Watershed Society

4302 Baltimore Avenue, Bladensburg, MD

The Anacostia Watershed Society (AWS) was founded in 1989 by a small group of concerned individuals who decided that the environmental needs of the Anacostia River and its watershed communities required serious attention. AWS now protects and restores the Anacostia River by bringing partners and communities together to achieve a clean and safe Anacostia River for the benefit of all living in its watershed and for future generations.



### Activities:

- Trash Clean-ups & Sorting
- Freshwater Mussel Surveying
- Tree Planting
- Habitat Restoration
- Wild Rice Planting/Harvesting

### Dates & Times:

- Please check event calendar on their website for most up to date information.


### How to Sign Up:

- Join their Volunteer Email Newsletter and register for events via their calendar.



ANACOSTIA  
WATERSHED  
SOCIETY

 @anacostiaws

 [www.anacostiaws.org/how-to-help/volunteer.html](http://www.anacostiaws.org/how-to-help/volunteer.html)

 [info@anacostiaws.org](mailto:info@anacostiaws.org)

An illustration of a river scene. In the top left, a brown dog sits on a sandy bank. In the center, a pink fish jumps out of the water. In the middle, two children are in a wooden canoe on the river. In the bottom right, a woman carries a white bag. The background features stylized trees and a yellowish-green sky. The word 'STAMP' is written in large, bold, black letters at the top center.

# STAMP

ANACOSTIA  
WATERSHED SOCIETY

## Transit Tips



Volunteer event locations vary, but most are along the river and accessible by car



Blue, Orange and Silver Metro lines

Anacostia Riverwalk Trail



## Historic Congressional Cemetery

1801 E St SE

Near the West bank of the Anacostia River, Historic Congressional Cemetery seeks to preserve, promote, and protect a historic and active burial ground. They provide education, historic preservation, community engagement, and environmental stewardship, while offering a unique green space for respite and reflection that fully embraces the cycle of life. They have a number of amazing volunteer opportunities to help keep the cemetery clean and secure as well as lively and well loved.



### Activities:

- Grounds Volunteer Projects
- K9 Corps
- Adopt-A-Plot
- Guided Tour Docents
- Programs & Event Support

### Dates & Times:

- Use their website's event calendar and mailing list to learn more details.


### How to Sign Up:


- Visit their website to fill out a volunteer application and join their mailing list.



DC's Greatest  
Undertaking

 @CongCemetery





 [www.congressionalcemetery.org/volunteer/](http://www.congressionalcemetery.org/volunteer/)

 [staff@congressionalcemetery.org](mailto:staff@congressionalcemetery.org)

# STAMP

An illustration of a cemetery scene. In the foreground, a young girl with blonde hair is digging with a shovel. To her right, a boy is partially visible. In the background, a fluffy brown dog sits on the ground. There are several tombstones, one of which has 'RIP' written on it. A banner in the background reads 'CONGRESSIONAL CEMETERY'. The scene is set in a grassy area with a dotted pattern.

## Transit Tips

-  Ample street parking
-  Blue, Orange, Silver lines, Potomac Ave stop
-  C41, C51
-  Anacostia Riverwalk Trail



## Anacostia Riverkeeper

729 8th Street SE, Suite 100

Anacostia Riverkeeper (ARK) is dedicated to protecting the Anacostia River for all who live, work, and play in its watershed. Established in 2008, ARK has had one big goal in mind: a healthy, swimmable, fishable, accessible river that enhances the life of all watershed residents. They aim to create meaningful encounters with the river for all people, including volunteers, who help with trash mitigation, advocacy, water quality monitoring, fishing events and river access.



### Activities:

- Trash clean-ups
- Community event support
- Water quality monitoring
- Advocacy

### Dates & Times:

- Water Quality Monitoring:
  - Wednesday mornings
  - May - Sept
- Weekend trash clean-ups
- Family Fishing: Fridays and Sundays during the Summer

### How to Sign Up:

- Visit their website for more info on their different programs and to fill out an interest form.



**ANACOSTIA  
RIVERKEEPER®**

 @AnacostiaRiverkeeper

 [www.anacostiariverkeeper.org/volunteer](http://www.anacostiariverkeeper.org/volunteer)

 [info@anacostiariverkeeper.org](mailto:info@anacostiariverkeeper.org)

# STAMP



ANACOSTIA  
RIVER KEEPER

CONSERVATION CORPUS.

## Transit Tips

\* Varies depending on location, but most events are near the Anacostia Riverwalk Trail. Water quality monitoring is on the Anacostia in DC and MD so there's likely a sample site near you!

PARK



## Friends of Anacostia Park

1500 Anacostia Dr SE

One of the city's largest green spaces, Anacostia Park comprises 1,100 acres situated along the Anacostia River. The Park is a popular spot for athletics, rollerskating, picnicking, biking, kayaking, walking, and recreational fishing. Friends of Anacostia Park serves to enrich the lives of DC residents by preserving Anacostia Park. Working with the National Park Service, they turn the challenge of restoration into an opportunity for community uplift.



### Activities:

- Litter and Invasive Species Removal
- Park restoration
- Event and program support

### Dates & Times:

- Every 3rd Saturday, Jan- Dec
- Timing depends on the season, check sign-ups

### How to Sign Up:

- Go to their website to view their event calendar and get more details.
  - <https://www.friendsofanacostiapark.org/volunteer>



 @FriendsOfAnacostiaPark

 [www.friendsofanacostiapark.org/volunteer](http://www.friendsofanacostiapark.org/volunteer)

 [visitorservices@thefoap.org](mailto:visitorservices@thefoap.org)





# STAMP



FRIENDS OF ANACOSTIA PARK



## Transit Tips

-  Parking available on-site
-  Blue, Orange, Silver lines, Potomac Ave stop
-  C15, C31, D10, D1X
-  Anacostia Riverwalk Trail



## City Blossoms The Farm at Fort Stanton

1812 Erie St SE

The Farm at Fort Stanton is a collaborative garden space, co-managed by City Blossoms and Dreaming Out Loud. It functions as both a production farm and community space for all ages. City Blossoms cultivates community well-being through creative, kid-driven gardens. You can volunteer at weekly Open Times at their Community Green Spaces and at dedicated Garden Workdays at their gardens across the city. They have a “you help, you harvest” policy!



### Activities:

- Seasonal maintenance
- Garden-building projects
- Helping with events and programming

### Dates & Times:

- Fort Stanton: Tuesdays, 4-6pm
- Marion St: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 4-6pm
- Girard St: Wednesdays & Fridays, 4:30-5:30pm

### How to Sign Up:

- Visit [www.cityblossoms.org/](http://www.cityblossoms.org/) volunteer to see a calendar of events and join their newsletter.

@CityBlossoms

[www.cityblossoms.org/volunteer](http://www.cityblossoms.org/volunteer)





[info@cityblossoms.org](mailto:info@cityblossoms.org)

# STAMP

THE FARM AT  
FORT STANTON

"City Blossoms"

## Transit Tips

-  Parking lot at the rec center
-  Green Line, stop at Anacostia
-  C29
-  Via Suitland Parkway Trail and Anacostia River Trail



# Building Bridges Across the River THEARC Farm

1901 Mississippi Ave SE

On Building Bridges' THEARC campus, thrives one of the largest urban farms east of the river. THEARC Farm, of the Building Bridges Farms network, was created to encourage healthy nutrition in the community and utilize green space in a positive way. 10 years in the making, it grows food for the community through garden beds, an orchard and hoop houses. Volunteers help the farm flourish and we have weekly free distributions of our produce from May through November.



## Activities:

- Garden maintenance
- Harvesting
- Food distributions

## Dates & Times:

- April/May through November:
  - Tuesdays: Farming 9 - 11 AM
  - Thursdays: 10 AM - 12 PM (at Hopkins Garden)
- Food and Farm Fridays:
  - Harvesting 9 - 11 AM
  - Distribution 11 AM - 2 PM

## How to Sign Up:

- Check updated information on events on their website below.
- Sign up on EventBrite.

 @thearcfarm

 [www. https://buildingbridgesdc.org/thearc-farm/](https://buildingbridgesdc.org/thearc-farm/)

# STAMP

A colorful illustration of a farm scene. In the center is a white, arched greenhouse with a blue base and a yellow tree silhouette on its side. To the right, there are several pink and orange tomatoes on green stems. In the foreground, a young girl with short brown hair and glasses, wearing a yellow apron over a white shirt, is watering a plant with a green watering can. The background features various trees in shades of green, yellow, and brown, and a yellow balloon with green and yellow stripes. The text 'THE ARC FARM' is written in a simple, hand-drawn font below the greenhouse.

THE ARC FARM

## Transit Tips



Parking lot available



Green Line, stop at Southern Ave



C27



Oxon Run Trail or Suitland Parkway Trail



## Ward 8 Woods Conservancy

3214 11th Pl SE

Ward 8 Woods Conservancy works to increase the health, beauty, and public enjoyment of urban forests East of the Anacostia River in Washington, DC. They host uniquely satisfying volunteer experiences that help beautify and restore these local woodlands. Do you live or work near a wooded area in Ward 8? They provide free supplies and support to volunteers who commit to regularly monitoring and cleaning their area, through their Adopt Your Woods program.



### Activities:

- Litter clean-up
- Invasive plant removal
- Trail building and maintenance

### Dates & Times:

- Suitland Parkway Clean-Up:
  - Every first Saturday  
10:30 AM - 1:30 PM
- Shepherd Parkway Clean-Up:
  - Every second Saturday  
10:30 AM - 1:30 PM

### How to Sign Up:

- Please visit their website and sign up on Humantix. For weekday and work from home volunteer opportunities please email



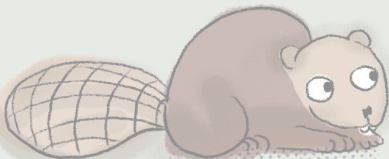
WARD 8  
WOODS

 @ward8woods

 [www.ward8woods.org](http://www.ward8woods.org)





 [info@ward8woods.org](mailto:info@ward8woods.org)

# STAMP



WARD 8  
WOODS  
CONSERVANCY

## Transit Tips

-  Street parking near clean-up sites
-  Green Line
-  Depends on event location
-  Suitland Parkway Trail



## The Well at Oxon Run - DC Greens

300 Valley Ave SE

The Well at Oxon Run is DC Greens' one-acre community farm and wellness space. The site promotes healing in green spaces by hosting on-site programming that aims to improve food access and wellness in the local community. Complete with 20,000 square feet of farming space dedicated to seasonal crop production, community convening spaces, and an outdoor classroom. All community members are welcome to come work in the soil, celebrate, and share experiences together.



### Activities:

- Gardening & harvesting
- Greenhouse maintenance
- Caterpillar tunnel maintenance
- Seedling starting & transplanting
- Land stewardship


### Dates & Times:

- Tuesday, Thursday and Saturdays from 11am-3pm
- March to end of October

### How to Sign Up:

- Use this user-friendly portal to see and sign up for shifts:
  - <https://dcgreenthewell.volunteerhub.com/vv2/>

dcgreens

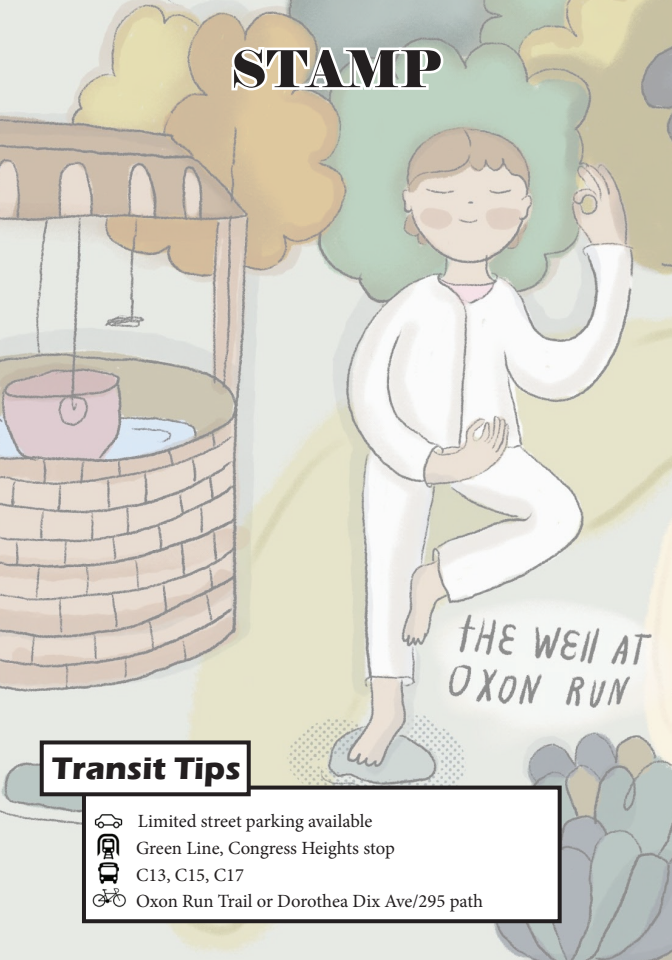
 @ward8well

 [www.dcgreens.org/thewell](http://www.dcgreens.org/thewell)

 @dc\_greens





 [thewell@dcgreens.org](mailto:thewell@dcgreens.org)

# STAMP



THE WELL AT  
OXON RUN

## Transit Tips

-  Limited street parking available
-  Green Line, Congress Heights stop
-  C13, C15, C17
-  Oxon Run Trail or Dorothea Dix Ave/295 path

# VOLUNTEER

Make your weekly Volunteer Schedule!

This week-at-a-glance is your map for meaningful action. Use the spaces below to chart your course: write in the newly discovered volunteer activities that fit with your usual schedule, then turn your intention into impact. Jot down reminders, goals, or reflections in the notes section.



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday

# PLANNER



Take Notes!

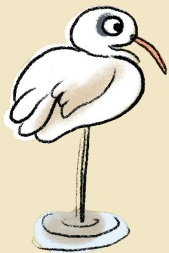

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday



# SIDE

**Check these out  
if you have time!**

# QUESTS!



Welcome to our Side Quests: a curated collection of recreational activities that will connect you with the water, trails, and green spaces of the Anacostia watershed. These mini-expeditions will immerse you into the vibrant and serene nature thriving in this part of the nation's capital.

***Feel the rhythm  
of the city on  
eight wheels***



## **Anacostia Rollerskating Pavilion**

Anacostia Park in Washington D.C. has the National Park Service's only roller skating pavilion! The covered open-air pavilion is open daily from 6 AM to 10 PM year-round, however free skate rentals are only available from May 25 to the end of October.

Whether you're finding your balance for the first time or rediscovering a classic joy, this is where community, music, and motion come together.

Glide under the lights, lose yourself in the beat, and experience the rolling thrill that makes this place a D.C. treasure.

Your adventure on wheels awaits.

## Fort Circle Hiker-Biker Trail

Trade sidewalks  
for trodden paths.

The 7-mile Fort Circle Park Hiker-Biker Trail connects the sites of six Union Army forts built during the Civil War via a continuous greenway on a ridge east of the Anacostia River. As the name suggests, the trail is one of only a few in the District of Columbia open to mountain bikers as well as hikers.

The surface is mostly dirt, with some stretches of gravel and pavement. Weave your way through the parks, discover hidden earthworks, and earn breathtaking views of the city.



For more information on how to explore these trails, check out <https://ward8woods.org/fort-circle-hiker-biker-trail/>

## Kingman and Heritage Islands

Explore what lies  
in the isles of the  
*Anacostia!*

Step into a peaceful oasis in the heart of the city. Kingman and Heritage Islands, nestled in the Anacostia River, are hidden gems of marshland, meadows, and winding trails. A sanctuary for herons, turtles, and quiet reflection, these islands offer a unique escape into urban wilderness.

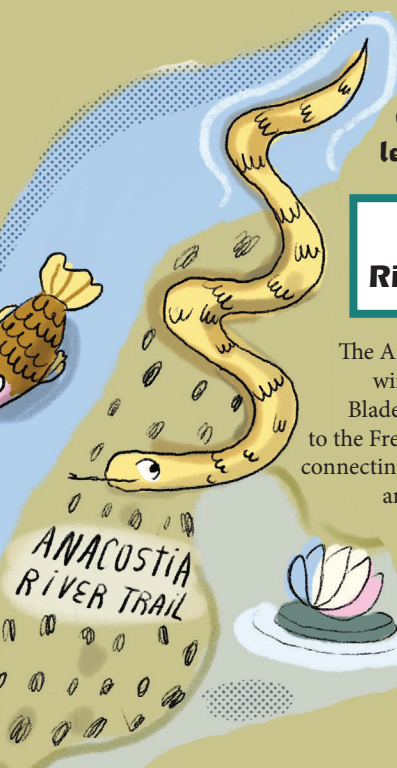
Explore the boardwalks, discover vibrant birdlife, and witness the powerful story of environmental restoration.

Or check out the Langston Hughes golf course, which ventures into the northern part of Kingman Island. Hit the range or play a full 9 holes.



KINGMAN  
AND HERITAGE  
ISLANDS



A stylized illustration of a yellow river winding through a landscape. The river is depicted with a thick, yellow, wavy line. To the left, a brown fish with a yellow tail is swimming. In the foreground, a lotus flower with blue, white, and pink petals sits on a green lily pad. A trail sign on the left side of the river reads "ANACOSTIA RIVER TRAIL". The background is a light blue sky with a dotted pattern, and the ground is a light tan color with small, dark spots representing rocks or pebbles.

**Take your  
adventure the full  
length of the river!**

## **Anacostia Riverwalk Trail**

The Anacostia Riverwalk Trail winds along the river from Bladensburg Waterfront Park to the Frederick Douglass Bridge, connecting parks, neighborhoods, and scenic overlooks on a smooth, multi-use path.

Whether you're biking, running, strolling, or dog-walking, it's your 12 mile car-free route for experiencing the tranquility of the forest, fields, marsh and river ecosystem.

Portions of the trail are on both sides of the Anacostia River through Anacostia Park. The trail connects to five bridges across the Anacostia River and to other city bike routes. Adventure is always just around the bend.

## Bird Watching

*Look around with  
a bird's eye view!*

In D.C.'s green spaces and wetlands, a vibrant world of song-birds, herons, birds of prey, and waterfowl thrive.

Bring your binoculars and patience and see if you can spot the iconic silhouette of a Bald Eagle soaring above the water or perched in a riverside tree. Whether it's seeing a cardinal up close or a bald eagle in the distance, breathtaking encounters with the winged creatures of Washington await.



Best places for bird  
watching

- U.S. National Arboretum
- Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens
- Anacostia River Trail.

**Go with the flow of the river that you know!**

## **Boating**

The river is waiting—not just to be seen, but to be experienced. Rent a kayak or join a guided river cruise with Anacostia Riverkeepers or Anacostia Watershed Society to explore the river's vibrant ecology and inspiring comeback story.



Once a place of natural abundance and several Native American settlements, development and industry along the river polluted water quality, but now strong partnerships and community support are helping restore the life of the river. Upstream you'll find forests, wetlands, and wildlife that seem amazingly removed from the city. Downstream are hubs of riverfront recreation, with community parks, restaurants, and sporting events. Get out onto the surface of the river and see how it reflects the character of the city!

VOLUNTEERS  
MAKE THE  
WORLD GO  
ROUND



# CHESAPEAKE GATEWAYS

*Financial and technical assistance for this project was provided by  
National Park Service Chesapeake Gateways.*

*Chesapeake Gateways inspires and helps people discover, experience,  
and connect with the natural and cultural heritage and recreational  
opportunities of the Chesapeake Bay and the rivers, landscapes, and  
communities across its watershed.*

# FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL ARBORETUM

For more information on this project and the  
work FONA does please visit our webpage:

[www.fona.org](http://www.fona.org)



This Passport  
belongs to:



If found, please contact:

