

# Anacostia River Accord

Celebrate Progress • Increase Collaboration • Inspire Community

As elected officials in the Washington Metropolitan Area and as stewards of the Anacostia River Watershed, we recognize that the Anacostia River provides vital environmental, economic, and social benefits to the citizens within our communities. We also recognize that the presence of trash in the Anacostia and its tributaries diminishes these benefits. Trash in the Anacostia must be removed and ultimately controlled at its source to make the Anacostia cleaner and safer.

Since the Potomac River Watershed Trash Treaty was signed in March 2005, we have made much progress toward the goal of a Trash Free Potomac Watershed. The Anacostia was the first interstate river in the nation to be assigned a trash limit under the Clean Water Act. The District of Columbia, Montgomery County, and Prince George's County have all been working to implement programs to achieve a clean Anacostia River aimed at reducing trash at its source. We have passed laws banning polystyrene, a material that comprises much of the litter found in our waterways. We have encouraged our residents to use re-useable shopping bags to reduce plastic bags in our communities and waterways. We have installed innovative technologies to help capture and remove litter from our waterways. We have conducted programs to raise public awareness of trash and litter issues. We have strong recycling programs.

Despite our progress, we still have much to accomplish to achieve our vision of a trash free Anacostia. We have a responsibility to ensure that the Anacostia, and all our waterways, are not polluted by any material that renders them unsightly, creates a nuisance, or impacts any designated use.

In order to fulfill this objective, the District of Columbia, Montgomery County, and Prince George's County pledge to continue to work as partners to clean up the Anacostia River. We will work together to advance local and regional trash reduction strategies. We also pledge to work in close collaboration with regional leaders, businesses, government agencies, nonprofits, communities, and the public to develop innovative solutions and achieve our goal of a trash free Anacostia River. This work will be done through programs that reduce litter at its source, promote green infrastructure implementation, educate our residents about the dangers of litter, and vigorous enforcement of anti-trash measures. The jurisdictions will continue working together to evaluate trash reduction measures and actions.

We, the elected officials of the Anacostia River Watershed, sign this agreement on this the Thirteenth Day of October in the year Two Thousand and Sixteen.

FOUNDING SIGNERS:



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ISIAH LEGGETT  
County Executive, Montgomery County



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RUSHERN L. BAKER III  
County Executive, Prince George's County



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MURIEL BOWSER  
Mayor, District of Columbia