

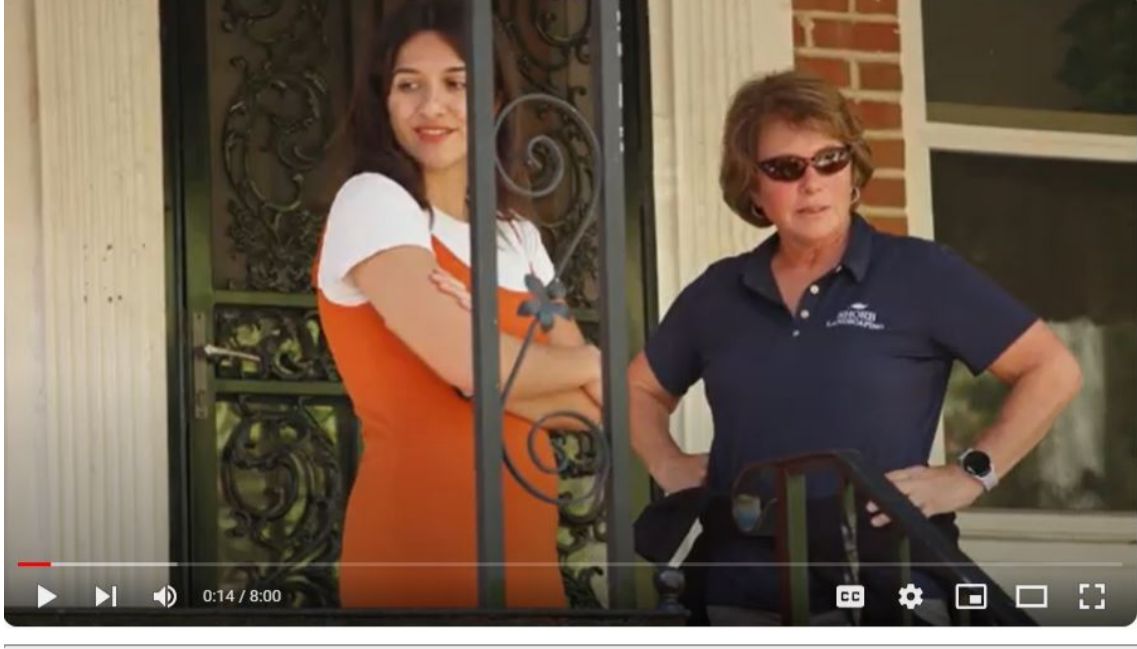


June 2024

Dear Watershed Partners,

With summer solstice later this month (and summer already here unofficially), let's revisit some of the spring activities. This newsletter has some highlights led by our staff and nonprofit partners. There is also a Request for Applications (RFA) for a unique new grant program - check it out!

But first, check out this new video from [Qualia Pictures](#) about our [RiverSmart Homes](#) program.



Anacostia River Corridor Restoration Plan – public comment period

After two years of meaningful engagement with community members and close coordination with stakeholders, DOEE is excited to share the [Anacostia River Corridor Restoration Plan](#) (ARCRP) for public review.

The ARCRP is a restoration planning project for the Anacostia River corridor to identify and prioritize strategies for restoring fish and wildlife habitat, improving water quality, adapting to climate change, and increasing equitable public access to the river corridor. **The window for public comments will close Tuesday, July 2, 2024 at 11:59 p.m.**

Read the plan [here](#). Questions or concerns? Contact the Office of District Waterways Management at QDWM@dc.gov.

DOEE's Watershed Protection Division Hosts Delegation from Japan



On May 16, 2024, DOEE's Watershed Protection Division hosted a delegation from Japan on a tour of green stormwater infrastructure at [Canal Park](#). The delegation, which included five representatives from Hiroshima, Yokohama, and the World Bank, received an overview of the District's regulatory and incentive-based stormwater management programs through exploration of the stormwater infrastructure on site.

As one of the first parks built as part of the District's [Anacostia Waterfront Initiative](#), Canal Park models sustainability through SITES and LEED Gold certifications, innovative stormwater management, and a multi-functional design that cultivates environmental, social, and economic benefits. The park contains 12 Best Management Practices (BMPs) including six bioretentions, two rainwater cisterns, two Aqua-Swirl stormwater treatment systems (filters), one green roof, and 46 tree plantings (counted as one BMP). If you haven't explored Canal Park, consider planning a visit!

DOEE's River Corps supports trail work in Linnean Park



Latin American Youth Center's (LAYC) [River Corps](#) joined volunteers from the Linnean Park Partnership and Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC) to help improve trail conditions and remove invasive plant species in Linnean Park. The program, funded by DOEE and administered by LAYC, works to train District youth in job skills related to stormwater management, green infrastructure maintenance, and habitat restoration, along with general career development.

During the trail maintenance activity, Corps members and volunteers laid timbers along sections of the trail to provide stabilization and to help control erosion during rain events. The group also used felled trees and branches to better outline the trail. Corps members learned about techniques related to trail maintenance from PATC volunteers and teamed up with Linnean Park Partnership Weed Warrior John Burwell to remove invasive garlic mustard. Thanks to River Corps and the volunteers for their excellent work!

RFA for DC Green Cleaning Program – deadline June 17

DOEE seeks an eligible entity to develop and implement the District's Green Cleaning Program (GCP). The GCP will support Cleaning Service Providers (CSPs) in disadvantaged communities to transition to safer and more sustainable cleaning products. The GCP will identify CSPs in disadvantaged communities of Wards 5, 7, and 8 and implement an outreach strategy, develop capacity-building activities, and help fund the costs of CSPs' transition to sustainable products. The GCP will also assess, monitor, and report on best practices and lessons learned. **The amount available for the project is \$284,000 for a 24-month period.**

For more information, including the full RFA, visit the [grant webpage](#). **The deadline for application submissions is June 17, 2024.** The online application must be time-stamped by 11:59 pm on the date the application is due.

COG Climate and Energy Leadership Awards – nominations open

Earth Day 2024 marked the 11th anniversary launch of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' (COG) **Climate and Energy Leadership Awards Program**. Government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and educational institutions across Metropolitan Washington are invited to apply or nominate candidates for the **2024 Program Year**.

Winners serve as a role model for the region, and are recognized in front of local, regional, and national officials for their innovative climate stewardship projects and programs that engage and serve the region's underserved communities. **The deadline for submissions is June 30, 2024.** For more information, visit the awards page [here](#). For questions, contact COG Staff [Leah Boggs](#).

In case you missed it

Check out some recent published pieces – you might spot some DOEE staff!

[What you'll learn about DC when you walk every street in every ward](#) (WTOP News, 6 May 2024)

[Local travel: D.C.'s Anacostia River is making a comeback](#) (MoCo 360, 22 May 2024)

[DC Officially Has the Best Urban Park System in the Country—Here Are 7 Trails and Green Spaces We Love](#) (Washingtonian, 24 May 2024)



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