



## Watershed Partners Newsletter

September 2024

Dear Watershed Partners,

We have an active fall on the horizon! With all the information below about upcoming festivals, tours, races, and more, do not miss the announcements about an opportunity to be part of our new Office of District Waterways Management as well as federal funding opportunities.

Another fall activity: our second Watershed Partners Meeting of the year will take place in early November, with a trash- and litter-focused theme. Please contact Julia.Wakeling@dc.gov for more information.

### Festival del Rio Anacostia on September 21



Join us on Saturday, September 21, 2024 from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM at Bladensburg Waterfront Park for the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival del Rio Anacostia! Bring your family to celebrate the outdoors and the Anacostia and enjoy hands-on activities, crafts, entertainment, delicious food, fishing demos, live animals, and free boat rides and giveaways.

For more details, visit [https://www.pgparcs.com/event\\_list/festival-del-rio-anacostia](https://www.pgparcs.com/event_list/festival-del-rio-anacostia).

### Join District Waterways Advisory Commission! Apply by Sept. 30



Are you passionate about the future of the District's waterways? **DOEE is thrilled to announce its new Office of District Waterways Management (ODWM) is seeking visionary leaders to join the District Waterways Advisory Commission.** This commission will spearhead the development of a strategic vision for the District's waterways and surrounding lands. With a diverse team of 14 voting members—7 appointed by the Mayor and 7 by the D.C. Council—the Commission aims to encompass a wide range of professional and personal perspectives.

Don't miss this exciting opportunity to shape the future of our waterways. Apply today or share this opportunity with someone who you believe would make a great addition to the Commission. Learn more about ODWM and this opportunity, including application links, at <https://doee.dc.gov/service/odwm>. **Applications are due by September 30, 2024.**

### Mark your calendars – Kingman Day on October 19!



Join DOEE and partners for the 4th Annual Kingman Island Friends and Family Day on Saturday, October 19, 2024, from 12:00 – 4:00 PM. This family-friendly event is a celebration of everything the islands have to offer as a unique space in D.C. dedicated to conservation, environmental education, and recreation. From tree walks and flower crown workshops to paddling and live music, there's something for attendees of all ages and abilities. Learn more about the event and register [here](#)

### Stormwater Hero Award Winner: OSSE's Jocelyn Parham



DOEE's Pollution Prevention Team is honoring OSSE's Ms. Jocelyn Parham as Stormwater Quarterly Hero Award Winner for the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2024. Ms. Parham oversees compliance for several OSSE facilities located around the District and we thank her for her commitment and hard work to help keep those facilities in compliance with the District's Operations & Maintenance Plan.

### Anacostia boat tours continue into fall



Boat tours with our nonprofit partners are continuing into the fall season, with limited availability. Reserve your tour today while there are still slots left. Visit the links below for tour and signup information for each organization.

Anacostia Riverkeeper: <https://www.anacostiariverkeeper.org/anacostia-river-explorers/>

Anacostia Watershed Society: <https://www.anacostiaws.org/events-and-recreation/signature-events/anacostia-river-discovery-series.html>

### 5K Race for the River – November 9



Get ready for the Anacostia Watershed Society's signature community event for the fall: **the 5K Race for the River on Saturday, November 9, 2024 from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Buddy Attick Lake Park in Greenbelt, Maryland.**

This is more than just a race - it's a vibrant celebration of our commitment to restoring and protecting the Anacostia River and its surrounding watershed! Whether you want to compete in the 5k race, enjoy a more leisurely fun run/walk, or enjoy food and music, there's something for everyone.

Visit the [race webpage](#) to learn more and to register.

### EPA Community Change Grants – open until November 21, 2024



**The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is still accepting applications for the Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants program.** There is approximately \$2 billion in Inflation Reduction Act funds for environmental and climate justice activities to benefit disadvantaged communities through projects that reduce pollution, increase community resilience, and build community capacity to address environmental and climate justice challenges.

Initial selections for the grants can be viewed [here](#) – among them is a DC-based organization! Some changes were made to the [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) on August 6, 2024, so be sure to read the updated version. **Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis through November 21, 2024.**

### In case you missed it

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

[Video featuring Anacostia Watershed Society's mussel restoration efforts](#)

Chesapeake Bay Program

[Photographer's Notebook: Paddling for trash in the Anacostia River](#)

WAMU, 8 September 2024

[A deep dive ahead to get trash and abandoned boats out of the Anacostia River](#)

WTOP News, 10 September 2024



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