

- [Email \(HTML\)](#)
- [Email \(Plain Text\)](#)

From: DC Department of Energy and Environment <doee@subscriptions.dc.gov>
Subject: August Watershed News



August 2025

Dear Watershed Partners,

In continuing the theme of highlighting programs funded by the District's [Bag Law](#) during its 15th anniversary year, this month we are featuring the beloved annual event known as [Kingman Island Friends and Family Day!](#)

Each year, DOEE hosts this family-friendly event to celebrate the diversity of the habitats and wildlife of Kingman and the District's conservation, environmental education, and recreation goals for Kingman and Heritage Islands. DOEE and partners will lead activities throughout the Islands like paddling, nature exploration, arts and crafts, and more.

We're excited to announce this year's date for the 5th Annual Kingman Island Friends and Family Day. **Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 27, 2025 from 11 AM – 3 PM.** Learn more and register [here](#). The event is open to the public and free to attend.



Next Watershed Partners Meeting in September

DOEE will host its next Watershed Partners Meeting on **Wednesday, September 10, 2025, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.** These twice-yearly meetings convene individuals and organizations working on watershed and watershed-adjacent issues to learn, share, and network. A Happy Hour nearby will follow.

This upcoming meeting will feature updates and discussions on some key projects and programs. If you would like to attend and have not yet received an invitation, please email sonia.saini@dc.gov. We hope to see you there!

Apply for RiverSmart Communities Grant: Empowering neighborhoods to fight stormwater pollution



Is your nonprofit looking to turn rain into a resource? DOEE, in partnership with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay (the Alliance), is offering funding through the [RiverSmart Communities Grant Program](#) to help local organizations tackle stormwater pollution in their communities.

Eligible 501(c)(3) organizations – including houses of worship and community-based groups—can apply for support to install green infrastructure like rain gardens, permeable pavement, and cisterns. These nature-based practices help slow, capture, and filter rainwater, protecting nearby rivers and streams.

Applications must present a clear community education plan about stormwater solutions:

commit to long-term maintenance of the infrastructure; and propose projects that are feasible, cost-effective, and environmentally beneficial. Through the grant, the Alliance will help develop a project plan and will cover 100% of the installation cost.

For questions, contact Jordan Gochenaur at jgochenaur@allianceforthebay.org. To apply, fill out this interest form: [RiverSmart Communities Interest Form](#). Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, subject to fund availability.

Apply now: Kingman Rangers Workforce Development Program RFA

DOEE has released a Request for Applications (RFA) for the Kingman Rangers Workforce Development Program. The RFA seeks an eligible entity to:

- Support operations, maintenance, and ecological restoration on the Islands
- Provide safe, inclusive, and welcoming experiences to visitors of the Islands
- Support communication and storytelling efforts about the Islands
- Create pathways to employment for adult District residents with barriers to employment and students from District Public and Charter high schools that are located in the Anacostia Watershed and have low graduation rates

The institutions eligible to apply are nonprofit organizations, including those with IRS 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) determinations; faith-based organizations; government agencies; universities and educational institutions; and private enterprises. **The amount available for the project is \$467,211.** There will be a pre-application information session on Thursday, August 21, 2025 at 11:00 a.m.

The deadline for application submissions is September 12, 2025. The online application must be time-stamped by 11:59 p.m. on the date the application is due. For more information, including the full RFA, visit the [grant opportunity webpage](#).

Watch out for this invasive plant!



If you are looking for an attractive addition to your yard and you see this plant at your local garden center, turn around and walk away! *Houttuynia cordata*, also known as fish mint, chameleon plant, rainbow plant, and Chinese lizard tail, is an **early detection-rapid response species** (EDRR). EDRR species exhibit a high potential to be invasive or are already classified as invasive in another area.

Once established, this plant will take over your yard with its aggressive and extensive rhizomatic root system. These rhizomatic roots are nearly impossible to remove, and unless you dig deep to remove every inch of the root or spray herbicide on this plant every year for years to come, it will keep resprouting in the current and future growing seasons.

If you are looking for a flowering groundcover, try a native plant like common violet, creeping phlox, or green and gold. For more information about invasive species in the region, visit the [webpage of the National Capital Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management](#), or PRISM, which DOEE is part of.

Feedback requested on Chesapeake Bay watershed agreement

The Chesapeake Bay Program invites your feedback on the [Draft Revised Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement](#), which will guide restoration and protection efforts beyond 2025. As the only urban jurisdiction in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, the District plays a unique and vital role in the future of the Bay. Help shape the shared goals for healthy watersheds, engaged communities, clean water, and thriving Anacostia and Potomac Rivers.

More information can be found [here](#). **Public feedback is accepted through 11:59 p.m. on Monday, September 1, 2025.** Please email feedback to comments@chesapeakebay.net.

Community Stormwater Solutions mini grants – funding cap increase!





DOEE and the Chesapeake Bay Trust are increasing the funding cap on the mini grant program. Applicants can now request up to \$10,000 for creative and innovative projects that explore new community-driven approaches to stormwater management and watershed protection.

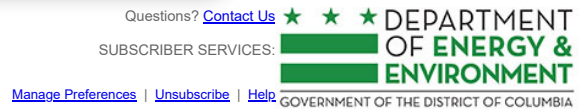
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[Here's how to embrace the benefits of 'blue health'](#)

Washington Post, 29 July 2025



This message has been sent by the District of Columbia · Washington, D.C. 20004



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banner

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Washington Post, 29 July 2025

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