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

Subject: February Watershed News



February 2025

Dear Watershed Partners,

On January 30, 2025, DOEE brought partners together from across the District to *talk trash* at the Winter Watershed Partners Meeting. We heard from sister agencies, nonprofit partners, and community organizations about data collection best practices, policy updates, and innovative approaches to trash cleanups.

With spring just around the corner, be on the lookout for opportunities to join cleanups to help work toward a cleaner, healthier watershed.

RiverSmart Schools RFA to be released February 14

DOEE will release a Request for Applications (RFA) on Friday, February 14, 2025 to support a grantee to design and implement the RiverSmart Schools Education, Training, and Maintenance program. The goals of this program are to restore selected schools' green infrastructure installations, train teachers on how to use green infrastructure as educational tools, and provide light assistance and/or resources to schools. DOEE will host a virtual pre-application meeting on **Wednesday, February 26, 2025 at 10:00 AM**. More information on this RFA, including the WebEx link to the pre-application meeting, can be found on DOEE's website [here](#) on February 14.

Become a Frog Call Community Scientist at Kingman & Heritage Islands

Join our community of nature enthusiasts and frog lovers in monitoring the health of our restored islands through monthly evening frog surveys. Thanks to extensive habitat restoration work, these urban wildlife havens are now home to a chorus of amphibian residents – and we need YOUR help to count them!



[Register for our virtual training session](#) on Thursday, February 20, 2025, from 6:30 to 7:30 PM to learn how to identify local frog species by their calls. Then, put your skills to work during monthly evening walks as we document these important indicator species. No experience necessary – just bring your curiosity and help Living Classrooms and DOEE track the success of our restoration efforts.

Chesapeake Bay Program seeks Agricultural Coordinator

Federal funding is anticipated to hire a vendor to serve as Agricultural Coordinator for the newly established Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) within the Chesapeake Bay Program. The Coordinator will work with the Secretary/Commissioner/Director of the respective Bay jurisdictions to develop and maintain an active and engaged membership, organize meetings, and develop the processes and documents to achieve the directive of the AAC.

Questions and responses to the solicitation should be directed to Alisha Mulkey (alisha.mulkey@maryland.gov) by COB Friday, February 14, 2025.

Chesapeake Bay Program seeks Community Members for Agricultural Committee

DOEE's Office of Urban Agriculture is recruiting two nominees who will represent the District of Columbia as voting members for the Chesapeake Bay Program's new

Agricultural Advisory Committee. The purpose of the committee is to make recommendations and increase awareness of priorities for farmers, including urban farmers, in DC and facilitate engagement from community members. Selected members will provide expertise and strategies for diverse agricultural operations to more effectively meet Chesapeake Bay watershed restoration and conservation goals.

If you have any questions or would like more information about this opportunity, visit the [program webpage](#) and/or reach out to Julia Wakeling at julia.wakeling@dc.gov.

Interested in this position? Email Julia with a short bio by Friday, February 14, 2025.



**DISTRICT OF
COLUMBIA
COMMUNITY
STORMWATER
SOLUTIONS
GRANT
PROGRAM**

Deadline
Thursday, March 13th, 4:00 pm ET

Learn More
<https://bit.ly/DC-CSS>

Apply Now: Community Stormwater Solutions Grants

The [2024-2025 Request for Applications \(RFA\) for the Community Stormwater Solutions Grant Program](#) is open now through **March 13, 2025, at 4:00 PM**. This DOEE-funded program is currently administered through a partnership with the [Chesapeake Bay Trust](#). The program provides funding for innovative and community-centered projects that increase knowledge and change behavior around watershed and stormwater-related issues in the District. Applicants may request up to \$35,000 in their proposals.

Join [weekly office hours](#) on Thursdays from 2:00 to 3:00 PM through February 20th. For technical assistance in English or Spanish, please contact Marylin Veiman Echeverría at mveiman@cbtrust.org.



FY25 Kenilworth Wetland Design and EA Solicitation Now Open

A solicitation to complete designs and an environmental assessment for Kenilworth wetlands restoration is now active and open until March 3, 2025. The link to the full details and information can be found here: [Doc739283](#). For questions, email ariel.trahan@dc.gov.

Rock Creek Conservancy seeks Executive Director

Rock Creek Conservancy seeks an Executive Director who is passionate about its mission and strategic about its potential, with demonstrated experience in leadership, management, fundraising, and coalition building. The position description and application can be viewed [here](#). **Interested candidates should apply no later than March 5, 2025.**

Rock Creek Conservancy Recruiting Youth for Paid Summer Jobs

Do you know a young person ages 14 to 25 who would be interested in working with Rock Creek Conservancy? The Conservancy currently has two programs for young people to join our team. Visit the two links below to learn more about each program and how to apply.

Rock Creek Conservation Corps: <https://www.rockcreekconservancy.org/rc3>

Chesapeake Conservation and Climate Corps:
<https://www.rockcreekconservancy.org/s/2025-Chesapeake-Conservation-and-Climate-Corps-CCCC-Member.pdf>

Please share these opportunities with your networks.



LID Construction at Dwight Mosley Playground; More to Come

Stormwater retrofit construction is wrapping up at Dwight Mosley Playground and Taft Field in Ward 5, which has received four bioretention BMPs through DOEE's Parkland Stormwater Retrofit Program. Vegetation will be planted in Spring 2025. This program works with the District Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) to oversee the design and construction of [Low Impact Development \(LID\) stormwater retrofits in District parks](#). The purpose of these projects is to reduce pollution and improve water quality in the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers, while providing high quality outdoor recreational space and facilities for District residents and visitors to learn, play, and connect with nature.

The Parkland Stormwater Retrofit Program expects to complete construction at three additional District parks in 2025. The upcoming project sites include Dakota Park, Benning Stoddert Recreation Center, and North Michigan Park. In total, the program will build twelve

bioretentions among four parks in the upper Anacostia watershed during the 2024/2025 construction period, with the goals of preventing stormwater pollution and improving water quality. Together, the projects will retain approximately 139,000 gallons of stormwater per rain event and manage runoff from approximately 9.3 acres of land. In addition to providing biodiversity, habitat, and aesthetic value, the LID installations will be equipped with educational signage to enhance nature-based learning opportunities



Tenleytown LID Construction Done; Vegetation in Spring

In November 2024, Tenleytown Main Street (TMS), in partnership with the Center for Watershed Protection (CWP) and DOEE, completed construction of a Low Impact Development (LID) green stormwater retrofit project at the intersection of Wisconsin Avenue and Warren Avenue NW. This stormwater retrofit project will reduce nonpoint source pollution loads entering Rock Creek with the goal of improving overall water quality in the District.

The installation removes excess impervious surface and replaces it with two enhanced in-ground bioretention cells and a permeable pavement walkway. Biochar was incorporated into bioretention media to increase infiltration capacity, carbon sequestration, and toxin removal. The installation will retain approximately 6700 gallons of stormwater per rain event from a contributing drainage area of 18,707 square feet (16,761 impervious). Construction was substantially completed in November 2024 with vegetation planting scheduled for Spring, 2025. A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held in the spring to celebrate the completion of the project. Stay tuned for event details to come.

Waterways Advisory Commission seeks Environmental Stewardship Commissioner

DOEE's Office of District Waterways Management (ODWM) is still accepting applications from passionate river users to join the District Waterways Advisory Commission. Apply today or share this opportunity with someone who you believe would make a great addition. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis until all positions are filled.

Learn more about the ODWM and this opportunity, including the application links, at <https://doee.dc.gov/service/odwm>. The Environmental Stewardship position can be found in the "Mayoral Appointments" section.

In case you missed it:

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

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NBC Washington, 9 January 2025

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GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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If you have any questions or would like more information about this opportunity, visit the program webpage [<https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/publications/chesapeake-executive-council-directive-no-24-1-establishment-of-a-chesapeake-bay-program-agricultural-advisory-committee>] and/or reach out to Julia Wakeling at julia.wakeling@dc.gov.

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