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

Subject: January Watershed News



January 2025

Dear Watershed Partners,

As we kick off 2025, we're celebrating a special anniversary: this year marks 15 years of DC's Bag Law! Give yourself a refresher on the law by reading below and visiting our updated webpage. Keep an eye out for fun facts and other resources to celebrate this milestone throughout the year.

We look forward to more exciting events, opportunities, and watershed progress in 2025. Happy New Year!

DC'S Bag Law Celebrates 15 years



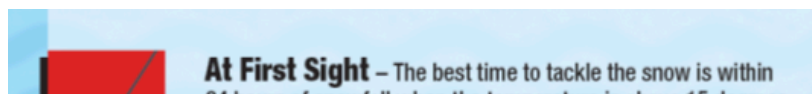
2025 marks 15 years of DC's pioneering Bag Law! The law, which took effect on January 1, 2010, established a 5-cent fee for most disposable carryout bags. This has greatly reduced the amount of trash in the watershed that ends up polluting the Anacostia River. Since then, we have seen cities, counties, and states from coast to coast implement some form of regulation on single-use bags and other disposable items.

While there is still much work to do, the success of the Bag Law serves as both a reminder of our progress thus far and motivation to continue working for a cleaner, healthier river.

Learn more about the Bag Law at our updated webpage: <https://doee.dc.gov/bags>. Be sure to check the webpage and DOEE's social media throughout the year for more information and resources.

Protecting Waterways in Winter Weather

Winters can be harsh on sidewalks, roads, and commuters. Road salt keeps us safe, but excess salt can damage vehicles and infrastructure, harm children and pets, and degrade native plants, wildlife, and our waterways. Use these best winter practices to keep you safe while using less salt. Check out DPW's [snow team](#) page for more.



**24 hours of snowfall** when the temperature is above 15 degrees Fahrenheit. Salt should only be applied after snow and/or ice removal and when temperatures are 15 degrees or above.

**Just A Pinch** – Distribute salt evenly, avoiding clumps. A 12 oz coffee cup of salt is enough to clear ten sidewalk squares or a 20-ft driveway.

**Clean it Up** – Be sure to sweep up excess salt and put it into enclosed storage for reuse. This protects children, pets, and wildlife and prevents salt from entering waterways.

**Turn it Off** – Exhaust is the #1 contributor to District air pollution. To mitigate this, the District implemented the Engine Idling Law, which states that vehicles cannot idle for more than 3 minutes or 5 minutes when temperatures are below freezing.

### NOW OPEN: 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 DOEE and the Chesapeake Bay Trust at the DOEE office (1200 First St NE) for an [in-person info session](#) on **Thursday, January 16, from 1:00 to 2:30 PM**. Find more details about a virtual info session and weekly office hours on the [Trust's website](#) soon. For technical assistance in English or Spanish, please contact Marylin Veiman Echeverría at [mveiman@cbtrust.org](mailto:mveiman@cbtrust.org).

### Kingman Lake Restoration Project Opens Public Comment Period





DOEE is working with the National Park Service (NPS) to develop design concepts for wetland restoration and enhancement within Kingman Lake. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, DOEE and NPS will do a public scoping period to solicit comments on the design concepts.

The [public comment period](#) is open now through Monday, February 10, 2025. A [virtual public meeting](#) will be held on WebEx on Wednesday, January 22 from 6:00 - 7:00 PM. Learn more about the project [here](#).

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## DOEE Seeks Public Feedback on Oxon Run



DOEE is soliciting feedback on two sets of the 30% designs for proposed stream restoration work at Oxon Run along with an associated Park Masterplan. An online tool is now available to the general public to provide feedback on each alternative. Feedback from the public and project partners will guide the development of 60% stream designs and finalization of the Park Masterplan.

Please go to the project website's input page to learn more and provide input: [Public Input - Oxon Run](#). If you encounter any issues with the tool or have any questions, please reach out to Josh Burch at [josh.burch@dc.gov](mailto:josh.burch@dc.gov). **Comments are due on Friday, January 24, 2025, by 5:00 PM.**

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## DOEE releases final Anacostia River Corridor Restoration Plan

After three years of engagement with community members and stakeholders, DOEE is excited to release the [Anacostia River Corridor Restoration Plan](#) (ARCRP). 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.

[Read the plan here.](#)



## District 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. This pivotal 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. Apply today or share this opportunity with someone who you believe would make a great addition. Applications are being 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.



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Subject: January Watershed News

Header

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## Water Winter

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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.

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The public comment period [ <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/document.cfm?parkID=428&projectID=122247&documentID=141517> ] is open now through Monday, February 10, 2025. A virtual public meeting [ <https://www.kingmanisland.com/calendar/kingmanlakerestorationproject> ] will be held on WebEx on Wednesday, January 22 from 6:00 - 7:00 PM. Learn more about the project here [ <https://doee.dc.gov/service/habitat-restoration-kingman-lake-20> ] .

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plan

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