



News from Masonville Cove Environmental Education Campus

An urban wildlife refuge partnership

A Monthly Newsletter APRIL 2017 Volume 5 Issue 4

APRIL Open Hours

The Conservation Area is open to the public:

Mon-Fri 9am-4pm

Sat 9am-1pm

Closed on Sundays

Campus Closed on 4/14-16



FREE Programming for Families. To reserve your spot, email programs@masonvillecove.org or call 410-246-0669 x102

Sat, 4/1 9:30-10:30am, 11am-12pm Science Alive for kids <5: Earth Day!

Other [FREE] Opportunities to Connect with Nature
events@masonvillecove.org for more information or to pre-register call 410-246-0669, x100.

Tues, 4/4 1-3pm Volunteer for Garden Work

Fri, 4/7 1-2pm Guided Nature Walk-Look for signs of Birds Nesting

Tue, 4/11 10am-12pm MC Stewards: Tend Greenhouse Seedlings and Garden Cleanup

Wed, 4/19 9:30am-12pm Citizen Science- Scientific Monitoring

MCEEC Contact Information
 1000 Frankfur Avenue,
 Baltimore MD 21226

Phone: 410-246-0669, ext.100
 Website: www.masonvillecove.org

Email:
 For inquiries related to educational programs, info@masonvillecove.org

For inquiries related to volunteering, friends@masonvillecove.org

BGE OSPREY WATCH Program: To keep ospreys safe and help BGE maintain quality electricity power, Osprey Watch allows customers to email BGE directly (ospreywatch@bge.com) if they identify a nest on or near power lines and poles. BGE asks that you provide the pole number or nearest address to the pole. BGE will dispatch a trained crew to either shield the raptors from the equipment or remove unoccupied nests. Customers reported 23 nests to BGE in 2016. BGE adheres to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Bald Eagle Protection Act and has a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Special Purpose Utility Permit covering all work involving active nests.



Great Success at Masonville Cove's Project Clean Stream

The day was sunny and mild — perfect for putting a dent in the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay's 2017 goals to engage 100,000 volunteers at 4000 sites in the Chesapeake Bay watershed and to

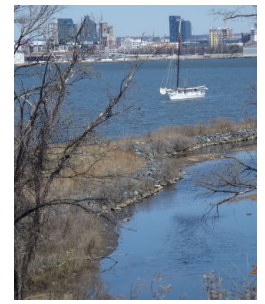


collect over 4 million pounds of debris.

The event was organized by the Conservation Team at the National Aquarium and staffed by MC partners Living Classrooms Foundation, the National Aquarium and US Fish & Wildlife Service. Ninety-five students, community members and National Aquarium volunteers and interns came out to remove debris that had washed onto the living shoreline and stream banks at Masonville Cove. Rigid plastics were bagged and sent out to be recycled. Other materials including old tires, styrofoam, and snack wrappers were collected and disposed in the trash. The collected debris totaled 1875 pounds!

Beyond the bags of debris removed from the Patapsco River basin, volunteers were sobered by the immense amount of trash that ended up in waterways of the Chesapeake Bay. It is a challenge for all of us to talk about trash and encourage conservation efforts in our watershed.

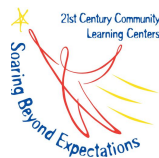
Attend BENFEST: Saturday April 22, from 11am-3pm at Ben Franklin High School.



Scenes at Masonville Cove: Ospreys are back and are building their nests; Tundra swans grounded at Masonville Cove one very windy Wednesday; Volunteers planting seeds from native plants at the newly refurbished greenhouse; a visit from Living Classroom Foundation's skipjack *Sigsbee*.

Gearing Up for Summer STEM Learning:

In late March/early April, BEE SMART hosted "Science and Math are FUN" family nights at both Maree G. Farring and Lakeland schools, which also served as the kick-off to the open application period. Students played an energy arcade (on loan from MAEOE), practiced math skills with Mango Math cards, and enjoyed a healthy snack related to fractions/ratios. Meanwhile, parents completed application forms and engaged in a meet-and-greet with Living Classrooms staff members.



If you know of a student in 2nd, 3rd, or 4th grade that would benefit from hands-on summer learning geared toward improving reading scores and wrapped in a package of STEM & fun, contact Program Director, Christine Schmidt Redline (credline@livingclassrooms.org). Once enrolled, daily attendance is mandatory.

Save those cardboard tubes from paper towels, plastic wrap and aluminum foil.

Next, drop them off at Masonville Cove by mid-June. The BEE SMART team needs these longer tubes (not TP size) for a catapult project with students—sounds like challenging fun!

Thanks to Volunteers at Masonville Cove:

A group of 6 adults and one adorable 4 year old (she's been coming to MC since she was an infant) sowed a variety of seeds from native plants at the greenhouse. Thanks to the dedicated work by a Chesapeake Conservation Corps intern, the greenhouse has been rehabilitated. If you want to see the greenhouse in action, come to the 2nd Tuesdays with MC Stewards volunteer event April 11th (see calendar, above).



We are grateful for the dedication of volunteers working on Citizen Science projects. Shout out to Baltimore Bird Club's Kevin G. for his wildlife observations and to Ann B. for her precise analyses of water quality during scientific monitoring!

We are gearing up for NESTWATCH a citizen science program offered through Cornell's Lab of Ornithology. Nancy O., a volunteer, leads this project. It takes about 1 hour to make the observations. Nancy comes to MC during her lunch hour. Thank you Nancy for your commitment. To get involved, contact Patty at friends@masonvillecove.org or 410-246-0669, x100.

About Masonville Cove and the Campus...

Masonville Cove is located on 70 acres of water and 54 acres of cleaned-up land including wetlands, nature trails, and a protected bird sanctuary. The Masonville project developed from mitigation tied to the creation of a Dredged Material Containment Facility (DMCF) by the Maryland Port Administration (MPA). This created an opportunity for the local residents and schoolchildren (from Brooklyn, Curtis Bay, and Cherry Hill) to connect with their natural environment and participate in meaningful stewardship projects related to Masonville Cove and their communities.



MPA worked with the community associations from Brooklyn and Curtis Bay, the Living Classrooms Foundation, and the National Aquarium to create the Masonville Cove Environmental Education Campus (MCEEC). Maryland Environmental Service coordinates the mitigation project. The MCEEC has been a model for community involvement and environmental awareness from its inception to its opening as a landmark urban environmental education center. The sustainable growth of this urban wilderness conservation area and its wetlands will remind the community that they are a part of something positive for generations to come.

- A Partnership among:**
- Maryland Port Administration**
 - Living Classrooms Foundation**
 - National Aquarium**
 - Maryland Environmental Service**
 - US Fish & Wildlife Service**