



# News from Masonville Cove Environmental Education Campus

*An urban wildlife refuge partnership*

A Monthly Newsletter **NOVEMBER 2016** **Volume 4 Issue 11**

### November Open Hours

The Conservation Area is open to the public:

Mon-Fri  
9am-4pm

Sat 9am-1pm

Closed on Sundays

**Campus Closed 11/24-27 for Thanksgiving Holiday**



### FREE Programming for Families

To reserve your spot, email [programs@masonvillecove.org](mailto:programs@masonvillecove.org) or call 410-246-0669 x102

- Sat, 11/5 9:30-10:30am, 11am-12pm** Science Alive for kids <5: *Creepy Crawlies*
- Fri, 11/11 1-2pm** Guided Nature Walk~*Birds at the Waterfront*
- Fri, 11/18 10-11am** Science Alive for kids <5: *Up & Down in Nature*

**Sat, 11/19 10-11am** Family Outing: *'Checking In' at the Insect Hotel*

### Other [FREE] Opportunities to Connect with Nature

For more information or to pre-register call 410-246-0669, x100.

- Tues 11/1, 1:30-3:30** Citizen Science: Shoreline Grasses
- Tues, 11/8, 10am-12pm** 2nd Tuesdays with Masonville Stewards-Work on Nature Trails
- Wed, 11/16 9am-12pm** Citizen Science, Scientific Monitoring

### MCEEC Contact Information

1000 Frankfurst Avenue, Baltimore MD 21226

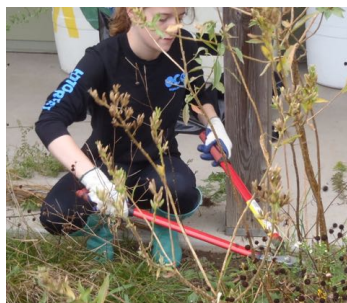
Phone: 410-246-0669, ext.100  
Website: [www.masonvillecove.org](http://www.masonvillecove.org)

Email:  
For inquiries related to educational programs, [info@masonvillecove.org](mailto:info@masonvillecove.org)

For inquiries related to volunteering, [friends@masonvillecove.org](mailto:friends@masonvillecove.org)

### Volunteer News at Masonville Cove

A shout out to Johns Hopkins University students for volunteering at Masonville Cove projects twice during October! The group is part of Alpha Phi Omega, a service fraternity, and is no stranger to Masonville Cove. In April and September members volunteered at shoreline clean ups. In October they volunteered in a garden clean up in the native plantings near the education building and in a trail maintenance plus removal of undesirable plants from the MC greenhouse.



Thank you to Ben Franklin High School students led by Deborah Woolley and to 55 Navy personnel from 3 ships led by Rear Admiral Charles Rock. The October 13 event was part of Fleet Week. These volunteers cleaned up the shoreline in Access Zone 2. Working together they removed 662 pounds of debris



and old tires from the shoreline. Following the clean up Admiral Rock presented certificates to participants. After all their hard work, the students had a chance to talk with US and Canadian naval personnel and all enjoyed a delicious lunch together.

You can be part of the Masonville Cove narrative. We need more volunteers to help monitor and improve the habitat of the conservation area. There is a short training session and then you learn by doing various projects. Contact [friends@masonvillecove.org](mailto:friends@masonvillecove.org) for more information.

You can join MC Stewards for a project on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. On November 8th we'll work on the nature trails and clean out nesting boxes. We also need help developing citizen science programs. This is a meaningful way to aid scientists by making observations and collecting data on land and water. In November there are two Citizen Science opportunities: on the 1st we'll check out grasses on the Living Shoreline and on the 16th we'll monitor for wildlife and for water quality.

Please contact [friends@masonvillecove.org](mailto:friends@masonvillecove.org) if your organization wants to give back to the community by doing a volunteer project together.



*Scenes at Masonville Cove: Larva of a sphinx moth discovered by Johns Hopkins volunteers ; Navy personnel and Ben Franklin HS students departing for shoreline clean up; Johns Hopkins Volunteers from APO service fraternity at garden clean up; monitoring plant growth at the living shoreline.*

## Upcoming Events

Masonville Cove offers a variety of nature programs for young children, families, and volunteers. For families with children under the age of 5, we offer Science Alive(11/5 and 11/18). Together, families can engage in outdoor activities focused on nature walks on Saturdays that feature a MC destination(11/19) or on Guided Nature Walks(11/11) led by a MD Master Naturalist. Check for our public events at [www.masonvillecove.org](http://www.masonvillecove.org) and click on the calendar tab.

Baltimore Bird Club and MD Environmental Service specialists will lead a Saturday early morning bird walk in Access Zone 2 on 12/3 (see more at [www.masonvillecove.org](http://www.masonvillecove.org) ). Please register for the event by contacting Peter Lev, 410 823-2962 or [plev@comcast.net](mailto:plev@comcast.net). Space limited to 20 participants.

## Living Classrooms Educator Julian Whitley attended White House Festival 'South by South Lawn (in his own words)

When President Obama announced South by South Lawn Festival at the White House aiming to "bring together creators, innovators, and organizers who work day in and day out to improve the lives of their fellow Americans and people around the world", I thought the work at Masonville Cove was a perfect fit. Coworkers and friends agreed to nominate me as an invitee to the festival. After some anxious weeks of

waiting, I received an email from the White House with my invitation!

At the South by South Lawn Festival on 10/3, I visited exhibits and panels focused on solutions for prominent issues facing our country including climate change, the achievement gap, the country's mass incarceration problem, and the provision of sustainable, healthy food to people in urban areas. Music performances on the South Lawn occurred throughout the day. The festival concluded with an evening panel discussion with President Obama, actor-activist Leonardo DiCaprio, and climatologist Dr. Katharine Hayhoe about the impending threat of climate change and the roles of governments in the country and the world to alleviate and slow down its impact.



My biggest take away from the festival was that people from diverse backgrounds needed to come together and collaborate to solve these problems and to bring about a positive change in our communities. It's going to take people from the tech industry, the political world, education, arts, and sciences working together to create innovative and enduring solutions that benefit all people. My time at the Festival reminded me of just how important the work at Masonville Cove and Living Classrooms is and how important it is to think forward when seeking solutions.

## 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**