

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

National Capital Parks-East



Educator's Resource Guide 2013–2014 Educational & Interpretive Programs



www.nps.gov/nace

Greetings Educators:

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the National Capital Parks–East (NCP-East) 2013 – 2014 Educator’s Resource Guide. National Capital Parks–East offers a wide array of historic, cultural, natural, and recreational park sites located in Washington, DC and Maryland. The resource guide includes



programs offered at Anacostia Park, Fort Dupont Park, Fort Washington Park, Frederick Douglass NHS, Greenbelt Park, Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS, and Oxon Cove Park.

We offer a variety of interpretive tours and curriculum-based educational programs for all grade levels. The program subjects range from sheep shearing to African American History; from bats to Bambi; from environmental education to Civil War fort tours. We also offer off-site program that national park rangers can bring to your classroom. Our curriculum-based programs, such as the Exploring the Past at Oxon Cove Park, offer an interactive park/school experience. All sites require you to schedule an appointment prior to your visit. I hope you find the guide useful in planning your projects and field trips.

We are interested in receiving your comments on this resource guide. For additional information about the programs in the guide and/or to submit comments, contact:

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Educational Programs

Bridging the Watershed (BTW)

BTW is an environmental outreach program of the Alice Ferguson Foundation in partnership with the National Park Service and area schools. National Capital Park-East (NACE) includes 12 major park areas at 98 locations. Significant resources areas diverse as a statuary, historic sites and buildings to recreational areas, parkways, archeological sites, tidal and non-tidal wetlands, meadows, and forest; and encompasses over 8,000 acres. NACE includes Washington, DC, extends north to Anne Arundel County at the northern end of the Baltimore/Washington Parkway, through Prince George's County, and southeast to the southern part of Piscataway Park in Charles County, Maryland.

BTW offers five multidisciplinary learning modules in Earth science, chemistry, environmental science, and biology. Field studies provide students with hands-on/minds-on experiences focused on current natural resource issues impacting the Potomac River and its major tributary, the Anacostia River. Programs are presented at Anacostia Park, Fort Washington Park, Greenbelt Park, Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens and Oxon Cove Park. Modules offered include Alien Invaders, Don't Get Sedimental, Water Canaries, Watershed Watchdogs, and Talkin' Trash. For additional information about programs and teachers training contact the Alice Ferguson Foundation 301-292-8757.

Curriculum-Based Programs

These programs have six components: they are tied to school curricula/learning objectives, an educator was involved in its development, it uses developmentally appropriate content and activities, and it includes pre- and post-visit activities and evaluations, and is resource-based and tied to park interpretive themes.

Parks as Classrooms (PAC)

Seed money is used by many parks to develop new and innovative program opportunities for Americans to learn about their national parks. National Park Service rangers, interpreters, and education specialist work directly with educators and other partners to create new and unique opportunities for learning. PAC resources include: curriculum-based education programs, audio-visual materials, accredited teacher training and workshops, traveling trunks and kits, and teacher and student resource guides.

Anacostia Park

Washington, DC

202-472-3884

www.nps.gov/anac



Aquatic Resource Education Center sponsored by
DC Department of the Environment Fisheries &
Wildlife Division

Grades: All

Seasons: *All Year*

Programs: -Free Fishing
-Fishing Tackle Loaner Program
-Teacher Workshops
-Wetlands
-Aquatic Ecology
-Water as an Environment
-Chesapeake Bay
-Fish Biology

NPS School Group Programs

Programs offered all year and weather *dependent*.

Grades: K through 6

Program: -Wave Physics

Grades: 4 through 12

Program: -What's in Water?

Grades: 4 through 12

Program: -Climate Change

Grades: 5 through 12

Program: -Energy Exchange

Grades: 6 through 12

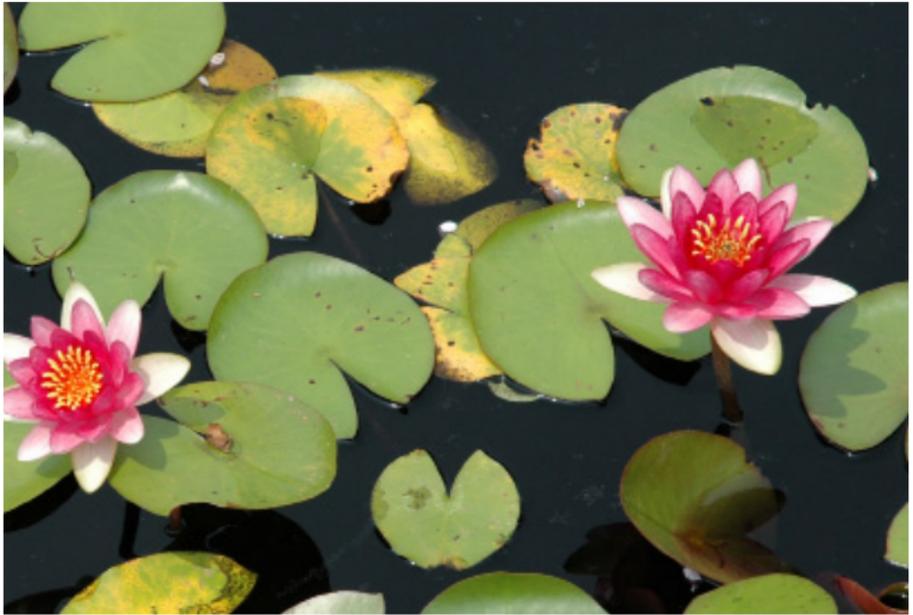
Program: -Watershed Economics

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens

Washington, DC

202-426-6905

www.nps.gov/keaq



Curriculum Programs

Programs are weather dependent and subject to change.

Grades: Pre-K through 1

Season: *Spring*

Program: -Home Sweet Home - All about habitats

Grades: 2 through 5

Seasons: *Spring & Summer*

Program: -Reptiles and Amphibians

Grades: 6 through 8

Season: *All Year*

Program: -Sun and Earth Connection

Grades: 9 through 12

Seasons: *All Year*

Program: -Wetland Ecology

Mary McLeod Bethune NHS

Washington, DC

202-673-2402

www.nps.gov/mamc



Parks as Classrooms Programs

Grades: Pre-K through 2
Seasons: *All Year*
Program: -Elephant Program

Bethune Leadership Program

Grades: 9 through 12
Seasons: *Summer*
Program: -Developing Youth leaders through diversity

Jr. Ranger Program

Grades: 4 through 7
Seasons: *Summer*
Program: -Experience Your America

SAT & PSAT Prep Workshop

Grades: 9 through 12
Seasons: *Summer*
Program: -Learn test taking skills

The Bethune Alert Game

Grades: 5 through 10
Seasons: *All Year*
Program: -Teachers aid/Ranger led activity

The Bethune Chop-Stick Booklet

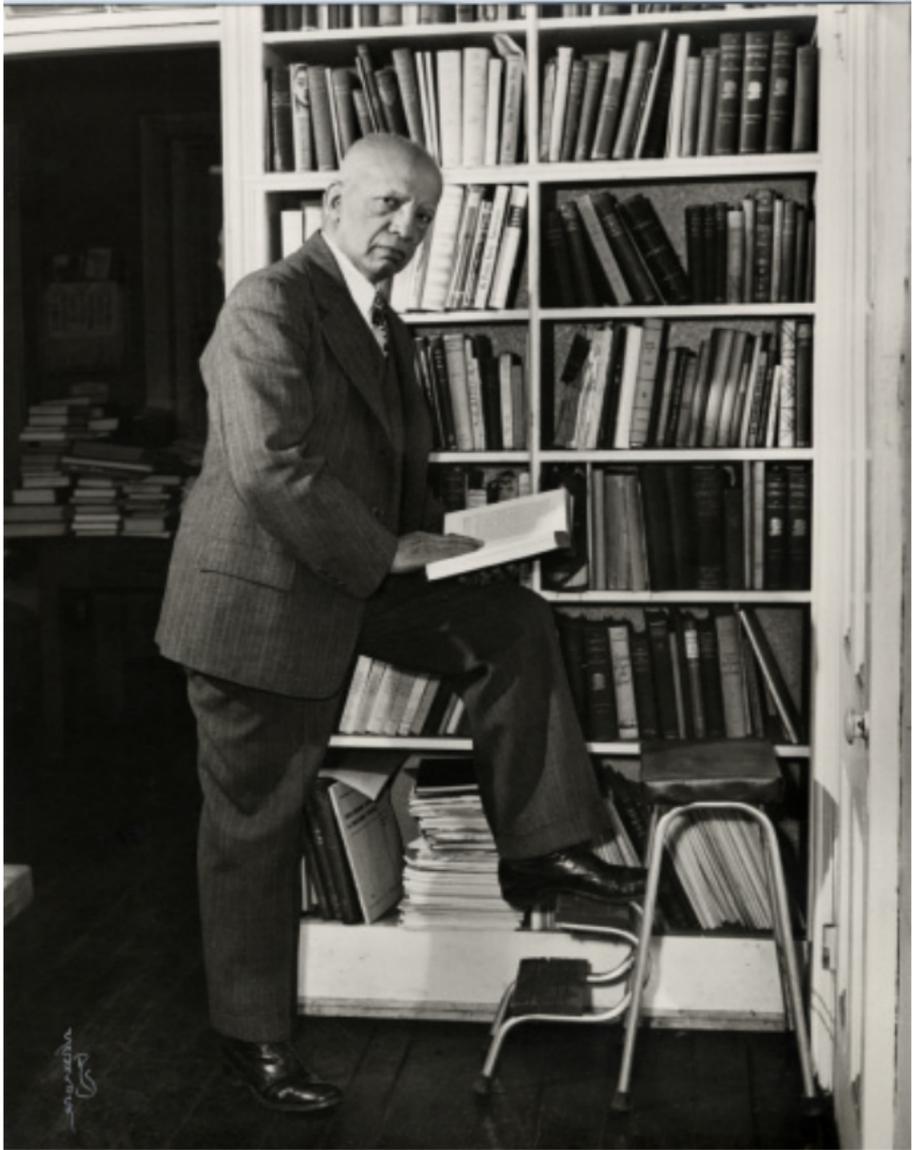
Grades: 1 through 5
Seasons: *All Year*
Program: -Hands-on learning activity about Mary McLeod Bethune

Carter G. Woodson Home NHS

Washington, DC

202-673-2402

www.nps.gov/cawo



National History Day

Grades: 9 through 12

Seasons: *Month of February*

Program: -African American History Projects

The Carter G. Woodson Chop-Stick Booklet

Grades: 1 through 5

Seasons: *All Year*

Program: -Hands-on learning activity about
Carter G. Woodson

Park Map





Frederick Douglass NHS

Washington, DC

202-426-5961

www.nps.gov/frdo



Curriculum Programs

Grades: All

Seasons: *All Year*

Programs: -Classroom Visits
-Historic House Tours (customized upon request)

Oratorical Contest

Grades: All

Season: *Winter*

Program: -Oratorical Contest

Frederick Douglass Birthday Celebration

Grades: All

Season: *Winter*

“What to the American Slave is the 4th of July?”

Grades: All

Season: *Summer*

Family Festival

Grades: All

Season: *Summer*

Civil War - Washington Teacher Fellowships

For Teachers

Season: *Summer*

Fort Washington Park

Fort Washington, Maryland

301-763-4600

www.nps.gov/fowa



Curriculum Programs

Grades: All
Seasons: *All Year*
Program: Fort Tours –45 minutes

Grades: 5 through 10
Seasons: *All Year*
Program: Laundresses of the Civil War

Grades: All
Seasons: *Spring & Fall*
Programs: Artillery Demonstrations-1st Sunday-30 minute
Tree Walk/ID – 60 minute walk
Bird Walk/ID – 60 minute walk



Oxon Cove Park

Oxon Hill, Maryland

301-839-0211

www.nps.gov/oxhi



Curriculum Programs

Grades: Pre-K through 1

Seasons: *Fall & Spring*

Program: -Animal Life on the Farm

Grades: K through 3

Seasons: *Fall & Spring*

Program: -"Moo" velous Milk

Grades: K through 6

Season: *Spring*

Program: -Sheep Shearing

Grades: K through 6

Seasons: *Fall & Spring*

-Exploring the Past at Oxon Cove Park

Grades: All

Programs: Apple Cider Days
Historical Farm Equipment
Gobble It Up
Women's Work on the Farm
Pumpkins: The Special Squash
African American History
Native American History
Cow Milking
Chicken and Egg
Spider Program
Living History
Rabbits
Horse and Tractor
Colonial Cooking

Greenbelt Park

Greenbelt, Maryland

3001-344-3944

www.nps.gov/gree



Curriculum Programs

Programs are offered all year upon request.

Grades: K through 6

Seasons: All Year

Outreach Programs

- Orienteering Workshop
- Don't Get Ticked Off
- Fire Safety for Kids
- History of Greenbelt Park
- Greenbelt Park Parks as Classroom Programs
- How Trash Affects the Environment
- Still Creek Watershed Walk
- Reading Ranger

Park Programs:

- Home Sweet Home
- Life of a Fox
- Campfire Safety
- Going Green
- Azalea Trail Walk
- Blueberry Trail Walk
- Oh Deer
- Meet the Beavers
- What's the Fuss About Squirrels
- Creepy Crawlers
- Life Cycle of the Butterfly

Traveling Exhibits:

- Greenbelt Park: Urban Oasis
- Baltimore Washington Parkway: A Scenic Memorial Honoring Gladys Noon Spellman

Distance learning equipment available for educators upon request.

Junior Ranger Programs

Anacostia Park 202-472-3883
Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens 202-426-6905

Junior Ranger programs encourage young people to explore the Anacostia River environment and watershed. At the end, Junior Rangers can get a certificate and button.

**Mary McLeod Bethune Council House
National Historic Site** 202-673-2402

Youth participating in various activities, on and off-site, receive a Jr. Ranger badge for their educational contributions. A workbook is available on site, also.

Greenbelt Park 301-344-3944

Jr. Rangers will participate in nature hikes, environmental education, recycling, and conservation. Ten youths ages 8 to 12 will be selected for each session. Contact the site for registration and sessions dates and hours.

Oxon Cove Park 301-839-1176

You can earn a badge, patch, and certificate by completing the activities in the booklet "Be a Junior Ranger...Explore, Learn, Protect." You can pick-up a booklet in the park's Visitor Center. This program is for ages 9 to 13.

Fort Washington Park 301-763-4600

A Junior Ranger booklet can be obtained at the Visitor Center. Answers can be found in the Visitor Center and in the fort. Booklets are available 7 days a week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for two age groups: 6 to 8 years and 9 to 12 years.

Fort Dupont Park 202-426-7723

Jr. Rangers can learn about the Civil War Defenses of Washington by completing a booklet available at Fort Dupont Activity Center.

National Capital Parks-East (NACE) 202-690-5185

This Junior Ranger booklet is filled with educational facts from several park sites under our management. You can pick one up at NACE Headquarters, or at any of our sites. This is a fun way to learn more about your exciting national parks. Do your best and earn a NACE Jr. Ranger badge and get your certificate signed!

Contact the sites for more information.

Additional Information

Beyond the Capital

National Capital Parks-East (NACE) provides a visitor guide multiple times per year. The guide provides general information; special emphasis events, and interpretive and educational programs offered at the sites we manage. This publication is the official newspaper of NACE and includes important contact information, details about park sites and partners, a park map and activities at your fingertips. There are also articles pertaining to seasonal events and safety tips, as well as other highlights. Summer editions are usually printed and all editions can be downloaded from our website at www.nps.gov/nace.

Distance Learning Programs

Do you live hundreds or even thousands of miles away from Washington D.C. and wish you could bring your class here? Why not let park rangers bring National Capital Parks-East sites to your classroom? The interpretative staff has the capability to conduct interactive classroom visits over the Internet through distance learning video conferences. To learn more and talk about the technology requirements, please call 202-690-5185.

Exploring the Real Thing

Today, curriculum-based education programs are recognized and supported as an essential part of National Park programming. Exploring the Real Thing is an NPS website provided by the Department of the Interior that is your guide to curriculum-based programs at National Park sites in Maryland and several other states. Use this step-by-step guide to planning successful field trips. Search by park site or by criteria to find the perfect program for your school group. Learn more at www.nps.gov/exploringtherealthing.

WebRangers On-Line Junior Ranger Program

This is the National Park Service on-line Junior Ranger program for kids of all ages. If you love your national parks, monuments and historical sites, this is the program for you! Not able to visit your national parks? You can still be a Jr. Ranger! Register as a WebRanger at www.nps.gov/webrangers/ and earn your patches. There are over 50 activities created just for you. Parents, learn along with your children. Teachers, while these activities were not designed as curriculum, these activities illustrate principles of Natural Science and American History in new ways. Learn all about your national parks today!

Mission

The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country.



National Capital Parks-East is one of almost 400 units of the National Park System.

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