



News from Masonville Cove Environmental Education Campus

An urban wilderness conservation area.

A Monthly Newsletter

November 2013

Volume 1 Issue 11

November Open Hours

The Conservation Area is open

Mon-Fri 11am-4pm

Sat 9am-1pm

Closed Sun



Free Saturday Programming for Preschoolers & Families

To reserve your spot, go to www.masonvillecove.org.

11/09 10-11am Science Alive Kids <5-Leaves!; **11:30am-12:30pm** Family Fun-Animal Encounters.

11/16 10-11am Science Alive Kids <5-Nature's Thanksgiving!; **11:30am-12:30pm** Family Fun-Recycled Magazine Workshop

Other Programming

11/9 9am-noon Curtis Bay & Brooklyn Dumpster Days. Curious?-read more in Newsletter article.

11/15 1-2pm Guided Nature Walk with Maryland Master Naturalists.



11/23 10:30am-noon Guided Nature Walk with MD Master Naturalists.

MCEEC Contact Information

1000 Frankfur Avenue, Baltimore MD 21226

Phone: 410-246-0669, ext.105

Website: www.masonvillecove.org

Email:

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

For inquiries related to volunteering, friends@masonvillecove.org

At Masonville Cove

More Hours to visit Masonville Cove ~ Open hours have been extended to all weekdays between 11am and 4pm. The Campus continues to be open to the public on Saturdays from 9am-1pm. **Come over soon.**

Two grant-funded programs serve these schools through field trips and classroom-based outreaches with Living Classrooms Foundation educators. Students learn about watersheds, food webs of the Chesapeake Bay and human effects on the Bay. There are many satisfied smiles as students discover new creatures and gain understanding of their relationships to the natural world.



Masonville Cove Environmental Education programming

During the fall season, elementary-aged students from seven[7] south Baltimore schools will come to Masonville Cove to explore their interactions, positive and negative, with the natural world, specifically related to the Patapsco River.

Fresh Start Program visitors

In mid-October, five youths and their instructors and mentors from the Living Classrooms Foundation Fresh Start program spent the morning at Masonville Cove learning about the tree species that supply wood for their construction projects, collecting and examining organisms from a plankton tow and bird-watching.

DONATION Opportunity

Help provide for songbirds and provide engaging spaces for schoolchildren exploring nature. Please consider a donation of a sturdy BIRD FEEDER, black oil sunflower seed or Nyjer thistle seed to Masonville Cove. Contact us at friends@masonvillecove.org or 410.246.0669, x105, if you'd like to make a donation.

Dumpster Days in Curtis Bay and Brooklyn on Saturday, November 9th, 9am-Noon.

Join to promote cleaner streets, open spaces and waterways for south Baltimore. Dispose of large trash items in a FREE, legal way. Dumpsters will be available from 9am until noon at two locations: Edwight Court in Farring Baybrook Park and near the Boys and Girls Club at Patapsco Ave and 3rd Street. **Tell your neighbors.**



Highlights of Open House held on Saturday, October 19th at Masonville Cove Campus

The day started early with a 7am bird walk. Marshy Point Nature Center bird enthusiasts Bob Rineer, Brent and Mary Byers, plus David Walbeck of the Maryland Department of the Environment, engaged a group of 13 adults and 5 children. Thirty species of waterfowl, songbirds and a bald eagle were observed. After the walk everyone enjoyed a yummy breakfast of bagels, pancakes, bacon and fruit.

At about 10am, area residents began arriving for the Open House. After signing in, visitors received a map marked with ten things to do and see on the Masonville Cove Campus.

At the build-a-bird-feeder station, visitors were guided through the project by Living Classrooms educators; and they

used a spotting scope to observe a bald eagle perched in a tree on the far side of the Cove.

Representatives from Filbert Street Garden and from Ben Franklin High School were on hand to explain their roles in the community. Visitors borrowed GPS units to try their skill at geocaching (*there is a geocache at Masonville Cove, so stop by to try it a try during Open Hours*). Some visitors boarded a Port of Baltimore van to have a tour of the Dredged Material Containment Facility.

The National Aquarium Conservation Team explained a model depicting stormwater runoff and its effects on the Patapsco River basin. They also talked with visitors about water quality and biological monitoring activities at Masonville Cove.

We had some special visitors: original residents of Masonville when it was a neighborhood back in the 1950s. They shared precious memories of life near the Cove.

Last, there was a free drawing for a wooden garden bench. Joseph Filipiak was the lucky winner!

Masonville Cove in the News!

'Midday on the Bay: Saving Urban Waterways': Thursday, October 17, 1-2 pm. Did you hear WYPR's radio interview with Dan Rodricks? Check out this link to be inspired by positive changes in Baltimore and the Patapsco River basin: <http://programs.wypr.org/podcast/midday-bay-saving-urban-waterways-thursday-oct-17-1-2-pm>

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 Brooklyn and Curtis Bay Coalition (BayBrook), 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**
 - BayBrook Coalition**
 - US Fish & Wildlife Service**