



News from Masonville Cove Environmental Education Campus

An urban wildlife refuge partnership

A Monthly Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2017

Volume 5 Issue 11

NOVEMBER Open Hours **FREE Programming for Families.** To reserve your spot, email events@masonvillecove.org or call 410-246-0669 x100

The Conservation Area is open to the public:

Mon-Fri
9am-4pm

Sat
9am-1pm

Closed on Sundays & Thanksgiving
Holiday (11/23-26)



Sat, 11/18 10-11am, 11-Noon, Noon-1pm Oyster Games with Oyster Recovery Project Educator (2 sessions indoors / 1 outdoors)

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

Tues, 11/14 10am-12pm MC Stewards-Tree Protection and Prepare Plantings for Winter.

Wed, 11/15 9:30am-11:30am Citizen Science- Scientific Monitoring-hands on learning about wildlife and water quality

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

Masonville Cove welcomes back EnerNOC volunteers

Nine volunteers from the Baltimore office of EnerNOC joined forces to tidy up the gardens at Masonville Cove. This October marked their third visit to MCEEC. After filling four large wheelbarrows with plant waste, the raised beds and stone path are much improved. There was time for the group to walk out to the newly accessible Zone 2 and to explore trails, shoreline areas and fill a garbage bag with trash.

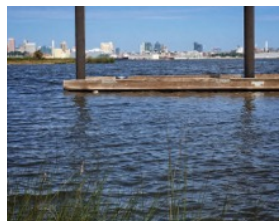
THANK YOU EnerNOC volunteers!



Oyster Games at Masonville Cove-Saturday 11/18

Bryan Gomes, Education Program Manager for the Oyster Recovery Partnership, will offer a fun and fascinating program focused on oysters at Masonville Cove on Saturday 11/18. The program is appropriate for elementary and middle school ages and their parents.

Pre-Registration required at events@masonvillecove.org

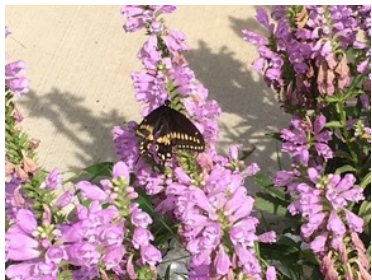


Choose one of the 1-hour sessions and then hang around for a noontime outdoor activity that explores the oyster cages at the pier.

In addition to this special Saturday program, Bryan is working with MC educators during school field trips this fall. Exploring the oyster cages with Bryan reveals a previously hidden world for urban students.

Masonville Cove Trash Wheel has a Name

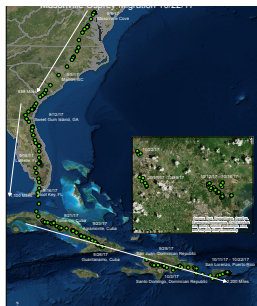
In 2018, MDOT Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA) plans to install a trash wheel at Masonville Cove. The Masonville trash wheel will be primarily solar-powered and smaller in size compared to Mr. Trash Wheel and Professor Trash Wheel, located around the Baltimore Harbor. As further evidence of MDOT-MPA's commitment to engaging the local community, students at nine Baltimore City schools and a few community organizations connected to Masonville Cove, were challenged to come up with suggestions of a name for the trash wheel. A team at MDOT MPA and MC partners narrowed the choices to 5 names; and these were put to a public vote on social media in mid-October. The winning name, Captain Trash Wheel, was put forth by a 7th grade science class at Lakeland Elementary/Middle School.



Scenes at Masonville Cove: Black Swallowtail butterfly feasting on nectar from an Obedient Plant; Milkweed pod and seeds dispersing in the breeze; Mummichog captured and later released during Scientific Monitoring program; Participant and Volunteer at Fall Nature Walk into Zone 2, newly accessible to the public.

UPDATE on Harriet, the Masonville Osprey

Last month's Newsletter noted that Harriet made an 1,100 mile trip to the Florida Keys. The latest report from US Fish & Wildlife showed Harriet logged another 1100 miles, making her way along the islands of Cuba and Hispaniola; and by mid-October she was in Puerto Rico. Since then, she has been on Puerto Rico, generally traveling around the eastern end of the island and south of the El Yunque rainforest (see inset of photo, at right). Keep track Harriet's progress on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FWS.ChesapeakeBay/photos/a.407390045962.180798.51206265962/10154936823030963/?type=3&theater>.



Funding from the South Baltimore Gateway Partnership helps Masonville Cove continue to offer Watershed Education

Living Classrooms Foundation (LCF) will build on a successful program that brings awareness about storm water pollution. The funding from the South Baltimore Gateway Partnership will serve teachers and students in

the casino area impact zone during the current school year. The School Leadership in Urban Runoff Reduction Project (SLURRP) uses hands-on and project oriented approaches to have students gain awareness and understanding of causes and impacts of storm water runoff on the Patapsco River and Chesapeake Bay. The experience includes LCF-led outreaches, field trips to the Masonville Cove campus and hands-on extension lessons provided by LCF and implemented by teachers.

Living Classrooms environmental educators will be working with 4th and 5th grade classrooms at the following schools: Westport Academy, Cherry Hill Elementary/Middle School, Federal Hill Preparatory School, Lakeland Elementary/Middle School and Arundel Elementary/Middle School.

Stop by Masonville Cove for an energizing walk and/or to check out the birds:

Recent forays by local birders listed ruddy ducks, osprey, bald eagles and black-bellied plovers along the shoreline and various sparrows in the upland areas. As the trees drop their leaves, it may be easier to spot the perched birds. We have field guides you can borrow during your walk!

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 MDOT 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.

MDOT 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:
MDOT Maryland Port Administration

Living Classrooms Foundation

National Aquarium

Maryland Environmental Service

US Fish & Wildlife Service