



# News from Masonville Cove Environmental Education Campus

*An urban wilderness conservation area.*

A Monthly Newsletter

September 2013

Volume 1 Issue 9

## September Open Hours

The Conservation Area is open on  
Wed-Fri 11am-4pm  
Sat 9am-1pm

Closed Sun-Tues.



## Saturday Programming for Pre-Schoolers & Families (reservations necessary)

**9/7 10-11am** Science Alive Kids <5- Turtles!  
**11:30am-12:30pm** Family Fun-Tiny Things



**9/28 10-11am** Science Alive Kids <5- Snakes!  
**11:30am-12:30pm** Family Fun-Art from Nature

## Other Programming (reservations necessary)

**9/7 10am-Noon** Community Day (call 410-246-0669, ext 105 or [friends@masonvillecove.org](mailto:friends@masonvillecove.org))

**9/19-9/21** Wetland Restoration and International Coastal Cleanup Event (please contact [conserve@aqua.org](mailto:conserve@aqua.org) or call 443-386-8407)

## MCEEC Contact Information

1000 Frankfurst Avenue,  
Baltimore MD 21226

Phone: 410-246-0669, ext.105  
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)

## Community Events

### COMMUNITY DAY, September 7, 10am-Noon

You're invited: National Aquarium Conservation team has organized a Community Day at Masonville Cove. Join them for a free activity filled morning (10am to Noon) with food, a habitat conservation activity, tours, and a take-home project. Transportation from two locations in the Brooklyn-Curtis Bay-Cherry Hill areas can be arranged. Let us know your needs. Also if there is demand, transportation is available to the Middle Branch Park Waterfront Festival after the Community Day activity. For more details, call us at 410-246-0669, ext. 105 or email [friends@masonvillecove.org](mailto:friends@masonvillecove.org).

### WETLAND RESTORATION, September 19-21

Help plant native wetland grasses along the shoreline at Masonville Cove as part of a regional effort to restore the environment of the Baltimore Harbor and to enhance the communities in south Baltimore. Activities also include debris collection to support the International Coastal Cleanup.

Please contact [conserve@aqua.org](mailto:conserve@aqua.org) or 443-386-8407 for registration information.

**Let's hear from you!** The Maryland Port Administration wants to hear your thoughts about the Masonville Cove Campus. We are making an effort to reach into the community and seek your input and feedback. This survey is intended to help us better understand your interests at Masonville, ensure that the Port hears your input, and find out what activities and programs you would like to see at Masonville Cove. We welcome and value your input. You can go to the link below to complete the survey OR call 410-246-0669, ext 105 to arrange for us to mail you the form. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/masonville>

Thank you in advance for taking the time to complete this survey!

**Can you identify the living beings in these photographs taken at Masonville Cove?**



*SHOUT OUT* to Masonville Cove partner **Maryland Environmental Service** --Come by to see all their good work!

A line of native shrubs was planted behind the raised bed gardens built in May. Besides looking attractive and providing cover for wildlife, these shrubs will serve as a barrier against erosion. Thanks MES for protecting the Cove!

The tidal marsh, a living shoreline, is filling in nicely. Planted in May during the Environmental Education Festival and in June during the National Aquarium's Field Day, the lower marsh grasses are protected by MES-placed fencing that discourages destructive grazing by Canada geese.



Just west of the pier, MES plans to plant non-tidal wetlands that will include about 25 species of shrubs and herbaceous plants. And we hear that there are plans afoot to create a mini-Maryland array of native plants behind the education building.

In addition, MES has been working in the area to the west of the area with public access. They accomplished removing invasive plants and now are grading the site. The plan is to encourage growth of dense, diverse vegetation that will serve as prime habitat for wildlife.



Can you help provide for songbirds and provide engaging spaces for schoolchildren exploring nature? We hope for DONATIONS of sturdy BIRD FEEDERS, black oil sunflower seed and niger thistle seed for our back deck. Contact us at [friends@masonvillecove.org](mailto:friends@masonvillecove.org) or 410-246-0669, if you'd like to make a donation.



**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 in Baltimore 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**