



# News from Masonville Cove Environmental Education Campus

*An urban refuge partnership*

A Monthly Newsletter

OCTOBER 2014

Volume 2 Issue 10

### October Open Hours

The Conservation Area is open

Mon-Fri 11am-4pm

Sat 9am-1pm

Closed Sundays



### Free Programming for Young Children & Families

To reserve your spot, go to [www.masonvillecove.org](http://www.masonvillecove.org).

**Wed, 10/8 5:30-6:30pm** Family Nature Night - *Nature Mysteries*

**Sat, 10/11 9:30-10:30am & 11-Noon** Science Alive Kids <5-Oysters!

**Sat 10/25 9:30-10:30am** Budding Biologists(ages 5-7) - *Things that go bump in the night*

**Sat, 10/25 9:30-10:30am** Science Alive Kids <5 - *Creepy Crawlies!*

**Sat, 10/25 11am-Noon** Fun for the Whole Family - *Bone Soup!*

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

**10/8, 2-3pm** Guided Nature Walk

**10/18, 7-9am** Breakfast with the Birds (pre-register [events@masonvillecove.org](mailto:events@masonvillecove.org) or call 410-246-0669, x105

**10/18, 10am-2pm** 2nd Annual Masonville Cove OPEN HOUSE

**10/29 3-4pm** Guided Nature Walk

**10/29 6-8pm** Pumpkin Decorating Community Program

### 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)



Can you spot the furry critters near the switchback path?

### A Perfect Day for Cristal USA Volunteers

Thirty-three volunteers from Cristal USA's Glen Burnie research facility and Cristal scientists from overseas participated in a shoreline cleanup at Masonville Cove. The team-building activity coincided with the

International Coastal Cleanup Day. In all, the Cristal USA team collected 221 pounds of debris [139 pounds was trash and 82 pounds was recyclable material]. Unusual items



included several toothbrushes and a light bulb. **Thanks Cristal USA** for your generosity and habitat improvements at MCEEC.

You are INVITED!  
SATURDAY OCTOBER 18  
Port Fest Baltimore 2014  
MASONVILLE COVE  
COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE at  
1000 Frankfurst Ave, Baltimore  
MD 21226

7-9 am: Breakfast with the Birds  
10am-2pm: Driving tours of the Dredge Material Containment Facility, nature crafts, green building tours, giveaways and more! It's Free and Family-Friendly. For more information contact [Katrina Jones](mailto:Kjones1@marylandports.com), MD Port Administration- [kjones1@marylandports.com](mailto:kjones1@marylandports.com) or 410-385-4438.



Scenes from the Cove: A Great Blue Heron photographed by Wendy Alexander, Monarch Butterfly on Partridge Pea and Cristal USA volunteers at Shoreline Cleanup

**Other Happenings around Masonville Cove....**

Md Master Naturalist Training: Thirteen students of diverse ages and backgrounds met in three day-long sessions at the MC Education Building. They learned about Environmental Education, Biological Classification, Human Impacts on the Bay, Birds and Weather & Climate Change. In addition students will plan and execute environmentally-themed projects as part of the course.

Fun at Fall Wreath Making event on Sept 25th: Several families participated in the workshop creating beautiful wreaths from a variety of dried flowers collected from the conservation area.



Sign up for FIELD DAY hosted by MC partner, National Aquarium Conservation Team: Saturday October 11<sup>th</sup>, 12:00-3:00 pm Activities may include: debris cleanup, construction of insect hotel, small wetland grasses planting, maintenance of bluebird boxes, other fun activities that will help enhance the Cove!

To register: <http://aqua.org/care/conservation-initiatives-old/masonville-cove?ga=1.43840417.567717062.1400588846>



Beetle on thoroughwort leaf

Environmental Education Programs gearing up for the fall field season: Environmental educators have been meeting with teachers and principals to arrange programming. They have prepared materials for the classroom and field to bring challenging and fun activities to children in south Baltimore and other regional schools. The proven programs are 'Treasure Our Chesapeake Bay' for 3rd graders and 'School Leadership in Urban Runoff Reduction Project' (SLURRP) for 4th and 5th graders. We also offer a scintillating line-up of weekend and evening programs for children from preschool to teen ages, scouting programs, and environmentally-themed family programs.

**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**