

## **ECC and ARBC Inaugurate Work on Anacostia Riverwalk**

The Earth Conservation Corps (ECC) Eagle Corps, ARBC members, and community volunteers began work on the Anacostia Riverwalk on September 28<sup>th</sup> at Anacostia Gateway Park, and Triangle/Quander Park as part of National Public Lands Day. Dave Cantwell from DC Rock and Steve Quarles from CTI/DC moved concrete blocks and helped clean the parkland. Other volunteers filled two dumpsters with trash, removed an old floating dock and other debris from the river and repaired the chain link fence.

The work is part of the initial phase of construction on three Riverwalk demonstration segments funded in part from monies provided by the D.C. Department of Transportation. An ARBC letter of support which offered assistance with material donations and construction assistance was instrumental in moving the project forward. The three demonstration sites are located at: Matthew Henson Park - 2000 Half Street SW, Anacostia Gateway Park - at the southern end of 1<sup>st</sup> Street SE in front of ECC's national headquarters, and under the 11th Street bridge near the Navy Yard and the Capital Rowing Club.

Although the physical labor has just begun, the planning has been underway for many years. In fact, the Riverwalk was conceived of more than three decades ago. Three years ago, ECC's Eagle Corps members took the initiative and volunteered to begin the project. As one of the first constructed parts of the Anacostia Waterfront Initiative, the Riverwalk will be an important piece of the overall partnership between the District of Columbia, Federal Agencies and the citizens of DC to revitalize the Anacostia River and its surrounding neighborhoods.

The demonstration project is the first element of the planned Anacostia Riverwalk and Trail, a 20-mile long system of trails on both sides of the river which will connect the National Mall to the existing tributary trails in Montgomery and Prince George's counties.

Through a partnership with the ARBC, Allentuck Landscaping, Fox Architects, and the DC Offices of Planning and Transportation, ECC's Eagle Corps members will continue to assist with this important project. As a part of the work, seven Corps Members studied architectural

drawing, sustainable design and landscaping techniques. They are looking forward to working with ARBC members to learn the basics of site improvements and trail construction.



**The Riverwalk will connect parks and green spaces like Anacostia Park (shown here) through a 20 mile long system of trails and pathways.**

As the project moves into the construction phase, ECC will need the continued support of ARBC members with in-kind donations of materials and assistance with hauling, grading and the like.

If you'd like to learn more about the Riverwalk, get involved in another volunteer day or make a contribution please contact James Willie at (202) 479-6710 or [JWillie@ECC1.org](mailto:JWillie@ECC1.org).



## ARBC Publishes Second Anacostia Stewardship Guide

As a part of its ongoing outreach campaign, the ARBC has published "A Business Guide to Integrated Management Practices and Pollution Prevention." This guide, will be distributed to businesses participating in a voluntary environmental assessment of their property and purchasing practices.

The guide is the second in a series of stewardship guides. The first, "How do you Affect the Anacostia Watershed?" is a non-point source pollution education guide aimed at elementary school students. It was published earlier this year and distributed to elementary school teachers in the

Anacostia Watershed in time for this school year.

For more information on either of these projects, please contact Steve Saari at (301) 984-1908x103 or [ssaari@icprb.org](mailto:ssaari@icprb.org).

## Rain Garden Update

The rain garden constructed last spring at the South Capitol Street Heliport (formerly called Air Pegasus) continues to flourish despite the drought conditions experienced over the summer.

A second rain garden at the Minnesota Avenue Metro Station has been designed and permitted and the construction phase is currently in the bidding process.

## Anacostia Watershed Calendar of Events

**October 18<sup>th</sup>** - National Water Quality Monitoring Day with the EPA and the Anacostia Watershed Society. For location and directions give the AWS a call at 301.699.6204.

**October 20<sup>th</sup>** - Birding Hike at the National Arboretum with the Sierra Club. Contact Peter Vankevich 202.397.5593 or Paul Elliott 703.256.6351.

**October 26<sup>th</sup>** - PEPCO Anacostia River Cleanup - 8:30 to 1:00PM starting at PEPCO's Benning Service Center, 3400 Benning Road. For more information, contact Linda Jo Smith at 202.872.2024.

**November 14<sup>th</sup>** - The Eyes of Paint Branch quarterly public meeting. Call 301.890.1998 for more info.

**November 23<sup>rd</sup>** - Tree Planting Day with Anacostia Watershed Society. Event to take place Rain or Shine. Call Josh Ungar at 301.699.6204 for details.

## ANACOSTIA RIVER BUSINESS COALITION UPDATE

C/O ICPRB

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