

Update

February 2001

CALENDER OF UPCOMING EVENTS

February 22 at 10:00am: Education Way Partnership at Earth Conservation Corps. The purpose of the meeting is to inform the community about environmental impacts to the neighborhood. For more information, contact Robert Nixon at 202-554-1960.

March 15 at 9:30am: ARBC Meeting at Air Pegasus (1724 South Capital St, SE). For more information, contact Karen Fligger (ICPRB) at 301-984-1908 ext. 103.

April 21: Earth Day Clean-up & Celebration
From 8:30-12:30, clean-up at 5 sites along Anacostia. At 1:00, rally at Bladensburg Waterfront. Lunch provided. For more information, call Lara Day at Earth Conservation Corps. 202-554-1960.

Businesses for the Bay

Businesses for the Bay is the Chesapeake Bay Program's voluntary pollution prevention program for businesses, government facilities, and other organizations within the bay watershed. Since it began in 1996, more than 295 facilities have committed to preventing pollution by joining Businesses for the Bay. In addition, 100 individuals have volunteered to serve as Business-to-Business Mentors, providing their technical assistance free of charge to their members. Businesses for the Bay also has a group of Partners, which are organizations such as trade associations and civic groups that help to promote pollution prevention to their members.

Each year, Businesses for the Bay participants report on the progress they make in preventing pollution. Participants reported that they reduced or recycled almost 773 million pounds of wastes in

1999. As a result of their efforts, they saved over \$4.8 million. Businesses for the Bay membership is free, and organizations can join by filling out a pollution prevention worksheet online (www.chesapeakebay.net/b4bay.htm) or by calling April Marcy, Businesses for the Bay Coordinator.

For Businesses for the Bay Program information, to subscribe to Businesses for the Bay Listserv, or for questions, please contact::

April Marcy
Businesses for the Bay Coordinator
1-800-YOUR-BAY, ext. 719
marcy.april@epa.gov

Rain Garden Project

Non-point source (NPS) pollution is one of the major contributors of contaminants to the Anacostia River. Examples of NPS pollutants include sediment and toxins such as oil and grease from automotive activity, pesticides and metals. Trace amounts of toxins left on land surfaces are transported by storm water runoff into our sewers and then into our streams and rivers. Urban areas have greater amounts of storm water runoff due to the large amounts of impervious surfaces and the lack of vegetated areas to absorb and impede flows. A promising bioretention technology for addressing NPS pollution from urban runoff is "rain gardens".

Rain gardens are shallowly depressed landscaped areas underlain by sandy soil, which are designed to capture some of the storm water runoff from a property. Toxins are filtered out of the storm water by mulch and soil, and a portion of these toxins can be transformed into harmless compounds by bacteria in the soil. Rain gardens provide a low cost alternative to stormwater management practices while aesthetically enhancing a site.

As part of its Buzzard Point Project, ARBC, in partnership with the Interstate Commission on the

Potomac River Basin, is initiating the construction of rain gardens at the Air Pegasus Heliport facility and the Minnesota Avenue Metro station. These rain gardens are intended to demonstrate the value and feasibility of bioretention technology to address the problem of NPS pollution in urban storm water runoff.

Watershed Stewardship Program

ARBC, in conjunction with the Interstate Commission for the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB), has been awarded a grant by the District of Columbia's Watershed Protection Division to fund the ARBC Watershed Stewardship Program. The program aims to contribute towards the District's goal of reducing the amount of pollutants in storm

water runoff entering the Anacostia River.

The program will provide the Anacostia business community with educational materials explaining the impact that non-point source pollution has on the river and pollution reduction measures that can be implemented on business and commercial properties. ARBC members will provide encouragement and assistance to businesses who want to utilize pollution prevention strategies. Businesses will be recognized as an "Anacostia Watershed Stewards" for adopting one or more environmentally friendly measure on its property,

ARBC encourages all businesses to participate. Look for more information and educational materials by mail in the coming months.

<p>Membership Form JOIN ARBC!!!</p> <p>ARBC encourages business to get involved and join the coalition. Become an ARBC member by filling out this ARBC Membership Form, and mailing to the address below. For more information, call Joan LaLecheur (WMATA), 202-962-5113.</p>	<p>Name of Business: _____</p> <p>Type of Business: _____</p> <p>Name of Contact: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>Telephone: _____</p> <p>Fax: _____</p> <p>E-mail: _____</p>	<p>Make checks payable to/Send ARBC membership form to:</p> <p>Anacostia River Business Coalition, Inc. c/o ICPRB 6110 Executive Blvd., Suite 300 Rockville, MD 20852</p>
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ANACOSTIA RIVER BUSINESS COALITION UPDATE

c/o ICPRB
6110 Executive Boulevard, Suite 300
Rockville, MD 20852

ARBC UPDATE!

How can you participate in protecting the Anacostia?
See inside for details

