

**Thank you**

**ARBC would like to extend special thanks to the following partners for helping to make this project a success.**

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|---|--|
| ★ Air Pegasus, Inc.   | ★ Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin |
| ★ Anacostia High School   | ★ Manhattan Construction                           |
| ★ Cardinal Concrete, Inc.   | ★ Maryland Rock/ Florida Rock Industries           |
| ★ Chesapeake Bay Program  | ★ PEPCO  |
| ★ CTI/DC, Inc.  | ★ Senate Asphalt                                   |
| ★ DC Rock, LLC  | ★ Steuart Investment, Inc.                         |
| ★ DC Department of Health,<br>Environmental Health Administration | ★ Super Salvage, Inc.                              |
|   | ★ Superior Concrete, Inc.                          |
|   | ★ Washington Gas                                   |

**Learn more about ARBC's 1<sup>st</sup> Rain Garden  
Demonstration Project!**



Photos: C. Dalpra, ICPRB



*Left to Right: ARBC President Joan LeLacheur thanks the many partners who worked on the project. Students from Anacostia High School mix the peat, sand and top soil. Mayor Williams helps to plant native species in the rain garden.*

**ANACOSTIA RIVER BUSINESS COALITION UPDATE**

c/o ICPRB

6110 Executive Boulevard, Suite 300

Rockville, MD 20852

## Mayor Williams Inaugurates Rain Garden

May 2002

Mayor Anthony Williams accompanied by ARBC members and other invited guests celebrated Earth Day on Monday, April 22 by inaugurating a newly constructed rain garden at the Air Pegasus Heliport.

In a short program at the Air Pegasus Heliport property on the shoreline of the Anacostia River, the mayor applauded businesses for their efforts to improve the river. "Business partnerships are vitally important," Mayor Williams told the group, "and what's good for our city is good for our environment. It is important to remember conservation and preservation every day."



C. Dalpra, ICPRB

*From left to right, Dr. Vincent Nathan (DC Department of Health), Mayor Williams, and Joan LeLacheur (WMATA) plant the rain garden.*

After his speech, Mayor Williams joined the project partners, including Anacostia High School students, in planting species native to the Chesapeake Bay region in the rain garden, which was constructed at the top of an embankment above the Anacostia shore.

The rain garden was produced by members of the Anacostia River Business Coalition, with funding

provided by the Chesapeake Bay Program and the DC Department of Health, and project coordination by the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin. The Air Pegasus rain garden was designed to serve as a demonstration project to show one of the ways that businesses can help reduce the amount of pollution entering the Anacostia River.

Rain gardens are small landscaped areas designed to capture and filter storm water before it is conveyed by storm sewer systems into our rivers and streams. At Air Pegasus, the rain garden is designed to capture storm water from the nearby helicopter landing and refueling area. After the storm water flows into the rain garden, it percolates through layers of mulch and sandy soil. Pollutants are trapped by organic material in the soils, and over time some types of pollutants are broken down by bacteria in the soil.

"Raingardens can be an important part of efforts to revitalize the Anacostia," noted ICPRB Environmental Scientist Jason Miller. "Although a single rain garden is small, their use throughout the urban watershed can make a difference in the health of our river, and our communities."

The Air Pegasus rain garden is the first of three planned by ARBC/ICPRB as demonstration projects in the Anacostia watershed. The next garden to be completed will be located at the Minnesota Avenue metro station.

*Jason Miller, ICRPB, and Dave Cantwell, DC Rock, construct the underdrain system for the rain garden.*



C. Dalpra, ICPRB