



News from Masonville Cove

FEBRUARY 2013

Volume 1, Issue 2



CALENDAR

Winter Hours: The Urban Wilderness Conservation Area is open.

Wed-Fri 11am-4pm

Sat 2/9 & 2/23 from 8am-noon,

Closed Sun-Tue.

Sign in at the Front Desk for permission to access the Conservation Area.

Masonville Citizens Advisory Committee, Tues, Feb 12. 6pm.

Public Invited! Update on the State of the Port by MPA's Dave Blazer. Light supper at 5:30pm.

Spring Cleaning 'Green' Workshop, Wed, Feb 20. 6:30-8:30pm. Free

Saturday Programs for Pre-Schoolers and Families

2/9, 10-11am Science Alive <5-Crabs!

11:30 am-12:30 pm Family-Tiny Things

2/23, 10-11am Science Alive <5-Oceans!

11:30 am-12:30 pm Family-Fish Printing

Masonville Cove Environmental Education Center

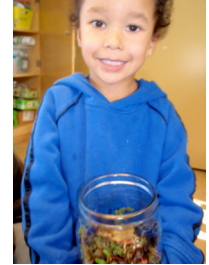
1000 Frankfurst Ave • Baltimore MD 21226

410-246-0669 • www.masonvillecove.org •

friends@masonvillecove.org

Saturday Programs

The FREE weekend programs at Masonville Cove are a fun and educational way for young children and families to explore the Cove! We offer nature based preschool programs on select Saturdays from 10-11 am; followed by an environmentally-themed family program from 11:30am-12:30pm. In January, we explored the exciting world of animal tracks, recycling magazines into unique crafts, studying the science of snow, and making our own terrariums! Upcoming in February, we'll investigate crabs, use microscopes to study plankton, study the wonders of the ocean and make our own fish prints! **Join us soon** for some fun focused on nature at Masonville Cove!



Friends of Masonville Cove

Save money. Help the environment. Skip breathing in harsh chemicals. Interested? Come to the Masonville Cove Workshop on 'Green' Spring Cleaning. Wednesday, February 20th, 6:30-8:30 pm in the Great Room at the Center, 1000 Frankfurst Ave. Fun & Free! Reserve your spot, 410-246-0669 x105 or events@masonvillecove.org.

We are excited to report that in February at Masonville Cove Environmental Education Center, selected volunteers begin training as **Maryland Master Naturalists**. The program, facilitated by Holly Fowler and Maria Harwood of the National Aquarium, promotes awareness of Maryland's ecosystems and natural treasures by educating and certifying a citizen volunteer corps that starts with a 60-hour training & 40-hour volunteer period. That's only the start! As Intern Volunteers, trainees will do their service hours at Masonville Cove.

NEWS from Maryland Environmental Service

The Masonville project team is making progress on the next phases of Masonville Cove. The necessary permits and approvals have been secured to begin construction operations in the next areas of the project. In February, Masonville patrons will begin seeing increased movement of equipment and personnel in the area to the West of the fenced locations. We will be working diligently to begin clearing invasive plants. Grading operations will begin as we work to stabilize the shoreline, construct tidal and non-tidal wetlands and restore the area to a thriving habitat.



Masonville Cove Environmental Education Center

1000 Frankfurst Ave
Baltimore MD 21226

Phone:
410-246-0669
Front Desk: ext 105

E-Mail:
For inquiries related to
educational programs,
info@masonvillecove.org
For inquiries related to
volunteering,
friends@masonvillecove.org

We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.masonvillecove.org

An Urban Wilderness Conservation Area

A Partnership among:

Maryland
Port Administration

Living Classrooms
Foundation

National Aquarium

Bay Brook: The Brooklyn
and Curtis Bay Coalition

Maryland Environmental
Service

Federal Hill Fifth Graders "SLURRP" for Sustainability (part 2)

Below is a photo of Ms. Champion's students learning how to use a GPS device. In this lesson, students tracked the coordinates of locations on their schoolyard that greatly needed greening. Students recorded the coordinates, made observations of possible environmental hazards, and then made suggestions for improvements to make that site a healthy place for a raindrop to fall.

After recording information and making suggestions to improve their schoolyard, Ms. Champion's 5th graders completely redesigned their schoolyard applying what they have learned about water quality control devices. They included everything from rain gardens to green roofs to halt the flow of water into their local storm drains. In the spring of 2013, as part of SLURRP, we have great plans for storm drain stenciling, community clean-ups, garden installation, and whatever else these brilliant minds might conjure.

The SLURRP team at Masonville Cove is proud to be a part of something as inspirational as what Ms. Champion's fifth graders are doing. In addition to being a part of School Leadership in Urban Runoff Reduction Project, these 5th graders have taken the initiative to start a recycling club for their school. It is the minds of students like these who will make the waters of Baltimore and the Chesapeake Bay healthy and thriving; and it is these minds that will set an invaluable example of how students can make a positive impact on their community.

Winter Beauty: View of the Cove
during January freeze.



**Ms. Champion's
Students
using a GPS
Instrument.**



About Masonville Cove and the Center...

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 Center (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.