

A stylized, colorful illustration of a landscape. The background features horizontal bands of blue and white, suggesting a sky or water. In the foreground, there are rolling green hills. On the left, there is a green tree, a purple flower, and an orange flower. A small red bird is flying in the sky. The overall style is simple and artistic.

# NPS & Groundwork Anacostia River

*Partners in changing communities and  
improving the Anacostia River*

*Julie Kutruff, Eastern District Manager  
National Capital Park - East*

# What Is A Groundwork Trust?

- *Groundwork Trusts are community based organizations in 20 cities or areas across the country*
- *All are organized as part of a network under Groundwork USA*
- *All Groundwork Trusts leverage a combination of public & private funds and use a combination of paid staff & volunteers*
- *Focuses on using people in the community to transform their own community*

# Lead Partners



# Program Goals

- Increase the capacity of communities to improve and care for their local environments themselves & improve access to parks, recreation & conserved natural resources
- Develop holistic community specific approaches to improving environmental health & community well being physical improvements, education & job training, community leadership & civic engagement.
- Transform vacant & derelict lands into community assets for conservation, recreation & economic development.
- Raise the profile of urban environmental transformation as part of a comprehensive approach to smart growth strategies, community stabilization, & economic redevelopment.



# Groundwork Anacostia River, DC & Wyoming County, WY are part of a network of 20 Groundwork Trusts in the US

Somerville, MA	Bridgeport, CT	Buffalo, NY	Gary, IN	Hudson Valley, NY	Lawrence, MA
Cincinnati Mill Creek	Dallas, TX	Denver, CO	Milwaukee, WI	New Orleans, LA	Portland, OR
Dona Ana County, NM	Elizabeth, NJ	Richmond, VA	Providence, RI	Richmond, CA	San Diego, CA

# Groundwork Trust Programs Include

- *Brownfields & Vacant Lots*
- *Urban Waters*
- *Active Living/ Healthy Communities*
- *Equitable Development*
- *Community Food*
- *Youth Development (Green Teams)*
- *Green Jobs/ Workforce Development*
- *Climate Change*



## Partnering with Groundwork Anacostia River

*Dennis Chesnut, Executive  
Director of Groundwork  
Anacostia River receives an  
award for his leadership on  
Anacostia River issues*





# GWAR connects us to other partners

*This project with Groundwork & DCBIA resulted in over 500 volunteer & thousands of dollars in donation to create a connector trail between Ft. Mahan & Marvin Gaye Park*





*GWAR participates in NPS Community Events like "Feet in the Street"*



*And the Fort Dupont Summer Concert to help raise community awareness*





*GWAR partners w/other local NPS parks like Wolf Trap to bring students to parks as part of a "Ticket to Ride Grant"*



*GWAR finds volunteer labor to help do projects in inner city parks*



*GWAR established a learning garden in Deanwood Community near Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens*





Band-along Trash  
Traps on streams  
running through  
NPS sites,  
capture trash and  
keeps it out of  
the Anacostia  
River





*Green Teams provide summer youth employment*



*While also exposing urban youth to new recreational opportunities*





2012 Green Team went to Shenandoah w/NACE Rangers for a week

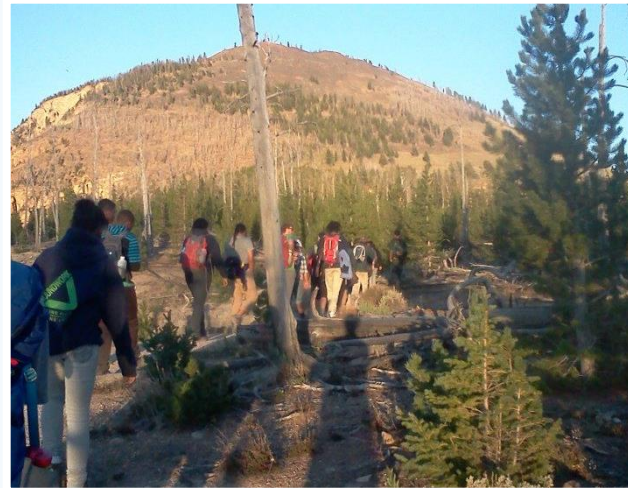


Where they learned to camp & also worked with rangers from SHEN



To do trail rehab & stream restoration





*And then the Green Team from Anacostia was selected to be one of 2 team to go to Yellowstone! Many had never been out West before and all came back with lots of stories & a new appreciation for NPS*





*WASO created a new Urban Archaeology pilot program in 2012 & used NACE as the host site. GWAR was the official partner.*



*Students learned about archeology, ethnography, research, and...*



*They did oral histories in their study area of Ft. Mahan*

# *Some Partners Broaden Our Horizons...*

- Good/Regular Communication facilitates positive outcomes*
- Sharing continues to net amazing benefits*
- Great Partners are ambassadors*
- Never underestimate how much you might learn*