

ROCK CREEK CONSERVANCY

2021 IMPACT REPORT

THROUGH PEOPLE-POWERED RESTORATION, THE CONERVANCY...

- Empowered a growing community to steward the unique, urban wilderness of the Rock Creek watershed and its parklands.
- Educated the Rock Creek community on best practices to #RecreateResponsibly and take care of each other and our natural environment.
- Supported legislative and regulatory action to protect the watershed in Washington, DC and Montgomery County, Maryland
- Restored and protected natural habitats by reducing stormwater runoff, removing litter and invasive plants from Rock Creek and its parklands through socially-distant stewardship.
- Connected diverse communities to Rock Creek through over one hundred events, community outreach, and Rock Creek Conservation Corps summer programming.

2021 ROCK CREEK COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

“I love cycling in [Rock Creek Park] without cars on the road. After 30 plus years of living in this area, the beauty of [the park] still takes my breath away!” -Glenda from Silver Spring

“Early Sunday morning jogs to the tune of 17-year cicadas high in the trees, sun just breaking through the branches to the trail, the water trickling and falling downstream. Sometimes, I just had to stop, listen, and look - be still in it; the peace of it was so cathartic” - Bill

PARK PARTNERSHIP

- Began restoration of the Grove 24 Concession Stand in the Brightwood Recreation complex.
- Installed a bike rack near the tennis stadium to expand healthy, equitable access to outdoor recreation opportunities.
- Installed the first updated trailhead sign to protect Rock Creek’s fragile forests and welcome visitors more inclusively.
- Completed the first phase of restoration of a pocket park near Kalorama Street to return to the historic landscape envisioned by Lady Bird Johnson.

By the NUMBERS

Through an ongoing global pandemic and increasing extreme weather events, the work of stewarding Rock Creek doesn't stop. Thank you to the Rock Creek community for helping to make a difference this year!



416

trees freed from English Ivy



36,249

pounds of litter removed



465

native plants planted



2,228

homes educated about Downspout Disconnection



250

volunteer events



7,993

hours volunteered



98

Stream Team Leaders trained



61

Weed Warriors trained



2

Programs expanded into Montgomery County



17

years 'til the next Cicada brood X

Rock Creek Conservancy is a 501(c)(3) organization and an official philanthropic partner to Rock Creek Park



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- Continued the 'Race, History, and Rock Creek' program series to highlight unsung stories of the park's and our communities' past.
- Called for the removal of Melvin Hazen's name from park resources.
- Provided Rock Creek Conservation Corps summer work experience to students from four Title I schools in the Rock Creek watershed.
- Launched Summer in the Parks events to engage communities in less-programmed parts of the park.

WATERSHED-WIDE IMPACT

- Expanded the Rock Creek Conservation Corps to Montgomery County through a new partnership with Einstein High School.
- Engaged 1,076 community members in both Washington, DC and Montgomery County in the Extreme Cleanup and Weed Wrangle.
- Connected the Glenmont Forest neighborhood to a comprehensive Green Streets green infrastructure project through an ongoing series of engagement activities and rain barrel installations.
- Protected Rock Creek from a planned highway expansion.
- Expanded bacteria monitoring partnerships to include Montgomery County locations, finding significant impairments of the stream in all locations.



JOIN US TO PROTECT AND RESTORE ROCK CREEK!



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