

2022 IMPACT REPORT

FOREST RESILIENCE

- Hosted 23 invasive removal events as part of the second annual Rock Creek Weed Wrangle; 326 volunteers removed 257 bags of invasive plants and freed 49 trees from invasive vines.
- Began recruiting subject matter experts to help create an equitable landscape-scale framework for the resilience of Rock Creek's forests protecting the natural resources while increasing equity of access to their ecosystem services.
- Led weekly invasive removals in four mini-oases demonstration sites to showcase the impact of people-powered restoration in action.
- Moved the Piney Branch mini-oasis to the "maintenance" phase, meaning that the work done to date has reduced invasive plants to less than **5%** of the ground cover.

WHY ROCK CREEK MATTERS TO YOU

At the Beach (Beech) Party – a celebration of Beach Drive closing permanently for recreation – attendees filled out leaves reflecting what they are most grateful for about Rock Creek. Here are excerpts from a few of those:



the rangers
bird watching
safe bike space
bluebells and tulip poplars
wonderful hiking and a place for solitude
bats, deer, foxes, and the lungs of the city
beauty in nature right at the heart of the city
the stream bubbling over the rocks surrounded by trees

PARK PARTNERSHIPS

- Celebrated the National Park Service's momentous decision to permanently close Beach Drive for recreation, while thanking Superintendent Julia Washburn, Councilmember Mary Cheh, WABA, PARC, and all those who advocated to help make it possible.
- Supported the fabrication and installation of a new sign for Reservation 630 at the corner of Reno and Tilden, replacing the name of a city official whose work displaced many Black communities from areas west of the park during the early 20th century.
- With the support of generous donors paying tribute to their loved ones, installed two new benches in Rock Creek Park.
- Honored Chair Brenda Mallory of the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) at a spectacular Rock Creek Gala with nearly 400 attendees.



Rock Creek Conservancy is an award-winning 501(c)3 nonprofit, an official philanthropic partner to Rock Creek Park (National Park Service), and the only organization dedicated to the entirety of Rock Creek and its parklands.

YOUR IMPACT AT A GLANCE

Whether you volunteered or made a gift (or both!), you made an impact on Rock Creek and its parklands in 2022, including:



865
trees freed from
English Ivy



44,840 pounds of litter removed



127,146

square feet of park restored



8 History,

park Race, History, and Rock Creek programs hosted



4,008

volunteers engaged in people-powered restoration



9,432

hours volunteered



\$231,423

contributed to the National Park Service



188

volunteer leaders trained



1,686

individual supporters of Rock Creek Conservancy



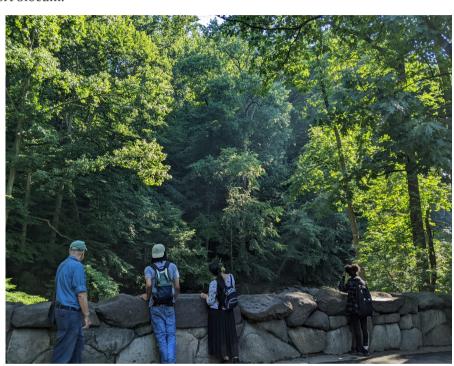
\$1,647,813

in revenue in support of Rock Creek and its parklands

JUSTICE, EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION (JEDI)

- Launched the Carter Barron Alliance a network of arts, parks, historic preservation, philanthropic, and community groups that are working together to support the timely, complete revitalization of the Carter Barron Amphitheater.
- Hosted 8 free, virtual Race, History, and Rock Creek programs in partnership with the National Park Service on a variety of topics, such as Lynchings and Biophobia, Black *Cemeteries, The History and Future of the Carter Barron Amphitheater,* and more.
- Provided summer work experience in the environmental sector to 15 students from schools in both DC and Montgomery County as part of the Rock Creek Conservation Corps (RC3) - MoCo crew pictured below.
- Brought the community together to enjoy nature and summer fun at rotating locations throughout the east side of Rock Creek Park, including Carter Barron, Fort Circle Parks, and Fort Slocum.





STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

- As part of the annual Rock Creek Extreme Cleanup, convened 54 cleanup events where nearly 900 volunteers removed 9,569 pounds of litter.
- Coordinated 54 citizen science volunteers who served 250 volunteer hours throughout the Rock Creek watershed, collecting **306** samples for bacteria monitoring.
- Continued canvassing for the Downspout Disconnection program, which, under a contract with DC Water, offers free disconnection and rain barrel installation to eligible homeowners in the designated project area.
- Began a new program in partnership with DOEE to inspect and maintain green infrastructure on DC properties in the Rock Creek watershed. This work improves the performance of the green infrastructure facilities, reducing runoff to Rock Creek.

JOIN US TO PROTECT AND RESTORE ROCK CREEK!







@RockCreekConservancy



rockcreekconservancy.org/calendar



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

Pavan Khoobchandani, Chair Brad McKee, Vice Chair Molly Hill Patten, Treasurer

Directors

Mary Cheh

Kenneth Connolly

Steve Hull

Kahlil Kettering

Justin Kollinger

Ethan Landis

Amanda Leiter

Tanya Mayorkas

Marlene Hunt Moss

Sherryl Newman

Rohan Patel

Greg Weingast

Scott Siff, Emeritus

Jane Paul, Emeritus

Ieanne Braha Executive Director, Rock Creek Conservancy

