

FIND YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE AT

BLADENSBURG WATERFRONT PARK

SPRING 2025

4601 Annapolis Road
Bladensburg, MD 20710
301-779-0371 • MD Relay 711

Community Day
Get Outside & Enjoy Nature

Saturday, April 26

11 am - 2 pm.

Free for All Ages

Free Boat Tours
Kayak, Canoe & Bike Rentals
Science and Arts Projects
Rock the Bike Power Towers
Give-a-aways and more
See Details Inside

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Join our email list for park
updates and events

PARK INFORMATION

Website

pgparks.com/bladensburgwaterfrontpark

Park Hours

Daily, sunrise to sunset;
The park closes at the posted time.

Office Hours

9 am - 5 pm, Daily

Boat Ramp

Open daily, sunrise to sunset. Please call 24 hours ahead if you need parking for a boat trailer.

Fishing

Fishing is allowed in designated locations. Fishing pier, along the railing (do not block walkway), and Quincy Point. Fishing License required.

Ropewalk Pavilion & The Waterfront Studio

Available for rent. Call 301-779-0371

Parking

Free parking. Parking may be limited during high visitation days or large events. Please plan ahead.

Schools, Camps or, Groups

We offer science, nature and social studies programs and activities. Visit our website for information and to request a program.

Pontoon Boat Tours



April 1 - October 31
Thursday - Sunday
Departure Time - 12 noon

Public Boat Tours

- \$3/\$4 per person
- Please arrive 15 minute before departure.
- Saturday and Sunday Tickets available for online purchase. Up to five per family

Private Boat Tours

- Tuesday - Friday
- \$75 minimum for up to 25 people. additional people - \$3/\$4 per person
- Email BladensburgWP@pgparks.com

Boat tours are 45 minutes. The boat holds approximately 30 passengers. Six people needed for departure. Weather and river conditions may effect departure. Please call ahead.

Sunday Stroll: Nature Discovery Walk

Sun. Mar 9; 2-3 pm; All ages; Free; #22629-208A

Join a Park Naturalist on a nature walk through the park and along the paved Anacostia River Trail. This is a slow to medium paced activity with occasional stops to enjoy nature.

Campfire & Caboose

Fri. Mar 21; 7-8 pm; All Ages; \$5/\$7; #22615-208A

Enjoy stories around a warm campfire and roast marshmallows at the waterfront. Then visit the newly renovated 1926 Big Red Caboose!

Sunday Stroll: Nature Discovery Walk

Sun. Mar 23; 2-3 pm; All Ages; Free; #22629-208B

Join a Park Naturalist on a nature walk through the park and along the paved Anacostia River trail. This is a slow to medium paced activity with occasional stops to enjoy nature.

Women History Month



SHE'S OUTDOORS

She's Outdoors!

Sat. March. 22; 11 am -12:30 pm;

Ages 13 & up; Free; #22678-208C

Bladensburg Waterfront Park,

Waterfront Studio

Are you outdoorsy or interested in outdoor activities? Will outdoor adventures enhance your happiness and well-being? If so, join women of all ages in an engaging presentation and roundtable-style discussion. Together, we will share experiences, address fears, and tackle the unique challenges women face when exploring the outdoors, past and present.

This program and workshop is designed to help women confidently enjoy the outdoors and inspire their sense of exploration. Expect hands-on engagement activities, practical experience using equipment commonly used in outdoor recreation, and more. Whether you're new to the outdoors or a seasoned pro, there's a space for everyone! Refreshments will be served.



April

Senior Lunch Bunch Boat Tour

Mon. April 7; 11:30 am -12:30 pm; Ages 55 & Better; \$3/\$4; *Free with Eagle Pass*; #22643-208B

Bring your lunch and enjoy a scenic boat ride down the Anacostia River on our passenger pontoon boat. Dress for the weather. *Free with your Bladensburg Waterfront Park's Senior Eagle Pass membership.*



Sidewalk Paint Nature Craft

Mon. April 14; 1 - 3 pm; Ages 3 & up; \$4/\$6; #22605-208A

Use natural materials to create fun and safe sidewalk paint. Then create family fun murals and designs on the sidewalk in the playground area. Take some home to continue the creativity.

Insect Investigations!

Tues. April. 15; 10 - 11 am; Ages 7-13; \$4/\$6 #22645-208A

Step into the buzzing world of incredible insects and discover how these tiny creatures impact our environment! Explore their life cycles, body parts, communication, adaptations, and their amazing engineering skills. Plus, you'll get up close and personal with live and preserved insects using microscopes, magnifying glasses, and other awesome science tools. Choose your team of bugs for exciting bug races. Get ready, get set... Go!



Evening Kayak Tour

Wed. April 16; 6 - 7:30 pm; Ages 11 & up; \$25/\$33; #22640-208A

Go kayaking with a guide and explore the beautiful scenery of the Anacostia River. Tours will stop at various sites along the river. This is a moderate pace paddle tour. Must have kayaking experience. Must stay with the group. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Tandem kayaks available. Life jackets, paddles and boats provided.

Explore the Big Red Caboose Exhibit

Thurs. April 17; All ages; \$4/\$6; Session one; 10 am -11 am; 18607- 208A; Session two; 1 pm -2 pm; #18607-208B

Hop aboard a 1926 B&O caboose for an unforgettable adventure! This stationary caboose is packed with over ten exciting activities to keep you busy. Step into the shoes of an engineer or brakeman as you build your very own wooden railway, chat with walkie-talkies, master flag signals, ring the train bells, and use binoculars to spot wildlife. There's so much to explore as you dive into the history of cabooses, train cars, and railroads while having an absolute blast!

Great for Ages 3 - 8. Everyone must register.

Gemstone & Crystal Workshop

Fri. April. 18; 10:30 am -12 pm; Ages 7 & up; \$7/\$10; 22678- 208B

Dive into the dazzling world of crystals, gemstones, and geology! With microscopes, lights, testers, and other awesome tools, you'll get to explore the incredible properties of raw and polished gemstones from across the globe. Investigate their color, clarity, cut, shapes, hardness, luster, and weight. Then, choose a stunning gemstone to create your very own necklace or bracelet to take home as a beautiful souvenir and take a chance at winning gemstone prizes in a free raffle.

Senior Get Growing - Ready to Grow With Native Plants?

Mon. April 21; 11:00 am-12 noon; Ages 60 & Better; \$5/\$7; *Free with Eagle Pass*; #20507-208A

Join us for a fun gardening workshop where you'll learn all about the beauty and benefits of native plants (indoors)! Get expert tips, explore plant care techniques, and discover how to create a thriving garden with plants that are perfect for your area. Review topics such as plant needs, behaviors and reactions, soil compositions and amendments, hydroponic herb garden, technology in gardening, and more. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just getting started, it's the perfect opportunity to dig in and get growing! Take home a native plant for your garden. *Free with your Bladensburg Waterfront Park's Senior Eagle Pass membership.*



History Alive: War of 1812 Boat Tour

Sat. April 26; 11 am - 12:00 pm; All Ages; Free; #22643-208A

All aboard for a History Alive Boat Tour! Join a historian and hear unique stories about the War of 1812 while you cruise down the beautiful Anacostia River.

COMMUNITY DAY: Get Outside and Enjoy Nature!

Sat. April 26; 11 am - 2 pm; Free; All Ages

Kick off the Spring season with us! Free canoe, kayak, and bike rentals; Free science & art activities; Free boat rides: 11am History Alive boat tour ; 12pm & 1pm general boat tours. Light up the Rock the Bike LED towers with pedal power. Giveaways, raffles, and more. ParksDirect account required for rentals. While supplies last. Addition rules may apply.

Fishing Trip

Sun. April 27; 9:00 am -11:30 pm; Ages 10 & up; \$10/\$13; #22626-208A

Enjoy a morning fishing on the Anacostia River from a pontoon boat. Rods & bait provided, or you can bring your own. A good activity for beginners. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult.



May

Senior Lunch Bunch Boat Tour

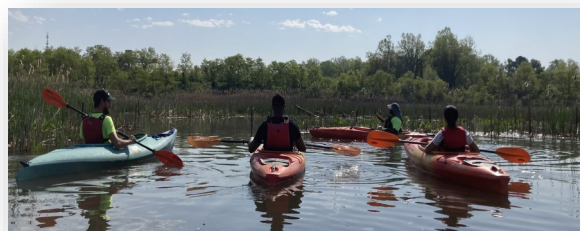
Mon. May 5; 11:30 am -12:30 pm; Ages 55 & Better; \$3/\$4; Free with Eagle Pass; #22643-208C

Bring your lunch and enjoy a scenic boat ride down the Anacostia River on our passenger pontoon boat. Dress for the weather. Free with your Bladensburg Waterfront Park's Senior Eagle Pass membership.

Evening Kayak Tour

Wed. May 14; 6 - 7:30 pm; Ages 11 & up; \$25/\$33; #22640-208B

Go kayaking with a guide and explore the beautiful scenery of the Anacostia River. Tours will stop at various sites along the river. This is a moderate pace paddle tour. Must have kayaking experience. Must stay with the group. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Tandem kayaks available. Life jackets, paddles and boats provided.



Fishing Trip

Sun. May 18; 9:00 am -11:30 pm; Ages 10 & up; \$10/\$13; #22626-208B

Enjoy a morning fishing on the Anacostia River from a pontoon boat. Rods & bait provided, or you can bring your own. A good activity for beginners. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult.

Bicycle Nature Tour: Seniors

Mon. May 19; 9:30 - 11 am; Ages 60 & up; \$5/\$7; #22502-208A

Enjoy a guided bicycle tour down the Anacostia River Trail. We will stop at various points to see and learn about the plants, animals and habitats of the Anacostia River. Program includes bike and helmet, or bring your own. Bicycles only (no tricycles). This is a slow to medium paced casual ride. Must be able to ride two miles each way.

Learn to Kayak!

Sat. May 24; 10 am -1 pm; Ages 11 & up; \$30/\$39; #22628-208A

Learn kayaking skills from a certified instructor. Children ages 11-15 must be accompanied by a registered adult. Life jackets, paddles and boats provided. Bring a dry bag for your keys and phone, or rent one of ours.

That '70s Funk & Soul Boat Tour

Fri. May 30; 6:30 - 8:00 pm; Ages 18 & up; \$10/\$13; #22643-208D

All aboard for a fun music filled boat ride! Wear your '70s gear if you like. Enjoy refreshments, music, mingle and take pictures in front of the backdrop. Then, come aboard and sing along to popular 1970s funk, disco, and soul. Have fun with music trivia games and karaoke. Enjoy the beautiful scenery while you cruise down the Anacostia River.



CAUGHT ON CAMERA



Good Luck, Turkeys. We wish you well!

Eastern Wild Turkeys are Back! (*Meleagris gallopavo*)

Our trail cameras recently captured four wild turkeys along the Anacostia River trail near the park. In Maryland, the breeding season for turkeys spans from March to July. Turkeys have excellent instincts for detecting danger with color vision that's five times more acute and hearing four times better than humans.

Adult turkeys are equipped with sharp bony spurs, which they use to defend themselves from predators like coyotes. While they usually run when scared, turkeys can fly up to 50 miles per hour over short distances. They will need to use their skills, as coyotes have been spotted waiting in the location where the turkeys gather.



Photo by Dara Wilson

Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*)

The green heron was spotted sitting on a log during one of our pontoon boat tours down the Anacostia River. They can stand motionless as they hunt for fish and amphibians. The green herons live in both salt and fresh water shorelines. They have webs between their middle and outer toes and are able to swim. They will occasionally dive for deep-water prey. They are migratory and will return in late March or April.

Outdoors at the Waterfront

A Baby Out of Place

Mississippi Map Turtle

(*Graptemys pseudogeographica kohni*)

This baby map turtle was discovered on the floating wetlands in the park. Its carapace is covered with mud. They are native along the Mississippi, Missouri and Ohio rivers and are non-native to Maryland. Please do not release non-native turtles in Maryland waters. Non-native species can become invasive. To help protect native species, do not purchase the map turtle if you can not keep them through adulthood. By the way, they can live for decades.



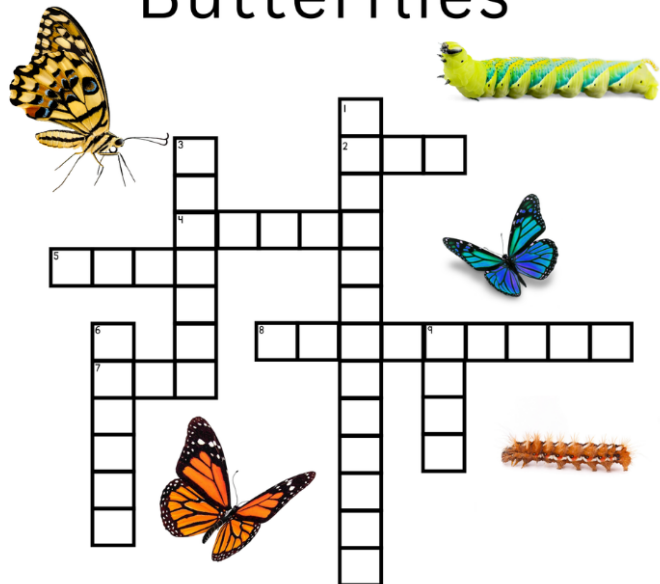
Volunteer in the Park

Volunteer as a Naturalist Aide or Garden Aide. Help plant gardens, clean the park, help with educational programs, events and other special projects. Sign up at <https://pgparks.com/get-involved/volunteer-opportunities>

Scan for park program info and to register!



Butterflies



Across

- 2. The caterpillar must do this to grow
- 4. A caterpillar is also a _____
- 5. Butterflies have chemoreceptors on these to detect whether a plant is safe to eat
- 7. The first stage in the butterfly life cycle
- 8. The protective casing for a caterpillar used during its transformation

Down

- 1. The process of a caterpillar changing into a butterfly
- 3. A caterpillar can be seen doing this during its instar stage.
- 6. Most butterflies consume this
- 9. A caterpillar's _____ its skin as it grows

This program is brought to you by

Parks & Recreation
M-N-C-P-P-C
live more, play more
pgparks.com



Boat Rentals

Online Reservations *Boat Rentals Begin 4/1/2025*
Book a Session: 9 am - 12 pm or 1 pm - 4 pm

- Residents: \$25/kayak; \$30/tandem kayak or canoe
- Non-Residents: \$33/kayak; \$39/tandem kayak or canoe
- Parks Direct account required

Walk-in Rentals
3 hour rentals; Limited availability. Boats return by 4 pm
Residents \$40 per boat; Non-Resident \$52 per boat



RENT A BIKE

Residents* \$10/hour
Non-Residents* \$13/hour

Parks Direct Account Required
Walk-ups allowed
Bikes and styles vary based on availability



FOR RENT

Ropewalk Pavilion

- Waterfront View
- Picnic Tables
- Great for small and large events
- Free Parking
- Other Stipulations Apply
- Capacity: 25-500 people
- Located near playground, fishing dock, and trails
- Daily rates start at \$300 plus security deposit



FOR RENT

Waterfront Studio

- Waterfront view
- Gated patio area
- Small fridge and microwave
- Rectangle tables, high top tables and chairs
- Great for small events
- Free parking
- Capacity: 50 people
- Located near playground, fishing dock, and trails
- Cost start at \$75 per hour plus security deposit
- \$50 or more per hour with pavilion rental

parks direct
Pick. Play. Grow.

Program Registration Information

In order to register for programs, you will need a Parks Direct account. Create your account today at: pgparksdirect.com

Park Information & Rules

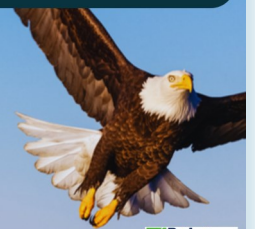
- No unpermitted group events or organized gatherings on the park grounds, under the pavilion, or inside gazebos.
- No amplified music in the park, from cars, in gazebos, or under pavilion unless permitted. Other Park Rules apply.
- Please keep your dogs on a leash and pick up pet waste.
- This is an alcohol and smoke free park. No alcohol, smoking, or smoke-related products permitted.

THE EAGLE PASS

Senior Season Pass \$20

Enjoy monthly programs and boat tours, discounted bike and boat rentals on Mondays, & more!

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www.pgiparks.com



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- The Department of Parks and Recreation encourages and supports the participation of individuals with disabilities. Register a minimum of two weeks prior to the program start date to request and receive a disability modification.
- Customers who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, call Maryland Relay 7-1-1.
- Language interpretation is available at all facility front desks. Please ask for assistance.