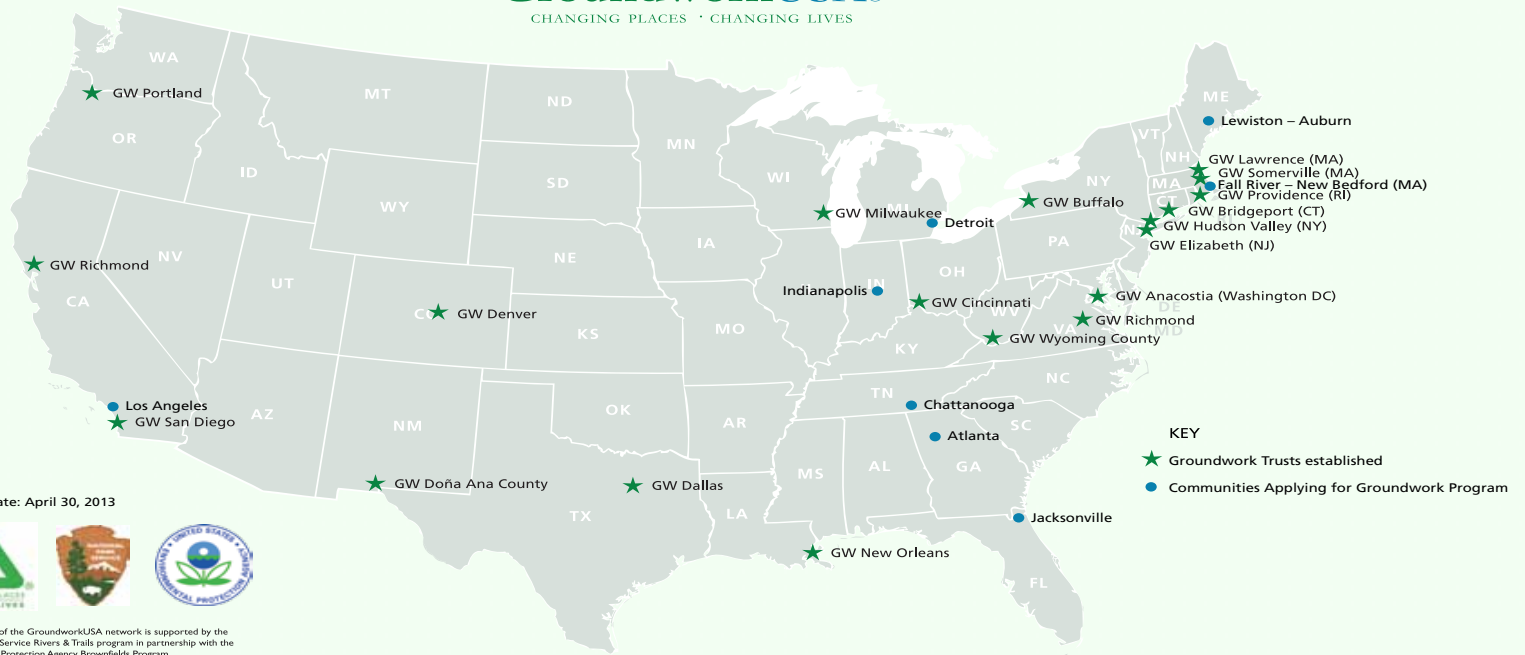


Smart Growth Conference January 30, 2015  
Baltimore, MD

**GROWING PAINS: BROWNFIELD  
REUSE AND CREATING NEW FOOD  
CONNECTIONS**

# GROUNDWORKUSA

**GroundworkUSA®**  
CHANGING PLACES · CHANGING LIVES



## Youth



## Businesses



## Land



## Education



## Communities



## Brownfields



# FEDERAL INTERAGENCY PARTNERSHIP SUPPORTS DEVELOPMENT OF GWUSA NETWORK



Interagency Agreement

\$ ⇒



NPS matches funding with TA + program mgmt.

Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program

Groundwork USA  
*Changing places, Changing lives*

New + Existing GW Trust organizations

Local government + broad-based community partnerships



# GROUNDWORK TRUST ANACOSTIA RIVER DC





**Deanwood  
Learning  
Garden**  
on Sheriff Road

*Deanwood's community gathering place*



The Deanwood Learning Garden was a project that stemmed from Alison Mears' Urban Communities class at Parsons The New School of Design. The project was a part of the 2011 Solar Decathlon where participating schools built solar homes as demonstration models. Parsons decided to While participating in the Decathlon, the class also agreed to work with Groundwork Anacostia to design the learning garden. The students have designed the park and are currently in the process of building it.

# WARD 7: DEANWOOD

## History:

- One of Northeast's oldest neighborhoods
- Most houses date back to the early 20th century
- Was the home to Suburban Gardens, an African American amusement park during a time of racial segregation.

## Today:

- close-knit community
- lower-middle class families
- "high crime" neighborhood

neighborhood news

## An Urban-Nature Transformation

New Hiker/Biker Extension Links Local Trails

BY VIRGINIA AVNIEL SPATZ

Inter-organizational collaboration can be tough on the toes: territory, missions, budgets -- so many opportunities for a misstep, and so many chances to get stomped. On Sep. 12, though, nearly 600 participants risked toes together in Fort Mahan Park in a multi-organizational effort that transformed the park and nearby trail.

The DC Building Industry Association (DCBIA), the DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), Groundwork Anacostia River DC, the National Park Service (NPS) and a host of volunteers improved an area covering the equivalent of five city blocks. Brush was cleared, flower shrubs and a rain-water garden planted. An abandoned pool and pool house were replaced with a basketball court. Climbing mounds were created. Informative signs were installed. Finally -- most impressively, by all accounts -- the hiker/biker trail was extended from Fort Mahan to the Marvin Gaye Park trail.

Ward 7 Councilmember Yvette Alexander was also impressed by the variety of people -- long-time residents and new homeowners, students, expert volunteers -- working in concert.

### Event Day

Each year for 17 years, DCBIA has organized a "Community Improvement Day" project, an annual collaboration of volunteers from the building trades working together with community members to design, plan and implement a project. This year's project



Community Improvement Day Ribbon Cutting: (l-r) Bill Alsup, Corp. Exec. Michael Harrison, Improvement Day Co-Chair; Gary Ball, DCBIA Community South, DCBIA President; Erik Fitzhugh, NPS; Councilmember Yvette Alexander, ANC 7D Chair; and Dennis Chestnut, Groundwork

which began with the abandoned pool in Fort Mahan Park -- brought together DPR, Groundwork and NPS for months of planning. Other government agencies, schools and neighborhood groups contributed.

DCBIA organizers initially worried about fund-raising in a recession. But industry donations eventually exceeded expectations, with over 50 companies making financial and in-kind contributions.

DCBIA arranged for industry volunteers, while Groundwork organized

### Volunteers Need, Nov. 14

On November 14, Groundwork Anacostia River DC will plant 25 trees with Casey Trees. Volunteers to help with the planting of Chestnut at Groundwork Anacostia River DC should email dchestn@casey.com, or call 202-638-1111.



Volunteers at work on 42nd Street, September 12

until 6:30 to finish their task.

"I never think that the event can get better, but every year it does," says Mark Baughman, of SKB Architecture & Design, who served as DCBIA Community Services Chair.

### A Lasting Transformation

Dennis Chestnut, a lifelong Hillbrook resident, has seen the urban-nature relationship in the area change over the decades.

"A transformation started when Lady Bird Johnson created the urban park between Minnesota Avenue and 44th Street along Watts Branch...then the Fort Circle Trail at Fort Mahan in the 70s, and, just a couple of years ago, the Marvin Gaye Park trail project." Finally, hundreds of volunteers helped create the trail linking Fort Circle and Marvin Gaye Park trails. "Over \$500,000 was leveraged to make this happen...and it did not cost the citizens of Washington, DC one cent."

Between the signs, the trail extension and the improved sightlines, neighbors say, passersby appear to be noticing historic and natural resources they'd previously overlooked. Chestnut and his wife, Zandra, watched neighborhood children climbing the new mounds after the event, happily exclaiming, "These are going to stay here!" On November 14, Groundwork Anacostia River DC will put the finishing touch on what was achieved with NPS, DPR, and DCBIA by planting 25 trees in partnership with Casey Trees. Volunteers are needed to help plant these trees. All are encouraged to celebrate the new park and trail.





# Deanwood Learning Garden

on Sheriff Road

Deanwood's community gathering place

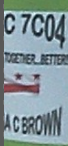
A PROJECT OF EMPOWERHOUSE COLLABORATIVE DEANWOOD DC

Groundbreaking Celebration: June 18, 2011 at 11am

ported by:



contact: 202.506.3867  
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contact: 202.398.5100  
[anc7c@verizon.net](mailto:anc7c@verizon.net)

EMPOWERHOUSE <http://www.empowerhouse-dc.org>



Deanwood  
Learning  
Garden











# HOW TO BUILD RAISED GARDEN BEDS FOR SMALL SPACE GARDENING

*How to build a raised garden bed, which tools, material and skills needed. How much does it cost. A model raised bed will be constructed on site.*



# BUILDING RAISED GARDEN BEDS

- *Which tools*
- *Materials*
- *Skills needed*
- *How much does it cost*



# CONTAINERS OF ALL TYPES AND SIZES

*Small Space gardening can be done on patios and other small areas using a variety of containers including:*

*Canvass bags*

*Buckets*

*Clay and Ceramic pots*

*Wooden boxes*

*and*

*many more .....*



# PLEASE CONTACT US:

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