

OXON RUN PARK MASTERPLAN

OXON RUN PUBLIC MEETING
MARCH 16, 2026



RULES OF THE ROAD

WELCOME!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION

- Be courteous
- Respect others
- Allow space for all to speak

TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK:

- Raise your hand
- Type feedback in the chat
- Fill out the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/oxonrun>



MEETING AGENDA

- TEAM INTRODUCTIONS
- PROJECT INTRODUCTION (DOEE)
- MASTERPLAN DISCUSSION (DPR + LAI)
 - MASTERPLAN INTRODUCTION
 - MASTERPLAN OUTLINE
 - OXON RUN PARK COMMUNITY CONTEXT + CONNECTIONS
 - HISTORICAL TIMELINE
 - DESIGN GOALS
 - OPPORTUNITIES / WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IN THE PARK?
- FEEDBACK

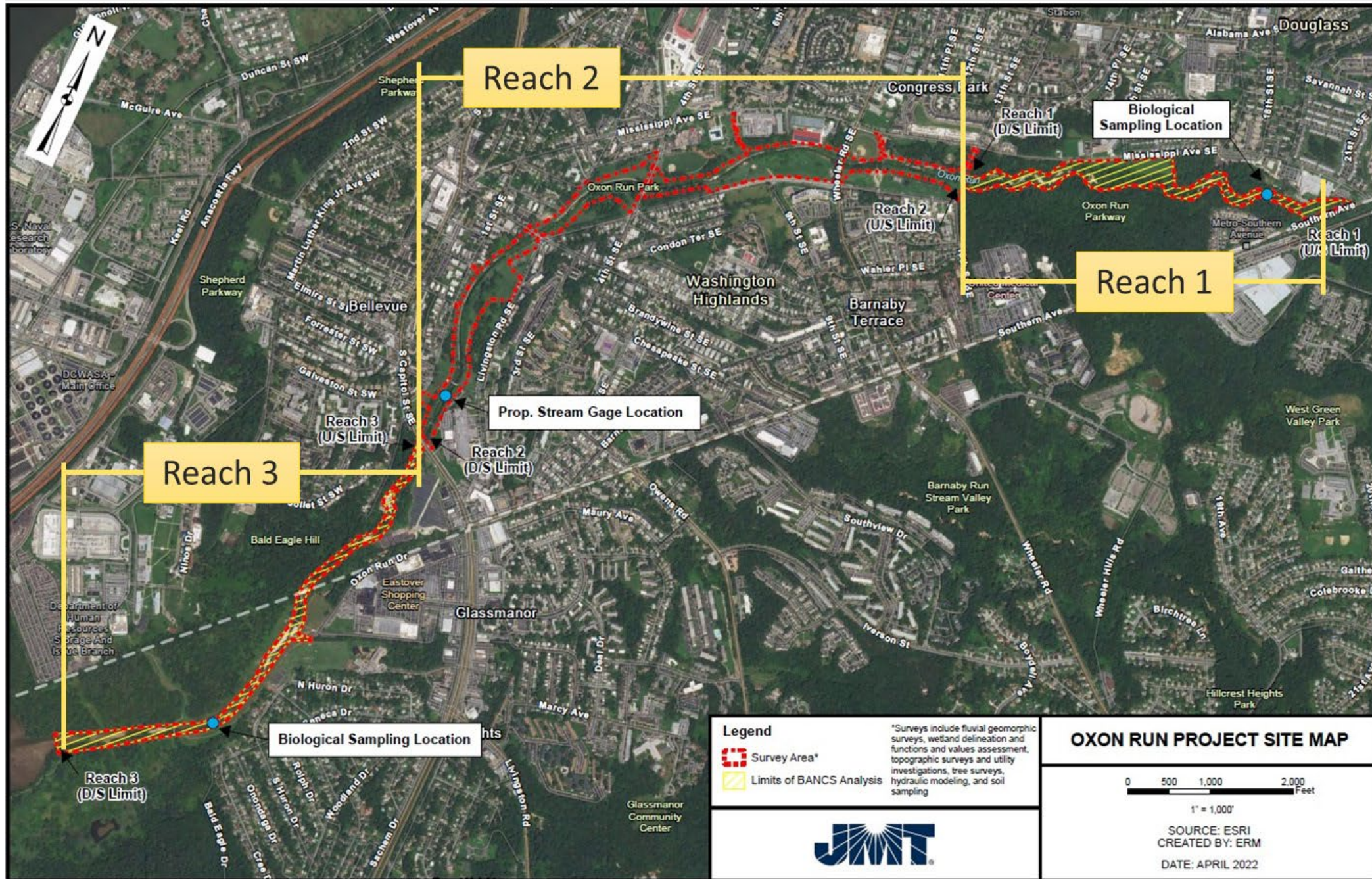
PROJECT TEAM

- JMT
- LAI
- DPR
- DOEE

OXON RUN PARK MASTER PLAN & STREAM RESTORATION DESIGNS

- COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
- 100% STREAM DESIGNS
- PARK MASTER PLAN
- NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT COMPLIANCE (NEPA)
- SEWER LINE TECHNICAL MEMO







WHAT TO EXPECT IN 2026

- PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING & PERIOD
- 60% STREAM DESIGNS
- INTEGRATION OF 60% DESIGNS & PARK MASTER PLAN
- ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT DRAFT & PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
- ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT & NPS FINAL DETERMINATION
- 90% DESIGNS
- 100% DESIGNS IN EARLY 2027

MASTERPLAN INTRODUCTION

OXON RUN PARK



Enhance **stream health** and **accessibility** for future generations and restore Oxon Run's legacy and riparian habitats.

MASTERPLAN GOALS

- Improve neighborhood climate **RESILIENCY** by mitigating flooding and improving water quality of stream and groundwater
- Stimulate outdoor educational, recreational, and creative **OPPORTUNITIES** for the community
- Reintroduce riparian and aquatic **BIODIVERSITY** and increase urban native habitats and tree canopy
- Increase safe and equitable **ACCESS** to the stream and natural spaces

MASTERPLAN DOCUMENT OUTLINE

PROLOGUE

- i. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
- ii. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS / STAKEHOLDERS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1. INTRODUCTION / PROJECT BACKGROUND
- 2. OXON RUN HISTORY AND CULTURAL LEGACY
- 3. SURROUNDING NEIGHBORHOODS
- 4. MASTERPLAN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
- 5. OXON RUN PARK SITE ANALYSIS
- 6. STREAM RESTORATION PROJECT
- 7. MASTERPLAN GOALS
- 8. DESIGN
- 9. IMPLEMENTATION
- 10. MAINTENANCE
- 11. APPENDICES



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

OXON RUN PARK



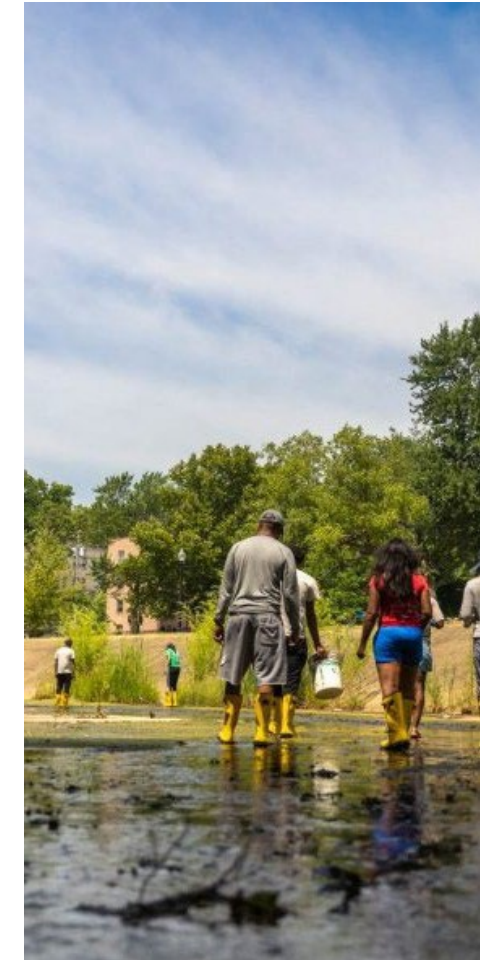
EXPERIENCES IN THE PARK

- Connections to Oxon Run
- Current experiences in Oxon Run
- Experiences the masterplan can help achieve in the park in the future

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

FRIENDS OF OXON RUN

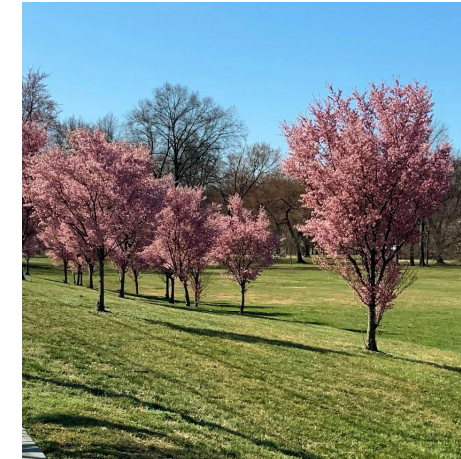
- OXON RUN DAY
- COMMUNITY CLEANUP DAY
- CONSERVATION INITIATIVES
- City Nature Challenge
- Ward 8 Water Watchers Workshop
- Mother's Peace Garden
- Cherry Blossom Trees
- Opera & Concerts
- Oxon Run Pinknic
- Forest Bathing
- Freshwater mussels from AWS?
- Learning site for DC Master Naturalist



What other initiatives have you been involved with at Oxon Run Park?

OXON RUN CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

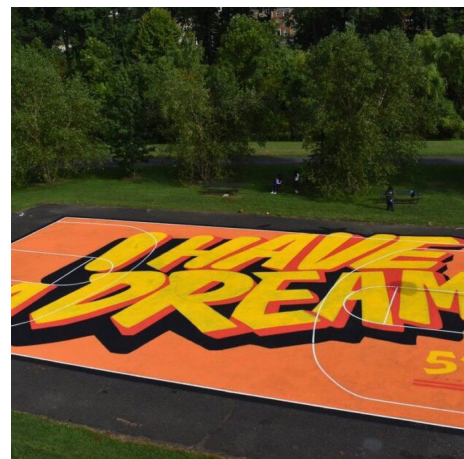
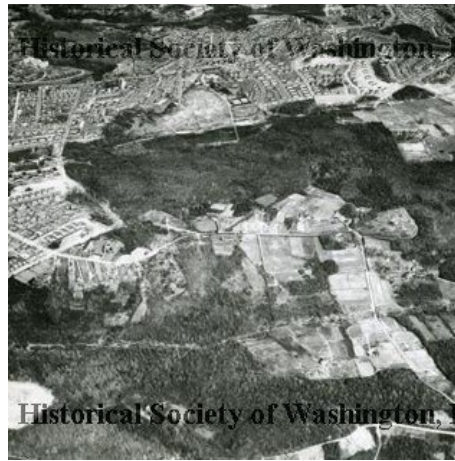
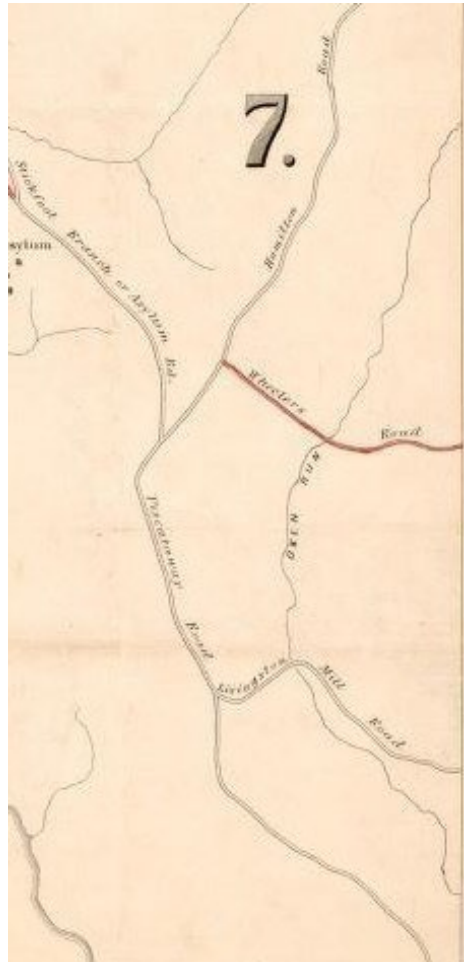
- PALEONTOLOGY: DINOSAUR ARTIFACTS
- INDIGENOUS ARTIFACTS AND HISTORY
- MANOR / PLANTATION ARTIFACTS
- TREE CONSERVATION
- LEGACY CHERRY TREE PLANTING
- JAMES E. BUNN AMPHITHEATRE
- WILLIAM O. LOCKRIDGE BASEBALL FIELD



What other places hold significance to you in Oxon Run? What is their story?

HISTORICAL TIMELINE

OXON RUN PARK



HISTORY OF THE PARK

- History of Oxon Run and the surrounding areas
- How the park landscape came to be
- What is happening in and around the park today

TIMELINE

From time immemorial, indigenous peoples have inhabited the area surrounding Oxon Run. Tribes in and around what is now known as Washington, DC area include the Piscataway, Pamunkey, and Nacotchtank/Anacostank. The closest known settlement to Oxon Run was a Nacotchtank settlement that existed along the eastern bank of the Anacostia River for centuries. They lived in this productive land which provided fish, wild game, and produce from the bountiful forest lands and their own gardens that thrived in the fertile floodplains producing corn, squash, beans, and potatoes.



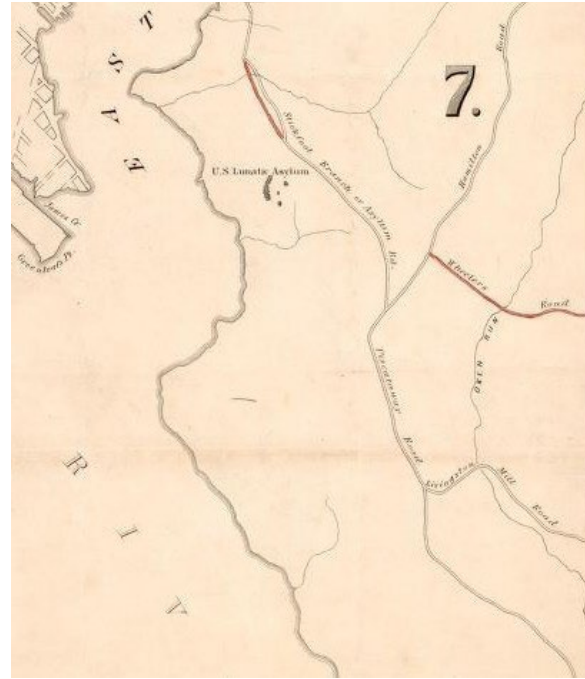
1600

HISTORIC DC MAP



1700

ENLARGEMENT FROM 1867 MAP OF THE ROADS IN WASHINGTON COUNTY, DC



1800

1870-1878

Wheeler Road, Marlboro Road, Suitland Road, and Naylor Road built

1872

Wheeler Road Bridge built as the first bridge to cross the stream

1895

Cedar Hill Cemetery / Forest Lake Cemetery established



1608

Nacochtank tribe and their trading posts, hunting grounds and fishing camps were taken over by European settlers after Captain John Smith's arrival in this area and the further European take over of their lands



CAPTION

1705

The name Oxon Run comes from Oxon Hill Manor. Royal patent granted land to English nobleman John Addison from Piscataway Creek to the Anacostia River. He built Oxon Hill Manor in 1705 overlooking Anacostia River in Oxon Cove Park (replica stands there today)



1860

Nonesuch Plantation built. Owned by the Young family it hosted many enslaved African people working fields of tobacco, fruits, and vegetables



Nonesuch, ca. 1920, DC Preservation League



1900



WALK THROUGH OXON RUN

1904

Military firing Range established in DC as part of Camp Simms

1914

Sunday Star writes "... idea to turn the valley of Oxon Run into a park, a people's play and rest ground - provide for the east what Rock Creek Park provides for the west..."

1930-1944

NCPC began purchasing strips of land along the shore of the stream to preserve Oxon Run for Oxon Run Park and also a vehicular Parkway, a road that was never built



DC Preservation League Photo Repository

1942-1944

Suitland Parkway is constructed, which goes over a portion of Oxon Run nearest its headwaters in Maryland

1949

Oxon Run channelized at Suitland Parkway

1926

Washington, DC to build dump system and transfer station near Navy Yard that will collect trash to fill Oxon Run Bay

1938

Sewer project underway at Oxon Run connecting sewage treatment plant to 2nd St at Oxon Run Interceptor, due to frequent inundation with sewage and refuse in the nearby neighborhoods



2017 PHOTOGRAPH

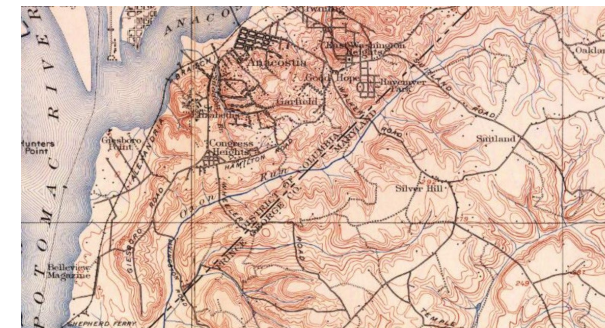
1905

Lincoln Memorial Cemetery established south of Cedar Hill Cemetery

1950



OXON RUN AERIAL VIEW



HISTORIC MAP

1953

Maryland-National Capital Park Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) purchasing land

1960s

“Summer in the Parks” brings inner city kids to an Oxon Run campground

1972

Tropical Storm Agnes caused significant flooding, 2800 feet of the stream was dredged

1984

Start of park improvements that included 5 pedestrian bridges

1986

Oxon Run golf course closed

1959

As part of Pennsylvania Ave extension the stream was realigned and placed in a concrete lined channel

1963

M-NCPPC development begins in the 27 acre Oxon Run Recreation Center at Naylor Road and Suitland Parkway

1978

Stormwater management authority constructed 7920 ft of concrete lined channel from 13th Street to South Capitol Street

1988

Land acquired for Oxon Run Parkway was set aside by the Department of Public Works for education, building multiple schools in Ward 8 and Oxon Run Park



1995

WMATA realigned the channel near Suitland parkway to construct Naylor Road Metro Station

1954

Oxon Run Golf Course built in Prince George’s County

1955

17 acres purchased for Hillcrest Heights recreation center in Maryland

1971

Land between 13 St and South Capitol St placed under DC government as Oxon Run Park

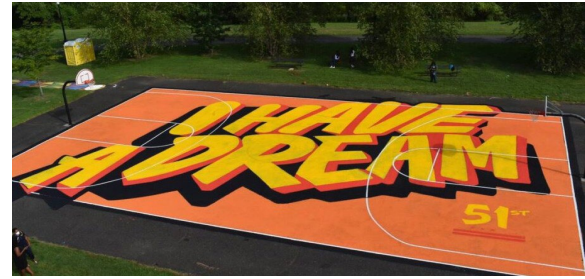
2000

2001

Southeast Tennis and Learning Center constructed; land leased to Building Bridges Across the River (nonprofit)

2005

Town Hall Education Arts Recreation Campus (THEARC) constructed on 16 acres as a home away from home for DC residents East of the River



2020

James E. Bun Amphitheater dedicated

“I have a dream” basketball court opened

2018

SE Tennis and Learning Center completes \$18M renovation

202?

Oxon Run Master Plan Report Published in ####

2016

DDOT expanded and rehabilitated trail system

2022

The Well opens

202?

Oxon Run Restoration Plan expected completion date ####



2000

200 Legacy cherry blossom trees planted in the park

2013

Ingenuity prep opened



What are we missing from your knowledge of and experience with Oxon Run Park?



MASTERPLAN GOALS

OXON RUN PARK



MASTERPLAN GOALS

- RESILIENCY
- OPPORTUNITIES
- BIODIVERSITY
- ACCESS

RESILIENCY

Improve neighborhood climate resiliency by mitigating flooding and improving water quality of stream and groundwater

1. Minimize streambank erosion and control flow of water
2. Protect neighboring residents from flooding and protect integrity of park during flood events
3. Minimize toxins and contamination in the stream and groundwater.
4. Educate the public about their role in promoting stream and environmental health.



OPPORTUNITY

Stimulate outdoor educational, recreational, and creative activities for the community



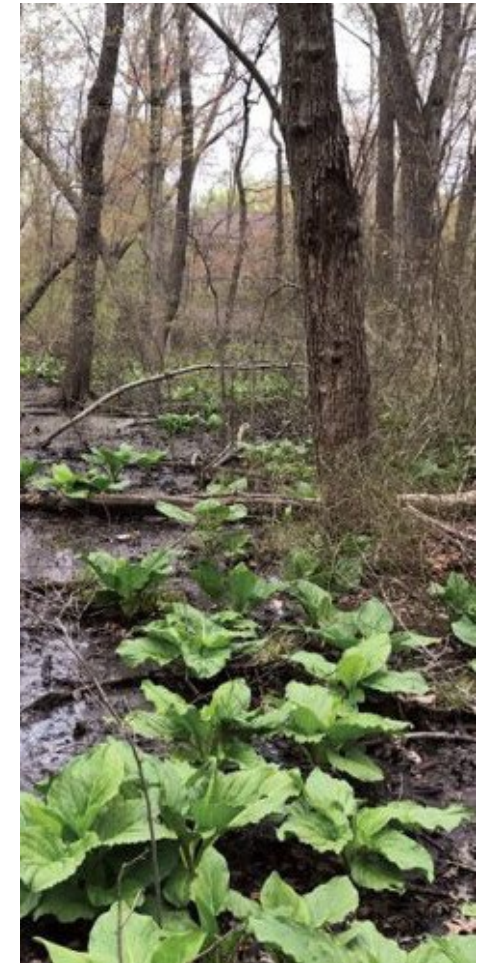
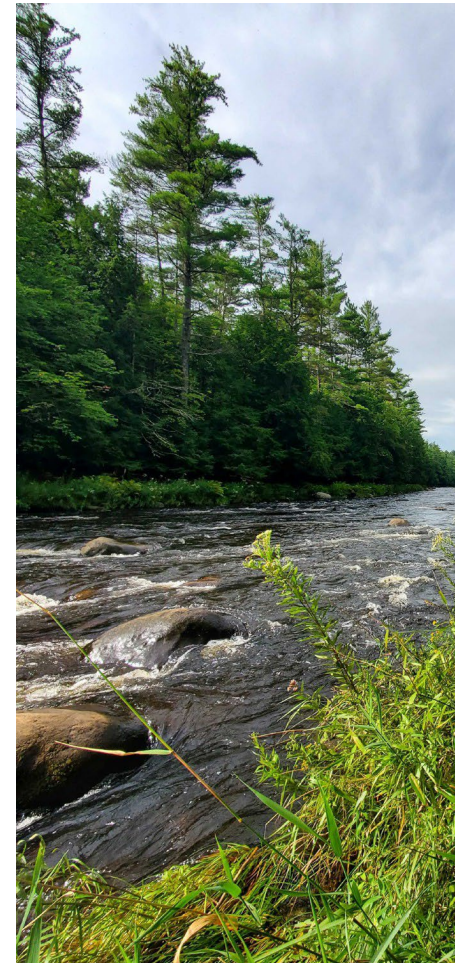
1. Improve safety and comfort for long duration use by featuring seating, lighting, public restrooms, pavilions, emergency call boxes throughout the park
2. Provide designated sports and play areas that can be flooded if within floodplain
3. Encourage intergenerational interest of nature, science and history through educational engagement and events
4. Promote healthy lifestyles through a diverse range of outdoor recreational options.
5. Address food insecurity through the protection and promotion of community gardens, food forests and fishing opportunities
6. Encourage community engagement and placemaking through public art, gardening, and tree planting opportunities
7. Create safe, intergenerational and exploratory forms of programming within natural areas



BIODIVERSITY

Reintroduce riparian and aquatic biodiversity and increase urban habitats and tree canopy

1. Preserve existing forest where possible and increase canopy and increase overall District-wide canopy cover to 40%
2. Promote biodiversity to reduce risks of pests and diseases
3. Remove invasive species through an invasive plant management plan and increase native planting throughout the park
4. Minimize lawn except for in active recreational areas
5. Increase wetland and marsh habitat to reintroduce riparian species, promote water quality and mitigate flooding
6. Protect existing cherry blossom trees and plant flowering trees along pathways and entrances to encourage access and increase visual identity of the Oxon Run



ACCESS

Increase safe and equitable access to the stream and natural spaces



Do you agree with these goals for the masterplan? Are we missing anything?

1. Enhance park entrances visually and aesthetically
2. Improve roadside safety and crosswalk safety to neighborhoods
3. Include wayfinding signage and maps in key intersections
4. Design for multi-modal access (walking, running, biking) throughout the park and natural areas
5. Design and construct trails and boardwalks to provide access to floodable areas and streambank without disrupting habitat
6. Provide interpretive signage to educate visitors about surrounding nature and history
7. Include overlooks along pathways and trails that showcase views of the stream
8. Provide safe access to the stream for all ages and abilities



Upcoming Events

OXON RUN WALK

Hosted by the Anacostia Parks & Community Collaborative, Friends of Oxon Run, and the Washington Area Bicyclist Association, this guided walk offers an opportunity to explore the park and connect with neighbors and community partners.

Date: Saturday, April 11, 2026

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Location: James Bunn Amphitheater in Oxon Run Park – 1200 Mississippi Avenue SE, Washington, DC

OXON RUN & COVE EARTH DAY CLEAN-UP

Join community members in celebrating Earth Day by helping remove litter and support stewardship efforts along the Oxon Run stream corridor.

Date: Saturday, April 25, 2026

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location: DC Village – 17 DC Village Lane SW, Washington, DC 20032

Registration Link: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2026-oxon-cove-earth-day-rivercleanup-tickets-1984292530374?aff=oddtcreator&keep_tld=true

SPRING COMMUNITY MEETING

We will soon announce the date of our next public meeting to discuss the Oxon Run Stream and Park Restoration Project. The meeting will exhibit the chosen design alternative for stream restoration and highlight how community priorities have been incorporated into the park improvement planning efforts. A virtual session will also be held to walk through the updated stream design features and discuss park improvement plans.



THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS OR FEEDBACK?

Thank you!

WAYS TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK:

CONTACT RILEY AND JOSH

riley.piva@dc.gov & josh.burch@dc.gov

FILL OUT THE SURVEY

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/oxonrun>



SHARE YOUR OXON RUN STORY

We'd love your stories, photographs, and connection with the park, please share them with us!

D P R B R I N G S T H E F U N . . . O U T S I D E W E W A N T T O H E A R F R O M Y O U !

The District of Columbia Department of Parks and Recreation is updating DC's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), and we want to hear from YOU!

The SCORP Plan gets updated every 5 years, providing planning guidance for DC's Land and Water Conservation Fund Projects.

3 ways to provide feedback:

Scan the QR code

Visit: www.surveymonkey.com/r/scorp

Leave a voicemail at: (202) 673 - 7065



What outdoor activities do you wish you had access to in DC?

What is your favorite outdoor activity?