Calendar of Events – Winter/Spring 2008

February

Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS  Friday Night Films
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
February 1, 8, 22, and 29
202-673-2402
All Ages
Join us to view a series of dynamic and provocative Friday evening films. The films will feature African Americans in various genres that focus on the arts, literacy, political consciousness, and more. Titles include:
Skin Complexion: Black Women On - The Light, Dark Thang; Embracing the Movement – Chisholm ’72 Unbought & Unbossed; Black Women in the Arts – The Edge of Each Other’s Battles: The Vision of Audre Lords; Financial Services for the African American Community – “Where Wealth Lives.”

Fort Dupont Park  Tours of the Fort by the Fort Washington Guard
11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 3
301-763-4600
All Ages
Volunteers in Civil War uniforms will provide tours of the historic fort.

Greenbelt Park – Sweetgum Picnic Area  Invasive Plant Removal
11:00 a.m.
Saturday, February 2
301-344-3944
Ages 8 to Adult
Help make a difference at Greenbelt Park by encouraging native plants to grow. Join in a hands-on nature preservation activity as we pull non-native plants.

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn  Dr. George Washington Carver Exhibit and Film
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
February 1 through February 29
301-839-1176
All Ages
Come out and discover a great African American’s tribute to agriculture. A video entitled “Carver: Man of Vision,” featuring the accomplishments of Dr. George Washington Carver, will be shown throughout the month. An on-going exhibit featuring this great man’s life will also be on display in the book store.

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn  Ground Hog Day
2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 3
301-839-1176
All Ages
Hear the story of America’s most famous ground hog. We will read stories about the small critter and host our own ceremony for this year’s prediction of how long winter will last. Will it be two more weeks of cold?
Greenbelt Park – Ranger Station  
**Celebrate Black History Month**  
10:00 a.m.  
Saturday, February 9  
All Ages  
Discover the story of Charles Young, the first African American superintendent, and his contributions to the National Park Service.

**Frederick Douglass NHS**  
**Frederick Douglass 190th Birthday Celebration**  
10:00 a.m.  
Thursday, February 14  
202-426-5961  
All Ages  
Come out and join the National Park Service as we celebrate the 190th anniversary of the birthday of the great orator, abolitionist, and spokesman. Human rights activist and Radio One-WOL-AM personality, Joe Madison, known as “The Black Eagle,” will be the keynote speaker. Witness winning orations presented by the 2007 Frederick Douglass Oratorical Contest participants. Musical selections will be performed.

**Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens**  
**Love is in the Air**  
Visitor Center  
10:00 a.m.  
Saturday, February 16  
202-426-6905  
All Ages  
Spring has already sprung! Did you miss it? Come listen for bird mating calls and see what is blooming in the trees that often go unnoticed. Take an easy walk around the lily ponds, weather permitting.

**Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn**  
**“Okra”**  
1:30 p.m.  
Saturday, February 16  
301-839-1176  
All Ages  
Come to Oxon Hill Farm and learn the cooking techniques and history of “Okra,” a vegetable brought to the new world from Africa via the slave trade. All visitors will receive a free recipe.

**Greenbelt Park – Ranger Station**  
**Celebrate Black History Month**  
10:00 a.m.  
Saturday, February 16  
All Ages  
Discover the story of Charles Young, the first African American superintendent, and his contributions to the National Park Service.

**Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn**  
**President’s Day**  
2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Sunday, February 17  
301-839-1176  
Ages 7 to 13  
Join a park ranger on the farm to discuss some of the former presidents of the United States. We will explore the stories of some of the presidents who had an important role in the beginning of our country. Do you know which president had the greatest influence in founding the National Park Service?

**Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens**  
**Beavers in the Spring**  
Visitor Center  
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
Sunday, February 17  
202-426-6905  
All Ages  
Join Park Ranger Kate Bucco to view a video of a baby beaver. After looking at the stuffed beaver on display, we’ll walk to the beaver dam to see how the beavers spent their winter months. What impact do the beavers have on the park? Program canceled in inclement weather.

**Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens**  
**Black Scientist Exhibit**  
Visitor Center  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
February 19 through 29  
202-426-6905  
All Ages  
Come out to view a video and photo display featuring the inventions and contributions African American scientists have made to society.

**Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn**  
**Discovering the Underground Railroad**  
1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
Saturday, February 23  
301-839-1176, R.S.V.P. required  
Ages 8 to 12  
Discover what it was like for an enslaved African American to escape along the Underground Railroad in search of freedom. Learn about some of the slaves who used a secret language to help gain their freedom. Participants will receive a packet to earn a Junior Ranger Badge for the Underground Railroad.
Celebrate African American History at Mount Welby

Saturday, February 24
12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
301-839-1176, R.S.V.P. required
Ages 7 to 13

Through discussion, song, and story telling, we will explore the cultural contributions made by the African Americans who lived on Oxon Hill Farm, known as the Mount Welby Plantation in the early 1800’s.

March

Frederick Douglass NHS
Women’s History Month Exhibit
“Right is of No Sex”

March 1 through March 31
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Ages 13 to Adult

This visitor center exhibit will portray the role of Frederick Douglass and the men and women who came together to fight for women’s rights. Learn about Douglass and his dedication to the Women’s Suffrage Movement; from the first women’s rights convention at Seneca Falls in 1848 until his death in 1895.

Greenbelt Park - Sweetgum Picnic Area
Invasive Plant Removal

March 1
11:00 a.m.
Ages 8 to Adult

Help make a difference at Greenbelt Park by encouraging native plants to grow. Join in a hands-on nature preservation activity as we pull non-native plants.

Fort Washington Park
Tours of the Fort by the Fort Washington Guard

March 2
11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Ages All

Volunteers in Civil War uniforms will provide tours of the historic fort.

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn
Women’s History Month Exhibit

March 1 through March 31
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Ages All

Join a park ranger to discuss the accomplishments of women who have made a significant impact on the history of America. We will discuss the contributions of Harriet Tubman, Clara Barton, Sojourner Truth, Mary McLeod Bethune, and more.

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn
River Wildlife and Traveling Trash

March 8
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Ages All

Join a park ranger for a scavenger hunt to see what wildlife we can find along the Potomac River. Learn how trash makes its way into the river and what we can do to keep the water clean and safe for wildlife. Wear protective clothing.

March 16
2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Ages All

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn
Maple Syrup

Join a park ranger as we explore beavers and their habitats.

Join a park ranger to discuss the accomplishments of women who have made a significant impact on the history of America. We will discuss the contributions of Harriet Tubman, Clara Barton, Sojourner Truth, Mary McLeod Bethune, and more.

Join a park ranger for a scavenger hunt to see what wildlife we can find along the Potomac River. Learn how trash makes its way into the river and what we can do to keep the water clean and safe for wildlife. Wear protective clothing.

Take a short walk with a park ranger on the boardwalk that overlooks the marsh to observe how plants and water combined make a seasonal home for migratory birds, and a permanent home for muskrat, beaver, fox, and other animals.

March 9
11:00 a.m.
Ages All

Join a park ranger as we explore beavers and their habitats.

Try your hand at collecting maple syrup from some of the maple trees out on the farm. We will create our own collection containers and place them on the trees. Make sure to dress warm and wear clothes you are willing to get soiled. Come back to visit us at the farm in May to see how much syrup we were able to collect.
Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn
Help Celebrate National Agricultural Day
11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Thursday, March 20
301-839-1176
All Ages
Come out and meet our park rangers, stationed throughout the farm, and celebrate farm life. Learn fun facts about farms and agriculture.

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn
Rabbit Review
1:00 p.m.
Saturday, March 22
301-839-1176
All Ages
Are you receiving a pet bunny for Easter this year? Come and meet rabbit breeders and learn about the proper care and handling of your pet rabbit.

Fort Washington Park
Laundresses at Fort Washington
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Saturday March 22 and Saturday, March 29
Talks held every 30 minutes
301-763-4600
All Ages
Laundry day has never been fun. The military laundresses of Fort Washington needed strong hands and strong backs in the 19th century. Before the modern inventions of washing machines and indoor plumbing, military laundresses cleaned the laundry by their sweat and toil. Lye soap, scrub boards, and pails of water were a few of the tools of their trade. Join Park Guide Bambi Sears as she tells the history of these women.

Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS
Bethune Lecture
Time: TBA
Thursday, March 27
202-673-2402
All Ages
Come and hear a lecture by academic scholar, historian, and distinguished professor, Dr. Frankie Hutton. The theme for the lecture is, “Women’s Art, Women’s Vision.” Dr. Hutton recently taught American and African American history at Howard University and Bowie State University and is the author of The Early Black Press in America and co-author of Outsiders in 19th Century Press History.

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens
Children’s Stories
Visitor Center
10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Saturday, March 29
202-426-5961
Ages 5 to 13
Join Park Ranger Deborah Kirkley as she reads nature stories and explores the life of animals.

Greenbelt Park – Ranger Station
A Tribute to Wilma Rudolph
10:00 a.m.
Sunday, March 30
301-344-3944, R.S.V.P. required
All Ages
Celebrate Women’s History Month and discover the inspiring story of Wilma Rudolph, the first American woman to win three gold medals in one Olympics.

April

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn
Insects & Spiders Exhibit
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
April 1 through April 30
301-839-1176
All ages
There are insects and spiders of all colors and sizes. Come and discover their origin and see where they live on the farm. The exhibit is located in the Visitor Barn book store.

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn
Special Wagon Rides
10:30 a.m.
Wednesdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
301-839-1176
All Ages
Come out and take a wagon ride through the park and enjoy the natural settings of the farm land.

Fort Washington Park – Visitor Center
Spring Has Sprung Exhibit
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
April 1 through April 30
301-763-4600
All Ages
The exhibit will introduce the spring residents of Fort Washington Park.
April 5th – Volunteer in the Park You Love

Fort Washington Park  
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
301-763-4600  
All Ages
Join your neighbors in cleaning up the shores of Fort Washington Park. Please wear long pants, long-sleeved shirts, and work boots.

Fort Washington Park  
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
301-763-4600  
Ages 8 to Adult
Volunteer to assist the staff in removing debris from the casemates of historic Fort Washington. Please dress appropriately. Meet at the park’s visitor center.

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn  
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
301-839-1176, R.S.V.P. required  
All Ages
Volunteers will join forces with a park ranger in caring for our valuable natural resources. Wear sturdy shoes and work clothes, and bring lots of energy. Participate in this event and earn community service credits.

Greenbelt Park  
11:00 a.m.  
301-344-3944, R.S.V.P. required  
All Ages
Join us to help clean up our part of the Potomac Watershed. Wear appropriate clothing.

Greenbelt Park – Sweetgum Picnic Area  
Help make a difference at Greenbelt Park by encouraging native plants to grow. Join in a hands-on nature preservation activity as we pull non-native plants.

Fort Washington Park  
10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
Sunday, April 6,  
301-763-4600  
All Ages
On this first day of the season’s artillery demonstrations, volunteers learn and refresh their memories on the proper procedures on how to load and fire the park’s Civil War cannons. Cannon firing throughout the day.

Fort Washington Park  
6:30p.m. to 9:00p.m.  
Saturday, April 12  
301-763-4600  
All Ages
See Fort Washington as it appeared in 1861. Join the Fort Washington Guard for evening tours of the historic fort. Tours leave the visitor center every 30 minutes, last tour leaves at 8:30 p.m.

Frederick Douglass NHS  
Douglass Home front porch  
1:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, April 16  
202-426-5961, R.S.V.P. required  
All Ages
Join the Anacostia Community Museum at the Frederick Douglass NHS for a living history presentation. Witness actors bring Douglass to life at Cedar Hill, final home of the famed abolitionist. Reservations are encouraged.
Celebrate National Park Week

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn
2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 19
301-839-1176
All Ages

Celebrate National Park Week with a park ranger at Oxon Hill farm. Everyone is invited to join in the story telling hour. Bring photos of your trips to America’s national parks. Want to know the story of how America came to be the first nation with national parks? Join us to find out some history of the National Park Service and discuss some of America’s favorite parks.

Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS
Arrowhead Talks
12:00 p.m.
April 19 through April 27
202-673-2402
All Ages

Come out and hear a park ranger discuss the rich and diverse history found in local and national parks. Explore National Park sites connected to the Civil Rights era and women’s history. Throughout the week, presentations will cover the history of the National Park Service, the arrowhead as our national symbol, and our role as stewards of American history.

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn
Recycled Art
12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 20
301-839-1176
All Ages

Join us in celebrating Earth Day by creating a craft using recycled materials. Discover how to help our planet by reusing materials to reduce waste.

Greenbelt Park – Ranger Station
How the U.S. Army helped National Parks
1:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 20
301-344-3944, R.S.V.P. required
All Ages

Celebrate National Park Week by exploring the how the U.S. Army helped to preserve the very first parklands.

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn
Tiny Tots Junior Ranger Finale
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Saturday April 26
301-839-1176
All Ages

Come and celebrate National Junior Ranger Day by supporting our youngest preschool junior rangers at a ceremony as they complete the program and are sworn in as Oxon Cove Park Junior Rangers, presented with badges, and given certificates.

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens
Earth Day Event – Volunteers Needed
Visitor Center
8:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 26
202-426-6905
All Ages

Join us to help improve the environment at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens. We will provide boots, gloves, and tools. A parent or guardian is required for children ages 10 and under. This event will be held rain or shine.

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn
Historical Farm Equipment Display
12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 27
301-839-1176
All Ages

Did you ever wonder what a strange looking piece of farm equipment was used for? Take a walking tour and learn how technology has changed from horse to machine power.

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn
Women and the Power of the Pen
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., Saturday, April 26
301-839-1176, R.S.V.P. required
Ages 8-12
Explore how the letters of Mrs. Debutts, the mistress of Mount Welby, has given insight on what life was like during the early 1800’s on the Mount Welby Plantation. We will also explore how women have used their personal writings as a way to assert themselves in a world that seemed to have no place for them.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™
The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.