

Resolution No.: 18-1096
Introduced: April 17, 2018
Adopted: April 24, 2018

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

Lead Sponsor: Council President Riemer and Councilmember Rice

SUBJECT: Resolution to proclaim 2018 to be “The Year of the Anacostia”

Background:

1. The Anacostia River watershed encompasses 176 square miles, more than one-third of which is located in Montgomery County.
2. Montgomery County is home to dozens of miles of Anacostia tributary streams in four of the river’s principal subwatersheds: Northwest Branch, Sligo Creek, Paint Branch, and Little Paint Branch.
3. Early citizens of Montgomery County utilized the Anacostia River for domestic and foreign trade, building the prosperity of the county.
4. The Anacostia watershed is home to nearly 500 species of fish, mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates.
5. Regrettably, the Anacostia watershed struggled with intolerable levels of pollution for many years. The pollution degraded the health of the river and negatively affected the communities in its watershed.
6. In 1988 Montgomery County joined the District of Columbia, Prince Georges County, and the State of Maryland in a formal agreement to participate in the restoration of the Anacostia River.
7. In 2012 Montgomery County produced a comprehensive roadmap for Anacostia watershed restoration targeting runoff management; bacteria, sediment, and nutrient reduction; and trash and litter management.
8. Over the past several decades Montgomery County residents have generously supported the cleaning and restoration of the Anacostia River with their financial resources.

9. Montgomery County residents enjoy the scenic parklands and trails managed by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission adjacent to the Anacostia's tributary streams and frequently travel to the National Park Service's Anacostia Park for boating and recreation.
10. In March 2018 DC Water will open the first stage of the Anacostia Tunnel, substantially reducing pollution in the Anacostia River and opening up safer recreational opportunities in and around the river.
11. August 31, 2018, will be the 100th Anniversary of the federal law setting aside more than 1,200 acres of riverside land as Anacostia Park.
12. Residents of Montgomery County enjoy attending Washington Nationals baseball games at Nationals Park adjacent to the Anacostia, and look forward to the 2018 opening of a new professional soccer stadium just a block from the river.

Action:

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland, approves the following resolution:

County Council joins our fellow jurisdictions in the Anacostia watershed in proclaiming 2018 to be the "The Year of the Anacostia." The Council also encourages the residents of Montgomery County to help restore, protect, and enjoy the Anacostia River and its tributary streams and surrounding public lands as we envision an inspiring future for the Anacostia River watershed.

This is a correct copy of Council action.


Megan Davey Limarzi, Esq.
Clerk of the Council