

Washington D.C.

Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage



LWCF Funded Places in Washington D.C.

Federal Units

- Carter Woodson Home NHS
- Chesapeake and Ohio NHP
- Ford's Theatre NHS
- Fredrick Douglass NHS
- National Capital Parks-East
- Mary McLeod Bethune NHS

Federal Total \$938,606

State Programs

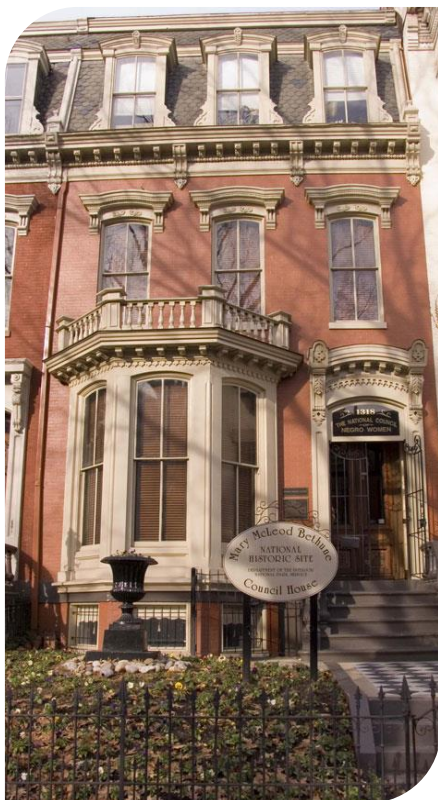
Stateside \$14,986,842

Total \$15,925,448

LWCF Success in Washington D.C.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has provided funding to help protect some of Washington, D.C.'s most special places and ensure recreational access for hiking, cycling, fishing and other outdoor activities. Washington, D.C. has received approximately \$15.9 million in LWCF funding over the past five decades, protecting places such as the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, Mary McLeod Bethune NHS, and National Capital Parks-East.

LWCF state assistance grants have further supported hundreds of projects across Washington, D.C.'s local parks including Mitchell Park Playground, Randall Recreation Center, and the East Potomac Park Swimming Pool. Additionally, the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program (ORLP), has annual funding opportunities for city park projects in economically disadvantaged areas.



Economic Benefits

Active outdoor recreation is an important part of Washington D.C.'s economy. The Bureau of Economic Analysis has found that outdoor recreation generates \$1.4 billion in value added to D.C.'s economy, 11,933 homegrown jobs, and accounts for .9% of the district's economy.



LWCF in Washington D.C.

Kenilworth Park and Aquatic Gardens

Visitors and residents of Washington, D.C. experience the natural habitat of the area at the beautifully preserved Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens. This wetland helps mitigate pollution, reduces flood damage, and alleviates risks from climate change. As part of the National Capital Parks East, this park which has hiking trails, boardwalks, and comprehensive environmental education resources, has received a portion of the \$2.5 million of LWCF awarded to the District's network of parks. In addition to many events over the year, members of the D.C. Garden Club plant thousands of lotus each spring, a one-of-a-kind spectacle that draws visitors from across town and around the world.

LWCF is a simple idea: that a portion of offshore drilling fees should be used to protect important land and water for all Americans. These are not taxpayer dollars.

Unfortunately, for 55 years the promise of LWCF was broken as \$22 billion was diverted from the program.

The **Great American Outdoors Act** ended the diversion and ensures that LWCF's permanently authorized \$900 million is used for conservation and recreation projects each year.

LWCF supports the acquisition of land and conservation easements to **protect our national parks, wildlife refuges, forests, trails, and BLM sites**, grants funds to the states for local and state park needs, protects critical wildlife habitat, watersheds and recreational access, and conserves working farms, ranches and forestlands that enhance local economies.



www.lwcfcoalition.org



Status of the Land and Water Conservation Fund

In August 2020, permanent, dedicated funding for LWCF was secured through the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) – ensuring that each year the \$900 million deposited into the LWCF account is directed to conservation and recreation priorities; however, in FY24 Congress backtracked on that promise when they rescinded \$94 million of unobligated LWCF funding (\$89M from the NPS State & Local Assistance Program & \$5M from BLM). GAOA has not eliminated the backlog of LWCF priorities that are waiting in line as nearly all LWCF programs remain oversubscribed - each year the LWCF supplemental project list includes about \$200 million in urgent needs that are authorized to use this funding. To support these critical projects, unspent LWCF funding should be reallocated to the states by the Secretary of the Interior (per the LWCF Act) or reprogrammed by Congress to LWCF sub-programs with outstanding funding need. If funding is rescinded rather than reallocated or reprogrammed, landowners and communities miss out on LWCF funding, and these critical priorities could be lost forever.

FY25 Budget Update: The Biden Administration's FY25 budget proposal included detailed LWCF priority project lists and balanced program allocations, as well supplemental project lists over and above LWCF's current \$900 million funding level. [Click here to view a map of past LWCF projects](#)