



**PARKS &
PEOPLE**
FOUNDATION



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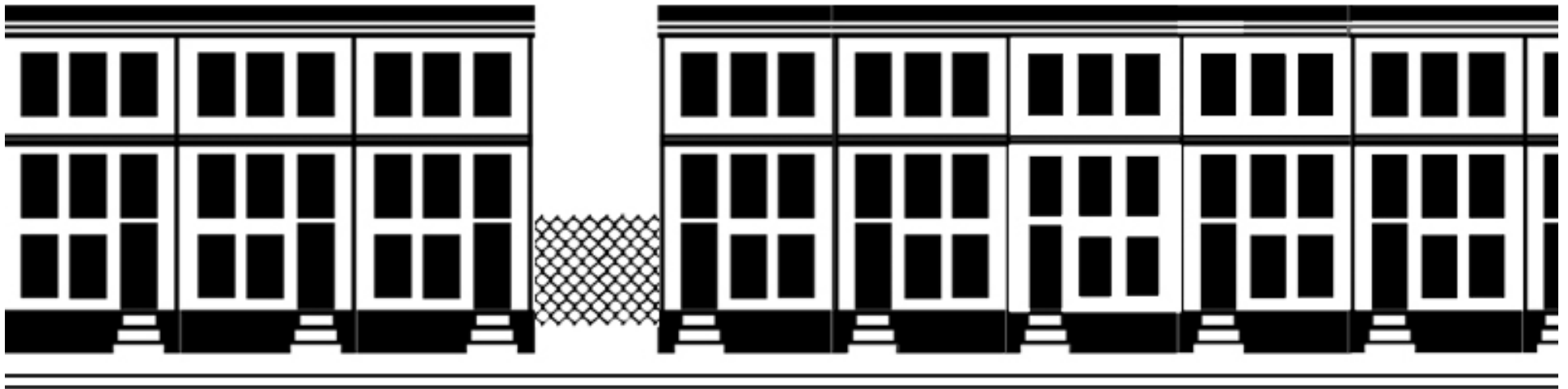
Mission:

Parks & People Foundation is dedicated to supporting a wide range of recreational and educational opportunities; creating and sustaining beautiful and lively parks; and promoting a healthy natural environment for Baltimore



ONE PARK

The Story of a City.













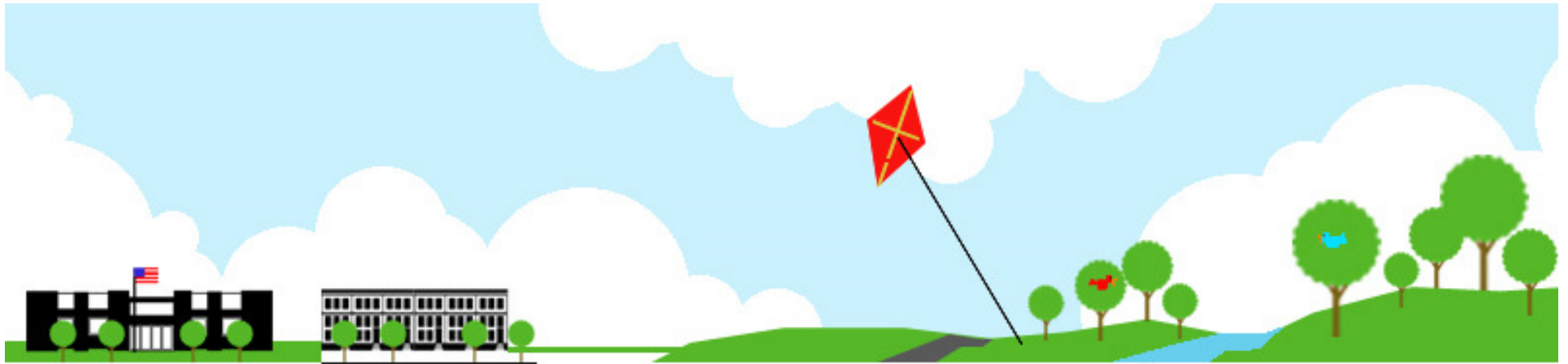












The Story of a City within a Park...



One Park

A concept for the renewal and use of parks and open space in the City of Baltimore

- addressing public health needs.
- improving environmental health.
- unifying our diverse citizens and neighborhoods.
- enhancing urban aesthetics.
- marketing our open spaces to potential users.
- creating incentives for individuals, corporations and organizations to achieve this public goal.
- leveraging resources and assets.

Advancing One Park

Parks & People pursues its vision of a healthy environment where people live, work, learn and play by targeting two fields of endeavor:

- *Motivating Youth* programs nurture children and supports communities by working together to provide enriching activities for youth such as a summer camp, sports leagues and afterschool programs.
- *Great Parks, Clean Streams & Green Communities* improves the quality of neighborhoods through greening activities and forming networks among communities to sustain natural resources with primary areas of focus including parks, urban forestry, community greening and clean water initiatives.

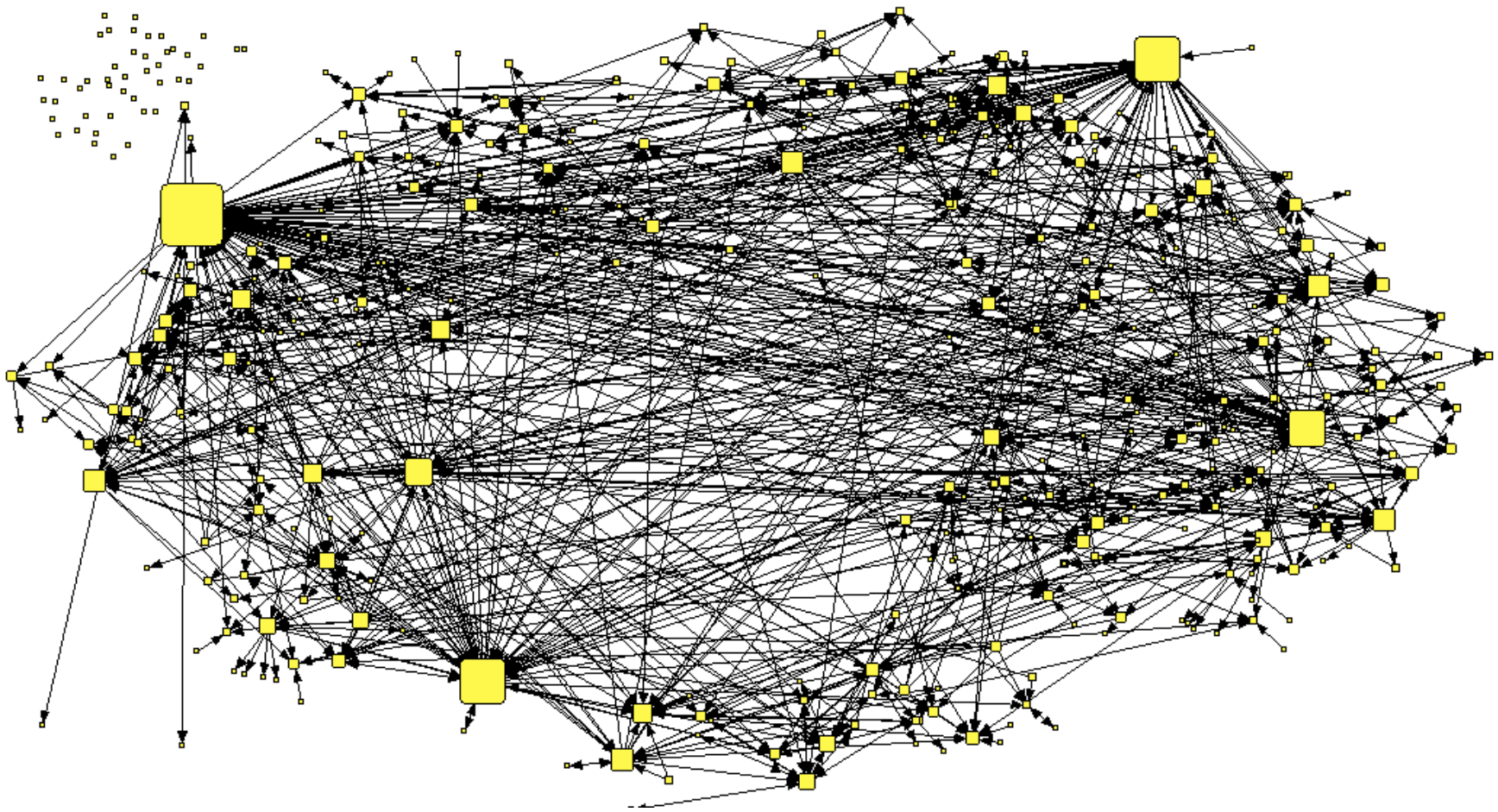


Image from “Preliminary Results of the Baltimore City
Stewardship Mapping & Assessment Project (Stew-MAP)”
presentation by Michele Romolini, Ph.D.
(January,3 2013)

Motivating Youth

- Sport programs
- Summer camps
 - SuperKids Camp
 - Read to Succeed



Motivating Youth

Resources for Educators and Schools

- SHEP: Schoolyard Habitat & Education Program
- Nature field trips on the Gwynns Falls Trail



Motivating Youth

Environmental Education

School-based after school
and summer programs:

- KidsGrow
- Project B.L.U.E.:
Baltimore Lessons in
Urban Ecosystems



Great Parks, Clean Stream & Green Communities

Partnership for Parks: A public-private partnership run jointly with Dept. of Recreation and Parks

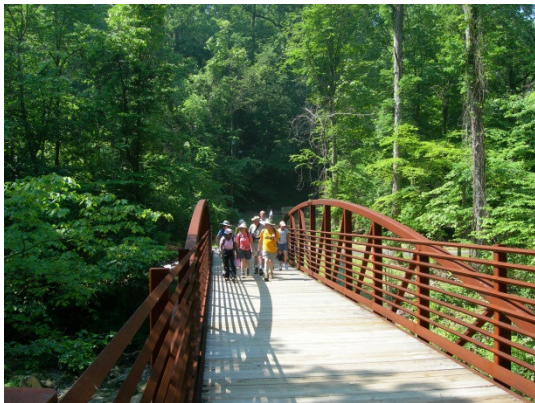


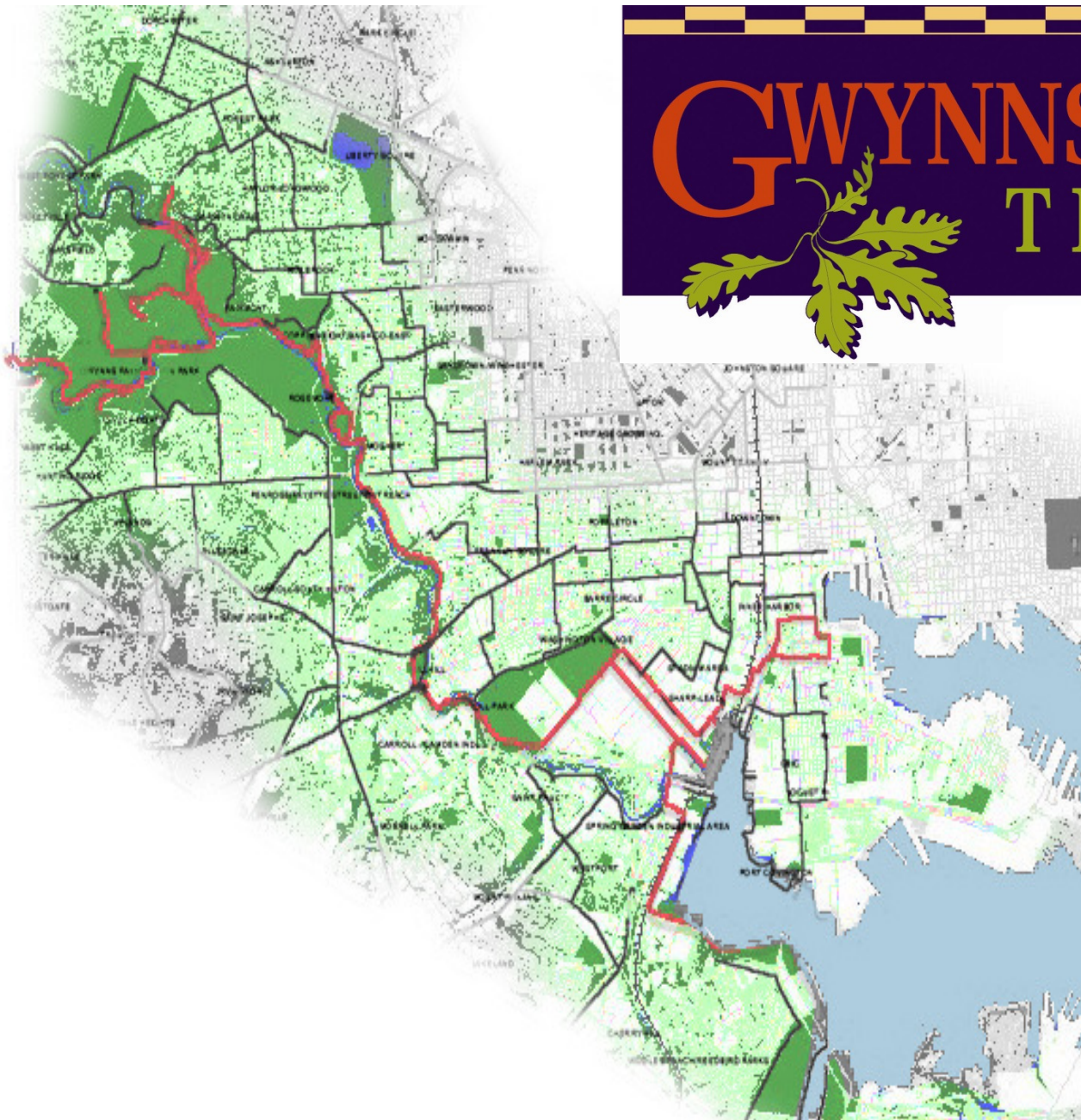
- A volunteer program operated by Parks & People
- A small grants program operated by Parks & People and funded by Recreation & Parks
- A close working relationship between Parks & People and Recreation & Parks' Office of Partnerships

Great Parks, Clean Streams & Green Communities

Park & Trail Creation and Restoration

- Gwynns Fall Trail: 15 mile long hiker/biker trail





GWYNNS FALLS TRAIL



East Coast



Greenway®

Great Parks, Clean Streams & Green Communities

Park & Trail Creation and Restoration

- Auchentroloy Terrace - Druid Hill Park

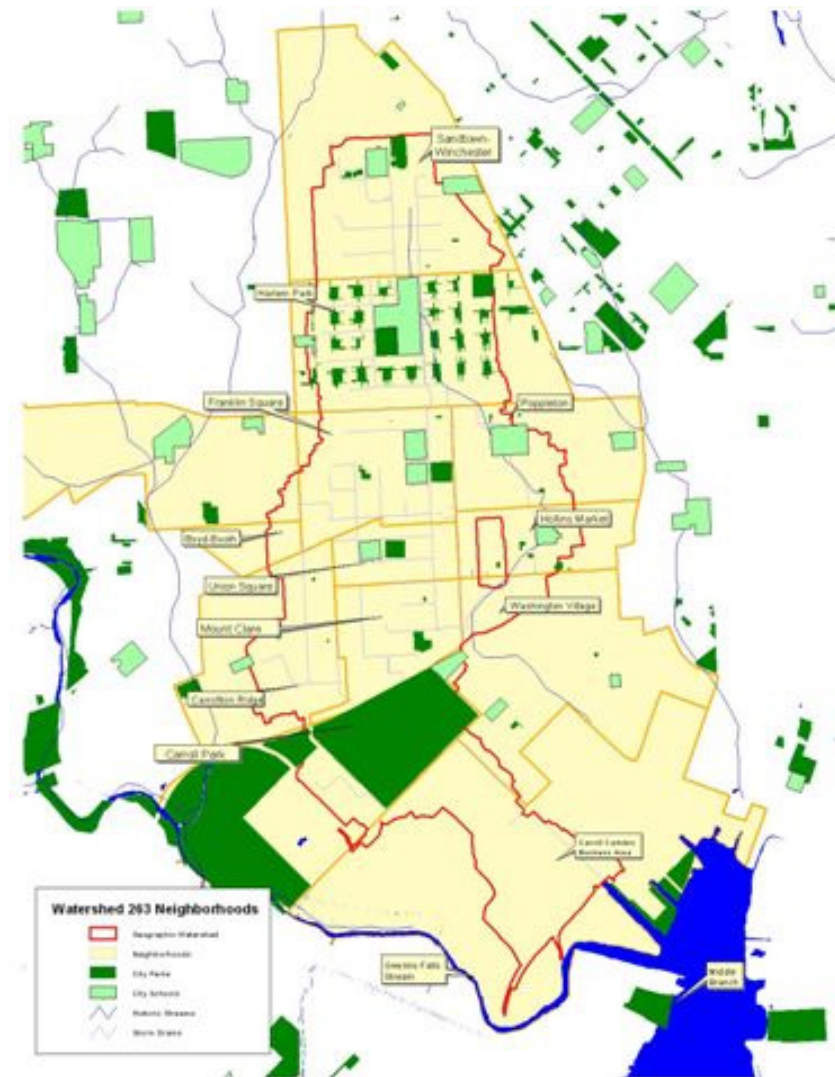


Great Parks, Clean Streams & Green Communities

Watershed 263

Thirteen neighborhoods in West/Southwest Baltimore

- Population of 31,644 people
- Economically challenged communities
- Entirely urbanized: mixed industrial, institutional, and residential land uses
- High levels impervious surface (75%) and low tree canopy (5.9%)
- Dispersed public open space and over 2000 vacant lots
- Large food swamps and food deserts



Great Parks, Clean Streams & Green Communities

Watershed 263

- Connected by a shared natural resource boundary
- Social and ecological revitalization
 - Watershed 263 Council



Great Parks, Clean Streams & Green Communities

Water Quality Projects



Arlington Elementary School



Gilmor Homes

Great Parks, Clean Streams & Green Communities

- Healthy Harbor partner
- Mini-Grants
- Community plans
- Pilot strategies
- Volunteer activities



Great Parks, Clean Streams & Green Communities

Community Forestry

- History
- Current initiatives
 - TreeBaltimore partner
 - Schoolyard plantings,
 - Giveaways
 - Special projects
 - 1812 Trees



Great Parks, Clean Streams & Green Communities

Community Forestry

- Neighborhood TreeVision
 - Technical and planning assistance
 - Trees
 - Training in:
 - Basic planting and care
 - Volunteer engagement
 - Fundraising
 - Promotions
 - Volunteer leadership



Great Parks, Clean Streams & Green Communities

Neighborhood Greening Grants (formerly Community Greening Grants)

- Community-led neighborhood revitalization through greening
- Up to \$1,000
- Spring & Fall rounds
- Types of projects include:
edible gardens, streetscaping, schoolyard greening, tree planting, pocket parks, sign bed planting, clean-ups and more
- Offers capacity-building resources and technical assistance

Community Grants 1996–2013	
Total Award	\$651,080
Total Requested	\$870,223
Total Grants Awarded	832
Total Grant Applications	1,061
Number of Community Organizations	451

Great Parks, Clean Streams & Green Communities



A Mayoral initiative that partners with Parks & People to build capacity in Baltimore communities to adopt city-owned vacant lots and turn them into community managed green and open spaces



Vacant lot at North Avenue and N. Castle Street



New garden in Upton

Great Parks, Clean Streams & Green Communities



- Membership network for gardeners and greeners
 - About 175 member gardens and green spaces
 - Member benefits - resources, education and connections
 - Give-away days, tool libraries, workshops, social and networking events, newsletter and calendar, member workdays and more
- Partners and Connections:
 - Members to members; member to organizations with resources
 - Institutional connections to gardeners
 - Central place for donation distribution

Great Parks, Clean Streams & Green Communities

Green Career Ladder

Provides opportunities for environmental education and green career development from Kindergarten through college and eventually full-time employment.

- Elementary and Middle School
 - Environmental Education Programs
- High School
 - BRANCHES YouthWorks/CJC
- College
 - URI
- Career
 - Employment Opportunities at Parks & People



Great Parks, Clean Streams & Green Communities

BRANCHES: Building Resources and Nurturing Community Health & Environmental Stewardship

- Ages 14-21
- Career development, training and outdoor recreational enrichment opportunities
- Engages youth living in public housing
- Year-round program

Summer Programs

Recruit through YouthWorks and others for summer positions in:

- Environmental management and landscaping skill development
- Environmental education
- Peer mentorship
- Outdoor recreation

Great Parks, Clean Streams & Green Communities

URI: Urban Resources Initiative

- Developed in partnership with Baltimore Dept. of Recreation & Parks, US Forest Service, Baltimore Ecosystems Study and academic institutions
- College internship program
- Project examples:
 - hands -on: recreation in parks
 - research: deer control strategies in forested areas
 - social/organizing: garden inventory



Great Parks, Clean Streams & Green Communities

Landscape & Tree Services

- Wide range of services:
 - Garden design, planting and maintenance
 - Lawn services
 - Landscaping
 - Tree brokerage
 - Tree and shrub planting and maintenance
 - Asphalt removal
 - and more



Key Points

- Partnership
- Incubate
- Create networks and connections
- Be opportunistic: take advantage of trends and priorities when possible
- Inclusiveness → sustainable projects
- Change behaviors and perspectives rather than focusing on actions



PARKS & PEOPLE FOUNDATION

With questions about this presentation, please contact:
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www.parksandpeople.org

