



ANACOSTIA WATERSHED SOCIETY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Mike Bento, AWS Communications
(202) 320-3174

Mike@EngageStrategies.us

Anacostia Watershed Society Featured in Nature Conservancy Video

Classrooms across America will learn about innovative green technology projects in the Anacostia Watershed

Washington DC – March 16, 2016 – The Anacostia River and the work of the Anacostia Watershed Society are prominently featured in a new video by The Nature Conservancy, “*Sustainable Cities: Nature-Based Solutions in Urban Design.*”

The video comes as part of the latest unit in The Nature Conservancy’s [Nature Works Everywhere](#) curriculum program, accompanied by an extensive lesson plan and interactive tools and activities that align to academic standards and can be customized for each classroom.

In the video, TNC staffers Kahlil Kettering and Jerome Cunningham join AWS scientist Masaya Maeda for a boat tour of the river as Masaya conducts his weekly water quality sampling. Kahlil and Jerome also visit First United Methodist Church in Hyattsville to see how rain gardens and other forms of low impact development can help reduce the amount of polluted runoff that reaches the Anacostia River. The redevelopment of the First United Methodist Church parking lot was led by AWS, under a grant from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, with additional support provided by The Nature Conservancy. Kahlil and Jerome also visited William Wirt Middle School in Riverdale where AWS has designed and built a regenerative storm water conveyance, a system that imitates natural processes to help manage and treat storm water from a 36 inch outfall pipe.

“Education is one of the key strategies for restoring the Anacostia River to fishable and swimmable by 2025, and we’re thrilled that The Nature Conservancy has been able to incorporate our work into education programs that will reach students across the nation,” said Ariel Trahan, Director of Education Programs at AWS. “We will be

incorporating these terrific materials into our own work in classrooms in DC and Maryland.”

“Through partnerships with highly effective grassroots organizations like the Anacostia Watershed Society, The Nature Conservancy pursues non-confrontational, pragmatic, market-based solutions to conservation challenges,” said Angela Brisson, Nature Works Everywhere Program Manager at The Nature Conservancy. “And by training students in these methods, we’re building the next generation of stewards of our planet.”

The video and all the curriculum materials can be accessed at no cost at:

<https://natureworkseverywhere.org/resources/sustainable-cities/>

About the Anacostia Watershed Society (AWS)

The mission of the Anacostia Watershed Society is to protect and restore the Anacostia River and its watershed communities by cleaning the water, recovering the shores, and honoring the heritage. The vision is to make the Anacostia River and its tributaries swimmable and fishable by 2025, in keeping with the Clean Water Act, for the health and enjoyment of everyone in the community. Community involvement is critical to achieving this vision and AWS seeks strong partnerships and coalitions with all parts of the community, government, and other stakeholders. Anacostia Watershed Society’s programs include environmental education, stewardship, recreation, and engaging the community through advocacy and volunteer opportunities. www.anacostiaws.org

About The Nature Conservancy

The Nature Conservancy is a leading conservation organization working around the world to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends. Visit The Nature Conservancy on the web at www.nature.org. To learn about the Conservancy’s global initiatives, visit www.nature.org/global. To keep up with current Conservancy news, follow @nature_press on Twitter.