



FRIENDS OF GWYNNS FALLS/LEAKIN PARK

1920 EAGLE DRIVE

BALTIMORE, MD 21207

www.friendsofgwynnsfallsleakinpark.org

Summer 2015

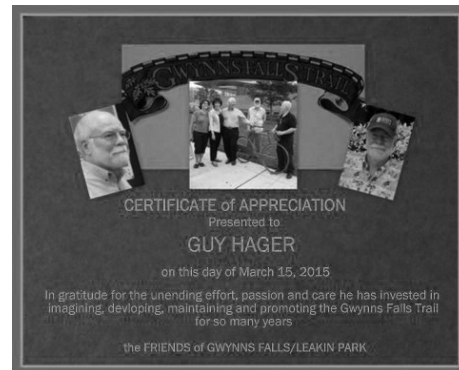
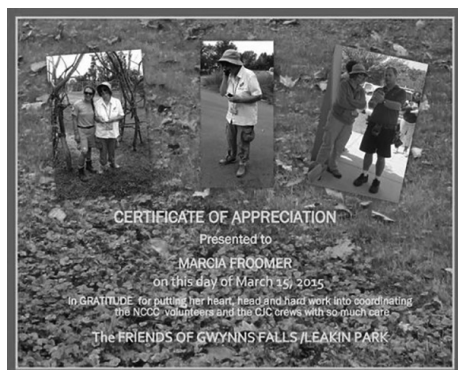
FOGFLP Annual Meeting

The FOGFLP Annual Meeting was held on March 15 at the Orianda House. The guest speaker was Amanda Cunningham, an ISA (International Society of Arboriculture) Certified Arborist and Director of Programs for the Baltimore Tree Trust. Ms. Cunningham discussed the serious threat to ash trees native to North America from the Emerald Ash Borer, an invasive beetle which has been found in Baltimore City and most surrounding counties. Information about how to protect your ash trees from the Emerald Ash Borer and what happens if your ash tree has been infested is available from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, the Maryland Forest Service, and many other resources available on line.

For identification tips visit: <http://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Documents/e-2939.pdf>.

To report infested trees call: 1 (800) 342-2507. Other resources include www.emeraldashborer.info and articles in the Baltimore Sun dated 8/17/14 and 6/07/15.

Each year the Friends of Gwynns Falls/Leakin Park honor individuals who provide outstanding service and support to our community through their hard work and dedication to the park and its preservation. This year three individuals were honored by The Friends: Marcia Fromer from the Department of Recreations and Parks, Lloyd Tidings from Recreation and Parks and the Carrie Murray Nature Center, and Guy Hagar, Parks and People Foundation. Shown below are the certificates they each received for their commitment to a better future for Gwynns Falls/Leakin Park.



BGE Pipeline Update

The Friends continue to monitor the planning process for the proposed BGE pipeline route. At this point, BGE is exploring various alternatives to take into account some of the concerns raised by both the Friends and the administration of the Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks. Like the Friends, Department officials are very concerned about mitigating the potential negative impact upon Gwynns Falls/Leakin Park, especially upon its best woodland areas. BGE planners presently are considering recommendations which follow existing little-used roadways as much as possible to reduce the impact upon tree canopy in the park.

It is our understanding that after the Department administration is satisfied that its concerns have been met, to the extent possible, BGE planners will conduct meetings with community groups to present a "preferred route." As of now, BGE's timeline is for planning to be complete by the end of 2016, construction to occur in 2017.

Ed Orser
BGE committee
Friends of Gwynns Falls/Leakin Park

AMERICORPS ONCE AGAIN FORGES A SOLID PATH FOR THE TRAIL

George Farrant

Once again, FOGFLP was fortunate to have AmeriCorps workers assigned to work with us in the Spring to do trail work in Leakin Park. Eleven young men and women resided in the trail house for four weeks in late March and early April. They made the trail house their base camp while they did good work throughout the Baltimore park system in conjunction with the Baltimore City Recreation and Parks Department.

AmeriCorps works throughout the year all over the country helping communities in various ways. FOGFLP volunteers helped direct the crew on several projects and they were able to complete some much needed trail work and other park improvement tasks. They replaced the handrail and several of the 68 steep steps that lead up to the Ridge Trail from the Ravine Trail and additional steps that lead to the Carrie Murray Nature Center. Several of the steps had rotted away and were in need of repair so now they are much less treacherous. They also replaced the rotted deck on a small boardwalk bridge on the upper Fort Trial, cut and pulled off vines from the trees on the bank of the Gwynns Fall by the Wethereds-ville and Franklinton Road intersection, and removed lots of



debris from the Dead Run. In addition, they helped out for the first Second Sunday Event on April 12. The AmeriCorps workers helped with set up, directing traffic and parking, guiding hikes, and enthusiastically pitching in wherever a hand was needed.

FOGFLP hopes to have another crew in the fall for the extension of a new section of boardwalk on a muddy section of the Wetland Trail. Through the help of the AmeriCorps workers, FOGFLP and other parks are able to improve our ability to maintain our trails and provide a wide range of improvements to the park system in Baltimore.

DOCS *in the park*

LEON DAY FESTIVAL

Families getting
healthy together

Saturday, June 20th

10am —6pm

Leon Day Park

1200 N. Franklinton Rd
Baltimore, MD

Brought to you by **Docs in the Park** and the **Leon Day Foundation, Inc.**

The event will feature sport activities such as soccer, football, basketball, baseball, frisbee and hula hoops. There will be fun with health education, gardening and wellness. Healthy food refreshments will be available.

For more information contact:

Mike Dorsey 410-491-0852 michaeld@ccyd.org

Michelle Freeman michelle.r.freeman@gmail.com

Visit our websites at:

<http://baltimorecity.gov/SpecialPrograms/> and

<http://baltimoreasthma.org/>

Sponsored by City of Baltimore, Baltimore City Recreation and Parks, Chesapeake Center for Youth Development and Maryland American Academy of Pediatrics



SECOND SUNDAYS IN THE PARK

Second Sundays are back again for the 2015 Season. We started back on April 12 and were delighted to see so many familiar faces and look forward to seeing many new faces this year. Please join us on the Second Sunday of each month through November from 11:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. at the Windsor Mill Road Leakin Park entrance. Activities include miniature train rides (free), pony rides (\$), playground, new Nature Art in the Park displays, hiking trails, games, bicycles for adults and children (free), art activities with natural materials, mansion tours, and the Carrie Murray Nature Center.



A GREAT RIDE FOR CYCLISTS ON THE GWYNNS FALLS TRAIL

Hunting Ridge Cyclists Enjoy a Great Day on The Gwynns Falls Trail - John McCaul

On Sunday, May 31st at 7:45 AM, a group of 14 bicyclists rolled out from Brookwood Road to conquer the Gwynns Falls Trail. Riders eased through the park to the Inner Harbor and on to Vacarro's in Little Italy to enjoy gelato and the company of some local bicyclists. (Distance: 11.5 miles).

The trek followed the trail through the Otterbein, Sharp-Leadenhall, and Westport neighborhoods to the Middle Branch Trail. The view of the river and the Baltimore skyline was stunning. A brief stop was made at the Maryland Vietnam Veterans Memorial at Mile 18 and we then headed to Carroll Park at Mile 22. We enjoyed the dappled shade of the Gwynns Falls Trail for the final 8 miles back to Brookwood Road. First-time Gwynns Falls Trail Rider, John F., commented, "That was beautiful, the trail was beautiful, Baltimore was beautiful, and I can't wait to ride the trail again".

Are you looking for a chance to ride on the Gwynns Falls Trail? Follow the Friends of Gwynns Falls Leakin Park on media on Instagram at FOGFLP-MEDIA, on Twitter @FOGFLPMEDIA or @FOGFLP, on Facebook at Friends of Gwynns Falls Leakin Park, or on MEET UP at Baltimore Parks. We look forward to seeing you on the trail.



"... the trail was beautiful, Baltimore was beautiful, and I can't wait to ride the trail again" *First-time Gwynns Falls Trail Rider, John F.*



Upcoming Trail Rides:

Kids Ride: Date TBD. As easy pedal from the Winans Meadow Trail Head to Morris Drive, a 6 mile round trip. Italian Ice will be available at the trail head after the ride.

15-miler: Date TBD. Great ride to get to know the Gwynns Falls Trail. We will ride from Winans Meadow to Carroll Park Golf Course and back. No rider left behind. The pace for this ride will be about 10 miles per hour. There are 2 short climbs on the way back.

The Park & Ride (Literally): Date TBD. Ride the whole Gwynns Falls Trail from the I-70 Park & Ride to the Inner Harbor and to Middle Branch Park. Enjoy an optional, but awesome 2.5 mile detour on the ride home to the Gwynns Falls on the Dickeyville Trail. Total distance 30 miles or 32.5 miles.

ONGOING EVENTS

Tuesdays - Trail work crew meets 9:00-11:30, call (410) 566-2101 for info.

Gentle Walks - Thursdays - 9:00-10:00, meet at Winans Meadow parking lot. Call (410) 945-0586 for more info.

Second Sundays in the Park - 11:00-3:30, April through November. Check www.friendsofgwynnsfallsleakinpark.org for more info or Friends of Gwynns Falls/Leakin Park on Facebook

SUMMER CONCERTS ARE BACK THIS SUMMER - Concerts on June 25, July 23, and August 27 - check website for

more info, www.friendsofgwynnsfallsleakinpark.org or bcrp.baltimorecity.gov, music events

Nature Art in the Park - Sept. 19, 5-9:00pm. Almost Equinox: A night of the arts with nature art-making, yoga, nature art film, bring your instruments to make music together, and bring a refreshment to share.

Oct. 3 - Mushroom City Arts Exhibit and events. Details TBA on their website and Nature Art in the Park on Facebook

Nov. 8, 2-5:00pm, Last Nature Art tour and gathering by the pavilion off of Eagle Dr.



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1920 Eagle Drive
Baltimore, MD 21207
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Stopping for a rest at the Herb Festival

Summer 2015

GET CONNECTED!

Get connected to Gwynns Falls/Leakin Park and all of Baltimore's Parks. Whether you're a bicyclist, a runner, a walker, a hiker, a bird watcher, a new parent looking for a place to walk the baby, a long-time resident looking to reconnect with our beautiful sylvan hideaway, or just looking for a safe and serene car free place for your kids to ride their bikes, it's time for you to get connected to our park.

Here are some great ways to connect and get out doors:

Join Baltimore Parks Meet Up. www.meetup.com. Sign up and log in. It's free and you will be connected to events and happenings in all of our parks. Some upcoming events: Second Sundays in Leakin Park, A Gentle Hike in Patapsco, Druid Hill Farmers Market, Yoga in the park, Inner Harbor Hike, Kayaking, Summer Baby Buddies, and lots more.

Follow The Friends of Gwynns Falls Leakin Park on Facebook. www.friendsofgwynnsfallsleakinpark.org



Follow The Friends of Gwynns Falls Leakin Park on Instagram (FOGFLPMEDIA) Check images and videos of Gwynns Falls and Leakin Park. See bikers biking and hikers hiking. Get out in the park and you might be featured! When you post your park pictures use the #gwynnsfallsleakinpark or #sylvanhideaway

Follow The Friends of Gwynns Falls Leakin Park on Twitter (@FOGFLPMEDIA or @FOGFLP)

Hope to see you in the park or on the internet!