



**ANACOSTIA
RIVERKEEPER®**

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Media Advisory: Anacostia Watershed Residents Invited to *Splash* (Rescheduled for September 23)

*First Swim Event in Over 50 Years Celebrates Water Quality
Improvements of the Anacostia River*

(WASHINGTON, DC) – [Anacostia Riverkeeper](https://www.anacostiariverkeeper.org) invites you to celebrate progress toward a swimmable Anacostia River at *Splash* – rescheduled for Saturday, September 23 at 12 PM. Tickets will become available at 9 AM on Thursday, September 7.

Splash will give residents a rare chance to swim in and reconnect with the Anacostia River. The free event is open to all aged 18 and older who know how to swim. *Splash* will be held at the Kingman Island dock next to the Benning Road Bridge. Participants will be able to swim during a designated time slot. Registration is required and information is linked [HERE](#). *Splash* is hosted by the Anacostia Riverkeeper, a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting and restoring the Anacostia River for all who live, work, and play in the watershed.

“DOEE is proud to support our grantees' work in improving the water quality of the District to ensure we reach Mayor Bowser’s goal of the District’s rivers becoming swimmable and fishable,” said the Department of Energy and Environment's Acting Director Richard Jackson.

The DC Citizen Science Water Quality Monitoring Program has tracked the river’s environmental progress since 2018. Anacostia Riverkeeper reports that “in 2022, monitoring sites at Kingman Island, Buzzards Point, and Washington Channel passed recreational water quality standards over 90% of the time.”

“We are as close as we have ever been to the possibility of bringing back a swimmable Anacostia,” said Riverkeeper President and Founding Board Member Suzy Kelly.

As a reminder, currently, residents are only allowed to swim in the Anacostia River during special events permitted by DOEE. In 2018, DOEE issued an amendment to the 1971 swimming ban to allow for [permitted swim events](#) in District waters, such as *Splash*.

To read Mayor Bowser’s full release about *Splash*, visit [HERE](#).

To learn more about the work of the water quality monitoring program, visit [HERE](#).

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