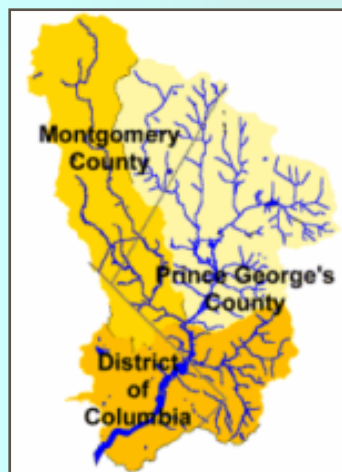


# ANACOSTIA WATERSHED

Restoration of the Nation's Capital's  
"Other River"



*George Harman*

*Maryland Department of the Environment*

*Presented to the COG Board*

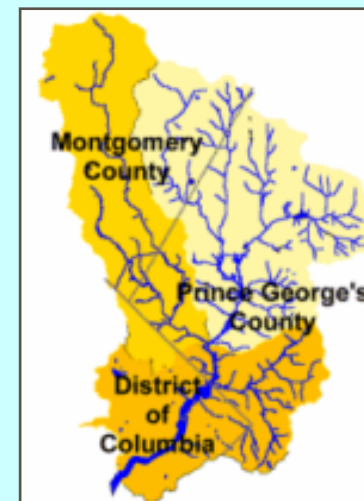
*April 12, 2006*





# The Anacostia River ...

- Valuable community asset
- Plagued by neglect and abuse
- Improved by considerable restoration
- Growing consensus to:
  - Strengthen the partnership
  - Accelerate progress





5 0 5 10 Miles

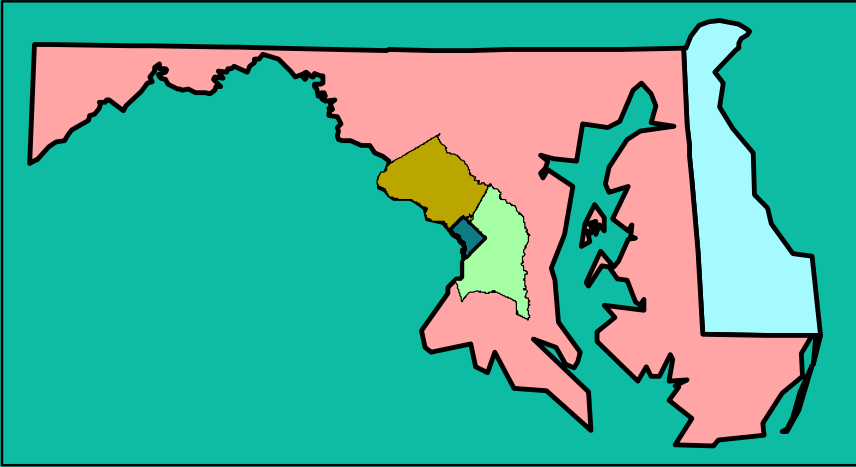
Montgomery County

Anacostia  
Watershed

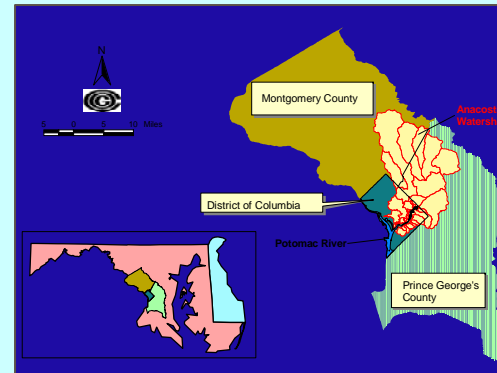
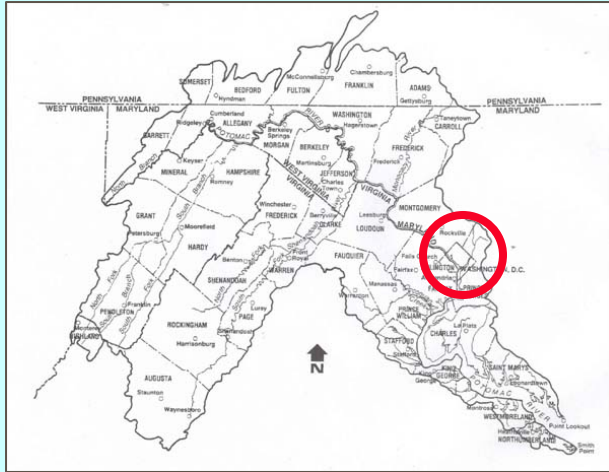
District of Columbia

Potomac River

Prince George's  
County



# The Anacostia Watershed



The Anacostia watershed:  
15% of the Potomac watershed's population ... in 1% of its area

**Size (square miles):**

District of Columbia	30	(17%)
Prince George's	86	(49%)
Montgomery	60	(34%)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>(100%)</b>

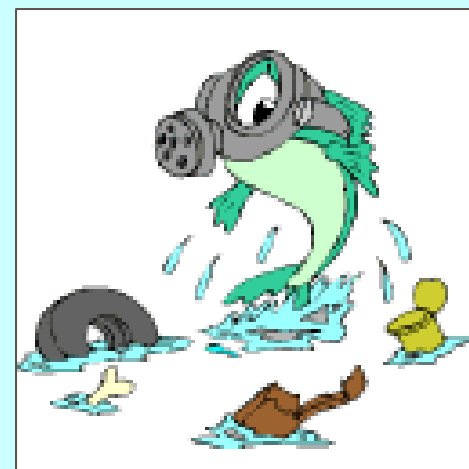
**Population:**

District of Columbia	292,811	(36%)
Prince George's	311,573	(39%)
Montgomery	200,073	(25%)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>804,457</b>	<b>(100%)</b>



# The Anacostia's Problems

- Runoff
- Sewer overflows
- High bacteria
- Low oxygen
- Erosion
- Sediment
- Toxics
- Trash
- Degraded habitat



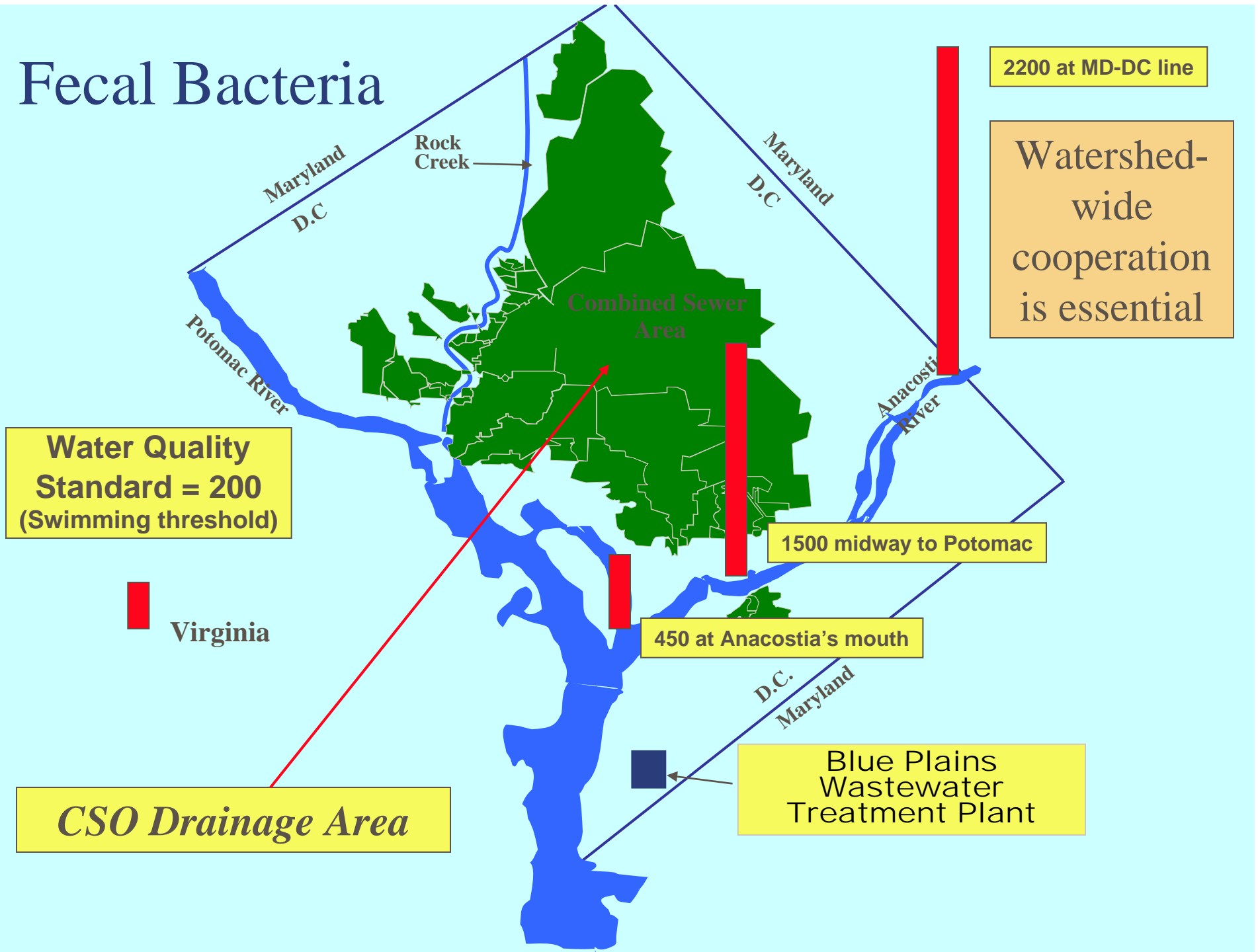
*Here's a sampling ...*



April 12, 2006

Anacostia Watershed Restoration

# Fecal Bacteria





# The Anacostia's Potential

- Beauty
- Solitude
- Recreation
- Healthy ecosystems
- Abundant fish

*Consider a few examples ...*





**Springtime on the Northwest Branch**



**Crew Team Preparing for Practice at Anacostia Waterfront Park**



**Canoeing the 'Kingfisher Trail' on the Tidal Anacostia River**



**Campers at Greenbelt National Park**

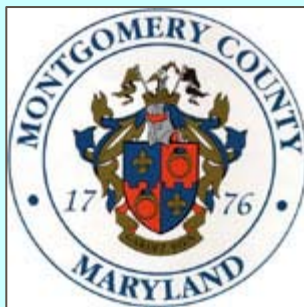
April 12, 2006

Anacostia Watershed Restoration



## Anacostia Watershed Restoration ...

- Regional agreements in '87, '91, '99 & '01
  - Facilitated by COG
- Coordination via an interagency committee
  - Staffed by COG
- Progress via key restoration projects





# Much has been Accomplished

- Stormwater facility “retrofits”
- Low Impact Development (LID)
- Stream restoration
- Riparian buffer restoration
- Habitat restoration
- Controlling trash
- Controlling sewage overflows
- Removing fish blockages

*Federal, state,  
local partnership.  
Examples ...*



**Earth Conservation Corps Volunteers on Buzzard Point**



**One of Many Anacostia Tree Planting Events**



**Little Paint Br. Restoration - Beltsville**



**Education and Stewardship Event**

April 12, 2006

Anacostia Watershed Restoration



**Restored Kingman Lake in DC**



**Wheaton Branch Stormwater Management Pond  
in Montgomery County**

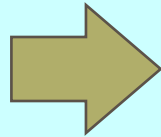


**LID Project in Prince George's County**

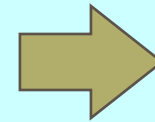
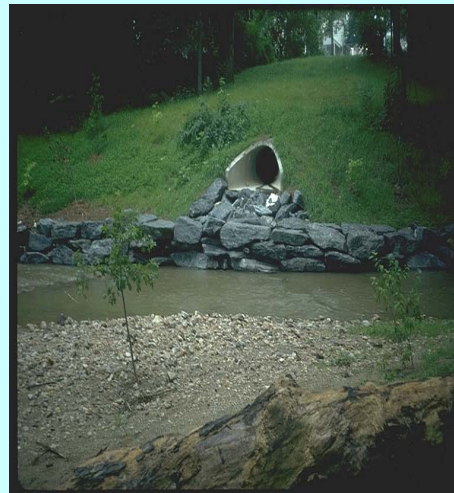
# Stream Restoration

To *repair* degraded stream habitat

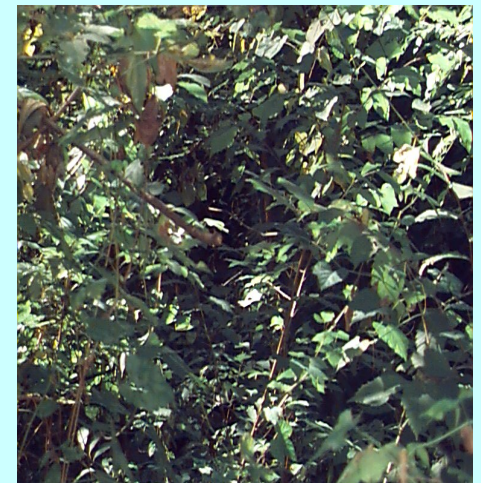
**Devastation - 1990**



**Restoration - 1992**



**Natural Healing - 1999**



**Restoration on Wheaton Branch of Sligo Creek**

# Trash



Trash problems are widespread and require constant attention.



# A Growing Consensus

- Raise the restoration sights
- Accelerate progress
- Complete comprehensive planning
- Transcend city-county boundaries
- Seek greater funding certainty

***Strengthen the partnership***



# Request to COG Board

## Existing Framework

Established in 1987  
Federal, State and  
Local technical staff  
Citizens Committee  
COG Support



CBPC  
Recommendation  
May 2006



COG Board  
Consideration  
June 2006



Mayor Williams' request – February 2006  
Referred to Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee  
CBPC recommendation to COG Board – June 2006