



Friends of Sligo Creek

President's End-of-Year Letter



Ellen X. Silverberg photo

Holiday Greetings

Dear Friend of Sligo Creek:

Protecting, improving, and appreciating the ecological health of Sligo Creek Park and its surrounding watershed is the mission of our volunteer-led, neighborhood non-profit organization.

In 2019 Friends of Sligo Creek did a variety of activities to:

- * Showcase and document local wildlife
- * Improve water quality
- * Nurture native plants and trees
- * Promulgate environmental knowledge, both practical and theoretical
- * Support and encourage decisions by our public officials that enhance the Sligo Creek/Anacostia watersheds
- * Make our parks and neighborhoods cleaner and more beautiful

In 2019 we celebrated of the amazing transformation of Sligo Creek's Breewood Tributary in Wheaton, a culmination of ten years of effort by Montgomery County, Montgomery Parks, the State of Maryland, and community establishments, organizations, and residents.

We learned about mowing practices best suited for sustaining pollinators and continue working with Pepco to put them into practice. We led trash cleanups and invasive plant removals throughout the Sligo Creek watershed.

Friends of Sligo Creek hopes to build on our progress in 2020 by reducing creek-harming stormwater at Carolyn Condo in Silver Spring, holding educational programs on native trees, removing invasive plants, helping prevent the expansion of the Beltway, and much, much more.

With your help, we can do more. It's amazing what a small group of neighbors can do, armed with passion and a desire to conserve and protect our own backyard. Will you help us? With the exception of grant income, our budget consists primarily of donations. You can donate via our website

<http://fosc.org/join/donate/>

or by sending a check to us at

**Treasurer
Friends of Sligo Creek
PO Box 11572
Takoma Park, MD 20913**

Additionally, please also consider joining us. We have many opportunities for service. Our friendly committees cover activities as diverse as invasive plant removal, water quality monitoring, and service on our Board, and we are always open to new Friends of the Creek joining our efforts. From all of us at FOSC, thank you for considering our request. We hope to see you in the Park soon! Best wishes for a great 2020.

Sincerely yours,

Mike Smith
President
Friends of Sligo Creek



*Winter Wren photographed at the Wheaton Branch stormwater ponds on December 23
by Stephen Davies*



Bumblebees visiting Wild Bergamot flowers in 2019 at the new meadow near the golf course. These native mint plants, and hundreds of others, were put in by FOSC volunteers and Montgomery Parks staff (Wilpers photo)

Need to Reach Us?

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Friends of Sligo Creek is a nonprofit community organization dedicated to protecting, improving, and appreciating the ecological health of Sligo Creek Park and its surrounding watershed.