



America's most important conservation and recreation program will expire in less than a year unless Congress acts. For 52 years, the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has protected national parks and open spaces in every corner of the United States. But in less than 52 weeks, it could be gone forever and along with it, future protection of the places we love.

[LWCF](#) has invested over \$17 million over the past five decades to protect the District of Columbia's iconic public spaces, opening access for tourists and residents of our nation's capital to enjoy the outdoors from patriotic memorials, to preserved historic sites, to close-to-home recreation opportunities like local parks, trails, and playgrounds. LWCF has protected places in Washington, D.C. like Ford's Theatre National Historic Site, the FDR Memorial, Kenilworth and Randall Recreation Centers, and several of the municipal pools and splash parks that keep the city cool all summer.

C&O Canal

Stretching from Georgetown to Cumberland, Maryland, the C&O Canal is a critical outdoor educational and recreational resource for residents of the D.C. metro area. It spans over 180 miles and tells the story of our nation's history of transportation, engineering, the Civil War, immigration, industry, and commerce. Today, residents of one of the densest areas of the country can enjoy hiking trails, kayaking and canoeing, biking paths, and beautiful views from the iconic Billy Goat Trail. There has been over \$44 million in LWCF funds invested in the C&O Canal – continuing to provide historic and recreational opportunities in Washington.



Students on a field trip at the Paw Paw Tunnel, Credit: NPS

"More and more of today's generation of veterans are finding peace and healing in the outdoors. It's more critical than ever that our government invests to preserve access and the infrastructure of our public lands."
- Sean Gobin, founder of Warrior Expeditions

Kenilworth Park and Aquatic Gardens

Visitors and residents of Washington, D.C. experience the natural habitat of the area at the beautifully preserved Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens. This wetland helps mitigate pollution, reduces flood damage, and alleviates risks from climate change. As part of the National Capital Parks East, this park which has hiking trails, boardwalks, and comprehensive environmental education resources, has received a portion of the \$2.5 million of LWCF awarded to the District's network of parks. In addition to many events over the year, members of the D.C. Garden Club plant thousands of lotus each spring, a one-of-a-kind spectacle that draws visitors from across town and around the world.



Annual lotus and lily festival, Credit: NPS

#SaveLWCF to protect the places we love in Washington, D.C.!

www.lwcfcoalition.org/lwcf52weeks/