

Dear Friends of Sligo Creek,

We do most things online, right? Well, yes, and now even with Friends of Sligo Creek (FOSC) you can [donate from our website](#), you can [donate through our Facebook page](#), and you can donate to FOSC every time you make purchase on Amazon through [AmazonSmile](#).

Oh, but wait a second!! Take a minute and stroll through Sligo Creek Park. Not electronically. What do you see and smell and feel? A babbling creek. An array of oaks and sycamores and tulips and pinkster azaleas and spicebush, and way more greenery. And lots of birds -- the ubiquitous robins and cardinals and sparrows and jays and woodpeckers, but also Yellow-crowned Night-heron, and kingfishers, and warblers in season. And bunches of little and medium sized fishes and the occasional crawdad! None of these are electronic (though you can check out the Sightings page of our website here to learn what others have seen).



Families gather for a recent Sweep the Creek



Volunteers join Parks staff to plant meadow across from the Sligo Creek golf course

But there's something else. Every time we walk in the park we see the work of so many people that goes mostly unseen by the casual observer. In addition to Montgomery Parks' employees cleaning and repairing and planting, there are all those volunteers -- over 570 people from our community equally committed to the park participated in the Spring Sweep the Creek, a massive number even for us.

Hundreds of you pull non-native invasive weeds -- English ivy, garlic mustard, kudzu, porcelainberry and so many others, allowing native trees and shrubs to sprout, allowing mature trees to thrive. We help Parks plant natives (see for yourself during our next outing in the developing meadow across from the golf course).

So many people do big and little things -- education, facilitating stormwater projects, defending a strong stormwater program, measuring water quality, and reporting water pollution and water main breaks. The

July 2018

visible part of the park is held up and supported by a mass of people largely invisible. Just as "women hold up half the sky," thousands of people hold up Sligo Creek Park. You may not see them, but they make all the difference.

Their efforts are facilitated by your donations, which go towards water quality supplies, a new website, and a new brochure in Spanish to help further our outreach. Help us today. On our website, on Facebook, or by check to our PO Box 11572, Takoma Park MD 20913.

Thanks a million.

The FOSC Board

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