

**THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION
PRESS RELEASE**

For immediate release:

May 19, 2006

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**PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION STORM WATER MANAGEMENT
PROJECT TO HELP IMPROVE HEALTH OF CHESAPEAKE BAY**

SILVER SPRING - Officials at The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission announced that the major maintenance project on an existing storm water management pond in Sligo Creek Stream Valley Park in Silver Spring, designed to improve environmental runoff into the Chesapeake Bay, has been completed and the trail has been reopened.

Located upstream of University Boulevard behind the Kemp Mill Shopping Center, the pond provides water quality and flood control benefits to the downstream sections of Sligo Creek.

Over time, the pond collected material generated from upstream erosion and ensures those materials does not end up in the Chesapeake Bay. The project removed the collected sediments and modified the control systems for improved efficiency.

To protect trails around the surrounding area and maintain pedestrian access during construction, the contractor installed wood mulch paths and safety fencing along the existing hiker/biker trail between University Boulevard and the pond. Materials generated from the project were used to grade an open space within Evans Parkway Neighborhood Park to improve drainage and usability.

“Nearby residents and trail users were very patient with the construction process, which took longer than expected due to weather and limited work areas, but the trail is now reopened and the pond function has been improved dramatically in terms of protecting Sligo Creek,” said project manager Andy Frank.

M-NCPPC’s award-winning 32,695-acre park system in Montgomery County includes 395 parks, 274 playgrounds, 305 tennis courts, 360 athletic fields, more than 200 miles of trails, two ice rinks, 133 picnic areas, nature and equestrian centers, lakes and marinas, recreation buildings and more.

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