

ATTN: ASSIGNMENT DESK



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
APRIL 27, 2010**

MARYLAND, VIRGINIA, AND WASHINGTON, DC STUDENTS TO RELEASE AMERICAN SHAD FRY IN POTOMAC AND ANACOSTIA RIVERS

Event marks the 15th anniversary of this fish population restoration project

Students from approximately 50 Maryland, Virginia and Washington, DC area schools will release American shad fry (baby fish) into the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers on Friday, April 30 beginning at 9:00 a.m. For the past week, 4,000 students have been caring for the eggs in the classroom as a hands-on approach to science and biology to continue to restore the Potomac River's population of American Shad.

This marks the 15th anniversary of this restoration project, which has annually worked with approximately 4,000 local students and scientists to restore the American Shad population in our Nation's rivers. Since starting this program in the Washington, DC area, thousands of American shad have been added to the spawning grounds of the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers.

This project is a partnership between Living Classrooms of the National Capital Region, Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin, Mirant Mid-Atlantic, LLC, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Anacostia Watershed Society and schools from Washington, DC; Arlington, Alexandria and Fairfax Counties; and Prince George's and Montgomery Counties. Funding from the Mirant Mid-Atlantic, LLC, Prince Georges Community Foundation made this project possible.

Living Classrooms Foundation is a non-profit organization, operated for the benefit of the community at large, providing hands-on education and job skills training for students from diverse backgrounds, with a special emphasis on serving at-risk youth. The American shad restoration program also connects youth to their natural resources, an initiative recently supported by the White House and Department of Interior.

Living Classrooms uses community revitalization projects and other challenging learning environments, and a low staff to student ratio with "learning by doing" education programs to augment the applied learning of math, science, literacy, history, economics, and ecology.

WHEN: Friday, April 30, 9:00am-6:00pm

WHERE: 5 Different Locations

Old Angler's Inn, Montgomery County, Maryland

Chalk Point, Prince George's County, Maryland

Chapman's Forest, Charles County, Maryland

Occoquan National Wildlife Refuge, Prince William County, Virginia

Bladensburg Waterfront Park, Bladensburg, Maryland

Students will be participating in the event throughout the day. We can work with you to arrange a time that will accommodate your schedule.