

# FACES OF THE FRONT

**Emily Franc, Riverkeeper** for local non-profit **Anacostia Riverkeeper**, has been working to improve the Anacostia River watershed since last fall. Prior to joining Anacostia Riverkeeper, Emily worked on environmental policy issues on Capitol Hill and in Jamaica with the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). Anacostia Riverkeeper works to restore the river, reduce pollution, keep it trash free, and provide opportunities for the local community to connect to the river. The organization also hosts volunteer clean-ups of the river, as well as free activities such as boat tours, Friday Night Fishing, and kayaking.

## **How would you describe the Capitol Riverfront neighborhood to friends/visitors?**

It is a vibrant community that is developing its own unique blend of small town charm and big city amenities. With the Anacostia River as its front doorstep, the area takes full advantage of the beauty of the river with great outdoor spaces, a variety of dining options, community events, and docks for public access to the river.

## **What is your favorite place in the neighborhood?**

My favorite place is walking along the Anacostia Riverwalk Trail. Although I am a city girl, I enjoy being outdoors as much as possible. Access to the Riverwalk inspires me to enjoy the restorative energy of the river while forgetting I am in the middle of a noisy, bustling city.

## **The Anacostia River is a valuable recreational asset to the Capitol Riverfront neighborhood. What is your favorite way to experience the river?**

I enjoy boating and kayaking on the river, especially in the early morning.

## **What is the most significant change you've seen in both the Anacostia River and in the Capitol Riverfront neighborhood since joining the Anacostia Riverkeeper staff?**

I have been most impressed with the positive impact the Clean and Safe Team makes in the community at large. I appreciate how hard they work to keep trash from winding up in the river.

## **How can our readers help with efforts to clean up the Anacostia River?**

Anacostia Riverkeeper's next volunteer opportunity will be our annual *Clean Waterways* cleanup of Anacostia Park on Saturday, April 17, 2016. The best way to stay informed of upcoming activities and volunteer opportunities is to sign up for email notices through our website at <http://www.anacostiariverkeeper.org/>, on Twitter [@AnacostiaRrkper](https://twitter.com/AnacostiaRrkper), or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/AnacostiaRiverkeeper/](https://www.facebook.com/AnacostiaRiverkeeper/).

## **Use one word to describe the Capitol Riverfront neighborhood.**

Captivating.

