



**The ARAMARK Tower
1101 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107-2994**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Blue Heron is Coming in For a Landing!

On Saturday, May 17, from 9 a.m. till noon, two Cessna-sized great blue herons will be touching down in various parts of the Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed, delivering their "good eggs of approval" to volunteers working in the creeks and parks in their communities. One bird will complete his journey at the Awbury Arboretum's Watershed Awareness Day, while the other bird will join watershed volunteers and a community fair and celebration at the Ferko Recreation Center at "J" and Cayuga Streets. (See attached watershed map for the locations and times of the birds' arrivals).

There will also be a community fair and watershed celebration that will run from noon until 2 p.m. at the Ferko Recreation Center. Volunteers and the public are invited to attend and participate in demonstration and table top exhibits sponsored by City agencies and non-profits (Water, Health, Fire, TownWatch, PA Department of Environmental Protection and many others), live music, local entertainment, a fish shocking demonstration, local mascots and refreshments. Philip Goldsmith, City Managing Director, and other public officials have been invited to address attendees at 1 p.m.

Volunteer projects include park and streamside clean ups, removal of invasive plant species from the parks and streambanks, streambank restorations and tree plantings. All of these activities protect and improve the quality of our natural areas and the streams into which they drain when it rains.

The event is co-sponsored by Philadelphia Cares About Fairmount Park and by the Tookany/Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership to highlight the community stewardship and environmental successes that are taking place in the parks and along sections of the Tacony and Frankford Creeks. The Partnership's mission is to protect and enhance the environmental quality of our streams and natural lands through public education and public stewardship and through the development of a watershed management plan. Partnership members include the Philadelphia Water Department, the Fairmount Park Commission, a variety of other city and regulatory agencies, Cheltenham Township, the Friends of Tacony Creek Park, Awbury Arboretum, the Frankford Group Ministry, Friends of High School and Wall Parks, and numerous schools, civic and environmental organizations.

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