



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

First Urban Shad Watch: Fish don't talk, but what do they tell us?

Come to the Schuylkill River for the First Urban Shad Watch on Saturday, April 23 at the Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center. The Urban Shad Watch will offer plenty of activities for young and old alike.

- Catch of the Day! 10 a.m. to noon – Youngsters can create fish paintings and rubbings of carp, catfish, trout, walleye and other fish friends. Fish Paintings will take place inside the Interpretive Center; Fish Rubbings on the Interpretive Esplanade.
- Fish don't talk, but what do they tell us? Noon to 2 p.m. – Philadelphia Water Department aquatic biologists conduct a fish assessment to identify the species of fish and how many fish have returned to the Schuylkill River. In the late 1980s, only 11 species of fish were found. More recently, biologists have identified 37 species. What will they find in the river on Saturday?
- "What's in the River, Today?" New Exhibit! 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. – While zipping recently through hours of videotape from the fish ladder near Fairmount Dam, one biologist saw something never seen before in the fish ladder — and it wasn't a fish. Much to his surprise, it was a North American river otter. You, too, can see the unusual sighting of the otter, featured as one of the 10 best video clips of the fish ladder in this new exhibit in the Water and Wildlife section of the Interpretive Center.
- Name the Shad! Name the Otter! Contest –To commemorate the arrival of the otter and the season of the shad, youngsters will have an opportunity to place their ballots to name the shad and otter.
- Fish Facts – Kids get to take home an educational activity booklet, filled to the gills with a word search puzzle of Pennsylvania Fish; All About Fish: dorsal fin, lateral line, spiny rays ... what do these mean?; SiltStarters: The Effects of Flood and Mud on Fish!; and lots more.

The Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center is located at 640 Water Works Drive, along the east bank of the Schuylkill River in Fairmount Park. The Interpretive Center is the region's premier ecotourism center and has been recognized by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection as the official Delaware River Basin's Watershed Center.

The Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center is operated by the Philadelphia Water Department and is ADA accessible. Center Hours: Tuesdays – Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Sundays, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Closed Mondays and City holidays. Admission is

free. For more information about upcoming programs or to schedule group tours, call 215-685-0723, or visit www.fairmountwaterworks.org.

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