



ANACOSTIA WATERSHED CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dedicated to the protection and restoration of the Anacostia River and its tributaries

January 14, 2011

The Honorable Valerie Ervin
President, Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Councilmember Ervin,

The Anacostia Watershed Citizens Advisory Committee (AWCAC) exists to provide citizen input to the Anacostia Watershed Restoration Partnership (www.anacostia.net), the coordinated efforts to restore the Anacostia Watershed by jurisdictions including Montgomery County. We understand that there will be a hearing this Tuesday about Bill 60-10, which would increase the maximum initial fine for sediment violations on construction sites from \$500 to \$1000. AWCAC asks that you support this Bill.

The last time the maximum fine was increased was 1992. The experience of local watershed groups when reporting sediment violations in Montgomery County is that the current fine doesn't seem to be an adequate deterrent to prevent the discharge of sediment pollution from construction sites. Construction sites need to be designed to prevent sediment pollution, a continuing problem harming streams and waterways throughout the County.

Please support Bill 60-10 and increase the fine for sediment violations. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mike Smith, 2010 - 2011 AWCAC Chair