

The students of Gunston's Environmental Club held their annual Earth Day celebration on Thursday, April 19, 2018. Gunston devotes a full day to environmental education, keynote speakers, service projects, and time to relax in nature. This year's guiding questions were: What effect do migratory behaviors of wildlife have on the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem? What are the effects of pollution and industry on wildlife?

Maren Gimpel, Washington College's Field Ecologist & Outreach Coordinator at Chester River Field Research Station and Center for Environment & Society, spoke about her research on migratory birds. Margot Cumming and Paige Hobaugh, Habitat Goal Implementation Team Staffers, Chesapeake Research Consortium, spoke about work happening in the watershed to remove dams and restore anadromous fish. Jay Falstad, Executive Director, Queen Anne's Conservation Association and beekeeper at Calico Fields, spoke about his work to conserve native pollinators. Kai Clark and Jack Wilson, Washington College students and Gunston alumni, spoke about their experiences as research assistants and students in the Chesapeake Semester at Washington College.

Students gave back to the environment through trash collections, planting a pollinator garden, building wood duck nesting boxes, building an osprey nesting platform, and cleaning oysters on Gunston's Molly Dock.