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National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



## News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** October 16, 2019

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## Share your feedback on the Georgetown Canal Plan

*Public invited to comment on plan to revitalize portions of the canal through Georgetown*

**WASHINGTON** — The National Park Service (NPS) in partnership with Georgetown Heritage invites you to share feedback on two alternatives (a No Action and an Action Alternative) to revitalize the [Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park](#) (C&O Canal NHP) through Georgetown. You're invited to provide comments at a public meeting on Nov. 7, online or by mail through Nov. 16.

The alternatives are part of an Environmental Assessment (EA), which is a required step in the [Georgetown Canal Plan](#). The alternatives were largely informed by the public feedback received through previous comment periods. The proposed action alternative includes an array of repair and rehabilitation projects that address issues of deferred maintenance and increased preservation of the one-mile section of the C&O Canal along with improvements that will enhance education, interpretation and visitor experiences for those who live, work and visit the park in Georgetown.

**Attend the public meeting:** Join us for a presentation on Nov. 7 from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Canal Overlook Room on the far west side of [Georgetown Park](#) (3276 M St NW). If you require special accommodations during the meeting, please contact Maggie Downing by Oct. 31 at [mdowning@georgetownheritage.org](mailto:mdowning@georgetownheritage.org).

**How to comment:** Public comments on the EA will be accepted Oct. 16 through Nov. 16, 2019 via the NPS's [Planning, Environmental and Public Comments](#) (PEPC) website at or by mail to:

Superintendent  
C&O Canal National Historical Park Headquarters Office  
Attention: Georgetown Canal Plan  
1850 Dual Highway Suite 100

1000 Dual Highway, Suite 100  
Hagerstown, MD 21740.

Public participation is vital to our planning process, which is conducted in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

For more information about Georgetown Heritage and the NPS' shared vision to restore, revitalize and reimagine the first mile of the Canal, visit [www.georgetownheritage.org](http://www.georgetownheritage.org).

**Please Note:** Before including an address, phone number, email address or other personal identifying information in your comment, please be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

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**About the Georgetown Canal Plan:**

The National Park Service and Georgetown Heritage are partners in restoring, reimagining and revitalizing a one-mile section of Chesapeake and Ohio Canal (C&O Canal) National Historical Park, which begins with a comprehensive plan. The Georgetown Canal Plan, which is expected to be completed in early 2020, will be developed in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), ensuring the park's natural and cultural resources are carefully considered and protected.

Funding for the Georgetown Canal Plan comes from the District of Columbia Executive Office of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development, the Georgetown Business Improvement District, and private philanthropy. A combination of public and private sources will fund the implementation of the plan.

Visit [www.georgetownheritage.org/master-plan/](http://www.georgetownheritage.org/master-plan/) for more information on the C&O Canal enhancement in Georgetown.

**About C&O Canal National Historical Park:** Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park, one of America's 419 national parks, preserves and interprets the park's history and natural resources while inspiring adventure and outdoor recreation. Each year nearly 5 million people enjoy the opportunities for fun and learning that the 184.5-mile-long park has to offer. Visitors to the park support more than 1,300 jobs and contribute more than \$126 million to local economies. Learn more at [www.nps.gov/choh](http://www.nps.gov/choh) or follow the C&O Canal on Facebook @chesapeakeandohiocanal and Twitter @COcanalNPS.

**About Georgetown Heritage:** Georgetown Heritage is the nonprofit partner of the C&O Canal NHP in Georgetown, and was created by community leaders to partner with the National Park Service to restore, revitalize and reimagine the first mile of the C&O Canal NHP and other National Park assets in Georgetown. Learn more at [www.georgetownheritage.org](http://www.georgetownheritage.org).

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Office of Communications  
Region 1 - National Capital Area  
National Park Service