



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**State's Most Visited Park  
Patapsco Valley State Park  
Launches Mobile Visitors Center  
To Increase Accessibility, Connection**

Offering Bilingual and Education Materials  
via Park Rangers and Volunteers



Photo: Korey Hopkins/Friends of Patapsco Valley State Park

Ellicott City, MD — The Friends of Patapsco Valley State Park has completed a major new project that **will serve the park's 2.65 million annual visitors**. The park has seen explosive growth in visitors during the pandemic. The Mobile Visitors Center (MVC), a customized 4-wheel drive sprinter van, has enjoyed widespread community and state support during its development phase. Now complete, it will travel throughout **Maryland's most visited state park** to provide outreach to park visitors, to meet them where they're at. The MVC is stocked with bilingual materials and Spanish-speaking staff and volunteers in an effort to increase outreach and stewardship opportunities to the diverse park community.

*“Patapsco Valley State Park is nationally known for its trail system and recreation opportunities. With over 16,000 acres and countless informal entrances, we want to be able to serve our visitors where and how they use the park. We’ll use the MVC and its bilingual programming to welcome every user to PVSP.”*

Dave Ferraro, Executive Director, FPVSP

*“With the help from our Friends of Patapsco Valley State Park and many generous donors, the park staff will be able to reach out to many of our visitors that normally may not see a Park Ranger. With the park over 32 miles long, we can now easily interact and educate the public about this great resource.”*

Rob Dyke, Park Manager, PVSP

The MVC has received major support from the Maryland Heritage Area Authority, The Community Foundation of Howard County, The Chesapeake Bay Trust, Towson University, Patapsco Heritage Greenway, Catonsville Mercedes Benz, and REI. The MVC features a custom vehicle wrap with imagery from the park by noted area photographers Geoffrey S. Baker and Korey Hopkins.

*About the Friends of Patapsco Valley State Park*

The Friends of Patapsco Valley State Park Ltd. (FPVSP), a 501c3 organization, supports the park by promoting stewardship through programming, sustainable recreation, and the preservation and restoration of its natural resources.

<https://fpvsp.org/>

<https://fpvsp.org/mobile-visitors-center/>