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## **Ceremonies Celebrate Water Before Millions March for Climate & Science** *Potomac, Patuxent and Anacostia Riverkeepers participate in Native American water rituals (April 1, 8, 15 & 28) before April 29 Climate March*

People from across the nation are coming to Washington, DC on April 29 for a day of global climate action. The People's Climate March, planned by an alliance that includes climate scientists, environmental organizations, faith-based groups, labor unions, indigenous groups, and citizen activists, is expected to attract millions to the nation's capital as well as companion marches across the country and around the world.

The march will take place starting at **9 a.m. on April 29** at locations near the White House, National Mall and the United States Capitol.

In the weeks prior to the march, local Waterkeepers, Spring of Light, and EcoHermanas will present sacred water ceremonies (on April 1, 8 & 15) with art-making and storytelling as a way to tell the stories of our local rivers.

**Spring of Light** and **EcoHermanas** will work in partnership with Native American tribes and local Riverkeepers to present "*Honoring Our Sacred Waters*," including the following three events:

- **Dean Naujoks**, Potomac Riverkeeper, at Hains Point, 900 Ohio Drive, SW, Washington, DC from 1 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 1.
- **Fred Tutman**, Patuxent Riverkeeper, at Patuxent Riverkeeper, Center, 17412 Nottingham Road, Upper Marlboro from 1 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 8.
- **Emily Franc**, Anacostia Riverkeeper, at Earth Conservation Corps, 1520 First Street, SE, Washington, DC from 1 to 5 p.m. on April 15.

The artwork created at each event will be brought to a final culminating evening water ceremony and festival on the banks of the Anacostia at Poplar Point on **April 28** 6pm – 9pm — the night before the climate march. These events are free and open to the public.

"We have an obligation to continue to uplift and heal this dire situation," said Rabiah Nur of Spring of Light. "We hope to do this by infusing the critical spiritual life essence back into our water. We are made of water, and we cannot survive without it. Save our water, save ourselves."

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**Waterkeepers Chesapeake** is a coalition of 19 Riverkeeper, Coastkeeper and Shorekeepers from around the Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Bays region. Visit at [www.WaterkeepersChesapeake.org](http://www.WaterkeepersChesapeake.org).

**Spring of Light:** Rabiah is a medicine woman whose Native American roots frame her work. She is called upon to facilitate ceremonies and women's circles as well as opening blessings at conferences, retreats, and gatherings. Visit [Spring of Light online](#).

**EcoHermanas** is a community of women that weaves and reconnects communities to Mother Earth. Visit [EcoHermanas online](#).