Narrator: Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum presents the following audio interview with Vaughn Perry and Dennis Chestnut, “Green Jobs and DOEE”. The interview takes place in Washington, DC apart of the Claiming Our Seat at the Table: Diversifying the Green Movement community forum.

[Photo: A logo reads, “Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum.”]

Vaughn Perry: The Watershed Stewards Academy is heavily funded through DOEE,

[Photo: A river sits beside a grass field with people picking up trash. Trees are positioned in the background.]

Vaughn Perry: as well as--

[Photo: A female in black summer attire climbs a tree leaned into over a waterway.]

Vaughn Perry: both Anacostia Watershed Society and Groundwork have trash traps.

[Photo: A black pipe sit on a rock surface near water with a litter trap logo on top it.]

Vaughn Perry: That are operated, and I think both of those are funded through

[Photo: A litter trap submerged halfway in water near a tunnel.]

Vaughn Perry: I could probably there's three or four other programs that I just don't facilitate right now

[Photo: A group of people on a boat pull black trash bags on a dock.]

Vaughn Perry: but yeah so DOEE actually funds a lot of the programs that we

[Photo: A white bird flies near a watershed with green vegetation in the background.]

Vaughn Perry: do through Anacostia Watershed Society.

Vernice Miller-Travis: Dennis--

[Photo: A man wears blue collar polo with a brown cap in front of trees.]

Dennis Chestnut: Yes, Yes and as Vaughn mentioned Groundwork Anacostia now for the last four years have managed three litter traps

[Photo: A green and black trash trap is submerged in water with a sign that reads “DDOE Working Towards a Trash Free Anacostia River.”]

Dennis Chestnut: to keep trash and debris from out of the Anacostia River because it's those waters

[Photo: A litter trap sits in slightly visible water near a creek with a tire submerged at the bottom. The photo transitions to another view of the litter trap filled with debris.]

Dennis Chestnut: and that those litter traps are funded through the five cents bag fee

[Photo: People walk alongside a grassy field near a river with a yellow bag collecting trash.]

Dennis Chestnut: and it not only pays for us to manage those but it provides
Dennis Chestnut: not just green job training but green jobs because the

Dennis Chestnut: the young adults that we hire to perform those tasks

Dennis Chestnut: are local young people and so that's a by-product of that five cents bag fee

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Dennis Chestnut: is driving some tremendous initiatives

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Dennis Chestnut: but they really as a matter of fact they have now pushed the legislation

Dennis Chestnut: two other jurisdictions that were

Dennis Chestnut: was built through funds primarily from the Department of the Environment

Dennis Chestnut: and I'll just say the Department of the Department of Energy and the Environment--

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Dennis Chestnut: two other jurisdictions that were
Dennis Chestnut: pretty much launched through policy from the district of

Dennis Chestnut: now Energy and the Environment. So yeah but we're really--

Dennis Chestnut: was introduced to me by this wonderful lady here. That's how I found out about the Groundwork initiative and--

Dennis Chestnut: the way the Groundwork it needed it had to have a municipal signer in order for Groundwork to exist

Dennis Chestnut: and the then Mayor Adrian Fenty decided to have the District Department of the Environment as that--

Dennis Chestnut: municipal signer on the agreement for Groundwork to exist in Washington D.C.

Dennis Chestnut: So we are very connected to the Department of the Environment.

Dennis Chestnut: was wearing a pair of glasses in a collar shirt with a lady, Vernice Miller-Travis, looking on in the background.

Dennis Chestnut: as a matter-of-fact Groundwork I'll just say just in finishing up--

Dennis Chestnut: the way the Groundwork it needed it had to have a municipal signer in order for Groundwork to exist in Washington D.C.