

Anacostia River needs cleaning, environmentalists say

By Sam Ford

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The Anacostia at Bladensburg, Md., appears a beautiful river where children take boat rides and full of trash and other unhealthy material.

A group of environmentalists waded the Anacostia in protective suits Thursday to spotlight that be cleaned up, it remains dirty.

That was part of the message from an array of environmentalists and political leaders who came of 1972 that promised a clean river by 1983 has failed.

"It's a tragedy that we have to risk life and limb to come to the United States especially this river," said Gerald Winegard, a Democratic Maryland state senator.

The Anacostia and its tributaries flow through Montgomery and Prince George's counties in Maryland. The advocates called on Prince George's to join D.C. and Montgomery county in passing a bag tax called for an end to untreated storm drain runoff.

Fisherman Eric Solomon says he doesn't eat the fish he catches in the river. "It makes me kinda nervous." Yet he says the river is in better shape than it used to be. The advocates say it still has a long way