

Subject: M-NCPPC Dismantles and Recycles Old Park House



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M-NCPPC DISMANTLES AND RECYCLES OLD PARK HOUSE

Millions of tons of construction debris from demolition projects are added to America's landfills every year. In yet another effort to go green, The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission's Department of Parks and Recreation chose to carefully disassemble a park house instead of razing it. The 1939 single-family house located on park property in Bowie off Crain Highway was slated for demolition, and it was decided by M-NCPPC to use the technique called "deconstruction" rather than bulldozing the old house.

Deconstruction is the systematic disassembly of a structure to maximize the recycling and reuse of the used building materials. Dismantling a house is a greener, more environmentally friendly process that reduces the impact of trash taken to the landfill and provides salvaged building materials at affordable prices to the public at designated resale sites. Other firms can and will raze buildings and reclaim the usable materials for charitable organizations, but M-NCPPC's selected vendor is taking it to another level. DeConstruction Services, LLC based in Fairfax, VA is an environmental company specializing in the disassembly of residential and small commercial buildings throughout the Washington, DC metropolitan area. It assists the building owners in donating the salvaged material to nonprofit organizations that sell it for drastically reduced prices to re-modelers, landlords, and homeowners of all income levels for renovation and economic development needs. In the process, this vendor recycles or reclaims for reuse approximately 80% of the structure, saving M-NCPPC debris hauling and disposal costs, and providing trade skills and permanent employment for at-risk workers.

Examples of recycled items from the house include electrical and plumbing fixtures, appliances, cabinets, doors, trim, windows, roofing, flooring, staircase, ceramic tile and metals. All of the salvaged items are donated to Community Forklift, located in Prince George's County. Community Forklift is a project of the Sustainable Community Initiatives, a 501©3 nonprofit organization.

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