



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

George Washington  
Memorial Parkway  
McLean, Virginia  
Clara Barton National  
Historic Site

Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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## George Washington Memorial Parkway Press Release

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For Immediate Release

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### **Public Scoping Meeting focusing on New Fire Suppression and Climate Management Systems Plans and Roof Rehabilitation at Clara Barton House National Historic Site**

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the National Park Service (NPS) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the installation of a new fire suppression system, the construction of a climate management system, and rehabilitation of a failing metal roof at the Clara Barton National Historic Site in Glen Echo, Maryland.


A public open house meeting will be held by the NPS on Wednesday evening, December 4, 2013 from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM in the Arcade Building, classroom 202 at Glen Echo Park, Glen Echo, Maryland. At the meeting, the project team will be available to discuss the purpose and need, site characteristics, and other project information. The meeting is also an opportunity for public involvement in the project according to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as the NPS seeks input into the proposed undertaking for this National Register of Historic Places property that is additionally recognized as a National Historic Landmark.

The Clara Barton House currently does not have a fire suppression system to protect the historic structure, historic furnishings, and museum collections from damage or loss by fire. The existing climate management system is inadequate and inefficient.

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The heating system is at the end of its twenty-five year life-cycle, and the small water chiller, condensing unit, and individual room air conditioners are providing inadequate cooling. The low-pitched standing seam metal roofs have experienced frequent failures from seasonal expansion/contraction due to lack of expansion joints causing damage to the interior ceilings and walls.

Comments will be taken during this meeting and throughout the 30-day public scoping period. During this scoping period, the public is invited to identify any issues or concerns they might have with the proposed project, so the NPS can appropriately consider them in the preparation of the Environmental Assessment.

You may submit comments electronically at the National Park Service's *Planning, Environment, and Public Comment* website (<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/GWMP>) or submit written comments to:

Superintendent  
George Washington Memorial Parkway  
Attn: Clara Barton Rehabilitation Project  
Turkey Run Headquarters  
McLean, Virginia 22101

Please submit your scoping comments by Friday, December 20, 2013. Once the EA is developed, it will be made available for public review for a 30-day period. If you wish to be added to the mailing list for the park regarding this project or other announcements, please be sure to indicate it in your response.