



AAUW Fredericksburg (VA) Area Branch

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Segregation in the National Parks in Virginia

Saturday, September 6, 2025, at 2:00 PM

Location: University of Mary Washington, Combs 139, located on College Avenue near William Street. Free parking is available on College Avenue. Visitor spaces are located on Double Drive immediately upon entering the University's gates off College Avenue. The building is fully accessible using a ramp on the campus side of the building.



Dr. Erin Devlin will share with us the highlights of her study examining the National Park Service (NPS) segregation policy and its application in parks in Virginia from 1916–1965.

During the 1930s and 1940s, the NPS implemented and enforced racial segregation in national parks in the southern United States. During this period, the National Park Service established segregated picnic areas, comfort stations, and campgrounds. Concessionaires also developed segregated dining and lodging facilities in the national parks.

Join us as Dr. Devlin offers her findings from her study of segregation in the National Parks of Virginia.

OUR SPEAKER

Erin Krutko Devlin earned her PhD in American Studies at the College of William and Mary. She currently serves as Associate Professor and the American Studies Program Coordinator, and offers courses in American Studies, Public History and Museum Studies, and 20th century United States history at the University of Mary Washington. She also regularly supervises internships for students with placements in museums, archives, and historic sites. Her research is focused on community memory, public history, and civil rights. She recently completed a historic resource study focused on segregation and African American visitation in Virginia's national parks.



STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON, WHICH IS A UNIVERSITY PARTNER WITH AAUW, ARE ELIGIBLE FOR FREE MEMBERSHIP IN AAUW FREDERICKSBURG AREA BRANCH.

The meeting is free and open to the public.