**PROJECT OVERVIEW:**
On Tuesday, May 5th, 2009, Earth Day Network joined with volunteers from the University of Phoenix Foundation and the National Audubon Society’s *TogetherGreen* program to complete and showcase green improvements to Thurgood Marshall Academy and hosted an Earth Fair featuring several local environmental organizations.

**SCHOOL GREENING COMPONENTS:**
- **2.8 kW solar panel system and educational energy monitoring display installation** for use in the classroom.
- **85 “smart” powerstrips** installation to reduce energy usage in all classrooms and computer labs.
- **Large student-designed, non-toxic Eco-mural** to be hung on a prominent wall of the school.

**MORE GREENING COMPONENTS:**
- **US-EPA EnergySTAR Rating Program energy audit** to show benefits of school greening and allow teachers and students to track their energy generation and savings.
- **Raised beds** to expand existing schoolyard vegetable garden, and **cold frames** from locally salvaged construction materials to extend the garden’s growing season.
- **Earth Fair** bringing together fourteen eco-minded organizations to highlight greening features and educate the students and community about their work with engaging, hands-on activities.
- **Storm drain marking** within school’s vicinity to remind local residents not to pollute, since waste ends up in the local watershed.

**Thurgood Marshall Academy**
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The 2.8 kW PV system will save the school approximately $35,000 and 150,000 pounds of CO2 over the 25 year warranty life of the system. The school’s educational website and monitoring system can be viewed here: http://view2.fatspaniel.net/PV2Web/merge?view=PV/standard/Simple&eid=265522.

**THE SCHOOL:**
Thurgood Marshall Academy opened in 2001 and resides in a renovated landmark facility in historic Anacostia, a neighborhood in Southeast, DC. This area has the highest rates of poverty (36%) and child poverty (47%) in Washington, DC, as well as the lowest high school (33% in five years) and college (5% in five years) graduation rates in the district. In addition, children in TMA’s vicinity have access to approximately 1/10 the social support organizations available to children in a similar neighborhood in Northwest, DC. These combined factors mean that students enter the 9th grade at TMA with skills averaging in the 5th – 6th grade range. As the area’s first law-themed public charter high school, TMA was founded to meet critical community needs, and combines a comprehensive, standards-based curricula with education concerning law, democracy, and human rights. The school currently enrolls approximately 400 students in grades 9 – 12. 99% of the student body is African American, and 69% of these students qualified for Free and Reduced Lunch programs in 2007-2008. Student test scores have remained over three times higher than those of students in surrounding public high schools, and TMA holds a remarkable 100% college acceptance rate of graduates.