

ALL THINGS GO DC 2026: RECAP

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As a nor'easter churned off the coast of New Jersey, battering the coastline through Pennsylvania, Long Island, and parts of southern New England, fans gathered in the cold drizzle for day two of All Things Go DC outside Merriweather Post Pavilion.

Canvassers traded pink bracelets for PETA petition signatures. Another fan handed out handmade patches. Others simply huddled together against the chilly morning air. The hope was that the rain would eventually let up and the day would be cold and wet, but otherwise clear.

Instead, fans braved a day of freezing rain that ranged from light sprinkles to enormous drops, enduring conditions that clearly weren't what either the festival or its performers had prepared for. As Zoöey Deschanel said from the stage during She & Him's set, "you'll never forget it."



The day began at the Chrysalis side stage with emerging artists GLOM and Susannah Joffe. Before the music started, we met a group of Zara Larsson fans dressed for their own European summer in an array of incredible Zara looks.

One of them, Mallory Wise, would end up onstage nearly nine hours later, having toughed out the weather to dance to "Lush Life" with the queen who gave us Midnight Sun.

GLOM, SUSANNAH & THE CHRYSALIS STAGE



GLOM & Susannah Joffe

GLOM was the perfect way to start the day. I hadn't had the chance to hear his music before arriving at the festival, but by the time his 20-minute set ended, his songs were already making their way onto my playlists. Some of our favorites from the weekend can be found on our ATG Hits playlist.

With All Things Go's emerging artists getting just a brief window to make an impression, GLOM's set was over far too soon. "Glass" was a definite standout, with a sound that felt like a modern harkening back to bands such as The Verve and Black Submarine. It was the kind of set that leaves you wishing you had another half hour.

Next up on the Chrysalis Stage was Susannah Joffe. With visuals and artwork created by Trashy Graphic and Natalia Cortese, Joffe delivered a five-song set that opened with "Your Mother's Name" and closed with an extended rendition of "I Will Die Your Daughter."

If you only have time to listen to two Susannah Joffe songs, start with "Happiness Is Just a Myth" and "All I See Is Sky." Her sound is a haunting but sweet blend of folk noir and melodic rock. Her new album, *Dust Settles and So Will I*, had coincidentally dropped just one day before her All Things Go performance, making the festival set an especially timely introduction to the record.

Finding Shelter From the Rain

We eventually took a break from the rain and headed up toward the pavilion, but not before stopping to check out some of the amazing partners All Things Go had assembled throughout the festival grounds.

Ben & Jerry's debuted a new flavor at the festival alongside a giant "Fight Fascism" installation encouraging attendees to get out and vote. We also took in the murals celebrating

Merriweather Post Pavilion's history and its iconic place in live music.



HEMLOCKE SPRINGS, REBECCA BLACK & THE CHRYSALIS STAGE



Hemlocke Springs brought fierce energy to the main Pavilion stage, at one point brandishing a sword prop and sporting an incredible bomber jacket emblazoned with “Girls Club” across the front. She drew an impressive pit crowd ahead of Rebecca Black’s set.

Ms. Delicious herself took the stage with a modified setlist due to earlier delays, but that didn’t stop the crowd from chanting along during her “Exhibitionist” intro.

Over at the Chrysalis Stage, Zolita, Haute & Freddy, Naika, The Beths, and The Beaches kept the rain-soaked crowd moving. The Beaches even brought Rebecca Black back out for “Blame My Ex,” much to the delight of fans.

But for many of the people who had spent hours toughing it out at the side stage, there was one act they were waiting for. Zara Larsson.

But they have hours to go.

Suki Waterhouse

Inside the Pavilion, Suki Waterhouse rocked the crowd with her Loveland setlist. The model-turned-rock-star delivered some of the strongest moments of her set with “Notting Hill” and “Johanna,” performing against a striking backdrop featuring a mirrored, pierced heart and an arrow-riddled piano.

By this point, the festival had reached the part of the night where the headliners began taking over. Fans were no longer choosing between two acts they wanted to see; they were bouncing between stages trying to catch as much as possible.



MUNA & ZARA LARSSON BRINGS SUMMER TO THE CHRYSALIS STAGE

MUNA rocked the entire house.

The Pavilion pit, seats, and lawn were packed with fans sporting parkas, rain jackets, and every other piece of weather gear they could find. As icy winds swept through the concourse, Katie Gavin and the band delivered a performance that made the miserable weather feel almost irrelevant.

It was my first time seeing MUNA live, and it was a show I won't soon forget.

I love when bands genuinely seem to have fun together onstage, and the BFF energy between the three performers was palpable. Cheeky jokes, playful stage moments, and the kind of effortless chemistry that can't really be manufactured were sprinkled throughout the performance. The band also played well beyond their scheduled 8 p.m. end time, giving the crowd even more reason to stay put.



Photos provided by Mallory Wise



Zara Larsson Brings Summer to the Chrysalis Stage

As the Pavilion stage began transforming for Hayley Williams' white-and-ivory-draped set, Zara Larsson turned the glowing green Chrysalis Stage in the Merriweather woods into a lush summer oasis. There was something almost surreal about watching Zara perform *Midnight Sun* in freezing rain.

Her performance happened to fall on the one-year anniversary of the album's release, and she invited the crowd to help her sing "Happy Birthday" to *Midnight Sun*. Then, during "Midnight Sun," the Pavilion video screens captured a moment that perfectly summed up the night: as Zara's microphone cut out, nearly 7,000 fans kept singing the lyrics for her.

Earlier that morning, we had met Zara fan Mallory Wise, who had been standing in the rain since GLOM's 11 a.m. set. Mallory had originally purchased tickets to All Things Go's New York City event at Forest Hills, which was canceled at the last minute because of the same nor'easter now pelting Merriweather.

So when Zara called Mallory onstage during "Lush Life" to become that night's Lush Life girl, it felt like the kind of full-circle festival moment you couldn't script. And Mallory absolutely killed it.

Hayley Williams

Finally, Hayley Williams took the stage.

Merriweather Post Pavilion and the lawn were packed, while even more fans gathered around monitors throughout the venue, including at the Chrysalis Stage.

Williams opened with a pounding instrumental on piano, "Mississippi Goddam" scrawled across the side in an homage to Nina Simone's 1964 protest song. After playing alongside her band, she reached for the microphone and launched into what was arguably the most energetic performance of the night.

Williams delivered a 21-song set, including a Nina Simone cover, giving fans nearly a full Hayley Williams solo concert despite the festival setting and weather-related delays.

For fans who had spent the day soaked, freezing, and repeatedly debating whether to retreat somewhere warm, the payoff was substantial. At just three songs shy of the 25-song setlist typical of her solo tour, Williams gave All Things Go attendees a set that felt much bigger than a festival slot.

By the time the final notes rang out, the rain had become almost beside the point. Day two of All Things Go DC was cold. It was wet. It was messy. And it was unforgettable.

As Zooey Deschanel predicted earlier in the day: you'll never forget it. Catch our expanded feature of the festival, fans, fashion and more in our December print issue.