

Invasive Alien Plant Removal Programs Happening in Maryland First Annual Edition 2008

Information collected and compiled by Marc Imlay, PhD

SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE PROGRAMS

As an example, research indicates that Japanese stilt grass is a major contributor of nitrogen pollution in the Chesapeake Bay, and reduces by half the ability of any land it dominates to hold water and release it slowly. Non-native invasive plant removal efforts will reach maintenance phase following a major work effort at each site in the mid-Atlantic region and around the world for about three to five years to remove the massive populations of species. Regular stewardship projects are conducted in all seasons including winter, early spring, late spring, summer, and late summer.

This high-intensity program is followed by a low-intensity annual maintenance program for plants we have missed, plants emerging from the seed bank, and occasional plants migrating in from neighboring areas. Marc Imlay, PhD, Conservation Biologist, Anacostia Watershed Society 301-699-6204, 301-283-0808

Arranged by County

Anne Arundel County

Fort Meade Army Installation, Monthly

Second Saturday of every month at 10:00 AM (Time is flexible if enough volunteers are available.) Help remove Japanese stilt grass, English ivy, garlic mustard, tree of heaven, multiflora rose, Japanese honeysuckle, common privet, phragmites, Asiatic tearthumb, etc. Prior to removing the weeds, there will be a short training session on identification and control techniques of non-native invasive plants. People of all ages, backgrounds, and interests are invited to spend a few hours outdoors hand-pulling some non-native plants while learning about the differences between native and non-native invasive plants and how these invasives adversely impact our natural ecosystem. Bring hand tools, gloves, lunch, and water. Long sleeves and pants recommended. At least three days prior to the event, contact Mick Butler, Installation forester, by phone at 301-677-9188 or by email donald.marquardt@us.army.mil. A list of names should be provided to the forester that will in turn be provided to guard personnel at Reece Road entrance to ensure access on to post.

Directions: Take Route 175 East from the 295 Baltimore Washington Parkway. Turn Right onto Reece Road to enter the post, immediately turn left onto Ernie Pyle Street, go approximately 1 mile to Llewellyn Ave, turn left on Llewellyn, then turn right onto Chisholm Ave, turn left on 3rd Street, turn right on Ross Road and go to 2nd building on the right, Environmental Division Office.

Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary, Ongoing

Join our team to remove the non-native invasive plants from our forests and nip these NIPs in the bud before they spread and threaten the special habitats and rare plants found on the Sanctuary. Those interested in continuing this effort throughout the year can adopt their very own plot to monitor, map, and manage the invasives. Wear long sleeves, long pants, and sturdy work shoes. Bring water, and if you have them, work gloves and hand pruners. Children should be at least 8 years old.

Contact: Karyn Molines kmolines@chesapeake.net or 410-286-2928.

Directions: Call JBWS 410-741-9330 or visit www.jugbay.org.

Patuxent Research Refuge

Saturday, July 12, National Wildlife Visitor Center, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Non-native invasive plants are threatening our wildlife habitat. We need YOU to help stop them. Come out for one of our "Weed Warriors Days" and help us treat garlic mustard, mile-a-minute, Japanese stilt

grass and other non-native plant infestations on the refuge. All ages and abilities are welcome. Do your part to protect Patuxent from alien invaders, and become a Weed Warrior! You will receive a short educational briefing explaining the effects of invasive plants on wildlife and wildlife habitats and how to identify and control these plants. Wear long sleeves and pants and bring gloves. Please register for this event by calling 301-497-5887.

Directions to the National Wildlife Visitor Center: The National Wildlife Visitor Center is located off of Powder Mill Road between MD Route 197 and the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, south of Laurel.

For additional information, call 301-497-5763 or visit <http://patuxent.fws.gov>.

Christopher Wicker, Wildlife Biologist

USFWS, Patuxent Research Refuge

12100 Beech Forest Road, Room 138

Laurel, MD 20708

Christopher_Wicker@fws.gov

Baltimore City

Saturday, May 17 Invasive Plant Removal in Leakin Park

Help the Sierra Club cut invasive vines out of beautiful old trees in Leakin Park in Baltimore City. As well as getting satisfaction from freeing trees that are being choked and strangled, you will be rewarded with excellent exercise. Tools and gloves will be available. Meet at 10:00 AM at the Carrie Murray Nature Center in Leakin Park, off of Windsor Mill Road in Baltimore City. For more information, contact Mary at 410-239-4590 (home), 443-386-0862 (cell), or email XxDiTz4LyFxx@aol.com.

Become an Urban Weed Warrior!

Baltimore City Recreation and Parks has its own Urban Weed Warriors program. Weed Warriors learn about the non-native invasive problem in Baltimore City parks. Training will include weed ID, removal techniques, and native alternatives to exotic flora. The training will lead to certification as a weed warrior, whereby volunteers can work on their own to help control non-native invasives in Baltimore City parks. Become a certified Urban Weed Warrior! Be trained in the identification, threat, and control of invasive plant species like English ivy and Japanese honeysuckle. Once certified, you can work on your own or in organized groups to help rid the city of invasives that are harming Baltimore parks. A PowerPoint presentation will be followed by a short walk through Cylburn Arboretum, Wyman Park Dell, or Leakin Park! There will also be information about organized weed-pull activities throughout the spring and summer. Please contact the Urban Weed Warrior Coordinator, at weeds@baltimorecity.gov or 410-396-0359, for directions, RSVP, or with questions. Specific locations and times will be announced.

Urban Weed Warrior Coordinator

Baltimore City Recreation & Parks

2600 Madison Ave

Baltimore City, MD 21217

Cylburn Arboretum, Ongoing

Meet at Cylburn Mansion (4915 Greenspring Ave). Park in the designated parking area and meet at the steps of the mansion. Please wear sturdy work attire. Tools and gloves will be provided but feel free to bring your own. Refreshments will be provided. For more information or directions, call 410-396-0359. Weed Warrior Training Sessions

Glen Ellen – Seminary Trail, Ongoing

Help the Sierra Club cut invasive vines and pull other non-native plants along the Glen Ellen – Seminary Trail in the Loch Raven Watershed. Meet at 9:00 AM on Seminary Ave just past the light to the left off Dulaney Valley Rd, just north of the Baltimore Beltway. Tools and gloves will be provided. For information, call Mary at 410-239-4590, 443-386-0862 (cell), or email XxDiTz4LyFxx@aol.com.

Herring Run Watershed Association, Ongoing

Volunteers are sought to adopt sections of Herring Run to monitor, report, and prevent pollution. For the "Free the Trees" Weed Pull at Herring Run Park, meet at Chesterfield Ave and Cardenas Ave for weed pulling along the Chesterfield Ave bike path in Herring Run. You should be able to park along the street. Please wear sturdy work attire. Tools and gloves will be provided but feel free to bring your own. There will be yummy veggie CHILI, hot COCOA, and coffee. For more information call Darin Crew 410-254-1577 or 410-254-1577 or email volunteer@herringrun.org.

Irvine Nature Center, Ongoing

www.explorenature.org
410-484-2413

Jones Falls Watershed Association, Ongoing

www.jonesfalls.org
sgreene@jonesfalls.org
410-366-3036

Baltimore County

Cromwell Valley Park. Monthly

Work parties for removal of invasives and planting of natives are held at Cromwell Valley Park on the 2nd Saturday of each month from 9:00 AM - Noon. Rain date is the following day, at the same time. Tools and refreshments are provided – all you need bring is suitable protective clothing. Cromwell Valley Park is a wonderful rural park just outside the Beltway on Cromwell Bridge Road. The areas we have worked on in recent years, Beehive Woods and Dogwood Hill, are looking much better, free of major invasives, with new trees and shrubs gaining a foothold. A new project last year was the installation of a deer exclusion fence demonstration to show the effects of excessive deer browsing in the forest. Our Habitat Restoration Team has a tough ongoing assignment to eliminate non-native invasives from this scenic park, and we need all the help we can get. We have tackled multiflora rose, Japanese barberry, kudzu, garlic mustard, mile-a-minute, porcelain berry, Asiatic bittersweet and many others. There is still a lot to do. For information, contact Bill Breakey breakeys@comcast.net. The park office is at 410-887-2503 or check out the park's website at cvpark@bcpl.net. Volunteers are placed on an email notify list.

Gunpowder Valley Conservancy, Ongoing

www.gunpowderfalls.org
info@gunpowderfalls.org
410-343-3478

Baltimore County-Carroll County

Prettyboy Watershed Alliance, Ongoing

www.prettyboywatershed.org
prettyboywatershed@gmail.com
P.O. Box 512
Monkton, MD 21111-0512
410-239-0640

Baltimore County-Howard County

Patapsco Valley State Park, Avalon and Glen Artney Areas

Sunday, May 4 from 1:00 – 5:00 PM Garlic Mustard Challenge (popular annual family-oriented event) Join the challenge with hundreds of other volunteers removing the invasive garlic mustard plant from the park. After two hours of pulling, enjoy live music, old fashioned picnic games, and environmental

displays. Prizes for all volunteers. Taste test garlic mustard side dishes by amateur chefs and view posters created by local area school-age children.

Sunday, May 4 from 3:00 – 4:00 pm Villain of the Valley Poster Contest

Kids submit your poster showing why invasive garlic mustard is hurting the Patapsco Valley area. Prizes include a \$50 gift certificate from Toys R Us, a \$100 savings bond for first prize, or two computers donated to their public school or non-profit of their choice.

Sunday, May 4 from 3:00 – 4:00 pm Garlic Mustard Chef Cook-off

Adults and kid chefs submit their recipe and dish using the garlic mustard herb. Winners receive a gift certificate from a local area fine restaurant. After judging, other participants may sample the dishes.

To learn more about the Friends of the Patapsco Valley & Heritage Greenway, call 410-480-0824, email patapscofriend@gmail.com, or visit us at www.patapscoheritagegreenway.com. To see photos of past volunteers in action, visit <http://patapscofriend.myphotoalbum.com>. Patapsco State Park – <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/central/patapscovolunteer.html>

Patapsco Valley State Park, Avalon Area, Monthly

Please join the Friends of Patapsco Valley State Park on the second Wednesday evening of each month at the Avalon area to eradicate invasive vines. This is the worst place in the park for non-native vines where they have killed or broken many trees in that area, so we need lot's of help. Wear long clothes and bring gloves as there is some poison ivy. If you have them, bring hand pruners and loppers (the 2 handed cutters for larger vines). We will have a few extra tools if you need to borrow some. See our website for updates at <http://www.fvpsp.org>. Contact Jim Palmer to confirm date/time at 410-531-2065 or via email at J.G.Palmer@jhuapl.edu. Meet at the Avalon contact station.

Directions: From I-95 take I-195 east to Rt. 1 toward Elkridge. Turn right immediately on South St. Park entrance is on the left. Proceed ½ mile to the contact station.

Calvert County

Hellen Creek Hemlock Preserve, Ongoing

For more info, or to receive updates about workdays email or call Bob Boxwell, Executive Director, Cove Point Natural Heritage Trust, 11785 Clifton Drive, P.O. Box 336, Lusby, MD 20657, 410-394-1300, or bobboxwell@hotmail.com.

Directions: From Washington, take Rt. 4 south. Turn right at the second light in Lusby, which is Coster/Mill Bridge Rd and an immediate left onto Coster. After passing two rights (Bassford) look for the MACHINE SHOP sign on the left then ahead and on the right for Clifton Dr. Turn here and follow to the first left. You'll see a handmade sign with the number 11785. Turn here and follow to the sign and gate.

American Chestnut Land Trust, Port Republic, Ongoing

Join us any Wednesday morning for "Weed Whacking Wednesdays:" in winter and early spring from 10:00 AM – Noon; in late spring, summer and fall from 9:00 – 11:00 AM.

Or one Saturday a month for "Vine Vindicator Saturdays" from 9:00 AM - Noon; 2008 dates will be May 31, June 28, July 26, September 13, and October 18.

Join us for our extensive non-native invasive plant removal program in one of the last pristine watersheds on the western shore of the Chesapeake Bay. Work, as a team or individually, includes training, tools, water, and gloves. For more information, weather cancellations, or directions contact Liz Stoffel, Land Manager, at 410-414-3400 or land@acltweb.org. There will be a full invasive training program August 16, but it is not necessary to participate on the workdays.

Caroline County

Adkins Arboretum, Ongoing

Gardeners often unknowingly harbor some serious invasive plants in their backyards, or maybe they know but aren't sure what to replace them with. Participants learn about how using native plants to replace invasive plants can offer benefits from attracting more butterflies and birds to reducing the spread of invaders in their neighborhood. Participants will learn how gardens can reflect their native landscapes instead, as well as being ornamental. Sylvan Kaufman is the Arboretum's Conservation Curator and co-author of *Invasive Plants*. Adkins Arboretum trains volunteers to assist the staff in the removal of invasive non-natives on the Arboretum's 400-acre site. Workdays are flexible. For more information, contact Sylvan Kaufman at 410-634-2847 x24. Visit www.adkinsarboretum.org for directions and more info.

Charles County

Chapman Forest/Ruth Swann Park, Monthly

First Sundays and second Saturdays, monthly from 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Remove invasive non-natives from the 200-acre Swann Park and 800-acre portion of Chapman Forest designated Chapman State Park. There will be time for plant identification and a beautiful beach lunch. There are general methods and species-specific methods, such as best season for species, wet soil condition for pulling, targeted use of herbicides, and matching funds for staff to do what volunteers find hard to do. On Saturdays we will walk through Swann Park and on Sundays we will walk through Chapman Forest. We will look for and remove invasive plants, identify and appreciate the native plants and animals we have rescued, bag trash we come across, and participate in water quality sampling on the wetlands meadow tributary to the Mattawoman Creek in Swann Park. Participating organizations include MNPS www.mdflora.org, Sierra Club, <http://maryland.sierraclub.org> and Chapman Forest Foundation. Wear casual clothing, long sleeves and pants, sturdy comfortable walking boots/shoes; gloves are encouraged for these events. Contact Marc Imlay, 301-283-0808, 301-442-5657 cell.

First Sundays Directions: Meet at main gate of Chapman Forest (Chapman State Park, Mount Aventine). Take the Washington Capital Beltway to Indian Head Highway (MD 210) south toward Indian Head (from VA Exit 2; from MD Exit 3A). At 14 miles, continue through on MD 210 through the traffic light at MD 227 (This crossroads is the center of the community known as Bryans Road). At about 1.1 miles past the light, veer to the right onto Chapmans Landing Road. Follow for 1.6 miles to the gated entrance.

Second Saturdays Directions: Meet at the Ruth B. Swann Park-Potomac Branch Library parking lot, 20 miles south of Capital Beltway on Rt. 210 (Indian Head Hwy), about a mile and a half south from the traffic light on Rt. 210 in Bryans Road. Give yourself 30 to 40 minutes from the Beltway. CARPOOL Info: Meet at Sierra Club Md. Chapter office at 9:00 AM; return 5:00 PM. Call Laurel Imlay at 301-277-7111. For info about the area or to see a map, visit <http://www.chapmanforest.org> and/or www.mattawomanwatershedsociety.org.

Garrett County

Battling Botanical Bullies in Bear Pen Wildland

Date: Friday, June 20 **Time:** 9:00 AM – Noon

Adult volunteers are needed to continue control efforts of Japanese spiraea in the Bear Pen Run area of Savage River State Forest. Bear Pen is designated as a Type 1 Wildland and like other natural areas around the State is threatened by a variety of exotic invasive species. We'll be working to continue our efforts to reduce the infestation using both mechanical and chemical control methods. Kerrie Kyde, Invasive Plant Specialist with the Maryland Wildlife & Heritage Service, is providing technical support. Larry Maxim, Savage River State Forest manager, is providing work tools. Mike Gregory, Big Run & New Germany State Park manager, is providing free camping the night before for any out-of-town volunteers. Ron Boyer, Elk Ridge NatureWorks, is coordinating the project and providing snacks and drinks for volunteers with assistance from the Savage River Watershed Association. For more details or to register, contact Ron Boyer 301-895-3686 or info@elkridgenatureworks.com.

Howard County

Middle Patuxent Environmental Area, Ongoing

The Conservation Stewardship Project in the Middle Patuxent Environmental Area (MPEA) of Howard County will meet for the following workdays in 2008: May 27, June 24, September 23, October 28, and November 25. We work on the fourth Tuesday of the month, except the hot months of July and August, from 9:00 – 11:30 AM. Contact: Aylene 410-992-9889 or Carol cfilipczak@comcast.com.

Kent County

Eastern Neck Wildlife Refuge, Ongoing

Wineberries with garlic mustard: A new type of exotic fruit salad? Not quite. These are two invasive plant species that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service would like help removing from Eastern Neck Wildlife Refuge (1730 Eastern Neck Road, Rock Hall, MD). Garlic mustard is a newly arrived invasive species, and is a management priority. Wineberry is a raspberry-like plant that begins to ripen with fruit between June and July. The weed-pulling guide is Rachel Cliche, a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist and the invasive species specialist for the Chesapeake Marshlands National Wildlife Refuge Complex. Garlic mustard is pulled by hand, but a 4-pronged spading fork works best on wineberry. High boots (for ticks) are recommended, along with a DEET-based bug repellent, a hat, and gloves. Rachel is always looking for volunteers to help pull weeds. Contact her at Rachel_Cliche@fws.gov or 410-639-2108 for details about when and where.

Montgomery County

Montgomery County Parks, Ongoing

Help Us by Becoming a Weed Warrior!

We welcome citizen volunteers for help in removing non-native invasive plant species from M-NCPPC parks in Montgomery County. Become a Certified Weed Warrior by completing a one-hour online course and a two-hour field training session with the forest ecologist for Montgomery Parks, Carole Bergmann. You'll learn identification, removal techniques, and control strategies for the most harmful invasive plant species. Once trained, Certified Weed Warriors can then work at their own pace and choose a schedule that best suits them. Opportunities to work with a group on invasive removal are also offered several times a year. A newer program, Special Project Weed Warriors, enables various community groups (e.g., from a school, workplace, church or synagogue, or community association) to learn weed ID and removal on the spot and then spend a couple of hours tackling invasive vines, shrubs, and herbaceous plants on county parkland. Learn more about both programs at www.weedwarrior.org or call Paul Carlson (Certified) at 301-942-4709 or Lynette Scaffidi (Special Projects) at 301-949-0223.

Brookside Gardens, Ongoing

Weed Warriors are needed for the forested areas surrounding the gardens. You will be given directions so that you may work independently, weekends or weekdays, on your own schedule. Contact Stacy Parsons 301-962-1417 or stacy.parsons@mncppc-mc.org. Websites: www.BrooksideGardens.org and/or www.MC-MNCPPC.org/environment/weed_warriors/intro.shtm.

Northwest Branch of the Anacostia, Monthly

Third Saturdays, monthly from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Please join us for a walk in the forest and to remove invasive plants including garlic mustard and multi-flora rose. Then we'll relax and have a vegetarian lunch. All are welcome. Bring water and gloves.

Vegetarian lunch provided. Contact Jane Osburn 301-754-1564 or jgosburn@earthlink.net.

Directions: From the intersection of 29 (Colesville Rd) and University Blvd in Silver Spring, go east on University and turn (there's only left) on Williamsburg Drive. Stay on Williamsburg at the first fork you come to (bear left), and then at the second fork (Williamsburg N. vs. S.) bear left again. Williamsburg turns into Big Rock Road at the bottom of the hill. 10204 Big Rock Road

Invasive Plant Control Workdays in the Potomac Gorge, Ongoing

Help protect native plant biodiversity near D.C.! The Nature Conservancy, in partnership with the National Park Service, will continue all season with invasive plant control workdays in the Potomac Gorge, a 15-mile stretch of river valley between Great Falls and Georgetown with over 200 rare plants and 5 globally rare plant communities. Volunteers are welcome to sign up for a variety of workdays, where we cut or pull some of the most problematic weeds, often in scenic areas. We will hold two more Weed Warrior training sessions, where volunteers learn 13 non-native plant species, adopt an area, and work independently in the National Parks in the Potomac Gorge. For more information or to sign up, go to www.nature.org/maryland or contact Mary (PotomacGorgeVol@tnc.org) if you would like to sign up a school or organizational group for a workday, or be added to our email list.

Mary Travaglini, Potomac Gorge Habitat Restoration Manager

The Nature Conservancy of MD/DC

5410 Grosvenor Lane, Suite 100

Bethesda, MD 20814

301-897-8570 x235

Sligo Creek Park, Ongoing

The RIP (Removing Invasive Plants) Committee of Friends of Sligo Creek holds plant removal events in Sligo between New Hampshire Ave and the headwaters in Kemp Mill and Wheaton. The group invites local residents and others to work on shrubs in fall and winter, garlic mustard in spring, mile-a-minute in summer, and vines throughout the year. No need to pre-register. We welcome newcomers, can provide gloves, and are accepted by MCPS for volunteer service hours. Contact Sally Gagne 301-588-2071 or RIP@fosc.org. For a schedule see www.fosc.org/RIPEventSched.htm.

Woodend Nature Sanctuary, Chevy Chase, Ongoing

The Audubon Naturalist Society needs your help to remove invasive non-native plants from its Woodend Sanctuary! Join us for group work sessions where training will be provided. Trained volunteers may also be authorized to work independently. Contact Liz Jones volunteer@audubonnaturalist.org or 301-652-9188 x30 for more information or to sign up.

Liz Jones, Volunteer Coordinator

Audubon Naturalist Society

8940 Jones Mill Road

Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Prince George's County

Patuxent Research Refuge

Dates for 2008 events are as follows (dates and times subject to change if necessary):

Saturday, May 17, North Tract Visitor Contact Station, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Saturday, June 7, North Tract Visitor Contact Station, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Saturday, July 26, North Tract Visitor Contact Station, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Saturday, August 9, North Tract Visitor Contact Station, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Non-native invasive plants are threatening our wildlife habitat. We need YOU to help stop them. Come out for one of our "Weed Warriors Days" and help us treat garlic mustard, mile-a-minute, Japanese stilt grass and other non-native plant infestations on the refuge. All ages and abilities are welcome. Do your part to protect Patuxent from alien invaders, and become a Weed Warrior! You will receive a short educational briefing explaining the effects of invasive plants on wildlife and wildlife habitats and how to identify and control these plants. Wear long sleeves and pants and bring gloves. Please register for this event by calling 301-497-5887.

Directions to the North Tract Visitor Contact Station: From I-295, take the exit for MD Route 198 towards Fort Meade. Go approximately 1.5 miles until you see Glory Days Auto Salvage on your near right corner and baseball fields on your far right. Turn right between the two onto Bald Eagle Drive. Proceed through the gate and continue about ½ mile to the Visitor Contact Station.

For additional information, call 301-497-5763 or visit <http://patuxent.fws.gov>.

Christopher Wicker, Wildlife Biologist
USFWS, Patuxent Research Refuge
12100 Beech Forest Road, Room 138
Laurel, MD 20708
Christopher_Wicker@fws.gov

Help Most Polluted Stream in Anacostia Watershed, Monthly

Friends of Lower Beaverdam Creek seeks volunteers for last-Saturday-of-the-month invasive-plant removal and native planting activity from approx. 9:00 AM – Noon. Meet at Woodworth Park on Wayne Place in Cheverly, Md. Dates for 2008 are May 31, June 28 (no July or Aug), Sept 27, Oct 25, and Nov 29 (no Dec). Tools are provided, but wear work gloves and sturdy shoes. To join Friends of LBC or for more info about the park, contact Dan or Cathy Smith at 301-386-4394 or Elaine Friebele at 301-341-5722. Directions: Take 202 East under the BW parkway. Go one block and turn right on Cheverly. Go one mile and turn left on Forest Road. Go two blocks passing church on left and turn right on Parkway. Go 2 blocks and turn left on Wayne for one block. We meet there at the park by the small playground.

Anacostia Watershed Society Assists Weed Warriors, Beltsville, Ongoing

Last Saturdays (starting in March, 2008) from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Little Paint Branch Park and Cherry Hill Road Community Park
Meet at the Beltsville Community Center parking lot. There are full indoor toilet facilities and a large seating area for lunch. We will continue the wonderful progress accomplished the last three years by the Americorps workers, General Electric Volunteers, Robert Goddard French Immersion and Montessori Elementary School, Washington Quaker Work Camps, and World Bank volunteers at Little Paint Branch Community Park. Our day will include natural history and special features of the park, methods and reasons for the project to control the spread of invasives. Native flowers and other plants will be identified as we work to rescue them. There will be a sign-in and safety orientation with handouts. Gloves and tools are provided. Our objective is to remove the invasives to allow natives to grow back. Contact Kyle Watts at kyle@manheim.org or 301-476-0627 or Marc Imlay 301-283-0808 or marc@anacostiaws.org. Directions: Take U.S. 1 north from the beltway. Go about 1 mile, passing the National Agricultural Research Center, and turn left at the light on Montgomery Rd. Go 3 blocks and turn left on Sellman Road. Go about 5 blocks and turn right into Little Paint Branch Park at the bottom of the hill.

Several of the worst invasive species in the mid-Atlantic region, including English ivy, Asiatic bittersweet, garlic mustard, bush honeysuckle, and porcelain berry, are in the early stages of invasion in this park. Japanese stilt grass covers about 5% of the park. The project supporters are now removing English ivy, wineberry, periwinkle, ground ivy, Japanese pachysandra, bush honeysuckle, and multiflora rose to rescue the incredible diversity of native plants and animals at this particular park. Unlike most parks in the area, the 150-acre Little Paint Branch Park is in the early stages of invasion and is essentially the native plant nursery for the Paint Branch itself.

Belt Woods, Bowie, Ongoing

Saturday, Sunday, and occasional mid-week invasive species workgroups. Times and dates vary based on available team leader. Please call or email for schedule. We will be removing creeping euonymus, Japanese honeysuckle, winged burning bush, multiflora rose, Asian bittersweet, Japanese stilt grass, garlic mustard, etc., from various parts of the property. Tools and gloves provided, but feel free to bring your own favorite tool or pair of gloves. Email to be added to the contact list at pamelakcooper@verizon.net or call 301-390-0797.

Old Greenbelt, Ongoing

The Greenbelt Homes Inc. (GHI) housing cooperative in Old Greenbelt has 85.6 acres of stewardship forest as well as other wooded parcels. The Woodlands Committee is actively involved with urban forestry management. Regular work sessions for the removal/eradication of non-native invasive plant species and tree plantings are scheduled throughout the year. Also scheduled are bird counts and native landscaping seminars and guided hikes. For more info on GHI Woodlands Committee activities, contact 301-474-4161.

Greenbelt National Park, Greenbelt, Monthly

Invasive plant removal first Saturday of each month 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Located just 12 miles from Washington D.C., Greenbelt Park is a beloved retreat from the city and an important refuge for native plants and animals. Come join us in defending Greenbelt Park from encroachment by alien invasive plant growth. Volunteers will be hand pulling harmful non-native plants such as Japanese honeysuckle, beefsteak mint, mile-a-minute vine and garlic mustard. People of all ages, backgrounds, and interests are invited to spend a fun day outdoors while learning about the differences between native and non-native plants and helping to preserve the health and native wildlife of this local natural area. Bring lunch, drink, and appropriate clothing for weather. The park entrance is located at 6565 Greenbelt Road.

Directions: From the Beltway, take Kenilworth Ave south about ¼ mile to Greenbelt Rd, MD 193 (Kenilworth goes under 193). Stay to the right so you can take MD 193 East (a left to go over Kenilworth) for only a few hundred yards to the park entrance. Follow the signs to the Sweetgum picnic area. For any questions and information about upcoming events, contact Tom Crone at tomnjan@erols.com or 301-864-1959 or visit www.nps.gov/gree.

Hard Bargain Farm Environmental Center, Accokeek, Ongoing

Invasive Plant Removal Leader: Karen Jensen Miles. Volunteers needed! Call 301-292-5665 or email kmiles@fergusonfoundation.org for more information.

Indian Creek Trail at Lake Artemesia, Berwyn Heights, Annual/Ongoing

Garlic Mustard Pull-off teams compete in removal of the non-native invasive weed garlic mustard. Prizes given to winning team for largest amount pulled in a given area and time. Meet in the Lake Artemesia parking lot along Berwyn Road. Bring water, work boots, durable clothes, long sleeves, and gloves. There is some poison ivy at work site. Contact: M-NCPPC Park Ranger Chris Garrett or John Dillon.

Directions: The lake is located on Berwyn Road in College Park. From the south, the Capital Beltway (I-495), take Exit 23 (Kenilworth Ave) toward Bladensburg. Make a right onto Route 193 (Greenbelt Road). Make a right onto Branchville Road. (This road turns into 55th Ave). The parking lot is on the left at the Berwyn Road intersection. From the north, the Capital Beltway (I-495), take Exit 25 (Route 1) toward College Park. Make a left onto Route 193 (Greenbelt Road), then a left onto Branchville Road. (This road turns into 55th Ave). The parking lot is on the left at the Berwyn Road intersection.

M-NCPPC Park Ranger Office, 301-627-7755

Magruder Park, Hyattsville, Monthly

Third Saturdays, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Contact Friends of Magruder Woods Mary Parker 301-927-6216 or Colleen Aistis 301-779-0245 or Mike Breen 301-807-2519 (cell).

Directions: Meet at the Magruder Park parking lot. Take East-West Highway (410) east almost to Route 1 in College Park. Turn right on Queens Chapel Road about a mile before Route 1. Go south about a mile and turn left on Hamilton. Pass the Safeway on the right, then pass 38th Street, go about one block and turn right into the park. Magruder Park is easily accessible from the West Hyattsville Metro stop on the Green Line with an approximately 10 block walk to Magruder Park.

Riverfront Park, Laurel, Monthly

Second Sunday of every month, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Wishing for weeders in Laurel! Wholesome river with lots of curves seeks outgoing naturalists for invasive species removal and native plant propagation, possibly leading to complete restoration of the wild. Contact: Brigitte Fortin-Zaidan bfzaidan@Safe-mail.net or 240-506-8976.

Directions: From I-95 north or south: take MD Route 216-Laurel exit. At the second traffic light (Main Street) turn right. Go to the end of the next block, turn right at 9th Street and park at the swimming pool.

Suitland Bog Invasive Plant Removal Days, Ongoing

Manual removal of honeysuckle and multiflora rose using shovels, pruners, and perseverance. Come and help preserve this unique habitat – call for dates and times. Meet in the parking lot. Bring water, work boots, durable clothes, long sleeves, gloves, pruners, and shovels. There is some poison ivy at work site.

Directions: From the Capital Beltway (I-495), take Exit 7A (Branch Ave), toward Waldorf. Take Route 5 south. Take the Allentown Road exit. Make a left onto Allentown Road. Stay on Allentown Road through five lights. Turn left onto Suitland Road at the 6th light. Follow Suitland Road until it passes under Suitland Parkway. The entrance to the Suitland Bog is to the right.

Chris Garrett, Park Ranger, M-NCPPC Park Ranger Office, 301-627-7755

Watkins Regional Park, Upper Marlboro, Ongoing

Manual removal of garlic mustard. Meet at Watkins Nature Center parking lot. Bring water, work boots, durable clothes, long sleeves, and gloves. There is some poison ivy at work site. Call for dates and times. Directions: Located one mile west of the Six Flags America amusement park. From the Capital Beltway (I-495), take Exit 15A (Central Ave) east. Continue for approximately three miles. Turn right onto Watkins Park Drive (Route 193) and follow the park signs to the facility. From Route 301, turn onto Central Ave (Route 214) west. Continue for approximately three miles (past Six Flags America). Turn left onto Watkins Park Drive and follow to the park entrance on the right.

John Dillon or Chris Garrett, M-NCPPC Park Ranger Office, 301-627-7755

St. Mary's County

Myrtle Point Park, Ongoing

For more info, or to receive updates about workdays, contact Bob Boxwell, Executive Director, Cove Point Natural Heritage Trust, P.O. Box 336, Lusby, MD 20657, 410-394-1300, or bobboxwell@hotmail.com.

Directions: From Washington, take Rt. 4 south, crossing over the Patuxent River at Solomons. About two miles past the bridge, make a right onto Patuxent Blvd. Go about two miles to Myrtle Point Park. Meet in the Park lot.

A message to Invasive Alien Plant Removal Coordinators:

If you would like to include your Maryland or D.C. projects in future editions of *Native News* or in the 2009 annual supplement to the newsletter, please send your information electronically to nativenewseditor@mdflora.org (for timely events) or contact Marc Imlay, Habitat Stewardship Chair, MNPS, at ialm@erols.com or 301-283-0808. Please check our website or an issue of *Native News* for our most up to date contact information.



Maryland Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 4877
Silver Spring, MD 20914
www.mdflora.org