

# Native News

Newsletter of the Maryland Native Plant Society

November/December 2002

Volume 2 Number 6

## Inside This Issue:

President's Letter  
Page 2

~

MNPS Contacts  
Page 2

~

Chapter Updates  
Page 3

~

Committee Updates  
Page 4

~

Late Autumn/Early Winter  
Field Trips  
Page 6

~

Invasive Exotic Removal  
Workdays  
Page 8

~

Announcements  
Page 9

~

Brickbats and Kudos  
Page 11

~

Holiday Tree Order Form  
Page 11

## Upcoming Monthly Meetings

“Crabtree Creek Old-growth Forest, Garrett County”

Tuesday, November 26, 7:30 pm

Aspen Hill Library  
Montgomery County

The Crabtree Creek area of western Maryland most likely contains the largest remnant old-growth forest left in the state. Trees more than 350 years old are in abundance, and the plant life includes many other rare and endangered species. Dan Boone, a renowned biologist who previously headed Maryland's Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Wildlife and Heritage Division, first investigated this area while working for DNR, and has since advocated for permanent protection of the ancient forest. John Parrish and RG Steinman have recently visited the area and documented many additional species. Come learn more about this rare plant and animal community. Bob DeGroot will be our speaker.

Please see the native holiday tree order form inside this issue! Trees will be available to be picked up at the November meeting.

Directions: From the Washington Beltway (495) take Connecticut Avenue North to Aspen Hill Road. Turn left onto Aspen Hill Road. Library is about 2 ½ miles on right, just past stoplight at Parkland Drive and Aspen Hill Road. You will see a large parking lot.

“MNPS Annual Holiday Social and Members Share Night”

Tuesday, December 17, 7:00 pm

White Oak Library  
Montgomery County

Please bring your slides to present (@ 10 minutes) or photos to display to the group. A slide projector (Vivitar) and carousels will be available. Share images or stories of your local or distant adventures experienced in the past year. Please bring holiday cookies to share. Coffee, tea, hot cocoa, and cider will be provided. Door prizes!

Directions: Exit the Washington Beltway at New Hampshire Avenue (exit 28). Go north about 2 miles. The library is the first building on the right, once you have passed under Route 29, just after the Sears store.



*Picea rubens* (Red Spruce)

Red spruce is the only spruce native to Maryland.

The tree occurs in Garrett County.

White spruce (*P. glauca*) was widely planted there and is harvested for Christmas trees.

## Maryland Native Plant Society

P.O. Box 4877  
Silver Spring, MD 20914  
www.mdflora.org

*Native News* is published  
six times a year by MNPS.

### Contacts:

Botany..... Rod Simmons  
cecropia13@msn.com  
Conservation..... Lou Aronica  
202-722-1081  
Field Trips.....Meghan Tice  
fieldtrips@mdflora.org  
301-809-0139  
Flora of Maryland.....Joe Metzger  
jmetzger50@hotmail.com  
Invasive Exotic Plants..... Marc Imlay  
ialm@erols.com  
Membership.....Blaine Eckberg  
memberships@mdflora.org  
Monthly Meetings.....Rod Simmons  
meetings@mdflora.org  
301-809-0139  
President.....Karyn Molines  
kmolines@chesapeake.net  
Publications:  
Marilandica..... Rod Simmons  
marilandica@mdflora.org  
Native News..... Meghan Tice  
nativenews@mdflora.org  
Website.....James MacDonald  
jmacdon@iamdigex.net

### Executive Officers:

Karyn Molines, President  
Lou Aronica, Vice President  
Marc Imlay, Vice President  
Roderick Simmons, Vice President  
Jane Osburn, Secretary  
Jean Cantwell, Treasurer

### Board of Directors:

Carole Bergmann	James MacDonald
Blaine Eckberg	Joe Metzger, Jr.
Cris Fleming	John Parrish
Jake Hughes	Mary Pat Rowan
Carol Jelich	Louisa Thompson
Dwight Johnson	Meghan Tice

## President's Letter

Greetings,

It's election time again—and not just for Governor and County government. By the time you receive this, the annual elections of MNPS Board and Officers will have been counted (and recounted if necessary). I'll have to wait until next issue to announce who will comprise our next Board. You hear each issue about our need for volunteers to lead field trips, remove invasives, and help out with administrative functions on Committees, such as Membership and Publications. The Board of Directors provides a very different way of supporting the Society. The Board is ultimately responsible for the financial accounting of the Society, and the Board develops policies that guide our efforts. We meet every other month, and often have to wade through dozens of emails on upcoming decisions. It's a time-consuming job, and often full of tedious details, but it is an important job that enables the Society to continue functioning. I appreciate every Director's effort and am sorry to see several people leave the Board. Carol Jelich has served for several years, even acting as interim secretary when needed. Her skill in coordinating the 2001 Conference set a high standard for us all. Blaine Eckberg volunteered to take over Membership Secretary duties from Joe Metzger (who had done it for many years) and spearheaded the effort to develop a new logo for the Society (check it out on this issue of *Native News*). Dwight Johnson diligently worked to help develop our 2002 budget and was often able to cut through the details to the heart of the issue at hand. He will continue to lead hikes in the Baltimore region. Although Louisa Thompson will no longer be on the Board, she'll continue her involvement with the Greater Baltimore Area Chapter. Jake Hughes, who re-invigorated *Native News*, will also step down but will continue sharing his expertise with the Botany Committee. Our new Board members, who I'll introduce next issue will have large shoes to fill, but will undoubtedly come with their own unique skills and interests. Of course, I appreciate all the Directors and Officers who have agreed to continue their terms. When you take the time to vote in November for Governor, Congress, and local county officials, please consider each candidate's opinions and record on the environment. Issues of special concern include their stand on the Inter County Connector (ICC), which MNPS opposes, their support for land conservation, and their concern for providing adequate resources to manage land that has been preserved. MNPS cannot endorse any candidates, but urges you to consult the Sierra Club (<http://maryland.sierraclub.org>) and the League of Conservation Voters (check out [http://www.dnet.org/My\\_State/State.home.dnet/MD](http://www.dnet.org/My_State/State.home.dnet/MD)) for information on a candidate's environmental record.

The Fall Conference will have passed by the time you read this, but I have too much excitement that I want to share. Our previous conferences have featured regional experts who study a specific topic. This conference, "Native Plants, Natural Communities, and Geology of the Fall Line," highlights the diligent effort that Society members have done to bring prominent attention to the unique fall line ecosystem. Mark Strong, Jim Long, Rod Simmons, John Parrish, Cris Fleming, and many others have worked long hard hours to document the flora found throughout this region of Maryland and have demonstrated the valuable role of volunteers in the preservation and conservation of Maryland's natural heritage.

So as the daylight shortens, and most of nature begins to wind down for a long winter's sleep, remember that our efforts for conservation and preservation must not falter. Your opinions and voice do make a difference. Become part of our volunteer corps, and don't forget to vote for the environment on November 5.

Until next time, Karyn Molines

# Native News

---

## Chapter Updates

Please note that affiliation with chapters requires no extra dues. Chapters are simply set up as a response to geographic areas of membership within Maryland, with the intention of attracting new members, providing more possibilities for members who wish to attend more/local events, broadening interaction, inspiring members to become more involved with MNPS activities, and improving communication within local areas and therefore members statewide.

### Catoctin Chapter

For information about the Catoctin Chapter, please contact: Jim & Teresa Gallion 301-898-0678 or jimbo21793@aol.com, or Joe Metzger jmetzger50@hotmail.com.

### Greater Baltimore Chapter

This summer, MNPS formed a Greater Baltimore Chapter serving Baltimore City and County, Harford County, Howard County, the northern portion of Anne Arundel County, and Carroll County (the western half of Carroll County is also served by the Catoctin Chapter). All MNPS members in these Counties may request e-mail notification of our programs.

Our first evening program, a talk by MNPS President Karyn Molines, was held on September 25. It was well attended, by about two-dozen people. We are tentatively planning to offer evening programs on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every other month, so the next one will be November 20, at 7:30 pm, with a Steering Committee meeting at 6:00. Former MNPS Board member, Bill Bridgeland will talk about two wetland gardens he created, and how to use your garden as a seed source for restoring the surrounding land. Bill is a field ecologist and a great teacher who really knows native plants, and he is planning to move to the Northwest, so don't miss this chance to hear him speak. Please join us!

Irvine Nature Center has graciously allowed us to use its facility for committee meetings and programs, located 1 mile north of the beltway on Greenspring Ave. MNPS members qualify for the member discount on Irvine's plant-related programs, and Irvine's fantastic bookstore will be open from 7:00 to 7:30 before meetings – a great place to buy Brown and Brown and other books on native plants. Even more exciting is the opportunity for MNPS participation in developing demonstration gardens, invasive plant management, and restoration projects at the Owings Mills site of Irvine's future nature center. Consulting Ecologist, Jeff Wolinski took us on a couple of field trips there, to see some of the rare plants he has discovered and begin to think about management strategies.

Irvine will be our home base, but we hope to offer programs throughout the Baltimore area. In fact, this is a multi-faceted partnership, including Master Gardeners, Cylburn Arboretum,

BioHabitats, and occasional joint programming with the Worthley Botany Class and other nature-loving groups such as the Trails Committee at Broadmead retirement community.

Dick Smith of the Washington Area Butterfly Club invited us to join his September 1 hike at Soldiers Delight Natural Environmental Area, a fascinating, globally rare ecosystem that has evolved on serpentine rock. It seems that the Baltimore area lies on the remains of what was once a huge mountain, formed long before the Appalachians, and now eroded down to rock in the earth's mantle, usually a mile or more below the surface. This extremely hard rock does not weather into true soil, but just becomes a kind of gravel, hot, fast draining, poor in most nutrients but containing heavy metals and a level of magnesium toxic to most plants. So, in the midst of the Maryland piedmont, which has rich, water-retentive soil and (except recently!) ample rainfall, there is a natural prairie here, with many plants that are rare or unusual elsewhere in Maryland.

We'll return to Soldiers Delight with Jean Worthley and Irvine members on October 6 and, we hope, many times in the future. Jean is an all-around naturalist (if you grew up here, you may remember her from MPT's Hodge Podge Lodge) and can teach us about the interactions of native plants, insects, and larger animals. The Worthley Botany Class, on the other hand, is composed of some of the most expert amateur botanists around. They will join us for a hike through Stony Run Park with Dr. Michael Beer on November 16. Don't be intimidated – these folks are generous with their knowledge.

Dwight Johnson and Joe Metzger, who have often led field trips in the Baltimore area in the past, continue to share with us the special places they have discovered. Dwight took us to the Hereford Area of Gunpowder Falls State Park in August, and along the Panther Branch in September. Joe will take us to visit the wetlands at Piney Orchard Nature Preserve in Anne Arundel County on November 24 to begin an ongoing study of the plants there. Unlike most residential developments, this one preserved its natural wetland, put in a boardwalk, and treats it as a resource for enjoyment.

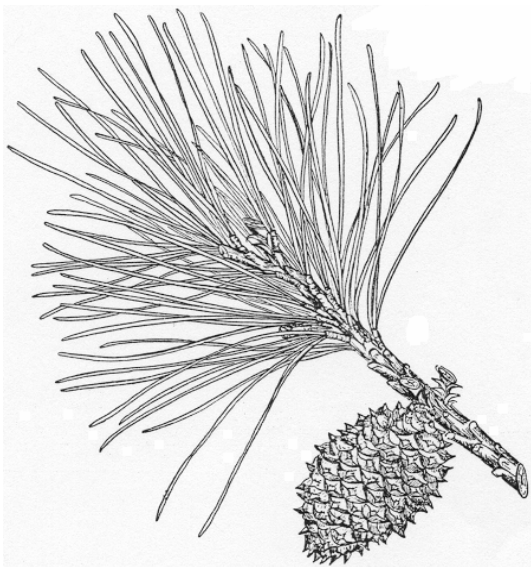
The Conservation Stewardship Project, now located at Howard County's Middle Patuxent Environmental Area, is an MNPS volunteer invasive plant management project which meets monthly on the third Thursday from April through September, coordinated by Robin Hessey and Aylene Gard. We expect to be involved in Irvine's invasive weed management at the new site, and hope to start a project in Gunpowder Falls State Park as part of MNPS' new partnership with Maryland Department of Natural Resources. We will try to provide technical support to other projects in the Baltimore area on request. If you are interested in volunteer opportunities – invasives, gardens, restorations, giving talks or leading field trips, or helping to run the chapter – please let the Steering Committee know.

# Native News

The Steering Committee is open to all MNPS members who can make a commitment to help run the chapter. Louisa Thompson served as the first Acting Chair, with Ted McKeldin (ted@mckeldin.com) taking over until Ann Lundy (aplundy@attglobal.net) becomes Chair after the November meeting. Bill Morgante will be the Chapter Liaison to the Board. Joyce Holmes is coordinating Programming, and Jackie Fliegner Publicity. Rob Mardiney is our liaison to Irvine, where he is Education Director. Thanks are also due to Helen Price and Sebastian Valentine for helping to get the chapter going.

## Southern Maryland Chapter

The Southern Maryland Chapter has been busy. The regular invasive plant removals and habitat restoration projects at Ruth Swann Park and Myrtle Point Park continue to make an impact on improving the ecosystems of these important natural areas. We led a leisurely hike at Battle Creek Cypress Swamp in August. The Chapter also represented the Society in a meeting with Battle Creek Cypress Swamp manager Andy Brown, Kathy McCarthy of DNR's Wildlife and Heritage Division, and State Highway Administration staff regarding a population of Turtlehead, *Chelone obliqua*. The Society will assist SHA and DNR in efforts to transplant and propagate a small population of turtlehead (they are growing on a bridge that will be replaced next spring) within the larger population found at BCCS. We'll also help the BCCS staff to monitor the success of the project. We're gearing up for our evening meeting on October 24 in Prince Frederick, and additional evening meetings and field trips are being planned for the late winter and early spring. For more information about the Southern Maryland Chapter (active in Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's Counties), please contact: Karyn Molines kmolines@chesapeake.net or Marc Imlay ialm@erols.com or 301-283-0808.



*Pinus rigida* (Pitch Pine)

## Membership Committee Update

The Membership Committee met on Wednesday, September 18 at Jean Cantwell's house. We have a new Membership Secretary, Chris Partain. Chris will be taking over the job of entering membership information into our database, a job that Blaine Eckberg has been doing for about 18 months. We appreciate all of Blaine's assistance in maintaining the membership records, checking the post office box regularly, and conducting many other tasks for the Committee. New volunteer Carol Quinlan will be sending out renewal notices. Other information that you may be curious about follows. We currently have 485 members. Between February and August 2002 we had 237 of our 312 members renew (76% renewal rate). Of the 79 new members received, 32% joined via the web site. We have had several people renew twice in one year. The Committee would like to remind people that early renewals are appreciated, but due the lag time between receiving memberships, updating the database, sending out renewals, and timing of mail delivery, you may receive a renewal notice after you recently renewed. We attempt to use the most updated records, but often your check and our letter will cross in the mail. We apologize for any duplication of renewal requests and for any confusion this may cause. Membership dues provide almost all of the Society's funding and we greatly appreciate your support of the organization. In addition, at the meeting we clarified the policy on expiration dates, as follows:

### Membership Renewal Date Policy

- All memberships, except Lifetime Memberships, are for 12 months using the first day of the month.
- A new membership begins on the first day of month payment is received.
- If a new membership is received after the 20<sup>th</sup> of a month, the Expiration Date will be the following month.
- Memberships expire on the last day of the month.
- If a member accidentally renews twice in one year, their membership will be extended an additional year.

If renewals are received

- Prior to their Expiration Date, they maintain their current Expiration Date.
- Within two months after their Expiration Date, they will retain their current Expiration Date.
- More than two months after their Expiration Date, they will be given a new Expiration Date based on the month check is received.

### EXAMPLE: My renewal date is in May.

*Scenario #1:* My renewal payment is received on 4/15. My renewal date becomes May of the next year.

*Scenario #2:* My renewal payment is received between 6/1 and 7/31. My renewal date remains May of the next year.

*Scenario #3:* My renewal payment is received after 8/1, such as in October. My renewal date becomes October of the next year.

## Botany Committee Update

In 2002, Botany Committee members gathered together to consider our goals and plans for the future of the Committee. One thing that was decided was that we would attempt to make ourselves more available to conduct surveys when asked by MNPS members and others. We decided to create a list of criteria that would be presented to the membership. Members would then be able to officially request a survey by sending information to the Committee for review. Surveys are helpful for several reasons: first, they are a very important aid in the plight to preserve or maintain properties as natural areas; second, they contribute a lot of knowledge about plant populations and community associations, providing information that may not be known, or at least as thoroughly otherwise; third, they are an important learning tool. We would also like to expand on our frequently surveyed sites by spreading out further into other areas of Maryland and by recruiting new members to the Committee. Soon, we will initiate a new section on our web site that will contain flora lists that have been compiled by our Botany Committee members. Currently, the results of our surveys are posted in the MNPS Journal *Marilandica* as "Field Botany Updates."

### Who is the Botany Committee?

A current list of Botany Committee members follows:

Lou Aronica, Washington, D.C.  
Carole Bergmann, Montgomery County  
Cris Fleming, Montgomery County  
Jake Hughes, Prince George's County  
Peter McClurkin, Montgomery County  
Joe Metzger, Jr., Frederick County  
Karyn Molines, Calvert County  
John Parrish, Montgomery County  
Mary Pat Rowan, Washington, D.C.  
Rod Simmons, Committee Chair, Fairfax County, VA  
Mark Strong, Fairfax County, VA  
Meghan Tice, Prince George's County  
Ken Wright, Montgomery County

### How do you contact the Botany Committee?

The Botany Committee can be contacted by emailing Rod, Botany Committee Chair, at [cecropia13@msn.com](mailto:cecropia13@msn.com) or by phone at 301-809-0139 (please leave a voice message). You can submit a proposal to the Botany Committee by answering the questions in our list and mailing them to:

Meghan Tice  
P.O. Box 25  
Bowie, MD 20719

You will be contacted after your proposal has been reviewed by the Committee.

The list of criteria follows in the next column:

## List of Criteria for Botany Committee Surveys

**Ownership** – Is the site privately or publicly owned? Do we have permission to survey? Who owns the property?

**General Area** – Where does the site lie within MD or D.C.?

**Size** - What is the approximate acreage of the site?

**Landscape** – I.e.: forest, meadow, wetland, flat, rolling, ravine, mountain, etc.?

**Vegetation** – Trees, shrub layer, herbaceous, grasses, etc.?

**Maturity** – Is it successional, mature, old-age, or somewhere in-between?

**Condition** – What is the degree of invasion by exotics?

Erosion? Trash? Pavement?

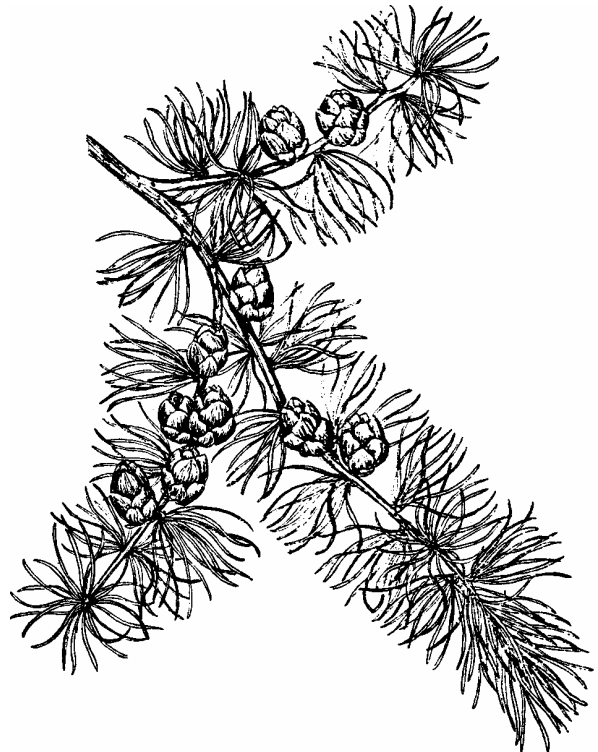
**Hydrology** – Does the site represent a vernal pool, spring, stream, river, tidal or non-tidal, or coastal community, etc.?

**Geology/Soil Type** – I.e.: sand, gravel, loam, alluvial, diabase, serpentine, limestone, shale, etc.? Is the soil dry (xeric), wet or moist (hydric), or average (mesic)?

**Known Habitats/Natural Communities** – I.e.: oak-hickory forest, shoreline, rocky streamside, marsh, swamp, acidic-heath forest, glade, rock outcrop, barrens, etc.?

**Known Plants** - This is up to those requesting a survey.

Please answer all of the above questions to the best of your ability before submitting your proposal to the Committee. Contact the Committee if you wish to receive an information form that contains the above questions.



*Larix laricina* (American Larch or Tamarack)  
American larch is a deciduous conifer occurring in  
Garrett County's Cranesville Swamp.

## Late Autumn/Early Winter Field Trips

### Hoyles Mill Diabase Area - Boyds, Montgomery County

**Leaders:** John Parrish & RG Steinman

**Date:** Saturday, November 2 **Time:** 10:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Come explore some of the recently preserved 2000 acre Hoyles Mill Diabase Area. Beautiful Little Seneca Creek bisects this mini wilderness. You will see huge diabase rock outcrops and extensive forest. We will also explore the Indian grass/bluestem "prairie" beneath the powerlines. Hopefully we will find late blooming gentians, asters, and the pink long-awned hairgrass. Focus will also include woody plants that thrive on diabase soils, such as redbud, red cedar, ashes, shingle oak, slippery elm, prickly-ash, and black-haw. A woody plant list of the area will be provided.

**Bring:** Lunch and water. **Note:** Rain or shine!

**Directions:** Meet at old Edward Taylor Elementary School. From I-495 (Washington Beltway), go north on I-270. Take Clopper Road exit (Rt. 117) and head north for 6 miles to Boyds, Md. Turn left on White Ground Road. Go approx. one mile and park at the Edward Taylor Elementary School.  
**Contact:** John or RG 301-565-2025 or lifeonearth@juno.com

### Accotink Stream Valley – Mill Creek Park, Fairfax County, VA

(Co-sponsored by Virginia Native Plant Society)

**Leader:** Rod Simmons

**Date:** Saturday, November 9 **Time:** 10:00 am – 2:00 pm  
Accotink Creek is one of the largest and most picturesque streams in Fairfax County. This walk will focus on a diverse, wooded area of parkland along the beltway (495) that has been proposed by roadway expansion advocates as a place to build additional beltway lanes. This area contains the oldest rock outcrops in the local piedmont region, good stands of mature oak-hickory forest, numerous fern seeps, a diversity of herbaceous species, and beautiful views of Accotink Creek. In addition, we will see a variety of oaks; American chestnut; large colonies of heaths, including mountain laurel, pinxterflower, black highbush blueberry, and fetterbush; and many species of ferns.

**Directions:** From Maryland, take the Washington Beltway (495) west across American Legion Bridge into Virginia and proceed several miles to Gallows Road exit. Make a left onto Gallows Road at light and immediately move to far right lane to turn right onto Holly Road (Exxon gas station at corner). Take Holly Road a short distance to Saxony Drive. Turn left onto Saxony Drive and proceed a short distance to Camelot Drive. Turn left onto Camelot Drive and proceed short distance to Balin Court. Turn right into Balin Court and park under cherry trees along white curb (also park along white curbs on Camelot Drive). We'll meet at Balin Court.

**Bring:** Water and snacks or lunch. Wear sturdy shoes.

**Note:** Moderate walk.

**Contact:** Rod Simmons 703-256-7671.

### Parker's Creek Loop Trail, American Chestnut Land Trust, Prince Frederick, Calvert County

**Leader:** Marcy Damon

**Date:** Sunday, November 10 **Time:** 1:00 – 3:00 pm

We'll explore the northern side of Parker's Creek, following a new trail down to and along the creek. The trail passes through pawpaw groves, oak and hickory forests, and a forested wetland. The terrain is moderately steep in places.

**Directions:** From Calvert County points north: Take Rt. 2/4 south toward Prince Frederick. Go past the Fox Run Shopping Center and Calvert Middle School on the left. The next intersection is Dares Beach Road; make a left at the light. Go 2 miles east on Dares Beach Road. Turn right onto Double Oak Road and drive 1 mile. Turn left onto the lane across from open field, past house to designated parking. From Calvert County points south: Take Rt. 2/4 north toward Prince Frederick. Go past the Rt. 231 intersection and Wal-Mart. The next intersection is Dares Beach Road; make a right at the light. Go 2 miles east on Dares Beach Road. Turn right onto Double Oak Road and drive 1 mile. Turn left onto the lane across from open field, past house to designated parking.

**Bring:** Water bottle, snack, comfortable hiking clothes and shoes/boots, hat, windbreaker, warm jacket, etc. Dress for the weather! **Note:** Canceled if lightning or heavy downpour.

**Contact:** Marcy Damon 443-482-2156 (w), 410-535-6813 (h), or mdamon@cbf.org

### Civil War Fort Sites in the Washington, D.C. Region (17<sup>th</sup> in the Series)

**Leaders:** Mary Pat Rowan and Lou Aronica

**Date:** Sunday, November 10 **Time:** 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Previous visits to Fort Totten have been in the spring, designed to coincide with the *Amelanchier* blooming on the exposed terrace gravel slopes. On this site there is also a large meadow/lawn as well as some mesic areas on the downhill portions leading to the now defunct, but historic Magnolia Seep Bog (Terracotta Bog) at Fort Totten.

**Directions:** Meet at Fort Totten Drive near Crittenden Street NE. Park on street and gather on the lawn/meadow near the entrance drive to the Park.

**Bring:** Lunch and water. **Note:** Easy hike.

**Contact:** Mary Pat Rowan 202-526-8821.

### Stony Run, Baltimore City

(Co-sponsored by Worthley Botany Class)

**Leader:** Dr. Michael Beer

**Date:** Saturday, Nov 16 **Time:** 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Dr. Beer will discuss his work in restoring and maintaining the park, and the upcoming stream restoration project. This is an urban park (old railroad right-of-way) that is about 100 yards wide and eight blocks long (10 acres). We may walk further down the stream if time allows (it flows through the Johns Hopkins campus and eventually goes through a pipe into the Jones Falls. A part of it was included in Olmsted

# Native News

Bros. plans for public spaces in Baltimore from 1904 onward - as was the Jones Falls valley!).

**Directions:** Meet at Dr. Beer's house at 4623 Wilmslow Road, Baltimore 21210. Take I-83 to the Cold Spring Lane exit (exit 9) going east. Follow Cold Spring Lane through 5 traffic lights, crossing Roland Ave at the 3<sup>rd</sup> light. Turn left onto Wilmslow Road one block after the 5<sup>th</sup> light (Keswick Road). Dr. Beer's house is on the right at the end of the fourth block.

**Note:** There is no pavement in the park and some parts of the trail are uneven and/or wet (stepping stones across the stream) but it will not be a long or difficult walk.

**Contact:** To register, please contact Dr. Beer 410-467-8983 or michael.beer@jhu.edu.

## Rachel Carson Conservation Park, Montgomery County

**Leader:** Carole Bergmann

**Date:** Sunday, November 17 **Time:** 10:00 am – 1:00 pm  
Vegetation in the approximately 650 acre Rachel Carson Conservation Park is a patchwork of high quality maturing forests, young woods, and old fields in varying stages of succession. While there are several large areas of young, weedy woods that were logged and/or grazed relatively recently, the majority of the park is dominated by high-quality maturing, second-growth, mixed deciduous forest. We will spend our time hiking through upland forests dominated by chestnut oak, mixed oak and hickory, and along the Hawlings River where common species include mountain laurel, native azaleas, and viburnums. Since we are hiking in November, we will be concentrating on enjoying/learning about vegetation in winter.

**Directions:** Please meet in the parking lot behind the gas station at the intersection of Rt. 97 and Rt. 650 in Sunshine, MD. We will drive together from there to another parking location, since parking is still very limited.

**Bring:** Water and a snack is recommended. **Note:** This walk will require hiking on and off trails. Wear hiking boots/sturdy shoes. No pets please. We will hike in misty rain, but not a downpour.

**Contact:** If weather is questionable, please call Carole at 301-253-6241 before 9:15 am.

## Plant ID at Piney Orchard Nature Preserve, Anne Arundel County

**Leaders:** Joe Metzger and Kathy Weber

**Date:** Sunday, November 24 **Time:** 10:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Help add to a list of plants occurring naturally at the preserve.

**Directions:** From Baltimore or Washington, take I-295 and exit at Rt. 175 East towards Ft. Meade. Piney Orchard Parkway (Rt. 170) begins south of Rt. 175; a right turn coming from the west or Columbia and Ft. Meade. From Piney Orchard Parkway, going south past the Food Lion and Ice Rink, make a left turn onto Sandy Walk Way and then an immediate right into the parking lot. From Annapolis, take I-97 to Rt. 32 to Rt. 170 South. Piney Orchard Parkway begins

south of Rt. 175. On Piney Orchard Parkway, going south past the Food Lion and Ice Rink, make a left turn onto Sandy Walk Way and then an immediate right into the parking lot. Meet in the Piney Orchard Nature Preserve parking lot.

**Bring:** Lunch and water. **Note:** Moderate walk.

**Contact:** Joe Metzger 410-775-7737 or jmetzger50@hotmail.com (preferred).

*Thuja occidentalis*  
(Northern White Cedar)  
Arbor vitae or Tree of Life



## Civil War Fort Sites in the Washington, D.C. Region (18<sup>th</sup> in the Series)

**Leaders:** Mary Pat Rowan and Lou Aronica

**Date:** Sunday, December 8 **Time:** 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

We will visit Bald Eagle Hill, which is part of the Fort Circle Connector at the southern edge of the District of Columbia. The site begins as an upland forest and leads down to Oxon Run where there are swamps and seeps.

**Directions:** Meet adjacent to the Bald Eagle recreation facility on Joliet Street SW. Take South Capitol Street (from Maryland, an extension of Rt. 210 inside the Beltway) to 1<sup>st</sup> Street SW. Turn right on Joliet and proceed about two city blocks.

**Bring:** Lunch and water. **Note:** Easy hike.

**Contact:** Mary Pat Rowan 202-526-8821.

## Winter Solstice Walk – Chapman Old-Growth Shell-Marl Ravine Forest, Charles County

**Leader:** Rod Simmons

**Date:** Saturday, December 21 **Time:** 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Winter is the best time to see the spectacular ravines, large trees, and Potomac River overlooks at Chapman Forest. See ancient cherrybark, chinquapin, northern red, and black oaks; tulip tree; basswood; white ash; black gum; and beech. We'll also see mistletoe, and perhaps pipsissewa if we have time to walk the sandy coastal section of the north tract.

**Directions:** Take Indian Head Highway (Rt. 210) from the Washington Beltway (495). Head south towards Indian Head on Rt. 210 for app. 20-23 miles. Or take Rt. 301 south to Waldorf, and then turn right onto Rt. 228. Take Rt. 228 west to Rt. 210 and head south (turn left) on Rt. 210. From Rt. 210, turn right onto Chapman Landing Road (just past Ruth Swann Park) and follow it for app. 1-2 miles to entrance to Mt. Aventine on right. Park and meet at entrance.

**Bring:** Water and snacks or lunch. Wear sturdy shoes.

**Note:** Moderate walk.

**Contact:** Rod Simmons cecropia13@msn.com or call 301-809-0139.

## Invasive Exotic Plant Removal Workdays

### Greenbelt National Park, Prince George's Co.

**Dates:** First Saturday, monthly (Nov 2 and Dec 7)

**Time:** Meet at 11:00 am

Help protect Greenbelt Park from invasion by non-native weeds. Celebrate the day out in the woods, hand-pulling some non-native weed populations, and caring for one of our local natural areas.

**Directions:** Take Route 1 South from the I-495 Beltway. Take Greenbelt Road East past Beltway Plaza. Cross Kenilworth Avenue. Greenbelt Park is on the right hand side before the turnoff for the Baltimore Washington Parkway. Meet in the Sweetgum picnic area.

**Bring:** Lunch, drink, and appropriate clothing for weather.

**Note:** To carpool, meet at the University of Md. College Park Student Union on the Parking Garage side at 10:30 am.

**Contact:** Lauren Urgenson 301-699-1947 or [urgie@wam.umd.edu](mailto:urgie@wam.umd.edu) for more information. For any questions and information about upcoming events contact Tom Crone at [crone@cua.edu](mailto:crone@cua.edu).

### Chapman Forest/Ruth Swann Park, Charles Co.

**Dates:** First Sunday, monthly (November 3 and December 1)

**Time:** Meet at 10:00 am

Eradicate alien invasive plants from most of the old growth area of Chapman Forest. Discover a remarkably efficacious new technique for Japanese honeysuckle as well as tree of heaven (if the ground is wet) and Japanese Stilt Grass. There will also be time for plant identification and a beautiful beach lunch.

**Directions:** Meet at Ruth B. Swann Park-Potomac Branch Library, 20 miles south of Washington Beltway (I-495) on Rt. 210 (Indian Head Hwy). Give yourself 30 to 40 minutes from the Beltway.

**Bring:** Gloves, lunch, and water.

**Contact:** Marc Imlay 301-283-0808.

### Belt Woods, Prince George's County

**Date:** Saturday, November 16 **Time:** Meet at 10:00 am

Help remove Japanese stilt grass, English ivy, multiflora rose, Japanese honeysuckle, etc., from edges of forest and old home-site. All skill levels welcome, but volunteers skilled in plant identification especially needed to help those less experienced.

**Directions:** From Capital Beltway take Rt. 214 East toward Annapolis. Go past Six Flags and make a left at the light at Church Road. Stay on Church Road until you pass Danube Lane (on right). Make a left onto dirt farm lane a little past Danube. Caution: it is a hidden drive. If you miss the entrance, continue on Church Road until you get to Tall Oaks Vocational School and turn around. Proceed past gate and down the dirt farm lane until you reach check-in point. We will then direct you to work sites.

**Bring:** Tools such as pruners, handsaws, loppers, spading forks, brush hooks, weed wackers, gloves (if you have a favorite pair – we have some we will provide), shovels, or your favorite tools. Please have your name clearly marked on your tools. Please dress for the weather and for poison ivy/ticks. Wear appropriate footwear. Please bring your own lunch. Water, Gatorade, and snacks will be provided.

**Note:** Only extreme weather will cancel cleanup. Please contact Pam by 9:30 am the morning of cleanup if in doubt.

**Contact:** Pam Cooper 301-390-0797 or [pcooper.wsc@juno.com](mailto:pcooper.wsc@juno.com)

### Myrtle Point Park, St. Mary's County

**Dates:** Third Saturday, monthly (Nov 16 and Dec 21)

**Time:** Meet at 8:00 am and work until 11:30 am

**Directions:** Take Rt. 4 south, crossing over the Patuxent River at Solomons. About 2 miles past the bridge, make a right onto Patuxent Blvd. Go about 2 miles to Myrtle Point Park. Meet in parking lot.

**Contact:** Bill Burruss [billburruss@olg.com](mailto:billburruss@olg.com)

### Northwest Branch of the Anacostia, Montgomery County

**Dates:** Saturdays, November 16 and December 21

**Time:** 10:00 am – 1:00 or 2:00 pm

Please join us near 4-Corners in Silver Spring to remove patches of multiflora rose from areas along NW Branch.

**Directions:** From the intersection of 29 (Colesville Road) 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), 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.

**Bring:** Water and gloves. Veggie lunch provided.

**Contact:** Jane Osburn 301-754-1564.

All members of MNPS welcome and there is no need to register. Space is limited for non-members of MNPS; please register in advance by phone.

### American Chestnut Land Trust, Calvert County

ACLT is a non-profit land trust working to preserve the Parkers Creek and Governors Run watersheds in Calvert County. The work party leader is a relative novice, so volunteers skilled in plant identification and invasives control will be warmly welcomed.

**Directions:** Meet at the ACLT parking lot in Port Republic. From Washington: follow Maryland Rt. 2/4 4.0 miles south from the intersection of Rt. 321 in Prince Frederick. Turn left onto Parkers Creek Road and then right onto Scientists Cliffs Road. The ACLT parking area is 0.8 miles in on the left next to the small barn.

**Bring:** Water, gloves, and appropriate clothing.

**Contact:** Dan Sampson for dates/times or more information at 410-586-1570 or [danaclt@chesapeake.net](mailto:danaclt@chesapeake.net).



## Brookside Gardens, Wheaton, Montgomery Co.

Weed Warriors needed for the forested areas surrounding the gardens. You will be given directions to work independently on your schedule, weekends or weekdays. There has been a tremendous amount of work done by volunteers and Brookside staff, but we still need help in maintaining these areas to keep the invasive weed population under control.

**Contact:** Stacy Parsons 301-962-1417 or [stacy.parsons@mncppc-mc.org](mailto:stacy.parsons@mncppc-mc.org)

**Websites:** [www.BrooksideGardens.org](http://www.BrooksideGardens.org) and/or [www.MC-MNCPPC.org/environment/weed\\_warriors/intro.shtml](http://www.MC-MNCPPC.org/environment/weed_warriors/intro.shtml)

## Sligo Creek Park, Montgomery County

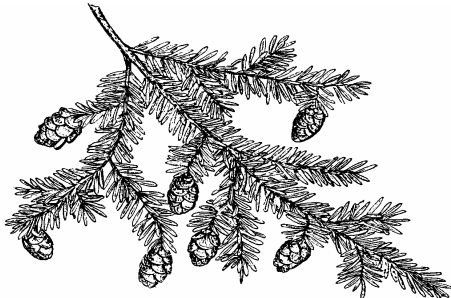
**Friends of Sligo Creek** welcome your help with invasives in this 8-mile tributary of the Anacostia, running from Silver Spring south into D.C. Work is usually organized by section stewards and features protection of ponds, floodplains, upland woods, as well as narrow, urbanized sections. In cooperation with M-NCPPC staff and the Weed Warrior program, Sligo Friends sponsor work parties and many small-group opportunities to work together to uncover Sligo's many treasures and to work out techniques for dealing with the usual range of invasives.

**Contact:** Sally Gagne [sgagne@erols.com](mailto:sgagne@erols.com) or Laura Mol 301-681-9686 for more information.

## WEED WARRIORS WANTED

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission's (M-NCPPC) Forest Ecologist is assembling a team of volunteers (Weed Warriors) to monitor and remove non-native invasive plant species in Montgomery County Parks, and we need your help! As a Weed Warrior volunteer, you will receive a short training session from the Forest Ecologist in the identification of, removal and control techniques for non-native invasive plants. Weed Warriors can then work at their own pace and choose a schedule that best suits them. Many current Weed Warriors live near a M-NCPPC Stream Valley Park or Regional Park and do their volunteer work while walking their dogs or taking an occasional hike through their neighborhood park. Whether you choose to work individually or in a group, your efforts will contribute to the control of non-native vegetation in the 28,000 acres of Montgomery County parkland.

**Contact:** Carole Bergmann, M-NCPPC Forest Ecologist, at 301-949-2818 for more info or to sign up.



*Tsuga canadensis* (Eastern Hemlock)

## Announcements

### New Contact Information

There's a new phone number contact for field trips and *Native News*. For those of you who don't have email access, and would like to lead or co-lead a field trip for MNPS or suggest a location for a field trip, please call 301-809-0139 and leave a detailed voice message. Thank you!

### New Logo

After several years of contemplation, we finally found a new logo that was acceptable to a near unanimous Board. The logo depicts a general ecological scene transforming from upland forest to lowland habitat to open water, representing the diverse ecosystems found throughout Maryland. Our sincere thanks to the Logo Committee, Blaine Eckberg, Cris Fleming, Lou Aronica, and Carol Jelich. The new logo can be seen on the back cover of this issue of *Native News*.

### Welcome New Members!

Members Steve Boszormenyi & Christine Mayo, Barbara DeLouise, Kirsten Emigholz, Roger Galvin, Ambush Goeloe, Jean Milstein, Bill Morgante, Christine O'Connor, Regena Rader, William Smith, Marilyn Tiralla, and Deborah Vannienwenhove joined in August. Thank you very much!

### Events at Adkins Arboretum

**Wednesday, November 13, 10:00 am – noon; Saturday, November 16, 9:00 am – noon; Wednesday, November 20, 10:00 am – noon**

#### *Nature Photography Series*

Photographers Ann and Richard Rohlffing will lead a three-session series on the best ways to capture autumn color, critters, fungi, grasses, bugs, bark, and berries with your camera. Lifelong photography enthusiasts, Ann and Richard own their own photography business and have taught classes for South Georgia College's Elderhostel program and at Trinity College in Washington, D.C. They also have given workshops and travel shows to countless camera clubs and organizations.

Fee: \$45 members, \$60 general public, plus \$10 lab fee.

#### **Wednesday, November 20, 7:00 – 9:00 pm**

#### *Introduction to the Bryophytes—Mosses and Liverworts*

Speaker, Bill McAvoy

How are mosses different from familiar flowering plants? What distinguishes the true mosses from peat mosses, liverworts, and hornworts? What ecological role do mosses play in the natural environment? Learn the answer to these questions and more from Bill McAvoy, botanist with the Delaware Natural Heritage Program of the Delaware Department of Natural Resources.

Fee: \$5 members, \$8 general public.

Adkins is located in Caroline County on the Eastern Shore.

For more information or to register for events contact Adkins Arboretum at 410-634-2847 or [adkinsar@intercom.net](mailto:adkinsar@intercom.net); or visit the Adkins Arboretum web site: [www.adkinsarboretum.org](http://www.adkinsarboretum.org)

# Native News

## Greater Baltimore Chapter's Evening Program Wednesday, November 20 at 7:30 pm

Location: Irvine Nature Center

Speaker, Bill Bridgeland

*Wetland Gardens: Habitat for Native Plants and Amphibians*

Traditional garden ponds are nice, but they usually don't provide for native plants that need wet soils, and some of our declining amphibians that need safe breeding sites. Find out how to make a backyard wetland that is more like a natural wetland, and help your local stream too!

From the Baltimore Beltway, take the Greenspring Ave exit north. Irvine is about 1 mile on the left at 8400 Greenspring.

## Events at Olmsted Woods

### Wednesday, November 20, 7:00 pm

*Moonlit Tour of the Olmsted Woods*

Bundle up and join us for a moonlit stroll as we learn about the ongoing restoration and stewardship campaign. Lanterns will help light our way on this very special evening walk.

### Thursday, December 5, 10:00 am

*Winter Buds and Silhouettes*

On this walk, we will focus on "winter interest" in the Olmsted Woods, with particular attention to native trees.

Please note: Bird walk precedes this tour at 9:00 am. The December Bird Walk will focus on winter residents.

Experienced birder Sheila Cochran is our guide. Sturdy waterproof shoes are recommended for all walks. No reservations are required and the tours are free of charge. In the event of inclement weather, tours will be cancelled.

For more information, call the Olmsted Woods InfoLine: 202-537-2319.

## MNPS Fall Conference 2002

Lou Aronica, Rod Simmons, and Meghan Tice would like to thank all of the volunteers who contributed to this year's fall conference. Thanks to Jane & Fred Fallon for setting up the conference location, to our speakers, to all of the Saturday and Sunday field trip leaders, and to everyone that brought posters along for the poster sessions. Many thanks to **Whole Foods Market**, Annapolis for donating the wonderful breakfast trays and for preparing lunch boxes. Also, thanks to Jake Hughes and Jane Fallon for help with setting up on the 11<sup>th</sup>, to Fred Fallon for watching the gate, and to Karyn Molines and Nancy Adamson for assisting in many ways on the 12<sup>th</sup>. And, many thanks to everyone who attended!

### 2002 Election Results

**President** – Karyn Molines

**Vice President** – Marc Imlay, John Parrish, Rod Simmons

**Secretary** – Jane Osburn

**Treasurer** – Jean Cantwell

#### Board of Directors

Lou Aronica

Carole Bergmann

Cris Fleming

Carolyn Fulton

Lisa Garrett

Beth Johnson  
Bob Lavell  
James MacDonald  
Pete McClurkin  
Joe Metzger, Jr.  
Christa Partain  
Mary Pat Rowan  
Meghan Tice

## Announcing 2002 Field Trip Leaders Awards!

Awards have traditionally been announced at the MNPS annual meetings to recognize individuals who have led field trips within the given year. Many thanks to everyone who has led trips for MNPS during the year of 2002! Those who have led three trips receive the Trillium Award, four trips the Magnolia Award, and five or more trips the Orchid Award.

### Orchid Award

Lou Aronica  
Joe Metzger, Jr.  
Mary Pat Rowan  
Rod Simmons  
Meghan Tice

### Magnolia Award

Karyn Molines

### Trillium Award

Cris Fleming  
Dwight Johnson  
John Parrish

Others who led trips in 2002 were Nancy Adamson, Michael Beer, Carole Bergmann, Marcy Damon, Fred & Jane Fallon, Cris Fleming, Jim & Teresa Gallion, Jake Hughes, Jim Long, Barbara Medina, Eileen O'Brien, Gary Pendleton, Bob Pickett, Andi Pupke, Jim Rosenstock, David Smith, RG Steinman, Sara Tangren, Louisa Thompson, Lloyd Tydings, Mary Vogel, Kathy Weber, Esther Woodworth, and Jean Worthley. Thank you all!

## Do You Know When Your Membership Expires?

We appreciate each member who renews because every Society activity is made possible by member dues. We will be mailing renewal letters for several months after you expire if we don't hear from you. Early renewals allow us to spend your membership dollars on projects, not stamps for renewal letters. To tell when your membership expires, take a look at your mailing label. For example, if your label reads 11/1/2002, your membership expires at the end of November. If it's time to renew, please use the form on the back of this newsletter or download one from the web site. Please provide all information we ask for so that we can ensure the most accurate records in our database. If you are a "Native Plant Professional" please indicate which of the three categories are applicable (you can indicate more than one). Our records are incomplete for many of our members who are propagators or landscapers and we need you to help us update your records. By indicating your interest, you'll be included on our "Native Plant Professionals" list that we provide to people who need assistance in finding professional help.

# Native News

## Brickbats & Kudos

### Brickbats

- Brickbats to the Bush administration for using the recent forest fire issues in the western U.S. as an excuse to propose a plan to keep national forests perennially thinned through increased logging. This really amounts to a “timber giveaway” to the logging industry, a key tenet of the Bush administration. (*Washington Post*, August 23, 2002) Actually, it is the huge amount of branches and brush discarded on the forest floor after logging that greatly increases the chances of fires occurring and that they will be unusually severe.

- Brickbats to the Maryland State Nursery (John S. Ayton Nursery) for continuing to propagate and distribute the highly invasive and noxious sawtooth oak (*Quercus acutissima*) and Russian olive (*Eleagnus angustifolia*) species, despite repeated attempts by MNPS to provide evidence of their being detrimental. Both of these species are included on MD DNR’s invasive exotic plants list and the Virginia Dept. of Transportation is now conducting the expensive but necessary project of removing Russian olive from roadways where it was planted as a screen, because passing cars are killing birds feeding on the berries.

### Kudos

- Kudos to Colleen Martin of Miami Beach, Florida for fighting back at a frivolous SLAPP suit filed against her for protesting the “tearing down of historic properties in a beachfront community...and replacing them with McMansions.” SLAPP, short for Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation, are suits used (infrequently) by big business to “directly intimidate people and deter them from using their First Amendment rights,” according to National Trust lawyer Elizabeth Merritt. They are not expected to be contested in court, the hope being to “drain adversaries of time and money.” In fact, most of these baseless suits are thrown out of court. “But over the last decade, the number of states that have adopted legislation to protect people against such suits has climbed to 20,” many of which allow defendants to claim damages. (*Preservation*, the magazine of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Sept/Oct 2002)

- Kudos to California Native Plant Society for circulating the long overdue statement for organizations to endorse, “advocating amendment of the Federal Endangered Species Act to provide equal protection for plants and animals.” (Native Plant Conservation Campaign)

- Kudos to Rep. Wayne Gilchrest (R-MD) and Senator John Warner (R-VA) for continuing the efforts to preserve the 4,000-acre Crow’s Nest site in Stafford County, VA (part of a scenic and ecologically valuable section of lands along the Potomac near Chapman Forest and Douglas Point that is shared by both Maryland and Virginia). “The Senate Environment & Public Works Committee marked-up and reported out of committee H.R. 4807 (a Bill sponsored by Rep. Gilchrest) to expand the Susquehanna National Wildlife Refuge. Senator John Warner offered as an amendment to this Bill the authority for the Secretary of the Interior to establish and acquire the Accokeek Creek National Wildlife Refuge (Crow’s Nest). The Bill with Warner’s amendment passed unanimously.” (Joann Payne)

### Order your native holiday trees!

We’ve got 20 red cedar trees (*Juniperus virginiana*) and 12 Virginia pine trees (*Pinus virginiana*) available to order and pick up at our November 26 meeting.

*Pinus strobus* (White Pine)  
White pine is native to certain areas within Maryland but has also been widely planted as an ornamental tree.

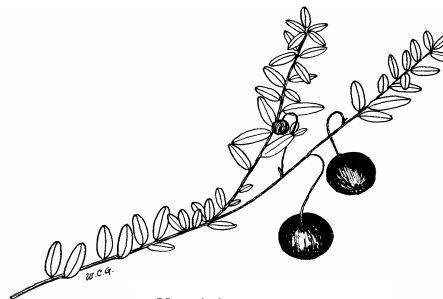


Red Cedars are 2’-3’ tall at \$15.00.

Virginia Pines are 5’-6’ tall at \$25.00.

Red Cedar	x	__	=	_____
Virginia Pine	x	__	=	_____
Total:				_____

All trees are in pots that can be used indoors or out and then later planted in your yard. Please contact us for availability by calling 301-809-0139. If you would like to reserve a tree in advance, please copy and send with a check (payable to MNPS) to: Meghan Tice at P.O. Box 25 Bowie, MD 20719. Trees can also be purchased directly at the November 26 monthly meeting (please see front page). Thank you!



*Vaccinium macrocarpon*  
(Large Cranberry)



**Maryland Native Plant Society**

P.O. Box 4877  
Silver Spring, MD 20914

Dated Materials:  
Please Deliver Promptly

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
ROCKVILLE, MD  
PERMIT NO. 3567

**Membership is for 12 months.  
We thank you for your support!**

**Name 1** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name 2** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_

**State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code** \_\_\_\_\_

(Your county is the basis of your local chapter affiliation. Please include.)

**County** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Work Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail** \_\_\_\_\_

Please do not list me in your membership directory.

Please do not send me monthly Society announcements by e-mail in addition to post.

**If you are a business you can be included on the MNPS providers list.  
Please indicate the name of your business and what type of business it is:**

**Business's name** \_\_\_\_\_

Native plant propagator or grower

Native plant supplier

Native plant landscape professional

**Please make checks payable to the Maryland Native Plant Society and mail to:  
Maryland Native Plant Society; P.O. Box 4877; Silver Spring, MD 20914**

**The Maryland Native Plant Society is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization. Contributions are tax deductible. V2N6N/D02**

**Membership Dues:**

- Individual: \$25.00/year
- Double: \$35.00/year
- Student/low income: \$15.00/year
- Lifetime: \$250.00

Additional Donation \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Enclosed** \_\_\_\_\_

Please Check:  New  Renewal