

# *Native News*

Newsletter of the Maryland Native Plant Society

May/June 2003

Volume 3 Number 3

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## Upcoming Monthly Meetings

### “Terrace Gravel Forest Communities and the D.C. Civil War Fort Sites ”

Tuesday, May 27, 7:30 pm  
White Oak Library

The Civil War Fort Sites and adjacent National Park Service lands constitute a sizeable natural forested region in the District of Columbia outside of Rock Creek Park. The woodlands occur on Pliocene-aged gravel deposits on the summits, which are the highest elevations in eastern D.C., and gravelly-sandy soils of the Potomac Formation on slopes and valleys. Many of these woodlands have large stands of old-age trees, dramatic topography, and a diverse flora. This presentation by Mary Pat Rowan and Lou Aronica, who began surveying these sites over two years ago, will cover preliminary flora and community data as well as MNPS' response to the just published Draft Management Plan/Environmental Assessment for the Fort Circle Parks.

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.

### “Identification and Control of Invasive Exotic Plants”

Tuesday, June 24, 7:30 pm  
Aspen Hill Library

Liz Nalle, environmental specialist and VNPS board member, will give a slide presentation on identifying the most troublesome invasive exotic plants of our region and how to best control them. This is an updated version of the excellent program that VNPS developed based on Ted Scott's original work on invasives.

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.



*Medeola virginiana*  
Indian Cucumber Root

**Please also see the upcoming Chapter Events on Page 3.**



## Chapter Events & Updates

### Eastern Shore Chapter

The Eastern Shore Chapter has regrouped and is planning several field trips and meetings for this year. The first field trip will be on June 21 to Environmental Concern, a non-profit dedicated to wetland restoration, education, and research. Bi-monthly meetings are planned to start in late May, with the first one being held in Chestertown and the second meeting in Easton. Times, dates, and speakers are TBA. All current MNPS members in eastern shore counties will be emailed or mailed with an announcement. If you are not in this area and would like to know meeting details, please check the MNPS website or use the contact information below.

The steering committee is seeking new participants. Currently, Sylvan Kaufman is serving as chair and treasurer, Fran Parker as secretary, Leslie Hunter-Cario for membership communications, and Carol Jelich as state liaison. We would like to find members to be in charge of publicity, event scheduling, and to serve as treasurer. For more information about the Chapter, please contact Leslie Hunter-Cario 410-745-9620 or Sylvan Kaufman skaufman@intercom.net.

### Upcoming Eastern Shore Events

#### Adkins Arboretum Native Plant Sale

Adkins Arboretum is holding a native plant sale on Saturday, May 10 from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. Over 200 species and varieties of native plants will be for sale. Adkins Arboretum is located in Ridgely, 30 minutes east of the Bay Bridge. For more information call 410-634-2847.

#### Nature's Glorious Gardens: Spring Garden Symposium

**Location:** Adkins Arboretum, Ridgely, Caroline County  
**Date:** Friday, May 16, 2003 **Time:** 10:00 am – 4:00 pm  
Enjoy a spring day of garden lectures and inspiring slides on the Arboretum lawn. This visual voyage will be led by Kim Hawks and Rick Darke, two of the region's most accomplished horticulturists, through gardens inspired by nature's patterns, rhythms, and diversity. Begin the gardening season by renewing your appreciation and understanding of the beauty and wonder of native plants.  
**Note:** Pre-registration is required by May 9 and is limited to 150 individuals. Registration fee of \$65 includes lunch.  
**Contact:** 410-634-2847 for more information.

#### Tour Environmental Concern, St. Michaels, Talbot County

**Leader:** Leslie Hunter-Cario  
**Date:** Saturday, June 21 **Time:** 10:00 am – noon

### Upcoming Chapter Events

(Please see the Field Trip pages for more info.)

#### Greater Baltimore Chapter's May Program

**Date:** Wednesday, May 21 **Time:** 7:30 pm

**Location:** Irvine Nature Center

The topic is Ask the Experts, and we will have experts available to cover native plant ID, plant communities and habitats, native plants for ornamental and wildlife gardens, and using native plants to provide services such as stormwater management. As always, the Steering Committee will meet at 6:00 and the bookstore will be open from 7:00 to 7:30 pm.

**Directions:** From I-695 (Baltimore Beltway) take the Greenspring Avenue exit north. Irvine is on the left @ 1 mile north of the beltway.

#### Ferns on the Gunpowder – Gunpowder State Park – Kingsville (Perry Hall) Area, Baltimore County

**Leader:** Dwight Johnson

**Date:** Sunday, June 15 **Time:** 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

#### Patapsco Valley State Park Field Trip, Howard County

**Leaders:** Louisa Thompson and Bill Morgante

**Date:** Sunday, June 22 **Time:** 1:00 – 5:00 pm

#### Myrtle Point Park Field Trip, Saint Mary's County

**Leader:** Karyn Molines

**Date:** Sunday, June 29 **Time:** 10:00 am – noon

#### A Mountain Bog, Mount Briar Wetland Preserve Field Trip, Washington County

**Leader:** Joe Metzger

**Date:** Saturday, July 5 **Time:** 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

#### Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary Field Trip, Anne Arundel County

**Leader:** Karyn Molines

**Date:** Saturday, July 19 **Time:** 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

#### Southern Maryland Chapter's Quarterly Meeting

**Date:** Tuesday, July 22 **Time:** 7:00 pm

**Location:** Phillips House, Prince Frederick, Calvert County

**Contact:** Karyn Molines kmolines@chesapeake.net (preferred) or 410-286-2928 for more information.

**Directions:** From Rt. 2-4 in Prince Frederick (Calvert County), turn east onto Duke Street (one block south of Rt. 231). Turn left into Library parking lot. Park in upper lot and take the walkway to the Phillips House.

# Native News

## Report on Recent Board Activities

### Board Meetings

The Society's Board of Directors is tasked with setting Society policy and managing the finances. We meet on a bimonthly schedule, and invite any interested member to attend. If you might be interested in nominating yourself for the Board, please come to one of these meetings. The 2003 Board meetings are tentatively scheduled as follows. Please check with Karyn Molines, President, or Jane Osburn, Secretary to verify date and location.

Sunday, May 18: Brookside Gardens, 2:00 pm

Sunday, July 21: Irvine Nature Center, 1:00 pm

Monday, Sept 22: Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary, 6:30 pm

November 16 or 17: Audubon Naturalist Society

In January, the Board held a regular Board Meeting and the Annual Planning Retreat. Each of the Committees presented a report of their 2002 activities. For those interested in full minutes, contact Jane Osburn (Secretary).

At the January Board meeting, the 2003 Budget was approved. Some interesting financial decisions included creating a Conservation Projects Fund that will be funded through any budget surplus or ear-marked donations. This year we have projected \$1,018 excess income. This fund will be used for projects that need small boosts of income and to assist in our mission of conservation of native plants and their habitats. Each year, any unused money will accumulate in this fund.

The third annual retreat was a chance for the Board to brainstorm and begin planning activities for the coming year. Here are a few ideas: The **2003 Fall Conference** will be a multi-state conference, perhaps held in Shepherdstown, WV in conjunction with Virginia and West Virginia's native plant societies. Meghan Tice will chair, with Rod Simmons, Lou Aronica, Cris Fleming, Joe Metzger, Beth Johnson, and Carolyn Fulton assisting. The date is planned for Saturday, October 4 – Sunday, October 5. We will need more volunteers as the time nears. Contact Meghan if you are interested in helping. Suggestions were made that the 2004 conference could be in Baltimore, assisted by the Baltimore Chapter, or in Southern Maryland with that Chapter.

- MNPS should get involved in a management coalition for areas such as diabase communities, Chapman Forest, and other places. MNPS should push to be on advisory committees, which oversee management decisions since we have and will continue to collect data at many sites in Maryland.
- MNPS should continue to work with DNR and coordinate with them to do more monitoring. For example, the Natural Heritage Program has identified "citizen research."
- We will create habitat management guidelines.

- We will assist with preserving and enhancing the Green Print Program.
- Create future Gardener's Guidelines on topics such as canopy trees and gardening for birds.
- Work on expanding the membership.

The March Board meeting minutes have not been approved yet, but here are some items from that meeting: MNPS received a letter from Kendell Thompson, Site Manager, Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial, to voice his appreciation for our support on their invasive removal projects; The Invasives Committee has redefined themselves as the Habitat Stewardship Committee with an expanded role in education and advocacy regarding habitat stewardship. On-the-ground invasive removals and stewardship projects will continue. The Committee will also manage the Habitat Management Guidelines being developed.

## Volunteer Needs

### Call For Volunteers

Our pleas for volunteers often have happy endings. Two new volunteers have stepped forward. Carol Quinlan has taken on the task of mailing out the renewal notices. Early renewals help save MNPS money, and we appreciate your prompt renewals. Please understand that your membership dues pass through Jean Cantwell (Treasurer) and Chris Partain (Membership Secretary) before Carol receives information, so if you receive a renewal notice and you recently sent your check, the two may have crossed in the mail. Pete McClurkin has volunteered to deliver our standard mailings (formerly known as bulk mail) of *Native News* and *Marilandica* to the post office. This task requires not only a commitment of time, but of strength, since our bundles of over 800 envelopes can weigh over 100 pounds! Thank you Carol and Pete for taking on these important jobs.

So how can you help? Here are our current volunteer needs: *Monthly Email Announcements*: We need a volunteer who is somewhat computer savvy, who has internet access, an email account, Microsoft Access 2000, and is willing to put together a monthly announcement of upcoming events to email to our members. We are currently using a shareware program, WorldMerge, which simplifies the process. Information for the announcements is provided by Meghan Tice (Field Trip Coordinator) or collected off of our web site. This job takes about 2-4 hours per month, depending on how comfortable you are with the software and how fast your modem line is. Interested or want to find out more? Contact Karyn Molines (President) at 410-286-2928 or kmolines@chesapeake.net.

*Nominations Committee*: We're seeking a few good men and women for the Board of Directors to help steer the Society. You may nominate yourself or another willing member. Email is the critical vehicle for communication amongst the Board. Duties and responsibilities of the Board of Directors include:

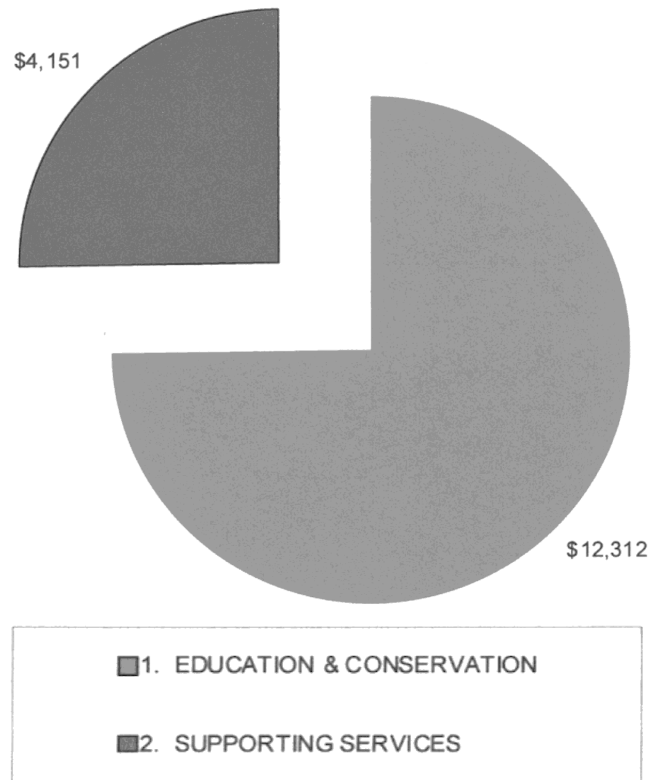
# Native News

- a) Determine the Society's mission and purpose
- b) Identify and promote appropriate policies and evaluate our ability to meet objectives
- c) Develop, implement, monitor, and strengthen the Society's programs and services
- d) Enhance and promote the Society's public standing
- e) Ensure effective organizational planning
- f) Determine adequate resources (time and money) and manage them effectively
- g) Ensure legal and ethical integrity and maintain accountability
- h) Recruit and orient new Board members and assess Board performance
- i) Provide direction for any needed changes
- j) Come to Board meetings prepared to discuss agenda items
- k) Serve on at least one Committee
- l) Attend four of the six Board meetings

In addition to Directors, we're seeking nominations for President. Karyn Molines has enjoyed her three years as President, but the coming year is her final year in graduate school, so she must decline a fourth term. She will still be active in many MNPS activities, but must step down from the leadership position. Duties and responsibilities of the President include providing general supervision and direction for the Society, presiding over all board meetings, preparing agendas (in collaboration with the Executive Committee), representing the Society as determined by the Board of Directors, and acting as an *ex officio* member of all Committees, except the Nominations Committee. Karyn is willing to act as Past President to assist in the transition of the new President.

If you feel you or someone you know has these skills, please contact Jane Osburn (Secretary).

How We Spent Your Contributions in 2002



### 2003 Budget

#### Income:

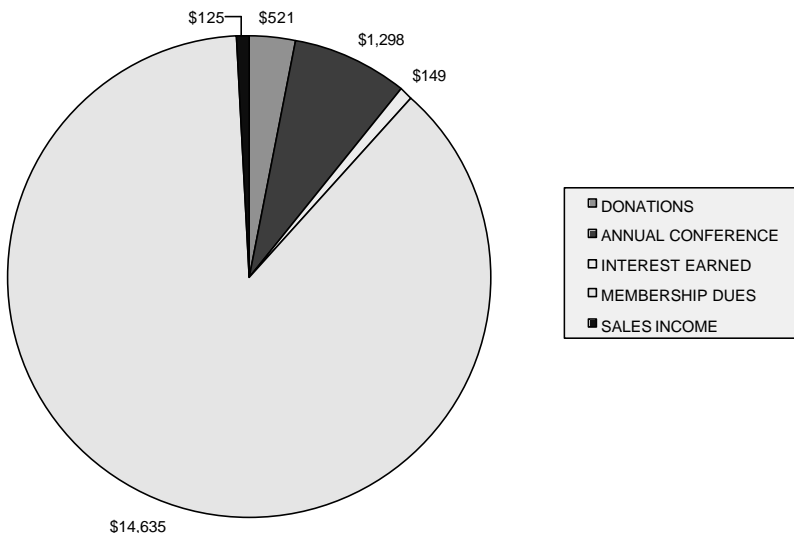
Dues	\$12,950
Donations	\$300
Interest/Sales/Misc.	\$170
Lifetime Memberships	\$1000
Fall Conference	\$4000
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$18,420</b>

#### Expenses:

XFER to Lifetime Members Escrow Account	\$1000
Fall Conference	\$3500
Board of Directors (nominations, meetings, officer expenses, development)	\$1150
Bulk Mailing	\$925
Chapters	\$1000 (\$250 each)
Computer/Software/Web Hosting	\$380
Botany Committee	\$250
Conservation Committee	\$190
Conservation Projects Fund	\$1018
Invasives Committee	\$400
Education Committee (field trips, meetings)	\$895
Publications Committee	\$5150
Membership Committee	\$710
Outreach Committee	\$150
Library	\$150
General Fund	\$230
Insurance	\$1322
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$18,420</b>

## MNPS Financial Report

2002 Cash Income



## Spring/Summer Field Trips

### Plant ID at Audubon Land Trust, Frederick County

**Leader:** Joe Metzger

**Date:** Saturday, May 10 **Time:** 10:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Continue to develop a list of plants occurring naturally at Audubon Land Trust for Audubon Society of Central Maryland.

**Directions:** From I-495 (Capital Beltway) take I-270 to Frederick. Get onto I-70 going toward Baltimore. Go east beyond Frederick to MD 75. Get off and head south on MD 75 about ½ mile to commuter parking area. From I-695 (Baltimore beltway) take I-70 toward Frederick. Go to MD 75. Get off and head south on MD 75 about ½ mile to commuter parking area.

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

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



*Iris versicolor*  
Blue Flag

### A Natural History Gathering, Marshy Point Nature Center (in Dundee & Saltpeter Creeks Park), Baltimore County

**Date:** Saturday, May 17 **Time:** 2:00 – 8:00 pm  
The Natural History Society of Maryland is inviting members of over a dozen organizations with common interests in natural history to an informal gathering. Come share stories,

enthusiasm, and knowledge of the natural world. Bring a picnic dinner for an enjoyable time in a beautiful outdoor setting. Organizations are invited to share information about natural history, membership, and special projects that they are undertaking. An announcement board will be available if your organization would like to offer an informal nature walk or activity. If you would like to display your natural history collections, please call Joe McSharry (home: 410-483-3132; work: 410-732-7690 ext. 1144) ahead of time so we may make arrangements. We hope to see you there!

**Directions: From the North (Towson):** Beltway 695 East to Exit 31-C (White Marsh Blvd Rt. 43). Go to end of highway and take Route 40 East (Pulaski Hwy). Make a right at the first light (Ebenezer Road), then a right onto Earl Road.

Make a left onto Eastern Avenue, and a right onto Marshy Point Road. Follow the signs to the nature center. **From the South (Fort McHenry Tunnel or Francis Scott Key**

**Bridge):** Exit onto Route 150 East (Eastern Avenue). Follow Route 150 for approximately 6 miles then turn right onto Marshy Point Road. Follow the signs to the nature center.

**Bring:** Picnic dinner, binoculars.

**Contact:** Marshy Point Nature Center 410-887-2817.

**Organizations:** Natural History Society of Maryland, Maryland Native Plant Society, Maryland Entomological Society, Baltimore Bird Club, Maryland Herpetological Society, Baltimore Mineral Society, Biotrek Naturalists, Archeology Society of Maryland, Mid-Atlantic Turtle and Tortoise Society, Worthley Botany Class, Audubon Society, Maryland Ornithological Society, Baltimore Grotto, and Cylburn Arboretum Association.

### Hollywood Swamp/Indian Creek Braided Stream Area, Prince George's County

**Leaders:** Lou Aronica, Rod Simmons, and Meghan Tice

**Date:** Sunday, May 18 **Time:** 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

This site contains a variety of plant communities and is host to many uncommon species. This is the only known station for bog chickweed in Maryland. The site is a significant breeding area for amphibians and five turtle species have been observed. Maryland has purchased 75 acres to be saved but intense development is under consideration at neighboring sites, which may well leave this 75 acres so isolated as to be totally dysfunctional as an ecosystem. Our visits will expand the biological inventory of the site. Besides plants, we will also focus on birds, herps, and butterflies. Co-sponsored by CCRIC (Citizens to Conserve and Restore Indian Creek).

**Directions:** Take Greenbelt Road (Route 193) to Cherrywood Lane (a left if heading east from Route 1, a right heading west from 295 or Kenilworth Ave), and go a short distance and park in shopping center corner near Petsmart. If you reach Breezewood Drive, you've gone too far.

**Bring:** Water and lunch, field guides, binoculars, and boots, if you wish. **Please Note:** Stream crossings.

**Contact:** Lou Aronica 202-722-1081 (evenings) or Meghan Tice cecropia13@msn.com or 301-809-0139.

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## Hoyle's Mill Diabase Conservation Area, Montgomery County

**Leaders:** John Parrish & Rg Steinman

**Date:** Saturday, May 24 **Time:** 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Diabase is a rare geologic formation in Maryland. This forest is the largest diabase ecosystem in the State. Diabase is a calcium, magnesium, and iron rich igneous rock that weathers into shallow circumneutral soils. Rocky, open glades are a distinctive feature within this forest resulting from the erosion resistant outcrops. These outcrops support unusual plant assemblages and include many State-rare species.

Approximately 2000 acres of diabase habitats here have recently been protected from development. The forest harbors dozens of uncommon and rare plants, including gentians, Seneca snakeroot, nerved skullcap, smooth phlox, prickly-ash, black ash, Mead's sedge, orange coneflower, and Shumard's oak. The prickly-ash supports the state-rare giant swallowtail, Maryland's largest butterfly. We stand a good chance of observing this butterfly nectaring at flowers along beautiful Little Seneca Creek. We will cover a lot of ground, so be prepared for a long and exciting spring outing.

**Directions:** From I-270, go west on Route 117 (Clopper Rd). Go @ 6 miles until Clopper Rd ends at the Boyds MARC/RR station. Go left on White Ground Road for less than one mile then go left on Hoyles Mill Road. We will park along Hoyles Mill Road near the first little stream crossing.

**Bring:** Food, drink, sturdy shoes, and camera.

**Contact:** John & Rg lifeonearth@juno.com or 301-565-2025.

## Spring Flowers in Prince George's County

**Leader:** Lisa Bierer-Garrett

**Date:** Saturday, May 31 **Time:** 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

We will look in Watkins Regional Park for spring ephemerals like bloodroot and wild ginger and the Patuxent 4-H Center in Bowie for a beautiful bloom of Virginia bluebells along the riverbank. It is a beautiful path along the Patuxent River, very easy walking.

**Directions:** From the Capital Beltway, take Central Ave exit east. Follow Route 214-Central Ave for 3 miles to the light at the intersection of 214 and Watkins Park Drive (Rt. 193). Take a right. Travel down to the marquee at the park entrance; make a right. Follow the park road all the way to the back and meet at the Nature Center on the left. We will be hiking several easy trails to look for wildflowers. Our second stop we will carpool/caravan to the 4-H Center, 2.5 miles on Queen Anne's Road off 301, just south of Bowie.

**Bring:** Camera, water, lunch or snack. Lunch \$; may stop for lunch. **Note:** Easy hiking. Some trails may be muddy.

**Contact:** Lisa Bierer-Garrett froglipp@chesapeake.net or 410-286-3025.

## Orchid Hunt at Suitland Bog, Prince George's County

**Leader:** Lisa Bierer-Garrett, former Suitland Bog Naturalist

**Date:** Sunday, June 1 **Time:** 9:00– 11:00 am

Hike on the boardwalk over the wetland and in newer Terrace Gravel property in search of blooming orchids. We're likely to see pink lady's slipper (*Cypripedium acaule*), a large stand of rose pogonia (*Pogonia ophioglossoides*) (S3), and the elusive large whorled pogonia (*Isotria verticillata*). Many other plants and shrubs may be in bloom.

**Directions:** From the Capital Beltway, take the Allentown Road exit. At end of ramp, turn right. At Allentown Road and Suitland Road intersection (directly in front of Andrews AFB) take right. Go 1 mile down the road, under Suitland Parkway. Bog entrance is 300 yards up on the right. Parking is through gate and up the hill. From Suitland Parkway, take the Suitland Road exit. At the end of ramp take a right; go up 100 or so yards and the Bog gate is on the right. You can take metro to Suitland stop and arrange for someone from the group to pick you up. It is very close to the Bog but not walking distance.

**Bring:** Boots or shoes that can get wet and camera. **Note:** Long pants suggested; there is poison sumac in the bog.

**Contact:** Lisa Bierer-Garrett froglipp@chesapeake.net or 410-286-3025.

## Bear Island off the C&O Canal, Montgomery County

**Leader:** Cris Fleming

**Date:** Saturday, June 7 **Time:** 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Explore the rocky woods, pond shores, open bedrock terrace, and Potomac River shoreline of Bear Island, home of many state-rare plants and plant communities. In early June, we'll look for rare species such as rock skullcap, narrow melicgrass, racemed milkwort, and blue false indigo as well as uncommon plants including goat's rue, blue flag, partridgeberry, and small-flowered phacelia. We'll be walking along the towpath and parts of the Billy Goat Trail as well as several smaller trails and we will probably do some rock-scrambling and off-trail exploration.

**Directions:** From I-495 (Capital Beltway) and the Maryland side of the river, take the Clara Barton Parkway toward Great Falls, MD. Where the parkway ends, turn left on MacArthur Boulevard and continue about one mile to the parking lot opposite Old Anglers Inn. If the weather is good, the parking lot fills up very quickly; you may have to park along the road. Meet below the parking area at the bridge over the C&O Canal. If you are late, we will be turning right on the towpath and walking upriver.

**Bring:** Water, snack or lunch, hand lens, binoculars, field guide, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent. Be sure to wear sturdy, comfortable shoes as there is rough walking in some areas.

**Please Note:** Because of the sensitive habitat, this trip is limited to 14 people. Trip is canceled if there is heavy rain in the morning.

**Contact:** Cris Fleming 301-657-9289. Registration is required. Leave your telephone number if leaving a message. No registration by email.

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## Civil War Fort Sites in the Washington, D.C. Region (24<sup>th</sup> in the Series)

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

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

We will return to **Ft. Dupont/Ft. Stanton connector** to explore portions of Ft. Circle leading toward Ft. Davis and Ft. Dupont. Mountain laurel and other heaths may be in bloom.

**Directions:** Meet at Park Drive and 32<sup>nd</sup> Pl SE, just off of Branch Ave SE (Route 5 in Md.); access via Pennsylvania Ave to Branch Ave (4 blocks southeast of intersection). Edge of connector is called Park Drive on one side of Branch Ave and U Street on the other side.

**Bring:** Lunch and water. **Note:** Easy to moderate walk. Drizzle is fine but canceled if rain is heavy.

**Contact:** Mary Pat Rowan blair-rowan@starpower.net or 202-526-8821.

## New Jersey Pine Barrens, Whitesbog and Brendan Byrne State Forest

(Cosponsored by New Jersey Audubon Society)

**Leader:** Karl Anderson, New Jersey Audubon Society

**Date:** Saturday, June 14 **Time:** 6:45 am – 6:00 pm (Meet at Brookside in time to **leave at 7:00 am** to get to the New Jersey meeting place by 10:00 am, if riding in a rental vehicle or carpooling. We'll leave the Pine Barrens at 3:00 pm to get back to Brookside by 6:00 pm. Alternatively, you can meet in New Jersey and stay later.)

The New Jersey Pine Barrens, or Pinelands, is a unique natural area covering over 1 million acres of the Outer Coastal Plain in southern and central New Jersey. It is designated a Biosphere Reserve by the United Nations and a "Last Great Place" by The Nature Conservancy for its environmental importance. The soils are sandy and acidic, and fires were historically common. As a result, many species are fire-adapted. The Pine Barrens contain many rare and interesting plant species, such as the bog asphodel (*Narthecium americanum*), which grows nowhere else in the world and is currently being considered for a federal listing of threatened. Proposals for endangered/threatened status are under preparation by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Southern New Jersey, including the Pine Barrens, contains nearly 70% of known populations of the federally protected swamp pink (*Helonias bullata*). We will see lots of interesting plants, including curly grass fern (*Schizaea pusilla*), Carolina clubmoss (*Lycopodiella caroliniana*), rose pogonia (*Pogonia ophioglossoides*), grass pink (*Calopogon tuberosus*), orange milkwort (*Polygala lutea*), three species of sundews (*Drosera* spp.), and pitcher plant (*Sarracenia purpurea*). If anyone is interested, Karl could probably be talked into taking folks out on a nocturnal excursion to look for Pine Barrens tree frogs, which should be calling then.

**Meeting Location:** Meet at Brookside Gardens Visitor's Center parking lot, where we will board a van/bus.

**Directions to Brookside Gardens:** From the Capital Beltway, take Georgia Ave north to Randolph Road (turn

right/east) then turn right onto Glenallan Ave and then turn right onto Heurich Road (at a stop sign and the Visitor Center entrance to Brookside Gardens). There are gates that open automatically when you approach them so don't be discouraged.

**Directions to New Jersey Meeting Location:** Meet at 10:00 am at the Brendan Byrne (formerly Lebanon) State Forest office. From the south, cross the Delaware Memorial Bridge, get on Route 295 North, and get off at exit 34 (Route 70). Follow Route 70 east for about 21 miles to its intersection with Route 72 at the "Four Mile" traffic circle. Go around the circle and continue on Route 70 for about another mile.

Watch for sign on right "Brendan Byrne State Forest." Turn right at the sign and continue for another mile to the office.

**Bring:** Sunscreen, insect repellent, lunch, lots of water, snacks, waterproof boots, change of clothes (you will get wet), and a hat if you desire (they're great for repelling flies and keeping the sun off your face).

**Please Note:** There will be a fee (TBD) for this trip to cover the cost of a rental van/bus. You can also meet at Brookside Gardens to carpool or drive directly to the New Jersey meeting location. Camping info will be available upon request.

**Registration is required** for those who will ride in the van/s. Some may wish to camp or stay in the area on Saturday evening (and/or Friday evening). Depending on the interests of those registering, we could have two rental vans, one to leave New Jersey at 3:00 pm (returning to Brookside by 6:00 pm) and one to stay the night in the area.

**Contact:** Chris Partain 301-962-1414 or chris.partain@mncppc-mc.org.



*Pogonia ophioglossoides*  
Rose Pogonia Orchid



*Calopogon tuberosus*  
Grass Pink Orchid



## Ferns on the Gunpowder – Gunpowder State Park – Kingsville (Perry Hall) Area, Baltimore County

**Leader:** Dwight Johnson

**Date:** Sunday, June 15 **Time:** 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Learn about common and some not so common ferns along the Gunpowder River in Kingsville. We will explore three different paths, each about one mile long. You can choose to explore as many as you'd like. Most of the ferns will be on the first path but the rarer ferns will be on the next two. The path will be flat, easy walking.

**Directions:** We will meet at the parking lot is on the east side of US Rt. 1 (Belair Road) at the Gunpowder River, 5.4 miles north of I-695 (Baltimore beltway) Exit 32.

**Bring:** Lunch and water.

**Contact:** Dwight Johnson 410-366-7239.

## Wandering at Scott's Run Nature Preserve, Fairfax County, Virginia

**Leader:** Joe Metzger

**Date:** Sunday, June 15 **Time:** 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Hope to see bugbane and bowman's root and learn the trails.

**Directions:** From Capital Beltway (I-495), take Georgetown Pike (VA 193) west. Go past the upper parking lot, down the hill and go right into the lower parking lot next to the stream. Or join the regular monthly (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday) walk at Great Falls, VA (fee) at 10:00 am at the picnic tables at visitor's center.

**Bring:** Water. **Note:** Moderate walk.

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

## Hollywood Swamp/Indian Creek, Prince George's County

**Leaders:** Lou Aronica, Rod Simmons, and Meghan Tice

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

Hollywood Swamp, an area well studied a century ago, exists on both sides of the beltway near the Greenbelt Metro station and extends north to the vicinity of Powder Mill Road. In the past few years, we have visited the area near the Greenbelt Metro station (see May 18 trip). We will now begin to turn our attention to the upper portion along Indian Creek.

Meeting location will be the same as before. From there we will carpool to Sunnyside Avenue. Our visits will expand the biological inventory of the site. Besides plants, we will also focus on birds, herps, and butterflies. Co-sponsored by CCRIC (Citizens to Conserve and Restore Indian Creek).

**Directions:** Take Greenbelt Road (Route 193) to Cherrywood Lane (a left if heading east from Route 1, a right heading west from 295 or Kenilworth Ave), and go a short distance and park in shopping center corner near Petsmart. If you reach Breezewood Drive, you've gone too far.

**Bring:** Water and lunch, field guides, binoculars, and boots.

**Contact:** Lou Aronica 202-722-1081 (evenings) or Meghan Tice cecropia13@msn.com or 301-809-0139.

## Tour of Environmental Concern in St. Michaels, Talbot County

**Leader:** Leslie Hunter-Cario

**Date:** Saturday, June 21 **Time:** 10:00 am – noon

Join Environmental Concern Nursery Manager Leslie Hunter-Cario for an up close and personal look at over 100 locally native wetland species as they are grown in the recently expanded EC nursery. We'll take a tour of the growing area, discuss some uses for these water tolerant species, and learn about a few methods of propagation.

**Directions:** Traveling from the north or south, take Route 50 to Easton, MD. Just prior to Easton, turn onto Route 322 (Easton by-pass) and proceed to Route 33 (St. Michaels Highway). Turn onto Route 33, and travel 9 miles to St. Michaels. Just as you enter St. Michaels and just beyond Higgins and Spencer Furniture on your left, turn left onto Boundary Lane. Travel ¼ mile to our gravel road entrance on your right.

**Contact:** Leslie Hunter-Cario 410-745-9620.

## Patapsco Valley State Park, Howard County

**Leaders:** Louisa Thompson and Bill Morgante

**Date:** Sunday, June 22 **Time:** 1:00 – 5:00 pm

Soils, topography, microclimates, disturbance history, and dominant tree species all help to determine which plants grow in a given location. We'll explore plant associations on acidic and neutral soils, in moist and dry locations in this steep river gorge. Learn how to read a county Soil Survey and look at soil profiles. Unusual plants we'll see are blue cohosh, maidenhair fern, hazelnut, and bladdernut, and we hope to verify identification of a red mulberry tree.

**Directions:** From I-95, take I-195 toward BWI airport. Take 1<sup>st</sup> exit onto US 1 south. Make first right onto South Street. Immediately turn left into park. Go 2 miles till road ends, turn left, and cross river. Immediately turn right into Avalon parking lot and park at far end.

**Bring:** Water and a snack. Wear sturdy shoes with good tread. Trail is often steep with loose rocks.

**Please Note:** There is a \$2.00 park entrance fee per person. **Note:** Restrooms at parking lot. Trip will be rescheduled if trail is wet, to protect both the land and the participants.

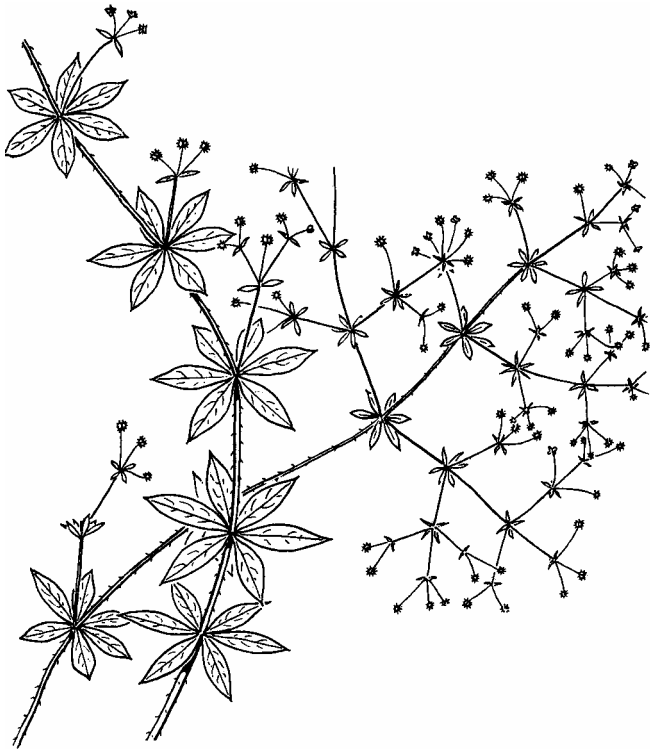
**Contact:** Louisa Thompson louisathompson@erols.com or 410-707-2550. **REGISTRATION REQUIRED:** Leave name and a phone number where you can be reached morning of trip, in case trip must be rescheduled.

## Myrtle Point Park, Saint Mary's County

**Leader:** Karyn Molines

**Date:** Sunday, June 29 **Time:** 10:00 am – noon

MNPS is co-sponsoring a hike at Myrtle Point Park for the final day of the third annual Toyota Prius Patuxent Sojourn. The Sojourn is a weeklong kayaking/canoeing expedition designed to elevate local awareness about the need to restore and protect the Patuxent River and the Chesapeake Bay. Starting on June 22, the group will spend each day exploring



*Galium triflorum*  
Sweet-scented Bedstraw

~~~~~  
May wine, a May Day tradition, is flavored with the European species sweet woodruff (*Galium odoratum*), which is similar to our native sweet-scented bedstraw.  
~~~~~

## Myrtle Point Park, Contd.

the river, taking part in educational programs, riverside camping, and assisting with several restoration efforts. Participants can join for one or two days, or paddle for the entire week.

**Directions:** From Washington D.C. take Route 4 (Pennsylvania Avenue) south, crossing over the Patuxent River in Solomons. About 2 miles past the bridge, make a right onto Patuxent Blvd. Go about 2 miles to Myrtle Point Park. Meet in the parking lot.

**Bring:** Water, hat, sunscreen, tick repellent, binoculars, hand lens.

**Note:** There is no fee for the hike, but there is a \$50 (\$25 for youth) registration fee to participate in the other days and events of the Sojourn.

**Contact:** Jamie Alberti jamiekeefe@erols.com or 202-466-4633 for information about the Sojourn or contact Karyn Molines kmolines@chesapeake.net or 410-286-2928 to register for the hike.

## A Mountain Bog, Mount Briar Wetland Preserve, Washington County

**Leader:** Joe Metzger

**Date:** Saturday, July 5 **Time:** 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Explore the bog on 2400 feet of boardwalks. We may see sundews. **Directions:** Contact Joe Metzger.

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

**Please Note:** Registration required.

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

## Civil War Fort Sites in the Washington, D.C. Region (25<sup>th</sup> in the Series)

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

**Date:** Sunday, July 6 **Time:** 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

We will return to **Ft. Slocum** (previous visit, December 2001) for summer vegetation sampling. This Fort is slightly larger than four city blocks and is mostly an oak-heath community on terrace-gravel soils with a lower fringe of mesic flora.

**Directions:** Ft. Slocum is between Missouri Avenue NW and Blair Road NW in the vicinity of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street NW. Park on Kansas Avenue near intersection with Nicholson Street NW.

**Bring:** Lunch and water. **Note:** Easy to moderate walk. Drizzle is fine but canceled if rain is heavy.

**Contact:** Mary Pat Rowan blair-rowan@starpower.net or 202-526-8821.

## Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary, Anne Arundel County

**Leader:** Karyn Molines

**Date:** Saturday, July 19 **Time:** 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Freshwater tidal wetlands are among the most diverse ecosystems in Maryland and Jug Bay is renowned for its extensive tidal wetlands. This 2-3 mile hike along boardwalks and trails offers opportunities to discover the diversity of plants, amphibians, fish, and birds dependent on wetlands. Wear comfortable walking shoes; your feet should stay dry (unless you accidentally fall off the boardwalk!)

**Directions: From Washington D.C.:** From the Capital Beltway take Pennsylvania Avenue (Route 4) south. In about ten miles take exit for Plummer Lane. Continue for half mile and turn right on Wrighton Road. In a half-mile turn left onto gravel drive and proceed to the Wetlands Center. **From Annapolis:** Take Route 2 south of Annapolis (approx. 15 miles). Turn right at light for Route 258. Continue 4.5 miles to the end. **From Calvert/St. Mary's Counties:** Take Route 2-4 north. Continue on Route 4 north at the 2-4 split. Take the Bristol/Deale exit (Route 258). At top of ramp turn left. Travel over Route 4 to the stop sign. Turn left onto Wrighton Road. Continue for 1.5 miles and turn left onto gravel drive and proceed to Wetlands Center.

**Bring:** Lunch, water, sunscreen, tick protection, hat, field guides, binoculars, and hand lens.

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

## Invasive Exotic Plant Removal Workdays

### Ruth Swann Park, Charles County

**Dates:** First Sunday, monthly (May 4 and June 8)

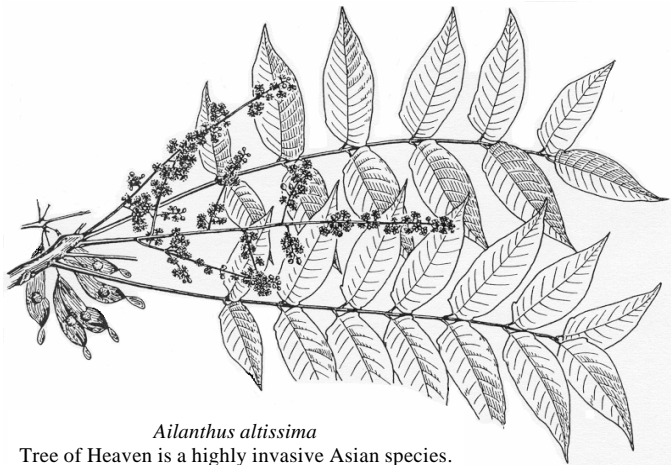
**Time:** 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

We'll remove invasive growth to uncover native species, some of which are rare. Excellent progress has been made in the past three years. Five-ten% invaded now, these parks will become 30-50% invaded unless we help in a timely manner. Eradicate alien invasive plants from most of the old-growth area of Swann Park. Learn a remarkably efficacious technique for Japanese honeysuckle. There will also be time for plant identification and a beautiful beach lunch. Participating organizations include MNPS and Sierra Club.

**Directions:** Meet at the Ruth B. Swann Park-Potomac Branch Library parking lot, 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. Long sleeves and pants recommended.

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



*Ailanthus altissima*

Tree of Heaven is a highly invasive Asian species.

### Belt Woods, Prince George's County

**Dates:** Saturdays, May 17 and June 14

**Time:** 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Remove exotic plants 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. Help remove Japanese stilt grass, English ivy, multiflora rose, Japanese honeysuckle, etc.

**Directions:** From Capital Beltway, take Rt. 214 east towards 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@juno.com.

### Northwest Branch of the Anacostia, Montgomery County

**Dates:** Third Saturdays, May 17 and June 21

**Time:** 10:00 am – 1:00 or 2:00 pm

Please join us near 4-Corners in Silver Spring to remove patches of the invasive multiflora rose and garlic mustard from areas along Northwest Branch. The exotics are removed by hand pulling or with the aid of spading forks.

**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. No email registration.

### Invasive Exotic Plant Removal Events – Howard County

**Dates:** Fourth Tuesdays **Time:** 9:30 am – noon

The Conservation Stewardship Project at the Middle Patuxent Environmental Area (MPEA) and elsewhere in Howard County will be meeting on the fourth Tuesdays of the month. Each trip will have both an educational component and a work component.

**Tuesday, May 27** We will be discovering and learning about spring ephemerals while we work to remove garlic mustard.

**Tuesday, June 24** Learn about butterflies and dragonflies from MPEA park naturalists while we work to remove mile-a-minute vines.

**Meeting Location:** Meet 9:30 am at Trotter Road parking lot located 0.8 miles south of Route 108 in Clarksville.

**Bring:** Water and gloves and wear protective clothing.

**Contact:** For information, directions, or to register please contact Aylene Gard 410-992-9889 or Robin Hessey rmhessey@umd.edu. Howard County Recreation and Parks and Howard County Master Gardeners sponsor the Conservation Stewardship Project.

# Native News

## Invasive Plant Control Workshop at Adkins Arboretum, Caroline County

**Date:** Wednesday, June 4 **Time:** 10:00 am – 12:00 pm  
Join Conservation Curator Sylvan Kaufman in a hands-on workshop to learn techniques for identifying and controlling common plant invaders. The workshop will cover why invasive species are a problem, identification of common species on the Eastern Shore, hands-on practice with physical control techniques, and observation of chemical control techniques. Learn to use a weed wrench and lower impact herbicide techniques like painted stump treatment and glove treatment. The practice will include work on multiflora rose, oriental bittersweet, Japanese honeysuckle, and paper mulberry.

**Directions:** From U.S. Route 50, take U.S. Route 404 east toward Denton. Turn north onto MD Route 480 then make an immediate left onto Eveland Road. The Arboretum is two miles ahead, on the left.

**Bring:** Gloves and dress for the outdoors (long sleeves and pants recommended). **Note:** Registration is \$5 for Arboretum members, \$8 for non-members.

**Contact:** For more information call 410-634-2847, email skaufman@intercom.net, or visit [www.adkinsarboretum.org](http://www.adkinsarboretum.org).

## Water Chestnut Removal, Sassafras River, Kent County

**Date:** Late June

**Time:** See website – specific date(s) not set at this time  
Volunteers will harvest plants by hand from canoes provided by the Department of Natural Resources and partners.

**Directions:** See <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/bay/sav/> for details as the date approaches. Click on Projects/Reports and then Water Chestnut for more info.

**Bring:** Please wear comfortable clothes and shoes with firm soles that can get wet (do not wear sandals). Bring waders if you have them (some will be provided), sunblock, a hat, and water. We can always use more canoes, kayaks, and other small boats – if you bring one, be sure to bring a personal floatation device for each person.

**Contact:** Mike Naylor 410-260-8652 or [mnaylor@dnr.state.md.us](mailto:mnaylor@dnr.state.md.us)

## Brookside Gardens, Montgomery County

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.



What bamboo will do when it is not controlled – become a monoculture.

## Announcements

The **Anacostia Watershed Society** has begun a native wetland plant propagation center at the Bladensburg Waterfront Park, one mile outside the northeast D.C. border, off Annapolis Road. Anyone interested in volunteering to 1.) Tend the plants during the growing season, 2.) Help run wetland education field trips for local schoolchildren, or 3.) Assist in a wild rice (*Zizania aquatica*) restoration project could contact AWS Horticulturist Steve McKindley-Ward at [steve@anacostiaws.org](mailto:steve@anacostiaws.org) or 301-699-6204.

### **Olmsted Woods, Washington National Cathedral**

Programs focus on the Olmsted Woods Restoration and Stewardship campaign launched by All Hallows Guild in 1997. The Guild, founded in 1916, is responsible for "the care and beautification of the Cathedral gardens, grounds and woodlands." Each Woods Walk begins at 10:00 am and each Bird Walk begins at 9:00 am. Participants for all Walks meet at the George Washington Statue on Pilgrim Road, just off Wisconsin Avenue on the south side of the Cathedral except where noted. For the tours: Please wear sturdy waterproof shoes. No reservations are required and all programs are free. Programs will be canceled in the event of heavy rain.

Questions: Call the Olmsted Woods info line 202-537-2319.

### **WOODS WALKS**

**Thursday, May 8 & 15, 10:00 am** – Wildflower Walks.

Join us for this series of walks designed to track the gradual "greening" of the Olmsted Woods. Tours will focus on spring ephemerals, wildflowers, native plants, budding trees and other vernal surprises. Please note that Bird Walks precede the tours on May 8 and May 15.

**Thursday, June 12, 10:00 am** – What's That Tree? As we enter the summer months, we will focus once again on the trees in our midst, and how to identify them.

### **BIRD WALKS**

**Thursdays: May 8 and May 15, 9:00 am**

As the Woods undergoes restoration, a guiding principle is the inclusion of groundcovers, shrubs, and trees attractive to birds and other wildlife. Please join experienced birder Sheila Cochran at the George Washington Statue on these morning walks.

Wear sturdy shoes and don't forget your binoculars!

### **Plant Swap & Sale**

The seventh annual free plant exchange will be held at Sotterley Plantation, Saturday May 10, from 10:00 am to noon. Bring plants, bulbs, seeds, etc., to trade. The Sotterley Garden Guild will also be offering plants for sale and Master Gardeners will be hosting a Plant Clinic. Call Christina Allen at 301-862-3421 for more information.

### **Richmond Insect Fair**

Saturday, June 14, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm at the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Farmers Market in downtown Richmond, Virginia. Info: [www.17thstreetfarmersmarket.com](http://www.17thstreetfarmersmarket.com) or [www.letsbuggy.com](http://www.letsbuggy.com)

### **Restoration of Meadows, Rutgers University May 29-30**

Diverse wildflower and native grass meadows serve many environmental and public needs, including improvement of wildlife habitat and adding beauty to the landscape. Over time, meadows can be less expensive to maintain than large mowed lawns. This course will cover basic the ecological principles and processes that underlie meadow creation. We emphasize creating meadows on current turfgrass areas and degraded lands, which are common in urban and suburban regions. Meadows are also an advantage on property that is undergoing change in land use, including buffer zones, mitigation projects, and new parks and preserves. A team of professionals will cover planning, design, management, education programs, and plant selection for these projects. This two-day course will show you when restoration is appropriate, how to plan and carry out a successful restoration project, and how to maintain the project to meet your objectives. The second day of the program will be a field day, where the class will visit a number of restored meadows and have the opportunity to see and discuss completed restoration projects, as well as discuss examples of problems and solutions that are common to this process. Who should attend? This course would benefit park and preserve managers, ecological restoration specialists, landscape architects and contractors, landscape maintenance workers, environmental consultants, biologists, natural resource managers, and any citizen interested in improving the local environment.

Registration: Register by phone 732-932-9271 Monday-Friday, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm. Please have your credit card number ready. To register by mail or fax, please call 732-932-4275 to receive a registration form. Full instructions for payment by all major credit cards, check, money order, or purchase order will be included in this form. Internet: Please visit our registration website at [www.cook.rutgers.edu/~ocpe](http://www.cook.rutgers.edu/~ocpe).

### **Atlantic White Cedar Management and Restoration Ecology Symposium**

June 2-4, Arlington Echo, Millersville, Maryland

For info please visit the Arlington Echo website [www.arlingtonecho.org](http://www.arlingtonecho.org) and click on Atlantic White Cedar Conference under Upcoming Events. There you will find a printable brochure, online registration, and a map to Arlington Echo. To receive info by mail, please call Arlington Echo at 410-222-3822, fax to 410-222-3826, or call Phil Sheridan at 1-804-633-4336.

### **Millersville Conference, June 5-7**

The purpose of this conference is: to increase the knowledge, propagation, cultivation, and use of native plants in the Mid-Atlantic and New England regions; to promote methods of land management and design that respect "sense of place" by preserving and restoring native species and natural processes; to engender an appreciation of regionally appropriate landscapes; and to encourage the creation of sustainable

landscapes that are harmonious for people and nature. While the subject of the conference pertains to native plant communities, the spirit of the conference is to build human communities among a broad range of participants by designing a conference affordable to all; encouraging formal and informal exchanges of information, and providing opportunities for social interaction. For more info visit: [www.millersvillenativeplants.org](http://www.millersvillenativeplants.org).

## **Announcing 2003 Lichenology Seminars at the Humboldt Institute on the coast of Maine!**

### **Lichens and Lichen Ecology, June 15-21**

Lichens are unusually abundant and diverse along the coast of Maine. This seminar will emphasize field collection and observation of lichens. Laboratory studies will focus on identification of specimens with the use of reference books and keys. Lichens from open, forested, and seashore habitats will be collected. The emphasis will be on the larger macro-lichens, but some crustose species will also be studied. Lectures and slide presentations will cover the structure, reproduction, ecology, and physiology of lichens, as well as their use by man and their value for pollution monitoring.

Dr. David Richardson is a lichen ecologist and physiologist. He is Professor and Dean of Science at Saint Mary's University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He is a specialist in the effects of air pollution on lichens and has published two books, *The Vanishing Lichens* and *Pollution Monitoring with Lichens*. His studies have taken him to England, Ireland, Canada, and Australia.

### **Calicioid Lichens and Fungi: Identification and Ecology: Their Role in Assessing Forest Continuity, July 13-19**

As perhaps our most sensitive bio-monitors of forest ecosystem health, the calicioid lichens and fungi are a natural unit of investigation. Distinguished by their tiny (1-2 mm tall) stipitate apothecia, the taxa in this group can be found growing in more forest microhabitats than any other group of species. As the diversity of microhabitats increases over time in an aging forest, so too does the diversity of calicioid species that colonize them. As a result, the presence or absence of calicioid lichens and fungi can provide evidence as to whether a forest that looks old really is old and has been little disturbed over a long period of time. Over the past 20 years, the calicioid lichens and fungi have been used to assess the continuity of forest ecosystems in northern New England and Maritime Canada. Students in this course will become familiar with this method of assessment by learning to locate these species in the field, learning how to collect and process them for subsequent investigation, and learning how to identify them using available keys.

Dr. Steven Selva has been a Professor of Biology and Environmental Studies at the University of Maine at Fort Kent since 1976. As the only botanist at a school offering baccalaureate programs in Biology, Environmental Studies, and Forestry, he teaches a diversity of plant science courses, including vascular plant taxonomy, dendrology, local flora, and lichenology. Since the summer of 1986, Dr. Selva has

been engaged in an ongoing research project in which lichens are being used to assess the continuity of forest ecosystems in northeastern North America. He's written numerous articles on the subject, including several on calicioid lichens and fungi and their role as old-growth forest indicator species.

### **Crustose Lichens of Coastal Maine, August 10-16**

Although the lichens of Maine's coastal rocks and forest are a conspicuous component of the vegetation, it is usually the larger lichens, the foliose and fruticose species, that attract one's attention. This seminar will concentrate on the less conspicuous, but equally diverse and important, crustose lichens. Collections will be made from bark, wood, rocks and soil, and they will then be identified in the laboratory. Keys to genera of crustose lichens from the recently published book, *Lichens of North America*, will be used, as well as other modern keys from the world literature. Techniques for sectioning, staining, and interpreting the tissues of crustose lichen fruiting bodies will be introduced, with special attention being devoted to staining various ascus types with iodine. Relationships of different genera will be explored using some new classification schemes.

Dr. Irwin M. Brodo recently retired from his position as research lichenologist at the Canadian Museum of Nature in Ottawa, a post he held for 35 years. He is the author of over 75 research papers on lichens, most of them on the taxonomy of North American species, but also including studies of ecology, air pollution, and general lichen biology. Together with photographer/naturalists Sylvia and Stephen Sharnoff, he has written a new encyclopedic reference book entitled *Lichens of North America* illustrated with over 920 color photographs. The book was published in October 2001 by Yale University Press.

### **BRYOLOGY SEMINARS**

**Bryophytes and Bryophyte Ecology**, June 8-14, Dr. Nancy Slack; **Advanced Sphagnum Field Studies**, June 15-21, Dr. Richard Andrus; **Bryophytes of Offshore Islands of Eastern Maine**, August 17-23, Dr. Norton Miller.

For more information, please contact the Humboldt Institute, P.O. Box 9, Steuben, ME 04680-0009; 207-546-2821; Fax 207-546-3042; email [office@eaglehill.us](mailto:office@eaglehill.us). Online registration and information [www.eaglehill.us](http://www.eaglehill.us).

### **Welcome New Members!**

New Members who joined in February and March: Peter Atkinson, Maxine Callender, Fred Faulkner, Joseph Kiester, Dan Robinson, William Rynone, Gary Steele, David & Wanda Tice, Sydney Vallentyne (St. John's Botanicals), and Dawn Walker. Thank you.

### **Renewing Members:**

We had 91 members renew since January 1, which includes 66 of the 124 people who expired between January and March. In addition, we had 21 of our lapsed members renew. Over ¼ of our members expire between February and April. Please check the expiration date on your label and mail in your renewals if it's time. Your support is very important and we appreciate your dues and additional donations.

# Native News

## Brickbats & Kudos

### Brickbats

- Brickbats to Maryland and Virginia for going ahead with plans to introduce the non-native Suminoe Oyster into the Chesapeake Bay, despite opposition from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and against the advice of the National Academy of Sciences. Under strong pressure from the Virginia Seafood Council to boost struggling oyster fisheries, the Virginia Marine Resources Commission “approved the proposal...to plant 1 million Asian oysters in the bay and Atlantic” without knowing the potential effects on native wildlife. (*Washington Post*, February 26, 2003) In doing so, both states have reduced the Bay to little more than a glorified fish farm and defined its value chiefly in “bottom line” economic terms. Once again, efforts to improve the health of the Bay remain focused on the fringe and fail to tackle the source of the problems upstream, like over-development.

- Brickbats to auto manufacturers in Detroit for providing the American public with the ultimate in gas guzzling SUVs – the super-sized Hummer H2. (Just what we all needed!) This oversized, “quasi-military” vehicle dwarfs most other vehicles on the road (probably much of its appeal for certain drivers), gets a dismal 11 miles-per-gallon, and helps accelerate global warming and other environmental problems while it wastes gas. Despite the technology and significant demand to build fuel-efficient cars, Detroit “claims that drivers are more interested in high testosterone levels than high mileage.” (*Sierra*, March/April 2003)

- Brickbats to Governor Ehrlich (R) and Montgomery County Executive Doug Duncan (D) for their steadfast pursuit of building the Inter County Connector (ICC), which, if constructed, will significantly add to sprawl in an already congested area, destroy precious wildlife areas, and not alleviate traffic congestion. Ehrlich’s new transportation program includes “\$2 million to restart planning for the ICC.” According to Ehrlich, it is to be believed that the “road would be built in a more environmentally sensitive way than was proposed the last time it was studied.” (An expedited environmental review process by the Bush administration hardly inspires confidence that Maryland’s forests and waterways along the ICC path will be protected.) (*Washington Post*, March 28, 2003)

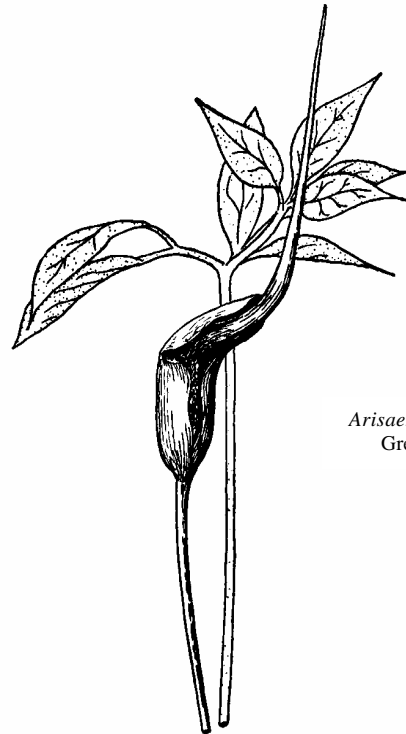
- Brickbats to Frank's Nursery & Crafts and Lowe's Home Improvement Stores who in a flagrant violation of FTC guidelines are still carrying wild-collected plants. Package labeling indicates that the plant material was grown from cultivated stock, which is fraudulent and deceptive. MNPS will continue to push for accurate and truthful labeling of native wildflowers.

### Kudos

- Kudos to the Spotsylvania County Supervisors for voting unanimously against a massive development proposal to build “2,200 homes and 2.2 million square feet of commercial space” on an 800-acre site “where soldiers fought the Battle of Chancellorsville,” near Fredericksburg, Virginia. Limiting sprawl in one of the fastest growing counties in the Washington area was their main concern. The Civil War Preservation Trust hopes to purchase a significant portion of the land. “Congress recently appropriated \$11 million to the trust for land acquisition.” (*Washington Post*, March 27, 2003)

- Kudos to the EPA for proposing new regulations to substantially limit pollutants emitted by “off-road” diesel vehicles like tractors and irrigation equipment. While the “full cut in emissions” won’t completely take effect until 2010, the regulations will “ultimately slash the sulfur content of emissions by 99 percent.” Sulfur emissions are a main source of acid rain and other airborne environmental problems. If the basis of these regulations are driven by science and not politics, we applaud the action. (*Washington Post*, April 13, 2003)

- Kudos to the USDA for launching an investigation into the labeling practices of WalMart and Home Depot last year, resulting from MNPS concern with the selling of wild-collected plants. WalMart and Home Depot are not carrying this line of plants this spring as a result of the threat of legal action from USDA.



*Arisaema dracontium*  
Green Dragon



**Maryland Native Plant Society**

P.O. Box 4877  
Silver Spring, MD 20914

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**Membership is for 12 months.**  
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**The Maryland Native Plant Society is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization. Contributions are tax deductible. V3N3M/J03**

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