



Maryland Native Plant Society

2008 Annual Conference

Ecological Communities of the Western Shores of the Chesapeake Bay

September 20-21, 2008
Smithsonian Environmental Research Center
Schmidt Center
Contees Wharf Road
Edgewater, Maryland

Registration Fee (includes lunch)
\$50 members
\$65 nonmembers

Saturday Social Fee (includes dinner)
\$30 per person

www.mdflora.org

P. O. Box 4877
Silver Spring, MD 20914

Saturday, September 20

8:30 am..... Registration opens

9:30 am..... Welcome

10:00 am..... **Chris Swarth**
Wetlands and Wildlife

Wetlands support large numbers and a high diversity of birds and mammals. Animals forage, nest, and seek shelter among the dense, rich assortment of plants found in wetlands. This presentation will focus on the aquatic plants of the Patuxent River freshwater tidal wetlands and why these marshes are so important for wildlife.

10:45 am..... Break

11:15 am..... **Rod Simmons**
Maryland's Unexplored Pine Barrens

Pitch pine, *Pinus rigida*, the dominant tree in Pine Barrens woodlands, is highly rare in Maryland, found in the "sand belt" region of Prince George's and Anne Arundel counties. The newly described Maryland community is similar to the New Jersey Pine Barrens, is globally rare, and harbors many botanical rarities.

12:00 pm..... Closing Remarks

12:30 pm..... Lunch (provided)

Conference Speakers

Chris Swarth is the director of the Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary. He grew up in northern California where he went to college, but has called Silver Spring home since 1987.

Rod Simmons, a plant ecologist, is on the MNPS Board of Directors and has conducted numerous botanical surveys throughout Maryland. He recently co-authored an article describing the Pine Barrens Woodland vegetation community within the upper Anacostia watershed for NatureServe.

Bill Sipple has explored Chesapeake Country since he was a young boy. Retired from the Environmental Protection Agency, Bill teaches courses on wetland soils and plant identification.

Saturday Social 6:30 – 9:30 pm

Additional \$30 fee

8:00 pm..... **Bill Sipple**
Exploring Chesapeake Wetlands

Our ever-popular Saturday Evening Social is a fun time to meet new friends and catch up with old ones. **Bill Sipple**, author of *Days Afield*, will be our featured speaker. Buffet dinner is included in the cost.

Location: Severna Park Community Center
623 Baltimore Annapolis Boulevard
Severna Park
Directions will be provided at the Conference.

Field Trips

On Saturday afternoon, conference participants head into the field to explore a variety of forest, meadow and wetland ecosystems.

Sunday field trips open to the public, will be scheduled.

Locations for field trips are still being determined. The website will be updated as field trips are confirmed.

Field Trip Leaders

Field trips are led by experience botanists and naturalists. **Cris Fleming, Joe Metzger, Karyn Molines, Rod Simmons,** and **Chris Swarth** have led numerous field trips for the MNPS, Audubon Naturalist Society, Virginia Native Plant Society, and the Botanical Society of Washington.

Photography Contest

Submit your best Maryland native plant photos in our second photography contest. Winners will be chosen by conference participants who will vote for their favorite entries in various categories. Photographs will be on display during the conference and social. Photographs can be brought to the conference. Details about the contest can be found on our website, www.mdflora.org.

Directions

From Washington, DC:

Take U.S. Route 50 east toward Annapolis. Exit south at MD Route 424 (Davidsonville Road.) Turn left (east) at stoplight onto MD Route 214 (Central Ave.) Follow directions from Central Avenue below.

From Baltimore, Maryland:

Take Interstate 97 south toward Annapolis. Take Rt. 50 East. Exit onto MD Route 665 (Aris T. Allen Blvd.) Exit south onto MD Route 2 (Solomon's Island Road). Go approximately 4 miles and turn left at a traffic light onto MD Route 214 (Central Ave.) Follow directions from Central Avenue below.

From Eastern Shore, Maryland:

Take Route 50 West over the Bay Bridge. Take Exit 23A to MD Route 2 (Solomon's Island Road) south. Go approximately 5 miles and turn left at a traffic light onto MD Route 214 (Central Ave.) Follow directions from Central Avenue below.

From Southern Maryland:

Take MD Route 2/4 north to Sunderland. Continue on MD Route 4 north to Wayson's Corner. Exit onto MD Route 408 east, which becomes MD Route 2 north. Turn right (east) at stoplight onto MD Route 214 (Central Ave.) Follow directions from Central Avenue below.

From Central Avenue:

Follow MD Route 214 (Central Ave) east to stoplight at MD Route 468 (Muddy Creek Road). Turn right (south). Proceed 1 mile, then turn left (east) at the SERC sign on the corner of Contees Wharf Road. Proceed 0.8 mile on gravel road to SERC sign, turn right onto paved road. After you pass the gate, continue past the gate and turn right at the first intersection. The Schmidt center is a brick building on the right, just past the row of parking spots.

Accommodations

Choose one of the many hotels in Annapolis.

Fall Conference Contacts

Web Site: <http://www.mdflora.org>

Registration:

Beth Johnson 301-949-6338
bajohnsonjohnson@verizon.net

Other Questions:

Karyn Molines 410-286-2928
kmolines@chesapeake.net

Registration Fee (includes lunch):

\$50 members
\$65 nonmembers

Saturday Social Fee (includes dinner):

\$30 per person

- *Scholarships are available for students or people with limited income.*
- *Members of other native plant societies may register at member's rates.*

Please make checks payable to:
Maryland Native Plant Society

And Mail to
MNPS Fall Conference
P. O. Box 4877
Silver Spring, MD 20914

To assist with catering estimates,
please register before September 10.

The Maryland Native Plant Society is a 501(c) 3 organization that uses education, research, and community service to increase awareness and appreciation of native plants and their habitats leading to their conservation and restoration. Our goals include preserving Maryland's natural heritage and increasing knowledge about native plants.

The Society sponsors monthly meetings, field trips, and an annual fall conference, and an informative website: www.mdflora.org.

Membership is open to all who are interested in Maryland's native plants and their habitats.

2008 Annual Conference

Make copies for additional registrations.
Join MNPS and pay the member's rates.

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____ County _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

E-mail _____

I am a member of MNPS or other NPS _____

I am requesting vegan meals

Registration Fee	
Saturday Social	

Consider a tax-deductible donation:

Membership	
Conference Scholarship Fund	
Lou Aronica Conservation Fund	
Jean Worthley Lifetime Achievement Fund	
Additional Donation	
Total Enclosed	

Membership Dues: New Renewal

Membership is for 12 months.

\$15 Student/Limited Income

\$25 Individual

\$35 Double: 2nd member _____

\$50 Organization _____

\$250 Lifetime

Do not send monthly email announcements

Do not list me in membership directory.

Please include me on MNPS professionals list as:

native plant propagator or grower

native plant supplier

native landscape or garden professional

Company Name _____