

Native News

Newsletter of the Maryland Native Plant Society

September/October 2002 Volume 2 Number 5

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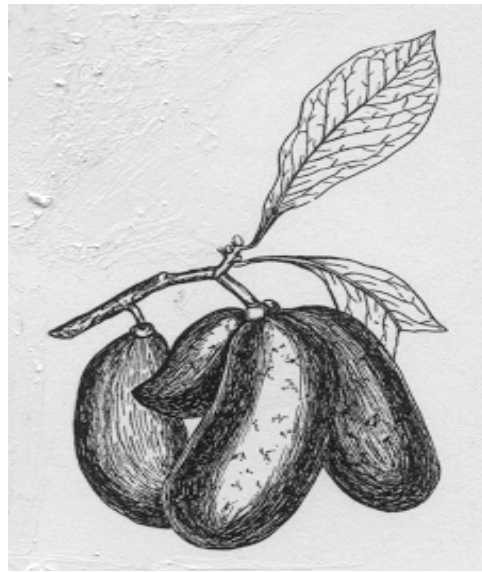
Upcoming Monthly Meetings

“Maryland Natural Heritage Rare Butterfly Survey Project”

Tuesday, September 24, 7:30 pm

White Oak Library-Large Meeting Room
Montgomery County

Dick Smith, butterfly expert, Washington Area Butterfly Club member, and MNPS member will give a presentation on rare butterfly surveys, including native host plants and habitats for each species.



Asimina triloba (Pawpaw)

“Maryland Birds and their Habitat Requirements”

Tuesday, October 29, 7:30 pm

White Oak Library-Large Meeting Room

Fred Fallon has extensively surveyed breeding bird populations throughout the state for many years. This presentation will explain the different types of habitat requirements for several species, including birds that inhabit grassland communities in Maryland.

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.



Gentianopsis crinita (Fringed Gentian)

Maryland Native Plant Society

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President's Letter

Friends,

After ten years of involvement with the Maryland Native Plant Society, I am pleased that our efforts are finally reaching beyond our membership (currently 478 members). Newspapers throughout the state have begun highlighting our activities. Our evening meetings and field trips are being featured prominently in local and regional newspapers and most impressively, our invasive species and habitat enhancement projects have been highlighted in both the Washington Post and the Washington Times. This media attention is a welcome addition to our efforts to increase awareness about invasive plants. So, what does it mean when our local and national media provide extensive coverage of our local concerns about invasive species (besides the infamous snakehead in Crofton)? For one, we must turn awareness into knowledge, then knowledge into action. A grassroots organization like MNPS can effectively realize this transition. If each one of us chooses to play a small role, our efforts will multiply exponentially.

Here are a few suggestions:

- * Adopt a local park to assist with identifying, monitoring, and removing invasive species. (In Montgomery County the Weed Warrior program trains you to do just that.)
- * Attend one of our regular removal projects (see pages 6-7) and transfer your knowledge to a local park.
- * Educate your neighbors, local businesses, scouts, church, or community groups about native plants.
- * Combine a workday and a social event (such as a picnic) to increase participation.
- * Encourage local nurseries to stock more native species and fewer non-natives. Our non-confrontational "plant cards" (available from mdflora.org/publications/shopping_cards.html) are just the ticket to achieve this goal. Not sure what species to recommend? Our web site provides a list for central Maryland broken down by general habitat type ("A Native Species Planting List" link on mdflora.org).
- * Reduce the number of non-natives in your yard. Many garden plants have qualities that can make them invasive: they tolerate a range of growing conditions, spread easily by seed or root, are winter-hardy, or survive under adverse environmental conditions.
- * Help write brochures, articles, or public service announcements about our efforts.
- * Send me fax numbers or email addresses of local papers and I'll include them on my publicity distribution list.

Together, by addressing our concerns on a variety of levels we can help reduce the threat of invasive species and restore and protect our native ecosystems—a legacy from which future generations will benefit.

Sincerely,

Karyn Molines

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 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 members statewide.

Catoctin Chapter

There will be two autumn field trips in Frederick County: one on Sunday, September 29 to the Audubon Land Trust for the Audubon Society of Central Maryland, and another on Saturday, October 5 to the Frederick County Extension Office Native Plant/Habitat Gardens. Please see the field trip pages in this issue of *Native News* for more details. For more information about the Catoctin Chapter of MNPS, contact: Jim & Teresa Gallion 301-898-0678 or jimbo21793@aol.com, or Joe Metzger jmetzger50@hotmail.com.

Greater Baltimore Chapter

MNPS has formed a Greater Baltimore Chapter, which will be based at Irvine Nature Center, 1 mile north of I-695 on Greenspring Ave in Stevenson. Our first evening program will be held on Wednesday, September 25 at 7:30 pm. There will be a meeting of the chapter Steering Committee from 6:00 to 7:00 (open to anyone who wants to help) and Irvine's book store/gift shop will be open 7:00-7:30. Thereafter, meetings will be held on 3rd Wednesdays of every other month (Nov., Jan., March, etc.). Rather than hold an evening program in October, we encourage members to attend the annual conference and to gather for a late-afternoon social. The MNPS fall conference is scheduled for Saturday, October 12. For more information about the Greater Baltimore Chapter, please contact: Helen Price 410-526-8309 or helrol2@aol.com, or Jackie Fliegner 410-764-2956. Additional Baltimore County/City events can be found in the Autumn Field Trips and Announcements sections of this newsletter.

Southern Maryland Chapter

This summer the Southern Maryland Chapter branched out from our regular invasive removal projects—we held our first evening meeting on July 18 in Prince Frederick. All but one participant was from Calvert County so we discussed how MNPS could become more active in Calvert County. Many great ideas arose, including continuing with evening meetings about once a season. The next meeting will be on Thursday, October 24 at 7:00 pm when Mary Alves will present information on the native plants of Calvert County. Location: Phillips House, Prince Frederick. Directions: From Rt. 2-4 in Prince Frederick turn onto Duke Street (One block south of Rte. 231). Turn left into Library parking lot. Park in upper lot and take the walkway to the Phillips House. Some new initiatives include involvement with Calvert County's new Master Gardeners program. One Calvert

County member, Carolyn Fulton has already taken courses to become a Master Gardener. Also, the American Chestnut Land Trust is developing a native plant garden with MNPS member assistance. We will continue our regular field trips and invasive removals throughout the region and are encouraging St. Mary's and Charles County members to organize additional evening meetings. We'll keep you posted on upcoming events. For more information about the Southern Maryland Chapter, please contact: Karyn Molines kmolines@chesapeake.net or Marc Imlay 301-283-0808 or ialm@erols.com.

Board Update

The Board of Directors met on June 4, 2002 at Arlington Echo Outdoor Education Center in Millersville. Here are some highlights from the meeting:

- We decided on a new logo: a drawing of the transition from the forest to the sea representing the diversity of ecosystems found in Maryland. The words "Appreciation, Education, Conservation" will be incorporated into the design. We hope to have the final version ready by the Fall Conference.
- John Parrish, representing MNPS, wrote a letter to the Maryland Historic offering our assistance in preserving the Jesup Blair Park (Montgomery County) as a "living library."
- The Membership Committee reported that as of May 31, 2002 we had 400 memberships, with five new lifetime members (for a total of 22).
- We developed a timeline for preparing the 2003 budget. Board meetings are open to all members. If you would like to be notified of upcoming Board meetings, please contact Karyn Molines, President, kmolines@chesapeake.net or 410-286-2928, or Jane Osburn, Secretary, 301-754-1564.

Volunteer Needs

Leaders/hosts for field trips needed! MNPS would like to encourage new field trip leaders/co-leaders and field trip hosts. Our contact for field trips is in the process of creating a larger email list of those who would like to at least be potential leaders for each season. Please send information or ideas to Meghan at fieldtrips@mdflora.org.

September 25 is the deadline for the November/December issue of *Native News*. Please send articles or stories, field trip info, invasive exotic removal programs info, meetings info, rescue sites info, artwork, your local concerns, volunteer needs, and/or announcements for any issue you'd like.

The schedule for *Native News* follows:

January/February winter issue - deadline is November 25

March/April early spring issue - deadline is January 25

May/June late spring issue - deadline is March 25

July/August summer issue - deadline is May 25

September/October early autumn issue - deadline is July 25

Nov/Dec late autumn/holiday issue - deadline is September 25

It is preferable to receive things as Word documents, though not necessary. Please send to Meghan Tice at nativenews@mdflora.org or P.O. Box 25 Bowie, MD 20719.

Autumn Field Trips

Civil War Fort Sites in the Washington, D.C. Region (15th in the Series)

Leaders: Mary Pat Rowan and Lou Aronica

Date: Sunday, September 8 **Time:** 10:00 am-2:00 pm

We will return to the Fort Dupont-Fort Stanton connector to expand and continue surveys of this heavily dissected 2-mile section. In April we covered about ¾ mile between Branch Ave and 28th St SE.

Directions: Meet at Park Drive and 32nd Place SE just off of Branch Ave SE (Rt. 5 in Maryland); access via Pennsylvania Ave to Branch Ave (about 4 short blocks southeast of this 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.

Contact: Mary Pat Rowan 202-526-8821.

Severn Run NEA Hike to Indian Creek Branch in Crownsville, Maryland

Leader: Joe Metzger

Date: Sunday, September 8 **Time:** 10:00 am-12:30 pm

The Indian Creek Branch traverses the

Crownsville/Millersville line. It was listed in the 1986 "Natural Areas of Highest Priority for Preservation." We'll explore sandy upland trails through chinquapin, American holly, oaks, and sassafras that lead to sweetfern, pines, and devil's walking stick. Mountain laurel and huckleberry grace steep slopes. We'll venture down to a narrow valley floodplain forest of tulip tree, sycamore, river birch, red maple, and swamp magnolia. The understory hosts sweet pepperbush, spicebush, and silky dogwood. This is great birding habitat; home to red fox and deer. Hay-scented fern and *Lycopodium* thrive. We may find four-toed salamanders.

Directions: (See Anne Arundel ADC Map Book page 14, C6) **From the West:** Take Rt. 32 East to Rt. 3 North/I-97 North exit. Stay in RIGHT lane (your exit comes up very quickly). Exit for Veterans Hwy, Rt. 178 South and "All Services." Turn RIGHT onto Rt. 178 South. Travel 2 miles to LEFT at light onto Sunrise Beach Road (Wawa on corner). After 1 mile along Sunrise Beach Road, take LEFT onto Evergreen Road. Pass thru part of Severn Run Natural Environmental Area. First LEFT onto Oakview Dr, first LEFT onto Claire Rd, LEFT after stop sign onto Echo Cove Drive. Please park along Echo Cove Drive near Maple Hill Lane. Meet at trailhead into Severn Run NEA, which is closest to Maple Hill Lane. **From the Annapolis area:** Take Rt. 178/Generals Hwy North from the Annapolis Mall. Pass the fairgrounds and Crownsville State Hospital. Past the light at Herald Harbor Road (after Dorr's Texaco), Rt. 178 jogs right at the next light. Continue on Rt. 178 North for 1 mile more. Turn RIGHT at light onto Sunrise Beach Road (Wawa on corner). Continue as above. **From the North:** Take I-97 South to exit 10A (Benfield Blvd East). Turn RIGHT at light onto Veterans Hwy South. Travel about 1.6 miles to LEFT

onto Rt. 178 South. Travel 2 miles to LEFT at light onto Sunrise Beach Road (Wawa on corner). Continue as above.

Bring: Water! Field guides, hand lenses, and binoculars welcome.

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

Glendening Nature Preserve at Jug Bay

Leader: Karyn Molines

Date: Sunday, September 15 **Time:** 12:00-4:00 pm

Come explore the new 610-acre Parris N. Glendening Nature Preserve and discover the plants found in the forest and fields. We will focus on identifying trees and late summer meadow plants. We'll meet at the Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary Wetlands Center and carpool over to the site.

Directions: From Washington, D.C.: From the Washington 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.

Contact: Karyn Molines 410-286-2928 or kmolines@chesapeake.net or call the Sanctuary 410-741-9330.

Panther Branch-Gunpowder Falls State Park-Hereford Area

Leader: Dwight Johnson

Date: Sunday, September 29 **Time:** 10:00 am-4:00 pm

Hike the Panther Branch Trail (5+ miles) to see what we'll find. There should be a fair assortment of ferns and the upland trail has American larch to view. The trail at times will be steep and narrow.

Directions: From the Baltimore Beltway go north on I-83 for 12 miles and take Exit 27 east onto Mount Carmel Road. Proceed east for .4 miles and take a left on to York Road (Rt. 45) and proceed north for about 1.5 miles. There are parking areas on both sides of York Road at the river.

Bring: Lunch and water. Binoculars can help. Hiking boots are highly recommended.

Contact: Dwight Johnson 410-366-7239.

Plant ID at Audubon Land Trust

Leaders: Joe Metzger and David Smith or William Becraft

Date: Sunday, September 29 **Time:** 10:00 am-3:00 pm

Help develop a list of plants occurring naturally at Audubon Land Trust for Audubon Society of Central Maryland.

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Directions: From I-495 (Washington Beltway) take I-270 to Frederick. Get onto I-70 going toward Baltimore. Go east beyond Frederick to MD 75. Head south on MD 75 about .5 miles to commuter parking area. From I-695 (Baltimore Beltway) take I-70 toward Frederick. Go to MD 75 and head south on MD 75 about .5 miles to commuter parking area. Meet in commuter parking area on MD 75 just south of I-70.
Bring: Lunch and water. **Note:** Moderate walk.
Contact: Joe Metzger 410-775-7737 or jmetzger50@hotmail.com (preferred).

Frederick County Extension Office Native Plant/Habitat Gardens

Leaders: Jim and Teresa Gallion
Date: Saturday, October 5 **Time:** meet at 10:00 am
Walkabout at the new native plant/habitat demonstration gardens. This project is just getting started. Bring ideas and any Maryland natives you would like to donate. Lots of ideas are welcome!
Directions: From route 15 (In Frederick) take Rosemont Ave west to Montevue Lane. Turn left at Montevue Lane. The Frederick County Extension Office is on the left at 330 Montevue Lane in Frederick.
Note: Drizzle or shine is fine, but canceled for rain.
Contact: Jim Gallion 301-898-0678.

Civil War Fort Sites in the Washington, D.C. Region (16th in the Series)

Leaders: Mary Pat Rowan and Lou Aronica
Date: Sunday, October 6 **Time:** 10:00 am-2:00 pm
We will return to Fort Dupont to explore upper section of this extensive park. Previous visits have covered lower section (toward Anacostia River) and part of area above Ft. Davis Dr.
Directions: Meet at parking lot near Activity Center on Ft. Dupont Drive; access via Minnesota Ave SE at Randle Circle. Randle Circle is at intersection of Minnesota Ave, Massachusetts Ave, and Branch Ave.
Bring: Lunch and water. **Note:** Easy to moderate walk.
Contact: Mary Pat Rowan 202-526-8821.

Soldiers Delight Natural Environment Area (Sponsored by Irvine Nature Center)

Leader: Jean Worthley
Date: Sunday, October 6 **Time:** 2:00-3:30 pm (You may stay after 3:30 to explore the area on your own.)
Jean and her husband, the late botany professor Elmer Worthley, led in the effort that resulted in Soldiers Delight becoming a federally supported Natural Environment Area. Soldiers Delight is a globally rare ecosystem formed on serpentine rock, part of the earth's mantle rarely found at the surface. The fast-draining gravelly soil creates conditions too hot and dry for most Maryland plants, and its high content of magnesium and heavy metals are toxic, yet some plants have adapted to these stressful conditions. There are four plant communities endemic to serpentine areas such as Soldiers Delight: woodlands, with post oak, blackjack oak, and native

blueberries; wetlands, with New York ironweed in bloom in late summer, and possibly state-endangered fringed gentian in October; grasslands, with big and little bluestem, Indian grass, purple top, blazing star, gray goldenrod, and many other prairie wildflowers; and barrens, including federally-endangered sand-plain gerardia.

Directions: We will meet at the Soldiers Delight Visitors Center. From the Baltimore Beltway (I-695) and points north, take I-795 north to Franklin Boulevard west (Exit 7b). Bear right onto Church Lane, then take a left onto Berryman's Lane and another left onto Deer Park Road. Follow Deer Park Road south about 2 miles to the Visitors Center, on your right. Or take Liberty Road (MD 26) west from Baltimore or east from Carroll County to Deer Park Road and follow directions below. From points west and south, take I-70 to Marriottsville Road North. Go about 8.7 miles. (At one point there is an unmarked fork - the two roads converge again, but the left one is more direct.) At the first traffic light, turn left onto Liberty Road and immediately right onto Deer Park Road, and follow directions below.
Once you are on Deer Park Road coming from Liberty Road, you will go about 2 miles. The Visitors Center will be on your left. Watch for the sign.
Note: There is a \$5.00 fee for members of Irvine or MNPS; \$8.00 fee for non-members.
Contact: To register, call 410-484-2413. Registration deadline is October 4.

To receive information via e-mail about the ecology of Soldiers Delight and what you can observe as you drive there, contact louisathompson@erols.com. Also check out: www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/central/soldiers.html, www.dnr.state.md.us/wildlife/serpentine.html, and www.dnr.state.md.us/wildlife/sandplain.html.

MNPS 11th Annual Conference "Native Plants, Natural Communities, and Geology of the Fall Line of Maryland"

Dates: Saturday, October 12-Sunday, October 13
For conference registration and field trip information, please read the enclosed conference brochure (if you received this in the mail) or visit the MNPS web site (www.mdflora.org). The web site contains more detailed information and a printable registration form. Thank you!



Diodia virginiana (Buttonweed)

Invasive Exotic Plant Removal Workdays

Greenbelt National Park

Dates: First Saturday, monthly (September 7 and October 5)

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

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

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

Chapman Forest/Ruth Swann Park

Dates: First Sunday, monthly (September 1 and October 6)

Time: meet at 10:00 am

Eradicate alien invasive plants from most of the old growth area of Chapmans 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 (I495) on Rt. 210 (Indian Head Hwy). Give yourself 30 to 40 minutes from the Beltway.

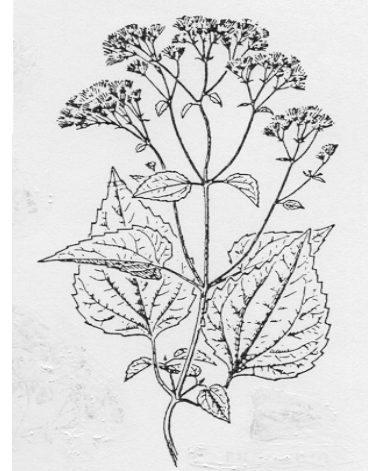
Bring: Gloves, lunch, and water. Long sleeves and pants recommended.

Contact: Marc Imlay 301-283-0808.

Aaron Straus Wilderness Area/Baker Training Facility-Sideling Hill Creek

Date: Saturday, September 14 **Time:** meet at 10:00 am

Stilt grass management/removal on the floodplain and adjacent slopes. All skill levels welcome. The area we will be working on is about 1/2 mile from where we will park. The property is in a beautiful area of western Maryland on and adjacent to Sideling Hill. The property is bounded to the south by the Potomac River and is split by Sideling Hill Creek. Topography of the property is very steep, except along the Sideling Hill Creek floodplain. There are several shale barrens on the property and between the barrens, creek, floodplain, and hillsides the property supports one federally endangered plant, over 20 state-threatened or endangered plants and an additional 23+ state-rare and watch list plants.



Eupatorium rugosum (White Snakeroot)

Directions: The Aaron Straus Wilderness Area/Baker Training Facility is an Army National Guard training facility located approximately 16 miles west of Hancock, Maryland (2 hour drive from Washington). The property is located 9 miles off of I-68 and is accessed by taking Exit 78 to Woodmont Road, then following Woodmont Road to Zeigler Road (Woodmont turns into Zeigler) then following Zeigler Road to Sideling Hill Creek. The bridge is being repaired at Sideling Hill Creek and cannot be crossed. We will tentatively meet at the bridge.

Bring: Gloves, water, lunch. Please dress for the weather, thick woods, and poison ivy and wear appropriate footwear.

Contact: Please email Shannon Cauley at scauley@louisberger.com if you plan to come, and I will verify the meeting place and provide more concise directions.

Middle Patuxent Environmental Area (MPEA)

Dates: Third Thursday, monthly (Sept 19 and Oct 17)

Time: 9:30 am-noon

The MPEA Conservation Stewardship Project will have both an educational component and a work component. Participants will learn about the area's natural resources and its cultural/historical significance in general (with a particular learning emphasis each time) while helping to remove targeted invasive plants. On September 19, we will explore a natural seep area. This is an area of high wildlife value, and contains some interesting vegetation. We may find the remnants of a once impressive stand of alders, which provided ideal breeding habitat for the American woodcock. We will also see aspen, hazelnut, and many other interesting species. On the way to the seep area, we will stop at the site of the newly constructed Outdoor Classroom where we will work on managing several different species of invasives. Meet at the Trotter Road Parking lot (.08 mile down Trotter Road from Rt. 108 in the Columbia/Clarksville area). On October 17, we will walk along Cricket Creek, the largest of 17 tributaries, which feed into the Middle Patuxent River within the MPEA. The target invasive for this day will be autumn olive. We'll be meeting at Southwind Circle.

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Howard County Recreation and Parks, the Howard County Master Gardeners, and MNPS sponsor the MPEA project. **Contact:** for information, directions, or to register, Aylene Gard 410-992-9889 or Robin Hessey rh158@umail.umd.edu.

Belt Woods

Dates: Saturday, September 14 and Saturday, October 19
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 Cooper by 9:30 am the morning of cleanup if in doubt.

Contact: Pam Cooper 301-390-0797 or pcooper.wsc@juno.com.

Myrtle Point Park, St. Mary's County

Dates: Third Saturday, monthly (Sept 21 and Oct 19)
Time: meet at 8:00 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.

WEED WARRIERS WANTED

Date: Saturday, October 19 **Time:** 10:00 am-1:00 or 2:00 pm
Northwest Branch has lots of natives! We'll take a walk and see them, and we'll remove multiflora rose from some areas near the path.

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.

Old Greenbelt

Dates: Third Sunday, monthly (Sept 15 and Oct 20)
Our woods are mostly urban. Our most prevalent invasives are English ivy and multiflora rose. However, we do have areas that have bamboo, honeysuckle, Japanese stilt grass and others. Greenbelt Woods is city of Greenbelt co-op land established by Eleanor Roosevelt. People can walk to downtown Greenbelt rather than drive and there actually is a greenbelt around the town circa 1940's.
Contact: Leslie Brothers for time and place 301-474-7421 or bros15@earthlink.net.

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.

Brookside Gardens in Wheaton, Maryland

Announcing a new approach to Invasive Plant Removal at Brookside! Cheryl Beagle is no longer available for weekend projects so we've moved on to following a "Weed Warrior" approach to managing invasives in our area of Wheaton Regional Park. Interested individuals will be given directions to work independently on their own schedule, weekends or weekdays. Work will continue on the removal of oriental bittersweet, kudzu, and wineberry, and other exotics as necessary. *Special thanks to those of you who joined any of our previous workdays. A lot was accomplished to clear the way for returning natives!

NEW Contact: Stacy Parsons 301-962-1417 or stacy.parsons@mncppc-mc.org

NEW web sites: www.BrooksideGardens.org and/or www.MC-MNCPPC.org/environment/weed_warriors/intro.shtm.

Sligo Creek Park

If you'd like to occasionally help remove vines and other plants in Sligo, section leaders of the Creek are assembling work groups for the fall. *Friends of Sligo Creek* just finished cutting a small stand of kudzu, which took roughly 40 labor-hours, and will have more projects such as stilt grass removal.
Contact: Sally Gagne 301-588-2071 or sgagne@erols.com.

Announcements

Adkins Arboretum

Fall Plant Sale and Programs Schedule

Fall Native Plant Sale Saturday, Sept 7, 9:00 am-1:00 pm
Care of Trees Wednesday, September 18, 8:30 am-4:30 pm -
Thursday, September 19, 8:30 am-12:30 pm
Fee: \$35 members/\$50 general public. Includes lunch.
Bird Walk: Search for Fall Migrants
Saturday, September 21, 7:30-9:30 am Fee: \$5/\$8
Oak-Hickory ID Workshop Friday, September 27,
9:00 am-3:00 pm Fee: \$25/\$40 Includes lunch.
New Visions of Beauty: Landscapes with Higher Values
Thursday, October 3, 7:00-9:00 pm Fee: \$5/\$8
Feathers and Flowers-Slide Presentation Friday, October 18,
7:00-9:00 pm Fee: \$5/\$8
Woodland and Meadow Walk (with Chris Frye, MD Sate
Botanist) Sunday, October 20, 1:00-3:00 pm, no fee.

For more information or to register for events contact Adkins Arboretum at 410-634-2847 or adkinsar@intercom.net; or visit the Adkins Arboretum web site: www.adkinsarboretum.org
Volunteer/docent naturalist training opportunities: Would you like to become a docent and tour guide at Adkins Arboretum? We are offering an intensive training program in environmental interpretation, principles of ecology, and plant identification. Gain hands-on experience to lead walks in the forest, meadows, and wetlands of the Arboretum. Training starts September 26. For a schedule, contact Erica Weick, Volunteer Coordinator at 410-770-4699 or adkinsvol@intercom.net. Adkins is located in Caroline County on the Eastern Shore.

Anne Arundel County Master Gardeners announce a fall gardening conference on Saturday, September 28, 2002 at Arlington Echo Outdoor Education Center in Millersville, Maryland from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. "Ecoscaping: Environmental Approach to Gardening" will offer presentations and workshops conducted by Maryland Cooperative Extension staff and Master Gardeners from throughout the state. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Francis Gouin, internationally known horticulturist and Maryland native tree propagator. Arlington Echo staff will be on hand to conduct nature walks through the 24-acre woodland located on the banks of the Severn River. From the trials of dealing with hungry wildlife, improving your soil, and composting, to the triumphs of growing native plants, properly pruning, and making rain barrels, topics cover a wide variety of interests. "The talks are fun, and are designed to help home gardeners achieve success using environmentally-sound methods," says Karen Long, coordinator of the Anne Arundel County Master Gardener Program. The conference is open to all. Seating is limited, so early registration is required. All proceeds will be used to further the Master Gardeners' goal of providing gardening information and education to county residents. For further information or to register, go to www.hgic.umd.edu, click on

Master Gardener Program and then Advanced Training. From there, download a registration form. To receive a form by mail, or for further information, contact John Foerster at 410-987-9801 or jwfoerster@earthlink.net. Please note:
Registration closes on September 18.

WETLAND FIELD BOTANY COURSE

Three-day course designed for beginning professionals and individuals wishing to identify wetland species and review basic wetland botany. Key field characteristics of a select number of vascular plant families are emphasized. Participants will practice keying plants and will identify and discuss numerous species of vascular plants in the field. The course is field oriented; prepare to get wet and muddy. Background in botany not a prerequisite. Instructor: William Sipple \$545 includes materials
September 19-21 Time: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Location: Environmental Concern Office, St. Michaels, MD
For registration and instructor info or more information about the Fall 2002 Professional Wetland Course Schedule, please contact www.wetland.org or call 410-745-9620.
Environmental Concern, Inc., is a Wetland Restoration, Research, and Education Not-for-profit celebrating 30 years of concern for wetlands (1972-2002). Courses include Stream Restoration, Constructed Wetlands for Wastewater Treatment, Evaluation for Planned Wetlands, Wetland Mitigation, and custom wetland courses for companies.

"Bugfest 2002" will take place on Saturday, September 21 from 10:00 am-4:00 pm at Carrie Murray Nature Center in Baltimore. Visit the Center's Insect Zoo and see various displays including some incredible beetle and butterfly specimens from around the globe presented by the Maryland Entomological Society. There will also be hands-on activities and craft projects for children. Lloyd Tydings, curator of the Insect Zoo, will serve up his popular cricket stir-fry. MNPS will also be present with displays and information about the Society and our new Baltimore Area Chapter. The Nature Center is located at 1901 Ridgetop Road in Leakin Park. From the Baltimore Beltway (695) take the Security Boulevard exit 17 toward Woodlawn. Pass shopping centers and a few stoplights. Turn left at the stoplight onto Forest Park Avenue. At the first stoplight make a right onto Windsor Mill Road. Just past the Leakin Park entrance is the (marked hidden) entrance to Carrie Murray. Park downhill from the Center. For more information please contact Lloyd Tydings at 410-396-0808.

Irvine Nature Center's Fall 2002 Plant Programs:

That's Fern-tastic! -Rob Mardiney
Saturday, September 21 10:00-11:30 am
Fee: \$8.00/donors \$5.00 Deadline: September 19
Restoring Habitats and Removing Exotics -Jeff Wolinski
Saturday, September 28 10:00 am-noon
Fee: \$8.00/donors \$5.00 Deadline: September 26
Fall Galls -Sheryl Pedrick
Tuesday, October 1 5:00-6:30 pm

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Fee: \$8.00/donors \$5.00 Deadline: September 27
Fall Foliage Walk at Caves Valley -Sheryl Pedrick
Thursday, October 17 4:30-6:00 pm
Fee: \$8.00/donors \$5.00 Deadline: October 11
Fall Foliage Hike to the Pinnacle Overlook of the Susquehanna River -Sheryl Pedrick
Saturday, October 26 9:00 am-4:00 pm
Fee: \$32.00/donors \$25.00 Deadline: October 23
To register for events sponsored by Irvine, call 410-484-2413 or email irvine@explorenature.org. For more information please visit Irvine's web site: www.explorenature.org

Attention Native Plant Professionals

Perhaps you have visited the Native Plant Nurseries page of the web site—"Nurseries with Native Plants" link (mdflora.org/publications/nurseries.html) and noticed that it is a bit outdated? Years ago we developed this list as a service for members, but we did not know which of our members were employed in the propagation, selling or planting of native species. With our recent membership database upgrade, we are able to keep track of which members propagate native species, sell them, or are professional gardeners or landscapers. This list is provided to those who are seeking professional advice about landscaping with, or sources for, native plants. The Maryland Native Plant Society does not specifically endorse any of the professionals listed, but offers the names, phone numbers, email, and addresses so the requester can contact the professionals directly. (A certification program is often dreamed about, but so far we have not had any volunteers who felt qualified to initiate this project. If you have some ideas for developing such a project, let us know!) We are now in the process of merging the database information with the nursery list. We are also verifying the information of nurseries that are not in our membership database. It is a slow process, but ultimately will produce a web page that will be much easier to update and maintain. Jane Osburn, MNPS Secretary, has valiantly taken on this task, but she needs some help. Below is a list of names and companies we have in our database.

Please review the list and contact Jane at 301-754-1564 if:

- * Your name is on the list but should not be on it.
- * Your name is not on the list but should be on it.
- * The services you provide are incorrect.
- * If you are listed as a non-member (N) and have recently renewed, the change will be reflected when the membership database is updated (generally every other week).

If you wish to review additional information about your record (address, phone, email) contact Karyn Molines (kmolines@chesapeake.net) or Blaine Eckberg (membership@mdflora.org).

By maintaining this information and having it available on the web site we enhance a vital link between the conservation of native species, reduction of potential new invasive non-native species, and appreciation of native plants.

An (N) after the name indicates a non-member (as of July 19, 2002), P= Propagator, S= Supplier, L= Professional gardener or landscaper.

Jean Alexander (N) P; Leo J. Ambrogi L; Lou Aronica, Landscapes by Aronica P/L; Anne T. Booher L; Stu Booher L; William R. Boone, Jr. L; Joseph M. Breighner, Ambience Landscaping L; Eileen Buckley L; James T. Carson, Jenkins Arboretum L; Deborah Herr Cornwell L; Willis DeHart (N), Anacostia Watershed Society P/L; John J. Dixon P/L; Betsy Donnelly, Community Commons P/L; Daryl C. Dutrow, Wildlife Landscapes S/L; Kevin Fabula, Signature Horticultural Services P/S; Angela Ferri L; Danielle Fitzko, Maryland Cooperative Extension L; Barbara L. Franklin, Pine Island Designs L; Doreen B. Hamilton, Friends of the National Arboretum (Board) L; Audrey Hillman, Windy Meadow Landscape Design and Garden Consultation L; Kathryn E. Hitchcock (N) L; Carol Hotton L; Gerald A. Hudgens L; Catherine L. Hunt, Natural Landscapes L; Michael Jensen, Unity Landscape Design/Build L; Alan Kettler, Kettler Ecological Design L; Ashley Kidner, International Landscaping & Design L; Sherry Korniloff L; Bert Lofgren L; Ann P. Lundy, Landscapes by Design L; Christine Maccabee P/L; Hollie Mansell, Ultimate Landscapes L; Fran McClure, Frances McClure, Landscape Designer L; Elizabeth McDowell, Elk Ridge Natureworks, LLC P/S; Gwendolyn C. Meyer (N) L; Alice Neily Mutch, BaySmart Gardening L; Nancy-Elizabeth Nimmich (N), Honey Grace Farm L; Eileen M. O'Brien (N), Environmental Education Consultant-Camp Crownsville L; Josephine J. Owen, Watershed Protection Coalition L; Virginia Lee Provenzano (N), Virginia Provenzano Landscape Designs and Gardens P/L; Mary Pat Rowan (N), Mary Pat Rowan-Landscape Architect L; Zolna Russell (N), Zolna Environmental Design L; Tina Schneider (N), M-NCPPC L; Richard A. Schubach P/S/L; Deborah M. Schwab, Deborah M. Schwab, LA L; Mike Sherlock, Hyperion Designs L; Irene S. Sinclair, Garden Designs L; Brenda Skarphol, Green Spring Gardens Park L; Tamara Thiel (N), Thiel Landscape Architecture L; Florence Tilkens L; Leslie G. Uman, Nature Club-Bushy Park PTA L; Rebecca J. Wertime, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay (Bayscapes Program) L; Pamela Sheldon White, Gardens For Life L; Monica Marie Wiedel, Irvine Nature Center S.

HOLIDAY TREES

Look for your native holidays tree order form in the next (November/December) issue of *Native News*!



Aster infirmus (Cornel-leaved Aster)

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Update on Trilliums being sold through Wal-Mart and Home Depot

In 2001 and this past spring, MNPS wrote to the USDA Animal and Plant Health and Inspection Service (APHIS) regarding the questionable labeling of wild collected *Trillium grandiflorum* with the phrase "Grown in the USA from cultivated stock. Inspected by the US Department of Agriculture." An investigation by APHIS determined that the distributor had a permit from the State of Tennessee to collect *Trillium* from the wild. The distributor claimed that the labeling was in error and the USDA advised them to remove the wording from the label to avoid legal action that might be taken against them for false certification. We are disappointed that Tennessee allows wild collecting, but at least distributors will not be misleading consumers about the origins of the plants. We will be keeping our eye open early next year to ensure that the distributor complies with the USDA's advice.

BREEDING BIRD ATLAS OF MARYLAND AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The Maryland Ornithological Society is undertaking a five-year study (January 1, 2002 through 2006) to update *The Breeding Bird Atlas of Maryland and the District of Columbia*. The purpose of the project is to document the current distribution of bird species in Maryland and the District of Columbia. This information will be compared with the original study to provide insight into the protection and preservation of critical habitat for breeding birds. This study is being done in cooperation with the USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, and other conservation groups. Maryland's breeding birds were last mapped by the atlas method from 1983 through 1987. The results of that study were published in 1996, and documented 194 confirmed breeding species. The previously published Atlas has been an important tool for land managers and is regularly consulted by government officials when making decisions on land use. This new study will determine how the distribution and diversity of breeding birds has changed over the last 15 years. During this time, volunteer fieldworkers will visit different bird habitats in order to find breeding species. Each county in Maryland and the District of Columbia has been assigned a County Coordinator to organize data collection. There are many ways for the public to make a significant contribution to this project, whether you are interested in formally participating or sharing your firsthand experience of breeding behavior. One way to participate is to grant land permission for field observers to survey tracts of land, which you own, or seek permission from your neighbors or groups you belong to that have access to private lands. Another way to participate is to pass along any sighting of breeding behavior to your County Coordinator, recording the exact location of your observation. Include the street and/or closest intersection, the date, and your name. As with any project, resources are always needed. An undertaking of this sort needs volunteers and funding to ensure continuity over the 5 years of data

gathering and to publish the final results. To donate to this important project, please send contributions to MOS Treasurer 8007 Martown Road Laurel MD 20723. To volunteer, find additional information, names of County Coordinators, or to participate in other activities, go to www.mdbirds.org and click on the Maryland/DC Breeding Bird Atlas Project (MAP). Atlasing the breeding birds of Maryland and the District of Columbia can be a rewarding experience and open up a new world, adding to your appreciation of birds.

Welcome New Members!

Leo Ambrogi, Esther Andrews, Steve & Ginny Bergen, William & Martha Boone, Jr., Paul Carlson, Kirsten Coffen, Rebecca De Malo, Megan Draheim, Roberta Fitzgerald, Nancy Glassman, Jill Hayes, James Higbie, Angela Killian, Ellen McClure, Achsah O'Donovan, Richard Schubach, Chris Trumbauer & Mary Walker, Monica Wiedel, and Susan Zwicker.

Do you know when your membership expires?

We appreciate each member who renews because every society activity is made possible by member dues. Generally, we mail renewal letters out the month before you expire, and send a reminder letter or two if we don't hear from you. Early renewals allow us to spend your membership dollars on projects, not stamps for renewal letters. So prompt renewals just makes sense. To tell when your membership expires, take a look at your mailing label. For example, if your label reads 10/1/2002 your membership expires at the end of October. If it's time to renew, please use the form on the back of this newsletter, or download one from the web site. Thanks for your support.

Good News!

In November 1999, the National Park Service issued permits for two cell towers to be built in Rock Creek Park. Soon after, Audubon Naturalist Society, Maryland Native Plant Society, and Crestwood Citizens Association sued the National Park Service. The parties claimed that the Park Service violated the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) by relying on a legally insufficient "environmental assessment" which led it erroneously to issue a "finding of no significant impact" and grant the permits. Finally, on July 2, 2002, the United States District Court for the District of Columbia declared that because the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact do not comply with the applicable law, the National Park Service improperly issued the permits for the construction of the two towers. They have therefore ordered the National Park Service to prepare and file a new environmental assessment that complies with all applicable laws and regulations. The Court will retain jurisdiction pending completion, on or before December 15, 2002, of the new environmental assessment. In other words, we won! The Institute for Public Representation at the Georgetown University Law Center did

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a fantastic job in representing us and impelling the National Park Service to uphold the law. When the new environmental assessment is complete, we will be asked to review it. Unfortunately, the towers will not be removed in the meantime or maybe ever, based on our lawsuit. This may be a first step however, in challenging cell towers on public land.
-Mary Pat Rowan

Good News for Magothy Bogs of Anne Arundel County!

A Magothy River Greenway is now underway. Recently, 460 acres were preserved permanently under Program Open Space with placement of a conservation easement held by the Maryland Environmental Trust and the Magothy River Land Trust on 370 of 380 acres of, until now, a privately owned property. The land contains more than one bog and was purchased by Anne Arundel County with a partial federal grant. The Magothy River Land Trust acquired another 6 acres including a bog that has also received an easement. Seventy-one-acre Beachwood Park was also acquired for preservation by the county. The Magothy River Land Trust and the Mountain Road Peninsula Preservation Committee

have spent several years working hard at finding ways to protect acreage in the Pasadena area, particularly sites containing the rare Magothy Bogs. The Anne Arundel bogs are odd disjuncts, similar to the type of bog that would now be found farther north and in the Allegheny Plateau of Garrett County. They are rain-fed, have thick mats of sphagnum moss, and provide habitat for rare plants such as cranberry, leatherleaf, and sundew.

More News from Anne Arundel County

What is perhaps the rarest plant in Maryland was recently found to have maintained existence, and has in fact spread its growth a bit. The plant is the box huckleberry (*Gaylussacia brachycera*). The last known naturally occurring specimen in the state had been reduced to one small plant, but within the past year has spread by root runners to become five plants! It is hoped that they will remain protected and survive into the future. Box huckleberry is being propagated and may eventually be reintroduced to areas of Maryland where it historically occurred. It is a relict of the last ice age, having existed in our ever-changing climate for about 10,000 years.

Brickbats & Kudos

Brickbats

- Brickbats to Montgomery County Council members Steven Silverman (D), Michael Subin (D), and Howard Dennis (R) for voting in support of the massive, environmentally-unsound inter-county connector (ICC) project, which would cut across the county to link I-70 with I-95 in PG County. (Washington Post, July 31, 2002) Extensive studies have shown that building the \$1.5 billion ICC would not relieve traffic congestion and that it would severely damage the environment in parts of Montgomery and Prince George's Counties; paving the way to massive urban sprawl, congestion, and a degraded quality of life. (Many may not realize that a huge, "destination" mega-mall complex is planned for the Konterra site at the eastern end of the ICC.)

- Brickbats to Lt. Governor and gubernatorial candidate Kathleen Kennedy Townsend (D), an ICC proponent, for "greenfaking" by dodging the environmental impacts of road construction, especially the ICC, in which she breezily commented that if elected she would develop "roads that protect the environment." (Washington Post, July 12, 2002)

- Brickbats to Cadiz Inc. for planning to extract billions of gallons of "fossil water" from a deep aquifer under the Mojave Desert to sell to the large cities in Southern California. (Washington Post, August 12, 2002) Fresh water is in short supply worldwide. Draining groundwater reserves from natural and rural areas to support sprawl and wasteful lifestyles in overcrowded cities and suburbs is particularly egregious.

Kudos

- Kudos to Montgomery County Council members Blair Ewing (D), Philip Andrews (D), Donnell Peterson (D), Marilyn Praisner (D), and Nancy Dacek (R) who voted "not to approve the ICC as part of a comprehensive transportation plan" for Montgomery County, "citing its \$1.5 billion cost, potential environmental damage, and doubts about its effectiveness in alleviating traffic congestion." (Washington Post, July 31, 2000) Their 5-3 majority vote is a temporary victory against the ICC.

- Kudos to Governor Glendening for continuing the important state funding "to preserve land from development" especially "during a tight budget year." Glendening has said that "land preservation cannot be put on hold because the land will otherwise be developed." (Washington Post, June 22, 2002)

- Kudos to U.S. Senators John Warner (R) and George Allen (R) and Rep. Ann Davis (R-Va.) for backing the preservation efforts of the 3,800-acre Crow's Nest forest on the Potomac River in Stafford County, Va. and planning to request the \$18 million from Congress needed to make the property a national wildlife refuge, despite a reluctance in the Bush administration to purchase land. Kudos also to Stafford Supervisor Kandy Hilliard (D) for backing preservation efforts. The Crow's Nest peninsula is regarded as "one of the finest examples of a habitat that is largely in short supply along the Atlantic coastal plain...and is surrounded by 700 acres of freshwater tidal marshes - rare for the Chesapeake Bay." (Washington Post, July 19, 2002) MNPS has assisted the VA Dept. of Natural Heritage and VNPS in conducting flora and community surveys of the site.