

# *Native News*

Newsletter of the Maryland Native Plant Society

January/February 2004

Volume 4 Number 1

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White-winged Crossbill

## Upcoming Monthly Meetings

### **“A Year of MNPS Field Botany”**

Tuesday, January 27, 7:30 pm

White Oak Library – Large Meeting Room

Join Rod Simmons, Botany Committee chair, for a review of the plant surveys and conservation efforts conducted by MNPS over the past year. Work focused on several diverse natural communities throughout the state, including seepage bogs, old-growth forest, the Potomac Gorge, and various upland forest types. The results of the surveys, including plant associations and recently discovered flora, and conservation updates will be discussed.

Directions: Please see below.

### **“Introduction into the Tree”**

Tuesday, February 24, 7:30 pm

White Oak Library – Large Meeting Room

An introductory discussion about tree concepts will be presented by Richard C. Murray, an arborist and MNPS member. Richard is a tradesman who for over 32 years has worked “hands-on” with trees. His talk will include how trees are constructed and how they function and survive. Richard will bring fresh tree samples for us to observe, handle, and discuss. In addition to the fascination of peeking into the core of the tree, we will learn more about how trees relate to other plants, organisms, and our environment.

Directions: Exit the Washington Beltway at New Hampshire Ave (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.

#### **MNPS has an e-mailing list:**

**NativePlantseast@yahoogroups.com** is intended for chat between all folks interested in the native flora of the MD, DC, and VA area. It is set up in conjunction with the Virginia Native Plant Society and is open to members of both organizations (and others interested in the topics being discussed). The discussion covers many interesting questions and issues concerning native plants. You can join this list via the web by linking to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NativePlantseast>. You can also post messages and unsubscribe from the list at this same web location. Once you are a member, messages can be posted directly to the list by e-mailing them to: [NativePlantseast@yahoogroups.com](mailto:NativePlantseast@yahoogroups.com).

# Native News

## Maryland Native Plant Society

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### Executive Officers:

Karyn Molines, President  
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John Parrish, Vice President  
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### Board of Directors:

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## President's Letter

Greetings,

I wanted to again thank you for re-electing me as President. I often receive compliments to the wonderful work that "I" do for the Society. But in reality, a very active group of volunteers do the work, and I am simply the figurehead of this group. I want you to know who are truly responsible for the various activities that the Society accomplishes every year. What amazes me the most about both the group of volunteers and our achievements is how volunteers, without any central office or even a volunteer coordinator, undertake all this. I think that this speaks of the commitment we all have to the Society's mission of protecting Maryland's native plants and their habitats. This simple statement encompasses a wide range of projects from leading field trips, producing *Native News*, conducting botanical inventories, and testifying on behalf of unique ecosystems. I am going to try to mention all the volunteers of the past year, and a few of their accomplishments. I know I have probably missed a few, so please accept my apologies now.

Field Trip Leaders: Karl Anderson, Lou Aronica, Carole Bergmann, Lisa Bierer-Garrett, Leslie Cario-Hunter, Cris Fleming, Dwight Johnson, Joe Metzger, Jr., Karyn Molines, Bill Morgante, John Parrish, Bob Pickett, Mary Pat Rowan, Rod Simmons, RG Steinman, Larry Stritch, Sara Tangren, Meghan Tice, Louisa Rogoff Thompson, Mary Vogel, and Cathy Weber.

Evening Meeting Speakers: Lou Aronica, Mary Alves, Ann Czonka, Marcy Damon, Charlie Davis, John DeNoyer, Carolyn Fulton, Karyn Molines, Leah Oliver, John Parrish, Mary Pat Rowan, Phil Sheridan, Rod Simmons, Shirley Street, and Jeff Wolinski.

Chapter Activities: Carolyn Fulton, Mary Alves, Jim and Teresa Gallion, Lisa Bierer-Garrett, Marcy Damon, Jackie Fliegner, Joyce Holmes, Leslie Hunter-Cario, Carol Jelich, Sylvan Kaufmann, Ann Lundy, Rob Mardiney, Joe Metzger, Jr., Karyn Molines, Bill Morgante, Mary-Stuart Sierra, and Louisa Rogoff Thompson.

Board of Directors: Lou Aronica, Carole Bergmann, Lisa Bierer-Garrett, Jean Cantwell, Cris Fleming, Carolyn Fulton, Marc Imlay, Beth Johnson, James MacDonald, Joe Metzger, Jr., Karyn Molines, Jane Osburn, John Parrish, Chris Partain, Mary Pat Rowan, Rod Simmons, Meghan Tice and new Board members for 2004: Jane Hill, Ann Lundy, Michael McQuade, Sara Tangren, and Mary Vogel.

Other: Marc Imlay and Jane Osburn for continuing the habitat stewardship/invasive plant removal projects; Pete McClurkin for delivering *Native News* to the Post Office; Avery Drake, Cris Fleming, Gary Fleming, William Grafton, and members of the panel for speaking at the fall conference; Lynn Wagner, Rod Simmons, Sally Anderson, and Beth Ann Ring and staff at NCTC for helping coordinate the fall conference; Jean & Jeanne Cantwell and Mary Ellen Chamberlain for helping at the registration table; Carol Quinlan for mailing out renewal letters and Chris Partain for updating the membership database; Carolyn Blakeney for trying to send out the monthly email reminders (although her internet provider wasn't willing to volunteer!); Meghan Tice for editing *Native News* and co-producing *Marilandica*, coordinating the fall conference, and many other tasks; botanical inventories by Cris Fleming, Rod Simmons, Lou Aronica, Mary Pat Rowan, Meghan Tice, Mark Strong, John Parrish, and many others; and Jim MacDonald and Iris Mars for maintaining the web site... to be continued I'm sure!

Many thanks,



Karyn Molines

## Chapter Events & Updates

### Catoctin Chapter

The Catoctin Chapter will have its first evening meeting at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, February 17 in the Conference Room at the William Talley Recreation Center (old Armory). Jim Gallion will give a talk on "Butterfly Gardens." Weather permitting; Joe Metzger will be on hand for plant ID. In addition, the Catoctin Chapter is planning a wildflower garden along the railroad tracks in Thurmont. Christine Maccabee, Diana Heaney, and Joe Metzger removed some of the plants and Christine, Louisa Thompson and Joe had a meeting and selected about a dozen species which we hope to purchase as seeds and some seedlings. We are hoping to apply for and get a grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust. The garden will help by eliminating broadcast herbicide used by the railroad company over the .3 mile stretch of track and will secure the slope against erosion. Eventually it can be used for educational purposes to show people some "real" native wildflowers, instead of those currently being used by the highway department.

### Greater Baltimore Chapter

The Greater Baltimore Chapter's January meeting will be on Wednesday, January 21 at 7:30 pm at Irvine Nature Center. Our speaker will be Daryl Dutrow of Wildlife Landscapes. His topic will be "Planting for Wildlife." Our March meeting (Wed., March 17) will feature Michael Beer speaking about the Jones Falls Watershed and natives in the city.

### Eastern Shore Chapter

The Eastern Shore Chapter held two field trips this fall. A trip to Eastern Neck Wildlife Refuge was co-sponsored by the Kent County Bird Club and provided an entertaining morning of bird and plant id. A seed collection trip in October at Adkins Arboretum yielded bags of acorns and hickory nuts for use by participants and at the Arboretum nursery for research projects. There wasn't much time left for grass seed collection, but we visited a nice stand of *Andropogon ternarius* (split-beard bluestem) and *Andropogon virginicus* (broom sedge) in one of the Arboretum meadows.

The next meeting will be held on January 17 at Horn Point Marine Lab in Cambridge with a tour of the new lab facility and a talk by Dr. Kristen Saltonstall on native and non-native strains of *Phragmites australis* (common reed). There will also be a field trip to the Claude E. Phillips Herbarium co-sponsored by Adkins Arboretum on Thursday, February 12 from 1:00 - 4:30 pm. There will be a fee of \$12. The Herbarium is located at Delaware State University in Dover, DE and is one of the larger herbaria in the United States. For more information or to register for the field trip, please contact Sylvan Kaufman, 410-634-2847 x13 or skaufman@intercom.net. [See page 4]

## Upcoming Chapter Events

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

### Eastern Shore Chapter Meeting

**Date:** Saturday, January 17 **Time:** Contact Debbie  
**Location:** Horn Point Marine Lab in Cambridge with a tour of the new lab facility and a talk on native and non-native strains of *Phragmites australis* (common reed).  
**Contact:** Debbie Herr herr@dmv.com.

### Southern Maryland Chapter's Quarterly Meeting

**Date:** Wednesday, January 21 **Time:** 7:00 pm  
**Location:** Phillips House, Prince Frederick, Calvert County  
**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.  
**Contact:** Carolyn Fulton cofulton@chesapeake.net or 301-885-6384 for more information.

### Greater Baltimore Chapter's January Program

**Date:** Wednesday, January 21 **Time:** 7:30 pm  
**Location:** Irvine Nature Center  
Daryl Dutrow of Wildlife Landscapes will speak on "Planting for Wildlife."  
**Contact:** Ann Lundy 410-366-9365 or aplundy@attglobal.net

### Catoctin Chapter Meeting

**Date:** Tuesday, February 17 **Time:** 7:30 pm  
Jim Gallion will give a talk on "Butterfly Gardens."  
**Location:** Conference Room at the William Talley Recreation Center (old Armory) at the corner of Second and Bentz Streets in Frederick.  
**Directions:** From US 15 going north, take the Rosemont Avenue exit. Get off and go straight across, this will put you on Second Street. From US 15 going south, take the Rosemont Avenue exit. Get off and turn right, go under the highway and turn right at the light onto Second Street. Continue through the four way stop and traffic light and watch for diagonal parking on the right before you get to the building and next light. It's the only building on the right between the lights. Go in the entrance at the back of the building (farthest from Bentz Street) at the basement level. Sign in at the desk and ask for directions to the Conference Room.

### Greater Baltimore Chapter's March Program

**Date:** Wednesday, March 17 **Time:** 7:30 pm  
**Location:** Irvine Nature Center  
Michael Beer will discuss the Jones Falls Watershed and natives in the city.

## Winter Field Trips

### Phragmites Lesson and Horn Point Marine Lab Tour

**Leader:** Debbie Herr

**Date:** January, day and time to be announced.

Horn Point staff will give a presentation on native and non-native strains of *Phragmites australis* (Common Reed). Learn why the non-native strain has become invasive in much of the eastern US. Participants will also tour Horn Point's new lab facility.

**Contact:** For more information or to register for the field trip, please contact Sylvan Kaufman, 410-634-2847 x13 or skaufman@intercom.net.

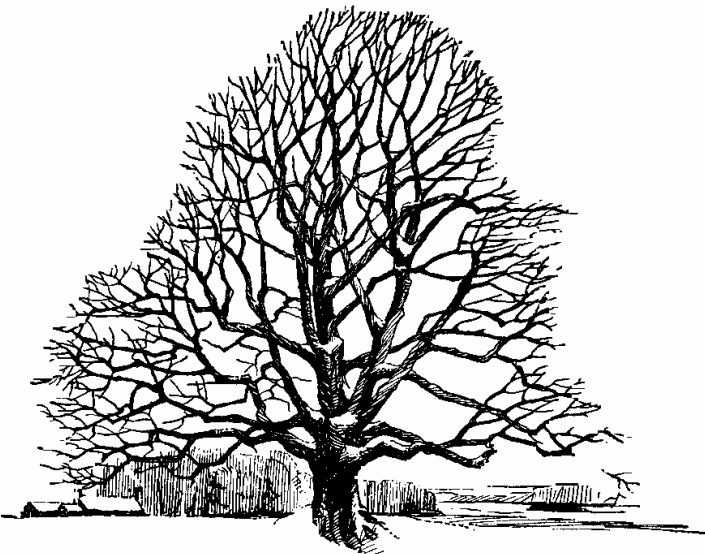
### Soldiers Delight NEA, Owings Mills

**Leaders:** Louisa Thompson and Ann Lundy

**Date:** Sunday, February 1 **Time:** 2:00 pm

Soldiers Delight Natural Environmental Area is a globally rare ecosystem formed on serpentine rock, inhospitable to most Maryland native plants but home to some that are rare here. Among those that can tolerate its gravelly soil are several grasses and wildflowers better known in the Midwest than here: Big and Little Bluestem, Indian Grass, Purple Top, Blazing Star, Gray Goldenrod. In winter, the bleached stems and seedheads form a rippling sea of reflected sunlight, and give us a sense of what 19<sup>th</sup> century pioneers must have seen when they went west. Our walk will focus on the beauty of the grassland in winter.

**Directions: From the Baltimore Beltway (I-695),** take I-795 north to Franklin Blvd west (exit 7b). Bear right onto Church Lane, left onto Berryman's Lane, then left onto Deer Park Rd. Go about 2 miles to the Visitors Center, on your right.



**From points west and south,** take I-70 to Marriotsville Rd. 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 Rd. and immediately right onto Deer Park Rd. Go about 2 miles. Turn left into the Visitors Center.

**Note:** Trip will be postponed if the weather is unpleasant.

**Contact:** Registration required. Leave weekend phone number at 410-366-9365 or email aplundy@attglobal.net.

### Civil War Fort Sites in the Washington, D.C. Region (31<sup>st</sup> in the Series)

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

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

**Location & Directions:** Please contact Mary Pat.

**Bring:** Lunch and water. **Note:** Easy to moderate walk.

Drizzle or snow is fine but canceled if rain is heavy.

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

### Claude E. Phillips Herbarium, Dover, DE

**Leader:** Sylvan Kaufman

**Date:** Thursday, February 12 **Time:** 1:00 – 4:30 pm

Join us on a field trip to the Claude E. Phillips Herbarium at Delaware State University in Dover, DE. The Herbarium is one of the larger herbaria in the United States and has specimens of native, naturalized and cultivated flora from the Delmarva Peninsula. They are also noted for their program studying plant essential oils. Come learn about this valuable botanical resource for our region. Field trip departs from Adkins Arboretum in Ridgely, MD. Transportation provided. Co-sponsored by Adkins Arboretum. **Note:** \$12 Fee.

**Contact:** For more information or to register for the field trip, please contact Sylvan Kaufman, 410-634-2847 x13 or skaufman@intercom.net.

### Winter Trees at Jug Bay

**Leader:** Karyn Molines

**Date:** Saturday, February 14 **Time:** 1:00 – 3:00 pm

The leaves may be gone, but the trees still stand tall! Join us as we learn to identify trees by their bark. Be prepared to hike a few miles. The hike can be extended depending on weather and people's interest.

**Directions: From Annapolis:** From West St. at Parole, take Rt. 2 south 18 miles. At the Lothian circle, go  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way around and stay on Rt. 2. Go past the fire station, schools, and St. James Church (on left) until the next stoplight at Rt. 258; go right (west) on Rt. 258. Continue on Rt. 258 for 4.5 miles until this ends near the Park & Ride, just after crossing over Rt. 4. At stop sign, turn onto Wrighton Rd and continue 1.5 miles to Sanctuary entrance on left. **From Baltimore:** From Baltimore Beltway (695), take Rt. 97 south to Rt. 3. Follow this south towards Upper Marlboro. At Rt. 50, Rt. 3 becomes Rt. 301. Continue on Rt. 301 south to Rt. 4 at

# Native News

Upper Marlboro. Go east/south on Rt. 4 for 3 miles (1.5 miles after crossing Patuxent River) to Plummer Lane exit on right. Follow Plummer Lane for ½ mile to Wrighton Road. Go right on Wrighton Road and continue ½ mile to Sanctuary entrance on left. **From Washington, D.C.:** Take Pennsylvania Ave east to Capital Beltway (495). At the Beltway, Penn. Ave becomes Rt. 4. Follow Rt. 4 east/south for about 10.5 miles to Plummer Lane exit. (Plummer Lane is 3 miles east of Rt. 301 and 1.5 miles east of Patuxent River.) Proceed as above. **From Calvert County:** Take Rt. 4 north and take Bristol-Deale exit (Rt. 258). At stop sign, go left over Rt. 4 and continue to stop sign at Wrighton Road (near Park & Ride). At stop sign, turn onto Wrighton Road and continue 1.5 miles to Sanctuary entrance on left. **Note:** Children should be at least 10 years old. Reservations are required. **Contact:** Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary 410-741-9330 or jugbay@toad.net

## Blockhouse Point Conservation Park

**Leader:** Carole Bergmann

**Date:** Sunday, February 29 **Time:** 10:00 am – 12:30 pm

The huge majority of Blockhouse Point Conservation Park acreage is a diverse, maturing, second growth forest with good forest structure--high canopy and well developed shrub levels, with very few non-native invasive species. It is an exceptionally scenic area with high rocky bluffs above the Potomac River, expansive wetlands and floodplain forests along the river, high quality interior forest, steep-sided forested ravines, and a number of seep-spring areas. Our hike will cover a portion of the park west of River Road, basically be through upland mixed oak/hickory forest, and include a walk out to an overlook above the Potomac River.

**Directions:** From 495, take the River Road exit and go NW towards Potomac. Continue on River Road for about 5 or 6 miles past the intersection with Falls Rd. Once you pass Esworthy and Maidens Bower Roads on your right, look for the Blockhouse Point gravel Parking lot (in less than a mile on your left).

**Bring:** Appropriate clothing and shoes for a several mile hike; water; binoculars are nice at the overlooks.

**Note:** If the weather is questionable, please call Carole between 7 and 9:00 am, Sunday morning. Since it is winter and cold, we will not hike if it is raining or snowing, or if it snowed the day before and road conditions are not good.

**Contact:** Carole 301-253-3354.

## Civil War Fort Sites in the Washington, D.C. Region (32<sup>nd</sup> in the Series)

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

**Date:** Sunday, March 7 **Time:** 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

**Location & Directions:** Please contact Mary Pat.

**Bring:** Lunch and water. **Note:** Easy to moderate walk.

Drizzle or snow is fine but canceled if rain is heavy.

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



## MNPS Website Update

Jim MacDonald (jmacdon@toad.net) has spent many years maintaining our website, creating a site that is chock full of information. Almost any question we receive about native plants has an answer in our web pages. A new volunteer, Iris Mars (ihmars@ccconline.net) has volunteered to help Jim with this formidable task. She has created two new links on our web page. First, we have a spot on the website for plant lists of various counties and parks. The link to the new floral inventory section is:

[http://mdflora.org/survey\\_data/survey\\_data.htm](http://mdflora.org/survey_data/survey_data.htm).

MNPS would like additional lists to post. If you have similar information you would like to include on this web page, please send your list to Rod Simmons (cecropia13@msn.com) for review by the Botany Committee. We do prefer electronic versions for easier transfer to a web format. If you only have paper copies, mail it to MNPS, Post Office Box 4877, Silver Spring, MD 20914. We also have started a "Chapters" section of the website where members can contact the chapter representative within their region. These pages have the potential to expand with additional information about each Chapter. Contact either Jim or Iris if you have any suggestions for the website.

## Invasive Exotic Plant Removal Workdays

### Ruth Swann Park, Charles County

**Dates:** First Sunday, monthly (February 1 and March 7)

**Time:** 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Remove invasive non-natives from the 200-acre Swann Park. We'll polish off some exotic evergreens this winter, including Chinese and European privet and Japanese honeysuckle. There will be time for plant identification and a beautiful beach lunch. Participating organizations include MNPS and Sierra Club. Our goal is that it be considered standard to conduct invasive plant removal projects to rescue our native plants and animals in natural areas. To empower ourselves, there are general methods and species specific methods such as best season for species, wet soil condition for pulling, handouts, extent of area of natives seen rescued, delayed gratification, targeted use of herbicides, and matching funds for staff to do what volunteers find hard to do.

**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. Durable long sleeves and pants recommended.

**Contact:** Marc Imlay 301-283-0808. RSVP is welcome. Carpool Info: Meet at Sierra Club Md. Chapter office at 9:00 am; return 5:00 pm. Please contact Laurel 301-277-7111.



Staff photo by Jay Friess

Sierra Club member Marc Imlay, left background, shows student volunteers how to identify the Asian bittersweet vines. The vines had overrun many trees in Ruth B. Swann Memorial Park before Imlay and his volunteers eradicated them. [Reprinted with permission of *Maryland Independent*]

### Brookside Gardens, Montgomery County

Weed Warriors are needed for the forested areas surrounding the gardens. You will be given directions so that you may work independently, weekends or weekdays, on your own schedule.

**Contact:** Stacy Parsons 301-962-1417 or

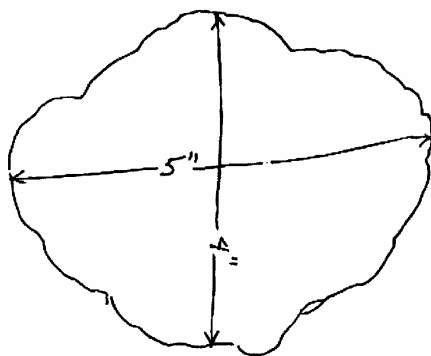
[stacy.parsons@mncppc-mc.org](mailto:stacy.parsons@mncppc-mc.org)

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

### 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.



Porcelainberry Challenge  
See if you can top this!  
Drawing of a record 5x4  
inch porcelainberry vine  
found by Jack Gilson in  
Montgomery County.

### 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.

## Announcements

The **Anacostia Watershed Society** (a 10-person nonprofit based in Bladensburg working to improve the health of the Anacostia River) seeks a volunteer to work with horticulturist Steve McKindley-Ward to run our small, native tree nursery. The job could range from limited responsibility to running the show with lots of room for creativity/experimentation with methods using your favorite native species. It could include involving schoolkids or supervising interns – or simply making trees grow in containers, readying them for transplant onto public lands along the river. It could also include helping devise a watering system. Don't get me wrong – any contribution is welcome.

Contact Steve at 301-699-6204 or [steve@anacostiaws.org](mailto:steve@anacostiaws.org).

### **Green Matters Symposium: Exotic Invasive Plants**

**Date:** Friday, February 27 **Time:** 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

**Location:** Brookside Gardens Visitors Center Auditorium, 1800 Glenallan Avenue, Wheaton MD 20902

*Invasive Exotic Plants: A Tangled Bank?* – Johnny Randall, Ph.D., Assistant Director, North Carolina Botanical Garden

*Botanical Bullies: Mid-Atlantic Invasive Plants* – Carole Bergmann, Forest Ecologist, M-NCPPC

*Weeding in the Garden of Good and Evil* – Jil Swearingen, Entomologist/IPM Coordinator, Ctr for Urban Ecology, NPS

*The Right Plant for the Right Place: Invasive Plants and the Nursery Industry* – John Peter Thompson, Chairman of the Board, The Behnke Nurseries Company

*Native, Introduced, Naturalized, Invasive: How Do We*

*Categorize Plants?* – Sylvan Kaufman, Ph.D., Conservation Curator, Adkins Arboretum

*Identifying Non-native Invasive Species in the Field* (walk)

Carole Bergmann, Forest Ecologist, M-NCPPC

*Great Alternatives: Nobody Needs to Plant Ivy Ever Again* – Joan Feely, Curator, Fern Valley Native Plant Collection, US National Arboretum and Carol Bordelon, Assistant Curator, Asian Collections, US National Arboretum

**Fee:** \$59 early registration by January 27; \$69 after January 27. Registration required, call 301-962-1451.

Please call 301-962-1400 to receive a detailed brochure, or visit our website to download a copy of the brochure and registration form at [www.brooksidegardens.org](http://www.brooksidegardens.org).

### **Livable Landscapes: Design with Habitat in Mind**

Every two years, the Shenandoah-Potomac District of Garden Clubs organization sponsors the Eastern Panhandle Horticulture Forum featuring dynamic, nationally known speakers at the National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, West Virginia. Tickets for the March 13 event, with award-winning garden photographer and writer, Rick Darke are available now. Darke's program will illustrate and analyze a broad array of landscapes, and will present strategies to help gardeners interpret and emulate the patterns and processes found in local ecologies. Darke is a widely published author, photographer, and design consultant

focused on the balance of nature and culture in the regional North American landscape. He has studied and photographed North American native plants in their habitats for over 20 years. This work is reflected in his slide presentation and in his many books including his latest, *The American Woodland Garden*, which received the American Horticultural Society's Book Award and the Garden Writers Association Golden Globe Award for book photography. Early registration for the March 13 forum is \$45 and includes lunch. Tickets are now available from Nancy Alfriend at 304-725-2040. If seats are still available after March 1, the cost is \$50. No tickets will be sold after March 6, and none will be available at the door. The Horticulture Forum, which benefits the Martha Smith Scholarship for Plant and Environmental Study, is made possible with the support of NCTC and is co-sponsored by the Land Trust of the Eastern Panhandle, Potomac Valley Audubon Society, the Master Gardeners of Jefferson and Berkeley Counties, the Eastern Panhandle Native Plant Society and the Gardeners Exchange Group.

**Environmental Concern Inc.**, home to the nation's first wholesale wetland plant nursery, is pleased to offer the following courses focusing on native wetland vegetation. Located in historic St. Michaels, Maryland, on the shore of the Chesapeake Bay, Environmental Concern's 13-plus waterfront acres offer a beautiful and intimate learning environment. For complete course descriptions and registration information, visit us online at [www.wetland.org](http://www.wetland.org) or call 410-745-9620.

Wetland Botany for Non-Botanists – June 11

Wetland Vegetative Sampling – July 27-29

Fern and Fern Allies ID – August 13

Grasses, Sedges, and Rushes – September 15-16

### **Welcome New Members!**

New members who joined recently: Angela Fitzgerald, Bill Garren, Karla Kulp, William McAvoy, Bridget McClain, Dale Murphy, Jenny Reed, Anne Ruth, Michael and Anna Schenk, Soja Schmitz, Suzanne Taylor-Dater, Aleandra Teaff and Abner Soto-Henry, and Thorpe Wood. Thank you!

### **Do you know when your membership expires?**

We appreciate every member who renews because every society activity is made possible by member dues. If you remember to renew before your expiration date, you'll help us save money by reducing the number of renewal letters we have to mail. Generally, we mail renewal letters out the month you expire, and send two reminder letters 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 1/1/2003 your membership expires at the end of January. If it's time to renew, please use the form on the back of this newsletter, or download one from the website. Thanks for your support.



**Maryland Native Plant Society**

P.O. Box 4877  
Silver Spring, MD 20914

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

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**City** \_\_\_\_\_  
**State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Your county is the basis of your local chapter affiliation. Please include.)  
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Please do not list me in your membership directory.  
 Please do not send me monthly Society announcements by e-mail in addition to post.

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

**Business's name** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Native plant propagator or grower  
 Native plant supplier  
 Native plant landscape professional

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

**The Maryland Native Plant Society is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization. Contributions are tax deductible. V4N1J/F04**

**Membership Dues:**

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

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

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

Please Check:  New  Renewal