

Native News

Newsletter of the Maryland Native Plant Society

July/August 2006

Volume 6 Number 4

Inside This Issue:

President's Letter
Page 2

~

MNPS Contacts
Page 2

~

MNPS Announcements
Page 3

~

Upcoming Chapter Events
Page 3

~

Wildflower in Focus
Page 4

~

Summer Field Trips/Events
Page 5

~

Invasive Exotic Plant
Removal Workdays
Page 6

~

NatureServe Press Release
Page 7

Upcoming Monthly Meetings

“Native Plant Pollinators”

Tuesday, July 25, 7:30 pm

White Oak Library – Large Meeting Room

Many of our flowering native plants have co-evolved over millennia with a diversity of native pollinators that perform an essential role in maintaining and furthering species diversity. Our region contains a wealth of native flora and habitats, including the mass floral displays of spring ephemerals and summer and fall blooming species. Many pollinators, in turn, have specialized life cycles that coincide with these blooming periods. Join Alonso Abugattas, a naturalist with Arlington County, Virginia and founding member of the Washington Area Butterfly Club, for a presentation on our many native pollinators, including bees, wasps, butterflies, and other species. Plant-pollinator interactions, pollinator habitats, and attracting and protecting pollinators will also be discussed.

“Dragonfly Diversity and Conservation”

Tuesday, August 29, 7:30 pm

White Oak Library – Large Meeting Room



Maryland, Washington, D.C., and northern Virginia are home to dozens of species of dragonflies and damselflies, including numerous rare and historic species. Dragonflies and damselflies are often important indicators and denizens of high quality wetland habitats, especially upland seepage wetlands and streams. The conservation of these wetland resources throughout our region is critical to preserving the diversity of wildlife inhabiting them. Join Kevin Munroe, Audubon Society of Northern Virginia Naturalist, dragonfly expert, and author of the forthcoming *Dragonflies of Northern Virginia*, for a presentation on the dragonflies and damselflies of our region, their importance, and the types of habitats in which they occur. Kevin will also discuss the results of his extensive surveys for dragonflies, including the discovery of new species and rediscovery of historic ones.

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.



The Maryland Native Plant Society (MNPS) is a nonprofit organization that uses education, research, and community service to increase the awareness and appreciation of native plants and their habitats, leading to their conservation and restoration. Membership is open to all who are interested in Maryland's native plants and their habitats, preserving Maryland's natural heritage, increasing their knowledge about native plants, and helping to further the Society's mission.

Native News



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

Contacts:

Botany..... Rod Simmons
botcom@mdflora.org
Conservation..... Lou Aronica
advocacy@mdflora.org
Field Trips.....Meghan Tice
trips@mdflora.org
301-809-0139
Flora of Maryland.....Joe Metzger
jmetzger50@hotmail.com
Habitat Stewardship.....Marc Imlay
ialm@erols.com
Membership.....Chris Partain
membership@mdflora.org
301-809-0139
Monthly Meetings.....Rod Simmons
monthlymeetings@mdflora.org
Outreach.....Carolyn Fulton
cofulton@chesapeake.net
President.....Carole Bergmann
carolebergmann@hotmail.com
Publications:
Marilandica..... Rod Simmons
marilandicaeditor@mdflora.org
Native News..... Meghan Tice
nativenewseditor@mdflora.org
Website..... Iris Mars
webmanager@mdflora.org

Executive Officers:

Carole Bergmann, President
Marc Imlay, Vice President
John Parrish, Vice President
Carolyn Fulton, Secretary
Beth Johnson, Treasurer

Board of Directors:

Nancy Adamson Linda Keenan
Lou Aronica, Emeritus Ann Lundy
Matthew Bazar Iris Mars
Lisa Bierer-Garrett Joe Metzger, Jr.
Paul Carlson Karyn Molines
Melanie Choukas-Bradley Chris Partain
Kirsten Emigholtz Mary Pat Rowan
Cris Fleming Roderick Simmons
Jim Gallion

President's Letter

Dear Fellow Members,

Though it is still mid June as I write this, by the time our July/August *Native News* is mailed out, the Summer Solstice will have passed and we will be into the REAL summer time. We are well past the “hundreds of shades of green” season. School is out and vacation time is in.

I have a few themes that I harp on as President of MNPS. One is to get out and explore and experience your surroundings. It is great to have the luxury to go on vacations to far away “exotic” places, but most of us don’t really have that type of life I think. While we live in one area and have to work at a job in order to pay the bills, we need to have places that we can go to relax and recharge our batteries. I have said over and over again that I recommend getting to know natural areas within an hours drive or so from your home. This has been so important for me—getting out and walking, listening to birds, insects, wind, and water sounds. Looking for birds’ nests, cocoons, insect homes. Watching the plants go through their life cycles.

*Summer in the world:
Floating on the waves
Of the lake.
~Basho~*

I have lived in Clarksburg, Maryland for 30 years as of May, and one particular nearby natural area which has meant a lot to me is Little Bennett Regional Park. The border of this 3700 acre preserve is within one mile of my home, and I have spent hundreds of hours wandering through it at this point. That being said, there is still so much more to learn in and about that park, there are still so many new experiences to be had.

In all of the years that I have walked through the territory that is Little Bennett Park, I had never seen a Virginia snakeroot, *Aristolochia serpentaria*, in bloom. Just last week, however, I was lucky enough to see three of the tiny “Dutchman’s pipe” appearing flowers nestled down in the leaf litter at the base of the stem. I couldn’t believe my good luck! (For those who haven’t seen one yet, the flower is described in Brown & Brown as: “Calyx-tube deep purple to brownish, S-shaped, 1-2 cm long, enlarged at the ovary and the throat; the 3 short calyx-lobes spreading. May-June. Upland woods; rare throughout.”) I went to the internet and found a report on the uncommon *A. serpentaria* done by the New England Plant Conservation Program; I found out that it has aromatic roots, is probably fly pollinated, had medicinal uses from historic to modern times, is possibly carcinogenic?... So much to learn! (<http://www.newfs.org/pdf/Aristolochiaserpentaria.pdf>)

Regarding my second topic—one that I have spoken briefly about at each MNPS Monthly Meeting, and written in just about every President’s Letter from the beginning—“we run on Volunteer Power in the Maryland Native Plant Society”... I am VERY pleased to announce that following my plea in the May/June *Native News* for a new Treasurer, one of our members, Gary Steele, has agreed to step forward and help the Society out when our current excellent Treasurer, Beth Johnson, “retires” from her position at the end of this year. Thank you Gary! And thank you Beth, and all of the other Board Members who freely give so much of their own valuable time to keep this Society running!

Finally, make sure that you do reserve the weekend of October 14 and 15 on your calendar right now. We will be holding our Fall Conference in Montgomery County that weekend, and it promises to be a great event! Please read briefly about speakers and fieldtrips in this edition of *Native News*; you will receive the actual brochure by mail in a month or so.

Have a great summer!
Carole

MNPS Announcements

If you haven't been to the MNPS website recently, you will notice some changes. We have added some new sections that we hope to grow, and have reorganized and expanded our Resources section.

However, you might notice that some sections of the site are not fully fleshed out. If you are interested in working on the website, please contact me at webmanager@mdflora.org. There is more information about what help is needed on the MNPS website on the Volunteer page.

If you have suggestions for additions to the website, or for where to place things, just send me an email. If you can't find something, we either don't have it on the site, or we don't have it in a logical place. Sometime in the future, we hope to have an interactive search function, but right now you can find most pages on the site listed in the Site Index, which can be selected from the sidebar list of links on every page.

~ Iris Mars, MNPS Web Content Manager

Welcome New Members!

Thanks for joining! We hope you'll join us on the many field trips and meetings we have to offer. Cynthia Bravo, Cheryl Lyn Dybas, Brigitte Fortin-Zaidan, Donna Gates, Viva Hammer, John Taylor, Elaine Tierney, and Mary Jane Williams recently joined the Society.

New Organizational Members

The following have joined at this level: Environmental Concern, St. Michaels, MD; Howard County Recreation and Parks, Columbia, MD; Octoraro Native Plant Nursery, Kirkwood, PA; and Watershed Landscapes, Silver Spring, MD. Our newest membership category is for organizations that wish to support MNPS. Our website will eventually be modified to provide more information about our Organizational members, including links to their websites. Organizational members can send a brief description of the organization and contact information to Iris Mars at webmanager@mdflora.org.

General Membership Information

To tell when your membership expires, (and what type of membership you have) take a look at your mailing label. For example, if your label reads 7/1/2006 your membership expires at the end of July. If it's time to renew, please use the form on the back of this newsletter, or download one from the website. Mail your dues to MNPS Membership, P.O. Box 4877, Silver Spring, MD 20914. Sometimes, membership checks and renewal notices cross in the mail. We apologize if this happens; we do try to update our membership database weekly. If we accidentally receive two renewals for a membership, we have a policy to extend the membership for an additional year. So if you send in your membership dues twice, we treat it as if you renewed for two years. Thanks for your support.

Upcoming Chapter Events

Catoctin Chapter Event

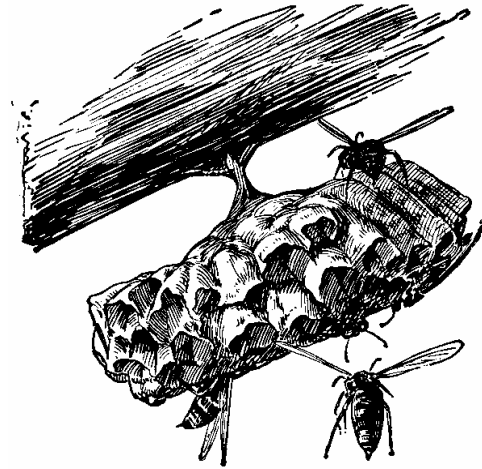
"Fern Workshop"

Saturday or Sunday in early August

We hope to return to the wonderful retreat of two Catoctin Chapter members where an abundance of ferns thrive amongst the cool shade of hemlocks on the western side of the Catoctin Mountains. Joe Metzger helps people become pros at using a fern key. The cabin is mobbed with hummingbirds, so be prepared to keep your eyes and ears open for some fast moving creatures, not just plants. Contact Joe Metzger or check the website for an update. Joe's email is jmetzger50@hotmail.com.

Greater Baltimore Chapter Meeting

The Greater Baltimore Chapter will meet on Wednesday, July 19 at 6:30 pm at the Baltimore Aquarium on the Inner Harbor for a tour of the new native plant garden in front of the Aquarium. The Aquarium staff will give us a tour and answer questions about the design, planting, and maintenance of the garden. Please reserve a space on the tour by contacting Bill Morgante at billmorgante@verizon.net or calling Ann Lundy at 410-366-9365.



Native News Deadlines:

July 25	September/October Early Autumn Issue
Sept 25	November/December Late Autumn/Holidays Issue
Nov 25	January/February Winter Issue
Jan 25	March/April Early Spring Issue
March 25	May/June Late Spring Issue
May 25	July/August Summer Issue

Tentative 2006 Mailing Party Dates (preceding regular Monthly Meetings at White Oak Library):

Tuesdays at 6:00 pm: August 29, October 24, December 19.

~ Wildflower in Focus ~



Specific Characteristics of the Cardinal Flower

Flowers: Scarlet, irregular, 2-lipped, with a 2-lobed upper lip, a 3-lobed lower one and a tubular base. Sexual parts protrude in a beak-like fashion (see illustration). Flowers 1-2" long and wide in upright racemes. Five sepals are thin (almost hair-like). **Leaves:** Alternate, simple, lanceolate to oblong or narrowly ovate, tapered to apex and base, pubescent or glabrous. Toothed, often irregularly so (sometimes dentate). Short-petioled to sessile, 2-7" long. **Height and Growth Habit:** 1-5'; usually unbranched. **Range:** New Brunswick to Minnesota, south to the Gulf of Mexico. **Herbal Lore:** American Indians used the roots and leaves of this plant for a number of conditions, including syphilis, typhoid, fevers, headaches and rheumatism. In Peterson Field Guides' *Eastern/Central Medicinal Plants*, Steven Foster and James A. Duke report that cardinal flower's root tea was considered both a worm expellant and a love potion! The plant is potentially toxic. Please remember that this wildflower and all native plants growing in their natural habitats should not be disturbed. **Blooming Time:** July-September. **Locations:** The Potomac River and C&O Canal; Hughes Hollow in the McKee-Beshers Wildlife Management Area; Little Bennett Regional Park; trails and roadsides around the base of Sugarloaf Mountain; Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary; and moist and wet habitats throughout Maryland. See *Finding Wildflowers in the Washington-Baltimore Area* by Fleming, Lobstein and Tufty for additional locations near the cities. **Similar Species:** Bee-balm or Oswego-tea (*Monarda didyma*) bears scarlet flowers in dense roundish terminal heads and its leaves are opposite. See Brown and Brown's *Herbaceous Plants of Maryland* for illustrated descriptions of other *Lobelia* genus members.

"Wildflower in Focus" text adapted from *An Illustrated Guide to Eastern Woodland Wildflowers and Trees: 350 Plants Observed at Sugarloaf Mountain, Maryland* (Choukas-Bradley and Brown, University of Virginia Press)

Summer Field Trips

Chesapeake Natives Wildflower Farm Tour, Anne Arundel County

Leader: Dr. Sara Tangren

Dates: Saturdays, July 15 and August 19

(Every third Saturday through November, call for times)

Learn how to invite wildlife into your own yard and which native shrubs, flowers, and grasses would work in your yard.

Ask the experts! Send your kids hunting for caterpillars!

Plant sale after tour – all proceeds support the nonprofit.

Directions: From Aisquith Farm Road in Davidsonville, follow the red arrows. Detailed directions can be found at www.ChesapeakeNatives.org.

Bring: Questions, cameras, binoculars.

Contact: Call in the afternoon to confirm, 301-580-6237.

Gunpowder State Park May Wildflower Hike – Hereford Area

Leader: Dwight Johnson

Date: Sunday, August 27 **Time:** 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

This will be a 4-mile nature and exercise hike along the Gunpowder from Masemore Road to Prettyboy Dam. There will be steep and very rocky sections along the trail. We will stop for anything that is interesting. We should find a good variety of ferns and wildflowers.

Directions: From the Baltimore Beltway, go north on I-83 for 12 miles and take exit 27 onto Mount Carmel Rd.

Proceed west for 0.7 miles and make a right at Masemore Rd and proceed for another 1.5 miles to parking area. The speed limit is posted at 10 miles at the bottom of Masemore Rd.

Believe it. There is a very sharp narrow turn at the mill.

Bring: Lunch and water. Binoculars might be handy. Hiking boots are highly recommended.

Note: Rain or shine.

Contact: DwightMJohnson@comcast.net or 410-366-7239.

Civil War Fort Sites in the Washington, D.C. Region (54th in the Series)

Leaders: Mary Pat Rowan and Lou Aronica

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

We will visit two Civil War Forts, both in Northeast Washington, D.C. We will start at **Ft. Bunker Hill** which is quite small and then move on to **Ft. Slemmer** on the campus of Catholic University.

Directions: Get yourself to Rhode Island Avenue NE and turn to the north onto 14th Street NE. Travel north about 10 blocks until you get to Otis Street NE and the Fort is on your left. It is exactly one city block. Park on either Otis or 14th.

Bring: Water and lunch.

Note: Easy to moderate walk. Light drizzle is fine but canceled if pouring rain.

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

Plant It & They Will Come!

Wildlife Habitat Garden Tour, Garrett County

Leaders: Ron Boyer and Liz McDowell

Dates: July 28, 29, & 30 and August 26 & 27

Times: Guided tours at 10:00 am, 12:00 noon and 2:00 pm

Ron and Liz are hosting several open house events at their native plant nursery. Tour their wildlife garden to see a variety of conservation landscaping and wildlife habitat practices that individuals can use to enhance biodiversity around their homes, schools, and businesses. Experience the joys of conservation landscaping: a garden filled with bees, birds, butterflies, and beautiful plants. Native plants and habitat boxes are available for purchase.

Directions: From I-68, take exit 22 and follow signs for New Germany State Park. Turn left into the park onto McAndrews Hill Road and travel ~ 2 miles to stop sign at Westernport Road. Turn right and travel .25 mile to Red Hill Road. Turn right and drive ~ .5 mile to Elk Ridge Lane. Turn left onto Elk Ridge Lane (private road) and travel .3 miles out gravel lane to site on right.

Note: This is a primitive site with no restrooms. Pets are not allowed. Tours are free.

Contact: 301-895-3686 or info@elkridgenatureworks.com.

Other Local Events

15th Annual Native Plant Seminar & Plant Sale

Location: Irvine Nature Center, Stevenson, MD

Date: Saturday, August 19 **Time:** 8:00 am – 2:30 pm

This year's seminar includes Darrel Morrison, Dick Bir, and Rich Pais to speak in the morning. Afternoon workshops will include nature photography, native grasses, and native orchids. Native Plant Sale will include 13 vendors selling nursery-propagated native plants. Plant sales are open to the general public free of charge.

More Info: www.explorenature.org

Contact: Patricia Caya 410-484-2413 Ext 25 or cayap@explorenature.org.

Doyle Farm Nursery Open House, PA

Date: Saturday, July 29 **Time:** 10:00 am & 2:00 pm

Doyle Farm will have two summer workshops, one on propagating trilliums and other woodland natives at 10:00 and growing ferns from spores at 2:00. Jay George and Joan King from the Muhlenburg Botanical Society will be presenting them. On September 8 & 9, Al Spoo, also a member of the Muhlenburg Botanical Society will be giving a talk about "Reptiles, Butterflies, Insects, & Native Plants." Doyle Farm is a small, mail-order, native plant nursery and can be found on the web at www.doylefarm.com and can be reached at jld@doylefarm.com or 717-862-3134 (phone & fax). We are located app. 1 hour North of Baltimore, 15 minutes west of the Susquehanna River, in Southern York County, Pennsylvania.

Invasive Exotic Plant Removal Workdays

Hellen Creek Forest and Wildlife Preserve

Dates: Saturdays: July 1 & 22, August 5, and September 23
Time: 9:00 am – noon

Hellen Creek Forest and Wildlife Preserve is located in the Patuxent watershed in Lusby, Calvert County. Together with the adjacent TNC Hemlock Preserve, nearly 120 acres of the upper Hellen Creek watershed is preserved. Mostly forested, the two preserves have over 350 American hemlocks and twenty-five other species of trees. The Hellen Creek Preserve has seen many activities on the property before being purchased in 2000 by Cove Point Natural Heritage Trust. The Trust is in the second year of its invasive plant removal plan. The targets for this year are wineberry, tree of heaven, and multiflora rose. The Trust's office is located on property and will be available for use by volunteers.

Directions: Take route 2/4 to the turn for Mill Bridge and Coster Road in Lusby. This is a few miles north of Solomons. There is a left turn light if you are coming north from Solomons. Otherwise, look for the light and make a right. You will immediately turn left to get onto Coster. Follow this past the two right hand turns for Bafford Road. Look for a white sign MACHINE SHOP on the left and look immediately right for a blue chip road with a brown mailbox, Clifton (marked but not well marked) Drive. Follow Clifton to the first left 11785. This driveway will take you to the Trust property. If you see Hilltop Rd you have gone too far.
Bring: Gloves, water, lunch, wear sturdy clothes and shoes.
Contact: Bob Boxwell 410-394-1300 or robertjohnboxwell@yahoo.com.

Belt Woods, Prince George's County

Dates: Saturdays, ongoing **Time:** 9:00 am – 12:00 noon
For upcoming months we will be removing multiflora rose, Japanese honeysuckle, *Euonymus fortunei* and *alatus*, mile-a-minute, garlic mustard, Japanese stiltgrass, and more. Belt Woods is bordered by Central Ave (214) to the south and Church Road to the east, just on the outskirts of Bowie.
Bring: Drink and snack, if desired, and plant and bird identification books. Long pants and long-sleeved shirt, and insect repellent recommended. Gloves and tools provided.
Note: Poison ivy is very abundant, as are thorny bushes.
Contact: Pam Cooper, Western Shore Conservancy, 301-390-0797 for times and dates of outings.

Friends of Sligo Creek, Montgomery County

Leader: Sally Gagne, RIP Director
Dates: Weekend mornings in July and August
We will be hand-pulling mile-a-minute vine.
Bring: Please see <http://www.fosc.org/RIPEventSched.htm> for detailed information. We will provide gloves.
Contact: Sally sgage@erols.com or 301-588-2071.

Chapman Forest, Charles County

Leader: Marc Imlay
Dates: First Sundays, monthly **Time:** 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Directions: Meet at main gate of Chapman Forest, 20 miles south of the Washington Beltway (I-495) on Route 210 (Indian Head Hwy). Give yourself 30 to 40 minutes from the Beltway. For more info about the forest and to see a map, please visit the web at <http://www.chapmanforest.org>.
Carpool Info: Meet at Sierra Club Md. Chapter office at 8:00 am; return 5:00 pm. Call Laurel Imlay at 301-277-7111.
Bring: Gloves, lunch, and water. Durable long sleeves and pants recommended.
Contact: Marc 301-283-0808. RSVP is welcome.

Northwest Branch at Woodmoor, Montgomery County

Leader: Jane Osburn
Dates: Third Saturdays, monthly **Time:** 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Please join us for a walk in Northwest Branch to enjoy the beauty of the forest and to remove invasive plants. We'll then relax and have a vegetarian lunch. All are welcome.
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), and 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. Hope to see you there!
Bring: Water and gloves. I have extra gloves if you need some. Vegetarian lunch provided.
Contact: Jane for more info at 301-754-1564.

Purple Loosestrife Removal in Maryland

MD DNR and its partners are launching an effort to locate and remove the invasive plant purple loosestrife from Maryland's marshes. Purple loosestrife out-competes native plants, eliminates feeding opportunities for native animals and, left unchecked, can permanently alter the function and composition of a wetland ecosystem. A central component of our effort to control this invader is educating and empowering the public to function as loosestrife scouts in the state's wetlands and waterways. Please attend a training session at one of our already scheduled events, or request a training session of your own. Interested citizens can visit our website to learn more about our efforts:
www.dnr.state.md.us/wildlife/PurpleLoosestrife/purplels.asp

Become and Urban Weed Warrior!

Baltimore City Recreation and Parks is conducting training that includes weed ID, removal techniques, and native alternatives to exotic flora. Certified volunteers will help to control non-native invasive plants in City parks.
Contact: Kimberley Mead, Weed Warrior Coordinator at kimberley.mead@baltimorecity.gov or 410-396-0359. Please call to confirm dates, locations, and times or with questions.

Rare Forest Habitat Discovered Near Anacostia River in Suburban Maryland

[NatureServe Press Release, May 2006]

Rare forest habitat types and a number of rare plants have been newly discovered in the upper Anacostia River watershed in suburban Maryland. While documenting natural habitats during recent field surveys at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, scientists found a previously unknown part of the forest where pitch pine trees and oaks grow together in an unusual combination. This forest type, which ecologists call the *Pine Barrens Pine – Oak* plant community, is most closely related to vegetation previously known only from the famed New Jersey Pine Barrens of south-central New Jersey.

The discoveries were made as part of a study carried out in the summer and fall of 2005 to classify, describe, and map the significant natural communities in the upper reaches of the Anacostia River watershed. The results of the study, funded by the Washington, D.C.-based Naomi and Nehemiah Cohen Foundation, are described in a report released this week by NatureServe, a non-profit conservation group that carries out similar studies of habitats and species across the United States.

The surveys covered a number of the most undisturbed places around each of the five main tributaries of the Anacostia: Northwest Branch (including Sligo Creek and Long Branch), Paint Branch, Little Paint Branch, Indian Creek, and Beaverdam Creek. Because of its significant undeveloped natural areas, the USDA Beltsville Agricultural Research Center was the location for much of the field work.

“A great deal of attention has been paid to the lower part of the Anacostia River, where it flows through Washington, and rightly so,” said Bruce Stein, Ph.D., NatureServe’s Vice President for Programs. “But we may not have appreciated until now just how significant are some of the natural habitats found in the upper portion of the Anacostia watershed. You don’t normally expect to find globally rare plant communities in Montgomery and Prince George’s counties, but there they are.”

The rare *Pine Barrens Pine – Oak* forest type is found on relatively dry soils and is characterized by large numbers of pitch pine trees (*Pinus rigida*) mixed with oak. Another highly significant plant community newly documented in the watershed is the *Fall-line Terrace Gravel Magnolia Bog*, a type of forest wetland that is habitat for several rare species. This rare magnolia bog is apparently found only in the Anacostia and other nearby watersheds. A third rare forest type, *Pine Barrens Lowland Forest*, was also found during the field survey. It differs from *Pine Barrens Pine – Oak* forests in being found on lower-lying wetland soils.

The surveys also found 22 plant species that are uncommon or highly rare in Maryland, most associated with the bogs and other wetland habitats. The rare plants include such beautiful bloomers as white-fringed orchid (*Platanthera blephariglottis*), pale green orchid (*Platanthera flava* var. *herbiola*), sheep laurel (*Kalmia angustifolia*), and bog goldenrod (*Solidago uliginosa*).

The study had three main components: 1) field inventories and review of existing information on forest types in the area; 2) classification of plant communities according to the U.S. National Vegetation Classification, the most widely-used standard for such work; and 3) analysis of the rarity and conservation importance of the plant communities found. Field surveys were carried out by scientists from the Maryland Native Plant Society and the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of Natural History, Botany Department, working in collaboration with NatureServe.

NatureServe is a non-profit conservation group dedicated to providing the scientific information, technology, and services needed to guide effective conservation action. Representing a network of 75 natural heritage programs and conservation data centers in the United States, Canada, and Latin America, NatureServe is a leading source for detailed scientific information about threatened plants, animals, and ecosystems. Visit us online at www.natureserve.org.

Sheep Laurel
Kalmia angustifolia





NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SILVER SPRING, MD
PERMIT NO. 3567

Membership Dues:

- Individual: \$25.00/year
- Double: \$35.00/year
- Student/limited income: \$15.00/year
- Lifetime: \$250.00
- Organization: \$50.00/year

Additional Donation _____

Total Enclosed _____

Please Check: New Renewal