

AUDUBON NATURALIST SOCIETY

Naturalist Quarterly

Summer 2018

ANSHOME.ORG



Planting the Future Forest at Woodend

by Alison Pearce, Director of Restoration

ANS NATURE ACTIVITIES & NEWS

The Audubon Naturalist Society inspires residents of the greater Washington, DC region to appreciate, understand, and protect their natural environment through outdoor experiences, education, and advocacy.

HEADQUARTERS

Woodend, a 40-acre wildlife sanctuary in Chevy Chase, MD

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 9 AM-5 PM

STORE HOURS

Monday-Friday 10 AM-5 PM
Saturday 9 AM-5 PM
Sunday 12-5 PM

GROUND'S HOURS

Dawn to dusk

ANS MEMBERSHIP

Student \$15
Individual \$50
Family \$65
Nature Steward \$100
Audubon Advocate \$200
Sanctuary Guardian \$500
Naturalists Council \$1,000
Preservationist \$1,000+

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WOODEND RESTORATION

Alison Pearce, Director of Restoration

WATER QUALITY PROGRAMS

Cathy Wiss

RENTALS

Beatriz Engel

NATURALIST QUARTERLY

ANShome.org Summer 2018

From the Director	3
Planting the Future Forest at Woodend <i>by Alison Pearce</i>	4
Children and Nature Photos	6
Conservation	8
Adults and Nature Photos	10
Children and Family Programs	12
Rust Classes/Programs	15
Adult Programs	16
CALENDAR	20
Feature Photos	26
Stream Science Classes	28
Free Birding Trips	29
Natural History Field Studies	30
Nature Travel	32
ANS News	34
Volunteer Corner	37
Tributes	38
Registration Info	39

COVER Photo of Virginia Bluebells taken by Ana Ka'ahanui on the April 4 Budbreak and Spring Wildflower Walk at Teddy Roosevelt Island, led by Melanie Choukas-Bradley

From the Director

Restore it Forward

On Earth Day, I asked my husband to go kayaking on the Anacostia River. He wrinkled his handsome nose and asked, "Isn't it really polluted?" I explained that so much had happened to improve the Anacostia, he needed to see it in person.



So off we went for a peaceful paddle on a beautiful morning in this Year of the Anacostia. What did we see? Osprey, herons, cormorants and tons and tons of turtles. We glided past restored wetlands, a trash skimmer and a new bike trail. What didn't we see? Plastic bags.

In just a few short years, the impact of Bag Bill legislation that ANS fought for in DC and Montgomery County has made an enormous difference. The trees were free of plastic bags flapping in the breeze. It was a sight to behold! But just as the fight to restore the Anacostia has been going on for years, my river visit reminded me of what a balancing act restoration projects can be. For example, Prince George's County has not yet enacted its own Bag Bill despite many attempts. And plastic water bottle litter remains evident all along the river, a problem yet to be solved.

It's a tricky business, restoring natural places in highly urbanized areas because people are part of the equation. Think about our own Woodend Sanctuary. You'll enjoy reading news of the exciting plans for forest restoration (pg. 4). But we know that we won't be restoring our land back to the state it was in when Native Americans used it as a hunting and fishing ground. We'll be restoring Woodend so that all people in our region can learn from the habitats here. That means accessible trails and interpretive signs. It means mowing meadows every year to retain important bird and insect habitat and to stop the natural succession that would turn all of our meadows into forests over time.

We must undertake our stream and pond restoration projects facing the reality that thousands of gallons of stormwater run-off flow from our own buildings and neighborhood roofs, driveways and streets into our stream with every rain storm. Our historic property designation means that we must protect certain views of the mansion and retain a green lawn around our headquarters, just as renowned architect John Russell Pope designed them. Can you see how tricky this restoration business will be?

But it's also energizing. Already, the restoration is fostering important conversations about what methods we use and even what words we use to describe our work. I am thankful to our Restoration Advisory Panelists who have volunteered their expertise from up and down the east coast to help us with deer management. **(Current deer count at Woodend = 0!!)**

We are gathering experts to help guide us on which species to plant, which to remove and what methods to use. We're rethinking whether to even use the words alien, invasive and non-native when talking about stilt grass, bush honeysuckle and porcelain berry. Today's highly divisive immigration debate gives those words unwelcoming connotations that we do not wish to foment here at Audubon Naturalist Society. And which restoration projects will sustain our habitats in the face of climate change?

There is much to debate, and I look forward to hosting lively discourse over the years ahead about how we restore habitat in our increasingly urbanized region. You can count on Audubon Naturalist Society to take a leadership role in convening top-level restoration conversations, consulting regional and national expertise, highlighting restoration successes and learning from failures, and demonstrating how we can restore nature to sustain healthy communities for people and wildlife in our region.

Please help us meet the tremendous need for environmental advocacy and restoration work in our region. When you join or renew as a member, you support our mission work, anshome.org/membership/. When you sponsor a tree, you plant the future forest, anshome.org/plant-a-tree/. When you volunteer, you lend your own hands to the nature restoration and education work we deliver on every day, anshome.org/volunteer/. Together we'll restore it forward!



LETTERS

Wowed by Wildflowers

Hi Stephanie. Thank you for such a terrific wildflower class. I've been applying what I learned and have taken great joy on hunting for and finding ephemerals and other early spring flowers. Spent the past two Sundays up at Longwood and wow!

I looked for ephemerals in their woods two weeks ago and mostly saw bloodroot and their tremendous and mature crops of May apples pushing through the leaf cover and then saw more varieties in Pierce's Woods between the DuPont house and the Italian Gardens and finally near the end of my day spotted two small clusters of spring beauties at the base of "heliobore hill" behind the chime tower. So finally got to see beauties in bloom.

But yesterday was major WOW along the hillside by the Italian Garden/fountains. That entire hill is full of trout lily as far as the eye can see, with clusters of bloodroot. The higher hillside has huge swaths of Dutchman's breeches and squirrel corn and Pierce's Woods was full of blooming spring beauties. What a difference a week makes!

I went for the tulips and wasn't disappointed but WOW for the wildflowers. Thanks again. And as always, I look forward to my next ANS outing and the chance to learn from you.

Kimberly Dorsey Bronow, Ellicott City, MD

Intern a Happy Camper

With the emerging warm air and buggy sounds I can't help but think of what a lovely experience I had working as intern last year and just wanted to say thank you. Camp Audubon really does create such a wonderful and inclusive environment for the campers and I really appreciate that I was able to take part in producing the fun and explorative experiences for new campers that impacted me so deeply back when I was a camper. Say hi to Silent Coyote for me and thanks again.

Maia Pramuk, Silver Spring, MD

Planting the Future Forest at Woodend

by Alison Pearce, Director of Restoration

To restore an historic house, you return it as much as possible to how it looked when it was built. This requires research, labor, and money, but the objective is clear. Restoring a forest is just as intensive, but not quite as straightforward.

There are no dates for establishment for forests. They don't come with a 'circa' label. Forests change constantly, sometimes so slowly that humans don't notice, other times, in the flash of a lightning bolt. Restoration cannot aim for a static tableau of plants and animals. Stasis, in fact, is just not natural.

So, we think about forest restoration at Woodend as a project of 'restoring forward' – aiming for the future, but guided by the wisdom of the past. Our goal is to create a thriving forest that provides maximum wildlife habitat, as well as clean air and water. We will restore with careful attention paid to the resilience that is built into plant and animal communities that co-evolved over millennia. By removing exotic species, we will make room for members of regional 'reference ecosystems,' such as the Piedmont Acidic Oak-Hickory Forest, that serve as a veritable card catalog of species that have co-evolved in our region.

As we 'restore forward,' we aim to support complex relationships between plants, animals, birds and insects at Woodend, and nudge the forest back to a healthy trajectory. We will plant a diversity of native species like maples, oaks, hickories, spicebush, and viburnum. Oaks alone support 534 species of moths and butterflies. With a little help, the forest will determine its own path of recovery by sorting and shuffling species into the forest best adapted to the future.

Like all natural places in our region, people will be part of the Woodend ecosystem, as they have been for millennia. The challenge will be to achieve what environmental historian William Cronon called, "an ethical, sustainable, honorable human place in nature." We look forward to Woodend serving as a living laboratory and demonstration site for restoration in an urban age as we plant our future forest.

Please contact Alison.Pearce@anshome.org if you have questions about forest restoration at Woodend. You can contribute to our Plant a Tree campaign at anshome.org/plant-a-tree/

Large-flowered trillium and mayapple in a forest understory.



Photo by Alison Pearce

What's happening in the forest "neighborhood association" Did You Know?

- Vast networks of fungus in forest soils allow trees to share nutrients with each other.
- The wildflowers that grow on the forest floor have evolved to bloom and produce seed in early spring before canopy leaves shade them. Because of this adaptation, a large number of plant species are able to exist in a small area in Eastern Deciduous Forests.
- Ground layer plants, woody debris and leaf litter in a forest are important habitat features for reptiles and amphibians.
- Understory shrubs like blackhaw and arrowwood provide food, cover and nesting sites for birds like the wood thrush.
- Trees like oaks and hickories often grow slowly in the understory shade for decades until a light gap created when a mature tree falls gives them the opportunity to grow rapidly into canopy trees.

Stewardship Volunteers

Join the volunteer teams that help restore Woodend's forest understory and conduct habitat surveys. Weekday and weekend work sessions available. Sign up to volunteer at anshome.org/volunteer.



Volunteer Gregg Petersen wrestles a redbud tree into position for planting at Woodend.



Volunteers Noriko Aita and Cait Clements remove wire and burlap from a redbud's rootball before planting.

Photos by Ben Israel

Children and Nature



Photo by Ben Israel



Audubon Nature Preschool students add artistic details to flower pots in celebration of spring. Students spend their days with their hands in the soil, learning firsthand what plants need to grow. Once pots are decorated, students fill them with soil and seeds and care for them at home.

Photo by Amelia McLaughlin



As part of our year-round outdoor curricula and experiences, ANP students observed several Yellow Spotted Salamanders in our pond, their eventual eggs, and the arrival of the baby salamanders themselves!

Photo by Shannon Earle



ANP students have the woods to provide incredible variations each day to crawl, run, jump, balance, and engage in play that empowers, strengthens, and emboldens the whole child.



Photo by Gina Gheertner

At Eagle Academy in D.C., 2nd graders participate in the ANS Garbology Program paper-making activity. Students learned how they could save resources by recycling. In the process of making paper by hand out of old newspapers, students take a closer look at the fibers in poo poo paper, made out of elephant dung, and celery fibers used in handmade paper.



Photo by Gina Gheertner

At Bruce Monroe Elementary School in D.C., 2nd graders participate in the ANS Garbology Program park clean-up. The clean-up, at Wangari Gardens Park, allows the students to become environmental stewards in their communities and practice what they've learned about types of waste and waste separation (recyclable vs true trash).

Conservation



WHAT HAPPENED TO THE TREES? An Update from the Maryland Legislative Session

Policy and Advocacy News

By Eliza Cava, Director of Conservation

Maryland

More Trees, Please! Have you been writing postcards and emails to your legislators this Maryland General Assembly Session? Have you made last-minute phone calls asking for #MoreTreesPlease? Perhaps you joined us on the Butterfly Bus to ride to Annapolis and Rally Your Reps to improve the Forest Conservation Act? Thank you! But sadly, despite all your hard work, the bill to help reverse our forest loss did not pass, on the very last day of the legislative session. Overall this year's legislative session was not that great for the environment. But, we won't give up, on bills to conserve our forests, increase renewable energy, ban foam containers and synthetic turf, and more. We know it can take years to sway hearts and minds, but that a little bit of progress provides the base for much, much more. Thank you to all our ANS members, friends, and supporters for all you do. We will fight again next year! Our forests need us to Speak for the Trees, and we know you won't stop doing it!

Stormwater Management in Montgomery County at Risk:

Executive Leggett proposed very significant changes to what is arguably the County's biggest environmental program, stormwater management. The changes start with a 70% cut in spending over the next 5 years—\$243 million—as well as the cancellation and delay of dozens of projects. The plan would also place more decision-making in a private contractor's hands to choose, design, and build projects, and makes unrealistic assumptions about how much work is needed to heal our streams. The process to make these changes was not transparent, and we think there is too much uncertainty and risk that key projects will get indefinitely put on hold and the existing investment in public outreach, planning, and design will be wasted. As of this NQ press date, the Council agreed with our concerns about the new contracting mechanism and opposed that element of the plan; however, Executive Leggett has threatened a veto in response. This threat is very disappointing: we understand it could mean NO new dollars project construction for the next year. We'll update you in the next NQ.

Virginia

Redevelopment Planning in NOVA Moves Ahead: In April, Fairfax County passed the Embark Richmond Highway Plan. The plan will bring new mixed-use development, housing, parks, more walkable streets around nine future bus rapid transit stations between the Huntington Metro station and Fort Belvoir, and it will lead to better stormwater controls and stream restoration. ANS has been advocating for almost two years to ensure that the plan protects natural spaces, includes affordable housing and access to transit for existing residents, and improves aging stormwater infrastructure. We're excited at the opportunity to work with residents of this region as it grows and develops, and will work to ensure that the plan's goals translate into reality when future development projects are proposed.

More Money for Nature in Virginia: At the Environment Virginia Symposium this year, Governor Ralph Northam vowed to bring funding levels for Natural Resources up from .5% to 2%—a HUGE commitment and one ANS strongly supports!



Middle-school students from Fairfax County public schools present an action plan to introduce single use utensil dispensers to decrease plastic waste in school cafeterias. ANS NoVa Advocacy Manager Monica Billger organized the session with Fairfax County Public School Chairman Jane Strauss, and Virginia Delegates David Bulova, Karrie Delaney, and Mark Keam at the Nova School Environmental Action Showcase in April.

Conservation



D.C.

Anacostia Clean Rivers Tunnel Opens: In March, DC Water opened the first segment of its Clean River Project, a series of tunnels that serve as holding tanks to capture the District's combined sewer system overflows during storms. The new tunnel holds 100 million gallons of combined sewage and is already reducing sewer overflows to the Anacostia River by 80%!

Regional

Is Amazon coming to DC?: With three jurisdictions in the region named to the 20 finalists list in Amazon's search for the location of its new "HQ2," it seems like a good bet that Nova, DC, or MoCo could host the new corporate campus. If HQ2 comes to the region, it would bring as many as 50,000 new jobs and many more supporting businesses. There could be many environmental impacts alongside the economic growth the region could see. ANS will be looking into our drinking water supplies, access to transit, ensuring best-in-class stormwater management, and stream and forest protections. We'll also watch out for sprawl: the new homes, schools, and transit infrastructure that these new residents will need shouldn't come at the expense of our natural and agricultural areas.

Conservation Cafés

For the first time this September, join us off-site-and at a new time - at the Metro-accessible headquarters of Wild Earth Allies - for wine, coffee and dessert while enjoying inspiring presentations on nature conservation topics. Your \$10 registration fee supports our Conservation Program!

See detailed descriptions and register at www.anshome.org/conservation-cafe. Check the September Naturalist Quarterly for more fall dates!

Upcoming events:



- **June 7 (7-8:30 pm) at Woodend:** Nadja Popovich, *New York Times* Climate Team Graphic Editor: "Using Visuals to Tell the Story of Climate Change: Lessons from the Newsroom."
- **September 13 (5:30-7 pm):** Adam Henson, Program Director of Wild Earth Allies: "Marine Turtle Conservation in El Salvador." Location: 2 Wisconsin Circle, Suite 900, Chevy Chase, MD 20815 (Friendship Heights Metro)

Upcoming Advocacy Workshops

Learn more and register at:

www.anshome.org/training

Prices listed below are for members/nonmembers
Woodend Sanctuary, Chevy Chase, MD



Photo by Ben Israel

Watershed Advocacy & Stewardship 101
Thursday, September 20 (10 am-2:30 pm) \$20/\$30

Join Audubon Naturalist Society's experts for a fun and empowering workshop at Woodend: environmental advocacy & watershed stewardship 101! Includes a tour of Woodend's watershed restoration projects and uses role play and scenarios to build confidence and comfort in speaking up for nature. All are welcome. Led by Conservation Director Eliza Cava and Policy Consultant Bruce Gilmore.

The focus is on clean water but the skills can apply to any environmental issue—learn how you can raise your voice for local conservation.

Why protect nature? *Because what we love is at risk and because with great power comes great responsibility. As the population of the Washington, DC region has grown and expanded over the past decades, too often development decisions have been made with little regard for nature and wise stewardship of our natural resources. Because in addition to teaching us, nature protects us: trees and plants clean our air and filter our drinking water, the soil nourishes the food we eat, birds and bats eat the insects that plague us, and green spaces provide us and our neighbors with places to play and grow strong. In return, we have an obligation to protect nature in our own decision-making.*

-Eliza Cava, ANS Conservation Director

Interested in getting involved? Make sure you sign up for our Action Alert list at anshome.org/sign-up-for-action-alerts/ and check out our blog at conservationblog.anshome.org.





Photo by Ben Israel



The dragonfly being held by Michael Daharsh, is a Common Baskettail (*Epiheca cynosura*). This is a common spring dragonfly in Maryland.

Photo by Jon McRay



The perched dragonfly is a mature male Blue Corporal (*Ladona deplanata*). It is a common spring species in eastern Maryland and was one of 14 species spotted on the ANS field trip led by Richard Orr. Dragonflies are agile fliers who can cross oceans and propel themselves in six directions.



Photo by Ben Israel

Hikers participate in an ANS field trip, Spring Saunter Along the Canal at Widewater, led by Senior Naturalist Stephanie Mason in April.

Children & Family Programs

You and your kids can unplug and explore nature every day at Woodend and Rust nature sanctuaries, open dawn to dusk for free, 365 days a year. Our trained naturalists and excellent volunteers are eager to introduce children to nature through the Audubon Nature Preschool, Summer Camp, Nature Birthday Parties, and Family Programs, and at your children's school through School Programs and GreenKids. Consider having your PTA or PTO sponsor a nature activity for your school!

Benjamin Banneker Middle School Green Team in 2016



Congratulations to our **17 GreenKids schools** from Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) receiving Maryland Green School awards this year!

Two-thirds (4 out of 6) of MCPS's newly certified first-time schools this year are GreenKids schools that are just completing the two-year GreenKids partnership. More than half (7 out of 13) of the MCPS schools re-certifying for the first time are GreenKids schools. These schools completed the two-year GK partnership four years ago and are part of our GreenKids Network of Alumni Schools. The majority (6 out of 7, or 85%) of the MCPS schools re-certifying for the second time are GreenKids schools. These schools completed the two-year GK partnership eight years ago and are part of our GreenKids Network of Alumni Schools.

Maryland Green Schools are part of a national and international community of sustainable green schools. There are 618 active Maryland Green Schools, over 27% of all Maryland schools. Congratulations again!



Nature Backpacks

Visit our Naturalist Shop to check out a backpack that will have tools and activities you and your family can use to explore nature right here at Woodend Sanctuary. Themes include birds, insects, trees, nature art, and more. Backpacks are free for check-out in the shop but must be returned by 4:30 pm.



Tales and Trails

Ages 2-4 with a caregiver
Tuesdays, September 4-
November 6
(10-10:45 am)
Fall Session: \$80 per child

This 10-week class invites young children to discover the wonders of nature as we journey through the changing seasons. We'll tap into children's deep connection with nature by reading stories, making fun crafts, and singing songs. Make sure to dress for the weather as we will explore our Sanctuary trails each class to see what new surprises we can find.

Feel free to relax and enjoy our trails, picnic areas, and bookstore before or after the program. Register online at www.anshome.org/parents. Questions? Contact Gina at gina.ghertner@anshome.org

Do you want to read your *Naturalist Quarterly* online and reduce paper use and printing costs? If so, email membership@anshome.org and ask to be taken off our mailing list.

Free Beginner's Bird Walks

Saturdays, 8-9 am
at Woodend

Weekly walks through June. No walks July & August. Meet at the Audubon Naturalist Shop parking lot. Bring binoculars or use ours. Register at www.anshome.org/adults.



Summer Camp Spots Still Available!

Summer is almost here!! If you are still looking for camps to send your child to, then we can help. Below is a list of the camps that still have open spaces.

3rd/4th grade – Divers and Dabblers, Bat Camp, Planet Pals, Slither and Slime, Rock Creek Critters, Insectigations, Radical Reptiles, Artistas de Audubon, Mythical Creatures

5th/6th grade – Wood Wide Web, Jewelry Making, Ethnobotany, Audubon Rocks, Raptor Rapture, Bay Quest

7th/8th/9th grade – Green Team 2 - second session added!

9th/10th/11th – Conservation Corps (earn 30 SSL hours), Advanced Mountain Outpost

Please register online for all camps at www.anshome.org/summer-camps. Questions about registration? Call Pam at 301-652-9188 x16 or email pam.oves@anshome.org.

Confirmation packets will be emailed three weeks before your child's camp begins.

Weekend Walks in the Woods

Join us the first Saturday of every month for a **FREE** naturalist-led walk in the woods. Explore the Woodend grounds and learn about different topics each month, such as birds, trees, insects, and fungi. All ages welcome! Walks run from 9-10 am. Meet at the gazebo by the Audubon Naturalist Shop.

Birthday Parties



Unplug and Celebrate with a Nature Birthday Party at Woodend Sanctuary!

ANS offers nature-themed birthday parties for ages 4-10 at our Chevy Chase Nature Sanctuary.

Choose from our party themes: Animal Clues, All About Birds, Reptiles & Amphibians, Wiggly Worms, Insect Investigations, Ponding, Winter Detective, and Stayin' Alive When Winter Winds Blow

Parties are 1.5 hours and are held year-round on Saturdays and Sundays.

Parties are \$230 for ANS members and \$265 for nonmembers (which includes a family membership)

Register online at www.anshome.org/parents



Email carol.hayes@anshome.org
for more information or call
301-652-8188 x10.

SUMMER NATURE CAMP

Burgundy Center for Wildlife Studies

Capon Bridge, WV

SENIOR PROGRAM (Ages 11-15)

Session 1: Sunday, June 24-Saturday, July 7 **FULL**

Session 2: Tuesday, July 10-Tuesday, July 24

Session 3: Wednesday, August 1-Tuesday, August 14

JUNIOR PROGRAM (Ages 8-10)

One week ♦ August 19-25

56th Season



Hike, swim, and hunt for birds, butterflies and salamanders in the WV mountains.
Active days filled with games, arts and laughter.
American Camping Association Accredited.

ADULT WEEKEND (Ages 21+) ♦ \$235/\$415

Friday, July 27-Sunday, July 29

Why should only children get to go to camp? Enjoy a weekend in the cool green mountain woods of West Virginia!

Roam the ridges Taste wild edibles Learn bird songs

Leaf print your T-shirt Sketch by the stream

Knowledgeable staff, delicious food, beautiful surroundings

FOR MORE INFORMATION

michelem@burgundyfarm.org ♦ burgundycenter.org ♦ 703-842-0470



twitter.com/ANStweets

Professional Development for Educators



All workshops are held at the Teale Learning Center at Woodend Sanctuary in Chevy Chase, MD. Questions? Contact serenella.linares@anshome.org. Register online at www.anshome.org/teachers and click on Professional Development.

Project Learning Tree

Saturday, June 9 (9 am-3:30 pm)
Price: \$45 per teacher (ANS member), \$50 nonmember
Valid for ½ MSDE credit

Integrate environmental and sustainability education into teaching and become comfortable teaching outdoors—in urban, suburban, and rural environments.

Project WILD

Saturday, August 18 (9 am-3:30 pm)
Price: \$25 per teacher (ANS member), \$30 nonmember
Valid for ½ MSDE credit

A wildlife-focused conservation education program for K-12 educators and their students.

Mushroom Hunters

Saturday, September 8 (10 am-12:30 pm)
Price: \$25 per teacher (ANS member), \$30 nonmember

Join us in the forest and let's look for mushrooms! Learn the basics of mushroom identification; from odors to microscopy, we will explore it all.

Audubon Nature Preschool



The Audubon Nature Preschool features programs for children aged 5 years and younger. Children benefit from exploring the natural surroundings of the 40-acre sanctuary, which offer endless opportunities for investigation and discovery.

The Audubon Nature Preschool builds on children's inherent curiosity about the world by using hands-on, nature-based activities to foster social, physical, and academic skill development.

All Nature Preschool programs run September-May.

Drop-off Programs

Saplings

3–5 year olds
 Mondays through Thursdays
 AM program, 8:45-11:45 am
 PM program, 12:45-3:15 pm

Oaks

4-5 year olds
 Forest Kindergarten
 Mondays through Thursdays
 9 am-2 pm; Fridays, 9 am-12 pm

Parent and Child Programs

Acorns

4 year olds and younger
 All outdoor program
 Thursdays, 9:30-11 am
 Sibling discounts available

Sprouts

2-3 year olds
 Activities on the trails & in the preschool
 Fridays, 9:30-11:30 am



Contact Us

301-652-9188 x32
www.ANShome.org/ans-preschool

Apply Online

www.ANShome.org/ans-preschool

Rust / Northern Virginia



RUST NATURE SANCTUARY

KIDS GROW BETTER OUTSIDE

703-669-0000 | ANShome.org/Rust
802 Childrens Center Road, Leesburg, Virginia

Salad Science at Your School

A great project-based learning activity that meets VA Standards of Learning

With on-site support from an ANS Naturalist, students grow lettuce while learning about plant science and nutrition through a variety of sustainable hands-on lessons. Students log data, make predictions, record observations and track plant growth in a journal. Geared for grades PreK to 5, the project culminates with a harvest and salad party including healthy toppings and dressings.

A cross curricular, STEAM program that is supported by LCPS and FCPS Science and Nutrition Services!

For more information and pricing contact susanne.ortmann@anshome.org.

Naturalist in the Classroom

Can't come to Rust? Reduce your carbon footprint and we will come to you!

ANS programs support key components of project-based learning via real world connections and are designed to meet Virginia Standards of Learning. Programs highlight human, impacts, ecological systems, natural resources, investigations and natural process through hands-on, STEM focused classroom activities.

PreK-5th: Wonderful Worms, Birds of A Feather, Green Cleaners, Papermaking

3rd-5th: We All Live Downstream, Skull and Scat, Garbology, Model Your Watershed, Watts Up, Erosion in a Bottle

Hands-on STEAM activities tie directly to Virginia Standards of Learning. Programs support Project Based Learning. ANS partners with the LCPS Science Department. Grades Pre-K-5. Programs can be adapted. Contact susanne.ortmann@anshome.org for more info.

Environmental Science Field Trips at Rust Nature Sanctuary

More time at Rust and less time on the bus! The Rust Nature Sanctuary is conveniently located off Route 7 in Leesburg. Closer to school = lower transportation costs!

Students participate in hands-on STEM activities that directly tie to Virginia Standards of Learning. These include macroinvertebrate studies, water quality monitoring, watershed discussions, habitat exploration, adaptations, and life cycle experiences.

ANS can be your school's partner in Project Based Learning! ANS partners closely with the LCPS Science Department for rich programming. Use this experience to begin or support your PBL! The Audubon Naturalist Society (ANS) has been delivering quality field trip programming at the Rust Nature Sanctuary for over 10 years. Only qualified ANS Naturalists will run these programs.

Book your next field trip to Rust Nature Sanctuary and visit our 68 acres of habitats, including meadow, forest, pond and vernal pool. Contact susanne.ortmann@anshome.org for more info.

Fresh Air Kids at Rust Sanctuary!

Children are born naturalists. The Audubon Naturalist Society builds on children's inherent curiosity about the world by using hands-on, nature-based activities to foster social, physical, and academic skill development. Our Fresh Air Kids Class is for children ages 5 and younger, along with a parent or caregiver. Classes might involve crafts, songs, books and always a hike. Bring your lunch or snack. Mingle and meet other caregivers!

**Rust Sanctuary, Leesburg ,VA
Fridays (10-11:30 am)**

September 7-October 26

Cost: \$125 (siblings 21 months and older \$115, siblings under 21 months free)

Register at www.anshome.org/parents

Reservations not confirmed until payment received (checks only). Please mail checks made payable to ANS and send to ANS, Attn: Pam Oves, 8940 Jones Mill Rd, Chevy Chase, MD 20815.

Family Program - Amazing Gifts of Autumn

Rust Sanctuary, Leesburg, VA

Friday, November 16 (6-7:30 pm)

Cost: \$7 per person, includes hot cider & campfire

The 68 acres of the Rust Nature Sanctuary are in their full autumn glory. This nature hike, led by NOVA Parks Roving Naturalist David Garcia and Susanne Ortmann of the Audubon Naturalist Society, will aim to explore the abundant life found in this area and the fascinating changes that happen during the Fall season. Participants will enjoy animal encounters in their preparation for the upcoming season in our vernal pool, pond, and hardwood forest. Our adventure will end with hot cider. To register email Susanne Ortmann at susanne.ortmann@anshome.org.

Adult Nature Programs

These programs offer nature novices and experienced naturalists alike an array of opportunities to explore and learn about our area's natural history. All programs are led by experienced naturalists. Lectures are held at Woodend Sanctuary. Field trips are reached by private vehicle or carpool.

Wild places are closer than you think. ®

ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR ADULT PROGRAMS

- Visit www.ANShome.org/adults.
- All changes/cancellations/transfers must be handled through the EE office.
- Want to become an ANS member and get the member rate? Join at the same time you register for a program.
- Questions? Call Pam at 301-652-9188 x16 or email pam.oves@anshome.org.

Natural Heritage Series: Elliott Island

Saturday, June 9 (2:30-11 pm)

Leaders: Hal Wierenga and Lynn Davidson

Members \$36; nonmembers \$50

Extensive wetlands border the Chesapeake Bay on Maryland's Eastern Shore, and the marshes near Vienna, MD are diverse, well-studied, and accessible. Hal Wierenga, who has conducted the state's Black Rail study, leads this exploration of the natural history and management of the Elliott Island marsh ecosystem. We'll identify marsh plants and search for birds, butterflies, and other wildlife. We'll also discuss the effects of human activities on the marsh environment. Our foray continues into the night, when we'll listen for rails, frogs, owls, and Chuck-will's-widows. *Note: our group will meet in Cambridge then carpool out to our field site.*

Butterflies of Finzel Swamp

Saturday, June 9 (10 am-5 pm)

Rain Date: June 10

Leader: Rick Borchelt

**WAITLIST
OPEN**

Becoming a Latin Lover

Sunday, June 10 (8:30-11:30 am)

Leader: Kit Sheffield

Members \$26; nonmembers \$36

Many of us shy away from using scientific names when we start learning our plants, but those tongue-twisters can tell us about the discovery and uses of plants, as well as their physical characteristics. Hearing these names can be confusing at first, but by thinking about common words with the same word roots, they can go from confusing to enlightening. The C&O Canal at Violette's Lock offers up a diversity of habitats and plant species that we will observe and discuss on this gentle walk and discussion of botanical names.

A Year in Rock Creek Park

C: Nearing the Solstice Nature Walk at Boundary Bridge, Saturday June 16 (9:30 am-2:30 pm)

D: Fall Nature Hike in Rock Creek Park, Saturday November 3 (9:30 am-3:30 pm)

Members \$34; nonmembers \$42

In 2017, the award-winning author of *A Year in Rock Creek Park* completed 11 years of her popular walks for ANS titled "A Year at Boundary Bridge." This year, Melanie Choukas-Bradley will branch out into other areas of Rock Creek Park, the country's oldest urban national park, created in 1890. In June, we'll revisit the dense canopy of floodplain forest and upland woods of the Boundary Bridge area as we observe and enjoy trees, seasonal wildflowers and nesting birds. Autumn will find us hiking the Western Ridge and Valley Trails during peak autumn foliage and fruiting season, stopping to study and admire trees along the route. *The Boundary Bridge Walks will each cover a 2.5 mile loop on natural surface trails with moderate uphill and downhill. The Fall Hike will traverse 4-6 miles, with uphill and downhill on natural surface trails which may be rocky and uneven.*

Summer Shuffles Along the Canal

Wednesdays (9-11:30 am)

Section A: June 20 - Pennyfield Lock **FULL**

Section B: June 27 - Riley's Lock **FULL**

Section C: Thursday, July 19 - Carderock

Section D: July 25 - Swain's Lock

Leader: Stephanie Mason

Each walk members \$25; nonmembers \$35

Entire series \$92/\$128

Summer's here and it may be hot, so we'll keep our pace to a shuffle as we visit four areas along the Potomac River and the C&O Canal. We'll stop often to observe birds, wildflowers, butterflies, dragonflies, snakes, and whatever else we may find underfoot or overhead. Carpooling will be available from Woodend.

Western Montgomery County Butterfly Count

Saturday, June 23

Join us for the 29th annual Western Montgomery County Butterfly Count. Participants in this citizen science project will be sent into the field in teams to count butterfly species in a given area. No experience is necessary. This mid-summer count, modeled after the Christmas Bird Counts, is organized by ANS and sponsored by the North American Butterfly Association and Xerces Society. Email Stephanie Mason at stephanie.mason@anshome.org for a participant's information letter.

Citizen
Science

Summer Walks on the Wild Side

(8-11:30 am)

A. Sunday, June 24 - Blue Mash Nature Trail, MD

B. Wednesday, July 4 - Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens (DC)

C. Sunday, July 29 - Huntley Meadows Park (VA)

Leaders: Stephanie Mason & Cathy Stragar

Each Walk: Members \$28; nonmembers \$38

Entire Series: Members \$78; nonmembers \$108

Join two naturalists to explore the summer richness of parks in the DC-Metro area. As summer arrives and brings with it long, hot, muggy days and nights, wetlands and meadows soak up the sunlight and come alive with plant and wildlife activity. We'll explore these open habitats with walks of up to 2-3 miles at a slow summer pace. We'll search for birds, butterflies, dragonflies, reptiles, amphibians, and summer plant life on natural surface paths and boardwalk.

B is for Butterfly

Saturday, June 30 (9 am-12:30 pm)

Leader: Stephanie Mason

Members \$28; nonmembers \$38

On this slow stroll through several habitats at Black Hill Regional Park, near Boyds, MD, we'll offer an introduction to some of the butterflies of summer: their habitats, how to identify them, and where to look for their caterpillars and host plants. Our areas of exploration will be open and sunny.

Bees in the Backyard

Saturday, July 7 (9 am-12:30 pm)

Leader: Nate Erwin

Members \$26; nonmembers \$36

Discover the diversity of native bees and other pollinators right outside your doorstep and in your garden. Join our entomologist leader in his home garden in Alexandria, VA and in surrounding natural areas for a look at what's helping produce many of the seeds and fruits in your neighborhood.

Natural Heritage Series: West Virginia Highlands

Saturday, July 7 (9 am) to Monday, July 9 (5 pm)

Leader: Mark Garland

Members \$195; nonmembers \$250

Enjoy the cooler summer weather that's found in the mountains and explore the biological richness of the highlands of West Virginia. Our broad-based study will include discussions of local geology, plant communities, and all manner of wildlife. We start on Saturday morning at Seneca Rocks, exploring the floodplain forest and meadows along the North Fork of the South Branch of the Potomac River. In the afternoon we will visit Spruce Knob (West Virginia's highest peak), walking several trails at elevations above 4500 feet. On Sunday we will visit Canaan Valley and Blackwater Falls State Parks, along with parts of the Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge. We'll spend all day Monday on the Dolly Sods Plateau, where high elevation habitats include heath barren, spruce forest, and sphagnum bog. *Be prepared to walk 2 to 4 miles per day on natural surface trails which may be rocky and with some uphill and downhill. Dolly Sods, Monday's destination, is accessed via unpaved mountain roads. Overnight options include motels, rental cabins, and campgrounds in Canaan Valley or near Seneca Rocks.*

A Year at TR Island

B: Summer Kayaking Trip with Stephanie Mason, Wednesday, July 18 (10 am-1 pm)

C: Autumn Tree Walk, Wednesday, November 7 (10 am-2 pm)

D: Late Autumn Tree Walk, Wednesday, December 5 (10 am-2 pm)

Leader: Melanie Choukas-Bradley

Each walk: members \$28; nonmembers \$38

Join Melanie Choukas-Bradley, author of *A Year in Rock Creek Park* and *City of Trees*, for an exploration of Theodore Roosevelt Island, a 90-acre island in the Potomac that serves as a fitting memorial to our conservationist and naturalist 26th president—and Audubon Naturalist Society member! ANS Senior Naturalist Stephanie Mason will join us for a kayaking trip around the island, launching from Key Bridge Boathouse on the Georgetown waterfront. We'll paddle under the island's graceful silver maples and sycamores, get close to the summer wildflowers along the shore, and watch herons, egrets, wood ducks and—hopefully—the noisy kingfisher! Our fall tree walks will take us deep into the swamp and tidal inlet along the boardwalk where willows, bald-cypresses and cattails frame views of the city behind it. Our leader will share details of the island's fascinating history during these explorations and we'll witness the ebb and flow of the Potomac tides along with the changing seasons. *Fee for trip B does not include canoe or kayak rental.*





Six-legged Songsters of Summer

Thursday, July 19 (7:30-10 pm)

Leader: Cathy Stragar

Free, but registration is required.

FREE

Sticky summer has arrived, and the songs of insects such as cicadas, crickets, and katydids begin to swell into a noisy and riotous chorus. Join naturalist Cathy Stragar at our Woodend Sanctuary for a slide introduction to the most common of these songsters: who they are, why they sing, and how they make their amazing sounds. We'll take a short walk outside after darkness falls. She'll also describe how to get involved with the sixth annual Cricket Crawl citizen science activity in late August.

Summer Stroll at Suitland Bog

Saturday, July 21 (9 am-Noon)

Leader: Sujata Roy

Members \$26; nonmembers \$36

Suitland Bog is a tiny Coastal Plain "magnolia bog," the best preserved of over 30 bogs that once occurred in the Beltsville-Suitland (MD) area. Happily, it was protected from development in the 1970's after much of the surrounding area was mined for sand and gravel. Technically not a bog but a fen, this unique gem provides a home to the carnivorous pitcher-plant as well as other unusual plants in a 60-acre protected area inside the Beltway. Our trip to this special area, which we'll explore by boardwalk and woodland trail, is by special permission and is limited to 14 people.

Butterfly Specialties of the Eastern Shore

Saturday, July 21 (10 am-5 pm)

Rain date: July 22

Leader: Rick Borchelt

Members \$36; nonmembers \$50

Several butterflies of conservation concern in Maryland can be seen on the Eastern Shore in mid-summer: from Great Purple Hairstreak and Bronze Copper in freshwater marshes, to coastal skippers along tidal areas south of Blackwater NWR, to Palamedes Swallowtail along the Pocomoke River. We'll be caravanning to four or five locations during the day, depending on what is being reported, as many of these butterflies have narrow flight windows that vary from location to location. We'll stage from the Choptank River Bridge in Talbot County, just before Cambridge. Possible destinations from that point include New Bridge and Decoursey Roads in Dorchester Co., Hickory Point near Pocomoke City in Worcester Co., and the butterfly garden and restored meadow habitat at Blackwater NWR. *Carpooling is encouraged and will be facilitated.*

Fern Basics

Sunday, July 22 (9 am-12:30 pm)

Leader: Kit Sheffield

Members \$26; nonmembers \$36

What makes a plant a fern? What are some of the common ferns in our area? And importantly, how can you start to tell them apart? Join our leader, who is especially fond of ferns, on a ramble through the Fern Valley native plant garden in the US National Arboretum to learn more about these ancient and beautiful plants.

Sunset Stroll in the Hollow

Sunday, July 22 (6:30-8:30 pm)

Leader: Stephanie Mason

Members \$25; nonmembers \$35

Enjoy a slow evening stroll through the field, forest, and wetland habitats of the Hughes Hollow area, south of Poolesville, MD. As the sun sets, we'll look and listen for owls, frogs, foxes, beavers, bats, and insects, discussing the adaptations of these crepuscular and nocturnal animals.

Native Plant Gardening for Homeowners

Summer Walk: Thursday, July 26 (10 am-Noon)

Fall Walk: Thursday, October 25 (10 am-Noon)

Leader: Stephanie Mason

Each walk members \$25; nonmembers \$35

Explore the Blair Native Plant Garden, located just outside the Naturalist Shop, with our Senior Naturalist who helped develop the garden and its educational focus. Find out more about the values of gardening with native plant species, including: lower maintenance; more value to native birds, butterflies and other insects, including pollinators; reduced negative impact on local ecosystems, and more. We'll discuss native alternatives to popular non-native species such as English ivy, as well as resources for broadening one's knowledge and understanding of plants native to the mid-Atlantic.

Summer Butterfly Stroll

Saturday, July 28 (9 am-1 pm)

Leader: Stephanie Mason

Members \$28; nonmembers \$38

On this slow stroll through Little Bennett Park in upper Montgomery County, MD, our Senior Naturalist will offer an introduction to some of the butterflies of summer — their habitats, how to identify them, and where to look for their caterpillars and host plants. We'll hope to see common species such as Tiger Swallowtails and Pearl Crescent, while we keep an eye out for less common species such as Sleepy Orange and the Buckeye.

Introduction to Dragonflies and Damselflies

Thursday, August 2 (7:30-9:30 pm)
 Sunday, August 5 (3/4 day field trip)
 Leaders: Lisa Shannon and Richard Orr
 Members \$46; nonmembers \$64
 Lecture only \$24/\$32

Grab your binoculars and prepare to set your sights not on birds—although “mosquito hawk” is a common moniker—but on those six-legged, aerial acrobats of wetland habitats: the dragonflies and damselflies. At our evening lecture, Lisa Shannon will discuss ID, biology, and behavior of the more common species of Odonates in our area. Dragonfly expert Richard Orr will join her on our field trip to the Patuxent Research Refuge (North Tract) near Bowie, MD, where everyone will have a chance to test their identification skills.

Morning Paddle on the Potomac

Saturday, August 4 (9-11:30 am)
 Leader: Sujata Roy
 Members \$24; nonmembers \$34 (does not include canoe/kayak rental fee)

Spend a summer morning with a wildflower teacher paddling along the shoreline of the Potomac River. We'll be looking for seasonal blooms, such as cardinal flowers, monkey flowers, Virginia dayflowers, vervains, mallows, shrubby St. John's-wort, swamp milkweed, pickerelweed, and many other colorful riparian species. We will also hope to glimpse a bald eagle or osprey flying overhead, in addition to herons, turtles, dragonflies, butterflies and other wildlife. Rent a canoe or kayak at Fletcher's boathouse, or bring your own. Both single and double kayaks and canoes are available. Bring binoculars and your wildflower field guide in a zip-locked bag. *Registration fee does not include boat rental.*

How Does Her Garden Grow?

Wednesday, August 15 (10-11:30 am)
 Leader: Marney Bruce
 Members \$24; nonmembers \$34

Here's your chance to visit the home garden of an ANS member who has worked to reduce lawn coverage, increase food and shelter for wildlife, and incorporate native plants whenever possible. Marney will share her successes and failures on a stroll through her yard, which includes sun-loving plants in the front, shade-loving species in the back, and a water feature. Our destination garden is located in the Bethesda, MD vicinity. *Participants will meet at our Woodend Sanctuary at 9:45 to carpool over to Marney's home, where parking is limited.*

Cricket Count! Cricket Crawl Listening Walk

Thursday, August 16 (8-10 pm)
 Leader: Cathy Stragar
 Free, no registration necessary.



This free, outdoor training walk for the August 24 Cricket Crawl (6th Annual) will convene outside our Naturalist Shop. Our leader will help participants learn to recognize the songs of target cricket and katydid species while exploring the grounds of our Woodend Sanctuary.

Intro to the Natural History and ID of Shorebirds: Part 2

Thursday, August 23 (7:30-9:30 pm)
 Saturday, August 25 (full-day field trip)
 Leaders: Cyndie Loeper and John Bjerke
 Members \$50; nonmembers \$70
 Lecture only \$24/\$34

Shorebirds are among the most spectacular migrants of the avian world. Many species breed as far north as the Arctic tundra and winter as far south as Patagonia. In this advanced session of our annual beginner's class in late-May or mid-July, our leaders will review the natural histories of shorebirds and offer ID pointers in the classroom part of the workshop. On the field trip to Delaware's Bombay Hook, we'll encounter the more difficult plumages of this time of year, including juveniles. Our late August date will give us chances for rarities, such as Baird's Sandpiper, and “grasspipers”, such as American Golden Plover and Buff-breasted Sandpiper. *Although the IDs can be more challenging in late summer, beginners who wish to experience the great diversity of species in southbound migration are welcome to sign up.*

Cricket Count! Citizen Science Activity

Friday, August 24 (after dark)



Be a part of the sixth annual DC/Baltimore Cricket Crawl. Participants will learn the songs of eight species of crickets and katydids, then spend a few minutes to listen for their songs and send in their observations. For details on this citizen science project, which ANS is cosponsoring, check out this link: <http://www.discoverlife.org/cricket/DC/>. Rain date for the Cricket Count is August 25.

Do you want to read your *Naturalist Quarterly* online and reduce paper use and printing costs? If so, email membership@anshome.org and ask to be taken off our mailing list.



Date	Time	Activity	Fee	Page	Date	Time	Activity	Fee	Page
Jun 2	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		35	Aug 23	7:30 pm	Intro to Shorebirds	Y	19
"	9 am	Weekend Walk in the Woods		13	Aug 24	after dark	Crickets Count! Citizen Science Activity		19
Jun 5	7 pm	Healthy Stream Biology	Y	28	Aug 29	7:30 am	Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay bird walk		29
Jun 7	7 pm	Conservation Cafe	Y	9	Sep 1	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		35
Jun 9	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		35	"	9 am	Weekend Walk in the Woods		13
"	9 am	Weekend Walk in the Woods		13	Sep 2	8 am	Sycamore Landing bird walk		29
"	9:30 am	Field Workshop - Ten Mile Creek	Y	28	Sep 4	10 am	Tales and Trails begins	Y	12
"	"	Project Learning Tree	Y	14	Sep 6	7 pm	Butterfly Boot Camp	Y	22
"	10 am	Butterflies of Finzel Swamp	Y	16	Sep 7	10 am	Fresh Air Kids at Rust begins	Y	15
"	2:30 pm	Natural Heritage Series: Elliott Island	Y	16	Sep 8	7:30 am	Patuxent River Park bird walk		29
Jun 10	7 am	Fort C.F. Smith Park bird walk		29	"	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		35
"	8:30 am	Becoming a Latin Lover	Y	16	"	10 am	Mushroom Hunters	Y	14
Jun 16	7:30 am	Oaks Landfill bird walk		29	Sep 9	8 am	Monocacy National Battlefield hike	Y	22
"	8 am	Beginning Bird Walk at Woodend		35	"	9:30 am	Forest Bathing Walk	Y	22
"	9:30 am	Nearing the Solstice Nature Walk	Y	16	Sep 11	7:30 pm	Insects After Dark	Y	22
Jun 20	9 am	Summer Shuffle Along the Canal	Y	16	Sep 12	10 am	Midweek Meander Along the Canal	Y	22
Jun 23	all day	Western MoCo Butterfly Count		17	Sep 13	5:30 pm	Conservation Cafe at Wild Earth Allies	Y	9
"	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		35	Sep 15	7:30 am	Fall Birding Series - Governor's Bridge	Y	23
Jun 24	8 am	Summer Walk on the Wild Side	Y	17	"	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		35
"	9 am	MoCo Heritage Days weekend		36	"	8:30 am	Bugs 101	Y	23
Jun 27	7:30 am	Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay bird walk		29	"	9:30 am	Know Your Invasive Plants	Y	28
"	9 am	Summer Shuffle Along the Canal	Y	16	"	10 am	Snickers Gap Hawkwatch bird walk		29
Jun 30	9 am	B is for Butterfly	Y	17	Sep 16	8 am	Late Summer Wings and Wildflowers	Y	23
Jul 4	8 am	Summer Walk on the Wild Side	Y	17	"	3/4 day	Fall Flight at Cromwell Valley Park	Y	23
Jul 7	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		35	Sep 20	10 am	Watershed Advocacy & Stewardship 101	Y	9
"	9 am	Bees in the Backyard	Y	17	"	7 pm	Healthy Stream Biology	Y	28
"	"	West Virginia Highlands	Y	17	"	"	Bats About		23

Date	Time	Activity	Fee	Page
Jul 7	9 am	Weekend Walk in the Woods		13
Jul 9	6 pm	Wetland Ecosystems begins	Y	30
"	7 pm	Non-Native Invasive Plants begins	Y	30
Jul 10	6:30 pm	Insect Life begins	Y	30
Jul 11	7 pm	Summer Bird Life begins	Y	30
Jul 12	6 pm	Ferns and Lycophytes begins	Y	31
Jul 15	7:30 am	Pennyfield in the Summer bird walk		29
Jul 18	10 am	Summer Kayaking Trip	Y	17
Jul 19	9 am	Summer Shuffle Along the Canal	Y	16
"	7:30 pm	Six-legged Songsters of Summer		18
Jul 21	9 am	Summer Stroll at Suitland Bog	Y	18
"	10 am	Butterfly Specialties of the Eastern Shore	Y	18
Jul 22	9 am	Fern Basics	Y	18
"	6:30 pm	Sunset Stroll in the Hollow	Y	18
Jul 25	7:30 am	Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay bird walk		29
"	9 am	Summer Shuffle Along the Canal	Y	16
Jul 26	10 am	Native Plant Gardening for Homeowners	Y	18
Jul 28	9 am	Summer Butterfly Stroll	Y	18
Jul 29	8 am	Summer Walk on the Wild Side	Y	17
Aug 2	7:30 pm	Intro to Dragonflies and Damselflies	Y	19
Aug 4	9 am	Morning Paddle on the Potomac	Y	19
"	"	Weekend Walk in the Woods		13
Aug 11	8:30 am	Delaware Coastal Bay Areas bird walk		29
Aug 15	10 am	How Does Her Garden Grow?	Y	19
"	7 pm	Introduction to Fungi begins	Y	31
Aug 16	8 pm	Crickets Crawl Listening Walk		19
Aug 18	9 am	Project WILD	Y	14

Date	Time	Activity	Fee	Page
Sep 21	10 am	Geology at Great Falls, MD	Y	24
Sep 22	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		35
"	9 am	Fall Along the Water	Y	24
"	9:30 am	Field Workshop - Ten Mile Creek	Y	28
Sep 26	7:30 am	Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay bird walk		29
"	10 am	Midweek Meander Along the Canal	Y	22
Sep 27	7 pm	Window into the World of Fungi		24
"	"	How to Read Your Stream	Y	28
Sep 28	10 am	Fall Flora Fridays	Y	24
Sep 29	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		35
"	9 am	Fall Along the Appalachian Trail	Y	24
Sep 30	7:30 am	Fall Birding Series - Huntley Meadows	Y	23

Keep our campers safe!
Please observe the One-Way signs at Woodend this summer.



- Special Event
- Children and Family Program
- Adult Program
- Natural History Field Studies
- Rust (VA) Activities and Events

Y = Fee-based program

Butterfly Boot Camp: Confusing Fall Skippers

Thursday, September 6 (7-9 pm)

Saturday, September 8 (10 am-2 pm)

Rain date Sunday, September 9

Leader: Rick Borchelt

Members \$42; nonmembers \$58

Lecture only members \$24; nonmembers: \$34

Late summer and early autumn see a spike in migratory southern skipper

species making their way northward to the mid-Atlantic to take advantage of fall blooms such as goldenrods, asters, bonesets and more. These southern migrants overlap with and supplement the largest broods of the season for many of the resident multi-brooded skippers.

We'll spend Thursday night at Woodend using slides and handouts to sort through the confusing array of the butterfly world's equivalent of "little brown jobs." On our half-day outing to the District's US National Arboretum and Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, we'll test our ID skills in the field looking especially for uncommon species such as Long-tailed, Ocola, Brazilian, and Whirlabout Skippers.



Natural Heritage Hike: Monocacy National Battlefield

Sunday, September 9 (8 am-Noon)

Leader: David Farner

Members: \$26; nonmembers \$36

Known as "The Battle That Saved Washington" this 1864 battle (a Union defeat) helped to delay a Confederate attack on Washington, D.C. long enough to allow reinforcements to man the defenses of the Federal capital. Today the battlefield is bisected by Interstate 270, but the 1600-acre park preserves the areas where combat occurred as well as Monocacy River floodplain, grasslands and forests. Our hike of around 3 miles will study the course of the battle while also searching for migrating songbirds, butterflies, and other seasonal wildlife. Our explorations on natural surface trails will include some varied terrain and possibly wet ground.

Forest Bathing Walk

Sunday, September 9 (9:30 am-12:30 pm)

Leader Melanie Choukas-Bradley

Members \$28; nonmembers \$38

We are happy to once again offer a *Shinrin-yoku* or forest bathing walk on a farm in Comus, MD near Sugarloaf Mountain. Numerous studies have demonstrated the health benefits of spending quiet time immersed in nature—things that ANS members already know well. We will walk less than a mile at a slow pace, and spend quiet time sitting and watching late summer wildflowers and nectaring butterflies. Our leader says this walk is "more about being than IDing." She has spent time on walks with *Shinrin-yoku* guides throughout Japan. Melanie has portable forest bathing stools to loan to participants for the outing. Her new book, *The Joy of Forest Bathing*, will be published in early September.

Insects After Dark

Tuesday, September 11 (7:30-9:30 pm)

Leader: Cliff Fairweather

Members \$24; nonmembers \$34

We've enlisted a passionate bug-hugger to help us investigate the variety of insects going about their nightly business in the habitats of our Woodend Sanctuary. Using black lights, which are high in the ultraviolet range, we'll hope to attract moths, beetles, katydids and other nocturnal insects. We'll use catch-and-release for closer inspections of these creatures, while enjoying the splendid, late-summer chorus of katydids and tree crickets.

Midweek Meanders Along the Canal

Wednesdays (10 am-12:30 pm)

A: September 12 - Riley's Lock

B: September 26 - Carderock

C: October 10 - Violettes Lock

D: October 24 - Pennyfield Lock

E: November 14 -Widewater

F: November 28 - Swain's Lock

Leader: Stephanie Mason

Each walk members \$25; nonmembers \$35

Entire series \$130/\$180

Enjoy one or all of these leisurely autumn walks along portions of the C&O Canal that enjoy less traffic than the towpath stretches close to Washington. The focus of our walks, each beginning from a different location, will be general natural history of the varied habitats along the Potomac River and the C&O Canal. We'll proceed at a "naturalist's shuffle" pace, stopping often to observe birds, fall wildflowers and foliage, butterflies, snakes, turtles — and whatever else we might find. Participants interested in carpooling will meet at Woodend.

Fall Birding Series

- A. Saturday, September 15: Governor's Bridge Natural Area, MD (Mike Bowen) (7:30-10 am)
 B. Sunday, September 30: Huntley Meadows, VA (Jim Nelson) (7:30-10:30 am)
 C. Sunday, October 7: Paint Branch Trail, MD (Mark England) (7:30-10:30 am)
 D. Saturday, October 13: Dyke Marsh, VA (Mike Bowen) (8-11 am)
 E. Saturday, October 20: Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, DC (John Bjerke) (8-11 am)
 F. Sunday, October 28: Hughes Hollow, MD (Lisa Shannon & Rob Hilton) (8-11 am)
 G. Saturday, November 3: U.S. National Arboretum, DC (Paul Pisano) (8-11 am)
 H. Sunday, November 11: Pennyfield Lock, MD (John Bjerke) (8-11 am)
 Each walk members \$26; nonmembers \$36
 Entire series \$177/\$245

Our fall birding series visits eight protected areas, all under an hour's drive from D.C., where a variety of habitats — including field, forest, and wetland — provide good opportunities for the observation and identification of birds in autumn. On the earliest walks, we'll hope to catch some southbound migrants. As the season progresses, we'll watch for sparrows, raptors, waterfowl, and other birds. These teaching walks are aimed at beginning to mid-level birders, but all are welcome. Most of our explorations will be on natural surface trails that may be uneven or muddy, but some destinations include mild uphill and downhill.

Bugs 101

Saturday, September 15 (8:30 am-Noon)
 Leader: Cathy Stragar
 Members \$26; nonmembers \$36

All true bugs are insects, but not all insects are truly bugs. Confused? And where do those strange names like 'butterfly' and 'dragonfly' come from when these insects are not flies at all? Join an entomologist for a hands-on look at the most diverse group of animals on the planet. Our field "classroom" will be the McKee-Beshers WMA near Poolesville, MD, where we'll learn to distinguish insects from related arthropods



Blue wasp by Dirck Harris

as we look for the identifying characteristics of major insect groups. *Expect sunny, open areas with tall vegetation on our outing.*

Fall Flight at Cromwell Valley Park

Sunday, September 16 (3/4 day field trip)
 Leaders: Hal Wierenga and Lynn Davidson
 Members \$32; nonmembers \$44



Bring along a folding chair and cross your fingers for a good day of raptor flight at this hawk watch in Baltimore County, just outside the northern side of the Baltimore Beltway. Our trip is scheduled close to peak for the southward passage of Broadwing Hawks in massive numbers. Of course, we can't control weather conditions or migratory pulses, but our leaders will do their best to give you a productive day of birding. That will include exploring some of Cromwell Valley Park's trails for fall migrant songbirds, and perhaps even heading out to other close-by

locations in the afternoon if the hawk flight is slow.

Late Summer Wings and Wildflowers

Sunday, September 16 (8 am-Noon)
 Leader: Stephanie Mason
 Members \$28; nonmembers \$38

In upper Montgomery County, the Blue Mash Nature Area offers open meadows, pond, and forested edges as an ideal spot for broad-based nature exploration. We'll look for butterflies and other insects, migrant and resident birds, and other wildlife against the backdrop of late summer, sun-loving wildflowers and fruiting trees. *We'll walk several miles on natural surface trails under open and sunny conditions.*

Bats About

Thursday, September 20 (7-8:30 pm)
 Leader: Kerry Wixted
 Free, but registration is required.

FREE

Come and explore the natural history of and the conservation concerns for the bats in our region with this indoor/outdoor program at our Woodend Sanctuary in Chevy Chase, MD. As the sun is setting, we'll head out outdoors on a short search for bats in the evening sky. Back inside, we'll learn about the habits and habitats of these important and fascinating mammals. Our presenter is Wildlife Education and Outreach Specialist for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

Geology at Great Falls, MD

Friday, September 21 (10 am-1:30 pm)

Leader: Joe Marx

Members \$26; nonmembers \$36

People in our region find Great Falls both fascinating and perplexing. Arguably our most dramatic landscape feature, its origin and development remain obscure to many. We will take a relatively easy hike from the Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center to the falls overlook and adjacent areas along the towpath for a round trip of 1.5-2 miles. During the walk, we will discuss how the bedrock of the Great Falls area formed in tectonic collisions hundreds of millions of years ago and how the waxing and waning of the continental glacier led to the much more recent creation of the falls. *Our geology walks typically move at a faster pace than our usual naturalist's shuffle.*

Fall Along the Water

A. Saturday, September 22 (9 am-3 pm):

Jug Bay Natural Area/Patuxent River Park, MD

B. Sunday, October 14 (9 am-3 pm):

Occoquan Bay NWR, VA

C. Saturday, November 10 (9 am-3 pm):

White's Ferry, MD

Leader: Stephanie Mason

Each walk members \$34; nonmembers \$48

Entire series \$92/\$130

Join our Senior Naturalist for this series of field trips tracking the unfolding of fall along local waterways rich in natural history. We'll enjoy the changing fall colors as we search for late-season blooms and fruits; migrant birds, butterflies, and dragonflies; and other still-active wildlife. On our first walk, we head to the shores of the Patuxent River in PG County to visit Jug Bay Natural Area. Next we explore the open, grassland habitats along Belmont and Occoquan Bays near Woodbridge. Finally, we'll head up the Potomac to White's Ferry and stroll along the C&O Canal, enjoying the peak of fall color. We'll cover between 2-4 miles on each outing, with some uphill/downhill walking on trip A.

Window into the World of Fungi

Thursday, September 27 (7-9:30 pm)

Leader: Tovi Lehmann

Free, but registration required.

FREE

Rooted, yet not plants, heterotrophs, but not animals (growing in fairy rings, yet not even fairies), fungi are members of another kingdom. Mostly hidden under the surface, fungi have evolved their own solutions to life's persistent problems. Gaining the recognition for their pivotal role in shaping the living world, they now reshape fundamental perceptions of biologists. In this lecture at our Woodend Sanctuary, we will explore the natural history and ecology of our local fungal neighbors, rather than focus on the edibility of particular species of mushrooms.

Fall Flora Fridays

Fridays (10 am-12:30 pm)

A: September 28: Scott's Run Nature Preserve, VA

B: October 19: Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, DC

C: November 9: Widewater/C&O Canal, MD

Leader: Stephanie Mason

Each walk members \$25; nonmembers \$35

Entire series \$68/\$95

On our Fall Flora Fridays, we'll enjoy the area's rich diversity of plant life during this season of lingering blooms, ripening fruits, and changing color. Although aimed at beginning to mid-level plant enthusiasts, all are welcome. On each field trip, we may walk up to 2 miles at a stop-and-go pace on natural surface trails. Trip A will include some uphill/downhill walking.

Fall Along the Appalachian Trail

Saturday, September 29 (9 am-4:30 pm)

Leader: Stephanie Mason

Members \$36; nonmember \$50

One of the best ways to experience the seasonal richness of our region is to take a hike along the Appalachian Trail in Shenandoah National Park, VA. On this moderately-strenuous hike in the northern section of the Park, we'll begin high in the saddle between North and South Marshall Mountains, before ascending South Marshall and then descending to the Browntown Trail. We'll retrace our steps back to the starting point for a total of around 4 miles, with fairly significant uphill and downhill hiking along the way. We'll keep our eyes open and ears alert for all manner of wildlife and plant sightings. *Participants should be in adequate physical condition for both uphill/downhill hiking on trails that will be rocky, uneven, and possibly muddy.*

Late Season Wildflowers

Saturday, October 6 (8:30 am-Noon)

Leader: Sujata Roy

Members \$24; nonmembers \$34

Join our outing to the wetlands of Huntley Meadows Park, Alexandria, VA, to search for the last blooms of the season in the rich marsh habitats there. Plants will be our primary focus, but we'll also keep our eyes and ears open for wildlife, including still-active turtles, frogs, butterflies, and other wildlife. Flat walking conditions predominate, but forest trails may be muddy.

Support ANS – Monthly!

It's easy! Go to ANShome.org/Donate, or contact Loree Trilling at 301-652-9188 x35 or loree.trilling@anshome.org.



Intro to Tree Identification

Friday, October 12 (10 am-3 pm)

Leader: Stephanie Mason

Members \$34; nonmembers \$48

Fall is a great time to learn to identify our local trees and shrubs. With brilliant leaves highlighting the twigs, new buds already formed, and many fruits hanging on, there are lots of distinguishing features that help sort out the various species. This program at our Woodend Sanctuary will begin indoors with a look at some techniques of tree identification, coupled with practice using a simple key. We'll then move outdoors to use our new skills to identify many of the trees growing on the grounds. Both beginners and those who want to brush up on their ID skills are welcome.

Natural Heritage Weekend: Cape May

Monday, October 15 (8 am) to

Tuesday, October 16 (4 pm)

Leader: Mark Garland

Members \$120; nonmembers \$168

Cape May is an astounding place to witness autumn migration. Under the right weather conditions, a single day can bring several thousand southbound hawks, tens of thousands of migrating songbirds, and over 100,000 monarch butterflies onto the southern tip of New Jersey. Waterfowl, herons, egrets, dragonflies, and even bats travel through Cape May in October. We'll visit many of the diverse natural areas around Cape May and celebrate the rich spectacle of migration. Overnight options include motels, B&Bs, and campgrounds in and around Cape May, which are booked by participants themselves.

Geology of Cabin John Hike

Saturday, October 20 (1-5 pm)

Leader: Joe Marx

Members \$26; nonmembers \$36

Montgomery County's Cabin John Creek flows about 11 miles from Rockville south to the Potomac. A fine example of a Fall Zone stream, it drops about 350 feet from its headwaters in the Piedmont upland to its mouth within the Potomac Gorge. Beginning our trip at C&O Canal Lock 8, off the Clara Barton Parkway, we'll hike about a mile down the Towpath to the mouth of the creek, then a mile or so up the Cabin John Trail. This stretch of the creek provides excellent access to bedrock exposures and stream features. Trails will be unpaved but relatively-well maintained, with a fairly gentle grade except for a notably steep hill near the Potomac. Here, you must be able to hike up and down a rocky slope of about 100 feet. Our out-and-back hike will total about 4 miles. *Note: The pace set and distance covered on this hike will be faster and farther than our usual "naturalist's shuffle" field trips.*

Fall Fungus Walk

Sunday, October 21 (2-4:30 pm)

Leader: Tovi Lehmann

Members \$24; nonmembers \$34

Fall is a great time to learn to ID some of the most common families of fungi and their role in the ecosystem. At a local natural area, we'll explore the natural history of our fungal neighbors. Our leader will choose a field trip site, most likely based on his scouting closer to the date of the program. *Note: this outing will focus on natural history of fungi species, not their edibility.*

Botanical Gems in Montgomery County: Black Hill Regional Park

Sunday, October 21 (9 am-12:30 pm)

Leader: Carole Bergmann

Members \$26; nonmembers \$36

Designated one of Montgomery Parks Best Natural Areas, Black Hill Regional Park near Boyds offers plant enthusiasts a number of special habitats to explore. The county's forest ecologist will lead us on a loop hike (between 2-3 miles) to visit some of these, such as: lakeside; early succession meadows; high-quality, chestnut oak-dominated forests; mixed oak forests; and tulip tree-dominated forests. We'll ID plants along the way, focusing on their seasonal aspects and ecological niches.

Look for details on other fall programs at ANSHome.org/adults

Native Plant Gardening for Homeowners - Fall

Thursday, October 25 (10 am-Noon)

Leader: Stephanie Mason

The Natural and Cultural History of the Ag Reserve

Friday, October 26 (9:30 am-12:30 pm)

Leaders: Melanie Choukas-Bradley and Stephanie Mason

Fall Tree ID for Birders

Sunday, October 28 (2:30-4 pm)

Leader: Stephanie Mason

FREE

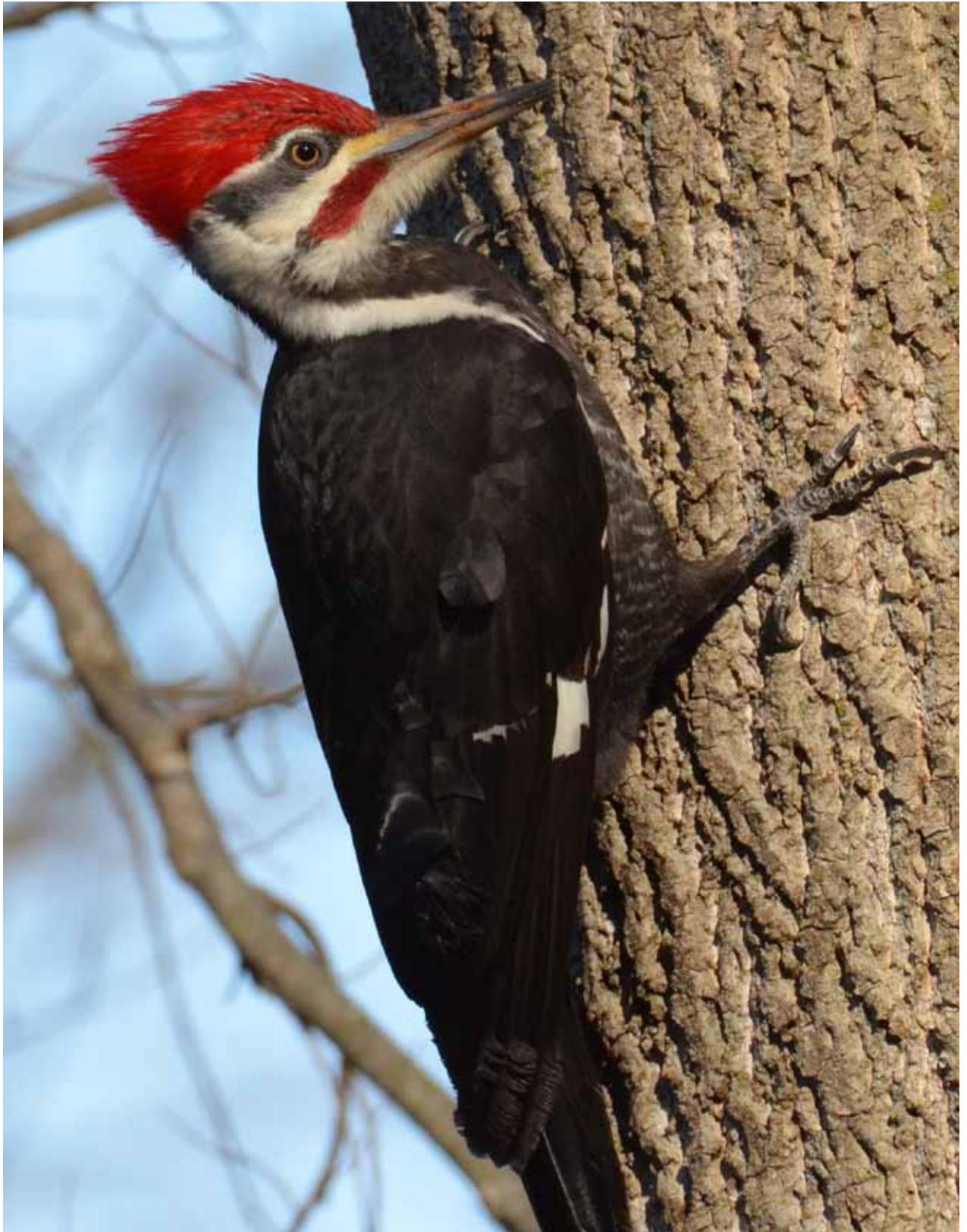
Fall on Wheels Along the Canal

Friday, November 2 (9 am-3 pm)

Leader: Stephanie Mason



Feature Photos



ANS member David Cohen took this picture of a male Pileated Woodpecker at Woodend Sanctuary in March. Both males and females have a red crest, but the male has a red stripe on his cheek and his crest extends all the way down to the bill.



Photo by Ana Ka'alanui

The Common Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*), found on the ANS Theodore Roosevelt Island field trip led by Naturalist Melanie Choukas-Bradley, blooms in early spring and gets its common name from the spicy aroma of its crushed leaves or lightly scratched twigs. The young leaves and twigs can be made into a delightful tea and songbirds feast on the juicy red fruits before and during their fall migration.



Photo by Cathy Wiss

This is a Smooth Serviceberry bud (*Amelanchier laevis*). Serviceberries, also called shadbush, are native shrubs and members of the rose family that can grow to 25 feet or more. Early settlers called them "serviceberry" because the shrubs bloom in March when the ground has thawed enough to hold burial services for those who departed during winter. Come see the serviceberries in June at ANS's Blair Garden.

Stream Science

For 25 years, ANS has been teaching the natural history of aquatic ecology and training volunteer stream monitors who track the health of our region's streams. Learn from the experts: study stream science in our introductory classes, and you just might be inspired to become a stream monitor yourself! Our advanced classes are perfect for those interested in deepening their knowledge about biological stream monitoring and are taught by our Maryland Biological Stream Survey-certified instructor Cathy Wiss.

Registration & Fee Information

Registration required: register online at www.anshome.org/adultss. The classes are open to anyone 10 years and older. Except for Macro ID Review & Quiz, prices for all classes are \$15 Members/\$25 Nonmembers; waivers are available for existing ANS monitors and middle and high school students earning SSL credit—email cathy.wiss@anshome.org for details.

Introduction to Stream Science*



Classroom Session

Healthy Stream Biology

Section C: Tuesday, June 5 (7-9:30 pm)

Section D: Thursday, September 20 (7-9:30 pm)

Woodend Sanctuary, Chevy Chase, MD

(Both Sections C & D cover the same material)

In the classroom, we will explore how “benthic macroinvertebrates” – organisms that live in the bottom of streams – help us assess a stream’s health. We will learn how to identify these organisms to the taxonomic level of order through a PowerPoint presentation and by examining preserved specimens through a hands-on session with microscopes.

Field Workshop

Section B: Saturday, June 9 (9:30 am-12 pm)

Section C: Saturday, September 22 (9:30 am-12 pm)

Ten Mile Creek, Boyds, MD

In the field workshop, we will visit a healthy stream to practice monitoring techniques and to collect and identify the benthic macroinvertebrates we find.



Photo by Ben Israel

How to Read Your Stream*

Thursday, September 27 (7-9:30 pm)

Woodend Sanctuary, Chevy Chase, MD



Learn about the influence of land uses on streams, stream character and dynamics, bank erosion, bar formation, substrate composition, different velocity-depth regimes, and the importance of riffles and riparian vegetation. We will practice assessing stream habitat by using photographs of streams and the forms that monitors fill out in the field. This class is recommended for anyone who plans to participate in the ANS water quality monitoring program and is a good refresher on habitat assessment for experienced monitors.



Photo by David Cottingham

Know Your Invasive Plants

Woodend Sanctuary (Teale)

Chevy Chase, MD

Saturday, September 15 (9:30 am-12 pm)



Invasive plants that kill or bring down mature trees can seriously alter stream health and ecosystem function. Volunteer Master Naturalist Diyan Rahaman will help you identify non-native invasive plants at Woodend and in nearby Rock Creek Park. An ANS/Rock Creek Conservancy Partnership.

*Interested in ANS' stream monitoring program? The classes in the introductory series are recommended for all volunteer monitors and those interested in joining the program. To learn more about classes or becoming a volunteer, contact Cathy Wiss at cathy.wiss@anshome.org.

Free Birding Trips June-September

These free, volunteer-led walks offer birders a chance to explore new areas with other birding enthusiasts. Visit ANShome.org/Adults for complete directions, additional trips, and more information. Turn to page 16 for the list of fee-based, instructional classes and field trips for beginning to mid-level birders.

JUNE

Sunday, June 10

Fort C.F. Smith Park, Arlington, VA

One-third day. Nesting songbirds in woods, edge, and meadow habitat. There may be muddy conditions. **Meet time/place:** 7 am in parking lot. **Make reservation** (10-person limit) with leader Karen Fairweather, twofairs@msn.com or 703-841-1299.

Saturday, June 16

Oaks Landfill, Laytonsville

One-third day. Joint ANS/MBC trip. Explore this meadow area in the now-closed landfill. Mostly open terrain with some ponds. Possibility of Horned Larks, Savannah Sparrows, Meadowlarks, raptors. We have special permission to enter this "closed to the public" landfill so reservations are essential. **Meet time/place:** 7:30 am on landfill entrance drive at 6001 Rt. 108, Laytonsville, MD. **Make reservation** (18-person limit) with leader Mark England at 240-375-4500 (cell) or markengland@canamcontractors.com.

Wednesday, June 27

Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay NWR, VA

Half day. Songbirds, waterfowl, eagles, and other raptors. **Meet time/place:** 7:30 am inside the refuge at central parking lot. **Make reservation** (6-adult limit) with leader Jim Waggener, 703-567-3555.

JULY

Sunday, July 15

Pennyfield in the Summer

Half day. In addition to resident songbirds, we'll look for common dragonflies and damselflies and listen for frogs calling and other sounds of summer. **Meet time/place:** 7:30 am at Pennyfield Lock on the C&O Canal. **Register online** (10-person limit) at ANShome.org/adults. Lisa Shannon and Rob Hilton will lead. For more info, contact Lisa at lpshannon@gmail.com.

Wednesday, July 25

Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay NWR, VA

Half day. Songbirds, waterfowl, eagles, and other raptors. **Meet time/place:** 7:30 am inside the refuge at central parking lot. **Register online** (6-adult limit) at ANShome.org/adults. For more info, contact leader Jim Waggener at 703-567-3555.

Online Registration

Starting with July walks, register for Free Birding Trips online at www.anshome.org/adults.

NEW



twitter.com/ANStweets

AUGUST

Saturday, August 11

Delaware Bay Coastal Areas

Full day at Bombay Hook. Joint ANS/MBC trip. Shorebirds, marshbirds, and some songbirds. Bring sunscreen, hat, bug repellent, lunch, snacks and lots of water. **Meet time/place:** 8:30 am at Bombay Hook Visitor Center parking lot. **Register online** (15-person limit) at ANShome.org/adults. John Bjerke will lead; Cyndie Loeper will co-lead. For more info, contact John at johnbjerke1@mac.com.

Wednesday, August 29

Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay NWR, VA

See July 25 listing for details.

SEPTEMBER

Sunday, September 2

Sycamore Landing and Hughes Hollow, MD

Half day. Early migrant songbirds; some raptors, waterfowl, and migrating butterflies. **Meet time/place:** 8 am at the Sycamore Landing parking lot by the C&O Canal. Easy walking trail. **Register online** (no limit) at ANShome.org/adults. For more info, contact leader Tony Futcher, 301-422-3927 or tonyfutcher1@verizon.net.

Saturday, September 8

Patuxent River Park, Jug Bay Natural Area, Prince George's Co., MD

Half day. Joint ANS/MBC trip. Three-hour pontoon boat trip on the Patuxent followed by trail walk. Search for Sora, also migrant and resident songbirds and waterbirds. **Meet time/place:** 7:30 am at park entrance gate. Bring fee of \$5 per person (MD residents) or \$7 (VA, DC residents) for park program; boat trip can be cool and a bit damp. Leaders: Greg Kearns and John Bjerke. **Register online** (20-person limit) at ANShome.org/adults. For more info, contact John at johnbjerke1@mac.com.

Saturday, September 15

Snickers Gap Hawkwatch (between Bluemont & Berryville, VA)

Two-thirds day. Joint ANS/MBC trip. Peak time for Broad-winged Hawks. **Meet time/place:** 10 am at commuter parking lot at VA 7 and VA 601. **Register online** at ANShome.org/adults. Joan Boudreau and Bob Abrams will lead. Bring tripods, scopes, chairs, and pack lunch. Call leaders for directions at icepeep@aol.com or 703-282-9495 (cell).

Wednesday, September 26

Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay NWR, VA

See July 25 listing for details.

Natural History Field Studies



This popular program, cosponsored by the Audubon Naturalist Society and the Graduate School USA, provides a comprehensive and stimulating view of our region's natural history and conservation issues. Taught at the college freshman level, these courses are open to anyone 18 years of age or older, professionals and amateurs alike. A Certificate of Accomplishment is awarded for completion of a required curriculum of 39 Continuing Education Credits (CEUs).

Classes are offered at several locations around the DC metro area, including the Audubon Naturalist Society's Woodend Sanctuary in Chevy Chase, MD, and nature centers and other locations in Virginia, as well as the Capital Gallery in downtown DC, which is Metro accessible. For a complete list of the classes in the NHFS program, plus instructor bios, visit ANShome.org/adults.

Wetland Ecosystems

NATH8211E, 3 CEUs

Class night and time: Mondays, 6-8 pm

Class meetings: July 9-September 17

Field trip dates: July 14 (Jug Bay), 21 (Battle Creek Swamp), and 28 (Suitland Bog), subject to weather conditions and equipment availability

Location: Woodend Sanctuary, MD

Tuition: \$365

Instructor: Terry McTigue

The National Capital area harbors a rich variety of wetlands, ranging from bogs to tidal marshes. Become familiar with the landscape and ecological processes that form wetlands and how to identify the plants and animals commonly found in wetlands. Gain an understanding of wetland conservation, including wetland restoration, and policy. *If minimum student enrollment is not reached by one week before the scheduled start date, the course may be canceled.*

Non-Native Invasive Plants of the Mid-Atlantic

NATH2319E, 1.5 CEUs

Class night and time: Mondays, 7-9:15 pm

Class meetings: July 9-30

Field trip dates: July 14 and 28

Location: Woodend Sanctuary, MD

Tuition: \$269

Instructor: Kerry Wixted

Learn about organisms that are non-native to the mid-Atlantic region and whose introduction causes or is likely to cause environmental or economic harm, or harm to human health. Focus is on identification and control of invasive terrestrial and aquatic plant species. Students will receive an overview of the issue, acquire understanding of the multiple impacts of non-native invasives, and gain detailed information about major species of concern in our region and how to manage (remove/control) them. Two field trips to area park properties and natural habitat areas are planned so that students become adept at species identification and can compare various management options. Required: a 10x hand lens or higher quality glass loupe. *If minimum student enrollment is not reached by one week before the scheduled start date, the course may be canceled.*

Insect Life

NATH7130E, 3 CEUs

Class night and time: Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 pm

Class meetings: July 10-September 11

Field trip dates: July 15, July 28 and August 11

Location: Woodend Sanctuary, MD

Tuition: \$365

Instructor: Cathy Stragar

Learn to identify insects and discover their roles in the balance of nature. Study their life histories, the ecologies of important insect forms, the necessity of insects in biotic communities and principal insect families of the Central Atlantic region. *If minimum student enrollment is not reached by one week before the scheduled start date, the course may be canceled.*

Summer Bird Life

NATH7116E, 1.5 CEUs

Class night and time: Wednesdays, 7-9 pm

Class meetings: July 11-August 1

Field trip dates: July 14 and July 29

Location: Woodend Sanctuary

Tuition: \$269

Instructor: Gemma Radko

Bird activity is especially busy in the summer, with courting, nesting, and fledging happening in the space of a few short months. Learn about local summer birds and their breeding strategies, nests and nestlings, habitat requirements, and much more. We will discuss the recent state-wide atlas, and what we can learn from atlasing activities. Two field trips to local parks will help participants learn to identify local nesters, their nests, and young birds. *If minimum student enrollment is not reached by one week before the scheduled start date, the course may be canceled.*



Photo by Alison Pearce

Summer Courses July-August

Dryad's saddle by Serenella Linares



Introduction to Fungi

NATH7203E, 1.5 CEUs

Class night and time: Wednesdays, 7-9 pm

Class meetings: August 15-September 5

Field trip dates: August 18 and September 1

Location: Woodend Sanctuary, MD

Tuition: \$269

Instructor: Tovi Lehmann

Fungi are incredibly diverse and fascinating organisms that have been shaping the terrestrial biota in many ways we are just beginning to discover and understand. Fungi evolved rather unique strategies of exploitation and cooperation with other organisms. We will cover basic biology of fungi (e.g., anatomy & physiology, life-cycles, ecology, and evolution) while focusing on our local fungi to gain a new perspective and appreciation of their place in the forest around us. *If minimum student enrollment is not reached by one week before the scheduled start date, the course may be canceled.*

Ferns and Lycophytes

NATH7148E, 1.5 CEUs

Class night and time: Thursdays, 6-8 pm

Class meetings: July 12-August 2

Field trip dates: July 21 and July 28

Location: Capital Gallery, DC (L'Enfant Metro)

Tuition: \$269

Instructor: Carl Taylor

Ferns are ferntastic! This class will reveal the unique structure and fascinating life histories of ferns and lycophytes. Examine their taxonomy, including how names are chosen, and describe, classify, and identify them. Investigate the intriguing evolutionary history of ferns and lycophytes. Learn how easy it is to grow ferns and how to garden with them. Two field trips will focus on the identification and ecology of our native ferns and lycophytes. Students must have a good quality 10X-14X hand lens or they will miss the marvelous detail of these wonderful plants. *If minimum student enrollment is not reached by one week before the scheduled start date, the course may be canceled.*

Find details on Fall NHFS classes, starting in September, at ANShome.org/adults

Bird Life

Mondays, Woodend Sanctuary, MD

Instructor: Mark England

Wildlife Ecology

Tuesdays, Capital Gallery, DC (L'Enfant Plaza)

Instructor: Sally Valdes

The Living Soil

Wednesdays, Woodend Sanctuary, MD

Instructor: Joel Cohen

Birds of Prey

Thursdays, Oakton High School, Vienna, VA

Instructor: Liam McGranaghan

Registration Info for Natural History Field Studies Classes

Experience gained on field trips is essential to these courses, so students should not register for classes when field trips overlap.

Registration may be completed:

- in person at the Grad School Registrar's Office, 8 am-7 pm, Monday-Friday
- online at graduateschool.edu
- by phone at 202-314-3300 or toll-free at 888-744-GRAD
- by FAX: 866-329-4723
- by mail: Registrar's office, Suite 120, 600 Maryland Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20024

BOOKSHOP OPEN!

Our Sanctuary Shop will be open 30 minutes prior to the first night of classes at Woodend. Students can buy books and other items at a 20% discount! We usually carry textbooks for classes, but call 301-652-3606 to confirm.



This ANS service offers weekly reports of sightings of rare or notable birds. Email voice@ANShome.org or visit ANShome.org/voice.

AUDUBON NATURALIST SOCIETY

Nature Travel

Discover a new world!

ANS's Nature Travel program offers our members and friends opportunities to search for wildlife and explore the wonders of nature at places outside the mid-Atlantic region. Group size is typically limited to 15 people, and many trips fill early. Call Carol Hayes at the ANS travel desk at 301-652-9188 x10 or email carol.hayes@anshome.org for complete itineraries and registration information or visit ANSHome.org/travel.

Alaska: Puffins, Grizzlies, and the Beauty of the North

August 8-19, 2018 **ONE SPOT LEFT!**

Leaders: Mark Garland and Jordan Rutter

Contact Carol at carol.hayes@ANSHome.org or 301-652-9188 x10 to receive information.

Yellowstone: Autumn Magic in America's First Park

September 13-22, 2018

Leaders: Rob Gibbs & Mark England

Yellowstone, a natural wonderland set aside as the world's first National Park, is an enormously popular park, with huge crowds of visitors often gathering in summer around Old Faithful, Yellowstone Falls, and other popular attractions. The crowds vanish when September arrives, however, and autumn brings cooler weather and a flurry of activity to the park's wildlife community. Many agree that this is the best time to visit Yellowstone. Join us for this journey to Yellowstone during the magical month of September to see a great variety of Yellowstone's wildlife while learning about many aspects of this region's unique natural history.

Australia - Natural History "Down Under"

November 4-17, 2018

Optional Extension to November 23

Leaders: Mark Garland & Steve Potter

Explore the rugged landscapes and rich wildlife communities of Australia on this new ANS Travel Program. Our tour is focused on the southern part of Australia, where spring will be in full splendor during the month of November. Our loop from Melbourne to Adelaide visits a wide variety of habitats, including forests, scrublands, plains, rivers, marshes, and mountains. Birds are a major focus, and there are many spectacular species for us to find, but we'll also search for other wildlife, learn some of the more widespread plants, discuss geology, and learn about the long history of the Australian aboriginal people. Our optional extension visits Queensland, in the tropical northeast corner of Australia, and features a full day visit to the Great Barrier Reef.

Panama: Travels to the Canopy Tower and Canopy Lodge

Terry Lawson Dunn & Carlos Bethancourt

January, 2019



Photo by Mark S. Garland

Panama's geographic location as the link between South and Central America makes it a land of exceptional biological diversity. Our base of study is the remarkable Canopy Tower, a small ecotourism lodge built into the frame of a radar facility formerly run by the US Military during the Cold War era. We will take day trips to various nearby habitats, rich in a variety of tropical

ecosystems. We'll then visit the Canopy Lodge, a beautiful sister facility located in the low mountains just three hours to the west. Detailed itinerary and costs to follow. Contact Carol at carol.hayes@ANSHome.org if you'd like to receive information on the trip when it's available. Our local guide will be the exceptionally-talented Senior Bird Guide for the Canopy Tower, Carlos Bethancourt, the global winner of the EcoTripMatch.com Best Nature Tour Guide award in 2018. He has led previous ANS trips to Panama and always gets rave reviews from our travelers.

Costa Rica: A Trove of Tropical Birds—and Much More

February 22-March 4, 2019

Optional extension to March 7

Leaders: Stephanie Mason & Carlos "Charlie" Gomez

This will be our Senior Naturalist's 21st year as an ANS leader to this small, tropical wonderland with amazing plant and animal diversity. Costa Rica's colorful birds, from the tiny Scintillant Hummingbird to the large, comical Jabiru, will turn any nature enthusiast into a bird lover. Our basic trip will visit moist Caribbean lowlands, Caribbean slope, the Cano Negro wetlands in the north, and lush cloud forest habitat. Our optional extension moves to higher elevations, where tropical oaks grow tall and the dazzling Resplendent Quetzal nests. Our fee will include lodging: all but two meals; several boat trips; in-country transportation; and expert leadership. Email carol.hayes@anshome.org to receive a detailed itinerary and registration information as soon as they become available.

New Mexico: A Natural History Exploration

May, 2019

New Mexico is known as the land of enchantment, but it's also a land of great diversity— diverse wildlife, diverse ecosystems influenced by a huge range of elevations and past geological events, diverse cultures where Native American and Spanish influences dominate, and a history that is unlike any other. Visiting New Mexico in May means catching the birds while they are migrating and the desert blooms when they are opening! Detailed Itinerary and costs to follow. Contact Carol at carol.hayes@ANShome.org if you'd like to receive information on the trip when it's available.

Galapagos Islands: Darwin's Wild Classroom

June 21-30, 2019

Leaders **Stephanie Mason, Michael O'Brien, Louise Zemaitis & local guides**

A trip to Ecuador's Galapagos Islands is one of the world's greatest natural history excursions. ANS is happy to be collaborating once again with industry leader Victor Emmanuel Nature Tours for our 4th collaborative trip to this fascinating archipelago. The 2019 cruise itinerary will visit eight islands on board the M/V Evolution, providing a premium travel experience. An optional pre-trip visit to the Tandapaya region of mainland Ecuador and two optional post-trip extensions (one to Peru's Machu Picchu and one to Napo Wildlife Center in Ecuador's Amazonian lowlands) are also being planned. Contact carol.hayes@anshome.org or 301-652-9188, x10 for information on how to register for the trip. Prices per person will vary, depending on the size and location of individual cabins on the boat.

Tanzania: East African Wildlands and Wildlife

Late 2019 or early 2020

Leaders: **Stephanie Mason and local guides**

Our Senior Naturalist can't stop talking about the sights and sounds she experienced on a wildlife safari to Tanzania late last year. From giraffes to bee-eaters, from leopards to hornbills, an amazing assortment of animals were encountered and photographed in their natural environments. Planning has begun for an ANS trip to this stable East African nation with visits to the renowned Ngorongoro Crater and vast Serengeti grasslands. Contact Carol at carol.hayes@ANShome.org if you'd like to receive information on the trip when it's available.

For ANS Travels...or Your Own!

Consider travel insurance for any trip with our insurance partner Travelex. By using our code **20-6029** you will also be supporting ANS. Contact Carol at 301-652-9188 x10 for more information, or go to the Travelex website: travelexinsurance.com.

Crowder-Messersmith Conservation Fund News

The Crowder-Messersmith Conservation Fund is ANS's international outreach program, providing micro-grants for local conservation and education projects in developing countries. Grantees must:

- Protect endangered species & habitats
- Be ecologically sustainable
- Provide public education
- Have lasting significance to local residents

The 2018 grants were awarded to an NGO in Manipur, **India** to protect the critically endangered Brown-Antlered Deer through community involvement; to the Shangani Sanctuary in **Zimbabwe** to secure a feeding station for endangered vulture species and a resident population of Brown Hyenas; for delivery of an environmental education program to protect the critically endangered Utila Spiny-tailed Iguana on Utila Island, **Honduras**; and to increase outreach and education to stop illegal lion killings in communities near Katavi National Park in **Tanzania**.

For more information on the Crowder-Messersmith Conservation Fund please see our web page at <https://ANShome.org/crowder-messersmith-fund>.

Crowder-Messersmith Conservation Fund Annual Talk: "Report from Vieques: Hurricane Maria's Impact on the Birds of Puerto Rico"

Thursday, October 11 (7-9 pm)
Woodend Sanctuary

Daphne Gemmill, also known as the "Bird Lady of Vieques", has studied the birds of Vieques Island,

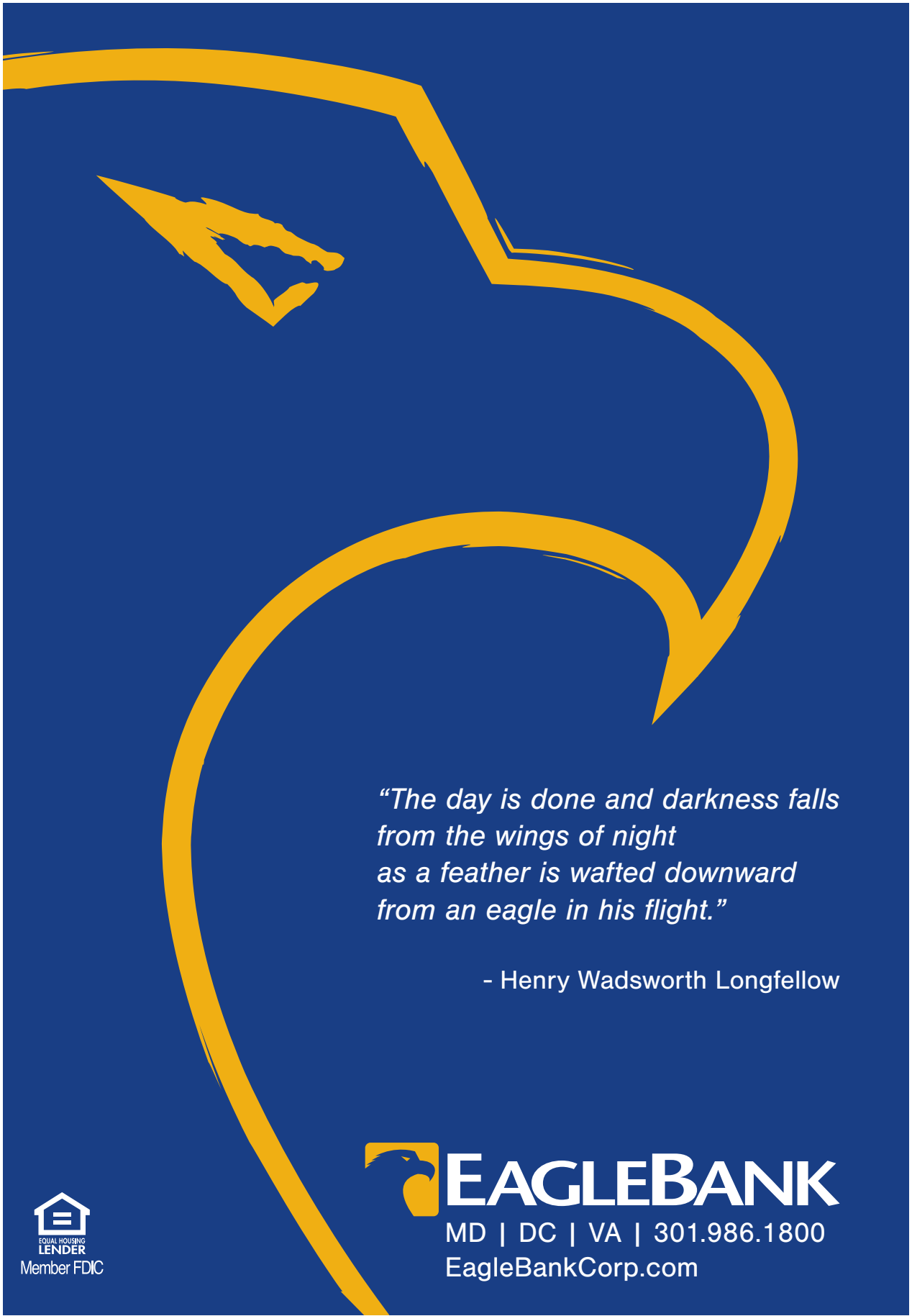


Photo by Daphne Gemmill

Puerto Rico for over 35 years. Returning to the island after Hurricane Maria, Daphne will report on her observations of the impacts of Maria in 2017 as well as future challenges associated with climate change on both Vieques and other Caribbean Islands' birdlife.

Light refreshments served. Please RSVP to Carol Hayes at carol.hayes@anshome.org or 301-652-9188 x10 by October 5. Contributions to the Crowder-Messersmith Fund will be gratefully accepted.





*“The day is done and darkness falls
from the wings of night
as a feather is wafted downward
from an eagle in his flight.”*

- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow



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Free Beginner's Bird Walks Saturdays, 8-9 am at Woodend

Have you ever wanted to learn about the birds you see regularly around Washington? Did you know that about 250 birds either pass through or make this area their home?

Join us every Saturday morning at Woodend for our Beginner Bird Walks. An excellent place to come for those just starting out or for those who want to learn more about our area's birds. From 8-9 am a volunteer leader will guide you through the important how tos: from how to use binoculars to how to identify our most prevalent resident birds.

Meet at the Audubon Naturalist Shop parking lot. Bring binoculars or use ours. Register at www.anshome.org/adults.

These gentle walks happen every Saturday morning from the beginning of March through the end of June, then from the first Saturday in September to the first Saturday in December. Walks take place the first Saturday of January and February before resuming weekly in March.

Be sure to visit the Audubon Naturalist Shop after the bird walk. The shop opens at 9 am on Saturdays and if you let the cashier know you attended that morning's bird walk they will provide you with a coupon for a discount in the shop.

Save the Date

ANS Annual Meeting is Thursday, October 18.
 Woodend Sanctuary, Chevy Chase, MD

WOODEND NATURE SANCTUARY

Celebrate Life

"Thank you for your help while organizing my father's memorial. It went really well, and I couldn't have imagined a better spot to hold it."

J. F., Washington, D.C.



Celebrate the life of your loved one at historic Woodend Nature Sanctuary.

When you need a place to remember and share fond memories of your loved one with family and friends, consider historic Woodend Sanctuary & Mansion.

Nestled on a 40-acre nature sanctuary, Woodend is conveniently located in Chevy Chase, MD, and offers a private setting with planning support, on-site parking, and excellent catering options, so you can focus on what matters most to you in moments like this.

Mansion photo - Mary Kate McKenna Photography
 Mantle photo - Stephen Gosling Photography

WEEKLY PLANT CLINIC



Master Gardeners have a "help desk" outside Woodend's Naturalist

Shop on Saturdays, 10 am-Noon, April through September. Bring your plant/insect specimens and learn more about gardening!



At ANS we're celebrating the Earth every month with Facebook (www.facebook.com/AudubonNaturalistSociety) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/ANStweets) photos and an Instagram (@ANSnature) photo contest! Tag, tweet, or gram a photo of yourself outdoors using #ANSoutside. See us online for more details.



ANS staff attended a tour of green infrastructure in the city of Lancaster, PA at the annual Choose Clean Water Coalition conference in May. This rain garden captures stormwater runoff from the street and allows it to infiltrate into the ground and be taken up by native plants so that it doesn't send pollution into the Conestoga River. Look for these types of projects around the DC region too!

BECOME A Tree CHAMPION

Plant a Tree at Woodend Nature Sanctuary to:

- Honor someone close to you
- Recognize an accomplishment
- Memorialize a departed loved one
- Celebrate a birthday, anniversary or other significant life event

Your gift will help restore Woodend's ecosystem so that it can further our education and conservation mission.

Visit www.anshome.org/plant-a-tree to plant your tree today!

We are delighted to participate again this year in Heritage Montgomery's **Heritage Days Weekend**. Each year, on the last weekend in June, Heritage Montgomery hosts its signature Heritage Days celebration.



This county-wide event with free admission offers visitors an opportunity to sample numerous sites representing the history, culture and natural beauty of Montgomery County.

ANS will be hosting House Tours of Woodend Manor and tours of the Blair Native Plant Garden from 9 am-1pm on **Sunday, June 24**. All are welcome.

For more information about this event, please contact Allie Henn at Allie.Henn@anshome.org or 301-652-9188 x12.



APPLICATIONS
NOW BEING
ACCEPTED!

Master Naturalist Training at Woodend Sanctuary!

This fall, ANS will partner with the University of Maryland Extension to offer our eighth Maryland Master Naturalist training course. ANS will bring top-notch instructors to the program, which will provide:

- 52 hours of training in the ecology, flora, and fauna of MD
- 8 hours of hands-on field work
- Focus on the natural history of Maryland's Piedmont region

Master Naturalist training graduates will commit 40 hours annually to naturalist-related volunteer service with ANS assisting with education programs, sanctuary stewardship, or community outreach.

DATES: Mondays & Wednesdays, September 17–November 12, 2018, 10 am – 3 pm

Application-based admission limited to 20 participants.

If you'd like to learn more about the natural world and become a trained naturalist volunteer, apply online at ANSHome.org/master-naturalist. Questions? Email mitch.greene@anshome.org.

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Volunteer Corner

An occasional piece that highlights the many and varied opportunities and volunteers of ANS

by Mitch Greene, Volunteer Coordinator

Noriko Aita moved to the US from Japan in 1999 to do post-doctoral studies with the National Institutes of Health. She is a Maryland Master Naturalist, ANS class of 2016. She has given us 177 hours and 30 minutes of her time since then. Those are just the facts, though.

Noriko discovered Woodend Sanctuary while jogging along the Rock Creek Park trail in 2002, and she often

found herself "standing in the middle of the meadow," enjoying the sights, sounds and smells of it all. Then, as happens to us all, life got busy; the next thing she knew her younger child was entering elementary school, and she remembered "something important" that had been left behind. She applied to become a Master Naturalist after reading this publication at her local library.

Since taking that course, she has volunteered with several of our departments, and she spends much of her time working on the new restoration projects at Woodend—unsurprisingly—with the Meadow Stewards. She worked closely with our beloved Pearl Marks, whom she says she only ever saw look sad one time, "when I wrongly cut a young Partridge Pea last summer." She continues to "dig into new areas that [she is] not good at... [like] birds, butterflies and bugs," which she finds difficult to learn because, "they keep moving!" She also helps in the Environmental Education and Development Departments.

When asked to reflect on a memorable time here, she declared "there are so many!" A recent memory came from a time when she was pulling *Alliaria petiolate* (garlic mustard) and she "found beautiful mushrooms growing on the ground. It was a bunch of wine-cap *Stropharia*, new and old. Last year [she] didn't see them at that site." She didn't want to jump to conclusions, but she thinks that "we have mushrooms because the deer are gone!"

Thank you, Noriko; I'm glad that ANS is "something important" to you; you are very important to us.

Our volunteers are a big reason why ANS is able to do the work that we do. As the new Volunteer Coordinator, I look forward to meeting each and every one of you to thank you, personally, for what you do. Whether you've given 177.5 hours or 1.75 hours, we truly could not function as we do without you. That may sound cliché, but there is wisdom in oft-repeated words.

Until we meet personally, thank you.

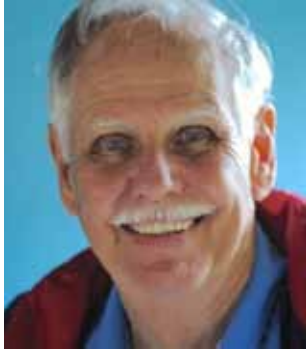


Photo by Ben Israel

LEGACY GIFTS TO ANS

We are extremely grateful to the following members who left a legacy gift to ANS in their wills. These gifts will make a huge difference to our educational and conservation work and to the restoration of Woodend Nature Sanctuary.

We deeply appreciate these thoughtful legacies through which these dedicated ANS members will be remembered for years to come.



Anthony White: Tony White, who died in the spring of 2016, was a past President of Audubon Naturalist Society and a phenomenal birder. His tremendous leadership skills helped guide ANS through a difficult period and preserve the organization as an independent Audubon.

Tony's longstanding commitment to ANS during

his life lives on through the generous legacy gift he left to ANS as a bequest in his will. In keeping with his personal passions, the gift will support the work of our environmental education programs as well as our conservation advocacy efforts.

We are deeply grateful for this wonderful gift which will do so much to preserve our region's natural areas and help nurture the next generation of nature stewards and bird lovers! Tony's impact on protecting wildlife and the natural world continues still today and well into the future.



Rebecca Gettens Hayes: Rebecca Gettens Hayes was an active member of ANS for well over 30 years before she passed away last year. An avid birder, Rebecca had a deep passion for all of natural history.

Born in Boston, Rebecca studied Biology as an undergraduate at GWU

and then received her Master's in Plant Pathology from the University of Wisconsin where she wrote her dissertation on the cycle of decaying trees. Her career studying plant biology at the Smithsonian's Radiation Biology Lab spanned 20 years after which she retired to care for her aging mother.

But she never retired from learning about the natural world. Rebecca volunteered with many ANS programs and traveled widely including participating in ANS's popular Costa Rica trip in 2009 and Ecuador trip in 2012. Always an avid gardener, Rebecca specifically cultivated her gardens to attract and nurture local wildlife.

Her generous bequest to ANS will ensure that this important work carries on. Rebecca's lifelong love of the natural world will be continued for years to come through her wonderful legacy gift which will directly support our conservation work to preserve natural habitats and our environmental education programs.

Jane Highsaw: Jane was a longtime member of ANS and as a Chevy Chase resident was a regular at Woodend. She was an enthusiastic naturalist with a particular interest in wildflowers and birding. Jane participated in many ANS programs and activities and brought up her children to love nature. Her daughter, Carol, is still an active member of ANS. As she got older, Jane loved to come to Woodend and walk in the Blair Nature Plant Garden due to its easy accessibility. Her generous bequest to ANS will ensure that we can maintain the garden and the grounds of Woodend for years to come.

We are deeply grateful to all the members of our Legacy Society for their visionary commitment to ANS. For more information about how to join the Legacy Society, please contact Jacky Wershbaile at jacky.wershbaile@anshome.org or 301-652-9188 x31.

IN REMEMBRANCE

Pearl Marks: Always humble, Pearl Marks never sought recognition for all the contributions she made to ANS throughout the decades of her membership. Pearl volunteered weekly to help our Finance Department, led the Volunteer Meadow Team, and served on our Board of Directors, Program Committee, Sanctuary Committee and Woodend Master Plan Committee. While she participated in many ANS programs and was a frequent ANS nature traveler, her love of gardening led her to stewardship of Woodend's habitats, most notably as the champion of our meadow restoration project which she maintained shoulder to shoulder with the Volunteer Meadow Team.



It was with deep heartache we said farewell to Pearl at a moving memorial service for her at Woodend in early May.

David Gray: Our heartfelt condolences to shop volunteer, Helen Gray, and her family, on the loss of Helen's husband David. A member since the 1980's, David always enjoyed volunteering with ANS events, particularly the Holiday Fairs and Auctions. David passed away earlier this year at the age of 91.

MEMORIAL AND TRIBUTE CONTRIBUTIONS February - April 2018

In memory of Jane Ann Engle

Jean Adams; Rosalie Anne Dahlen-Hartfield; Edward Lipp

In memory of Jane Huff

Don Messersmith

In memory of Jan Levin

Bryon Genner

In memory of Pearl Marks

The Flowe/Mahoney Family; Barbara Gordon

In memory of Lola Oberman

Don Messersmith

In memory of Harriet "Heidi" Shinn

Susan Metsala

In memory of Marilyn Slatick

Lynne Gilliland

In honor of Brice Claypool

James & Ben

In honor of Daphne Gemmill

Don Messersmith

In honor of Stephanie Mason

Joan Haffey

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Education programs are held at Woodend, the Audubon Naturalist Society's 40-acre Headquarters, 8940 Jones Mill Road, Chevy Chase, MD 20815, unless otherwise noted. All education programs except Nature Travel have online registration. You may also register in person in the EE office Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. You will be notified immediately if the program is full; otherwise, confirmation letters will be emailed 1-2 weeks before the scheduled program.

Lectures are held at our Woodend Sanctuary, and field trip transportation is by private vehicle or carpool unless otherwise noted. Most programs are limited to 16 participants and also have a minimum enrollment, so early registration is important to ensure that programs run. Unless otherwise noted, weekend adult foray program fees do not include meals or lodging.

Because our programs rely on registration fees for funding, we have adopted this policy:

- Cancellations must be made at least six working days before the beginning of the program to be eligible for a credit to your account, less a \$5 administrative fee.
- If an adult foray is cancelled by ANS due to low enrollment, you will receive a full refund. If a weather-related concern or another issue outside of ANS's control forces a cancellation, you will receive a full credit to your account.
- Nature travel programs have different cancellation policies, explained on the information sheet sent on request.

ANS is committed to addressing problems when they occur. Program participants are encouraged to bring problems or concerns of any kind directly to the staff member in charge of the program. Staff members will try to resolve the problem immediately or as soon as reasonably possible. If staff is unable to do so, they are expected to bring the problem to the attention of their immediate supervisor or member of the Senior Management Team, who will take responsibility for seeking a resolution. Program participants are welcome to bring unresolved problems or concerns to the attention of the Executive Director. The Executive Director's decision on resolution of the problem is final.



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