

AUDUBON NATURALIST SOCIETY

# Naturalist Quarterly

Summer 2019

ANSHOME.ORG

Use buses and trains



Walk more



The Climate Crisis: Seven Actions for Seven Generations by ANS Staff

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.

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

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#### STORE HOURS

Monday-Friday 10 AM-5 PM  
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Dawn to dusk

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# Naturalist Quarterly

ANShome.org Summer 2019

From the Director	3
Seven Actions for Seven Generations: #1 Become an Ecosystem Boss	4
Seven Actions for Seven Generations: #2 Step Lightly	6
Seven Actions for Seven Generations: #3 Eat More Plants	8
Seven Actions for Seven Generations: #4 Become a Science Superhero	10
Seven Actions for Seven Generations: #5 Refuse, Reuse, Reduce, and Recycle Right	12
Seven Actions for Seven Generations: #6 Follow the Children	14
Adult Programs	16
CALENDAR	20
Children and Family Programs	25
Seven Actions for Seven Generations: #7 Up Your Political IQ and Vote	26
Stream Science Classes	28
Free Birding Trips	29
Natural History Field Studies	30
Nature Travel	32
<i>The Land of Woodend</i>	34
Let's Hear it from a Real-Life Ecosystem Boss	36
Registration Info	39

## COVER

Cover Art Design by Gabriela Paola Franco Peña

Cover Art Photos by Ben Israel

## From the Director

### What will you do?

I recently had the great pleasure of joining ANS leader, Melanie Choukas-Bradley, who guided me and other ANS friends in a session of *The Joy of Forest Bathing*.<sup>\*</sup> Melanie closed our time of reflection, observation and connection with nature by quoting from *The Summer Day*, written by one of my favorite poets, Mary Oliver. Oliver concludes *The Summer Day* with the entreaty,

*"Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?"*

That is the question I pose to you, friends and supporters of ANS. What do you plan to do with your one wild and precious life as, together, we face the impacts of climate change on our planet? In this issue, you'll read about seven actions you can take. Choose one, choose all seven, but choose to act now. Only through action will we mitigate the irreversible effects of climate change. Only through action will we adapt to changes to come. And only through action will we protect the precious natural world we all share. All of the ANS advocates, in Northern Virginia, Maryland and DC, are fighting on our behalf to mitigate climate change in our region. But they need us, all of us, to do our part.

I hear some folks saying, "We have to change what's happening in China and India" if we want to slow climate effects. I don't disagree, but I know full well that we cannot expect other countries to adopt different behaviors if we won't make those fundamental changes in our own homeland. I hear other folks say, "It's too late, there's nothing we can do." And with that sentiment, I do disagree. It is clear that some of the effects of climate change are here to stay and will likely worsen. But that is not a reason to throw up our hands and give up the fight. We must look to our own homes, workplaces and communities for ways to implement, model, steward and share best climate mitigation strategies.

So you might wonder what climate change adaptation looks like at ANS and in my own household. Here are some of our home practices – no doubt many are practiced in your home too! Our newest car is 100% electric and when recharging, is powered by electricity we purchase from renewable energy sources. Our shopping cart, still filling up to feed our hungry 21- and 26-year-old sons, now has both reusable produce and grocery bags to reduce market demand for plastics, as does our practice of using only reusable water bottles. Our yard is 95% native plants and trees, mostly native (though I still grow my grandmother's peonies), with only the tiniest sliver of lawn to blend with the neighbors. I do my best to walk or bike to work at least once a week – good for my waistline and the planet. And yet, there is so much more my family and I can do at home. This NQ issue has fired me up for that good work ahead!

And here at ANS, we're making improvements in our planetary footprint every day. Just last night, our dedicated volunteer Finance Committee instructed the ANS investment advisors to double our investments in ESGs, funds that invest only in companies highly rated for their Environmental, Social and Governance practices. You could do the same!

Some actions at ANS have been simple, and others extremely complex with long horizons and big price tags. If you know our headquarters at Woodend, you are familiar with the hundred-year-old wall sconces that have sported incandescent, candle-style light



bulbs for decades. It would seem simple to just switch out old bulbs for new LEDs, but not so fast. Finding the perfect, dimmable, LED, candle-style bulb, with bright light for classes and warm light for wedding couples turned into an epic quest. After dozens of trials, and many returned bulbs, we finally found bulbs that would please all audiences and spare the planet. But it took time, as your quest for the perfect LED might do as well.

A months-long hunt for bulbs is nothing compared to the time scale of the Nature for All restoration projects we're launching at Woodend. It will take decades for us to fully restore our forests, increase biodiversity throughout all of our habitats, and achieve our goal of treating 100% of stormwater here on the Woodend property. But all of those hours and dollars will be well spent as we create a resilient oasis that will thrive as temperatures increase and will withstand the effects of more frequent, stronger weather events. This is powerful and necessary work. Woodend will serve as a center for environmental thought leadership and a model of best climate resilience strategies for the whole region. And we're already gearing up for ground-breaking on our stream restoration and accessible nature trail projects, the bright beginnings of our amazing and ambitious restoration plans.

Our collective good work at home and in our community is absolutely necessary to minimize the negative impacts of climate change. But we will need good policy at the local, regional and federal level to sustain systemic change. And for that reason, if I had to choose the one thing that you could do to have a positive impact on the planet, it would be for you to vote. Vote in every election for which you are eligible. Research the candidates. Understand their positions on climate change (IT IS A FACT!) and the policies they propose. Let's put leaders in offices at all levels of government who understand the urgency of the problem and take action to prioritize climate resilience planning and policy in our rapidly urbanizing region. Get started today by signing up at [www.anshome.org/take-action/](http://www.anshome.org/take-action/). Together, we will make a difference and save the planet for future generations.



## STAFF UPDATES

We welcome three new members of the Conservation team: **Ari Eisenstadt**, DC Advocate, has a B.S. in Geology and an M.S. in Geology/Chemical Oceanography from the University of Rochester. His main area of academic interest is greenhouse gas dynamics and he love all things water and nature-related, which is what brought him to ANS.

**Renee Grebe**, Northern Virginia Advocate, has a B.F.A. in Communication Design and moved to the DC area many years ago to work as a user experience designer in the computer software industry. Over those years, she balanced her indoor desk job with outdoor time bird watching, leading invasive plant removals, and joined the Master Naturalist program. She currently serves on Fairfax County's Environmental Quality Advisory Council. **Denisse Guitarra**, MD Advocate, has a B.A. in Biology and and M.Sc. in Biodiversity, Wildlife and Ecosystem Health. She was born in Ecuador but MD is now her second home. She has a strong science research background and is an avid birdwatcher and bird enthusiast.

# #1 Become an Ecosystem Boss

## 7 Actions for 7 Generations – A Naturalist Quarterly Climate Crisis Special Edition

*Editor's Note: Seven Actions for Seven Generations comes from the traditions of Native people. The Iroquois Confederacy has said that seven generations means thinking of your impact on the seven generations that will follow you. Other Native nations have said you should include as well the seven that came before you. Either way, we believe thinking more deeply about how each action we take each day supports the lives of those who will come after us and honors the lives of those who came before is the perfect way to combat the climate crisis.*

*The climate crisis exists because the average temperature for our planet is rising, largely, because humans are putting too much carbon dioxide into the atmosphere through the burning of coal, oil, and gas from driving cars, flying in airplanes, heating our homes, and using electricity to power our devices. Rising temperatures are contributing to extreme weather events, melting of the polar ice caps and other frozen regions, and disruption of wildlife habitat, harming the ecosystems that help sustain our lives.*

*Scientists report that America and China are the largest contributors to carbon emissions, which heat up the Earth. In fact, each American on average emits 18.2 tons of carbon per year, while in contrast the average Sub-Saharan African emits less than one ton. Scientists with the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change tell us that we need to keep global warming below 1.5 degrees Celsius to avoid dire consequences. We have already warmed 1 degree Celsius, so to get there we will have to be at essentially zero carbon emissions by 2050. This issue is dedicated to helping DC area residents find ways and resources to dramatically reduce their carbon footprints.*

*We hope you'll join us in taking action – even if it's just one action. Thank you and see you on the green living side. – Caroline Brewer, Managing Editor*

**Problem:** We are destroying trees and wildlife habitat that capture large amounts of carbon emissions, filter pollutants from air and water, and soak up stormwater.

**Solution:** **Become an Ecosystem Boss**

**Plant More Trees, Please, and Save the Ones We Have:** Neatly trimmed lawns are practically useless to humans and wildlife. Trees store carbon, remove pollutants from water and air (giving relief to people who suffer from asthma and other serious respiratory illnesses) and lower energy use by shading buildings. Researchers say one large tree can provide a day's supply of oxygen for up to four people. A tulip tree at ANS sequesters more than 1,000 pounds of carbon dioxide annually and over its lifetime has stored almost 40,000 pounds. ANS offers tree-planting opportunities and tree ID courses.

**Run Rain Runoff Into the Ground:** The runoff from storms causes problems for people, streams and wildlife, such as flooding and transporting pollutants into our rivers and streams. Rain gardens and permeable pavement help put land to work soaking up stormwater like a sponge. Mature deciduous trees can intercept up to 2,000 gallons of stormwater annually. ANS offers tours of its rain gardens. Public programs in our region provide design and financial help.

**Create Healthy Habitats:** Birds, bees, butterflies and other wildlife that are being impacted by climate change need places to eat, sleep, and raise young. You can support stressed wildlife by putting your land (yards, gardens and balconies) to work as healthier habitat. Growing a garden habitat with native plant species provides food, shelter and nesting sites for local wildlife. Check out our garden guide online.

What will you do to **Become an Ecosystem Boss**? Go to [www.anshome.org/climate](http://www.anshome.org/climate) for more information.

– Alison Pearce, Director of Restoration

See page 36 for a story on real-life Ecosystem Boss (and ANS member) Barbara Schubert.

# Seven Actions for Seven Generations



*ANS Members and Volunteers Adria Zeldin and Bob Mecklenburg plant an oak seedling in the Woodend Sanctuary's northwest corner.*

Photo by Alison Pearce

## #2 Step Lightly

**Problem:** The transportation sector is now America's No. 1 contributor to greenhouse gas emissions. According to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), "Cars, SUVs, and pickup trucks running on conventional gasoline, diesel, and other fuels emit carbon dioxide. Combined, these vehicles account for roughly two-thirds of transportation-related emissions."

**Solution: Step Lightly**

**Bike More:** Biking instead of driving cuts more than a pound of emissions per mile. If you bike 30 miles a week, you could save more than 1,560 pounds a year in carbon emissions.\*

**Walk More:** Walking instead of driving cuts more than a pound of emissions per mile. If you walk 10 miles a week, you could save more than 520 pounds a year in carbon emissions.\*

**Buy a More Fuel-Efficient Car:** Car transportation alone is the largest contributor to a family's household emissions.\*\* And whatever kind of car you drive, bring more people along with you each time you travel so that you can help them reduce their carbon footprints, too.

**Use Buses and Trains:** Buses and trains emit about half the greenhouse gases of a single-occupancy car. \*\* Metro also has a new tool to help you measure the impact of your commute and then consider alternatives. The FTA has a carbon calculator to estimate how much you can reduce your carbon footprint by switching to public transportation.

**Fly Less:** When you do fly, consider participating in an offset program that plants trees.

What will you do to **Step Lightly**? Learn more at [www.anshome.org/climate](http://www.anshome.org/climate) - *Alison Pearce, Director of Restoration*

\*EPA \*\*Federal Transit Administration

6



# Seven Actions for Seven Generations



Fly less

Use buses and trains

Walk more

## #3 Eat More Plants

**Problem:** Animal agriculture is the second largest contributor to human-made greenhouse gas emissions after fossil fuels and is a leading cause of deforestation, water and air pollution, and biodiversity loss, according to Climate Nexus. Moreover, 33-40 percent of all the food we raise, grow, and buy never gets eaten, which adds up to 8 percent of global emissions.

**Solution: Eat More Plants!** Zen Master Thich Nhat Hanh has said making the transition to a plant-based diet may be the most effective way an individual can reduce climate change. Also, \$1 trillion in annual health-care costs and lost productivity would be saved.\*

The Drawdown Project, a broad coalition of researchers, scientists, graduate students, PhDs, policy makers, and business leaders dedicated to climate crisis solutions, has calculated the Top 5 most effective things the world could do to curb climate change. Reducing food waste and adopting a plant-rich diet are Numbers 4 and 5.

According to Drawdown, one-third of all the food we raise or grow never gets eaten, which adds up to 8 percent of global emissions. If we cut this waste, it would be like taking 495 million cars off the road! A lot of that waste happens in fields and distribution systems, so there's a need for a bigger push to eliminate it. And it's why eating a plant-heavy diet could be the biggest thing you do day in and day out, especially in our Western diet culture that includes meat multiple times each week. Not only would we be healthier and live longer, if everyone switched to a vegetarian diet, it would reduce emissions emitted by our food systems by as much as 63 percent! That's like taking another 464 million cars off the road. Cutting out or significantly reducing beef would make the biggest dietary impact.

ANS is seeking ways to "walk the talk" and continue to make climate-smart choices around our facilities, at our events, and in our operations. What will you do to **Eat More Plants**? Learn how to move to a more plant-based diet and two other top ways you can reduce your carbon footprint at home at [www.anshome.org/climate](http://www.anshome.org/climate).

- Eliza Cava, Director of Conservation

\*Drawdown Project

*Right: Kiera Earle, age 6, shows off a kale salad she made from organic greens grown in her backyard garden in Takoma Park. Her family is a local model of sustainable living, and eats mostly vegetarian meals. Many of them are harvested from the family's terraced gardens and dozen fruit trees. Learn more about the Earle's edible landscape and sustainable living model in a forthcoming story at [www.anshome.org/climate](http://www.anshome.org/climate).*





# Seven Actions for Seven Generations



Photo by Shannon Earle

## #4 Become a Science Superhero

**Problem:** With climate change, our region is experiencing bigger and more frequent storms that are sending larger volumes of water, faster, down the storm drains, straight into the streams, polluting them, and causing flooding. That storm overflow puts the health of the streams, their aquatic life, and our water supply at risk.

**Solution:** **Become a Science Superhero**

Every day, somewhere in the world, a local resident wades into water, peers up into the sky, glances down at the ground, or listens closely to get the news. The storytellers are the birds, bugs, bees, butterflies, mayflies, stoneflies, frogs, fish and other denizens of the natural world. Whatever the news, community scientists – in numbers no governmental body could ever match – are part of the solution to protecting the environment and combatting climate change.

David Cottingham has been on a volunteer team collecting water samples and aquatic bugs such as mayflies, stoneflies, and caddisflies since 1995 as a community scientist for ANS. Teams like his, listening and watching for news in DC's Rock Creek Park, have in recent years spotted salamanders and an American juvenile eel, which was headed upstream to spawn. "It's a great way for people to get and stay involved," the former biologist said of being a community scientist. "We see differences in our sampling location... most notably, the stream erosion due to severe episodic thunderstorms."

Taking note of severe erosion helps the DC government better plan to slow erosion, including promoting rain gardens and permeable surfaces that can soak up rain and pollution. Some of ANS's stream sites feed the DC region's drinking water supplies, such as Ten Mile Creek, which feeds the emergency backup drinking water supply source at Little Seneca Reservoir. Data from our community scientists showing the cleanliness of the region's "last, best creek" was a major contributor to our successful fight to save the watershed from overdevelopment in 2014.

And though some community scientists come with professional environmental resumes, a science background is not a prerequisite. In fact, nearly 100 Silver Spring, Maryland-area residents – most of whom were first-timers to community science – recently plunged into the Long Branch stream and walked the nearby trail to listen and to observe their wildlife neighbors (pictured right). ANS, along with Friends of Sligo Creek, CHEER, Montgomery Parks, and Linkages to Learning at Rolling Terrace Elementary, began a series of Latinx family-focused community science events at Long Branch in April led by bilingual naturalists.

"It's rewarding to see families enjoy the outdoors, learn about the aquatic life, birds and plants that live around their homes, while at the same time starting to question themselves about ways to protect the environment," said Denisse Guitarra, Maryland Conservation Advocate for ANS.

What will you do to **Become a Science Superhero**? Learn more at [www.anshome.org/climate](http://www.anshome.org/climate) - *Eliza Cava, Director of Conservation*



*The "What Lives in Long Branch?/Qué Vive en Long Branch?" outreach project is sponsored by the Chesapeake Bay Trust.*



# Seven Actions for Seven Generations



Photo by Gregg Trilling

# #5 Refuse, Reuse, Reduce and Recycle Right

**Problem:** Americans produce a lot of waste; About 40 percent of our food ends up in the garbage and produces greenhouse gases that contribute to the climate crisis.

**Solution: Refuse, Reuse, Reduce, and Recycle Right**

Climate change is essentially a problem of too much production and consumption by humans. Slowing it means that people need to make radical changes to reduce consumption of all that “stuff” whose production, distribution, and use end up pumping greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.

To spread awareness on talking trash, ANS educators created a program called “Garbology,” a word we made up to refer to the “science of garbage.” We teach Garbology as a series of hands-on lessons and field trips to 2,500 second-graders at 22 D.C. Public Schools through an Environmental Literacy Advancement Grant from the Office of



# Seven Actions for Seven Generations

the State Superintendent of Education. Students learn that there really is no such thing as “garbage,” nor is there any truth to the concept of throwing waste “away.” Every single item that we use and discard - including food and recycling - has a direct impact on our planet.

The students at Hearst Elementary (pictured below) got very serious about investigating their cafeteria waste with ANS educators this year. Their audit revealed that most of their waste was being recycled or composted, which seemed great! But as students investigated the issue further, they began to look for solutions to reduce the total amount of waste being generated – including the composting and recycling -- advocating for a “share table” where they can place food items to share rather than throwing them in the compost, and discouraging the use of single-use plastics.

What will you do to **Refuse, Reuse, Reduce, and Recycle Right**? Go to [www.anshome.org/climate](http://www.anshome.org/climate) to learn more about how to reduce waste. - *Diane Lill, Director of Education*



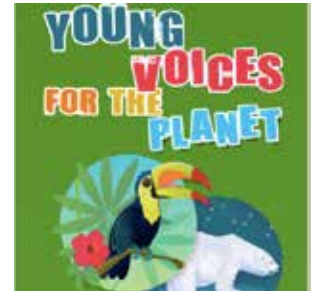
Photo by Ambika AnandProkop

## #6 Follow the Children

**Problem:** The Climate Crisis at time seems overwhelming. Discussions are often divisive, leaving some people feeling paralyzed and hopeless.

**Solution:** **Follow the Children**

It's not just Swedish Teen Activist Greta Thunberg. Young climate activists around the world are taking the lead and making their voices heard. More than 10 years ago, Children's Author, ANS member, and Maryland Resident Lynne Cherry co-wrote an excellent primer on the climate crisis, which also serves as a guide to what children have done and are doing. [How We Know What We Know About Our Changing Climate: Scientists and Kids Explore Global Warming](#) (Dawn Publications) is still relevant. She's followed up the book with her Young Voices for the Planet campaign and documentaries.



We now see every day the impact of the work Cherry and others, including ANS's Environmental Education programs, are doing with youth. For example, on March 15, an estimated million students in more than 2,000 cities around the world left school on a "Student Strike for Climate." ANS's new Maryland Conservation Advocate, Denisse Guitarra, attended the strike in Annapolis. Young activists have founded Sunrise Movement, Zero Hour, Youth for Climate and #FridaysForFuture demonstrations. They are inspiring their parents and pressuring politicians. The children are leading the way; let's follow!

- Eliza Cava, Conservation Director

14



Maryland students raise their voices for action on the Climate Crisis at a rally in Annapolis. Photos by Chesapeake Bay program.

# Seven Actions for Seven Generations

## Maryland's Samia Abdallah is "Compelled" to Take Action on the Climate

By Samia Abdallah, Age 17

Through the P.O.W.E.R. program (Peer Outreach With Energy Resources), a partnership of ANS and the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection, Montgomery County students help residents learn about conservation, efficiency, and renewable energy opportunities available to them.

I attend Northwood High School in the Montgomery County Public Schools as a junior/rising senior. I got involved in P.O.W.E.R. through my best friend, Sebastian, who knows how much I love making a difference for the environment.

I've found that I don't have to know everything to make a difference. I've been able to make a real impact on families by introducing ways to decrease their energy use without uprooting their entire routine.

My participation in this program gave me confidence to give presentations with my peers at community science events. I am also a member of the newly founded Environmental Club at Northwood, and, with support from the ANS GreenKids program, I've gotten Northwood re-certified as a Maryland Green School. I presented at a STEM fair in April alongside other students from Northwood that are a part of the TESS academy (Technological Environmental Science Systems) to educate others on issues ranging from climate change to ways to conserve and how we can take care of Sligo Creek.

Climate Change is a serious issue that needs all the attention it can get. If people aren't actively making changes in their daily lives to conserve energy, use cleaner energy, or reduce waste, they are contributing to the problem. Many people feel as if it's "Go big or go home." I believe that small changes accumulate enough to make a difference. I believe my role is to advocate and educate others on this issue so that they feel compelled to make the small changes that really add up.

For more information on how to **Follow the Children**, visit [www.anshome.org/Climate](http://www.anshome.org/Climate).



Photo by Diane Lill

Pictured: Niki Mallik, Hannah Riley, Samia Abdallah, Sebastian Stiefel at an ANS Climate Change art event.

# 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](http://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](mailto:pam.oves@anshome.org).

## B is for Butterfly

**Saturday, June 15 (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.

## Summer Shuffles Along the Canal

**Wednesdays (9-11:30 am)**

**Section A: June 19 - Pennyfield Lock**

**Section B: July 3 - Riley's Lock**

**Section C: July 17 - Carderock**

**Leader: Stephanie Mason**

**WAITLIST  
OPEN**

## Solstice Walk at Little Bennett

**Friday, June 21 (9 am-12:30 pm)**

**Leader: Carole Bergmann**

**Members \$26; nonmembers \$36**

Explore this botanical gem among Montgomery County Parks as the season slips from spring into summer. At 3,700 acres, this Park near Clarksburg, MD harbors rich plant diversity due to its many habitats. On our hike of around 3 miles, the County's just-retired forest ecologist will introduce you to many of this protected area's plants of early summer. Expect some uphill and downhill walking on natural surface trails which may be muddy and/or slippery.

## Western Montgomery County Butterfly Count

**Saturday, June 22**

Join us for the 30th 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](mailto:stephanie.mason@anshome.org) for a participant's information letter.



## Solstice Butterfly Hike

**Sunday, June 23 (10 am-2 pm)**

**Leader: Tom Stock**

**Members \$26; nonmembers \$36**



Pam Oves

The varied habitats of the vast Little Bennett Regional Park near Clarksburg, MD are the setting for our search for early summer butterflies, their host plants, and their nectar resources.

Species such as

American Copper, Great Spangled Fritillary, Little Wood Satyr, Summer Azure, and Little Glasswing are possible, just to name a few. Field conditions will include open areas with possibly tall vegetation, and some bushwhacking necessary for access. Bring along your close-focusing binoculars to benefit most from this outing.



## Six-legged Songsters of Summer

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

Leader: Cathy Stragar

Free, but registration is required.



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. She'll also describe how to get involved with the seventh annual Cricket Crawl citizen science activity in late August.

## The Buzz on Bees and Wasps

Saturday, June 29 (9-11:30 am)

Leader: Cathy Stragar

Members \$24; nonmembers \$34

From solitary parasitic wasps to the highly social honey bee, from potter wasps to carpenter bees, these related insects form a fascinating and critically important part of the natural world. We'll take a look at their diversity, life histories, significant ecological roles, and worrisome threats facing bees and wasps. We'll spend our time outdoors, combing the Woodend Sanctuary for wasps and bees, identifying them, and observing their habits.

## Soggy Bogs, Tiny Trees, and Walks on the Wild Side

Saturday, June 29 (9 am) to Sunday, June 30 (4 pm)

Leader: Mark Garland

Members \$120; nonmembers \$168

The Pine Barrens region of New Jersey is one of the wildest places along the eastern seaboard. With coarse sand for soil, the region is dominated by pitch pine and scrub oak forests, in places dwarfed by periodic fires. In the lower spots there are cedar swamps, narrow tea-colored rivers, and bogs that are home to insectivorous plants and orchids. Join naturalist Mark Garland for a series of short hikes through these various habitats into the wild heart of the Pine Barrens. As we enjoy the wilds of this unusual region, we'll search for birds, butterflies, frogs, and other wildlife, along with many of the unusual plant communities of the Pine Barrens. We'll also discuss elements of this area's fascinating human history. Overnight options include motels in Hammonton, NJ or in the far eastern suburbs of Philadelphia (Voorhees, Marlton, Mt. Laurel, etc.); or the campgrounds and cabins of the Wharton State Forest. *Note: expect some driving on unpaved roads, though we will try to carpool for most of these stretches.*

## Holiday on Wheels Along the Patuxent

Thursday, July 4 (8:30 am-1 pm)

Leader: Stephanie Mason

Members \$28; nonmembers \$38

Dust off your bike and join us to explore the woods and wetlands along the Patuxent River in Prince George's County, MD. We'll use the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Tour roadway, closed to cars on this day, to visit a variety of habitats in our search for summer activity in the natural world. We'll dismount often to look for wildflowers, birds, butterflies, and frogs. Our round-trip ride will be between 5-8 miles. Bring your own bike.

## Wonders at Woodend: Forest Bathing through the Seasons

Wednesdays (10 am-12:30 pm)

Section C: July 10

Section D: October 16

Leader: Melanie Choukas-Bradley

Each walk members \$26; nonmembers \$36

WAITLIST  
OPEN

## Dragons of the Air

Saturday, July 13 (9-11:30 am)

Raindate: Sunday, July 14

Leader: Lisa Shannon

Members \$24; nonmembers \$34

The wetlands around Pine Lake in Wheaton Regional Park, MD, are an ideal spot to start learning how to ID the most common dragonflies in our area. Naturalist Lisa Shannon will help beginning dragonfly enthusiasts focus on identifying characteristics, as well as the life histories, of these aerial insects. Close-focusing binoculars are recommended for optimal dragon-watching.

NEW FOR  
JULY

## Paddle on the Potomac

Tuesday, July 16 (10 am-1 pm)

Leaders: Melanie Choukas-Bradley and Stephanie Mason

Members \$30; nonmembers \$42

Meet two naturalists at the Key Bridge Boathouse for a summer paddling trip around Theodore Roosevelt Island. Discover the magic of paddling around DC's historic 88.5 acre island in the Potomac beneath the boughs of magnificent sycamores, cottonwoods, silver maples, black walnuts, basswoods and river birches. Witness the blooms of many summer wildflowers growing along the shoreline and the thrill of spotting ospreys, bald eagles, herons and egrets, and the noisy kingfisher! Canoes or kayaks can be rented or you can bring your own. *Registration fee does not include boat rental.*

WAITLIST  
OPEN



## Native Plant Gardening

**Summer Walk: Thursday, July 18 (10 am-Noon)**

**Fall Walk: Thursday, October 17 (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 Meadow

**Saturday, July 20 (8:30 am-12:30 pm)**

**Leaders: Stephanie Mason and Cathy Stragar**

**Members \$28; nonmembers \$38**

Join two naturalists for a closer look at the web of life in both wet and dry meadows at Little Bennett Regional Park in upper Montgomery County, MD. We'll search for the wildlife that finds food and shelter amidst the sun-loving wildflowers and fruiting grasses, including butterflies and other insects, birds, and reptiles and amphibians. Field conditions will be open and sunny.

## Sunset Stroll in the Hollow

**Saturday, July 20 (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.

## Walk Among the Giants

**C. Sunday, July 21 (8 am-Noon)**

**D. Sunday, October 27 (8 am-Noon)**

**Leader: Stephanie Mason**

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

Walk among the giant Sycamores, Oaks, and River Birches on this seasonal series of explorations along the Potomac River just upstream of Great Falls, MD. We'll keep our eyes and ears open for all manner of wildlife, and watch the winter woods turn green, and then summer sultry before fall colors herald the coming of another winter. Our floodplain trail, connecting with the Towpath, is mostly level, but could be muddy as we walk our loop of roughly 2.5 miles.

## Fern Basics

**Sunday, July 21 (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 several habitats in Great Falls Park, VA to learn more about these ancient and beautiful plants. Trails could be muddy, rocky, and uneven.

## Summer Fungus Walk

**Sunday, August 4 (9-11 am)**

**Leader: Serenella Linares**

**Members \$24; nonmembers \$34**

Summer is a great time to get introduced to the most common families of fungi in our area and find out more about their natural history and many ecological functions. We'll visit a variety of habitats at our Woodend Sanctuary using natural surface trails. *Note: the focus of our field trip is fungi's important and under-appreciated role in forest ecology, not the edibility of particular species of mushrooms.*

## Introduction to Dragonflies and Damselflies

**Thursday, August 8 (7:30-9:30 pm)**

**Sunday, August 11 (3/4 day field trip)**

**Leaders: Lisa Shannon and Richard Orr**

**Members \$46; nonmembers \$64**

**Lecture only \$24/\$34**

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.

## Crickets Count!

### Cricket Crawl Listening Walk

**Thursday, August 22 (8-10 pm)**

**Leader: Cathy Stragar**

**Free, no registration necessary.**



This free, outdoor training walk for the August 30 Cricket Crawl (7th 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.

## Natural Heritage Hike: Monocacy National Battlefield

**Sunday, August 25 (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.

## Crickets Count! Citizen Science Activity

**Friday, August 30 (after dark)**

Be a part of the seventh 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 31.



## Confusing Composites

**Saturday, September 7 (9 am-1 pm)**

**Leader: Sujata Roy**

**Members \$26; nonmembers \$36**

Most of our area’s late summer and fall-blooming wildflowers belong to the composite (Asteraceae) plant family. With many local species of asters, goldenrods, sunflowers, bonesets and more, it can be intimidating even to begin to consider IDing them. In this introductory field class, our leader will use both meadow and woodland at Little Bennett Park in Montgomery County, MD to explain the differences between the main groups of “confusing composites” while offering tips on how to begin identifying them.

### NEW REGISTRATION SYSTEM COMING!

We are switching to a new registration system for adult programs in the fall, which is compatible with all smartphones, computers, tablets, etc.

If you have any credits on your account, please use them by the end of August.

Questions? Contact Pam Oves at 301-652-9188 x16 or email [pam.oves@anshome.org](mailto:pam.oves@anshome.org).

## Fall Birding Series

**A. Sunday, September 8: Swain’s Lock, MD (Mike Bowen) (7:30-10:30 am)**

**B. Saturday, September 21: Huntley Meadows, VA (Jim Nelson) (7:30-10:30 am)**

**C. Sunday, September 29: Oaks Landfill, MD (Mark England) (7:30-10:30 am)**

**D. Saturday, October 12: Patuxent River Park/Jug Bay Natural Area, MD (Mark England) (8-11am)**

**E. Sunday, October 20: Blue Mash Nature Trail, MD (Lisa Norwalk & Len Bisson) (8-11 am)**

**F. Saturday, November 2: Dyke Marsh, VA (Paul Pisano) (8-11 am)**

**G. Sunday, November 10: Hughes Hollow, MD (Lisa Shannon & Rob Hilton) (8-11 am)**

**H. Saturday, November 23: Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, DC (Lisa Shannon & Rob Hilton) (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.

## Midweek Meanders Along the Canal

**Wednesdays (10 am-12:30 pm)**

**A: September 11 - Riley’s Lock**

**B: September 25 - Carderock**

**C: October 9 - Violettes Lock**

**D: October 23 - Pennyfield Lock**

**E: November 20 - Widewater**

**F: December 4 - Swain’s Lock**

**Leader: Stephanie Mason**

**Each walk members \$25; nonmembers \$35**

**Entire series \$135/\$190**

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.



Date	Time	Activity	Fee	Page	Date	Time	Activity	Fee	Page
Jun 1	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		31	Sep 7	9 am	Weekend Walk in the Woods		25
"	9 am	Weekend Walk in the Woods		25	"	"	Confusing Composites	Y	19
Jun 2	7:30 am	Little Bennett Free Birding Trip		29	Sep 8	7:30 am	Fall Birding Series A	Y	19
Jun 5	7 pm	Healthy Stream Biology C	Y	28	Sep 11	10 am	Midweek Meander Along the Canal A	Y	19
Jun 6	7 pm	Conservation Cafe	Y		Sep 12	7:30 pm	Insects After Dark	Y	22
Jun 8	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		31	Sep 13	6:30 pm	Evening on the Canal	Y	22
"	9:30 am	WQM Field Workshop at Ten Mile Creek	Y	28	Sep 14	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		31
"	10 am	Summer Camp Open House		25	"	9:30 am	Know Your Invasive Plants	Y	28
"	"	Children's Garden Open House		25	"	10 am	Butterfly Migrants at Glendening Preserve	Y	22
Jun 9	7 am	Fort C.F. Smith Park Free Birding Trip		29	Sep 15	9 am	Botanical Gems of Monocacy Aqueduct	Y	22
Jun 15	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		31	"	"	Geology of Sugarloaf Mountain	Y	22
"	9 am	B is for Butterfly	Y	16	"	1 pm	Sleuthing for Spiders	Y	22
Jun 19	9 am	Summer Shuffle Along the Canal A	Y	16	Sep 17	10 am	Conservation Advocacy 101 Workshop	Y	26
Jun 21	9 am	Solstice Walk at Little Bennett	Y	16	Sep 18	7 pm	Healthy Stream Biology/D	Y	28
Jun 22	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		31	Sep 20	10 am	Blue Ridge Beginnings	Y	22
"	all day	Western Montgomery County Butterfly Count		16	Sep 21	7:30 am	Fall Birding Series B	Y	19
Jun 23	10 am	Solstice Butterfly Hike	Y	16	"	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		31
Jun 26	7:30 am	Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay Free Birding Trip		29	"	10 am	Snickers Gap Hawkwatch Free Birding Trip		29
Jun 27	7:30 pm	Six-legged Songsters of Summer		17	Sep 22	8:30 am	Fall in the Parks A	Y	23
Jun 29	6:45 am	Oaks Landfill Free Birding Trip		29	"	1:30 pm	WQM Field Workshop- Ten Mile Creek	Y	28
"	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		31	Sep 23	10 am	Here Comes Fall	Y	23
"	9 am	Heritage Days Weekend		34	Sep 25	7:30 am	Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay Free Birding Trip		29
"	"	The Buzz on Bees and Wasps	Y	17	"	10 am	Midweek Meander Along the Canal B	Y	19
"	"	Soggy Bogs, Tiny Trees & Walks on the Wild Side	Y	17	Sep 28	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		31
"	11:45 am	The Land of Woodend film showing	Y		"	"	Wings and Wildflowers	Y	23
Jul 3	9 am	Summer Shuffle Along the Canal B	Y	16	Sep 29	7:30 am	Fall Birding Series C	Y	19
Jul 4	8:30 am	Holiday on Wheels Along the Patuxent	Y	17	Oct 3	7 pm	For Goodness Snakes		23

Date	Time	Activity	Fee	Page	Date	Time	Activity	Fee	Page
Jul 6	7:30 am	Pennyfield in the Summer Free Birding Trip		29	Oct 5	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		31
"	9 am	Weekend Walk in the Woods		25	"	9 am	Fall Fungus Walk	Y	23
Jul 8	6 pm	Wetland Ecosystems begins	Y	30	"	"	Weekend Walk in the Woods		25
Jul 9	6:30 pm	Insect Life begins	Y	30	Oct 7	8 am	On the Move at Cape May	Y	23
Jul 10	10 am	Wonders at Woodend: Forest Bathing	Y	17	Oct 9	10 am	Midweek Meander Along the Canal C	Y	19
Jul 13	9 am	Dragons of the Air	Y	17	Oct 11	10 am	Intro to Tree ID	Y	24
Jul 16	10 am	Paddle on the Potomac	Y	17	Oct 12	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		31
Jul 17	9 am	Summer Shuffle Along the Canal C	Y	16	"	"	Fall Birding Series D	Y	19
"	7 pm	Summer Wildflower ID begins	Y	30	Oct 13	10 am	Calvert Cliffs State Park hike	Y	24
Jul 18	10 am	Native Plant Gardening	Y	18	Oct 16	10 am	Wonders at Woodend: Forest Bathing	Y	17
Jul 20	8:30 am	Bombay Hook Free Birding Trip		29	Oct 17	10 am	Native Plant Gardening	Y	18
"	"	Summer Meadow	Y	18	Oct 19	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		31
"	6:30 pm	Sunset Stroll in the Hollow	Y	18	Oct 20	8 am	Fall Birding Series E	Y	19
Jul 21	8 am	Walk Among the Giants	Y	18	"	8:30 am	Fall in the Parks B	Y	23
"	9 am	Fern Basics	Y	18	Oct 23	10 am	Midweek Meander Along the Canal D	Y	19
Jul 31	7:30 am	Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay Free Birding Trip		29	Oct 25	9 am	Fall on Wheels Along the Canal	Y	24
Aug 3	9 am	Weekend Walk in the Woods		25	Oct 26	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		24
Aug 4	9 am	Summer Fungus Walk	Y	18	"	1 pm	Geology of Soapstone Valley	Y	24
Aug 8	7:30 pm	Intro to Dragonflies and Damselflies	Y	18	Oct 27	9 am	Botanical Gems: Little Bennett Park	Y	24
Aug 22	8 pm	Crickets Crawl Listening Walk		18	"	2:30 pm	Fall Tree ID for Birders		24
Aug 25	8 am	Huntley Meadows Free Birding Trip		29	Oct 29	9:30 am	Natural and Cultural History of the Ag Reserve	Y	24
"	"	Monocacy National Battlefield hike	Y	19	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: blue;">●</span> Special Event</li> <li><span style="color: green;">●</span> Children and Family Program</li> <li><span style="color: purple;">●</span> Adult Program</li> <li><span style="color: orange;">●</span> Natural History Field Studies</li> </ul> <p><b>Y = Fee-based program</b></p> </div>				
Aug 28	7:30 am	Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay Free Birding Trip		29					
Aug 30	after dark	Crickets Count!		19					
Sep 1	8 am	Sycamore Landing Free Birding Trip		29					
Sep 7	7 am	Patuxent River Park Free Birding Trip		29					
"	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		31					



## Insects After Dark

**Thursday, September 12 (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.

## Evening on the Canal

**Friday, September 13 (6:30-8:30 pm)**

**Leader: Stephanie Mason**

**Members \$26; nonmembers \$36**

Join senior naturalist Stephanie Mason on a walk through the woods and along the Potomac River's C&O Canal beginning at Swain's Lock near Potomac, MD. As day gives way to dusk — and then to nightfall — we'll look and listen for owls, foxes, bats, katydids, moths, and other nocturnal and crepuscular animals, discussing the adaptations of creatures whose "day" begins as ours ends.

## Butterfly Migrants at Glendening Preserve

**Saturday, September 14 (10 am-2 pm)**

**Rain date: Sunday, September 15**

**Leader: Tom Stock**

**Members \$26; nonmembers \$36**

The Parris N. Glendening Preserve in Anne Arundel Co.'s Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary maintains a large butterfly garden that is one of the best area locations for late-summer migrant butterflies, including Long-tailed Skippers, Ocola Skippers, Fiery Skippers, Cloudless Skippers and Sleepy Oranges, and, of course, Monarchs. We'll spend most of our time exploring this active garden, boosting participants' skills identifying difficult-to-ID skippers, with a short walk into surrounding fields for late summer dragonfly and damselflies as well as other insects.

## Sleuthing for Spiders

**Sunday, September 15 (1-4:30 pm)**

**Leader: Cathy Stragar**

**Members \$26; nonmembers \$36**

Spiders are ubiquitous creatures in our basements, meadows, and woodlots. While they inspire feelings of fear among many, they are a source of wonderment and mystery to the nature enthusiast. Join a naturalist for an introduction to the natural history and identification of spiders. On our field trip to McKee-Beshers Wildlife Management Area, near Poolesville, MD, we'll search for spiders in a variety of habitats and discuss their life histories, feeding strategies, and adaptations.

## Botanical Gems of Monocacy Aqueduct and Dickerson Conservation Park

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

**Leader: Carole Bergmann**

**Members: \$26; nonmembers \$36**

As summer winds down and the growing season comes to an end, join our forest ecologist leader for an exploration of the floodplain plant communities along the Potomac River at Monocacy Aqueduct (Frederick County) and Dickerson Conservation Park (Montgomery County). We'll walk amongst towering Cottonwoods, Sycamores, Silver Maples and more, as the ripening and spreading of fruits and seeds signal that fall is on the way.

## Geology of Sugarloaf Mountain

**Sunday, September 15 (9 am-Noon)**

**Leader: Joe Marx**

**Members \$26; nonmembers \$36**

Sugarloaf Mountain, in southernmost Frederick County, MD, has long been something of an enigma to geologists. Where did all the sand originate to make such a heap of quartzite? Recent work on the surrounding terrain has provided answers. To study the mountain's origin, we'll drive to two overlooks and then hike to the summit and back on a one-mile loop. We'll ascend using the steep stone steps of the Green trail and then descend, more gently, on the Red and Blue natural surface trails. Don't bring a bucket and shovel for a day at the beach—you're already 500 million years too late. Although the trails are well-marked and maintained, their surfaces include notably rocky and uneven stretches, which may also be muddy. Good balance and sturdy hiking shoes are a must. *Our geology hikes typically move at a faster pace than our normal naturalists' shuffle.*

## Natural Heritage Series: Blue Ridge Beginnings

**Friday, September 20 (10 am-4:30 pm)**

**Leader: Stephanie Mason**

**Members \$34; nonmembers \$48**

A little more than an hour northwest of Washington lies Catoctin Mountain, the front edge of the Blue Ridge. Here, on a day of the week when visitors are few, we'll enjoy the first day of fall in Catoctin Mountain Park. We'll hike around 4 miles, at a leisurely pace, as we look for the plants and animals that inhabit the Park's woods and waterways. In addition to natural history, we'll consider the Mountain's cultural history and past land uses. Our explorations will include some uphill and downhill hiking over rocky ground.



## Fall in the Parks

**Sundays (8:30 am-1 pm)**

**A: September 22—Ocoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge, VA**

**B. October 20—Pennyfield Lock, C&O Canal, MD**

**C. November 17—U.S. National Arboretum, DC**

**Leaders: Stephanie Mason and Cathy Stragar**

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

**Entire Series: \$76/\$103**

Sign up for one or all of these seasonal, broad-based nature explorations of nearby parks rich in natural history. We'll walk between 3-4 miles, on natural surface and possibly muddy trails, as we enjoy the development of fall color, late season blooms and butterflies, resident and migrating birds, and all manner of wildlife. Ocoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge near Woodbridge, VA, protects open grassland habitat as well as bottomlands along Belmont and Ocoquan Bays. The C&O Canal Towpath will be our trail along the Potomac as we walk upriver from Pennyfield Lock, MD, near Potomac, MD. Our late fall explorations in the National Arboretum in Southeast DC will visit the Fern Valley area and adjacent woodlands and prairie habitat plantings.

## Here Comes Fall

**Monday, September 23 (10 am-12:30 pm)**

**Leader: Marney Bruce**

**Members: \$24; nonmembers \$34**

Celebrate autumn's arrival with a plant-lovers' walk along the C&O Canal Towpath around Riley's Lock along the Potomac River. Our leader will focus on identification and natural history of the many local trees with compound leaves (think hickory, locust, black walnut and more) but there will also be time to enjoy fall wildflowers along the way.

## Wings and Wildflowers

**Saturday, September 28 (8 am-12:30 pm)**

**Leader: Stephanie Mason**

**Members \$28; nonmembers \$38**

A park in Prince George's County near Bowie, Governor's Bridge Natural Area offers open meadows, pond and stream, 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 season, sun-loving wildflowers and fruiting trees. We'll walk several miles on natural surface trails which could be muddy and uneven.

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

## For Goodness Snakes

**Thursday, October 3 (7-9 pm)**

**Leader: Kerry Wixted**

**Free, but registration required.**

**FREE**

Snakes are fascinating yet highly misunderstood creatures. Learn the basics about snake biology and why we should care about them, as well as information on several of the species that call Maryland home. From the secretive rainbow snake to the social timber rattlesnake, Maryland's snake species are highly diverse. Our presenter is Wildlife Education and Outreach Specialist for the MD Dept. of Natural Resources.

## Fall Fungus Walk

**Saturday, October 5 (9-11:30 am)**

**Leader: Serenella Linares**

**Members \$24; nonmembers \$34**

Fall is a great time to get introduced to the most common families of fungi in our area and find out more about their natural history and many ecological functions. Our outdoor classroom will be our own Woodend Sanctuary, where the natural surface trails will include some uphill and downhill walking. *Note: the focus of our field trip is fungi's important and under-appreciated role in forest ecology, not the edibility of particular species of mushrooms.*

## On the Move at Cape May

**Monday, October 7 (8 am) to Tuesday, October 8 (4 pm)**

**Optional 3rd day: Wednesday, October 9 (8 am-4 pm)**

**Leader: Mark Garland**

**Two-day trip: Members \$120; nonmembers \$168**

**Optional 3rd day: +\$50**

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 thousands of Monarch butterflies onto the southern tip of New Jersey. Waterfowl, herons, dragonflies and even bats also travel through Cape May in October. Under the guidance of an expert naturalist and birder who's a local, we'll visit many of the diverse natural areas around Cape May and celebrate the rich spectacle of fall migration. Overnight options include hotels, B&B's, owner



Mark S. Garland

rentals, and campgrounds in and around Cape May, which are booked by participants themselves.

## Intro to Tree Identification

**Friday, October 11 (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 Hike: Calvert Cliffs State Park

**Sunday, October 13 (10 am-4:30 pm)**

**Leader: Stephanie Mason**

**Members \$34; nonmembers \$48**

While most visit Calvert Cliffs State Park for the marine fossils along its Chesapeake Bay Beach, this park in southern Maryland offers rich natural history as well. We'll hike out to the Bay and back (total of 4 miles) as we explore coastal plain forests, marshland, and stream valley habitats. We'll look and listen for all manner of fall wildlife activity, as we make stops along the way to study plant communities in their seasonal aspects. The Park charges a per car admission fee. Carpooling will be encouraged and facilitated with a central meeting point not far outside the Beltway.

## Fall on Wheels Along the Canal

**Friday, October 25 (9 am-3 pm)**

**Leader: Stephanie Mason**

**Members \$34; nonmembers \$48**

Fall colors are ablaze and the towpath along the Potomac River is one of the finest places in the D.C. Metro area to experience this season's richness. In order to cover more territory and visit more habitats, we'll use bikes to explore the stretch from Swain's Lock to Riley's Lock, a 12.3 mile round-trip ride. We'll dismount often to look



for fall fruits and admire lingering fall foliage, while keeping an eye and ear open for fall migrants, overwintering birds, and other still-active wildlife. Bring your own bike.

## Geology of Soapstone Valley

**Saturday, October 26 (1-4 pm)**

**Leader: Joe Marx**

**Members \$26; Nonmembers \$36**

Soapstone Valley, in the Van Ness section of the District of Columbia, provides a pleasant, surprisingly quiet hike through deep woods. The valley cuts across no less than four geological formations, all related to the Taconic Orogeny. We will walk about two miles, out-and-back, from the trailhead on Albemarle St. NW, near UDC. Although the trail, an old, unpaved road, is wide and relatively easy, there are seven crossings of the little stream, none with bridges. Ups and downs are gentle, but the trail drops several hundred vertical feet on its way to Broad Branch and, of course, the altitude must be regained on the return. *Our geology hikes typically move at a faster pace than our normal naturalists' shuffle.*

## Botanical Gems of Little Bennett

**Sunday, October 27 (9 am-12:30 pm)**

**Leader: Carole Bergmann**

**Members \$26; Nonmembers: \$36**

At 3,700 acres, Little Bennett Regional Park near Clarksburg, MD is a park where you can still get lost. But don't worry: our leader knows this park well. With autumn color nearing peak, she'll focus on the ID of fall fruits and seeds in the Park's varied plant communities: mature forest, shrub thicket, riparian wetlands, and open meadows. *Expect some uphill and downhill on this hike of 2-3 miles.*

## Fall Tree ID for Birders

**Sunday, October 27 (2:30-4 pm)**

**Leader: Stephanie Mason**

**Free, but registration required.**

**FREE**

With trees ablaze in fall colors and their fruits hanging high, we'll learn the identifying characteristics visible through binoculars of the most common species of trees and shrubs along the C&O Canal towpath upstream of Carderock. Bring along binoculars.

## The Natural and Cultural History of the Ag Reserve

**Tuesday, October 29 (9:30 am-4 pm)**

**Leaders: Melanie Choukas-Bradley & Stephanie Mason**

**Members \$36; nonmembers \$54**

Thirty-five years ago, with regional farmland rapidly diminishing, Montgomery County had the foresight to set aside more than 90,000 acres of farms and open space in the western and northern third of the county as an "Agricultural Reserve." Our trip will visit a farm, a fall produce stand, an historical site, and perhaps an artist's studio, time permitting, to experience the rich diversity of plants and wildlife (and human livelihoods) that thrive in the Reserve's fields, meadows, wetlands, and rocky woodlands.



# Children and Family Programs

## 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. Visit [anshome.org/ans-preschool](http://anshome.org/ans-preschool) for more info or call Preschool Director Stephanie Bozzo at 301-652-9188 x32.

## 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.

## Summer Camp Spots Still Available!

Summer is almost here!! If you are looking for camps to send your child to, then we can help. We still have space in many camps, except for 1st/2nd grade.

Register online for all camps at [www.anshome.org/summer-camps](http://www.anshome.org/summer-camps). Camps that still have space are listed under the "Important Updates" section of the camp page. Questions about registration? Call Pam at 301-652-9188 x16 or email [pam.oves@anshome.org](mailto:pam.oves@anshome.org).

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



## Nature Birthday Parties

When you celebrate with a birthday party at Woodend Sanctuary, you support us in providing nature education to children all over the DC Metro area. ANS offers nature-themed birthday parties for ages 4-10 at our Chevy Chase Nature Sanctuary. Register online at [anshome.org/parents](http://anshome.org/parents).

- Choose from our party themes: Animal Clues, All About Birds, Reptiles & Amphibians, Wiggly Worms, Insect Investigations, 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).



## Summer Camp Open House

**Saturday, June 8 (10 am-12 pm)**

**Please RSVP to [nora.kelly@anshome.org](mailto:nora.kelly@anshome.org).**

New to Camp Audubon or just feeling anxious about the summer? Then come to our free open house and learn about what makes Camp Audubon so special! The open house is geared to new Pre-K/K families but all are welcome.

- 10-10:15 am: Meet June Bug, the Camp Director
- 10:15-10:45 am: Check-in process and tour of mansion
- 10:45-11:30 am: Pick-up process and tour of grounds

## Children's Garden Open House

**Saturday, June 8 (10 am-12 pm)**

**FREE! No RSVP necessary.**

Come see where campers and pre-schoolers learn about gardening, harvesting food, and making recipes to enjoy and share. See a pizza garden, a pickle garden, and a 3 sisters garden. We'll even have a bug zoo!



Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer your gardening questions and give tours of the garden. Donations welcome. The Children's Garden is located near the side parking lot of the mansion. Questions? Email [jenny.brown@anshome.org](mailto:jenny.brown@anshome.org).



# #7 Up Your Political IQ and Vote

**Problem:** The same pollution that has global impacts often has disproportionately harmful local impacts on low-income communities, communities of color, and indigenous communities.

**Solution: Up Your Political IQ and Vote for Climate and Environmental Justice**

America's long-time reality is that the same pollution that has global impacts is often disproportionately harmful to low-income communities, communities of color, and indigenous communities. Many of these communities also face the effects of climate change first and worst, and they have the fewest resources to move out of harm's way or protect their communities.

If we work together to support "frontline communities" in dealing with the multiple social, environmental, and climate harms they experience, we will get closer to the root cause of so many injustices. Alayna Chunev's job is to see that we do. Chunev is a DC-based United States Program Consultant for Namati, an international organization that seeks to legally empower low-income communities. "Being a part of a minority or low-income community means you're not only fighting for your rights but the rights of future generations to come," she said. "What we are trying to do [is] to teach others that...their voice in the environmental movement is just as important as those making the decisions."

Through Namati, Chunev has helped DC area communities fight industry plans that would harm them and exacerbate the climate crisis. ANS also joins forces with regional partners to fight efforts by government, industry, and other institutions that would harm local communities and increase challenges caused by the climate crisis. Take note of our recent fights to save the Dogue Creek area in Virginia from development in a floodplain and the Nanjemoy Forest in Charles County, Maryland (considered the "lungs of DC"), and ancestral home to the Piscataway Tribe, from a Georgetown University proposal that would destroy pristine forests and wipe out the homes of endangered birds and aquatic life.

We also help residents advocate by hosting workshops that teach how to write letters to elected officials, how to conduct visits with politicians, and understanding key federal, state, and local laws. Join us for the next Conservation Advocacy 101 Workshop on Tuesday, September 17, 2019. Go to [anshome.org/training](http://anshome.org/training) to register.

When residents engage on the local level, they get clearer about how to raise their voices for their communities and the planet. And they also get clear about how important it is to include voting in their activism. We know that, on every level, mobilizing and voting are key to getting action to reduce the damaging effects of climate change.

Ultimately, we encourage you to vote for politicians who convey a vision of a world in which we don't have to live in fear; to vote for a world of justice, where we love our neighbors across town, across the country, and across the world as much as we love the ones in our own backyards.

- Eliza Cava, Director of Conservation



Pepco's Benning Road Power Plant burned coal and later, starting in 2014, it was located in a historically African-American neighborhood. It emitted pollutants such as iron, cadmium, zinc, iron, dust and soot, and other hazardous materials.

# Seven Actions for Seven Generations



Photo by Will Parson/Chesapeake Bay Program

il, along the banks of the Anacostia River in Northeast Washington, D.C., for more than 100 years, from 1906-2012. It was demolished  
merican and largely low-income neighborhood. In addition to carbon emissions, it sent air and water pollution in the form of PCBs, lead,  
ous materials into the air and water. An Anacostia Watershed Society staffer leads a canoe trip along the river in 2014.

# Stream Science

For over 25 years, ANS has been teaching the natural history of aquatic ecology and training volunteer stream monitors to 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 classes are taught by our Maryland Biological Stream Survey-certified instructor Cathy Wiss. To learn more about classes or becoming a volunteer, contact [cathy.wiss@anshome.org](mailto:cathy.wiss@anshome.org) or visit [anshome.org/water-quality-monitoring](http://anshome.org/water-quality-monitoring).

## Registration & Fee Information

Registration required: register online at [www.anshome.org/adults](http://www.anshome.org/adults). The classes are open to anyone 10 years and older. Prices for all classes are \$15 Members/\$25 Nonmembers. Waivers are available for those currently in the ANS monitoring program and for middle and high school students earning SSL credit through their school systems. Email [cathy.wiss@anshome.org](mailto:cathy.wiss@anshome.org) for details.

\* Interested in ANS' stream monitoring program? The classes in the Introduction to Stream Science series are recommended for all volunteer monitors and for those interested in joining the program.

## Know Your Invasive Plants

**Woodend Sanctuary (Teale), Chevy Chase, MD**  
**Saturday, September 14 (9:30 am-noon)**

Invasive plants that kill or bring down mature trees can seriously alter stream health and ecosystem function. 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.

## How to Read Your Stream

**Wednesday, October 2 (7-9:30 pm)**  
**Woodend Sanctuary, Chevy Chase, MD**



Armored mayfly by Cathy Wiss

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.

## Introduction to Stream Science Series



### Classroom Session

#### Healthy Stream Biology

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

**Section D: Wednesday, September 18 (7-9:30 pm)**

**Woodend Sanctuary, Chevy Chase, MD**

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. Sections C & D cover the same material.

### Field Workshop

**Section B: Saturday, June 8 (9:30 am-12 pm)**

**Section C: Sunday, September 22 (1:30-4 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. Sections B & C cover the same material.



Photo by Gale Minnich Blewis

# 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](http://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. **Register online at [www.anshome.org/adults](http://www.anshome.org/adults).**

## JUNE

### Sunday, June 2 Little Bennett Regional Park, Montgomery Co., MD

Half day. Nesting songbirds, possibly including Yellow-breasted Chat, Willow Flycatcher, Prairie Warbler, and Kentucky Warbler. **Meet time/place:** 7:30 am at Kingsley Trail parking area. Insect repellent highly advised, as is waterproof footwear. Extra water and sunscreen also recommended. For more info, contact the leader, Paul DeAnna, at 202-544-2680 or ppdeanna47@gmail.com (12-person limit).

### Sunday, June 9 Fort C.F. Smith Park, Arlington, VA

FULL

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

### Wednesday, June 26 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. For more information, contact the leader, Jim Waggener, at 703-567-3555.

### Saturday, June 29 Oaks Landfill, Laytonsville, MD

FULL

One-third day. Joint trip with Montgomery Bird Club. Explore this meadow area in the now-closed landfill. Mostly open terrain with some ponds. Possibility of dickcissels, grasshopper sparrows, blue grosbeaks, raptors. We have special permission to enter this "closed to the public" area, so reservations are essential. **Meet time/place:** 6:45 am on landfill entrance road at 6001 Rt. 108, Laytonsville, MD. For more information, contact the leader, Mark England, at 240-375-4500 or markengland@canamcontractors.com (20 person limit).

## JULY

### Saturday, July 6 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. Lisa Shannon and Rob Hilton will lead. For more information, contact Lisa at lpshannon@gmail.com (10-person limit).

### Saturday, July 20 Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge, Delaware

Full day at Bombay Hook. Joint trip with Montgomery Bird Club. 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. Paul Pisano and Cyndie Loeper will co-lead. For more information, contact Paul at cheep@alleale.com (15-person limit).

### Wednesday, July 31 Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay NWR, VA

See June 26 listing for details.

## AUGUST

### Sunday, August 25 Huntley Meadows "Hike/Bike" Trail, Fairfax County, VA

Half day. Summer resident songbirds and early migrants. **Meet time/place:** 8 am at parking lot at 6901 S. Kings Hwy., Alexandria, VA. Paved path with off-trail options requiring additional precautions. For more information, contact the leader, Ben Jesup, at benbrep@gmail.com (12-person limit).

### Wednesday, August 28 Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay NWR, VA

See June 26 listing for details.

## SEPTEMBER

### Sunday, September 1 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. For more information, contact the leader, Tony Futcher, at 301-422-3927 or tonyfutcher1@verizon.net.

### Saturday, September 7 Patuxent River Park, Jug Bay Natural Area, Prince George's Co., MD

Half day. Joint trip with Montgomery Bird Club. 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 am at the park entrance gate. Bring fee of \$7 per person for park program; boat trip can be cool and a bit damp. Leaders: Greg Kearns and Karen Fairweather. For more information, contact Marta Wagner at wagmara@yahoo.com (20-person limit).

### Saturday, September 21 Snickers Gap Hawkwatch (between Bluemont & Berryville, VA)

Two-thirds day. Joint trip with Montgomery Bird Club. Peak time for Broad-winged Hawks. **Meet time/place:** 10 am at the commuter lot at VA 7 and VA 601. Joan Boudreau and Bob Abrams will lead. Bring scopes, tripods, chairs, and packed lunch. For more information, contact the leaders at icepeep@aol.com or 703-282-9495 (cell).

### Wednesday, September 25 Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay NWR, VA

See June 26 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](http://ANShome.org/adults).

## Wetland Ecosystems

**NATH 8211E, 3 CEUs**

**Class night and time: Mondays, 6-8 pm**

**Class meetings: July 8-September 16**

**Field trip dates: July 13, 20, and 27**

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

**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.

## Insect Life

**NATH 7130E, 3 CEUs**

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

**Class meetings: July 9-September 10**

**Field trip dates: July 14, July 28, and August 10 (in the evening)**

**Location: Woodend Sanctuary, Chevy Chase, 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 Wildflower Identification

**NATH 7149E, 1.5 CEUs**

**Class night and time: Wednesdays, 7-9 pm**

**Class meetings: July 17-August 14**

**Field trip dates: July 27 and August 10**

**Location: Woodend Sanctuary, Chevy Chase, MD**

**Tuition: \$269**

**Instructor: Sujata Roy**

From milkweeds and morning glories to orchids and asters, summer presents a diverse array of wildflowers for study of plant family characteristics and ways to identify different species. Field trips to two scenic locations for summer wildflowers provide an opportunity for practice in the use of identification guides. Previous Spring Flower Identification class or similar course is recommended but not required. 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](http://ANShome.org/adults)**

## Fall Woody Plant Identification

Mondays, Woodend Sanctuary, MD

Instructor: Elizabeth Rives

## Chesapeake Bay Ecosystems

Mondays, Capital Gallery, DC (L'Enfant Metro)

Instructor: Terry McTigue

## Chemistry for Naturalists

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

Instructor: Joe Marx

## Wildlife Ecology

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

Instructor: Sally Valdes

## Eastern Forest Ecosystems

Wednesdays, Capital Gallery, DC (L'Enfant Metro)

Instructors: Joe Marx and Stephanie Mason

## Weather and Climate

Thursdays, Capital Gallery, DC (L'Enfant Metro)

Instructor: Sean Potter

# Summer Courses July-August

## 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](http://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 Naturalist 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.

## 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 Saturday mornings 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](http://www.anshome.org/adults).

These gentle walks happen every Saturday morning from March through June, and September through November. Walks take place only on the first Saturday of December through February. There are no walks in July and August.

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.



*Capon Bridge, WV | 57th Season*

*Hike. Swim. Explore the Appalachian wilderness.*

*Small groups. Independent projects.*

*Music. Art. Games. And lots of laughter!*



**SENIOR PROGRAM**  
(Ages 11-15)

Two week sessions |  
June, July, August

**JUNIOR PROGRAM**  
(Ages 8-10)

One week session |  
August

**ADULT WEEKEND (Ages 21+)**

Friday, July 26-Sunday, July 28

Roam the ridges, taste wild edibles, learn bird songs, leaf print your t-shirt, and sketch by the stream. Knowledgeable staff, delicious food and beautiful surroundings!

For more information: [burgundycenter.org](http://burgundycenter.org)  
703.842.0470 | [michelem@burgundyfarm.org](mailto:michelem@burgundyfarm.org)

## Audubon After Dark

We would like to thank the following companies for their generous in-kind donations to our celebration of 50 years of Nature for All at Woodend Sanctuary.

Catering by Seasons

Elegance and Simplicity Florist

Ikona Photography

Medina Cuisine

Putting on the Ritz

Spilled Milk



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](mailto:carol.hayes@anshome.org) for complete itineraries and registration information or visit [ANSHome.org/travel](http://ANSHome.org/travel).

## Oregon's Diverse Landscapes

**August 16-25, 2019**

**Leaders: Mark Garland & Tom Reed**

Search for birds and enjoy natural history in a diverse set of habitats on our new Oregon itinerary. We'll visit the scenic Columbia River Gorge on our way to Bend, a pleasant town along the Deschutes River at the eastern foot of the Cascades. Here we'll explore the sagebrush steppe of the high desert, the riparian corridor along the river, and montane forests and meadows of the Cascade Mountains. We then head to Newport along the scenic Oregon coast, searching for birds and marine mammals. A leisurely drive north along the coast takes us back to Portland, where the trip concludes. Contact Carol at [carol.hayes@anshome.org](mailto:carol.hayes@anshome.org) or go to [www.anshome.org/adult](http://www.anshome.org/adult) for itinerary and costs.

## Tanzania: East African Wildlands and Wildlife

**November 1-11, 2019**

**Optional extension to November 14**

**Leaders: Stephanie Mason and local guides**

**WAITLIST  
OPEN**

This trip is full but contact Carol at [carol.hayes@anshome.org](mailto:carol.hayes@anshome.org) to be added to the waitlist..

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

**February 7-21, 2020**

**Leaders: Stephanie Mason and Carlos "Charlie" Gomez**

Our Senior Naturalist is already looking forward to her 21st year of co-leading an ANS trip with Costa Rican birder and naturalist extraordinaire Charlie Gomez. Considered a top ecotourism destination, the tropical wonderland of Costa Rica harbors a rich diversity of plants and animals. Our 2020 trip explores Caribbean lowland rain forest, cool mountain highlands, southern Pacific foothills and coastline, and other wildlands. Expect toucans, trogons, tanagers, tropical butterflies, monkeys, and more. Contact Carol at [carol.hayes@anshome.org](mailto:carol.hayes@anshome.org) or 301-652-9188 x10 to receive the registration packet when it is available.

## Mexico: Winter Roosts of the Monarch Butterflies

**February 29-March 6, 2020**

**Optional pre-trip extension February 26-29**

**Leaders: Mark Garland & Local Guides**

Many millions of monarch butterflies migrate each autumn from temperate North America to a handful of mountain forest groves in Mexico's Transvolcanic Mountain Range, roughly 100 miles west of Mexico City. It's truly one of the world's greatest migratory spectacles, and astoundingly, most of these millions of butterflies cluster together all winter in areas of just a couple of acres or less. This new ANS travel program features visits to the three sites that typically have the greatest numbers of wintering monarchs. While our primary goal is to marvel at these astounding concentrations and to learn about monarch biology, there will also be time to explore other elements of natural and human history. The optional extension is designed for those who would like to explore the cultural wonders in and around Mexico City. Please note that this trip is considered strenuous. Contact [carol.hayes@anshome.org](mailto:carol.hayes@anshome.org) to receive further information when it becomes available.



Photo by Mark S. Garland

### Save the Date

Join us **Thursday, October 24** for the ANS Annual Meeting at Woodend Sanctuary.

### Support ANS – Monthly!

It's easy! Go to [ANSHome.org/Donate](http://ANSHome.org/Donate), or contact Loree Trilling at 301-652-9188 x35 or [loree.trilling@anshome.org](mailto:loree.trilling@anshome.org).

### 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](http://travelexinsurance.com).



# Central Arizona and the Grand Canyon

Early May 2020

Leader: Rob Gibbs

Beginning in Phoenix, our ultimate destination is the Grand Canyon, but we will take our time getting there as we explore the tremendous diversity of Central Arizona along the way. As we head north out of Phoenix, we will visit one of the northern most areas of the Sonoran Desert supporting a healthy growth of desert species. We will spend several days exploring the diverse habitats of the Verde Valley and Red Rock Country of Sedona. When afternoons begin to heat up we will head for the cool higher elevations of Mingus Mountain or the Mogollon Rim of the Colorado plateau to explore the mixed evergreen forests and their bird life. As we travel north we'll visit the San Francisco Peaks, the highest point in the State. Then it's on to the Grand Canyon to experience the grandeur of what is often considered one of the 7 natural wonders of the world. We'll spend several days exploring its geology and wildlife before returning to Phoenix. Contact Carol Hayes at [carol.hayes@anshome.org](mailto:carol.hayes@anshome.org) if you'd like to receive info on the trip when it's available.



Photo by Rob Gibbs

## Future Nature Travel Destinations:

Trips are being considered to **Guatemala, Texas and Panama**; please email [carol.hayes@anshome.org](mailto:carol.hayes@anshome.org) if you would like to receive information once they are confirmed.

## Crowder-Messersmith Conservation Fund News

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

For 2019, the Committee evaluated 223 proposals and awarded grants totaling over \$22,000 to: beehive fences and African Elephant conservation in **Uganda**; conservation of threatened wild orchids in **Kenya**; habitat preservation for the vulnerable Olive Ridley turtles in **India**; vulnerable seahorses and citizen science in coastal **Kenya**; educational awareness to protect vulnerable Pangolins and Crocodiles in **Ghana**; culture conservation in **Benin**; endangered Red Panda conservation in **Nepal**; community mobilization to conserve the vulnerable Black-crowned Crane in **Ethiopia**; community cloud-forest conservation in **Guatemala**; restoration of the Vieques, **Puerto Rico's** marine aquarium; an additional 2 grants, for threatened frog and toad populations in **Bosnia-Herzegovina** and habitat recovery for the critically endangered Chilean Woodstar Hummingbird in **Chile**, were approved to honor the memory of longtime Committee member (and ANS Shop Assistant Manager) Yoli Del Buono.

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

**Please save the date and join us for our annual Crowder-Messersmith talk on Thursday, October 17, 2019, featuring Don Messersmith and Daphne Gemmill.**

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.



# Restoration

## Alison Pearce Helps Lead Future of Woodend While Explaining Its Past in New Documentary

By Sarah Fraidin

Alison Pearce, as Director of Restoration, is one of the leading voices in *The Land of Woodend*, the new documentary about 400 years of fascinating and challenging history on the land ANS calls home. The sanctuary's transformation is key to ANS's Nature for All movement.

Pearce's calm, poised, quiet determination is the perfect demeanor to lead ANS down the rocky road of this massive undertaking. "You have to make a mess to make it better. It's like renovating your kitchen. You have a vision of creating this beautiful chef's kitchen, but first you have to endure six months of dust in your Cheerios," she says.

One of the biggest hurdles Pearce has faced so far has been to gently coerce 33 deer off the land... and then keep them off!

After the first deer drive involving 100 volunteers, Pearce naively thought they had succeeded. "We were like George Bush on the ship, hugging, cheering, shouting mission accomplished!"

For various reasons, the deer found ways back in. "It was heartbreaking," she says. "Each time they re-entered, they found all of our new plantings and just wiped them out."

Pearce organized eight more drives, put up wildlife cameras to monitor deer behavior, installed new gate latches, and made the new cattle gates even longer. She calls this kind of response "adaptive management" and says you must be willing to learn through failure in restoration work.

"We're now seeing Mayapples, Solomon's Seal, and Trout Lily. It is exciting. We haven't seen those in a long time."

Pearce is cautiously ecstatic. "It is so much better than I thought it would be at this stage. I love to see what Mother Nature can accomplish when you give her a bit of a helping hand."

These days Pearce balances time spent outside on hands-on projects alongside ANS volunteers with many hours of desk time shepherding the next major Woodend improvements (stream and trail restorations) through design and permitting. But a vision of Woodend's future as an oasis for all people and wildlife makes it all worth it. "I joke that Woodend is like my favorite child at this point," she says.



Photo of Alison Pearce by Ben Israel

### Future Showings of The Land of Woodend:

Saturday, June 29 (11:45 am-1 pm)  
ANS Woodend Sanctuary Mansion

FREE Admission - Limited Seating  
Register at [anshome.org/woodend-movie](http://anshome.org/woodend-movie)

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 the Woodend Manor and tours of the Woodend Grounds and Children's Garden from 9 am-1 pm on **Saturday, June 29**. All are welcome.

For more info about this event, please contact Jacky Wershbale at [Jacky.Wershbale@anshome.org](mailto:Jacky.Wershbale@anshome.org) or 301-652-9188 x31.

## Midnight Moons and Historical Archives Help ANS Videographer Tell the “Incredible” Story of The Land of Woodend

By Sarah Fraidin

Ben Israel poured 18 months of his life into directing and producing *The Land of Woodend*, a documentary made in partnership with Heritage Montgomery. Before Woodend was given to ANS by Marion Wells in a bequest, the up-to-then-all-volunteer organization met in people’s homes, and even in the White House when member Theodore Roosevelt was president.

Israel’s devotion to the project took over his life. He spent six to seven days a week during the last nine months working with historians, archivists, and an outstanding team of ANS volunteers and staff, who help tell the remarkable story of human impacts on the land. Restoration Director Alison Pearce was especially helpful giving Israel a deeper understanding of the ecology of Woodend Sanctuary as new life was planted and bloomed. The extraordinary effort -- on everyone’s part -- was worth it.

Viewers have called *The Land of Woodend* “inspiring” and “incredible.” Some immediately said they wanted to watch it again and again.

Israel’s vision took him to West Virginia, Massachusetts, Virginia, into DC, and throughout Montgomery County. In northern Virginia to film Algonquian settlement locations, he pulled over on the side of the GW Parkway to shoot across the Potomac River. He was also out at midnight once to capture a full moon. Some surprising discoveries included documentation of 10 enslaved people who worked the land when it was a tobacco plantation.

He learned along the way. “I knew how to shoot video and tell a story, but building a story using archival photography was new to me. So was telling centuries of history. I had never done it.”

Executive Director Lisa Alexander’s intimate knowledge of the institution and sanctuary made her an excellent partner in perfecting the script. “Lisa has an exceptional eye for detail, in words and images. She committed far more hours than I could have asked for helping me polish the script and get some great visuals,” Israel said.

Before *The Land of Woodend* showed up in his life, Israel recalled, “I got away from following my dreams, but they came back to me. And I’m grateful to ANS for that.”

Go to [www.anshome.org/woodend-movie](http://www.anshome.org/woodend-movie) to learn of new showings.



Photo of Ben Israel by Denisse Guitarra

# THE LAND OF WOODEND



AN AMERICAN PAST, A RESTORATION FOR THE FUTURE



Photo by Ben Israel

Above: Schubert sits on a small bench in her hilly backyard surrounded by the native plants she "birthed" and knows by name.

## Let's Hear it from a Real-Life Ecosystem Boss

Our yards, gardens, school grounds, workplaces, apartment building campuses, and even balconies can help us capture more pollutants, supply more homes for wildlife, and build a more sustainable future. Barbara Schubert knows. The Silver Spring, MD gardener of more than 50 years began 16 years ago turning the "wasteland" around her home into an indigenous, or native plant, sanctuary. When we offered appreciation to Schubert for her hard work, she corrected us. "I would say challenging, and not work, but play. And what a playground...all day outdoors in the woods hearing birds and being among the plants that I 'birthed' and know by name."

She went on to share. "The entire property was covered by an invasion of non-nourishing, non-native plants. The topsoil had washed away or was shallow and clay. The woodland section had been used as a dump. We carried away concrete, bricks, tires, shoes, rugs, toys, and glass in about 60 trips to the dump. Because of the deer, there were few young trees.

I have planted more than a hundred trees: oaks, maples, paw paw, Eastern redbud, dogwood, and countless shrubs.

When the garden is in bloom, there are many kinds of bees and other pollinators and woodland birds: various woodpeckers, goldfinches, cardinals, the tufted titmouse and house finch, juncos, mourning doves, robins. The small goldfish pond is an all-season watering spot for birds and squirrels. It also attracts predators like the rat snake and garden snake who sometimes fish there. Box turtles pass through.

I am most proud when a green (bronze) common pond frog made its way uphill to claim its territory. The current frog prince has yet to attract a mate while he turns from dull grey-green to bronze pink and sings plaintively."

What will you do to **Become an Ecosystem Boss**? Go to [www.anshome.org/climate](http://www.anshome.org/climate) for more information and more of Schubert's insights. - Alison Pearce, Director of Restoration



Photo by Caroline Brewer

The fire pink (*Silene virginica*) is one of the many native flower delights in Schubert's garden.



We say a fond farewell to the Voice of the Naturalist, a tried and true friend for the past 40 years. Over its long history, the Voice has delighted people with rare and unusual bird reports on a weekly basis. However, given the robust availability of birding resources today, it seems the best time for ANS to sunset the Voice at the end of May and let bird-focused organizations, like Cornell Lab of Ornithology's eBird, carry birding resources into the future.

We are so grateful to the volunteers who have carried out the Voice of the Naturalist service. Our most recent cadre of compilers include Rick and Nancy Sussman, Frank Boyle, Bryan Henson, Lydia Schindler, and Bob Hartman, as well as transcriber Steve Cordle, but we also have many others to thank over the years: Helen Patton, Joe Coleman, John Bjerke, Gerry Hawkins, Jane Hill and Andy Martin. Thank you all!

**MEMORIAL AND TRIBUTE CONTRIBUTIONS**

February-April 2019

**IN HONOR OF:****Lisa Alexander**

Kathryn Love

**Scott Fosler**

Celia V. Martin

**Mark Garland**

Johannah Barry; Barbara Bassett & Helen Mojta; Megan Carroll & Michelle Price; Jane Collins; Elizabeth Cunningham; Janet Dale & Bill Wilkinson; Cris & Jon Fleming; Tom & Judy Gire; Barbara Gordon; Janet Kegg; Stephanie Mason; Mary Massey; FK Millar; Cecily Nabors; Paul & Barbara O'Brien; Katherine Patterson; Marti & Mike Seraphin; Barbara & Paul Schneeman; Joe & Nancy Silvio; Julie Small

**Carol Hayes, Pam Oves & Jacky Wershale**

Joan Haffey

**Frank Sanford**

Celia V. Martin

**Katie Simenson**

Franz &amp; Effie Stallsmith

**Judi Zvonkin**

Elaine Joselovitz

**IN MEMORY OF:****Bonnie Cochran**

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Stephanie Mason

**Joan & Murray N. Shelton, Jr.**

Alison Shelton

**Zoja Shelton**

Martha &amp; Billy Shelton

**Robert W. Timmons**

Robert Timmons

**Volunteer Opportunity to serve on ANS Board of Directors**

ANS is in search of a few good volunteer Board members. This is a great opportunity for young professionals to advance their careers and for seasoned members to bring their expertise to ANS leadership. In particular, ANS seeks people of diverse backgrounds with a passion for the natural world. Lawyers, non-profit accounting professionals, local business leaders and communications professionals are of particular interest. If you would like to be considered for Board service, please contact Jacky.Wershale@anshome.org.

**APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED!****Master Naturalist Training at Woodend Sanctuary!**

This fall, ANS will partner with the University of Maryland Extension to offer our ninth 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 9-October 28, 2019 (9:30 am-3 pm)

Application-based admission is limited to 20 participants and fills quickly.

If you'd like to learn more about the natural world and become a trained naturalist volunteer, apply online starting May 15 at ANShome.org/master-naturalist. Questions? Email mitch.greene@anshome.org.

**Do you participate in the National Capital Area CFC?**

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Combined Federal Campaign under EarthShare Mid-Atlantic.





*“The Eagle does not escape the storm.  
The Eagle simply uses the storm to lift it  
higher. It spreads its mighty wings and  
rises on the winds that bring the storm.”*

- Jack White



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[anshome.org/shop](http://anshome.org/shop)  
301-652-3606

#### 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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