

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Non-native Invasive Plant Removal
 Saturday, April 5; 1:00-4:00 pm
 Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary, Anne Arundel County

Join our team to remove the non-native invasive plants from our forests and nip these NIPs in the bud before they spread and threaten the special habitats and rare plants found on the Sanctuary. Those interested in continuing this effort throughout the year can adopt their very own plot to monitor, map and manage the invasives. Wear long sleeves, long pants, and sturdy work shoes. Bring water, and if you have them, work gloves and hand pruners. Children should be at least 8 years old.

Contact: Karyn Molines kmolines@chesapeake.net 410-286-2928

Directions: Call JBWS 410-741-9330 or www.jugbay.org

BALTIMORE

Become an Urban Weed Warrior!

Baltimore City Recreation and Parks has started its own Urban Weed Warriors program. Weed warriors can come to any of the sessions listed below to learn about the non-native invasive problem in Baltimore City parks. Training will include weed ID, removal techniques and native alternatives to exotic flora. The training will lead to certification as a weed warrior, whereby volunteers can work on their own to help control non-native invasives in Baltimore City parks. There will also be information about organized weed-pull activities throughout the spring and summer. Please contact the Urban Weed Warrior Coordinator, at weeds@baltimorecity.gov or 410-396-0359, for directions, RSVP or with questions.

weeds@baltimorecity.gov

Urban Weed Warrior Coordinator
 Baltimore City Recreation & Parks
 2600 Madison Ave.
 Baltimore City, MD 21217

Sat. Mar. 22 Greater Baltimore, Sierra Club – Moderate. Invasive Plant Removal along Glen Ellen – Seminary Trail Help cut invasive vines and pull other non-native plants along the Glen Ellen – Seminary Trail in the Loch Raven Watershed. Meet at 9:00 AM on Seminary Ave. just past the light to the left off Dulaney Valley Rd., just north of the Baltimore Beltway. Tools and gloves will be provided. For information, call Mary at 410-239-4590, 443-386-0862 (cell), or email at XxDiTz4LyFxFX@aol.com.

Sat. May 17 Greater Baltimore, Sierra Club – Moderate. Invasive Plant Removal in Leakin Park. Help cut invasive vines out of beautiful old trees in Leakin Park in Baltimore City. As well as getting satisfaction from freeing trees that are being choked and strangled, you will be rewarded with excellent exercise. Tools and gloves will be available. Meet at 10 AM at the Carrie Murray Nature Center in Leakin Park, off of Windsor Mill Road in Baltimore City. For more information, contact Mary at 410-239-4590 (home), 443-386-0862 (cell), or email at XxDiTz4LyFxFX@aol.com.

For invasive plant removal activities, planting of trees and other native species, stream cleanup, and stream monitoring, contact the following organizations for information about training sessions and outings:

- Cromwell Valley Park, call 410-887-2503 Mon–Fri 9-2 or for information about invasive plant removals in the park the 2nd Saturday of each month, 9 am-noon. Tools and refreshments are provided. You may also call to volunteer to participate in trail maintenance outings at check cypark@bcpl.net the park. Check out the park's varied activities.
- Gunpowder Valley Conservancy, 410-343-3478 or info@gunpowderfalls.org, www.gunpowderfalls.org
- Herring Run Watershed Association, 410-254-1577, volunteer@herringrun.org. Volunteers are sought to adopt sections of Herring Run to monitor, report, and prevent pollution. "Free the Trees" Weed Pull @ Herring Run Park, Meet @ Chesterfield Ave. & Cardenas Ave. for weed pulling along the Chesterfield Ave. bike path in Herring run. Should be able to park along the street. Please wear sturdy work attire. Tools and gloves will be provided but feel free to bring your own. There will be yummy veggie CHILI, hot COCOA, and coffee. For more information call Darin Crew @ 410-254-1577.

- Irvine Nature Center, 410-484-2413, www.explorenature.org
- Jones Falls Watershed Association, 410-366-3036, www.jonesfalls.org or email sgreene@jonesfalls.org. Join them for invasive plant removals 9:30 –12 on March 8 at Meadowood Park just outside the Baltimore Beltway on Falls Road and on May 10 at Stony Run Park.
- Maryland Native Plant Society, www.mdflora.org
- Prettyboy Watershed Alliance, <http://www.prettyboywatershed.org/> or email prettyboywatershed@gmail.com
A Prettyboy Watershed cleanup is scheduled as part of Project Clean Stream on April 12.
- There will be tree plantings at Leister Park in Hampstead on March 22 and April 6, 1-4 PM.
- Urban Weed Warrior Program, Baltimore City Recreation & Parks, 410-396-0359, weeds@baltimorecity.gov.
Weed Pull @ Cylburn Arboretum, Meet @ Cylburn Mansion [4915 Greenspring Ave.]. Park in the designated parking area and meet at the steps of the mansion. Please wear sturdy work attire. Tools and gloves will be provided but feel free to bring your own. Refreshments will be provided. For more information [or](#) directions call 410-396-0359. weeds@baltimorecity.gov
Weed Warrior Training Sessions
Become a certified Urban Weed Warrior! Be trained in the identification, threat, and control of invasive plant species like English ivy and Japanese honeysuckle. Once certified, you can work on your own or in organized groups to help rid the city of invasives that are harming Baltimore parks.
A powerpoint presentation will be followed by a short walk through Cylburn Arboretum, Wyman Park Dell or Leakin Park!
Specific locations and times to be announced.
Please email weeds@baltimorecity.gov or call 410-396-0359 for current dates, to reserve a place and for further information.

BALTIMORE COUNTY

CROMWELL VALLEY PARK

Work parties for removal of invasives and planting of natives are held at Cromwell Valley Park on the 2nd Saturday of each month 9-12. Rain date is the following day, at the same time. Tools and refreshments are provided-all you need bring is suitable protective clothing. Cromwell Valley Park is a wonderful rural park just outside the Beltway on Cromwell Bridge Road. The areas we have worked on in recent years, Beehive Woods and Dogwood Hill are looking much better, free of major invasives, with new trees and shrubs gaining a foothold. A new project last year was the installation of a deer exclusion fence demonstration to show the effects of excessive deer browsing in the forest.

Our Habitat Restoration Team has a tough ongoing assignment to eliminate non-native invasives from this scenic park, and we need all the help we can get. We have tackled multiflora rose, Japanese barberry, kudzu, garlic mustard, mile a minute, porcelain berry, oriental bittersweet and many others. There is still lots to do.

For information contact Bill Breakey at breakeys@comcast.net
The park office is at 410-887-2503. or check out the park's website at cvpark@bcpl.net. Volunteers are placed on an email notify list.

BALTIMORE COUNTY AND HOWARD COUNTY

Patapsco Heritage Greenway Tentative 2008 Calendar of Events

NOTE: Additional stream cleanup dates and locations may be scheduled depending on group requests, number of available volunteers and compatible dates and times.

Wednesday, January 16 – Stream watch team to conduct recon on stream off Ilchester Road/College Avenue in Ellicott City.

Saturday, January 26 - 9:30 am – 12:30 – Herbert Run – off Edmondson Avenue in Catonsville. Meet along Event will be rescheduled in the event of inclement weather or extreme cold weather conditions.

Thursday, January 31 - 7- 8:45 p.m.- Annual Meeting - Ilchester Girl Scout Conference Center in Ellicott City. Guest speaker: Dave Dione (snow date: February 7)

Saturday, February 2 – Stream watch team to conduct recon on Cedar Run.

Wednesday, February 13 – 10:30 am – 1:30 pm – Student Service Volunteer Fair at Howard Community College – Columbia.

Thursday, February 14 - 4-6 pm - FPVHG board meeting – Tourism Office

Saturday, March 1 – Baltimore City/County Watershed Conference –9 am – 3pm - tentatively scheduled for Goucher College in Towson. Subject is “Trash, Greening, Storm water, Public Health and Redevelopment.” More details as they become available through Balto Co. Dept. of Environmental Protection & Resource Management.

Saturday, March 8 -10 am – 1 pm - Cooper’s Run Stream. Meet at the Country Corner – Jay Patel, Assistant Stream Captain. Park at store parking lot or in driveways of 417, 419 or 425 Oella Avenue, Oella.

Saturday, March - 22 - 10 am – 1 pm. Stream cleanup TBA

Friday, March 28 – 6:30 –7:30 pm. Project Clean Stream Team Captains Meeting (to get supplies & instructions for cleanup on April 5). Meet in Howard County Tourism Office, 8267 Main Street, Side Entrance, Ellicott City, MD 21043.

Saturday, April 5 – 9 am – 12 pm - PROJECT CLEAN STREAM

Large volunteer event for various stream clean ups throughout Patapsco Valley area: Herbert Run, Miller Branch, Cooper Branch, Tiber Hudson River, Deep Run Branch, Bonnie Branch, etc. For meeting locations, call 410-480-0824 or e-mail patapscofriend@gmail.com.

Sunday, April 6– 1-5 pm (Baltimore County Scouts Stream Clean Up Day). Various streams along Herbert Run

Thursday, April TBA – 12:30 – 2 pm Environmental Exhibit at Howard Community College - Columbia, Maryland.

Monday, April 21 – Stream cleanup along Elkridge Furnace Road/Ridge Road – Deep Run with Elkridge Landing Middle School students as part of student service learning project. (RAIN DATE: Wed., April 23)

Saturday, April 26 – 9 am – 12 pm – Stream cleanup TBA

Thursday, April TBA - 4-6 pm - FPVHG board meeting – Tourism Office

Sunday, May 4 – 1 – 5 pm. Patapsco State Park, Avalon and Glen Artney Areas

Garlic Mustard Challenge -(popular annual family-oriented event. Join the challenge with hundreds of other volunteers removing the invasive garlic mustard plant from the park. After two hours of pulling, enjoy live music, old fashioned picnic games, environmental displays. Prizes for all volunteers. Taste testing of garlic mustard side dishes by amateur chefs and view posters created by local area school-age children.

Sunday, May 4 – 3-4 pm. Patapsco State Park, Avalon and Glen Artney Areas

Villain of the Valley Poster contest. Kids submit your poster showing why invasive garlic mustard is hurting the Patapsco Valley area. \$50 gift certificate from Toys R Us or \$100 savings bond for first prize. Two computers donated to their public school or non-profit of their choice.

Sunday, May 4 – 3-4 pm. Patapsco State Park, Avalon and Glen Artney Areas

Garlic Mustard Chef Cook-off. Adults and kid chefs submit their recipe and dish using the garlic mustard herb. Winners receive gift certificate from local area fine restaurants. After judging, other Garlic Mustard participants may sample the dishes.

Thursday, May TBA – 4-6 pm - FPVHG board meeting – Tourism Office

Saturday, May 24 – 9 am – 12 pm – Stream cleanup TBA.

Saturday, June 7 – 9 am – 12 pm National River Clean Up Week. Patapsco River in historic Ellicott City/Oella. Meeting location: off Oella Avenue near the bridge across from the Trolley Stop Restaurant (just past the bridge over the Patapsco River that separates Baltimore and Howard counties. We will be cleaning up riverbanks on both sides of the river. Please park in public parking lot A next to the Trolley Stop Restaurant. For directions, please go to <http://www.ellicottcity.net/tourism/parking>. Betsy McMillion, Stream Clean-up Captain.

Saturday, June TBA – 9 am – 12 pm – Stream cleanup TBA.

Saturday, August TBA - 9 am – 12 pm. Stream cleanup TBA.

Saturday, September 27 - 9 am – 12 pm. National Public Lands Day. Site along Patapsco River TBA.

Saturday, October 4 - 9 am – 12 pm. Stream cleanup TBA

Saturday, October 11 - 9 am – 12 pm. Stream cleanup TBA.

Saturday, October 25 - 9 am – 12 pm. Stream cleanup TBA.

Saturday, November 15 - 9 am – 12 pm. RAIN OR SHINE !!!!!!!! Tree planting along Herbert Run in Arbutus. Meeting location to be announced. Betsy McMillion, Tree Planting Captain.
2008 EVENTS (continued)

Saturday, November 22 - 9 am – 12 pm. Stream cleanup TBA

NOTE: Additional stream cleanup dates and locations may be scheduled depending on group requests, number of available volunteers and compatible dates and times. Call 410-480-0824 day of event to make sure clean up has not been cancelled. To learn more about the Friends of the Patapsco Valley & Heritage Greenway, visit us at www.patapscoheritagegreenway. To see photos of past volunteers in action, visit <http://patapscofriend.myphotoalbum.com>. If you would like to join hundreds of other volunteers in cleaning up the Patapsco Valley area, please call 410-480-0824 or e-mail patapscofriend@gmail.com.

OTHER PARTNER ORGANIZATION EVENTS:

Patapsco State Park – <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/central/patapscovolunteer.html>

Catonsville Rails to Trails – <http://home.comcast.net/~crtt/>

Patapsco Valley State Park

Please join the Friends of Patapsco Valley State Park on the second Wednesday evening of each month at the Avalon area to eradicate invasive vines. This is the worst place in the park for non-native vines where they have killed or broken many trees in that area, so we need lot's of help. Wear long clothes and bring gloves as there is some poison ivy. If you have them, bring hand pruners and lopers (the 2 handed cutters for larger vines). We will have a few extra tools if you need to borrow some. See our web site for updates at <http://www.fpvsp.org/>
Contact Jim Palmer to confirm date/time via email at J.G.Palmer@jhuapl.edu or at 410 531 2065.

Meet at the Avalon contact station.

From I -95 take I-195 east to Rt. 1 toward Elkridge. Turn right immediately on South St. Park entrance is on the left. Proceed 1/2 mile to the contact station.

CALVERT COUNTY

Hellen Creek Preserve

Directions; From Washington, take Rt. 4 south to Calvert County. Turn right at the second light in Lusby, which is Coster/Mill Bridge Road and an immediate left onto Coster. After passing two rights (Bassford) look for the MACHINE SHOP sign on the left then ahead and on the right for Clifton Drive. Turn here and follow to the first left. You'll see a hand made sign with the number 11785.

Turn here and follow to the sign and gate. For more info, or to receive updates about workdays email or call Bob Boxwell, Executive Director, Cove Point Natural Heritage Trust, 11785 Clifton Drive, P.O. Box 336, Lusby, MD 20657, 410-394-1300, or bobboxwell@hotmail.com.

American Chestnut Land Trust, Port Republic, Calvert County, MD

Join us for our extensive Non-Native Invasive Plant Removal program in one of the last pristine watersheds on the Western Shore of the Chesapeake Bay.

Work as a team or individually; includes training, tools, water, and gloves.

Every Wednesday morning for "Weed Whacking Wednesdays" - 2 hours per week, winter & early spring 10:00-12:00; late spring, summer & fall 9:00-11:00.

Or one Saturday a month for "Vine Vindicator Saturdays" - 9:00-12:00; 2008

Dates: February 23; March 29, April 26, May 31, June 28, July 26, September 13, October 18.

For more information, weather cancellations or directions contact Liz Stoffel, Land Manager, 410-414-3400, land@actweb.org

There will be a full invasive training program August 16, but it is not necessary to participate on the workdays.

CAROLINE COUNTY

Adkins Arboretum

Adkins Arboretum trains volunteers to assist the staff in the removal of invasive non-natives on the Arboretum's 400-acre site. Workdays are flexible. For more information, contact Sylvan Kaufman at 410 634-2847, ext. 24. Visit www.adkinsarboretum.org for directions and more information.

Plant More than Just a Pretty Face: Native Alternatives to Invasive Plants

Wednesday, March 5, 1 – 2:30 pm

Fee \$15

Gardeners often unknowingly harbor some serious invasive plants in their backyards, or maybe they know but aren't sure what to replace them with. In this lecture participants learn about how using native plants to replace invasive plants can offer benefits from attracting more butterflies and birds to reducing the spread of invaders in their neighborhood. Participants will learn how gardens can reflect their native landscapes instead as well as being ornamental. Sylvan Kaufman is the Arboretum's Conservation Curator and co-author of Invasive Plants.

CHARLES COUNTY

Chapman Forest and Ruth Swann Park

Dates: First Sundays and following Saturday, monthly

Time: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Remove invasive non-natives from the 200-acre Swann Park and 800-acre portion of Chapman Forest designated Chapman State Park. There will be time for plant identification and a beautiful beach lunch. Participating organizations include Maryland Native Plant Society, Sierra Club and Chapman Forest Foundation.

There are general methods and species-specific methods, such as best season for species, wet soil condition for pulling, handouts, extent of area of natives seen rescued, delayed gratification, targeted use of herbicides, and matching funds for staff to do what volunteers find hard to do.

Non-native invasive plant removal will reach maintenance phase following a major work effort at each site in the Mid-Atlantic region and around the world for about three to five years to remove the massive populations of species. Regular stewardship projects are conducted in all seasons including winter, early spring, late spring, summer, and late summer. This high-intensity program is followed by a low-intensity annual maintenance program for plants we have missed, plants emerging from the seed bank, and occasional plants migrating in from neighboring areas.

Casual clothing, long sleeves and pants, sturdy comfortable walking boots/shoes, gloves are encouraged for these

events.

INFO about the area and map <http://www.chapmanforest.org> and www.mattawomanwatershedsociety.org

Contact: Marc Imlay, 301-699-6204 or 301-283-0808. I can be reached at 301-442-5657 on my cell phone on these dates.

DIRECTIONS: First Sunday, meet at main gate of Chapman Forest.

Directions to Chapman Forest, Chapman State Park, Mount Aventine and the Glendening Natural Environment Area. Take the Washington Capital Beltway to Indian Head Highway (MD 210) south toward Indian Head (from VA Exit 2; from MD Exit 3A). At 14 miles, continue through on MD 210 through the traffic light at MD 227 (This crossroads is the center of the community known as Bryans Road). At about 1.1 miles past the light, veer to the right onto Chapmans Landing Road. Follow for 1.6 miles to the gated entrance of Mount Aventine and Chapman State Park.

CARPOOL Info: Meet at Sierra Club Md. Chapter office at 9 a.m.; return 5 p.m. Call Laurel Imlay at 301-277-7111.

DIRECTIONS: Following Saturday, meet at Ruth B. Swann Park- Potomac Branch Library parking lot, 20 miles south of Washington Beltway (I-495) on Rt. 210 (Indian Head Hwy), about a mile and a half south from the traffic light on Rt. 210 in Bryans Road .Give yourself 30 to 40 minutes from the Beltway. **CARPOOL Info:** Meet at Sierra Club Md. Chapter office at 9 a.m.; return 5 p.m. Call Laurel Imlay at 301-277-7111.

GARRETT COUNTY

Savage River State Forest: Battling Botanical Bullies in Bear Pen Wildland, Garrett County

Leader: Ron Boyer

Date: April 18 and June 20, 2008

Time: 9 am to 12 noon

Exotic Removal Workday description:

Adult volunteers are needed to continue control efforts of Japanese spiraea in the Bear Pen Run area of Savage River State Forest. Bear Pen is designated as a Type 1 Wildland and like other natural areas around the State is threatened by a variety of exotic invasive species. We'll be working on Friday April 18th and Friday June 20th from 9 to 12 to continue our efforts to reduce the infestation using both mechanical and chemical control methods. Kerrie Kyde, Invasive Plant Specialist with the Maryland Wildlife & Heritage Service, is providing technical support. Larry Maxim, Savage River State Forest manager, is providing work tools. Mike Gregory, Big Run & New Germany State Park manager, is providing free camping the night before for any out-of-town volunteers. Ron Boyer, Elk Ridge NatureWorks, is coordinating the project and providing snacks and drinks for volunteers with assistance from the Savage River Watershed Association. For more details or to register, contact Ron at 301-895-3686 or info@elkridgenatureworks.com.

HOWARD COUNTY

Middle Patuxent Environmental Area

The Conservation Stewardship Project in the Middle Patuxent Environmental Area (MPEA) of Howard County will meet March 3rd for a presentation on invasives and the management plan for the MPEA. Workdays in 2008 are:

March 25, April 22, May 27, June 24, September 23, October 28, November 25.

We work on the fourth Tuesday of the month, except the hot months of July and August, from 9:00 - 11:30 am. Contact: Aylene, 410-992-9889 or Carol, cfilipczak@comcast.com.

Carol Filipczak,
Master Gardener

HOWARD / ANNE ARUNDEL / PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

Fort Meade

Help remove Japanese stilt grass, English ivy, garlic mustard, tree of heaven, multiflora rose, Japanese honeysuckle, common privet, phragmites, Asiatic tearthumb, etc. Prior to removing the weeds, there will be a short training session on identification, and control techniques of non-native invasive plants.

People of all ages, backgrounds and interests are invited to spend a few hours outdoors, hand-pulling some non-native plants while learning about the differences between native and non-native invasive plants and how these invasives adversely impact our natural ecosystem.

Where and When

Fort Meade Army Installation

Second Saturday of every month at 10 a.m. (time is flexible if enough volunteers are available).

Directions: Take Route 175 East from the 295 Baltimore Washington Parkway. Turn Right onto Reece Road to enter the post, immediately turn left onto Ernie Pyle Street, go approximately 1 mile to Llewellyn Avenue, Turn left on Llewellyn, then turn right onto Chisholm Avenue, turn left on 3rd Street, turn right on Ross Road and go to 2nd building on the right, Environmental Division Office.

Bring hand tools, gloves, lunch and water. Long sleeves and pants recommended. At least three days prior to the event, contact Don Marquardt, Installation forester, by phone at 301-677-9185 or by e-mail, donald.marquardt@us.army.mil. A list of names should be provided to the forester that will in turn be provided to guard personnel at Reece Road entrance to ensure access on to post.

Patuxent Research Refuge

Non-native invasive plants are threatening our wildlife habitat. We need YOU to help stop them. Come out for one of our "Weed Warriors Days" and help us treat garlic mustard, mile-a-minute, Japanese stiltgrass and other non-native plant infestations on the refuge. All ages and abilities are welcome. Do your part to protect Patuxent from alien invaders, and become a Weed Warrior! You will receive a short educational briefing explaining the effects of invasive plants on wildlife and wildlife habitats and how to identify and control these plants. Wear long sleeves and pants and bring gloves. Please register for this event by calling 301-497-5887. Dates for 2008 events are as follows (dates and times subject to change if necessary):

Sunday 04-20-2008, Earth Day event - Weed Warriors kickoff. North Tract Visitor Contact Station, 1-4PM
Saturday 05-17-2008, North Tract Visitor Contact Station, 1PM-4PM
Saturday 06-07-2008, North Tract Visitor Contact Station, 9AM-12PM
Saturday 07-12-2008, National Wildlife Visitor Center, 9AM-12PM
Saturday 07-26-2008, North Tract Visitor Contact Station, 9AM-12PM
Saturday 08-09-2008, North Tract Visitor Contact Station, 9AM-12PM

Directions to the North Tract Visitor Contact Station:

From I-295, take the exit for MD-Route 198 towards Fort Meade. Go approximately 1.5 miles until you see Glory Days Auto Salvage on your near right corner and baseball fields on your far right. Turn right between the two onto Bald Eagle Drive. Proceed through the gate and continue about 1/2 mile to the Visitor Contact Station.

Directions to the National Wildlife Visitor Center: The National Wildlife Visitor Center is located off of Powder Mill Road between MD Route 197 and the Baltimore/Washington Parkway, south of Laurel.

For additional information, call 301-497-5763 or visit <http://patuxent.fws.gov>.

Christopher Wicker

Wildlife Biologist

USFWS, Patuxent Research Refuge

12100 Beech Forest Road, Room 138

Laurel, MD 20708

E-mail: Christopher.Wicker@fws.gov

Fax: (301) 497-5515

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Directions to the National Wildlife Visitor Center: The National Wildlife Visitor Center is located off of Powder Mill Road between MD Route 197 and the Baltimore/Washington Parkway, south of Laurel.

For additional information, call 301-497-5763 or visit <http://patuxent.fws.gov>.

Riverfront Park, Laurel

Wishing for weeders in Laurel

Wholesome river with lots of curves seeks outgoing naturalists for invasive species removal and native plant propagation, possibly leading to complete restoration of the wild.

Where: Riverfront Park - Laurel, MD

When: Second Sunday of every month, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Directions:

>From I 95 north or south: take MD Route 216-Laurel exit. At the second traffic light (Main Street) turn right. Go to the end of the next block, turn right at 9th Street and park at the swimming pool.

Contact: Brigitte Fortin-Zaidan bfzaidan@Safe-mail.net or 240-506-8976.

KENT COUNTY

Eastern Neck Wildlife Refuge

Wineberries with garlic mustard: A new type of exotic fruit salad? Not quite. These are two invasive plant species that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service would like help removing from Eastern Neck Wildlife Refuge (1730 Eastern Neck Road, Rock Hall, MD). Garlic mustard is a newly arrived invasive species, and is a management priority. Wineberry is a raspberry-like plant that begins to ripen with fruit between June and July. The weed-pulling guide is Rachel Cliche, a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist and the invasive species specialist for the Chesapeake Marshlands National Wildlife Refuge Complex. Garlic mustard is pulled by hand, but a 4-pronged spading fork works best on wineberry. High boots (for ticks) are recommended, along with a DEET-based bug repellent, a hat and gloves. Rachel is always looking for volunteers to help pull weeds. Contact her at Rachel_Cliche@fws.gov or 410-639-2108 for details about when and where.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Brookside Gardens

Weed Warriors are needed for the forested areas surrounding the gardens. You will be given directions so that you may work independently, weekends or weekdays, on your own schedule. Contact: Stacy Parsons 301-962-1417 or stacy.parsons@mncppc-mc.org . Websites: www.BrooksideGardens.org and/or www.MC-MNCPPC.org/environment/weed_warriors/intro.shtm

Montgomery County Parks

Montgomery County Parks

Help Us by Becoming a Weed Warrior!

We welcome citizen volunteers for help in removing non-native invasive plant species from

M-NCPPC parks in

Montgomery County, Maryland. Become a Certified Weed Warrior by completing a one-hour online course and a two-hour field training session with the forest ecologist for Montgomery Parks, Carole Bergmann. You'll learn identification, removal techniques, and control strategies for the most harmful invasive plants species. Once trained, Certified Weed Warriors can then work at their own pace and choose a schedule that best suits them. Opportunities to work with a group on invasive removal are also offered several times a year. A newer program, Special Project Weed Warriors, enables various community groups (e.g., from a school, workplace, church or synagogue, or community association) to learn weed ID and removal on the spot and then spend a couple of hours tackling invasive vines, shrubs, and herbaceous plants on county parkland. Learn more about both programs at www.weedwarrior.org or call Paul Carlson at 301-942-4709 (Certified) or Lynette Scaffidi at 301-949-0223 (Special Projects).

We are doing a Garlic Mustard Challenge this year in the Montgomery County Parks in MD. It will be held Earth Day week with the biggest event day being April 26 where there will be over 10 parks participating in the event with prizes for the most GM pulled and participation prizes for everyone. Here's the link to the event:

http://www.mcparkandplanning.org/parks/PPSD/Natural_Resources_Stewardship/Veg_Management/weed_contest_2008.shtm

Lynette Scaffidi

The Potomac Gorge

Invasive Plant Control Workdays in The Potomac Gorge.

Help protect native plant biodiversity near DC!

The Nature Conservancy, in partnership with the National Park Service, will continue all season with invasive plant control workdays in the Potomac Gorge, a 15-mile stretch of river valley between Great Falls and Georgetown with over 200 rare plants and 5 globally rare plant communities. Volunteers are welcome to sign up for a variety of workdays, where we cut or pull some of the most problematic weeds, often in scenic areas. We will hold two more Weed Warrior training sessions, where volunteers learn 13 non-native plant species, adopt an area and work independently in the National Parks in the Potomac Gorge.

March 08, 2008: English Ivy saw-down with the AMC Join us as members of the Appalachian Mountain Club come out to saw English Ivy off the trees along the canal and river near Georgetown. Stay for lunch and a hike after if you have the time.

March 30, 2008: Pull Garlic Mustard on Cabin John Island with us!

Exactly 365 days ago we found ourselves in the same spot, so let's make it a tradition to pull garlic mustard on Cabin John Island again on March 30th! Please join us to get some of these out of the ground before they start to flower and give the spring flowers a chance to flourish.

For more information or to sign up, go to: www.nature.org/maryland for a list of workdays, or contact Mary below if you would like to sign up a school or organizational group for a workday, or be added to our email list:

PotomacGorgeVol@tnc.org

(301) 897-8570 x210

Mary Travaglini

Potomac Gorge Habitat Restoration Manager

The Nature Conservancy of MD/DC

5410 Grosvenor Lane, Suite 100

Bethesda, MD 20814

(301) 897-8570 x235

fax: (301) 897-0858

Sligo Creek

The RIP - Removing Invasive Plants Committee of Friends of Sligo Creek holds plant removal events in Sligo between New Hampshire Ave and the headwaters in Kemp Mill and Wheaton. The group invites local residents and others to work on shrubs in fall and winter, garlic mustard in spring, mile-a-minute in summer, and vines throughout the year. For a schedule see www.fosc.org/RIPEventSched.htm

Friends of Sligo Creek is holding occasional winter and spring events in different parts of Sligo Creek Park, and welcomes

newcomers. For a schedule see <http://www.fosc.org/RIPEventSched.htm> >From mid-April to mid-June we will work on removing all garlic mustard. Be sure to check <http://www.fosc.org> for last-minute weather changes. Sally Gagne, 301-588-2071.

Woodend Nature Sanctuary, Chevy Chase

The Audubon Naturalist Society needs your help to remove invasive non-native plants from its Woodend Sanctuary in Chevy Chase, MD! Join us for group work sessions where training will be provided. Trained volunteers may also be authorized to work independently.

Contact Liz Jones: volunteer@audubonnaturalist.org or 301-652-9188 x 30 for more information or to sign up.

Liz Jones

Volunteer Coordinator

Audubon Naturalist Society

8940 Jones Mill Road

Chevy Chase, MD 20815

301 652-9188 x30

Northwest Branch of the Anacostia, Montgomery County

Dates: Third Saturdays, monthly

Time: 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Please join us for a walk in the forest and to remove invasive plants including garlic mustard and multi-flora rose. Then we'll relax and have a vegetarian lunch. All are welcome.

Directions: From the intersection of 29 (Colesville Road) and University Blvd in Silver Spring, go east on University and turn (there's only left) on Williamsburg Drive. Stay on Williamsburg at the first fork you come to (bear left), and then at the second fork (Williamsburg N. vs. S.) bear left again. Williamsburg turns into Big Rock Road at the bottom of the hill. 10204 Big Rock Road.

Bring: Water and gloves. Vegetarian lunch provided.

Contact: Jane Osburn, 301-754-1564, or jgosburn@earthlink.net.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

Hard Bargain Farm Environmental Center, Accokeek

Tuesday, April 29, 2008 from 9:30AM - 11:30AM:

Invasive Plant Removal at Hard Bargain Farm Environmental Center, Accokeek, MD

Leader: Karen Jensen Miles

Volunteers needed! Call 301-292-5665 or e-mail kmiles@fergusonfoundation.org for more information.

Karen Jensen Miles

Program Director

301.292.5665 / 301.292.1070 (fax)

kmiles@fergusonfoundation.org

Belt Woods, Bowie – Ongoing Saturday, Sunday, and occasional mid-week invasive species workgroups. Times and dates vary based on available team leader. Please call or email for schedule. We will be removing creeping euonymus, Japanese honeysuckle, winged burning bush, multiflora rose, oriental bittersweet, Japanese Stiltgrass, Garlic Mustard, etc. from various parts of the property. Tools and gloves provided, but feel free to bring your own favorite tool or pair of gloves. Email to be added to the contact list at pamelakcooper@verizon.net or call (301) 390-0797.

Help Most Polluted Stream in Anacostia Watershed

Friends of Lower Beaverdam Creek seeks volunteers for last-Saturday-of-the-month invasive-plant removal and native planting activity from approx. 9 till noon. Meet at Woodworth Park on Wayne Place in Cheverly, Md. 2008 dates are Jan. 26, Feb. 23, Mar. 29, April 26, May 31, June 28 (no July or Aug), Sept. 27, Oct. 25, Nov. 29 (no Dec.). To join Friends of LBC or for more info about the park, contact Dan or Cathy Smith at 301-386-4394 or Elaine Friebele at 301-341-5722.

Tools are provided, but wear work gloves and sturdy shoes.

Directions:

Take 202 East under the BW parkway. Go one block and turn right on Cheverly. Go one mile and turn left on Forest Road. Go two blocks passing church on left and turn right on Parkway. Go 2 blocks and turn left on Wayne for one block. We meet there at the park by the small playground.

Suitland Bog Invasive Plant Removal Days

Leader: M-NCPPC Park Ranger Chris Garrett

Workday description: Manual removal of honeysuckle and multiflora rose using shovels, pruners and perseverance. Come and help preserve this unique habitat. Meet in the parking lot.

Directions: From the Capital Beltway (I-495), take Exit 7A (Branch Avenue), toward Waldorf. Take Route 5 south. Take the Allentown Road exit. Make a left onto Allentown Road. Stay on Allentown Road through five lights. Turn left onto Suitland Road at the 6th light. Follow Suitland Road until it passes under Suitland Parkway. The entrance to the Suitland Bog is to the right.

Bring: water, work boots, durable clothes, long sleeves, gloves, pruners, and shovels.

Note: Light refreshments will be provided. There is some poison ivy at work site.

M-NCPPC Park Ranger Office
301-627-7755

Indian Creek Trail @ Lake Artemesia, Berwyn Hgts

Title: Garlic Mustard Pull-off

Leader: M-NCPPC Park Rangers Chris Garrett and John Dillon

Workday description: Teams compete in removal of the non-native invasive weed Garlic Mustard. Prizes given to winning team for largest amount pulled in a given area and time. Meet in the Lake Artemesia parking lot along Berwyn Road.

Location: Indian Creek Trail @ Lake Artemesia, Berwyn Hgts, Prince George's County

Directions: Location/Directions - The lake is located on Berwyn Road in College Park.

From the south, the Capital Beltway (I-495), take Exit 23 (Kenilworth Avenue) toward Bladensburg. Make a right onto Route 193 (Greenbelt Road). Make a right onto Branchville Road. (This road turns into 55th Avenue). The parking lot is on the left at the Berwyn Road intersection.

From the north, the Capital Beltway (I-495), take Exit 25 (Route 1) toward College Park. Make a left onto Route 193 (Greenbelt Road), then a left onto Branchville Road. (This road turns into 55th Avenue). The parking lot is on the left at the Berwyn Road intersection.

Bring: water, work boots, durable clothes, long sleeves, gloves,

Note: Light refreshments will be provided. There is some poison ivy at work site.

Contact: M-NCPPC Park Ranger Chris Garrett or John Dillon

M-NCPPC Park Ranger Office
301-627-7755

Watkins Regional Park

Title: Weed Warrior Work Day

Leader: M-NCPPC Park Ranger John Dillon

Workday Description: Manual removal of the non-native invasive weed Garlic Mustard. Location: Watkins Nature Center @ Watkins Regional Park, Prince George's County. Meet at Watkins Nature Center parking lot.

Directions: Located in Upper Marlboro, Maryland, in Watkins Regional Park, one mile west of the Six Flags America amusement park.

>From the Capital Beltway (I-495), take Exit 15A (Central Avenue) east. Continue for approximately three miles. Turn right onto Watkins Park Drive (Route 193) and follow the park signs to the facility.

From Route 301, turn onto Central Avenue (Route 214) west. Continue for approximately three miles (past Six Flags America). Turn left onto Watkins Park Drive and follow to the park entrance on the right.

Bring: water, work boots, durable clothes, long sleeves and gloves.

Note: Light refreshments will be provided. There is some poison ivy at work site.

Contact: M-NCPPC John Dillon or Chris Garrett

M-NCPPC Park Ranger Office
301-627-7755

Greenbelt Homes Inc Housing Cooperative, Greenbelt

The Greenbelt Homes Inc. (GHI) housing cooperative in Old Greenbelt has 85.6 acres of stewardship forest as well as other wooded parcels. The Woodlands Committee is actively involved with urban forestry management. Regular work sessions for the removal/eradication of non-native invasive plant species and tree plantings are scheduled throughout the

year. Also scheduled are bird counts and native landscaping seminars and guided hikes. For more information on GHI Woodlands Committee activities, contact 301-474-4161.

Greenbelt National Park, Greenbelt

Invasive Plant Removal first Saturday of each month 11a.m - 3 p.m. Located just 12 miles from Washington D.C., Greenbelt Park is a beloved retreat from the city and an important refuge for native plants and animals. Come join us in defending Greenbelt Park from encroachment by alien invasive plant growth. Volunteers will be hand pulling harmful non-native plants such as Japanese honeysuckle, beefsteak mint, mile-a-minute weed and garlic mustard. People of all ages, backgrounds and interests are invited to spend a fun day outdoors while learning about the differences between native and non-native plants and helping to preserve the health and native wildlife of this local natural area. Bring lunch, drink, appropriate clothing for weather.

Directions: From the Beltway, take Kenilworth Avenue south about 1/4 mile to Greenbelt Rd, MD 193 (Kenilworth goes under 193). Stay to the right so you can take MD 193 East (a left to go over Kenilworth) for only a few hundred yards to the park entrance. Follow the signs to the Sweetgum picnic area. For any questions and information about upcoming events, contact Tom Crone at tomnjan@erols.com or 301-864-1959

Anacostia Watershed Society Assists Weed Warriors

Little Paint Branch Park and Cherry Hill Road Community Park, Beltsville, Magruder Park, Hyattsville

Last Saturday (starting in March, 2008) from 1100-1500.

Meet at the Beltsville Community Center parking lot. There are full indoor toilet facilities and a large seating area for lunch. We will continue the wonderful progress accomplished the last three years by the Americorps workers, General Electric Volunteers, Robert Goddard French Immersion and Montessori Elementary School, Washington Quaker Work Camps, and World Bank volunteers at Little Paint Branch Community Park.

Our day will include natural history and special features of the park, methods and reasons for the project to control the spread of invasives. Native flowers and other plants will be identified as we work to rescue them. There will be a sign-in and safety orientation with handouts. Gloves and tools are provided. Our objective is to remove the invasives to allow natives to grow back.

DIRECTIONS:

Take U.S. 1 north from the beltway. Go about 1 mile, passing the National Agricultural Research Center, and turn left at the light on Montgomery Rd. Go 3 blocks and turn left on Sellman Road. Go about 5 blocks and turn right into Little Paint Branch Park at the bottom of the hill. Contact Kyle Watts at kyle@mannaheim.org 301-476-0627 or Marc Imlay, 301-283-0808 marc@anacostiaws.org

Magruder Park, Hyattsville

Third Saturday, 9 am to 1 pm. Friends of Magruder Woods

Meet at the Magruder Park parking lot. Take Eastwest Highway (410) east almost to Route 1 in College Park. Turn right on Queens Chapel Road about a mile before Route 1. Go south about a mile and turn left on Hamilton. Pass the Safeway on the right, then pass 38th street, go about one block and turn right into the park. Magruder Park is easily accessible from the West Hyattsville Metro stop on the Green Line. Approximately a 10 block walk to Magruder Park.

Our day will include natural history and special features of the park, methods and reasons for the project to control the spread of invasives. Native flowers and other plants and animals will be identified as we work to rescue them. There will be a sign-in and safety orientation with handouts. Gloves and tools are provided.

Contact Mary Parker 301-927-6216 or Colleen Aistis 301 779-0245 or Mike Breen 301-807-2519 cell.

SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE PROJECT:

Several of the worst invasive species in the Mid-Atlantic region, including English ivy, Asiatic bittersweet, garlic mustard, bush honeysuckle and porcelain berry, are in the early stages of invasion in this park. Japanese stiltgrass covers about 5% of the park. Research indicates that Japanese stiltgrass is a major contributor of nitrogen pollution in the Chesapeake Bay, and reduces by half the ability of any land it dominates to hold water and release it slowly. Non-native invasive plant removal will reach maintenance phase following a major work effort at each site in the Mid-Atlantic region and around the world for about three to five years to remove the massive populations of species. Regular stewardship projects are conducted in all seasons including winter, early spring, late spring, summer, and late summer.

This high-intensity program is followed by a low-intensity annual maintenance program for plants we have missed, plants emerging from the seed bank, and occasional plants migrating in from neighboring areas.

The project supporters are now removing English ivy, wineberry, periwinkle, ground ivy, Japanese pachysandra, bush honeysuckle, and multiflora rose to rescue the incredible diversity of native plants and animals at this particular park.

Unlike most parks in the area, the 150-acre Little Paint Branch Park is in the early stages of invasion and is essentially the native plant nursery for the Paint Branch itself. The 15 acre Magruder Woods and Trumbule Trail has been restored as a natural source of native plants and animals for the Northwest Branch of the Anacostia River.

Ongoing. Marc Imlay, PhD Conservation biologist, Anacostia Watershed Society (301-699-6204, 301-283-0808) for more information

ST. MARY'S COUNTY

Myrtle Point Park Directions: From Washington, take Rt. 4 south, crossing over the Patuxent River at Solomons. About two miles past the bridge, make a right onto Patuxent Blvd. Go about two miles to Myrtle Point Park. Meet in the Park lot. For more info, or to receive updates about workdays email or call Bob Boxwell, Executive Director, Cove Point Natural Heritage Trust, P.O. Box 336, Lusby, MD 20657, 410-394-1300, or bobboxwell@hotmail.com.