

**AUDUBON NATURALIST SOCIETY**

# Naturalist Quarterly

Autumn 2019

**ANSHOME.ORG**



**Nature for All - Once in a lifetime opportunity awaits you!**

**ANS NATURE ACTIVITIES & NEWS**

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

#### HEADQUARTERS

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

#### OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 9 AM-5 PM

#### STORE HOURS

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

#### GROUNDWORKS HOURS

Dawn to dusk

#### ANS MEMBERSHIP

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

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# Naturalist Quarterly

ANShome.org Autumn 2019

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## COVER

Photo of Eastern Tiger Swallowtail in the Blair Native Plant Garden by Ben Israel

## From the Director

### Nature for All: Entirely Possible with Your Help

by Lisa Alexander

It's hard to believe that I've been in the Executive Director's seat for six years this autumn. Time flies and wonderful things happen when you have the chance to keep company with ANS members and supporters. One of the most amazing things happening now is the Nature for All Campaign – ANS's promise to make our headquarters at Woodend Sanctuary an oasis of nature for all people and all wildlife. The idea of restoring Woodend came directly from you, our treasured ANS members. And because of you, we are so close to being able to realize our vision for Woodend as a place that welcomes and inspires all people to enjoy, learn about and project nature right here in our rapidly urbanizing DC metro region.

You can make the vision of Nature for All come true by supporting its four promises for the future. You can help us reach the finish line for funding restoration of Woodend's forest, stream, pond and meadow habitats. You can help make nature more accessible by giving a gift to install a wheelchair accessible nature trail. You can ensure that our region's most deserving children have the chance to fall in love with nature by donating funds to build a nature play space for young children, their teachers and families. And you can ensure that generations follow in your footsteps by supporting updated and upgraded classrooms so that Woodend's nature classes continue to inspire people of all ages.

In Audubon Naturalist Society's 122-year history, we have never done a campaign of this magnitude. But I am thrilled by the response so far. In just under two years, with leading gifts from ANS members, foundation funders and government grants, we have raised a whopping \$3.85 million of our \$4 million Nature for All goal. Isn't that amazing? I am awestruck by the generosity and leadership of ANS members. And I've learned that if you just ask people to support a visionary cause, they will step up. Today, we are only \$150,000 away from making Nature for All a reality....so now I'm asking you to make a real difference.

We are inviting every ANS member to play a role in bringing Nature for All to the finish line with a special gift today. Your gift will create a legacy that will last lifetimes. Your impact will include bringing back biodiversity to Woodend so it thrives as a living classroom. Your generosity will mean that schoolchildren who use wheelchairs, walkers and crutches will be able to join their classmates in the meadow, the forest and at the pond. Your gift will connect disabled veterans and seniors to the healing power of nature at Woodend. And your donation will enable thousands more people to love nature through classes, events and programs.

I hope you've had a chance to visit Woodend and see all the changes that are already afoot. Only a year ago, our woods were in danger of dying out with no sapling trees, and little new growth because of over browsing by deer. But that's all changed now because of the deer fence, the very first Nature for All project. We had to protect Woodend for the future and we can see that it's working. This spring we saw Spice Bush, Mayapple and Bloodroot rebound in our woods. We have Eastern Bluebirds



and Indigo Buntings nesting in the Woodend meadows for the first time in years. I can't wait to see which species return next. (My fingers are crossed for Wood Thrushes and Eastern Towhees!)

And the best is yet to come. This fall we will start restoration of Clean Drinking Stream side by side with installation of the wheelchair accessible nature trail. Once construction is completed in 2020 (Mother Nature willing!) we will plant hundreds of native trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants to establish new wetland habitats and special places like Fern Glades, a Mayapple Hollow and a Pawpaw Allee. The teaching and learning opportunities will be endless.

You can see why Nature for All is so exciting to everyone who loves nature, and particularly for us, the people who cherish Woodend and want Audubon Naturalist Society to thrive for the next one hundred years. Please show your devotion to ANS and Woodend with a gift to the campaign. Only when we have secured the \$4 million can we shift our focus to creating the new programs that will inspire more people from all walks of life to love and protect nature.

And we need your help to get us to the finish line. At this stage, when we are so close, every dollar counts!

I urge you, as an ANS member and supporter, to make a one-time, very special gift to the campaign. You will see your investment grow and blossom right in front of your eyes. You will share the excitement of children playing and learning in our nature play space and you will feel the relief that wounded veterans and people with disabilities experience when they immerse themselves in the healing power of our woods and meadows.

Nature for All is possible here at Woodend. But only with your help. Please, everyone, help us create a powerful place of nature inspiration and learning. Our region and our country need oases of environmental protection so desperately right now. Please join me and my family in contributing to the campaign. I look forward to seeing you at ground breakings and ribbon cuttings in the near future. Together we'll create Nature for All for generations to come!

Thank you.

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## STAFF UPDATES

We are thrilled to have **Bradley Simpson**, our Chesapeake Conservation Corps member this past year, extend his time with us in the role of Restoration Fellow. Bradley has a degree in Wildlife Ecology from the University of Maryland. We are also excited to have two new Chesapeake Conservation Corps members joining the Restoration Department for a year. **Christian Meoli** has a BS degree in environmental science and geography with a certificate in GIS from the University of Mary Washington. **Robert Pavlik** has worked as a restoration intern with the Arundel Rivers Federation and as a horticulture assistant with Historic Londontown and Gardens. He has a degree in environmental science from the University of Maryland.

# Promise #1: Restore & Interpret Habitats

## Welcome to the Launch of the Nature for All Campaign

**The Nature for All Campaign** is the first capital campaign of this scope ever undertaken by ANS. It is one that will enable us to connect more people than ever to the natural world. The goal of the campaign is \$4 million for four specific promises: Restore and Interpret Habitats, Provide an Accessible Nature Trail, Build a Nature Play Space, and Invest in the Mansion.

As of August 2019, we have raised \$3.85 million towards this goal. We are grateful to everyone who has supported the campaign thus far, and in particular, the following for their six-figure lead gifts:

- In 2017, Maryland Delegates Al Carr, Ana Sol Gutierrez, Jeff Waldstreicher and Senator Richard Madaleno sponsored a \$150,000 Bond Bill to design the accessible trail at Woodend.
- In 2019, Maryland Delegates Al Carr, Emily Shetty, Jared Solomon and Senator Jeff Waldstreicher sponsored a \$250,000 Bond Bill to help fund the installation of the accessible trail.
- Maryland's Department of Natural Resources gave \$598,534 to restore Clean Drinking Stream at Woodend.
- Maryland's Department of Transportation gave a grant of \$223,106 in support of the accessible trail at Woodend.
- The Chesapeake Bay Trust has given a total of \$250,450 in support of stormwater management projects at Woodend.

Individual donors have also been exceptionally generous, including multiple ANS member families who gave six-figure gifts, one of which was an incredible \$250,000 matching challenge gift. We are thrilled to recognize everyone who gives a gift of \$5,000 or more to the Nature for All Campaign on a special donor recognition wall that will be installed in the entrance of Woodend Mansion. Naming opportunities are also available. For more information about recognition and naming opportunities, please contact Jacky Wershale at [jacky.wershale@anshome.org](mailto:jacky.wershale@anshome.org) or 301-652-9188 x31.

For more information about the Nature for All Campaign and how you can contribute, please visit [www.anshome.org/nature-for-all](http://www.anshome.org/nature-for-all).

## Seeds of a Nature Revolution Planted by the Jones Family

By Sarah Fraidin

Seeds for the Blair Native Plant Garden were sown in 2007. The garden was a loving way for Elizabeth Blair Jones and her family to honor her father, former ANS President William Blair. "My mother had a small native plant garden decades earlier and we wanted to do something locally, where we thought it would have the greatest impact."

Rose mallow, Virginia bluebells, cardinal flowers, wild columbine, white aster, prickly pear, Joe-pye weed, buttonbush, red chokeberry, purple love grass, and Christmas fern are just a few of the abundant wildflowers, grasses, shrubs, and ferns that now flourish there.

The garden's goal was – and still is – to be a demonstration project to educate and inspire area residents, organizations and communities to adopt similar practices. "Let's show people what we can do," Jones said. "That was really the vision."

With the help of landscape designers and dozens of dedicated volunteers, the Blair Native Plant Garden has since its opening in 2010 grown beyond what even Jones' family thought possible. A Master Naturalist conducting a butterfly survey on the sanctuary recently remarked that butterflies were more abundant than ever at Woodend, and in the greatest variety she'd ever observed. The Blair Garden, she added, is the best place today to see them thriving. Getting restoration moving with the removal of deer pressure paved the way.

"Bringing the deer fence down this April was like a huge exhale," Jones said. "A garden should be open and welcoming, and the fence was a constant reminder that all was not well in the sanctuary."

That was then. Now, the healing of the land at Woodend is in constant, glorious evidence. A slew of powerful demonstration projects, including more rain gardens, permeable pavement, stream, pond, and forest restoration has taken root.

"I support Nature for All wholeheartedly," Jones said. "It is enriching the sanctuary in so many ways, while growing more opportunities for all in our community. My hope and belief are that the Nature for All work will encourage many more people from greater Washington D.C. to experience this small piece of wild space and all the corresponding educational opportunities ANS provides."



Photo by Jenny Brown



*Photo of Liz Jones in the Blair Native Plant Garden by Ben Israel*

# Promise #2: An Accessible Nature Trail

## People with Disabilities Will Get to Explore Nature as Never Before Possible

*What follows is a slightly revised excerpt of testimony to the Maryland General Assembly by ANS Board Member Beth Ziebarth. The testimony was to advocate for a second bond bill that, along with the first, provided a total of \$400,000 to help build a wheelchair-accessible nature trail as part of our Nature for All movement. We are grateful for the support from the State of Maryland.*



Beth Ziebarth

Residents of the DMV live busy and demanding lives. We need nature to unplug from the pressures of our ever-urbanizing region. Studies emphatically show the health benefits of nature for all people – from schoolchildren with attention deficit disorders, to veterans recovering from wounds or PTSD, to seniors facing memory and mobility challenges.

We take pride in the fact that our headquarters, Woodend Nature Sanctuary, has been free and open to the public 365 days a year for the past 50 years. Around 60,000 people visit the peaceful oasis of Woodend annually to take nature classes or attend conferences and talks, attend field trips, and walk the trails.

But right now, our nature sanctuary is not accessible to people who have disabilities. Our uneven trails prevent visitors in wheelchairs, those with walkers and canes, and even families with strollers from enjoying the beauty and tranquility of Woodend's forest, meadow, stream and pond habitats.

Accessibility for people with disabilities is both a personal interest and a professional responsibility for me. I acquired a spinal cord injury in an auto accident when I was 16 years old and use a wheelchair. The majority of my career has been in museum accessibility for visitors to the Smithsonian.

With an accessible nature trail, we can provide all DC area residents with opportunities to relax, heal and learn in nature. Veterans in treatment at the nearby Walter Reed National Military Medical Center will be able to make nature part of their recovery. Schoolchildren with disabilities will be able to fully participate in ANS's award-winning education programs, enjoying for the first time the rich environmental learning opportunities of Woodend's habitats. With smooth and stable trails and boardwalks in place, seniors with mobility aids and families with strollers will be able to stroll deep into the shaded canopy of our woods, wander past butterfly-filled meadows, and cross right over our stream and pond.

With an accessible nature trail, the promise of Nature for All will become real and tangible.

As an ANS board member, I can't wait to visit the pond I have only seen in pictures.

Beth Ziebarth



Photo by NPS/Jacob W. Frank



# Promise #3: A Nature Play Space

## More to Explore in the Nature Play Space

by Sarah Fraidin



Tanya Morgan

Breathing fresh air, running through a field, looking under rocks for bugs, slugs, and other wonderful living creatures...

Tanya Morgan wants her students to experience all of this and more. Morgan, an early childhood coordinator for the Head Start program, understands that her children need these outdoor experiences.

"These outdoor activities are the things that really ping the brain to make new connections," Morgan says.

The Woodend sanctuary is one of the very special places where Morgan brings her students to get those stimulating connections.

"There aren't a lot of opportunities for outdoor learning where my folks are coming from. I know a lot of children who are not allowed to be outside because no one is home with them or because people live in unsafe neighborhoods," Morgan said. "We don't have a lot of backyards, don't have a lot of greenspace."

Under the guidance of ANS's educators, Morgan's students have listened for frogs, studied worms, and learned how to compost. Morgan knows the research that says children need outdoor time to be healthier, smarter, and happier. She is thrilled there will be a new nature play space at Woodend built with natural materials.

"Different materials encourage different ways of thinking," she said.

She sees ANS as a valuable resource for teachers, as well as students. "A nature play space allows teachers to ask new questions and better engage children in those outdoor experiences."

The nature play space will utilize the expertise of ANS's early childhood educators and all future school field trips will begin and end at the play space.

"Curiosity and newness, you just can't beat that," Morgan said. "The play space provides another layer of education we can offer humans big and small, and it's why I'm thrilled to support the Nature for All Campaign."





Photo by Jesse Turner

# Promise #4: Investment in the Mansion

## Investing in the Woodend Mansion Provides Endless Possibilities for Connecting with Nature

As Director of Community Outreach and Strategic Partnerships for Corazón Latino, Abel Olivo attends lots of meetings. At most of these meetings, he is stuck in a windowless conference room talking about getting more people outdoors and invested in the environment...but not experiencing it himself.

“You are in a large room, no windows, no sunlight, no fresh air...it is hard to get the full impact of what you are talking about.”

Except for when he attended the Naturally Latinos Conference at Woodend last March and saw that the setting matched the message. In almost every corner of the mansion, from anywhere you sit or stand, visitors can peer through windows, and see what nature has wrought: resplendent beams of sunshine, the gorgeous greens of the forest, the refreshment of raindrops, the cardinals, woodpeckers, Blue Jays, and even the buds of trees in winter that keep our flying friends and tiny insects fed.

“It was the ideal setting,” Olivo said. “It allowed people to go outside and hold sessions. Being at a hotel downtown just doesn’t convey the same concept.”

Olivo says conference speakers were able to go outdoors to enhance their presentations with demonstrations, nature walks that included forest bathing, and interactive breakout sessions.

He recalled the use of The Project Learning Tree curriculum as a fun, hands-on way to teach environmental education. “It was an ideal way to demonstrate how we can teach environmental science to children and families because it enabled everyone to utilize the outdoor space.”

Olivo believes investing in the precious gathering space at Woodend means more individuals, companies, and communities will be exposed to ANS’s thriving natural world and the endless possibilities it ushers in.

“I think it is really important ANS continues to provide access to [the sanctuary] to groups that don’t typically get to experience these spaces, and it’s why I support the Nature for All movement,” Olivo said. “You can’t put a price on opportunities to connect with nature.”



Photo by León Barrera



Photo by León Barrera

*Abel Olivo speaking on a panel at the Naturally Latinos 2019 conference.*



Photo by León Barrera

*Naturally Latinos attendees participate in Empowering Communities through Education and Restoration Outdoor Workshop, hosted by Project Learning Tree. (above and left)*

# Early Childhood Programs

## Tales and Trails

**Ages 2-4 with a caregiver**

**Tuesdays, September 10-**

**November 12**

**(10-10:45 am)**

**Spring Session: \$80 per child**

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

Feel free to relax and enjoy our trails, picnic areas, and bookstore before or after the program. Register at <https://anshome.org/tales-trails>.

Questions? Contact Gina at [gina.ghertner@anshome.org](mailto:gina.ghertner@anshome.org).



## Fresh Air Kids at Rust Sanctuary!

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

**Rust Sanctuary, Leesburg, VA**

**Fridays (10-11:30 am)**

**September 6-October 25**

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

**Register at [anshome.org/parents](https://anshome.org/parents)**

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

## 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 offers 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.

### Current School Year (2019-2020)

#### Drop-Off Programs

**Oaks** (4-5 years old)

Mondays through Thursdays

9 am-2 pm and Fridays 9 am-

12 pm

**Saplings** (3-5 year olds)

Mondays through Thursdays,

AM or PM program

#### Parent and Child Programs

**Acorns** (4 year olds and

younger with caregiver)

All outdoor program

Thursdays, 9:30-11 am

**Sprouts** (2-3 year olds with caregiver)

Activities on the trails and in the preschool

Fridays, 9:30-11:30 am

Contact Preschool Director Stephanie Bozzo at 301-652-9188 x32 for more info or visit [anshome.org/ans-preschool](https://anshome.org/ans-preschool) apply online.



## 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.



## Camp Audubon thanks you for a great summer!

It's not too early to think about next summer! Tell your friends that Friday, December 6, 2019 is the last date to become an ANS member and be eligible for members-only registration on **Wednesday, January 22, 2020 at 10 am**. Registration will open to new members and nonmembers on Saturday, January 25 at 10 am. Catalogs will be mailed in late December.

### Spring Break Camp (Grades K-9)

Register online at [www.anshome.org/parents](http://www.anshome.org/parents)

Experience the wonders of Spring at Camp Audubon! Catch frogs in the pond, hike to Rock Creek, and get your hands dirty in our Children's Garden! Grades 6-9 can earn up to 20 SSL hours doing sanctuary stewardship activities.

**Monday, April 6-Friday, April 10**  
(8:45 am-3 pm)

**Extended camp available from 3-5 pm (\$75)**

**Members \$365; nonmembers \$450**

### MCPS School's Out Camps (Grades K-9)

Register online at [www.anshome.org/parents](http://www.anshome.org/parents)

Do you want your children to be outside in nature learning and having fun on their day off from school? Then send them to our School's Out Camp! We'll explore the Woodend Nature Sanctuary, get muddy in the pond, build forts, and play games.

**Monday, September 30**  
**Wednesday, October 9**

**Tuesday, April 28**

**8:45 am-5 pm**

**Members \$100; nonmembers \$115**

### Nature Backpacks

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



# School Programs in DC, MD & VA

## School Programs:

Environmental science programs with ANS are designed to meet NGSS and Curriculum 2.0 Standards as well as Maryland Green School certification. Programs highlight human impacts, ecological systems, and watersheds through hands-on activities. Programs are for Grades K-8.

Nature-based learning for schools in Maryland & DC.

Woodend Nature Sanctuary Field Trips | Visit Mon - Fri at our 40-acre headquarters, 8940 Jones Mill Road, Chevy Chase, MD.

Naturalist in the Classroom | Save on travel fees and let us come to your classroom!

To learn more visit [anshome.org/teachers](http://anshome.org/teachers) or contact [serenella.linares@anshome.org](mailto:serenella.linares@anshome.org), 301-652-9188 x11.



Photo by Serenella Linares



Photo by Serenella Linares

## Professional Development for Teachers

Would you like to enrich your curriculum with hands on activities for your students? Let us share our education with you! Each workshop will provide you with the tools necessary to implement the lessons in your own classroom or school yard. Workshops are held year-round.

Visit [www.anshome.org/teachers](http://www.anshome.org/teachers) for a schedule and for information on how to register.

**Donations are always appreciated to support our on-going programs for underserved schools and community centers in DC, Maryland, and Virginia.**

# Party With a Purpose

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).



Photo by Diane Lill



## Featured Grant Program: High School Chemistry Watershed Module

ANS co-led a training this summer of 38 MCPS chemistry teachers in partnership with the MCPS Secondary Science Office and Outdoor Environmental Education Programs. This training was funded by a three-year demonstration grant of \$100,000 from the National Park Foundation's Citizen Science 2.0 Program for ANS to work with MCPS to create and implement a watershed module in the high school chemistry curriculum. The new unit on the Chemistry of Nitrogen Cycling will engage thousands of high school students every year in watershed modeling using the WikiWatershed tool and hands-on monitoring of the water chemistry of their local streams. ANS is looking forward to expanding this program in the coming school year as we work toward the full systemic implementation of this module in every MCPS high school.

# 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.*®

## REGISTRATION FOR ADULT NATURE PROGRAMS

As you may have heard, ANS has a new registration system for adult programs! The new system is compatible with all platforms - computers, phones, tablets, etc. Here are a few helpful tips for using the new system. You can always email pam.oves@anshome.org or call 301-652-9188 x16 if you have any questions.

- 1) Programs can be filtered by month, subject, or state location. If you choose not to filter, programs will come up in chronological order.
- 2) You will have to choose member or nonmember rate for each program. Once you choose the rate, click "Add to Cart."
- 3) You will have the option to renew or join after you complete your program selections, so remember to choose the member rate if you are joining ANS.
- 4) There is overlap between the two systems for September, October and some November programs. If a program is full in the old system, the program will not show up in the new system, nor will a waitlist option. Waitlists will be available for any programs from mid-November on. If you would like to be put on a waitlist, please email pam.oves@anshome.org.
- 5) As before, all changes, cancellations/transfers must be handled through the EE office. 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.

## 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.

## Fall Birding Series

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

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

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

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

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

**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) FULL**

**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.





## 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**

**FULL**

## Fall in the Parks

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

**A. September 22—Occoquan 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. Occoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge near Woodbridge, VA, protects open grassland habitat as well as bottomlands along Belmont and Occoquan 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.

## 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.



Chris Oves

## 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 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.

## Wonders at Woodend: Forest Bathing through the Seasons

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

**Section D: October 16**

**Leader: Melanie Choukas-Bradley**

**Each walk members \$26; nonmembers \$36**

**FULL**

## Native Plant Gardening

**Fall Walk: Thursday, October 17 (10 am-Noon)**

**Winter Walk: Wednesday, January 15 (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.

## 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.



Date	Time	Activity	Fee	Page	Date	Time	Activity	Fee	Page
Sep 1	8 am	Sycamore Landing Free Birding Trip		29	Oct 13	10 am	Calvert Cliffs State Park hike	Y	19
Sep 6	10 am	Fresh Air Kids at Rust Sanctuary	Y	12	Oct 16	10 am	Wonders at Woodend: Forest Bathing	Y	19
Sep 7	7 am	Patuxent River Park Free Birding Trip		29	Oct 17	10 am	Native Plant Gardening	Y	18
"	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		33	"	7 pm	Crowder-Messersmith Annual Talk		33
"	9 am	Weekend Walk in the Woods		12	Oct 19	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		33
"	"	Confusing Composites	Y	16	Oct 20	8 am	Fall Birding Series E	Y	16
Sep 8	7:30 am	Fall Birding Series A	Y	16	"	8:30 am	Fall in the Parks B	Y	18
Sep 10	10 am	Tales and Trails begins	Y	12	Oct 22	7 pm	Conservation Cafe	Y	36
Sep 11	10 am	Midweek Meander Along the Canal A	Y	17	Oct 23	10 am	Midweek Meander Along the Canal D	Y	17
"	7 pm	Conservation Cafe	Y	27	Oct 24	6 pm	ANS Annual Meeting		40
Sep 12	7:30 pm	Insects After Dark	Y	17	Oct 25	9 am	Fall on Wheels Along the Canal	Y	19
Sep 13	6:30 pm	Evening on the Canal	Y	17	Oct 26	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		33
Sep 14	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		33	"	1 pm	Geology of Soapstone Valley	Y	22
"	9:30 am	Know Your Invasive Plants	Y	28	Oct 27	8 am	Walk Among the Giants	Y	22
"	10 am	Butterfly Migrants at Glendening Preserve	Y	17	"	9 am	Botanical Gems: Little Bennett Park	Y	22
Sep 15	9 am	Botanical Gems of Monocacy Aqueduct	Y	17	"	2:30 pm	Fall Tree ID for Birders		22
"	"	Geology of Sugarloaf Mountain	Y	18	Oct 29	9:30 am	Natural and Cultural History of the Ag Reserve	Y	22
"	1 pm	Sleuthing for Spiders	Y	17	Oct 30	7:30 am	Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay Free Birding Trip		29
Sep 17	10 am	Conservation Advocacy 101 Workshop	Y	27	Nov 2	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		33
Sep 18	7 pm	Healthy Stream Biology D	Y	28	"	"	Fall Birding Series F	Y	16
Sep 20	10 am	Blue Ridge Beginnings	Y	18	"	9 am	Weekend Walk in the Woods		12
Sep 21	7:30 am	Fall Birding Series B	Y	16	"	9:30 am	Fall Hike in Rock Creek Park	Y	22
"	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		33	Nov 3	3/4 day	Raptors on the Move at Waggoner's Gap	Y	23
"	10 am	Snickers Gap Hawkwatch Free Birding Trip		29	"	12 pm	Tall Ships and Dinosaurs Geology Hike	Y	22
Sep 22	8:30 am	Fall in the Parks A	Y	18	Nov 7	7 pm	Conservation Cafe	Y	27
"	1:30 pm	WQM Field Workshop - Ten Mile Creek	Y	28	Nov 9	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		33
Sep 23	10 am	Here Comes Fall	Y	18	"	"	Blue Mash Nature Trail Free Birding Trip		29

Date	Time	Activity	Fee	Page	Date	Time	Activity	Fee	Page
Sep 25	7:30 am	Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay Free Birding Trip		29	Nov 11	10 am	Fall Leaf Drawing Workshop	Y	23
"	10 am	Midweek Meander Along the Canal B	Y	17	Nov 14	10 am	The Game of Extremes	Y	27
Sep 26	7 pm	Book Signing and Author Talk		36	"	7:30 pm	Bird ID Series: Sparrows and Finches	Y	23
Sep 28	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		33	Nov 16	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		33
"	"	Wings and Wildflowers	Y	18	"	8:30 am	Eastern Neck NWR Free Birding Trip		29
Sep 29	7:30 am	Fall Birding Series C	Y	16	Nov 17	7:45 am	Mattawoman Wetlands Free Birding Trip		29
Sep 30	8:45 am	MCPS School's Out Camp	Y	13	"	8:30 am	Fall in the Parks C	Y	18
"	6 pm	Chesapeake Bay Ecosystems starts	Y	30	Nov 20	10 am	Midweek Meander Along the Canal E	Y	17
Oct 1	6 pm	Chemistry for Naturalists begins	Y	30	Nov 23	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		33
"	"	Wildlife Ecology begins	Y	30	"	"	Fall Birding Series H	Y	16
Oct 2	6 pm	Eastern Forest Ecosystems begins	Y	31	"	9 am	Knock, Knock		23
"	7 pm	How to Read Your Stream	Y	28	"	6:30 pm	ANS Autumn Lights Holiday Party	Y	37
Oct 3	6 pm	Weather and Climate begins	Y	31	Nov 24	9:30 am	Botanical Gems: Blockhouse Point	Y	23
"	7 pm	For Goodness Snakes		18	"	"	Chesapeake Wetlands	Y	24
Oct 5	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		33	Nov 27	7:30 am	Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay Free Birding Trip		29
"	"	Riverbend Park Free Birding Trip		29	Nov 30	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		33
"	9 am	Weekend Walk in the Woods		12					
"	"	Fall Fungus Walk	Y	19					
Oct 7	8 am	On the Move at Cape May	Y	19					
"	7 pm	Fall Woody Plant Identification begins	Y	30					
Oct 9	8:45 am	MCPS School's Out Camp	Y	13					
"	10 am	Midweek Meander Along the Canal C	Y	17					
Oct 10	10 am	Watershed Stewardship Workshop	Y	27					
Oct 11	10 am	Intro to Tree Identification	Y	19					
Oct 12	8 am	Fall Birding Series D	Y	16					
"	"	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		33					
Oct 13	7:30 am	Meadowside Nature Center Free Birding Trip		29					

- Special Event
- Children and Family Program
- Adult Program
- Natural History Field Studies
- Y = Fee-based program



## 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 naturalist's shuffle.*

## Walk Among the Giants

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

**Leader: Stephanie Mason**

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

Walk among the giant Sycamores, Oaks, and River Birches on this exploration along the Potomac River just upstream of Great Falls, MD. We'll keep our eyes and ears open for all manner of wildlife as 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.

## Botanical Gems of Little Bennett Park

**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.**

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.

**FREE**

## 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, a 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.

## Fall Hike in Rock Creek Park

**Saturday, November 2 (9:30 am-3:30 pm)**

**Members \$34; nonmembers \$44**

**Leader: Melanie Choukas-Bradley**

Our leader, author of the award-winning book, *A Year in Rock Creek Park*, and the critically acclaimed *The Joy of Forest Bathing and City of Trees*, offers another of her popular nature walks for ANS in the country's oldest urban national park, created in 1890. Autumn will find us hiking the Western Ridge and Valley Trails during peak fall foliage and fruiting season, stopping to study and admire oaks, maples, hickories and many other trees along the route. This hike will traverse 4-6 miles, with uphill and downhill on natural surface trails which may be rocky and uneven.

## Tall Ships and Dinosaurs Geology Hike

**Sunday, November 3 (12-5 pm)**

**Leader: Joe Marx**

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

Due to a paucity of rocks, we tend to avoid the Coastal Plain for our Geology forays. Nevertheless, many interesting, non-rocky sites lie close at hand. We'll visit three of them on a 40-mile auto circuit through northwestern Prince Georges County. Our starting point: Bladensburg Waterfront Park, where we will consider how a deep-water port prominent in the War of 1812 has so completely faded from commerce. Next we'll travel to Watkins Regional Park to examine the Atlantic's sandy floor of 60 million years ago. If we're lucky, we may find a trail-side shark's tooth or oyster shell. Our last stop visits Dinosaur Park, near Laurel, where paleontologists have unearthed the 110-million-year old bones of several kinds of dinosaurs and mammals, as well as fossils of trees and early flowering plants. We'll return to Bladensburg to complete the loop. Our walking over paved or gravelly paths will be in generally flat terrain.

## Raptors on the Move at Waggoner's Gap

**Sunday, November 3 (3/4 day field trip)**

**Leaders: Liam and Laura McGranaghan**

**Members \$32; nonmembers \$44**

Fall brings thousands of migrating raptors—hawks, falcons, eagles, and their allies—to the Appalachian ridges and Atlantic coast. Our field trip goes to one of the premier hawk-watching sites in the area: Pennsylvania's Waggoner's Gap, about a 2.5-hour drive from DC. Our experienced leaders, known for their raptor expertise, will help you develop your own ID skills for these birds-on-the-move. Getting to the hawk watch lookout requires walking up a short, but rocky, trail to an outcropping of perched boulders.

## Fall Leaf Drawing Workshop

**Monday, November 11 (10 am-2 pm)**

**Leader: Tina Thieme Brown**

**Members \$32; nonmembers \$44**

There is a long tradition of naturalists keeping field notes. Often their written notes are accompanied by drawings. If you want to learn how to add sketches to your field observations, we invite you to join an artist/illustrator, whose sketchbooks are filled with drawings of plant life, for a workshop at our Woodend Sanctuary. Tina will lead you on a walk in the woods, where you will carry along your sketchbook and reflect on the changing season. Returning to an indoor classroom, she will guide you through the steps to create a colored drawing of fall leaves and fruits, such as acorns. The only experience required is a love of nature, and a desire to look closely at the seasonal changes in our native trees. *A suggested art supply list will be provided with confirmation letter.*

## Bird ID Series: Sparrows and Finches

**Thursday, November 14 (7:30-9:30 pm)**

**Saturday, November 16 (half-day field trip)**

**Leader: Mike Bowen**

**Members \$42; nonmembers \$58**

**Lecture only: members \$20; nonmembers \$28**

Sparrows and finches offer beginning and intermediate birders some of their most difficult ID challenges. On Thursday evening, our leader will use an illustrated lecture to provide identification help on these often confusing species. Our field trip will take us to one or more nearby natural areas where a variety of these birds can be studied.

**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.**

## Knock, Knock

**Saturday, November 23 (9 am-12 pm)**

**FREE**

**Leaders: Pam and Chris Oves**

**Free, but registration required.**

On this approximately 4-mile roundtrip bird walk along the Canal's towpath at Riley's Lock, we'll work to see or at least hear all 7 species of woodpeckers (a grand-slam!) that frequent our woods this time of year. Our walk is aimed at beginning birders. This walk will go faster and farther than our usual "naturalist's shuffle." Limited to 12 participants.



## Botanical Gems of Montgomery County: Blockhouse Point Conservation Park

**Sunday, November 24 (9:30 am-1 pm)**

**Leader: Carole Bergmann**

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

We continue our series of field trips to some of the botanically rich, but often underappreciated, Montgomery County Parks. On this late fall hike, we'll visit Blockhouse Point, along the Potomac River, where we'll explore the preserve's high-quality forest of both typical and uncommon Piedmont plant species. We'll search for and ID lingering leaves and fruits, as well as remnant weeds/wildflowers/and seed pods on our trek of 2-4 miles. *Expect some uphill and downhill*, including a hike out to a bluff over the River, where views should be ideal this time of year. Our leader, the former forest ecologist for the County, will focus on the area's natural history, but she won't overlook the cultural history.



Carole Bergmann

## Chesapeake Wetlands

**Sunday, November 24 (9:30 am-5:30 pm)**

**Leaders: Hal Wierenga and Lynn Davidson**

**Members \$36; nonmembers \$50**

Discover the richness of autumn birding in the wetlands that line the Chesapeake Bay's Eastern Shore with birders who know the area well. We'll meet at the Blackwater Natural Wildlife Refuge, south of Cambridge, MD, about a 2-hour drive from Washington. After a leisurely visit to Blackwater, we'll visit other wetlands in Dorchester county searching for migrant waterfowl, raptors, sparrows, and other seasonal birds.

## Winter Birding at Black Hill

**Section A: Sunday, December 1 (8:30-11 am)**

**Section B: Saturday, January 4 (8:30-11 am)**

**Section C: Saturday, February 1 (8:30-11 am)**

**Section D: Sunday, March 1 (8:30-11 am)**

**Leader: Mark England**

**Each walk: members \$24; nonmembers \$34**

**Entire series \$87/\$123**

The winter months can be an ideal time to learn more about birds and birding, and Black Hill Regional Park, in upper Montgomery County, is an ideal outdoor classroom for this study. Each walk in our series, intended for beginning to mid-level birders, will visit one or more sites in the Park in a search for waterfowl, sparrows, raptors, and other both resident and overwintering species. The Park's habitats are varied and include wetlands and Little Seneca Lake, as well as forest and field. Join us for the entire series and observe the seasonal changes in numbers and species, or just sign up for individual walks.

## Georgetown Geology Loop

**Saturday, December 7 (1-5 pm)**

**Leader: Joe Marx**

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

The Georgetown section of Washington, DC sits squarely on a mass of ancient granite, surrounded by various other types and ages of rock. Our hike will be around 5 miles long, through wooded parkland and along city streets. The terrain varies from easy to moderate, with hills being the biggest challenge. During our hike, we will visit the Coastal Plain, three canyons, the Piedmont upland, and a major fault zone. Not bad for an afternoon walk around town. *The pace set and distance covered on our geology field trips is faster and farther than our usual "naturalist's shuffle."*

## Winter in the Parks

**(9 am-1 pm)**

**A: Saturday, December 7: Jug Bay Natural Area, MD**

**B: Sunday, January 5: Huntley Meadows, VA**

**C: Sunday, February 2: Rock Creek Park, DC**

**Leader: Stephanie Mason**

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

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

Sign up for one or more of these seasonal, broad-based nature explorations of nearby parks rich in natural history. Winter is often called the quiet season, but there is still lots to look and listen for in the natural world despite the cold temperatures. Our Senior Naturalist will lead this series of walks to observe winter wildlife and plants, all the while discussing their strategies for winter survival. We'll work to cover between 2-3 miles, with some uphill and downhill on walks A and C, in order to counter the likely chilly weather.

## Winter Waterfowl Prowl

**Sunday, December 8 (8 am-12:30 pm)**

**Leader: Mike Bowen**

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

Early in the year is the best time to search for and learn to ID overwintering waterfowl in our area. Basing our search at wetlands and waterways relatively close-in to the metro area, we'll visit sites in or near the District, Northern Virginia, or Montgomery County. Our exact locations will be determined closer to the date of the field trip, based on our leader's scouting expeditions. While our focus will be waterfowl, we'll keep an eye open for all birdlife. All levels of birders welcome.



## Winter Weeds

**Friday, December 13 (10 am-2:30 pm)**

**Leader: Stephanie Mason**

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

Not all herbaceous plants disappear in the winter. Many persist as dried stalks and seed clusters, with a beauty to match the season. Join ANS Senior Naturalist Stephanie Mason for an indoor/outdoor introduction to winter weed and wildflower identification at our Woodend Sanctuary. We'll also investigate seed dispersal strategies and examine plant skeletons for signs of summer insect activity, such as insect galls, chrysalids, cocoons, and egg cases.

## Winter Walks Along the Canal

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

**Section A: January 8 - Carderock**

**Section B: January 22 - Widewater**

**Section C: February 5 - Swain's Lock**

**Section D: February 26 - Violettes Lock**

**Section E: March 11 - Pennyfield Lock**

**Leader: Stephanie Mason**

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

**Entire series \$113/\$159**

Join our Senior Naturalist for one or all of these walks along the C&O Canal as we look for over-wintering birds and other wildlife, practice winter botany skills, and enjoy the expansive views along the Potomac River that this season provides. Carpooling will be available from Woodend.

## Introduction to the Natural History of Lichens

**Thursday, January 9 (7:30-9:30 pm)**

**Saturday, January 11 (10 am-2 pm)**

**Leader: Dr. Paula DePriest**

**Members \$42; nonmembers \$58**

**Lecture only: members \$20; nonmembers \$28**

Winter is the perfect season to search for the varied hues and forms of lichens, the fascinating and mysterious inhabitants of unpolluted ecosystems. On Thursday night, Dr. Paula DePriest of the Smithsonian's Museum Conservation Institute, will introduce us to the natural history of lichens through an illustrated lecture. Saturday's field trip to the Widewater area along the C&O Canal will give participants a chance to study and identify lichens in their natural environment.

## New Year's Moonwalk

**Friday, January 10 (6:30-8:30 pm)**

**Leader: Stephanie Mason**

**Members \$25; nonmembers \$35**

Cross your fingers for clear skies as we celebrate the New Year with a brisk walk under the light of the year's first full moon. We'll head upriver on the C&O Canal towpath from Swain's Lock, enjoying the shadows of arching sycamore trees and listening for the calls of owls and winter-active mammals. Distance covered will depend on the weather and conditions underfoot.



## Natural History of Galls

**Sunday, January 12 (1:30-3:30 pm)**

**Leader: Cliff Fairweather**

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

Naturalist Edwin Way Teale called galls edible homes and that's not a bad two-word definition for these hijacked bits of plant tissue. Discover the fascinating, often complex, and occasionally bizarre world of galls, gall-makers, and their associates. Through an indoor/outdoor exploration at our Woodend Sanctuary, we'll learn about their natural history and develop our gall search-image.

## Winter Birding at Oaks Landfill

**A: Sunday, January 19 (3-5:30 pm)**

**B: Sunday, February 9 (3:30-6 pm)**

**Leader: Mark England**

**Each walk members \$24; nonmembers \$34**

You'll want to bundle up for these birding treks to the now-closed landfill adjacent to the Blue Mash Nature Trail, a familiar birding spot in upper Montgomery County. As afternoon fades to dusk in the open terrain here, we'll search for resident and overwintering species, including Northern Harriers and Short-eared Owls. Our leader will bring along a scope for distant bird viewing. Our visit to this area, which is closed to the public, is by special permission. *Please register for one session only to allow for greater participation.*

## Morning on a Monadnock

**Sunday, January 19 (9 am-1 pm)**

**Leader: Stephanie Mason**

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

Start the new year off with a nature hike on Sugarloaf Mountain, our local monadnock. We'll make stops to practice our winter plant ID skills, while keeping our eyes and ears open for activity of still-active wildlife, including birds and mammals. *Our hike will include some uphill and downhill as we cover 2-3 miles, including a fairly steep ¼ mile hike up to the summit (and down). Note: the mountain's trails will be rocky, uneven, and possibly muddy/slippery given the time of year.* The choice of trails and actual distance covered will depend upon the weather/ground conditions of the day.



# Conservation



Photo by Denise Guitarra



ANS and allies, including Abel Olivo from partner organization Corazón Latino, spoke out against the bad highway-widening plan at a press conference in Annapolis in June.

## Policy and Advocacy News

### Regional

**ANS Talks Climate Crisis with WJLA!** ANS Director of Conservation Eliza Cava shared with Meteorologist Veronica Johnson on WJLA's Good Morning Washington **seven concrete steps to help our planet.** When we see the reports of rising sea levels, melting ice caps, and record-breaking weather, for many it can feel like a crisis beyond our control. Learn 7 actions you can take at [anshome.org/climate](http://anshome.org/climate).



### Maryland

**Georgetown University Threatens 240 acres of forest in the "Lungs of DC":** ANS has catalyzed the fight against a poorly-planned solar project on forest land in Charles County, on the Nanjemoy Peninsula. Home to intact forests, high-quality streams, and habitat for rare and threatened species including wood thrush, Eastern whip-poor-will, and dwarf wedge mussel, we and our allies believe this forest should remain standing! It is also part of the ancestral homeland of the Piscataway tribe, who have not been consulted. We brought dozens of groups together to tell Maryland Department of Environment to DENY a critical permit. **Solar is incredibly important—but it should go on rooftops, old landfills and unproductive farmland, not in forests!**

**Governor Hogan's plan to widen the Beltway & I-270 puts parks and streams at risk:** ANS has been speaking out against the poor, rushed planning of the proposed highway widening plan. The state is moving ahead with all sorts of planning even before conducting a full environmental review, meaning it's impossible to know how much parkland could be lost. But we do know that any widening will cross (and could even bury some segments of) Rock Creek, Muddy Branch, Sligo Creek, Northwest Branch, Paint Branch, and more. **And, we need to stop building highways and invest in transit instead to fight the climate crisis.**

### Virginia

**ANS releases Fairfax Healthy Communities Platform ahead of Board of Supervisors Primary:** On May 13, ANS was one of 11 partners of the Fairfax Healthy Communities Coalition which hosted a candidate forum to discuss topics related to a healthy, sustainable and equitable Fairfax County, including climate change, affordable housing, transportation, land use and inclusion. So many decisions that affect our environment and communities are made at the local level—educating voters in our primaries and general elections is critically important. If you missed the forum, you can watch the recording on our blog.

### Washington, DC

**ANS Joins DC Climate Coalition:** ANS has joined the DC Climate Coalition, a partnership of groups that helped pass the Clean Energy DC Act in 2018 and is now working to watchdog its implementation. The Act commits DC to getting 100% of its electricity from renewable sources by 2032!

Interested in getting involved or learning more?  
Sign up for our Action Alert list and read full versions of all these (and more) recent stories at [conservationblog.anshome.org/tag/NQSep19](http://conservationblog.anshome.org/tag/NQSep19).

# Conservation



## Workshops

Learn more and register at [anshome.org/training](http://anshome.org/training)

**Location:** Woodend Sanctuary

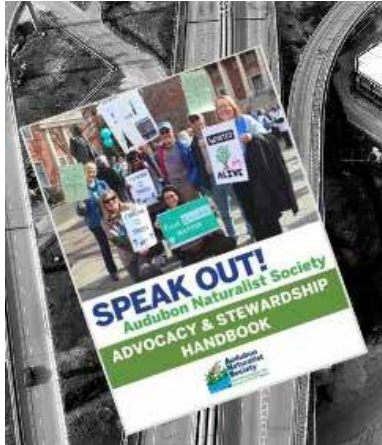
**Prices for Members/Nonmembers**

### Conservation Advocacy 101

**Tuesday, September 17 (10 am-2:30 pm) \$20/\$30**

**Instructors:** Eliza Cava & Bruce Gilmore

Widening the Beltway. Lead in school water pipes. Threats to a park. Contributing to the discussion on a new development coming to your neighborhood. **What's your environmental issue?** We will cover the following key introductory advocacy skills: Identifying issues and solutions; Researching and communicating ideas; Developing an action plan; Talking to decision-makers; and Building coalitions to broaden support for your issue.



### Watershed Stewardship: Managing Stormwater at Residential & Institutional Scales

**Thursday, October 10 (10 am-12:30 pm) \$15/\$20**

**Instructors:** Eliza Cava & Bradley Simpson

Join us for our NEW Watershed Stewardship workshop, which includes a tour of Woodend Sanctuary's stormwater management projects. You'll see our rain gardens, native plant landscaping, erosion management, and more. You'll get great ideas for what you can do at home to deal with runoff and flooding challenges, as well as protect your local watershed. And, you'll get a sneak peek at plans for future permeable pavements and our stream restoration!

### The Game of Extremes

**Thursday, November 14 (10 am-2 pm) \$10/\$15**

**Instructors:** Ari Eisenstadt, Renee Grebe, Denisse Guitarra

Welcome to Muddytown, where the storms are getting stronger and the summer is getting hotter! You are part of a team of government officials tasked with protecting your population and infrastructure from the worst effects of climate change. You'll participate in intense gameplay that simulates real-world situations and give you a unique perspective into the challenges and opportunities of planning for our changing world. Snacks & all materials will be provided.

## Conservation Cafés

Join us for coffee and dessert while enjoying inspiring presentations on nature conservation topics. Your \$15 registration fee supports our Conservation Program! Location and times: Woodend Sanctuary from 7-8:30 pm. **See detailed descriptions and register at [www.anshome.org/conservation-cafe](http://www.anshome.org/conservation-cafe).**



Krista Schlyer

#### Upcoming Events:

- **Wednesday, September 11:** River of Redemption: An Almanac of Life on the Anacostia with Conservation Photographer Krista Schlyer.
- **Tuesday, October 22:** Hispanic Heritage Month Cafe: Sing and Dance and Celebrate Mother Earth with Madre Tierra.
- **Thursday, November 7:** How do you DEAL with how the Climate Crisis makes you feel? with ANS Conservation Director Eliza Cava.

## SAVE THE DATE



# 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's 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.

## Introduction to Stream Science Series



### Classroom Session

#### Healthy Stream Biology

**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.

### Field Workshop

**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.

## How to Read Your Stream

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



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



Phot by Eliza Cava

Do you live in or near Long Branch, MD? Join us for our family-friendly creek critters and nature walk events on **September 28** and **October 26!** Come to learn about the beautiful stream corridor and how to counter environmental threats.

¿Vives en o cerca de Long Branch, MD? ¡Ven y comparte en familia actividades de búsqueda de bichos acuáticos y caminatas por la naturaleza este Septiembre 28 y Octubre 26! Ven a aprender sobre el hermoso sendero del arroyo y como contrarrestar las amenazas ambientales.

ANS's partners for this project are Rolling Terrace's Linkages to Learning, CHEER, Friends of Sligo Creek and Montgomery County Parks. "What Lives in Long Branch? ¿Qué Vive en Long Branch?" is funded by the Chesapeake Bay Trust.

# Free Birding Trips September-December

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).**

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:wagmara@yahoo.com) (20-person limit).

FULL

### 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](mailto:icepeep@aol.com) or 703-282-9495 (cell).

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

Half day. Songbirds, waterfowl, eagles, and other raptors. **Meet time/place:** 7:30 am inside the refuge at central parking lot. For more information contact the leader Jim Waggener at 703-567-3555.

## OCTOBER

### Saturday, October 5 Riverbend Park, Fairfax County, VA

Half day. Warblers and other neotropical songbird migrants, sparrows, and raptors. Some hilly areas. **Meet time/place:** 8 am at Nature Center parking lot at the end of Jeffery Rd. For more information, contact the leader, Scott Baron, at [baron.scott@gmail.com](mailto:baron.scott@gmail.com) (10-person limit).

### Sunday, October 13 Meadowside Nature Center, Rockville, MD

Half day. Late songbird migrants and resident songbirds in varied habitat. **Meet time/place:** 7:30 am at the Nature Center parking lot on Meadowside Lane. For more information, contact the leader, Marc Liebermann, at [mdlieberm@gmail.com](mailto:mdlieberm@gmail.com) (10-person limit).

### Wednesday, October 30 Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay NWR, VA

See September 25 listing for details.

## NOVEMBER

### Saturday, November 9 Blue Mash Nature Trail, Montgomery County, MD

One-third day. Hawks, sparrows, finches, and other woodland birds. **Meet time/place:** 8 am at Zion Road parking lot. Waterproof footwear strongly recommended. For more information, contact the leader, Jim Nelson, at [kingfishers2@verizon.net](mailto:kingfishers2@verizon.net) (10-person limit).

### Saturday, November 16 Eastern Neck NWR, Kent County, MD

Full day. Expect to finish around 2:30 pm. Good variety of waterfowl, some waterbirds, gulls, and terns as well as landbirds, hawks, and eagles in mixed farm, woodland, pond, and bay areas. Bring pack lunch and warm drinks. **Meet time/place:** 8:30 am at the Tundra Swan Boardwalk. For more information, contact the leader, Paul DeAnna, at [ppdeanna47@gmail.com](mailto:ppdeanna47@gmail.com) or 202-544-2680 (15-person limit).

### Sunday, November 17 Mattawoman Wildlands, Charles County, MD

Half day. Joint trip with Southern Maryland Audubon on the George Wilmont Trail. Large concentrations of waterfowl expected on Mattawoman Creek, along with songbirds, woodpeckers (some redheaded), and raptors. **Meet time/place:** 7:45 am at Lackey High School parking lot (3000 Chicamuxen Rd., Indian Head, MD 29640). Bring waterproof footwear and dress for possible wind. One mile walk to and from trail head and half mile walk on uneven forest trail. For more information, contact the leader, Lynne Wheeler, at [comstockel@aol.com](mailto:comstockel@aol.com) or text 301-751-8097.

### Wednesday, November 27 Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay NWR, VA

See September 25 listing for details.

## DECEMBER

### Saturday, December 7 Huntley Meadows, Fairfax County, VA

Half day. Wintering waterfowl and other winter residents. Bald Eagles a possibility. **Meet time/place:** 8 am at parking lot by the Visitors Center (3701 Lockheed Blvd, Alexandria, VA 22306). For more information, contact the leader, Dixie Sommers, at [dixiesommers@cs.com](mailto:dixiesommers@cs.com) (12-person limit).

### Wednesday, December 18 Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay NWR, VA

See September 25 listing for details.



# Natural History Field Studies



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

## Chesapeake Bay Ecosystems

**NATH8216E, 3 CEUs**

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

**Class meetings: September 30-December 16, 2019**

**Field trip dates: October 12 and 19**

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

**Tuition: \$365**

**Instructor: Terry McTigue**

Discover the dynamic nature of the estuarine environment through study of the interaction between basic physical, chemical and biological processes in the Chesapeake Bay. Explore biological and geochemical cycles and discuss the interaction between nutrients and overall productivity affecting the health of the Bay. Examine the effects of pollution and resources management and the processes that influence temperature and salinity distributions. (Students split the cost of the day-long boat ride, usually about \$50.) *If minimum student enrollment is not reached by one week before the scheduled start date, the course may be canceled.*

## Fall Woody Plant Identification

**NATH7245E, 1.5 CEUs**

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

**Class meetings: October 7-November 4, 2019**

**Field trip dates: October 12 and October 26**

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

**Tuition: \$269**

**Instructor: Elizabeth Rives**

Autumn's glory is created by the colorful changing leaves of trees and shrubs, so fall is the ideal time to study woody plant field identification. In this mini-course, participants study the principal techniques for identifying woody plants found in the Central Atlantic's forest communities. Field trips feature the use of recognition characteristics and botanical keys to identify many local woody plants. Students should have a 10x hand lens. There will be no class on October 14. *If minimum student enrollment is not reached by one week before the scheduled start date, the course may be canceled.*

## Save the Date

Join us **Thursday, October 24** for the ANS Annual Meeting at Woodend Sanctuary. See page 40 for more info.

## Chemistry for Naturalists

**NATH7129E, 3 CEUs**

**Class night and time: Tuesdays, 6-9 pm**

**Class meetings: October 1-December 3, 2019**

**Field trip date: November 23**

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

**Tuition: \$365**

**Instructor: Joe Marx**

Study the basic chemical principles that operate in natural environments. Learn to recognize the evidence of chemical processes in a landscape. By adding basic chemistry to the study and interpretation of local ecology, learn to form rudimentary but accurate models of the principal chemical processes in the environment. The course is completely descriptive, does not involve mathematics or homework problems, and is suitable for both field studies and horticulture. There will be no class on November 26. *If minimum student enrollment is not reached by one week before the scheduled start date, the course may be canceled.*

## Wildlife Ecology

**NATH8265E, 3 CEUs**

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

**Class meetings: October 1-December 3, 2019**

**Field trip dates: October 19 (Huntley Meadows Park),**

**October 26 (Patuxent Wildlife Research Center), and**

**November 9 (Mason Neck NWR)**

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

**Tuition: \$365**

**Instructor: Sally Valdes**

Gain an understanding of wildlife techniques and theory, including the basics of life history, identification, population and community ecology, habitat management, and animal behavior. Learn how institutional missions and federal laws influence wildlife and habitat conservation, and how humans affect and are affected by wildlife in rural, suburban, and urban environments of the Mid-Atlantic region. Pressing concerns about invasive species, the effects of climate change on wildlife, and the loss and degradation of habitats will also be discussed. A field trip fee of \$10 will be collected in class. Previous courses such as Biology for Naturalists (NATH1110E) and Intro. to Ecology (NATH1160E), or equivalent, are recommended. *If minimum student enrollment is not reached by one week before the scheduled start date, the course may be canceled.*

# Fall Courses September-December

Photo by Shenandoah National Park



## Eastern Forest Ecosystems

**NATH8215E, 3 CEUs**

**Class night and time: Wednesdays, 6-9 pm**

**Class meetings: October 2-December 4, 2019**

**Field trip dates: October 5, October 19, November 16**

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

**Tuition: \$365**

**Instructors: Joe Marx and Stephanie Mason**

The native vegetation in most of the Mid-Atlantic region is temperate deciduous forest. In the lecture portion of this course, we will learn how history, geography, evolution, climate, bedrock and soil determine the nature of our woodlands. We will then look at the various types of organism that populate our forest ecosystems and study how webs of matter and energy bind them together. The final lectures will discuss patterns of short-term and long-term change within the Eastern forest. Three full-day field trips—to Appalachian, Piedmont and Coastal Plain locales—will provide hands-on experience with some of the plant and animal species that characterize the major forest communities of our area. There will be no class on Nov. 27. *If minimum student enrollment is not reached by one week before the scheduled start date, the course may be canceled.*

## Weather and Climate

**NATH7140E, 3 CEUs**

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

**Class meetings: October 3-December 5, 2019**

**Field trip dates: TBA**

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

**Tuition: \$365**

**Instructor: Sean Potter**

This course explores fundamental concepts related to weather and climate. Students will learn the physical processes that make up Earth's atmosphere and drive local, regional and global circulation and weather patterns. Topics include weather map analysis and forecasting, weather satellite imagery, clouds and cloud development, and severe storms and hurricanes. Other relevant topics, such as El Niño and global climate change, will also be discussed. *If minimum student enrollment is not reached by one week before the scheduled start date, the course may be canceled.*

## 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 Nauralist 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.

**Find details on Winter NHFS classes, starting in January, at [ANShome.org/adults](http://ANShome.org/adults)**

### Winter Bird Life

Mondays, Woodend Sanctuary, MD  
Instructor: Gemma Radko

### U.S. Conservation History

Tuesdays, Woodend Sanctuary, MD  
Instructor: Jean Mansavage

### Human Ecology

Wednesdays, Woodend Sanctuary, MD  
Instructor: Gogi Kalka

### Land-Use Principles

Wednesdays, Capital Gallery, DC (L'Enfant Metro)  
Instructor: Katherine Nelson



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).

## Tanzania: East African Wildlands and Wildlife

**November 1-11, 2019**

**Optional extension to November 14**

**Leaders: Stephanie Mason and local guides**

**WAITLIST  
OPEN**

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

**February 7-18, 2020**

**Optional Extension to February 21**

**Leaders: Stephanie Mason and Carlos “Charlie” Gomez**

Our Senior Naturalist is looking forward to her 21st year of co-leading our annual 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, southern Pacific foothills and coastline, and other wildlands. An optional extension to the cooler mountain highlands features a different view of the tropics with towering oak trees and wild avocados providing habitat for birds such as the Resplendent Quetzal and the Fiery-throated Hummingbird. 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 Rob Gibbs

## Central Arizona and the Grand Canyon

**May 5-14, 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.

## Future Nature Travel Destinations:

We are in the planning stages for a new trip led by **Mark Garland** to **Mt. Rainier** for summer 2020. Also in the works for 2020/2021: **Guatemala; South Texas; Panama, and the Pantanal.**

Please email [carol.hayes@anshome.org](mailto:carol.hayes@anshome.org) if you would like to receive information once the trips are confirmed.

## Celebrate this year's successes with a holiday party at Woodend Mansion

Take a break from the everyday and thank your employees for all they do.

- From small gatherings to celebrations of 150, historic Woodend is the perfect setting for a private holiday party, where your colleagues and friends will feel very special and appreciated.
- Experienced full-service caterers will take care of all the details for you, from linens, to menus, to signature drinks.
- Celebrate the season with the people you count on: your team.
- Contact Beatriz Engel: 301-652-9188 ext. 38 | [beatriz.engel@anshome.org](mailto:beatriz.engel@anshome.org)



### Crowder-Messersmith Conservation Fund Annual Talk: The Evolution of Birding Internationally – the 1960's to the 2010's

Thursday, October 17 (7-9 pm)

Woodend Sanctuary

Don Messersmith and his wife Sherry were founders along with Orville Crowder of world birding tourism in the 60's and 70's, with Don leading trips to many remote locales on the seven continents. His student, Daphne Gemmill, followed his footsteps forty years later. Don will talk about what he did to prepare and what the birding experience was like in the early days before the internet with Daphne comparing her experiences, such as in her recent travels to Papua New Guinea, to Don's forty to fifty years ago. And while there have been dramatic changes in some respects, one thing remained the same—no internet in birding hotspots!

Light refreshments served. Please RSVP to Carol Hayes at [carol.hayes@anshome.org](mailto:carol.hayes@anshome.org) or 301-652-9188 x10 by October 14. Contributions to the Crowder-Messersmith Fund will be gratefully accepted.

### 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.

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

## What We Have Imagined, With Your Help

**By Alison Pearce**

*Just imagine: An oak seedling finally finding its share of light and nutrients in a forest released from the stranglehold of invasive shrubs and vines;*

*A wood thrush returning from the tropics to find a rich forest understory teeming with insects, nutritious berries, and plentiful nesting sites;*

*A flying squirrel gliding in the treetops at nightfall gathering the protein-rich acorns and hickory nuts it needs to support a high-energy lifestyle;*

*A buzzing multitude of native bees zipping from flower to flower in a meadow that blooms all season long, providing refuge from the stresses of climate change, habitat loss, and pesticide exposure;*

*A spotted salamander returning to the Woodend pond each spring to breed in a clean, reliable pool and then shelter in the thick leaf litter of the forest floor.*

To make these visions of abundant wildlife at Woodend possible, in the coming year we will stabilize the banks of our ephemeral stream, remove invasive plants on a massive scale, and add thousands of new native plants along our main trail. And we'll be able to do all this, because of your support for Nature for All.

You've been hearing about our plans to provide our human visitors with upgraded, accessible facilities. We also strive for our plant and animal communities to feel more welcome at Woodend. Our big ambition for the sanctuary is to create an oasis where wildlife – and people - thrive, together. Thank you for imagining this new world with us and making the donations we need for it to become real.



Photo by Alison Pearce



# Restoration

## The Little Stream That Could

By Eliza Cava

At ANS, we're in the process of creating a *Little Stream That Could*. And we invite you to join us. The rehabilitation of the sanctuary's Clean Drinking Stream is key to Nature for All and Woodend's restoration.

Like the story of *The Little Engine That Could*, we see big possibilities and opportunities for Clean Drinking Stream where others might see only muck, mire, and little that would inspire.

Our little stream once had predictable flow in winter and spring, but, for at least the last few decades, it has only run right after a rainstorm when it fills up with stormwater that then quickly whooshes away. Our little stream is not alone—the same thing has happened to many streams in our area as they have become surrounded by pavement, rooftops, and other hard surfaces.

The result? The 2000 foot-long Clean Drinking Stream has become scoured out, alternately wide and rocky or deep, steep, and muddy. We are working with the Center for Watershed Protection to design a restoration strategy that will transform eroded canyons into a series of more than 40 step-pools, divided by log and stone mini-dams that will stabilize the streambed in place. This will allow stormwater to stick around longer and soak into the soil, rather than just racing straight into Rock Creek. And, we will plant thousands of native plants along the banks to act as a riparian buffer.

The restoration will result in much better habitat for amphibians, native plants, pollinating insects, understory nesting birds, and more. It also will prevent nutrient and sediment pollution from washing downstream and out to the Chesapeake Bay. That's why the project was funded by the National Fish and Wildlife Federation, the Chesapeake Bay Trust, and the Maryland DNR Chesapeake and Coastal Bays Trust Fund.

But we foresee that there's more good this one little stream can do! It will be an outdoor classroom for our children to learn about nature on field trips and at summer camp. Along with other restoration projects, our stream will provide places where we can bring people, including neighbors, elected officials, business owners, and environmental professionals, to learn about what we've done and share best practices. We will be able to use the step-pools and the restored pond to train community scientists how to measure different indicators of water quality. And, we will inspire and train diverse populations from around our region to advocate for better water quality protection in their communities, by connecting our on-the-ground projects with our Advocacy and Stewardship workshops.

Yes, we think we can restore this little stream to something of a magnificent thing, and with your support of our Nature for All Campaign, we are sure we will.



**Accessible Nature Trail for All: Artist's Rendering of Restored Pond, Boardwalk, and new Pavilion**



## Canta y Baile y Celebra la Madre Tierra Sing & Dance & Celebrate Mother Earth

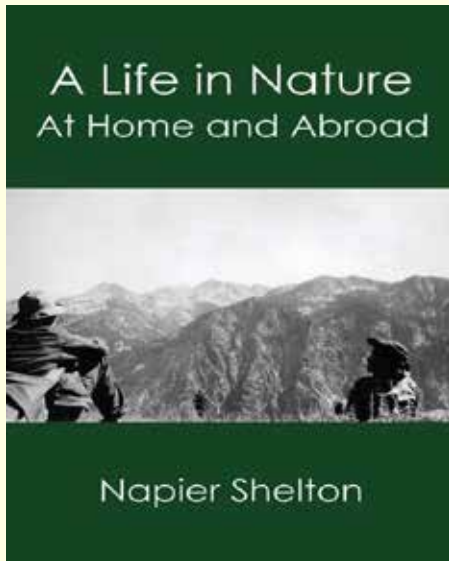
An ANS Hispanic Heritage Month Conservation Café  
Tuesday, October 22, 7-8:30 pm, Woodend  
Register: [anshome.org/conservation-cafe](http://anshome.org/conservation-cafe)

Female music collective Madre Tierra will join ANS to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with an evening of Bomba y Plena music, rooted in African traditions and the natural landscape of Puerto Rico. Por favor join us for what promises to be a beautiful, rhythmic, celebratory, and resilient evening of singing, laughing, and dancing!



Photo of Northern Cardinal at McKee-Beshers by Jane Gamble

## Book Signing and Author Talk with ANS Member Dr. Napier Shelton



**FREE**  
**Thursday, September 26, 2019**  
**7:00pm Reception**  
**7:30pm - 9:00pm Author Talk**  
**Woodend Sanctuary, Chevy Chase, MD**  
**RSVP at [anshome.org/book-signing](http://anshome.org/book-signing)**

## AUDUBON NATURALIST SOCIETY'S Bloomin' Birdathon

### Wow! What an amazing result!

A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who participated in this year's Bloomin' Birdathon. Because of the sharp eyes and wonderful dedication of our counters and the many sponsors who supported them we raised \$35,460.70 in support of ANS's education and conservation programs, **a record amount for this important fundraiser.**

We are particularly grateful to the new counters who joined this popular fundraiser this year helping us to far exceed our goal.

Our special thanks go to this year's top Bloomin' Birdathon fundraisers:

- Stephanie Mason and Pam Oves: \$12,458
- Team Cottingham: \$6,329
- Marcia Minichiello: \$3,740.50
- Nancy Voit & friends (Team This One's for Jane): \$2,250
- ANS Board Team: \$2,466
- Neal Fitzpatrick & John Bjerke (Team Carbon Footprint): \$1,885
- Patti Mackey, Pat Cassimatis, Katherine Payne, Sue Duffy & Kathy Benjamin (Team Bonnie Bluebirds): \$1,196.20

Thank you to the other Bloomin' Birdathon counters: Dottie Beck, Diane Proia, Sheila Cochran, Cecily Nabors & Diane Ford, Lisa Norwalk & Leonard Bisson, Chris Turnbow & Michele Peel, Kathy Rushing, Mer Mietzelfeld, Shirley Putnam, Nicholas Schliapin, Loree Trilling, and Jacky Wershale.

The Bloomin' Birdathon is one of ANS's largest fundraising events of the year. Your generous support helps to fund ANS's local conservation and environmental education programs throughout the year. Thank you so much to all participants and their generous supporters!

**MEMORIAL AND TRIBUTE CONTRIBUTIONS****May-July 2019****IN HONOR OF:****ANS's Amazing Naturalists**

Kimberly Bronow

**Michael Cunningham**

Marc Ferrara

**Reidun Dohlie**

Maj-Britt Dohlie &amp; Mike Evenson

**EarthKeepers**

Joseph F. Andrews, III

**Cris Fleming**

Alice Nicolson

**Mary Anne Friedlander**

Marvin, Sarah &amp; Joseph Friedlander

**Howard Garrett**

Susan Garrett Weiss

**Rosalind Goldfarb**

Saul, Elissa &amp; the Boys and Girls

**Brant Goldwyn**

Susan Grodsky

**Peggy Graeter**

James Graeter

**Page Hartley**

Nancy Grissom

**Karin Kellerher**

Kathryn Hegwood

**Kofim Classroom OKECC**

Manon van Silfhout

**Louise Lees**

David &amp; Alison Waxman

**Stephanie Mason**

Andrea Brown

**Martha & Oscar Mertz, Jr.**

Robert &amp; Pamela Mertz

**Marion Mudd**

Howard &amp; Ella Iams

**Baby Houghton Remer**

John Houghton &amp; Janet Loneragan

**Kathy & Bob Rushing**

Carolyn Adger; Karen Wilhelm

**IN MEMORY OF:****Ryan Atkinson**

Brenda &amp; Tom Corbin

**Bruce Bristol**

Janis Alcorn

**James Clayton**

Jane Glickman &amp; Charles Sacks

**Wayne Edward Crist**

Carol Frenkel; Geoffrey Henderson; Jane Johnston; Jane Lewin; Catherine Strickler; Peggy Weston; Bill Yeaman

**Elizabeth Vicik Fajna**

Sharon McCracken

**Adam Wallace Glass**

Elaine Braus; Greta Bunin &amp; Andrew Gale; Beth Davidow; Jack Epstein; Ben Gee; Karen Jain; Marnie Keller; Nam Mee &amp; Pete Wisner

**Jane Huff**

Steven Malone &amp; Mary Alexander

**Robert Ingram**

The Book Group

**George Lewis Kinter**

Carol Coffin

**Pearl Marks**

John George

**Jane Read**

Bethesda Community Garden Club

**Beverly Richards**

James &amp; Roberta Owens

**Margaret Sickels**

Mr. &amp; Mrs. Thomas Baker; E. Lee Glover; Debra Howard; Cece &amp; John Rosenberg; The Skorupski Family; McDonald Stewart

**Joe Whitt**

Anne &amp; David Whitt

**Frank Williams**

Matt Anton



## Volunteer Corner

### An occasional feature that highlights ANS volunteers

by Mitch Greene, Volunteer Coordinator

In our Environmental Education Department, volunteers are cheerful, passionate, and always have something to do. Carol Anderson is one of those volunteers.

Since becoming a Master Naturalist in the Fall of 2016, Carol has spent more than 350 hours helping in our Nature Preschool and School Naturalist programs. Education Director Diane Lill describes her as, “a kind and patient teacher, always smiling and bringing her spirit of thankfulness and joy to all of her students and colleagues.” As an active, trusted Master Naturalist, Carol does it all: rolling logs and reading books with our preschoolers, leading school groups through the sanctuary, and planting native gardens at local schools. She even takes photos of children in nature for our social media.

Carol is a local who grew up on property with several acres of woods and a creek, both of which she “roamed...pretty freely with her twin sister; climbing trees, building forts, catching crawdads in the creek, watching the seasonal changes, and learning to love and appreciate the nature around her.”

It's no wonder that her friend Pearl Marks and the Mecklenburg family invited her to Audubon After Dark several years ago. It was that first contact with ANS where this 20-year veteran preschool teacher met staff who encouraged

her to enroll in the Maryland Master Naturalist program. Now, she says, “I love every minute spent with children in nature; teaching them and seeing the miracles around us through their eyes. ANS has given me far more than I have given it and I am grateful. It is an organization and staff like no other, and I am proud to be a volunteer.” Thank you, Carol.

And thanks to every volunteer who gives generously of your time. From our Master Naturalists, to our Board Members, the Monthly Mailing Group and the Shop Assistants, Conservation Researchers, bloggers....Each of you is a valuable part of this organization.

Speaking of Master Naturalists: Congratulations to the Class of 2018 for completing its first year of service and earning certification as Maryland Master Naturalists! Welcome Class of 2019!



Photo of Carol Anderson by Claire Anderson



Ruby-throated Hummingbird at Green Spring Garden by Jane Gamble



*Take note of your observations or reflect on your journey!*

**Stop by the Naturalist Shop to check out our new nature journaling section, complete with notebooks, journals, and mini ANS pencils.**

**anshome.org/shop  
301-652-3606**



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### 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.

### 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).

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

The easiest way to support ANS is to designate the **Audubon Naturalist Society 75493** in the 2015



Combined Federal Campaign under EarthShare Mid-Atlantic.



# ANS ANNUAL MEETING

## Celebrating NATURE for ALL and honoring The Chesapeake Bay Trust

**Thursday, October 24, 6-9 pm, Woodend Sanctuary**

Calling all ANS members and supporters! Be sure to join us for the 2019 Annual Meeting to celebrate our Nature for All restoration projects and to honor the Chesapeake Bay Trust for its tremendous support of our new stormwater management projects.

The evening event will include recognition of volunteers and Natural History Field Studies graduates, and election of members to the ANS Board. Purple Onion catering will provide a light supper.

Please RSVP to this free event by registering online at <https://anshome.org/annual-meeting-2019> by October 21. Friends and family are welcome, too.

### **BOARD ELECTIONS:**

ANS members will vote on candidates for the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting. An official notice including profiles of the Board candidates nominated by the Governance Committee will be posted at [www.anshome.org/board](http://www.anshome.org/board) after October 1.



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*Eastern Tiger Swallowtail in the Blair Native Plant Garden by Ben Israel*