



AUDUBON NATURALIST SOCIETY

Connecting People with Nature in the DC Region | ANShome.org

Audubon Naturalist Society (ANS) seeks candidates to serve on our Board of Directors. Founded in 1897, ANS is the oldest independent environmental organization in the DC region (www.ANShome.org). Its mission is to inspire residents of the greater Washington, DC region to appreciate, understand, and protect their natural environment through outdoor experiences, education, and advocacy.

More than 15,000 people participate in ANS environmental education programs annually, and its three regional nature sanctuaries (Chevy Chase, MD and Leesburg and Clifton, VA) are open free to the public year round. ANS was selected as “one of the best small charities in the Washington, DC region” by the Catalogue for Philanthropy: Greater Washington.

ANS seeks to create a larger and more diverse community of people who treasure the natural world and work to preserve it. We are keenly interested in strengthening our position as a quality of life asset for residents of the DC region, and to that end, wish to be better known by and integrated with area business and non-profit communities.

Recent ANS accomplishments:

- ANS received the 2010 Distinguished Service to Public Education Award from the Montgomery County Board of Education for developing the flagship GreenKids environmental education partnership with MCPS schools.
- ANS was recertified as a Maryland Green Center by the Maryland Association for Outdoor and Environmental Education with special recognition from County Executive Isaiah Leggett.
- ANS advocacy in Montgomery County is focused on the Clean Water Act's goals of protecting healthy streams and restoring degraded streams. We have been training citizens to collect water quality monitoring data about county streams since the 1990s.
- ANS's Conservation Associate, Stella Koch, has served for seven years as the sole environmental representative on the Tysons Corner Redevelopment Task Force. The redevelopment plan, which includes multiple transportation options, green spaces, and stream restorations, recently received the prestigious 2011 Daniel Burnham Award, which honors work that advances the science and art of planning.
- ANS's Conservation Associate, Dolores Milmoie, coordinated the creation of more rain gardens at D.C. Habitat for Humanity homes. With help from the homeowners, Dolores planted native plants in three rain gardens; rain spouts from the houses were directed into the garden through underground piping. In this way, the gardens will help rain (or stormwater) from running into streets, eroding streambanks, and polluting waterways.

Board meetings are scheduled six times a year and held on the third Wednesday evening of the months of January, March, May, July, September, and November.

Board responsibilities include supporting the ANS mission of environmental education and advocacy, establishing effective policies to govern operations, ensuring the organization's financial viability, and providing strategic planning.

For this recruitment cycle, we are specifically seeking Board members with active connections to;

- 1) Business communities serving the DC region,**
- 2) Development and fundraising experience, and/or**
- 3) Communications and media outreach experience.**

To apply for Board service contact Executive Director, Neal Fitzpatrick at neal@audubonnaturalist.org