

NATURALIST QUARTERLY

SPRING 2013



**NATURE + TRAVEL =
THE BEST OF TWO WORLDS**

PAGE 4

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

GROUNDS 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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Voice@AudubonNaturalist.org

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NATURALIST QUARTERLY

ANShome.org

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COVER Mark S. Garland snapped the large photo of delighted ANS travelers returning to the Napo Wildlife Center in Ecuador after a morning walk in the rain forest. Mark also took photo on lower left, showing Sunni Morgan, Mary Jane Slugg, Nancy Sahli, and Barbara Gordon looking for seabirds in Newfoundland, and the photo on lower right of Barbara Gordon, Sunni Morgan, and Marta Wagner walking amongst old growth trees in Washington State's Quinault Rain Forest. **Cecily Nabors** took the zebra photo on an ANS trip to Tanzania.



ANS was recertified as one of the "finest smaller charities Greater Washington has to offer" by the Catalogue for Philanthropy.

From the Director

Sometime this year, the Montgomery County Council will make a critical decision about a portion of the Clarksburg Master Plan, and this decision will determine the fate of a beautiful rural waterway, Ten Mile Creek. As commercial and residential developers lobby our local officials, it will take all of our voices to protect this biologically diverse creek that contributes to our backup drinking water supply.

ANS and partner, Montgomery Countryside Alliance, will mobilize people to advocate for a land use plan that preserves Ten Mile Creek and supports the goals of the Clean Water Act (which makes protecting healthy streams and restoring degraded ones the law of the land). To do this, the plan must incorporate science-based limits on imperviousness and development along with forest and wetland retention.

Through our Water Quality Monitoring Program, ANS has observed Ten Mile Creek over many years. During dry summers, the Creek has adequate base flow that supports aquatic insects, fish, and amphibians. During storm events, forests and wetlands adjacent to Ten Mile Creek allow for the recharging of groundwater. Ten Mile Creek runs

consistently cool with good levels of oxygen, so critical for sensitive fish and insect species.

ANS staff — Diane Cameron, Dolores Milmoie, and Cathy Wiss — took leadership roles last year in the fight to get the Montgomery County Planning Board and County Council to take a careful look at the Ten Mile Creek Watershed. Many of you wrote letters and attended public meetings in this effort. Now, to best protect Ten Mile Creek, two questions must be answered: What level of future development should be allowed, and which best development practices need to be applied?

The only way to ensure a healthy future for Ten Mile Creek is for all ANS members and partners to work together in support of science-based limits to development and protections of our forests and wetlands. Stay tuned online and through our monthly eNEWS.



Neal

3

Letters

Taking ANS With You

After more than a decade in Washington, DC, I am returning to Seattle. Among the many things I will miss about living here, at the top of the list is my involvement with the ANS community. It was just by chance of misdirected mail that I received an ANS brochure 10 years ago and signed up for a birding class. I was hooked and continued taking classes and joining field trips, eventually completing the requirements of the Natural History Field Studies certificate. ANS has enriched my life in so many ways, both in natural history content and in new friendships with others who share a passion for exploring nature.

To the instructors and fellow students in the Natural History Field Studies program, to field trip leaders and participants, and to members of the Conservation Philosophy Reading Group — thank you for sharing your knowledge, enthusiasm, and insight. Because of all of you, I return to the Pacific Northwest as a curious naturalist, with new skills to better understand the natural world.

Jill Golden
Washington, D.C.

Connecting to the Next Gen

Just wanted to let you know what a fantastic job Matt Anton (GreenKids naturalist) is doing at Jones Lane. There is a “GreenKids buzz” circulating throughout the school community and everyone is excited as we work towards Green School certification. Thanks for giving us Matt; he’s a talented, dedicated, and enthusiastic teacher!

Rosemary DeRose
Parent at Jones Lane Elementary School
Gaithersburg, MD

STAFF UPDATES Rust Sanctuary naturalist, **Julie Gurnee**, now works at one of her favorite childhood parks, Riverbend in Fairfax County. We miss Julie and wish her well. A big welcome to **Cameron Potts**, who holds a degree in Environmental Studies and is our new NoVA Education Coordinator. We also greet **Margo Francis**, Director of Finance and Administration, who comes to us from the Friends of the National Zoo. Last but not least, we send warm wishes to **Sherrice Ajebon**, ANS accountant, who gave birth to daughter, Mia, on December 30, 2012.

NATURE + TRAVEL = THE BEST OF TWO WORLDS

What could be better? Getting to travel — *and* getting to travel to natural places. For many of us, our favorite memories involve trips to a national park, nature preserve, protected sanctuary, preserved coastline, or wildlife hotspot. ANS has been organizing such exciting trips since 1982.

The Everglades and Yellowstone are longtime domestic destinations. And while we've been organizing naturalist-led trips internationally for many years, Panama and Botswana are new venues. All of our trips have an active schedule with many hours spent in the field. However, the pace is relaxed and allows for careful nature study.

Whether it's traversing a wild river, seeing iconic African wildlife, or day-tripping to a rain forest, nature travel challenges and enriches us. Our naturalists, some of the most knowledgeable and experienced guides working, make sure of that. Hear some of their voices as they describe joys and memories of past trips. Hear, too, from several adventurers who treasure ANS Nature Travel. — *Lynda DeWitt, Communications Director*



... On this ANS nature trip to Costa Rica, my fellow travelers and I witnessed mind-boggling diversity. During our two weeks of exploration, we saw or heard nearly 400 species of birds, from the diminutive scintillant hummingbird to the rainbow-hued keel-billed toucan to the aptly-named resplendent quetzal. But it was the neo-tropical migrants — the ones that our local guide Charlie Gomez always called “one of

yours” — that made me ponder. ... I watched the ubiquitous Tennessee warblers pluck insects and sip nectar ... We caught glimpses of wood thrushes at half a dozen spots in Costa Rica. ... [and] I saw more Baltimore orioles in my 19 days in Costa Rica than I typically see in a nesting season here. — *Stephanie Mason, ANS Senior Naturalist and leader to Costa Rica, Galapagos Islands, Nova Scotia, and elsewhere.*

I believe that the urge to travel is a basic human instinct. We want to know what's around the bend, across the pond, “over there” where those other people come from. Sometimes we don't have the means to travel, sometimes we don't have the courage, but the curiosity is there. A few generations ago that urge could easily be satisfied with a visit to nearby towns, but to see truly distant places required the commitment of years, if not an entire lifetime. Today we can travel to any corner of the globe with relative ease, and in most destinations we can be assured of safe and comfortable travel with opportunities to meet friendly people who come from very different cultural backgrounds. It is truly a golden era for travel.

For nature enthusiasts, we have the added incentive of seeing different environments and wildlife for the first time. I'll never forget the first time I saw a resplendent quetzal in Costa

Rica, the first time I made eye contact with a lion in Tanzania, the first time I touched the Arctic Ocean in Alaska. And I relive my own excitement every time I see a traveler experience a magical moment.

Sharing these momentous encounters with the natural world is a powerful experience. Deep friendships develop among those who travel together, and some of my most cherished friendships are based in my travel experiences, both among fellow travelers and with the guides and other travel professionals that I've met in other places.

We never traveled much when I was a child. I crossed the Mississippi River for the first time when I was 23, and got my first passport at age 31. My wanderlust continues to grow; just wait 'til you hear about where I'm headed next! — *Mark S. Garland has led more than 200 domestic and international nature trips*

I most enjoy seeing a group's reaction to wonderful natural areas, and pacing our trips so that we have enough time to fully experience these places. Sometimes we get immediate “oohs and ahs!”, but other times we hear later from folks about how much they enjoyed various stops or sightings. In a 2012 trip to Yellowstone (see picture, below), we left our motel before sunrise to get to the Lamar Valley hoping to see wolves. Though we didn't see wolves that day, we did see from just this spot a grizzly bear ambling along, a herd of bison, a pronghorn on a nearby ridge, and a perched bald eagle. It was a lovely morning in a pristine place, not to be forgotten. — *Mark England, leader to Montana, Texas, and Yellowstone/Grand Teton/Rocky Mountain National Parks*



Early morning in Yellowstone's Lamar Valley didn't bring the expected sighting of wolves, but instead offered views of bison, pronghorn, a grizzly, and a bald eagle.

Mark England

It is always a pleasure to explore with an ANS group. Over the years their many questions have led to new insights on our natural world. Learning is definitely a two-way street on an ANS trip.

Stopping to remember our many shared adventures, I see enormous flocks of wading birds in the Everglades and wolves in Yellowstone and a river of bats leaving a cave and Mt. Rainier looming out of the clouds and the grand sweep of the desert in Big Bend. Breathtaking sights well shared with good companions. And also in those memories are the small gems like a flower on a cactus or a Wilson's plover on wet sand. — *John Bjerke, leader to Texas, Florida, Yellowstone, Pacific Northwest, and in June, Newfoundland. After a fourth trip to South Florida next January, John will retire and concentrate on free local walks and Stephanie Mason's series of local forays.*



John R. Whitaker

Red-footed boobies were among the many animals seen on an ANS trip to the Galapagos.

Natural places, like music and fireworks, are best experienced in person. The air, the three-dimensional views, the aromas, the sounds all combine to create an experience that is so much more intense and satisfying than seeing a photograph or even a movie. Experiencing new places through travel is an important part of my life.

With ANS, I have confidence that I will experience the beauty and mystery of the natural world, without worrying about logistics. The emphasis is not on just one area, such as birds or plants or geology, but on how everything fits together.

It's hard to guess what wonders will be found on each trip, but there is always something to remember with a smile. So, go traveling. Go soon! — *Wendy Fredericks is headed to Panama this spring, her ninth ANS Nature Travel trip.*



John R. Whitaker

Wendy Fredericks, in foreground, takes a break in the Santa Elena Canyon in Big Bend National Park of West Texas.

On my first trip with ANS, I went to Nebraska to see the migrating sandhill cranes. Hal Wierenga led us to the River Platte, pink with sunrise and massed with standing cranes. As the day brightened, they lifted into the sky, family by family: adult birds bugling, youngsters sounding like toy trumpets. Later, as the cranes fed in the fields, we saw them dancing. We watched greater prairie chickens dancing on their leks to tunes whistled by Western meadowlarks. Hal even pulled a long-eared owl out of his hat.

Magical. That trip hooked me on ANS travel.

On my 11th trip with ANS, I went to Tanzania to experience Africa with Mark Garland. The crane theme continued with gray crowned cranes, tall and stately. Birds everywhere: beautiful rollers and huge hornbills and dazzling sunbirds. Sneaky marabou storks and spiky secretary birds. Even the starlings were gorgeous. I fell in love with giraffes and their ingenuie eyelashes. Zebras were dazzling, so stripy my camera had trouble focusing. Elephants — I could have spent half a lifetime watching elephants. Who could forget a lioness in a tree? She jumped down and passed very close to our vehicle, paying no attention to worshipful tourists.

Magical. I'm still hooked on ANS travel. — *Cecily Nabors, traveler to Nova Scotia (twice), Tanzania, and numerous domestic destinations*

The trip exceeded my expectations; the leaders are excellent!
— *Traveler to Yellowstone, 2012*

Free Beginning Bird Walks at Woodend, Saturdays, 8-9 a.m.

Want to travel with ANS Executive Director, Neal Fitzpatrick? Turn to page 26.

Nature Travel Potluck

Sunday, March 17, 5-7 p.m. at Woodend Sanctuary

ANS trip leaders and travelers welcome all who are interested in Nature Travel. We'll look back at wonderful ANS trips and forward to those in the works for next year. Bring a friend! RSVP to Beth Cranmer at beth@audubonnaturalist.org.

MD/DC Conservation

Help Save Maryland's Rich Botanical Heritage with a Click

Support Maryland House Bill 934, which would create a task force to define the threats facing our wild plant populations, propose solutions, and find revenue sources.

- 1 Go to <http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/>
- 2 Click the "Voice My Opinion" button on lower left
- 3 Fill in your address
- 4 Write your opinion, or just send the sentence "I support HB 934."

Lady slippers by Sara Tangren



- 5 Hit send and your state delegates and senator will know that native plant conservation is important to you.

Conservation Shorts

>> In January, ANS Maryland Conservation Associate Dolores Milmo testified in favor of Montgomery's two tree bills now pending before the County Council. The bills would protect street trees and seek to deter and mitigate the loss of our urban tree canopy for development projects that might otherwise be exempt from the Forest Conservation Law.

>> In January, ANS Conservation Director, Diane Cameron, and colleagues from the Prince George's County Healthy Communities Coalition, met with new Prince George's County Department of Environmental Resources Director and Deputy Director, Adam Ortiz and Larry Coffman, respectively. They discussed needed improvements to the County's stormwater permit that will drive robust investments in trees, rain gardens, green roofs, and other forms of green infrastructure.

>> On February 13, Diane Cameron took part in a DC Clean Rivers Lobby Morning to ask District Mayor Gray and the DC Council to support the stormwater and wetlands regulations proposed by the District's Department of the Environment. The Lobby Morning was organized by Chris Weiss, leader of the DC Environmental Network.

>> In another action for local forests and clean water, ANS sent a letter in January to the Montgomery Planning Board and Department, requesting that they revoke an earlier decision to exempt the proposed Wheaton Costco mega gas station from the Forest Conservation Law. ANS with civic partners last year won protection for Wheaton's Forested Buffer in the Wheaton Sector Plan, but this gas station threatens the buffer.

Ten Mile Creek Update

The Ten Mile Creek campaign team has been busy this winter, doing scientific literature research and keeping up with the Montgomery Planning Department's progress in amending the master plan for the Clarksburg area. As most of you know, we are working hard to ensure the amendments protect Ten Mile Creek, one of the county's healthiest waterways and home to a diverse waterborne community of fish, amphibians, insects, and other life. We are also supporting efforts of Clarksburg residents to build a more walkable, functional Town Center.

In January, ANS and its partner, Montgomery Countryside Alliance, wrote to Montgomery County Planners urging them to invite residents from around the county to the next public meeting for this Master Plan Amendment. This meeting will be held on Monday, February 25 (too late to include in this issue.) We also asked the planners to hold back on accepting developers' applications until the Limited Master Plan Amendment is finished. Residents countywide are stakeholders in the fate of Ten Mile Creek, as we depend on the Potomac drinking water supply of which Ten Mile Creek is a contributor.

The ANS Ten Mile Creek team is planning to host a tour of Clarksburg and Ten Mile Creek for ANS members in March; please check the March e-News for details. And check out Neal Fitzpatrick's column about Ten Mile Creek on page 3. — *Diane Cameron, ANS Conservation Director*



Max Taylor

ANS's **Dolores Milmo** chats with farmer Wade Butler of Butler's Orchard during a round table discussion at the **Farming at Metro's Edge Conference**. ANS worked with partner groups to plan this January 2013 event that provided an opportunity for farmers, agriculture advocates, educators, and area residents to come together and discuss growing food and fiber on the edge of growing cities. For more information, go to farmingatmetrosedge.com.

VA Conservation

RUST NATURE SANCTUARY



KIDS GROW BETTER OUTSIDE

703-669-0000 | ANShome.org/Rust
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STOKES, AUDUBON, BUSHNELL, & ALPEN.**

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Summer Camp 2013 51st Season

Burgundy Center for Wildlife Studies



SENIOR PROGRAM (Ages 11-15)
June 23-July 6 ♦ July 9-23 ♦ July 30-August 12

JUNIOR PROGRAM (Ages 8-10)
August 18-24

ADULT WEEKEND (Ages 21+)
July 26-28

FOR MORE INFORMATION
BCWS 3700 Burgundy Rd., Alexandria, VA 22303
burgundycenter.org ♦ 703-842-0470

Tell Gov. McDonnell to Respect the Uranium Mining Ban

Legislation that would have lifted Virginia's 30-year ban on uranium mining was withdrawn earlier this year because supporters lacked the votes for passage. That doesn't mean the ban is secure. In fact, many proponents of the ban are concerned that Governor Bob McDonnell will attempt an end-run around the legislature by directing state agencies to prepare regulations for uranium mining.

Following the lack of support for his "lift the ban" bill, State Senator John Watkins requested the Governor to direct state agencies to begin developing regulations for the mining of uranium. Governor McDonnell has said that he is reviewing Watkins request — this, despite the fact that the uranium moratorium has broad citizen support.

Ask Governor McDonnell to respect the uranium mining ban that has protected Virginians for the past 30 years.

PHONE 804-786-2211

EMAIL Use the contact form at governor.virginia.gov

USPS Office of the Governor, Patrick Henry Building, 3rd Floor, 1111 East Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219

Additional details can be found at keeptheban.org. —
Stella Koch, Virginia Conservation Associate



This ANS service offers weekly reports of sightings of rare or notable birds. Call 301-652-1088 or visit ANShome.org/voice.

Support ANS — Monthly!

It's easy! Go to ANShome.org/Support, or contact Loree Trilling at 301-652-9188 x35 or ltrilling@audubonnaturalist.org.

Sign up for our monthly eNEWS

Receive conservation updates, event announcements, and more. Send your email address to eNEWS@AudubonNaturalist.org.

Children & Family Programs

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

Wonderful Woodpeckers **FULL**

Saturday, March 23 (10-11 am)

Can you drill a hole in a tree with your nose? Is your tongue sticky at the end? Do you eat insects? If so, then you may be a woodpecker! Come to Woodend to explore the amazing adaptations of woodpeckers and then search for our local winter woodpeckers and their holes.

Spring Peepers

Sunday, April 14 (7-8:30 pm)

You have to see it to believe it! While no bigger than your fingernail, spring peepers make a most amazing spring chorus. We will listen for these amazing creatures and look for other nighttime friends.

Once a POND a time

Sunday, May 19 (10-11 am)

In a land far far away a mysterious pond was explored! Spring is upon us and the Woodend pond is teeming with new life. Join us as we get down and dirty in our search for baby insects, tiny tadpoles, and tremendous turtles!

Creepy Crawlies

Saturday, June 8 (3-4 pm)

Join us for an afternoon of digging, wiggling, and giggling in this popular class. We'll explore life under a log and get up close and personal with our creepy friends!



Family Programs — Free for Members!

ANS members and their children are free. Nonmembers pay \$5 per child, no charge for adults. Registration required; see page 31.

Nature Birthday Parties

Give your child the gift of nature with a party at one of our sanctuaries!

- * Ages 4-10
- * Weekends and Fridays year-round
- * Members \$225; Nonmembers \$260
- * Many nature themes

BOOK ONLINE!

Download a birthday party brochure or book online at ANShome.org/birthday.

Chevy Chase, MD: 301-652-9188 x10
Leesburg, VA: 703-669-0000



Spring Break Camp

Monday, March 25-Friday, March 29 (8:30 am-4:30 pm)
Members \$340; nonmembers \$425

Grades K-5: Signs of Spring

Spend your spring break outdoors on our beautiful nature sanctuary. Campers will spend a week discovering salamander eggs, flower buds, wood frog calls, and other signs of spring. Outdoor play, crafts, songs, and stories will enhance our natural history learning. Registration required.

Grades 6-8: Eco-Action — Student Service Learning

Earn 20 SSL hours while learning about the natural environment. Each day our Eco Action Team will take on a new project to improve the sanctuary, while at the same time learning about the environment and having fun. Registration required.



To register, mail or fax the form on page 31. Questions? Call 301-652-9188 x15.



FOLLOW ANS:
ANStweets

GreenKids

An Environmental Program in Search of ... a Few Good Montgomery & Loudoun County Public Schools

Would your school benefit from these FREE services?

- ✿ Environmental activities that meet MCPS & LCPS standards
- ✿ Two years of free classroom visits from Audubon naturalists
- ✿ Materials funds for Schoolyard Projects
- ✿ Field trip subsidies to Audubon Nature Sanctuaries

Principals, teachers, and parents interested in having their schools join GreenKids, contact Diane Lill, Project Director, at greenkids@audubonnaturalist.org. For more information, visit ansgreenkids.org.

Leave No Trace Awareness Workshop

Thursday, March 7 (4:15-5:45 pm)
Woodend Sanctuary, Chevy Chase, MD

Leave No Trace is a set of 7 principles that encourages individuals participating in outdoor activities to reduce their impact on nature and the environment. The ANS GreenKids program is offering a free workshop for teachers to learn about Leave No Trace principles.

To register for this free workshop, send an email to Jennifer Chambers at jennifer@hikingalong.com.

GreenKids



Members Only Family Campout

Friday, May 10 (5:30 pm)-Saturday, May 11 (9:30 am)
Cost: \$50 for a family of 5 or less, \$5 for each additional participant

Ever wanted to spend the night at Woodend with your family? Join us for a fun-filled (ANS Members Only!) campout where we will learn basic camping principles, play games, take an evening hike, and enjoy a campfire with songs and s'mores. Campers will need to bring their own picnic dinner, tent, and sleeping bags; we will provide dessert and a hot campfire breakfast. Participants must be at least 3 years old.

A small number of tents are available for an extra \$10. Reserve yours when you register!

Registration required; please use form on page 31. Questions? Call 301-652-9188 x15



ANS EE photo

Environmental Residencies

Bring naturalists to your school for an extended residency!

The ANS GreenKids program, our partnership with MCPS and LCPS school systems, has developed high quality, project-based environmental residencies that are now available to all interested schools.

The environmental residency program can be tailored to your school to provide a meaningful, in-depth learning experience for students in one of these areas:

Salad Science
Stream Science
Becoming a Green School

If you are interested in exploring an environmental residency for your school, please contact GreenKids Director, Diane Lill, at greenkids@audubonnaturalist.org. Minimum fee: \$1200

Audubon Afterschool Nature Clubs

ANShome.org/afterschool

Let ANS bring the wonder of nature to your school with our Afterschool Nature Clubs! Clubs run for a 6-week period at your school for 1-2 hours each week. Contact James Robey at jrobey@audubonnaturalist.org or 301-652-9188 x45 for more info.



ANS EE photo

Summer Camp 2013

- Interested in housing an intern this summer? Call Karen at 301-652-9188 x15 for more information.
- Looking for 1st/2nd grade camps? We have space in our Smith Center camps in Rockville.
- Explore the bay! We have space in our Advanced Bay Quest program for rising 10th-12th graders the week of 7/22.
- Donate your old sports equipment for use in lunch breaks and extended camp.



Teen Naturalist in Training Program (TNT)

If you can play a mean game of dead ant tag, get excited with our campers about finding a worm, and are willing to act out your favorite mammal, then we have a volunteer program for you!

Earn 90 SSL hours in our Summer Camp volunteer program. Teens work with our elementary school aged campers, have group meetings, and receive naturalist training. TNTs will volunteer for a three week session and have the opportunity to work with different ages, teachers, and subjects.

Applications available at ANShome.org/camp.

Session 2: July 8-26 FULL

Call 301-652-9188 x15 for more info.

Nature Preschool Programs

Bringing the gift of wonder to children

The Audubon Nature Preschool offers programs for children aged 2½ to 5 years. Children benefit from exploring the natural surroundings of the 40-acre sanctuary, which offer endless opportunities for investigation and discovery.

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



Bringing the gift of wonder to children
WOODEND NATURE SANCTUARY
CHEVY CHASE, MARYLAND

Classes for 3½–5 year olds

Mondays-Thursdays
September-May

Morning program
9 am-noon

Afternoon program
12:30-3 pm

Parent-Tot Class for 2½–3½ year olds

Fridays 9:30-11:30 am
September-May

QUESTIONS?

Call 301-652-9188 x32 or visit ANShome.org/preschool



Audubon School Programs

Explore nature with your students!

Bring your class to Woodend or Rust Sanctuary for a hands-on field trip experience, or let us come to you with our Naturalist in Your Classroom program! All of our programs are correlated with Montgomery County Science Units and the Virginia Science Standards of Learning.

For programs at Woodend Sanctuary in Chevy Chase, MD, call 301-652-9188 x17.

For programs at Rust Sanctuary in Leesburg, VA, call 703-669-0000 x2.

Our 2012-2013 school program catalog is available at ANShome.org/school

NEW THIS YEAR Night Hikes, Campfires, and Overnights at Woodend!

Join naturalists at Woodend for a fun-filled nature hike followed by campfire building, roasting s'mores and singing campfire songs.

Extend the excitement of your night hike and campfire with an overnight at Woodend! Choose between sleeping inside our historic mansion or camping outside under the stars. In the morning we'll cook breakfast together before you head home or back to school!

Children's Nature Book Club at the Rust Sanctuary

Ages 3-6 with an adult
Fridays (10-11:30 am)
Winter session concludes March 15
Spring session: April 5-May 10
\$3 per child

Join our book club with your child. Listen to a nature-themed book appropriate to the season, and then enjoy activities, games and nature walks related to that theme. We will go outside, so please dress for the weather. **Reservations required:** email pdaley@loudounwildlife.org or cpotts@audubonnaturalist.org. Cosponsored with Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy.

Woodland Egg Hunt Family Program

Saturday, March 23 (10-11:30 am)
\$3 per child

Trek the trails at the Rust Nature Sanctuary to hunt for chocolate eggs hidden by the naturalists! Before we go hunting, we will have fun creating our own eco-friendly egg collecting boxes.

Mother's Day Eco-Art Creations Family Program

Saturday, April 27 (10-11:30 am)
\$7 per child supply fee

Calling all Dads! Don't worry — your kids will create the best Mother's Day gift this year. Bring your family and join us on a Saturday morning to create a homemade gift from the heart.

Audubon Afterschool Nature Clubs

Let ANS bring the wonder of nature to your school with our Afterschool Nature Clubs! Clubs run for a 6-week period at your school for 1-2 hours each week. Contact Susanne Ortmann at sortmann@audubonnaturalist.org for more info.

Nature Birthday Parties

Give your child the gift of nature with a party at Rust Nature Sanctuary in Leesburg, VA or the Broadlands Nature Center in Broadlands, VA. Parties are held weekends year-round. Many nature themes to choose from! Download a brochure at ANSHome.org/birthday.

Two locations: Broadlands, 703-729-9726 or Rust, 703-669-0000.

Under the Stars: A Family Night Hike

Friday, May 17 (6:30-7:30 pm)
Free Event!

Enjoy sweet refreshments while listening to a story about what's lurking in the woods at night. We will follow story time with a night hike in the woods.

Homeschool Program: Super Duper Science

Ages 5-12
Mondays, March 4-April 8 (12:30-2 pm)
Members \$80; nonmembers \$95

In this exciting science series, we will dive deep into the world of insects to help us learn how important these miniature marvels are to the human world. Our day will include outdoor hikes and adventures, games, and arts & crafts. Bring a picnic lunch to enjoy on the grounds before we begin.

Growth & Change (Pre-K/K)

Ages 3-6
Tuesdays, April 9-May 7 (9-10:30 am)
Members \$60; nonmembers \$75

Journey with us into the meadow, forest, and pond at Rust as we discover the world of insects! We'll get an up close and personal look at these fascinating creatures as we explore their unique characteristics and behaviors. Butterflies, grasshoppers, and spiders are some of the critters that we will investigate as we hike the grounds, play games, and make crafts to take home.

Environmental Residencies

Perfect for PTO sponsors!

Bring naturalists to your school for an extended residency! GreenKids, our partnership with Loudoun County Public Schools, has developed high quality, project-based environmental residencies for your school in one of the following areas: Salad Science, Stream Science, and Becoming a Green School. Contact Susanne Ortmann at sortmann@audubonnaturalist.org for more information. Minimum fee: \$1200.

Registration Information

To register for all programs listed here at Rust (except Children's Nature Book Club), email Cameron Potts, cpotts@audubonnaturalist.org. Questions? Call 703-669-0000.

Adult 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.

Special discounts and registration information

Please use the registration form on page 31 to sign up for classes. Special discounts apply:

- If more than one person from the same household registers for the same class on the same registration form, then the fee for the second person is reduced by 20%. This applies only to family memberships.
- If an individual registers for more than four programs (excluding series programs) on one registration form, the fee for every program after the fourth (excluding series programs) is reduced by 50%. The discounted fee applies to the least expensive program(s).
- To qualify for reduced prices in a series, you must sign up for the programs in the series at the same time, using the same registration form. Series programs are excluded from the 50% discount because they are already discounted.
- To qualify for a credit if you cancel a program, you must give at least six business days' notice; i.e., you can't cancel on a Monday for a weekend program and still receive a credit. See page 30 for more details.
- Did you know? Paying by check saves us \$ in credit card processing fees.

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Wooton's Landing Birding Trek

Saturday, March 2 (8-11 am)

Leaders David Gillum and Elaine Frieble

Members \$24; nonmembers \$34

The reconstructed wetlands at Wooton's Landing, a former sand and gravel mine adjacent to the Patuxent River in Anne Arundel County, provide excellent habitat for birds and other wildlife. On our walk of up to 2 miles, we'll stop at various ponds and the River to look for lingering winter waterfowl, raptors, and early migrants as well as other signs of spring.

Winter Tree Identification

Saturday, March 2 (9 am-3 pm)

Leader Cris Fleming

Members \$30; nonmembers \$42

Using the clues of buds, twigs, bark, and fruit, we'll practice identifying trees in winter in this all-day workshop at our Woodend Sanctuary in Chevy Chase, MD. We'll begin inside with a look at techniques of winter tree identification, take a lunch break, and then move outside to use our new skills to identify many species of woody plants that grow on the Woodend grounds.

Love Our Adult Nature Outings?

Celebrate a special occasion by giving a friend or family member a customized ANS nature walk.

For details, contact Senior Naturalist Stephanie Mason at smason@audubonnaturalist.org.

Winter Birding at Black Hill

Sunday, March 3 (8:30-11 am)

Leader Mark England

Members \$20; nonmembers \$28

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. This walk, 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.

Winter Walk Along the Canal

Wednesday, March 6 (10 am-12:30 pm) Great Falls

Leader Stephanie Mason

Members \$20; nonmembers \$28

Full; call to be added to waitlist.

FULL

Woodcock Watch

Saturday, March 9 (5:15-7:15 pm)

Leader Stephanie Mason

Members \$20; nonmembers \$26

Full; call to be added to waitlist.

FULL



Winter in the Parks

Saturday, March 9 (9-11:30 am) Paint Branch Trail, MD
Leader Stephanie Mason
Members \$20; nonmembers \$28

Join our Senior Naturalist on the final walk in our winter series of broad-based nature explorations of close-in parks rich in natural history. We'll walk up to 2 miles, on possibly muddy surfaces, as we search for overwintering birds and other winter-active wildlife. We'll practice our botany skills, and consider the winter survival strategies of local plants and animals. The paved Paint Branch Trail wanders through an inside-the-Beltway stretch of stream valley near College Park.

Late Winter Birding in Howard County

Sunday, March 10 (full-day field trip)
Leader Mike Bowen
Members: \$34; nonmembers \$46

With winter winding down, we'll bundle up for one last foray to wetlands and woodlands to search for lingering winter waterfowl and other birds as well as some of the first returning migrants. We'll explore several parks and natural areas in Howard County, visiting spots seldom frequented on ANS field trips. Our day's exact itinerary will be determined closer to the date of our trip, based on weather, our leader's scouting, and the size of the group.



Ring Necked Duck by USFWS

Introduction to the Geology of the Mid-Atlantic

Thursday, March 14 (7:30-9:30 pm)
Leader Joe Marx
Free, but registration required.

Join Joe Marx, Natural History Field Studies Geology teacher and ANS field trip leader, for a rockin' lecture at our Woodend Sanctuary. From uplift to continental drift, from the Coastal Plain to the Alleghany Plateau, Joe will be our tour leader for the long (think millions of years) trip through the geologic events that shaped the landscape around us.

ALMOST FULL

Winter Hike in the Blue Ridge

Saturday, March 16 (full day hike) - Shenandoah National Park, VA (5.2 mi)
Leader Stephanie Mason
Members \$34; nonmembers \$48

Take on two of your New Year's resolutions at once: spend more time exploring nature AND get more exercise by signing up for this hike in the Blue Ridge Mountains. We'll search for overwintering birds and other wildlife, while practicing our winter botany skills. We'll follow the Appalachian Trail in the Central Section of Shenandoah National Park, where we'll climb 1.5 miles (1200 ft. ascent) to Mary's Rock (3500 feet). There we'll be rewarded with one of best panoramic views of the Park. We'll continue climbing up, past the jagged Pinnacles (3750 feet) before our hike ends at the Pinnacles Picnic area. Note: This hike is designed to offer a natural history experience for persons who want to move farther and faster than the pace of most ANS field trips. We will stop to observe natural phenomena, but will keep a pace necessary to cover the distance stated. *This hike is moderately strenuous to strenuous, with both uphill and downhill hiking over rocky and uneven trails.*

Spring Saunters Along the Canal

Wednesdays (10 am-12:30 pm)
Section A: March 20 - Carderock
Section B: April 3 - Widewater FULL
Section C: April 17 - Swain's Lock FULL
Section D: May 1 - Riley's Lock FULL
Section E: May 15 - Violettes Lock FULL
Leader Stephanie Mason
Members \$20; nonmembers \$26

Enjoy one or all of these leisurely walks along portions of the C&O Canal. We'll stop often to observe birds, wildflowers, butterflies, snakes, turtles, and whatever else we might find. Carpool from Woodend with the leader if you desire. **Call to be put on a wait-list for a possible second session of walks.**

Beginning Birding

Thursday, March 21 (7:30-9:30 pm)
 Saturday, March 23 (8 am-2:30 pm)
Leader Mark England
Members \$50; nonmembers \$70
Lecture only members \$20; nonmembers \$26

If you're curious about birds and bird watching but don't know where to begin, this class is for you. No experience is required! At our evening lecture, we'll focus on the selection of field guides, binoculars, and other resources, and we'll discuss the basic techniques of birding finding and identification. The goal of our field trip, which visits Black Hill and Little Bennett Regional Parks in upper Montgomery County, is to develop the ability to find, study, and identify birds in their natural environment.

Vanishing Vernal Pools: Teeming With Life

Saturday, March 23 (9 am-1 pm)

Leader Elaine Frieble

Members \$24; nonmembers \$34

As the hours of daylight lengthen and temperatures begin to rise, animals that have spent the winter in hibernation begin to stir. Some of the earliest to become active are certain frogs and salamanders that use vernal or temporary pools for breeding. Unfortunately, these pools — and their breeders — are facing many threats. This program will be held at Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary in Anne Arundel County, MD, and will include an indoor session on vernal pool ecology, followed by an outdoor exploration of vernal pool habitats at the Sanctuary. Expect some uphill/downhill walking as we search for breeding activity.

Botanical Gems of Montgomery County: Hoyle's Mill Park

Sunday, March 24 (10 am-1:30 pm)

Leader Carole Bergmann

Members \$24; nonmembers \$34

Hoyle's Mill Conservation Park, in upper Montgomery County, MD, preserves the largest diabase bedrock habitat in the state of Maryland. At more than 800 acres and containing the biggest continuous forest under Montgomery County Park supervision, this Park is a rich reservoir of uncommon plants. Join Carole Bergmann, Forest Ecologist for MNCPPS, for an exploration of this area and the botanically diverse flora it supports. We will walk several miles on Park trails, with some infrequent, light bushwacking.

Early Spring Wildflowers

Saturday, March 30 (9 am-3 pm)

Leader Cris Fleming

Members \$30; nonmembers \$42

Beat the winter blues by finding early spring wildflowers often missed by those who don't get out until mid-April. We'll search for early bloomers such as harbinger of spring, purple cress, early saxifrage, dutchman's breeches, bloodroot, hepatica, trailing arbutus, and many other species. Our field trip will visit Great Falls Park and Difficult Run on the Virginia side of the Potomac River. Park entrance fee is waived for participants.

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

Introduction to Wildflower ID

Thursday, April 4 (7:30-9:30 pm)

Saturday, April 6 (full-day field trip)

Leader Stephanie Mason

Members \$50; nonmembers \$70

Lecture only members \$20; nonmembers \$26

In April, spring wildflowers in the Washington area are dazzling! We'll spend Thursday evening at Woodend discussing books, equipment, and terminology for beginning wildflower identification. On Saturday we'll travel to the Carderock area along the C&O Canal and explore several short trails between the Canal and the Potomac River. We'll practice using keys to identify wildflowers and look for Virginia bluebells, dutchman's breeches, twinleaf, toad trillium, and many other species.

Spring Wildflowers of the Potomac River Gorge

Fridays (10 am-12:30 pm)

Walk A: April 5 - Carderock and Marsden Areas, MD

Walk B: April 12 - Turkey Run Park, VA

Walk C: April 19 - Bear Island, MD

Leader Cris Fleming

Each walk members \$20; nonmembers \$28

Entire series \$54/\$75

The display of spring wildflowers in the Washington area is especially rich in the varied habitats along the Potomac River Gorge. From Virginia bluebells blanketing the bottomlands to the rare Coville's phacelia on the slopes and wild columbine on rock outcrops, different parks of the Gorge present a grand show. Join us for one or more of these visits to three nearby natural areas to find and identify local wildflowers and to observe the seasonal progression of blooms. Our explorations will involve some steep, uneven, rocky, and/or muddy terrain, and a stream crossing at Turkey Run, but we will proceed at a slow pace.

ENVIRONMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL



March 12-24, 2013

dcenvironmentalfilmfest.org



A Year at Boundary Bridge

Saturdays (9 am-2 pm)

Section B: April 6

Section C: June 29

Section D: October 26

Leader Melanie Choukas-Bradley

Each walk members \$30; nonmembers \$42

Join the author of *City of Trees* for our seventh year of hikes in one of Washington, D.C.'s most beautiful wild areas. Starting at Boundary Bridge and following the same 2.5-mile loop trail each season, we'll explore the large trees, diverse shrubs, and exceptional wildflowers along a scenic stretch of Rock Creek. We'll also see and hear many species of birds, butterflies, and amphibians. In April, we'll witness the spring magic of Rock Creek's myriad wildflowers. As summer arrives in the Park, we'll hope for a glimpse of a kingfisher as we look for ferns and early seasonal wildflowers such as enchanter's nightshade. Autumn is glorious in Rock Creek Park, and we'll conclude our series with a walk through colorful oaks, maples, and ashes, searching for the flowers of an early witch hazel in bloom. Our 2.5-mile circuit hike will be on trails with moderate uphill and downhill walking. An ANS/Rock Creek Conservancy Partnership.

Budbreak at Carderock

Sunday, April 7 (9:30 am-1:30 pm)

Leaders Melanie Choukas-Bradley & Elizabeth Rives

Members \$24; nonmembers \$34

During spring in Washington, all eyes seem to be on the colorful wildflowers and showy migrating birds. But one of the greatest miracles of spring, the bursting buds of native trees and shrubs, is often overlooked. Join Natural History Field Studies woody plant ID teachers Melanie Choukas-Bradley and Elizabeth Rives for a walk devoted to the identification and admiration of native trees and shrubs as their buds break and their leaves and flowers emerge! The 2-3 mile hike will mostly follow the C&O canal towpath, but we will venture down to the Potomac River on Section B of the Billy Goat Trail for a portion of the hike. This stretch involves some scrambling over rocks, a few steep sections, and some up and down, but we will move at a slow pace.

Bluebells and Butterflies

Wednesday, April 10 (10:30 am-12:30 pm)

Leader Stephanie Mason

Free, but registration required.

FREE

Join our Senior Naturalist for a slow amble along the Potomac's bottomlands at Riverbend Park, VA. We'll search for spring wildflowers sharing the stage with the Park's vast carpet of Virginia Bluebells, and keep an eye open for the first butterflies of the season, including Azures and Zebra Swallowtails.

Evening on the Canal

Friday, April 12 (7-9 pm)

Leader Stephanie Mason

Members \$20; nonmembers \$26

Early spring evenings can be alive with wildlife as you'll discover on this stroll from Swain's Lock up the C&O Canal towpath. We'll watch for wildlife as the sun sets, and as twilight gives way to the darkness of night, we'll listen for calling frogs and hooting Barred Owls while discussing the adaptations of these and other nocturnal animals.

Spring Tree ID for Birders

Saturday, April 13 (1:30-3:30 pm)

Leader Stephanie Mason

Free, but registration required.

FREE

Now that trees are blooming and beginning to leaf out, we're offering a follow-up to our popular winter program. On the towpath and nearby trails at Riley's Lock, we'll learn the identifying characteristics of the most common species of trees and shrubs along the Potomac and adjacent uplands.

Walk Among the Giants

B: Saturday, April 13 (8-11:30 am)

C: Sunday, July 7 (7:30-11 am)

D: Saturday, October 26 (8-11:30 am)

Leader Stephanie Mason

Each walk members \$24; nonmembers \$34

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

Hawks Aloft at Fort Smallwood Park

Saturday, April 20 (9 am-4 pm)

Leaders Hal Wierenga and Lynn Davidson

Members \$34; nonmembers \$46

Join us for a springtime exploration of Fort Smallwood Park, just south of Baltimore. Fort Smallwood, situated at the mouth of the Patapsco River where it empties into the Chesapeake Bay, provides one of the region's premier hawkwatching sites for spring raptor migration. If weather conditions are favorable, we can hope to see good numbers of hawks passing over the park at this season. Though the focus of the day will be watching hawks, there may also be time to look for songbird migrants, early butterflies, and spring wildflowers, depending on the day's weather, the number of hawks aloft, and the interest of the group.

Date	Time	Activity	Fee	Page	Date	Time	Activity	Fee	Page
Mar 1	10 am	Children's Nature Book Club	✓	11	Apr 13	1:30 pm	Spring Tree ID for Birders		15
Mar 2	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		22	"	4 pm	Sequoia President Yacht Tour	✓	32
"	"	Wootton's Landing Birding Trek	✓	12	Apr 14	7:30 am	Charles County, MD bird walk		22
"	9 am	Winter Tree Identification	✓	12	Apr 14	7 pm	Spring Peepers		8
Mar 3	8:30 am	Winter Birding at Black Hill D	✓	12	Apr 17	10 am	Spring Saunter Along the Canal C	✓	13
"	2 pm	Intro to Water Quality Monitoring		23	Apr 19	10 am	Spring Wildflowers of the Potomac River C	✓	14
Mar 4	12:30 pm	Homeschool program for ages 5-12 begins	✓	11	"	10 am	Children's Nature Book Club	✓	11
Mar 5	5 pm	Riley's Lock & Hughes Hollow bird walk		22	Apr 20	7 am	Spring Early Birds A	✓	18
Mar 6	10 am	Winter Walk Along the Canal A	✓	12	"	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		22
"	6:30 pm	Macro ID Review & Quiz		23	"	9 am	Hawks Aloft at Fort Smallwood Park	✓	15
Mar 7	4:15 pm	Leave No Trace workshop for teachers		9	"	"	River Herring Return to Rock Creek		18
"	5 pm	Riley's Lock and Hughes Hollow bird walk		22	"	1:30 pm	Walk Among Wildflowers (w/ a Camera)	✓	18
"	6:30 pm	Macro ID Review & Quiz		23	Apr 21	full day	Spring Butterflies of Unique So Habitats	✓	18
Mar 8	10 am	Children's Nature Book Club	✓	11	"	1 pm	Geology Hike Along the Potomac Her Trail	✓	18
Mar 9	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		22	Apr 24	7:30 am	Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay bird walk		22
"	"	Patuxent River Park bird walk		22	"	7 pm	Spring Birding Lecture Series A	✓	14
"	9 am	Winter in the Parks C	✓	13	Apr 25	6:30 pm	Volunteer Appreciation Event		29
"	9:30 am	Macro ID Review & Quiz		23	Apr 26	10 am	Children's Nature Book Club	✓	11
"	5:15 pm	Woodcock Watch	✓	12	Apr 27	7 am	Rock Creek Park bird walk		22
Mar 10	full day	Late Winter Birding in Howard County	✓	13	"	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		22
"	1 pm	Intro to WQOM field study		23	"	10 am	Mother's Day Eco Art Creations	✓	11
Mar 11	6:30 pm	Macro ID Review & Quiz		23	Apr 28	7 am	Spring Early Birds A - Patuxent	✓	18
Mar 12	5 pm	Riley's Lock & Hughes Hollow bird walk		22	"	9 am	Botanical Gems: Rachel Carson Park	✓	18
Mar 14	7:30 pm	Intro to the Geology of the Mid-Atlantic		13	May 1	10 am	Spring Saunter Along the Canal D	✓	13
Mar 15	10 am	Children's Nature Book Club	✓	11	"	7 pm	Intro to Water Quality Monitoring		23
Mar 16	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		22	May 2	7:30 pm	Bird ID Series: Spring Warblers	✓	19
"	full day	Winter Hike in the Blue Ridge	✓	13	May 3	10 am	Children's Nature Book Club	✓	11
Mar 17	5 pm	Nature Travel Potluck		27	May 4	7 am	Spring Early Birds C - Glover-Archbold	✓	18
Mar 19	5 pm	Riley's Lock & Hughes Hollow bird walk		22	"	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		22
Mar 20	10 am	Spring Saunter Along the Canal A	✓	13	"	9 am	Building Stones of PA Avenue	✓	19
"	7 pm	How to Read Your Stream		23	"	9:30 am	Intro to WQOM field study		23
Mar 21	7:30 pm	Beginning Birding	✓	13	May 5	10 am	Botanical Gems: Dickerson Conservation	✓	19
Mar 23	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		22					

Date	Time	Activity	Fee	Page	Date	Time	Activity	Fee	Page
"	9 am	Vanishing Vernal Pools	✓	14	May 8	10 am	Walk Among Wildflowers (w/ a Camera)	✓	18
"	10 am	Wonderful Woodpeckers		8	"	7 pm	Spring Birding Lecture Series B	✓	14
"	"	Woodland Easter Egg Hunt	✓	11	May 9	6:30 pm	Trees and Storms by Casey Trees		28
"	"	Pontoon Boat Trip on the Occoquan	✓	28	"	7 pm	Aquatic Insect Family ID class		23
Mar 24	10 am	Botanical Gems: Hoyle's Mill Park	✓	14	May 10	8 am	Spring on Wheels Along the Potomac	✓	19
Mar 25	8:30 am	Spring Break Camp begins	✓	8	"	10 am	Children's Nature Book Club	✓	11
Mar 27	7:30 am	Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay bird walk		22	"	5:30 pm	Members Only Family Campout	✓	9
Mar 30	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		22	May 11	7 am	Spring Early Birds D - Great Falls, VA	✓	18
"	9 am	Early Spring Wildflowers	✓	14	"	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		22
Apr 3	8 am	Pennyfield in the Spring bird walk		22	"	10 am	Spring Hike on Sugarloaf Mountain	✓	19
"	10 am	Spring Saunter Along the Canal B	✓	13	May 12	7 am	C&O Canal, MD areas bird walk		22
"	6 pm	Spring Flower ID begins	✓	25	"	full day	Spring on the Appalachian Trail	✓	19
Apr 4	7:30 pm	Intro to Wildflower ID	✓	14	May 15	10 am	Spring Saunter Along the Canal E	✓	13
Apr 5	10 am	Spring Wildflowers of Potomac River A	✓	19	May 16	7 pm	Aquatic Insect Family ID class		23
"	"	Children's Nature Book Club	✓	11	May 17	6:30 pm	Under the Stars: A Family Night Hike		11
Apr 6	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		22	May 18	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		22
"	9 am	A Year at Boundary Bridge B	✓	15	"	"	Spring in Cape May County	✓	20
Apr 7	9:30 am	Budbreak at Carderock	✓	15	"	9:30 am	Know Your Invasive Plants		23
Apr 8	6 pm	Oceanography begins	✓	24	May 19	full day	Butterflies of Blue Mountain	✓	20
"	7 pm	Introduction to Ornithology begins	✓	24	"	7 am	Spring Early Birds E - Sycamore Landing	✓	18
Apr 9	9 am	Growth and Change program begins	✓	11	"	10 am	Once a POND a Time		8
"	7 pm	Biology for Naturalists begins	✓	24	May 21	7:30 pm	Intro to Bird ID by Voice	✓	20
"	"	Freshwater Ecosystems begins	✓	25	May 23	7 pm	Aquatic Insect Family ID class		23
Apr 10	10:30 am	Bluebells and Butterflies		15	May 25	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		22
Apr 12	10 am	Spring Wildflowers of Potomac River B	✓	19	May 29	7:30 am	Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay bird walk		22
"	"	Children's Nature Book Club	✓	11	May 30	7 pm	Aquatic Insect Family ID class		23
"	7 pm	Evening on the Canal	✓	15					
Apr 13	8 am	Beginner Bird Walk at Woodend		22					
"	"	Walk Among the Giants B	✓	14					
"	9:30 am	Stream Restoration and Wetland Creation		23					

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

Walk Among the Wildflowers (With a Camera)

Saturday, April 20 (1:30-3 pm)

Wednesday, May 8 (10 am-12:30 pm)

Leaders Janice Browne and Stephanie Mason

Each walk members \$26; nonmembers \$36

Both walks members \$48; nonmembers \$68

Here's your chance to take a walk amongst our area's rich display of spring wildflowers with both a naturalist (who can tell you what you're looking at, plus a bit about its natural history) and a photographer (who can give you tips on how to record an image in the field, plus how to develop an eye for composition). Choose Walk A (Carderock Recreation Area along the C&O Canal, just outside the Beltway) or Walk B (Great Falls Park, VA.) Or sign up for both. Each walk's limit is 10. *Anyone registering for a walk is invited to attend a "show and tell" on Wednesday, May 15 (7-9 pm) where problems and successes can be shared.* Check out our photographer-leader's website www.janice-browne.com for inspiration. Participants should be familiar with basic photographic concepts and their own camera (any style is welcome) in order to benefit from the outing.

Spring Early Birds

A. Saturday, April 20 – Patuxent Wildlife Research Refuge, MD (**Leader** Mike Bowen, 7-10 am)

B. Sunday, April 28 – Huntley Meadows, VA (**Leader** Mark England, 7-10 am)

C. Saturday, May 4 – Glover-Archbold Park, DC (**Leader** John Bjerke, 7-10 am)

D. Saturday, May 11 – Great Falls Park, VA (**Leader** Mike Bowen, 7-10 am)

E. Sunday, May 19 – Sycamore Landing, MD (**Leader** John Bjerke, 7-10 am)

Each walk members \$24; nonmembers \$28

Entire series members \$105; nonmembers \$145

Immerse yourself in the phenomenon of spring migration with this series of short morning bird walks at nearby parks. These walks are designed for beginning and intermediate birders for whom the spring migration can sometimes be overwhelming. On each walk we'll search for songbirds by sight and sound. We'll discuss the arrival sequence of spring migrants, practice spotting them in the forest, and learn the songs of many species. Walks C&D include some uphill and downhill walking.

River Herring Return to Rock Creek

Saturday, April 20 (9 am-1 pm)

Leaders Neal Fitzpatrick and Bill Yeaman

Free, but registration required

Full; call to be added to waitlist.

FREE

Spring Butterflies of Unique Southern Maryland Habitats

Sunday, April 21 (full-day field trip)

Leaders Dick Smith and Stephanie Mason

Members \$34; nonmembers \$46

The sandy, acidic woodlands of coastal plain habitats in Calvert and Anne Arundel Counties of Maryland support a variety of spring butterflies which are infrequently encountered in the close-in, metro area. Under the guidance of butterfly expert Dick Smith and our Senior Naturalist, participants will spend the day searching holly and pine forests, as well as sand barrens, for Henry's, Brown, and Pine Elfins; Juniper and Red-banded Hair-streaks; American Coppers; Holly Azures; and Falcate Orange-tips, as well as more familiar species. Areas visited will likely include Calvert Cliffs State Park and Glendening Nature Preserve.

Geology Hike Along the Potomac Heritage Trail

Sunday, April 21 (1-5 pm)

Leader Joe Marx

Members \$24; nonmembers \$34

Upstream from Georgetown, the Potomac cuts deep into the hard bedrock of the Piedmont. Near Virginia's Turkey Run, the river exposes an interesting assortment of both metamorphic and igneous rocks. We will hike several miles on the Potomac Heritage Trail, which utilizes a narrow floodplain beneath the high bluffs that line the river. The footpath generally traverses soft ground, muddy after a rain. A few sections are stony and some are steep. *Please note: the pace set and distance covered on these geology field trips is typically faster and farther than our usual naturalist's shuffle.*

Spring Birding Lecture Series

A. Wednesday, April 24 (7-9 pm) - The Marvels of Migration

B. Wednesday, May 8 (7-9 pm) - Territoriality, Courtship, and Nesting

Leader Don Messersmith

Each lecture members \$20; nonmembers \$28

Both lectures members \$36; nonmembers \$50

World traveler and local ornithologist Don Messersmith shares his vast knowledge, field experiences, and sense of humor in this follow-up to his popular series on winter birding. Join him for these lectures at Woodend to learn more about the marvelous migratory journeys of birds, and their territory and nesting behaviors once they arrive on their breeding grounds.



FRIEND ANS ON FACEBOOK



Botanical Gems of Montgomery County: Rachel Carson Park

Sunday, April 28 (9 am-12:30 pm)

Leader Carole Bergmann

Members \$24; nonmembers \$34

Rachel Carson Park protects a variety of natural communities, including oak-hickory woodlands, mountain laurel thickets, rocky outcroppings, and Hawlings River bottomlands. Under the guidance of the County's forest ecologist, we'll explore these communities identifying trees, ferns, and spring wildflowers along the way. On this 2-3 mile walk, expect some uphill/downhill walking over terrain that may be uneven, rocky and/or muddy.

Bird ID Series: Spring Warblers

Thursday, May 2 (7:30-9:30 pm)

Sunday, May 5 (7 am-1 pm)

Leader Mike Bowen

Members \$46; nonmembers \$64

Lecture only members \$20; nonmembers \$28

More than 30 species of warblers pass through the Mid-Atlantic during spring migration – but finding and properly identifying these active songbirds can be a real challenge. We'll use slides and recorded warbler songs for the Thursday lecture. On Sunday we'll start early and visit several spots along the C&O Canal, where we'll hope to hear and see a wide variety of warblers.

Building Stones of Pennsylvania Avenue

Saturday, May 4 (9 am-1 pm)

Leader Joe Marx

Members \$24; nonmembers \$34

The buildings and monuments along the Avenue of the Presidents are faced with a variety of granites, marbles, and sandstones. We will start at the Federal Triangle Metro station and walk about 3 miles, examining the exteriors of various structures between the White House and the Capitol. We will discuss the geology and place of origin of the building stones, as well as explore aspects of political, cultural, and economic history related to the choice and use of material. All portions of our route will be paved. *The pace set and distance covered on this geology field trip will be faster and farther than our usual "naturalist's shuffle."*

Want to know if a foray is full?

Visit ANSHome.org/adultnatureprograms.

Info is updated daily!

Botanical Gems of Montgomery County: Dickerson Conservation Park

Sunday, May 5 (10 am-1:30 pm)

Leader Carole Bergmann

Members \$24; nonmembers \$34

The County's forest ecologist leads us on an exploration of a new "botanical gem" in this ongoing series. Come prepared to walk from 1.5-2 miles in lush floodplain forest along the Potomac River in Dickerson Conservation Park. While the focus of the hike will be to learn about the range of native trees, shrubs, and spring ephemerals in this rich habitat, the highlight will be the chance to visit some towering, old trees, including the largest known tree in the state of Maryland, a giant sycamore.

Spring on Wheels Along the Potomac

Friday, May 10 (8 am-3 pm)

Leader Stephanie Mason

Members \$34; nonmembers \$46

Spring has sprung and the towpath along the Potomac River is one of the finest places in the DC-metro area to experience the 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 spring wildflowers, butterflies and other insects, and reptiles and amphibians, all the while keeping an eye and ear open for spring migrants and other breeding bird activity. Bring your own bike.

Spring Hike on Sugarloaf Mountain

Saturday, May 11 (10 am-3 pm)

Leaders Melanie Choukas-Bradley and Tina Thieme Brown

Members \$30; nonmembers \$41

Join Sugarloaf author Melanie Choukas-Bradley and artist Tina Thieme Brown for an outing devoted to the botany, wildlife, geology, and history of Sugarloaf Mountain, a monadnock in the rural Piedmont northwest of Washington, D.C. The 1.5-2.5 mile hike, with some uphill and downhill on rocky terrain, is timed to coincide with the flowering of many woodland plants, including pinxter, fringe-tree, Canada mayflower, several violet species, and possibly one or more orchids. Bring binoculars to look for Wood Thrushes, Worm-eating Warblers, Ravens, and other bird species. Tina will give a brief demonstration on illustrating plants in the field during our lunch break.

Spring on the Appalachian Trail

Sunday, May 12 (full day hike)

Leader Stephanie Mason

Members \$34; nonmembers \$46

Spring rains, warming temperature, and longer hours of daylight ignite a great burst of life in the valleys and ridges of the Appalachian Mountains. One of the best ways to explore this seasonal richness is along the Appalachian Trail. Our Senior Naturalist leads this search for spring blooms, butterflies, and breeding bird activity amongst the rocky terrain of Maryland's South Mountain. Beginning at Gathland State Park, the former estate of a Civil War correspondent, we'll hike to the summit of Lamb's Knoll before ending the day at Fox Gap. *We'll cover 6 miles on this moderately strenuous uphill/downhill hike on trails that will be rocky and uneven. We'll stop to observe natural phenomena, but will keep a pace necessary to cover the distance stated.*

Spring in Cape May County

Saturday, May 18 (8 am) to Sunday, May 19 (4 pm)

Leader Mark Garland

Members \$96; nonmembers \$140

Cape May, at the southern tip of New Jersey, is one of the best-known natural areas along the East Coast, but less well known is that the rest of Cape May County has many outstanding natural areas. Join naturalist and Cape May resident Mark Garland and visit a variety of "off the beaten path" habitats in search of birds and other wildlife. We will explore salt marsh, open beach, fields, and a variety of forest habitats. The shores of Delaware Bay are typically loaded with shorebirds at this season, feasting on the eggs of horseshoe crabs. Songbirds, both migrants and breeders, are often abundant throughout May. If the days are sunny we could find a good variety of butterflies, with Frosted Elfin and Hessel's Hairstreak among the rare species we might spot. Choose to overnight in historic Cape May, or economize and stay away from this busy resort. We'll send a list of lodging and camping options in mid-April.

Butterflies of Blue Mountain

Sunday, May 19 (full-day field trip)

Leaders Dick Smith and Cathy Stragar

Members \$34; nonmembers \$46

Blue Mountain, near Linden, VA, is best known for its spectacular wildflower display earlier in the month at the Thompson Wildlife Management Area. We'll search for the rich diversity of butterflies that can be found here at the lower elevation Lake Thompson. We'll hope to find swallowtails, including the uncommon Appalachian Tiger Swallowtail; the Appalachian Azure and other blues; plus other species both common and uncommon. We'll walk up to several miles, with some uphill and downhill over uneven terrain.

Introduction to Bird ID by Voice

Tuesday, May 21 (7:30-9 pm)

Thursday, May 23 (7:30-9 pm)

Saturday, May 25 (7 am-Noon)

Leader Mark England

Members \$46; nonmembers \$64

The sounds made by birds can help find and identify many species, yet to beginning birders, the wide variety of sounds can be confusing. If you know many of our area birds by sight but not by sound, this class is for you. Two evening sessions will use recordings and slides to study bird songs and calls. Our field trip to one or more sites in Montgomery County will give us a chance to listen for and try to learn some of the local species.

Late Spring Hike in the Blue Ridge

Saturday, June 1 (8 am-5 pm)

Leader Cliff Fairweather

Members \$34; nonmembers \$46

Get some good exercise and chase disappearing spring up into the mountains on this 7.5 mile hike from the Blackburn Appalachian Trail Center near Round Hill, VA to Snickers Gap near Bluemont. Along the way, we'll watch for nesting bird and other wildlife activity, as well as late spring wildflowers. This hike along the Appalachian Trail should be considered strenuous, with steep up/downhill grades over rocky terrain. *Participants should be in adequate physical condition to maintain a pace faster than our usual "naturalist's shuffle."* We will use a carpool shuttle to facilitate the beginning and end of the hike.

Natural Heritage Series: Suitland Bog

Thursday, June 6 (7:30-9:30 pm)

Saturday, June 8 (morning field trip)

Leader Cris Fleming

Members \$46; nonmembers \$64

Lecture only members \$20; nonmembers \$28

Suitland Bog is a tiny "magnolia bog," the best preserved of over 30 bogs that once occurred in the Beltsville-Suitland area. At least 20 state-listed species still occur in the bog, including the delicate rose pogonia orchid and two species of sundew. Thursday's class will include slides of plants and a discussion of bog formation and characteristics of various bog types. Saturday's field trip to the bog, which we'll explore by boardwalk, is limited to 14 people.



FOLLOW ANS ON TWITTER: ANStweets



Look for details on other summer programs at
ANShome.org/adultnatureprograms

Breeding Bird Walk at Jug Bay Natural Area of Patuxent River Park

Saturday, June 8 (7-11 am)

Natural Heritage Series: Terrapin Beach State Park

Sunday, June 9 (8:30 am-3 pm)

Advanced Dragonfly Studies: Common Emeralds and Skimmers of the Mid-Atlantic

Thursday, June 13 (7:30-9:30 pm)

Sunday, June 16 (full-day field trip)

Summer Shuffles Along the Canal

Wednesdays (9-11:30 am)

Section A: June 19 - Riley's Lock

Section B: June 26 - Widewater

Section C: July 3 - Carderock

Section D: July 10 - Swain's Lock

Firefly Fling

Thursday, June 20 (8-9 pm)

Western Montgomery County Butterfly Count

Saturday, June 22



Butterfly Basics at Black Hill Park

Sunday, June 23 (9-11:30 am)

Six-legged Songsters of Summer

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

Summer in the Parks

A: Saturday, June 29 - Governor's Bridge Natural Area, MD (8-11:30 am)

B: Thursday, July 4 - Dyke Marsh, VA (7:30-11 am)

C: Sunday, July 14 - Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, DC (7:30-11 am)

Sunset Stroll in the Hollow

Sunday, June 30 (7-9 pm)

Geology of Huntley Meadows

Sunday, June 30 (9 am-1pm)

Summer on Wheels Along the Patuxent

Saturday, July 6 (8 am-12:30 pm)

Botanical Gems in Montgomery County: Northwest Branch Park

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

Butterflies and Wildflowers of Harper's Ferry

Saturday, July 13 (9 am-3 pm)

Introduction to the Natural History and Identification of Shorebirds

Thursday, July 18 (7:30-9:30 pm)

Saturday, July 20 (full-day field trip)

Natural History of Beetles

Thursday, July 18 (7:30-9:30 pm)

Saturday, July 20 (2-9 pm)

Introduction to Ferns and Fern Allies

Thursday, July 25 (7:30-9:30 pm)

Saturday, July 27 (all day field trip)

Window into the World of Fungi

Thursday, July 25 (7:30-9:30 pm)

Saturday, July 27 (9 am-noon)

Paddle on the Patuxent

Sunday, July 28 (8:30 am-12:30 pm)

Free Birding Trips March - June

These free, volunteer-led walks offer birders a chance to explore new areas with other birding enthusiasts. Visit ANSHome.org, then go to Nature Activities & Education/Adults for complete directions, additional trips, and more information. Turn to page 12 for the list of fee-based, instructional classes and field trips for beginning to mid-level birders.

MARCH

Tuesday, March 5, 12, & 19; Thursday, March 7
Riley's Lock & Hughes Hollow, Montgomery Co, MD
 Informal late afternoon walks until dusk. Joint trip with Montgomery Bird Club. **Meet time/place:** promptly at 5 pm at the end of Seneca Rd at Riley's Lock "on the bridge." After checking out the river, we'll head to Hughes Hollow. Highlights here will include waterfowl flying into roost. We will try for displaying woodcock. Bring scope, flashlight and wear "muddy conditions" footwear. **Reservations not required;** all are welcome. For more info, call the leader Jim Green, 301-742-0036.

Saturday, March 9
Patuxent River Park, Jug Bay Natural Area, MD
 Half day. Joint trip with Montgomery Bird Club. Waterfowl, Wilson's Snipe, winter and early spring songbirds, Ospreys displaying. **Meet time/place:** 8 am at parking by park hdqtrs. Wear mud-conditions footwear. **Make reservation** (15-person limit) with John Bjerke, 240-401-1643 or johnbjerke1@mac.com.

Wednesday, March 27
Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay NWR, VA
 Half day. Songbirds, waterfowl, eagles and other raptors. **Meet time/place:** 7:30 am inside refuge at central parking. **Make reservation** (6-person limit) with leader Jim Waggener, 703-567-3555.

APRIL

Wednesday, April 3
Pennyfield in the Spring, Tra-la!
 An easy 3-4 hour walk looking for lingering winter visitors and early spring migrants and wildflowers. **Meet time/place:** 8 am at Pennyfield lot on the C&O Canal. Limit 8. **Reservations required.** Leader: Lydia Schindler, lydiaschindler@verizon.net (preferred), 301-977-5252.

Sunday, April 14
Charles County, MD Parks and Refuges
 Half day. Early songbird migrants, woodpeckers, waterfowl and waterbirds; eagles, hawks, and ospreys. **Meet time/place:** 7:30 am at Burger King (3165 Marshall Hall Rd) on the right at MD-210 (Indian Head Hwy) & MD-227 in Bryans Road, MD, 20616. Area to include Indian Head Rail Trail, Red-headed Woodpecker swamps, Smallwood State Park, Chapman State Park, Mattawoman Creek/Potomac River; hiking boots and long pants suggested. **Make reservations** with leader Carol Gheblian, 301-753-6754 or gheblian@comcast.net. Lynne Wheeler will co-lead.

Wednesday, April 24
Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay NWR, VA
 See March 27 listing for details.

Saturday, April 27
Rock Creek Park, Maintenance Yard and Nature Center, DC
 1/3 day. Prime area for migrating songbirds. **Meet time/place:** 7 am in Maintenance area parking lot; next door to Nature Center/Stables. **Make reservation** (12-person limit) with leader Stephen Jones, 301-320-3518.

MAY

Sunday, May 12
C&O Canal, MD Areas
 Half day. Songbirds, waterbirds, raptors. **Meet time/place:** 7 am in parking lot at Riley's Lock on the Canal. For more info, contact leaders Tony Futcher, 301-422-3927 or tonyfutcher1@verizon.net or Floyd Murdoch, 301-937-2362.

Wednesday, May 29
Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay NWR, VA
 See March 27 listing for details.

JUNE

Saturday, June 1
Swain's Lock, C&O Canal, MD
 Half day. Songbirds, waterbirds, raptors. **Meet time/place:** 7 am in parking lot at Swain's Lock on the Canal. **Make reservations** (10-person limit) with leader Janet Dale, 301-469-0553 or jkdale1@earthlink.net

Wednesday, June 26
Woodbridge/Occoquan Bay NWR, VA
 See March 27 listing for details.

Free Bird Walks at Woodend Saturdays, 8-9 a.m.

Weekly March through June. Meet at the Audubon Sanctuary Shop parking lot. Bring binoculars or use ours. No registration required.

Water Quality Monitoring

Classes are for anyone who would like to become a volunteer stream monitor or who simply has an interest in learning about life in our streams. Classes are free to ANS members. **To register, use the form on page 31.** To learn more about becoming a monitor, contact Cathy Wiss at wqm@audubonnaturalist.org or call 202-966-1310.

Introduction to Water Quality Monitoring



Classroom Session, Woodend Sanctuary, Chevy Chase, MD

Section A: Sunday, March 3 (2-4 pm)

Section B: Wednesday, May 1 (7-9 pm)

Field Study, site TBA

Section C: Sunday, March 10 (1-4 pm)

Section D: Saturday, May 4 (9:30 am-12:30 pm)

Fee \$12 for each session, waived for members and students earning SSL credit

Find out about monitoring with ANS! In the classroom we will explore how benthic macroinvertebrates – bottom-dwelling boneless creatures – help us assess the health of local streams and learn how to identify these organisms to the taxonomic level of order by using preserved specimens. In the field study, we will practice monitoring techniques and then collect and identify the macroinvertebrates we find. Both classroom and field study are recommended for those interested in becoming monitors. Registration required.

How to Read Your Stream



Woodend Sanctuary, Chevy Chase, MD
Wednesday, March 20 (7-9:30 pm)

Fee \$12, waived for members and students earning SSL credit

Learn about the influence of land uses on stream character and dynamics, bank erosion, bar formation, substrate composition, and the importance of riffles and riparian vegetation. 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. Registration required.

Stream Restoration and Wetland Creation

Goshen Branch Park, Montgomery Village, MD
Field workshop: Saturday, April 13 (9:30 am-noon)
No fee

Goshen Branch, which ANS has monitored since 1995, was recently restored. Wetlands were created, and new trees are being planted in its floodplain and in the uplands. Join Matt Harper, Senior Natural Resource Specialist with the County's Department of Parks, on a tour of the stream valley to learn about the restoration measures and observe how they are working. Footwear that can get wet or muddy is recommended. Registration required.

Aquatic Insect Family ID



Woodend Sanctuary, Chevy Chase, MD (7-9 pm)

Section A: Thursday, May 9 - Caddisflies

Section B: Thursday, May 16 - Beetles & Megaloptera

Section C: Thursday, May 23 - Dragonflies, Damselflies, & True Flies

Section D: Thursday, May 30 - Mayflies

Section E: Thursday, June 6 - Stoneflies & Review

Fee \$12 for each session, waived for members and students earning SSL credit

Deepen your benthic macroinvertebrate identification skills to the taxonomic level of family through this series of five classes. Identification of these organisms to family level greatly enhances the water quality assessment power of our data and gives us a better reading of aquatic insect diversity. Registration required.

Macroinvertebrate ID Review & Quiz



Woodend Sanctuary, Chevy Chase, MD

Section A: Wednesday, March 6 (6:30-9 pm)

Section B: Thursday, March 7 (6:30-9 pm)

Section C: Saturday, March 9 (9:30 am-noon)

Section D: Monday, March 11 (6:30-9 pm)

Section E: Thursday, June 13 (6:30-9 pm)

No fee

Time to separate the beetles from the true flies! Those who wish to be certified to identify macroinvertebrates in the field must demonstrate their ability annually by taking a quiz using preserved specimens. Those who do not take the quiz may still be assigned to a monitoring team to assist with data collection and other field logistics, but only those who have taken and passed the quiz will identify macroinvertebrates for data recording. Registration required.

Know Your Invasive Plants

Woodend Sanctuary (Teale), Chevy Chase, MD
Saturday, May 18 (9:30 am-12 pm)

Fee \$12, waived for ANS members and students earning SSL credit.

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

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

Introduction to Ornithology

NATH 1118E, 2 credits

Class dates/time Mondays, April 8-June 17, 7-9 pm

Field Trip dates April 20, May 25, June 15

Location Woodend Sanctuary, MD

Tuition \$355

Instructor Gemma Radko

Learn about birds and their special characteristics. Study their external and internal anatomy, feather structure, plumage, special adaptations, flight, migration, courtship, mating, nesting, eggs, incubation, care of the young, habitats, ecology, behavior, conservation, evolution, classification, distribution, worldwide birds and bird-related activities. Field trips emphasize field identification, bird song, and other behavior.

Oceanography

NATH2310E, 2 credits

Class dates/time Mondays, April 8-June 17, 6-8 pm

Field Trip dates TBD

Location Woodend Sanctuary, MD

Tuition \$355

Instructor Dan Fernandez

Explore the many physical and biological aspects of our vast ocean environment, including waves, currents, plate tectonics, and coastlines. Gain an appreciation of ocean plants and animals, and marine communities and resources. Analyze environmental trends and problems along with the balances and interactions in ocean communities.

Biology for Naturalists

NATH 1110E, 2 credits

Class dates/time Tuesdays, April 9-June 11, 7-9 pm

Field Trip dates May 11 and June 8

Location Woodend Sanctuary, MD

Tuition \$355

Instructor Jane Huff

Explore basic biological principles and theories with hands-on examples drawn from the natural world around us. Understand the classification and adaptations of organisms as we explore living things. Outdoor activities and field trips will help you develop the naturalist's way of seeing. This course is recommended background for other courses in the Natural History Field Studies Certificate program. ACE College Credit Recommendation Service Reviewed.

Registration Info for Natural History Field Studies Classes

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

Registration may be completed:

- in person at the Grad School Registrar's Office, 8 am-7 pm, Monday-Friday
- online at graduateschool.edu
- by phone at 202-314-3320 or toll-free at 888-744-GRAD
- by FAX: 866-329-4723
- by mail: Registrar's office, Suite 120, 600 Maryland Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20024

BOOKSHOP OPEN!

Our Sanctuary Shop will be open 30 minutes prior to the first night of class 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.



FRIEND ANS ON FACEBOOK

Sign Up for Our Monthly eNEWS

Receive conservation updates, event announcements, and more. Send your email address to eNEWS@AudubonNaturalist.org.

Spring Courses April-June

Freshwater Ecosystems

NATH 2207E, 2 credits

Class dates/time Tuesdays, April 9-June 11, 7-9 pm

Field Trip dates April 27, May 11, May 25

Location Woodend Sanctuary, MD

Tuition \$355

Instructor Jai Cole

Learn about lakes, rivers and wetlands. Study the physical characteristics of freshwater habitats and how they shape aquatic communities. Visit different freshwater ecosystems and become familiar with the organisms that inhabit them. Discussions will focus on pollution and other human impacts to aquatic systems.

Spring Flower Identification

NATH 1135E, 2 credits

Class dates/time Wednesdays, April 3-May 29, 6-8 pm

Field Trip dates April 6, April 20, May 4, May 18
(must attend 3 of 4 dates)

Location Woodend Sanctuary, MD

Tuition \$355

Instructor Sujata Roy

Learn to recognize common spring wildflowers. Increase your enjoyment of the season by learning about flower identification, the relationships of plants, and how they are classified. Gain an appreciation for the rich flora of the Central Atlantic region through study of the principal spring-blooming plant families in the area. Field trips emphasize practice in recognizing diagnostic characteristics and in using identification keys. The field trips feature some of the area's best wildflower locations. Recommended: a 10x hand lens.

Find details on Summer NHFS classes, starting in June, at ANShome.org/NHFS.

Wetland Ecosystems

Mondays, Woodend Sanctuary, MD

Instructor Terry McTigue

Intro to Grass ID

Tuesdays, Capital Gallery, DC

Instructor Paul Peterson

Understanding Evolution

Tuesdays, Woodend Sanctuary, MD

Instructor Jane Huff

Summer Bird Life

Wednesdays, Woodend Sanctuary, MD

Instructor Gemma Radko

Summer Wildflower ID


Wednesdays, Woodend Sanctuary, MD

Instructor Melanie Choukas-Bradley

Insect Life

Thursdays, Long Branch Nature Center, VA

Instructor Cliff Fairweather



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WASHINGTONIAN AWARD WINNER

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 the ANS travel desk at Woodend at 301-652-9188 x11 for complete itineraries and registration information or visit ANShome.org/travel.



Exciting New Trips!

Montana and the Journey of Lewis & Clark

July 13-21, 2013

Leaders Mark Garland & Gregg Trilling

The famous Lewis & Clark Expedition traveled through the land that is now Montana in 1805 and again in 1806. For this nature travel program, we'll search for birds and other wildlife at key locations along the route traveled by these intrepid explorers. We'll see the Great Falls of the Missouri River, the confluence of the Missouri and Marias Rivers, the high Bitterroot Mountains, the site of the encampment known as "Traveler's Rest," the "Gates of the Rocky Mountains," and other historic sites that are also outstanding areas for nature study. Cost is \$2600, double occupancy from Missoula, for ANS members.

Panama: A Week at the Iconic Canopy Tower

Premium trip with ANS Executive Director Neal Fitzpatrick

October 3-10, 2013

Leaders Neal Fitzpatrick & Carlos Bethancourt

Panama is the link between South and North America, and species from both continents mix here to create a land of remarkable diversity. We'll spend a week at a former U.S. Military facility that has been ingeniously transformed into an ecotourism and birding lodge, called the Canopy Tower, enjoying day trips into the amazingly rich rainforests that are located nearby. The Tower is located in the Canal Zone, land that for many years was U.S. territory and left undeveloped. Now most of this land is protected as a National Park, and the variety of birds and other tropical wildlife found here is almost overwhelming. Our trip mixes bird and nature study with glimpses of cultural and historical sites, including a ride on the railroad that parallels the Panama Canal, a boat trip on part of the Canal, and a visit to the Miraflores Locks. Cost for ANS members is \$2950, double occupancy from Panama City. Single rooms available only with shared bath; cost for the single is slightly less than for shared occupancy rooms with private bath.

Newfoundland

June 23-30, 2013

Leaders John Bjerke & Dave Snow

Newfoundland is the easternmost landmass in North America, a huge island along Canada's east coast. Its landscape of glacially-carved bedrock and rugged sea cliffs has given the island the simple nickname, "The Rock." Seabird colonies include thousands of Atlantic Puffins, Northern Gannets, Common Murres, and smaller numbers of Razorbills, Thick-billed Murres, Northern Fulmars, Black Guillemots, and others. Whales and spectacular icebergs are also usually seen from shore and on boat trips. Inland Newfoundland is home to nesting songbirds, wild orchids, moose, caribou, and other wildlife. The scenery is spectacular and the culture, seasoned with distinct cuisine and a love of traditional music, makes travel to Newfoundland an absolute joy. Our local leader, Dave Snow, has pioneered studies of whales and seabirds along the Newfoundland coast. Members' cost is \$3200, double occupancy from Saint John's, which includes most meals and three boat trips.

Galapagos Islands

July 18-30, 2013

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

A trip to Ecuador's Galapagos Islands is one of the world's greatest natural history excursions. Follow Darwin's footsteps and discover a world where exotic animals seem oblivious to your presence and where stunning scenery becomes the norm. ANS is teaming with industry leader Victor Emmanuel Nature Tours to charter the Isabela II for this journey, unquestionably the very best vessel touring these islands today. Itineraries are strictly controlled by the Ecuadorean Park Service, and the Isabela II is permitted more visits to key islands than any other ship. She offers the highest level of accommodation, food, and comfort, and the naturalist guides working are the very best. Simply put, we believe a trip to the Galapagos is a "once-in-a-lifetime" experience for most people. Cost is \$7195 per person, double occupancy, not including air travel. This trip is nearly full.

Pack Your Travel Protection!

Call 301-652-9188 x11 or purchase a plan online with our partner: travelexinsurance.com and use the ANS code **20-6029**.

Cuba: Bird Surveys with the Caribbean Conservation Trust

November 6-18, 2013

Leaders Rob Gibbs & local leaders

We're offering our members another opportunity to participate in US Government approved bird surveys at several locations in Cuba. These studies are coordinated and conducted by the Caribbean Conservation Trust, our partner for this trip. We will search for many of the characteristic birds of Cuba, which include 30 endemic species and subspecies. Destinations will include the Zapata Peninsula, the Bay of Pigs, La Güira National Park, and Camaguey. Call us at (301) 652-9188 x11 to receive the detailed registration information and itinerary as soon as it becomes available.

South Florida: Exploring the Dynamic Everglades

January 18-23, 2014

Leaders Tom & Judy Gire and John Bjerke

Escape winter and enjoy the biological richness of southern Florida. Our trip visits a variety of natural areas in Everglades National Park, along with the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center and the Wakodahatchee Wetlands near West Palm Beach. We are sure to see a lot of birds and other wildlife, but we also take a holistic approach, looking at the complex interwoven character of the many habitats of the Everglades ecosystem. Learn about the major conservation efforts that have recently been implemented to hopefully restore and protect this national treasure. An optional extension continues the trip to January 26 with visits to Corkscrew Swamp, Rookery Bay, Tigertail Beach, and Everglades City. Members' cost for the basic trip is \$1550, double occupancy from West Palm Beach.

Costa Rica

February 7-21, 2014

Leaders Stephanie Mason and Carlos "Charlie" Gómez

Our annual winter sojourn to Costa Rica will take place in mid-February next year. Planning is underway! Call to receive the full itinerary and registration information as soon as the planning has been completed, or keep watching our website, where information will be posted promptly once plans are finalized.

Nature Travel Potluck

Sunday, March 17, 2013 (5-7 pm)

Woodend Sanctuary

ANS trip leaders and travelers welcome all who are interested in Nature Travel. We'll look back at wonderful ANS trips and forward to those in the works for next year. Bring a friend! RSVP to Beth Cranmer at beth@audubonnaturalist.org.



Naturalists' Dream Home in West Laurel

Comfortable, efficient, 3-bedroom, 3-bath, 2,400-square-foot finished space on 2-acre wooded lot overlooking a stream with birds, animals, and azaleas galore

Great room for parties, concerts, or just enjoying nature

Professional sound studio, workshop, woodshed, and lots of storage

Quiet central air with heat pump and individual room thermostats, plus two wood stoves

Near one of the best elementary schools in the DC area

Near the Rocky Gorge Reservoir and convenient to both Washington and Baltimore.

Details: <http://ceimd.com/house>



FRIEND ANS ON FACEBOOK

Support ANS while Enjoying a Pontoon Trip on the Occoquan River Saturday March 23, 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Observe eagles, early-returning osprey, and lingering waterfowl as we tour Mason Neck Wildlife Refuge and the Virginia and Maryland Shoreline on Saturday March 23, 10 am–12:30 pm.

Admission is \$150 per person and includes lunch and beverages (\$100 is a tax-deductible donation to ANS).

This event is limited to 24 guests. (Boat is heated and has bathrooms.)



Courtesy of missrivershorecharters.com

Please RSVP to Loree Trilling at ltrilling@audubonnaturalist.org or at 301-652-9188 x35 by Friday, March 15. *Details, directions, and carpooling information will be sent.*

Clean That Dirty Water

A Day at Blue Plains



What do the people of Washington, D.C., Ashburn in Loudoun County, Vienna in Fairfax County, Gaithersburg in Montgomery County, and Greenbelt in Prince George's

County have in common? All their wastewater gets sent to the Blue Plains Plant in Southwest Washington. This service area of 725 square miles receives enough wastewater to fill RFK stadium — every day!

Nineteen ANS members, supporters, and staff learned that and much more on a recent tour of the 150-acre facility. Construction cranes dotted the landscape as “next generation” projects were underway, such as upgrades that will increase the level of nitrogen removed from the effluent. (Nitrogen acts as a fertilizer on grasses and algae, which deplete oxygen needed by marine life.) Another project, “thermal hydrolysis,” will enable the plant to process solids in a way that generates enough energy to power 8,000 homes.

Treatment begins with sewage moving through a series of screens that removes objects and large particles (which are loaded onto trucks and taken to a landfill) and ends with the removal of chlorine that had been added to kill some bacteria and reduce odors. We watched as the treated wastewater entered the Potomac River not far from the Reagan National airport. It was much clearer than the muddy water it was joining largely because storm runoff (mud, chemicals, bacteria) goes directly into area waterways. In DC during storms, sewage also regularly overflows into the Anacostia, the Potomac, and their tributaries. This must change, and in years to come, change is expected. — *Lynda DeWitt, ANS Communications Director*

AUDUBON NATURALIST SOCIETY'S

Bloom'n' Birdathon April 19-May 19

It's never too soon to start recruiting your sponsors for this important annual ANS fundraising event. Help us meet our goal of raising \$25,000 by participating or sponsoring a counter. Look for details online and in our March eNEWS.

Free Class at Woodend Trees & Storms

Join us on **Thursday, May 9, 6:30-9 p.m.** at ANS's Woodend Sanctuary for Trees & Storms, a class presented by Casey Trees on the issue of trees as hazards during and after severe storms. A PEPCO representative will discuss how the organization tries to keep street trees from becoming hazards and interrupting city services. **Diane Cameron**, ANS Conservation Program Director, will emphasize the importance of planting the right tree in the right place. Come prepared with questions for our instructors and ready to learn about how you can help protect our urban canopy! Registration will be available at www.caseytrees.org/events in early March.

Share the Buzz

Thursday, April 11, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Woodend

An Event by Whole Foods Market to Benefit Spikenard Honeybee Sanctuary in Floyd, VA

Details to come: ANSHome.org and our monthly eNEWS.

Pick Up Organic Produce @ Woodend

Starting in May, ANS will be a pick-up location for Sandy Spring CSA, a local organic farm cooperative. Sign up at sandspringcsa.com.

IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER IS BACK

Congress has resurrected the popular IRA Charitable Rollover for people 70½ or older, allowing tax-free IRA Charitable Rollovers through 2013.

For more information, contact your tax advisor or ANS Development Director Kathryn Mitchell at kmitchell@audubonnaturalist.org or 301-652-9188 x31.



Jane Engle

Members of the newly formed Trail Team met at Woodend to discuss plans for trail improvements and maintenance. Team leader Irene Ingraham (third from left) will coordinate their efforts.

ANS Needs You!

To get involved in these and other volunteer efforts, email Pam Herrick at volunteer@audubonnaturalist.org, or call Pam at 301-652-9188 x30:

GARDEN TEAM School Garden seeking fence builder to keep the deer out!

INVASIVE TEAM Join this group of dedicated ANS volunteers and help rid Woodend of invasive vines and other plants.

CONDUCT DEER SURVEYS at Woodend with Volunteer Master Naturalist Dia Windhoffer on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at dusk.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION EVENT

Please join us Thursday, April 25, 6:30-9 p.m. at Woodend for an evening of food (donated by Whole Foods), fun, and weather permitting, an outdoor screening of the movie *Bag It*. RSVP at volunteer@audubonnaturalist.org.

Support ANS – Monthly!

It's easy! Go to ANSHome.org/Support, or contact Loree Trilling at 301-652-9188 x35 or ltrilling@audubonnaturalist.org.

Free Bird Walks at Woodend Saturdays, 8-9 a.m.

Weekly March through June. Meet at the Audubon Sanctuary Shop parking lot. Bring binoculars or use ours. No registration required.

LEAVE A LEGACY

Name ANS a Beneficiary of your Estate

By naming ANS as a beneficiary in your Will, you will leave a meaningful nature legacy that will last for generations. To learn more, contact Kathryn Mitchell at kmitchell@audubonnaturalist.org or at 301-652-9188 x31.

MEMORIAL AND TRIBUTE CONTRIBUTIONS

In memory of Dorothy Brawner

Mary Lou Bersano
Grace Brown
Velma Foley
Robertta Illy

In memory of John Cromwell

Rebecca Gatwood

In memory of Ellen Dashner

Marney Bruce
Marlene Cianci
Doris Euler
David & Helen Gray
Irene Ingraham
Liz Jones
Jack & Carol Leibee
Stephanie Mason
Susannah Prindle
Woodmoor Garden Club

In memory of Lou DeMouy

Katherine & David Allan
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Dr. & Mrs. D.H. Michael Bowen
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Katherine Sieferlein
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Henry R. & Nancy Traubitz
Sara A. Watt
Leo Weigant
Catherine Wilson
Frank Witebsky
Vicki Wolfson
Women Leadership & Equality
Fellows 2012-2013

In memory of Barbara Holloman

David & Helen Gray
Stephanie Mason
Montgomery Bird Club
Marie Plante

In memory of Judy McCartney

Jody & Bobby Benjamin
Burt Wealth Advisors
Rosemary Coskey
Marilynn Eaton
Lee Humphries

Continued on page 30

MEMORIAL AND TRIBUTE CONTRIBUTIONS

Continued

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 Leroy R. Genaw
 Susan Genaw
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 Joseph Kolar
 Betty L. Kole
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 Martha Morris
 Amy & Joseph Pasternak
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 Gay Gellhorn

In honor of Cecily Nabors
 Pamela Graham

In honor of Donna Rech & David Gage
 Virginia McArthur

In honor of Michael Wilpers
 Mary, Tom, Alice, Lucy &
 Rachel Amory



Tour Historic Woodend

Did you know that Woodend is home to four County Champion trees? If you or your group are interested in touring the mansion and Sanctuary grounds, contact volunteer@audubonnaturalist.org.

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. To register for any program with the exception of Summer Camp, Nature Travel, or Natural History Field Studies, fill out the registration form on page 31 and mail or fax it in. 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 mailed or 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 voucher on future programs (to be used within one year of the date of issue). The credit voucher will be issued less a \$5 administrative fee (we do not keep track of credits).
- If the program is cancelled by ANS, you will receive a full refund.
- 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.

ANS Environmental Education Programs Registration Form

To find out if a program is full or to register for NHFS or Nature Travel, go to ANShome.org.
 Questions? Call 301-652-9188 x16.

REGISTRATION

Registration Options:

1. Mail form and payment (check payable to ANS) to ANS EE Programs, 8940 Jones Mill Rd., Chevy Chase, MD 20815;
2. Fax form with credit card info to 301-951-7179. Confirmation letters are emailed 1-2 weeks before programs begin.

I am <input type="checkbox"/> am not <input type="checkbox"/> a member of ANS. Member ID # (5 or 7 digit number) _____							
Name of adult							
Name of adult							
Name of child		Birthdate		Age		Grade	
Name of child		Birthdate		Age		Grade	
Address			Home Phone				
City, State, Zip			Work Phone				
Check here if any contact info has changed <input type="checkbox"/>				Email (need for confirmation)			
Program title		Date	Participant's name (List all names)			Cost	
YES! I want to become a Member. Add \$65 for family or \$50 for individual. All members receive class and shop discounts, publications, special programs, and early registration.							
YES! I want to renew my membership.							
I wish to donate \$1 to help with EE programs.							
See page 30 for cancellation policies or visit ANShome.org/cancellations.						Total Enclosed	
Method of Payment: Check <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MC <input type="checkbox"/>		Card #		Exp. Date			
Cardholder Signature:							

31

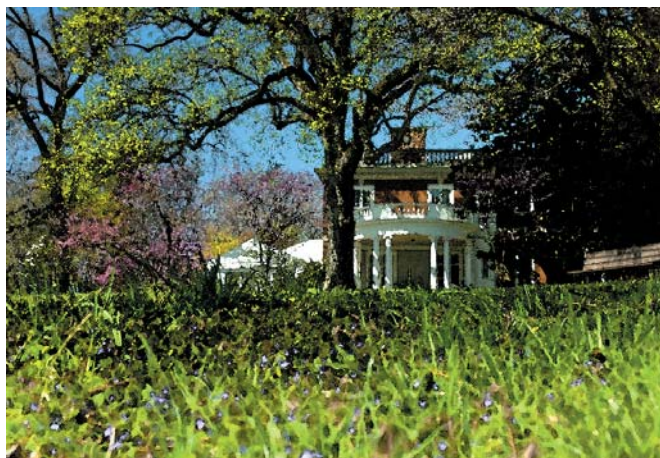
May we share your phone number with registrants who want to carpool? Yes No

In registering for the above activities, I consent to the following statement of risk and acknowledgement of liability: I know and understand that there may be risks and dangers involved in the above activities, and that ANS does not carry accidental injury insurance on participants. In case of medical emergency, ANS has my permission to secure emergency treatment for me/my child. I will assume liability for any expenses incurred in such an emergency. I waive and release ANS and its agents from all liability for any personal injuries, illness, loss or property damage. ANS reserves the right to use photos of participants for ANS publicity and informational purposes (i.e. this catalog).

How did you hear about us? Please circle:
 I am a member Friend Website Advertisement Wedding
 Picked up a Catalog at: Store Nature Center Library Other (please describe):

SPRING 2013

Courtesy of Janice Browne



Rent Woodend Sanctuary

rebecca@audubonnaturalist.org
anshome.org/rentals

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Fall Migration at Cape May Saturday, September 28-Tuesday, October 1

ANS has revived this exclusive getaway to Cape May, NJ, during the height of fall migration. This fundraising excursion includes *all* meals from an afternoon reception on Saturday through breakfast on Tuesday, plus overnight accommodations at the historic **Queen Victoria Bed and Breakfast**. Our trip leader, **Mark Garland**, will once again provide unique and specially designed nature-focused forays, including a private boat tour, monarch butterfly tagging, space on the renowned Cape May hawk watch with introductions to some of the country's top birders, and tickets to Cape May Stage's production of "Freud's Last Session".

The price to participate in this amenity-rich trip is \$1,200 per person plus a tax-deductible donation of \$500 for a total of \$1,700.

Space on this enriched fundraising trip to Cape May is limited to 16 guests. To guarantee your spot, contact ANS Development Director Kathryn Mitchell at kmitchell@audubonnaturalist.org or 301-652-9188 x31.



Cape May Lighthouse Courtesy of Wikipedia



Courtesy of Sequoia Presidential Yacht Group

View the Cherry Blossoms Aboard the U.S.S. Sequoia Presidential Yacht

Join the Audubon Naturalist Society on **Saturday, April 13, 4-6 p.m.** on a Potomac River cruise aboard what has been called "the Rolls Royce of Yachts." The *Sequoia* has catered to U.S. Presidents for 90 years, and it features many original furnishings along with historic photos and letters.

This special fundraising event coincides with our nation's Cherry Blossom Festival. DC's premiere caterer, The Main Event, will provide food and drinks. Price for admission is \$350; \$150 of which is a tax-deductible donation in support of our local environmental education and conservation efforts.

Space is limited to 34 guests. Reserve your spot now by contacting Loree Trilling at ltrilling@audubonnaturalist.org or by calling 301-652-9188 x35.