

# *THE POCAHONTAS CHAPTER OF THE VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY*



Spiderwort  
(*Tradescantia virginiana*)



**September 2011**

## **September Meeting**

**Thursday September 1, 2011 at 7:00 PM**

at the Education and Library Complex of the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden in Classroom 2

The room is available at 6:30, come early and Socialize

### **This month's Presentation will be: “VNPS Trip to the Tallgrass Prairie” by Ernest Wilson**

The Pocahontas Chapter has lined up some interesting speakers and field trips this Fall starting with Chapter President, Ernest Wilson's presentation on the Tall Grass Prairie this month. Our first field trips of the season will be to Ferndale Park and to Point of Rocks Park, both of which should have a spectacular display of late summer wildflowers. We also plan trips to new places such as Ivy Creek Park in Charlottesville and a section of the Appomattox River Park which we have not visited before.

In October we will have our Chapter election of officers, so if you would like to volunteer to serve please notify Daune Poklis, our membership chair at 804) 741-7838 or daune@poklis.org. We especially need someone to fill the position of Vice President.



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### **Tall Grass Prairie**

Photo: Ryan Holliday - <http://mountaininterval.org/journal/2010/12/18/tall-grass/>

## **Pocahontas Chapter Fall 2011 Event Calendar**

- |                   |                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| September 1       | Chapter Meeting at Lewis Ginter 7:00 PM. Ernest Wilson will talk on VNPS trip to the Tallgrass Prairie in the Flint Hills of Kansas and show a film on Tallgrass prairie restoration. |
| September 3       | Field Trip to Ferndale Park near Matoaca, Virginia. Meet at 10 AM at the Martin's Parking lot at the intersection of Route 1 and 10, Chester, VA.                                     |
| September 10      | Field trip to Point of Rocks Park, Meet at 10AM in the Martin's parking lot, Chester, VA                                                                                              |
| September 16 - 18 | State Meeting at Manassas, VA                                                                                                                                                         |
| October 6         | Chapter meeting at Lewis Ginter. 7:00PM. Leonard Adkins will talk on subject to be announced.                                                                                         |
| October 15        | Field trip to Ivy Creek Park, Charlottesville. Meet at the park and ride lot on Parham Rd. at 9AM.                                                                                    |
| October 19        | Field trip to Crabtree Falls. Meet at the park and ride lot on Parham Rd. at 8AM                                                                                                      |

- November 3 Chapter meeting at Lewis Ginter. 7:00PM. Members of the Pocahontas Group of the Virginia Master Naturalists will talk on their programs.
- November 5 Field trip to the Appomattox River Park on the north side of the river below Brasfield Dam. Meet at 10AM at the Martin's parking lot in Chester.
- November 12 Field trip to Forest Hill Park in Richmond. Meet at 10:00 AM at the Reddy Creek parking lot James river Park.
- December 3 Christmas Party at Ernest Wilson's. Meet at 2PM 1925 Floyd Avenue.

For more information about departure time and meeting place for Field Trips, contact Ernest Wilson at (804) 502-6346 or [ewlson611@aol.com](mailto:ewlson611@aol.com)

## Walk in John Hummer's Wetlands

John Hummer will have a walk in his wetland on October 15th of this year. John writes: Whether or not this event takes place is dependent on how much of a turn out I have. It is therefore imperative for those of you who are interested and plan on attending, to give me a positive e-mail response at [john4nature@gmail.com](mailto:john4nature@gmail.com) no later than Sept. 1st of this year, so I can make a determination as to whether or not this event will be held. Whether or not this event takes place will be decided on the number of positive responses I receive by no later than Sept. 1st, 2011. I am located in S. Caroline Co. Va. roughly midway between Richmond and Fredericksburg, Va. Just 3 mi from I-95 Ex. 104. This event is free of charge!

Oct. 15th is a Saturday, and the tour would begin around noontime and takes about 1-2 hrs. The environment is damp, so moisture tolerant footwear is highly suggested. The variety of wetland plants species is too numerous to mention here, suffice it to say, if you love nature, you will enjoy the tour. Bring a camera, it will be worth your while!

I will add pertinent info about this event in a follow-up e-mail that will be sent out soon after the 1st of Sept. including whether or not the event will be held.

### **The Pocahontas Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society**

serves the counties of: Charles City, Chesterfield, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, King William, New Kent, Powhatan and the cities of Ashland, Hopewell, Petersburg, and Richmond. It meets the first Thursday of September through April at 7:00 PM in the Education and Library Complex of the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, unless otherwise stated.

#### **Chapter Officers**

**President.....** Ernest Wilson  
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**Vice President .....** OPEN

**Secretary .....** Tom Matney  
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**Chapter Website - [pocahontaschapter-vnps.org](http://pocahontaschapter-vnps.org)**



A new book, *Managing Alternative Pollinators: A Handbook for Beekeepers, Growers, and Conservationists*, is now available from NRAES. The handbook is a first-of-its-kind, in-depth, full-color guide to rearing and managing bumble bees, mason bees, leafcutter bees, and other alternatives to honey bee pollinators.

The 162 page book features 130+ color photos, 10 chapters, 7 appendices, nest construction details, parasite and disease

management guidelines, and much more. For a detailed description, including sample pages, and to order the book go to [http://www.nraes.org/nra\\_map.html](http://www.nraes.org/nra_map.html).

Members of the Prince William Wildflower Society are planning the annual meeting for the weekend of Sept. 17-19 and hope that we will join them there. See the VNPS website (VNPS.org) for more details. There will be a silent auction Saturday evening and all members are invited to contribute auction items. Nature-related items with a variety of price points would be most welcome. Below is an auction item form to complete if you have things to donate. Please return the form to chapter president Dee Brown [dj44brown@yahoo.com (703)367-0940, Prince William Wildflower Society P.O. Box 83, Manassas, Virginia 20108], prior to the meeting so we have an idea of what will be offered. Donors are asked to set the minimum threshold for bids because we do not want valuable items to go for too low a price. Moderately priced items may be most successful.

### VNPS AUCTION DONATION 2011

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZipCode: \_\_\_\_\_

VNPS Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Donated Item(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Value: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Value: \_\_\_\_\_  
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### Walnut Thousand Cankers Disease Alert from the Virginia Cooperative Extension

#### First occurrence of Thousand Cankers Disease of Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*) in Virginia

On June 24th, 2011, the first case of thousand cankers disease of black walnut was found in two trees with severe epicormic branching on the lower trunk and advanced decline in Chesterfield County, Virginia. Presence of the vector and pathogen associated with this disease, the walnut twig beetle (*Pityophthorus juglandis*) and the fungus *Geosmithia morbida*, was confirmed in the samples. This is the first report of thousand cankers disease of black walnut in Virginia. The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) is conducting a delimiting survey to determine the extent of the infestation surrounding the positive find. Initial delimiting survey work has found additional trees with thousand cankers disease in Chesterfield and Henrico Counties.

The first report of thousand cankers disease of black walnut east of the Mississippi River (<http://news.tennesseanytime.org/node/5684>) was previously reported when the Tennessee Department of Agriculture announced the occurrence of the disease in black walnut trees in Knox County, Tennessee in August 2010. Although this lethal disease has been present in parts of the western U. S. for at least a decade, it had not previously been reported east of the Mississippi River in the native range of the black walnut. The presence of this devastating disease in the southeastern U. S. poses a great risk to black walnut trees in their native range. Virginians should be on the lookout for this disease in black walnut trees.

The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) placed a temporary quarantine on Chesterfield and Henrico counties and the City of Richmond following the detection of Thousand Cankers Disease (TCD). TCD is a disease complex that attacks walnut trees. Thinning or dead branches will initially occur at the top of the tree, which will die from the top down. Trees may be infested for many years before showing symptoms. There is no preventive or curative treatment for the disease.

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**Pocahontas Chapter  
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