

# POTOWMACK NEWS

Volume 23, No. 6

Potowmack Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society

Nov/Dec. 2005

## **A SPROUTING STRATEGY: OUR CHALLENGE TO GROW LOCAL ECOTYPES FROM SEED THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10**

Interested in seed collection for propagation? **Lisa and Chris Bright** of Earth Sangha will give a presentation at Green Spring Gardens, November 10 at 7:30 p.m. on their organization's methods of collecting local seeds. Earth Sangha is devoted to conserving and restoring the native plant communities of the Washington, DC, metropolitan area. Its members produce batches of seedlings that are genetically diverse, locally adapted, and representative of the full spectrum of our native forest flora, from the trees of the forest canopy to the herbaceous (non-woody) plants of the forest floor. It operates a wild plant nursery supplied entirely by its own seed collection effort, which focuses exclusively on local, wild, native-plant populations.

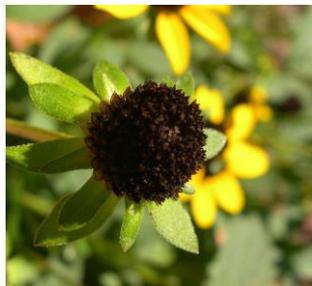
*Directions to Green Spring Gardens Park: From Interstate 395, exit at Route 236 West (Little River Turnpike); turn right at Braddock Road and go 1 block north to park entrance.*

## **SEED COLLECTING FIELD TRIP ALONG THE W&OD TRAIL SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12**

As a follow-up to the Earth Sangha program above, Rod Simmons, noted regional field ecologist and VNPS Registry Chair, will lead a seed collecting field trip on November 12 from 10 am to 1 pm. We will gather seeds of goldenrods, asters and thoroughworts (bonesets) along and near the W & OD trail in Arlington. Meet at the parking area on the east side of Carlin Springs Road near the junction with Arlington Boulevard (Route 50). Directions: Traveling on Arlington Boulevard from the west, 1.1 miles east of Seven Corners, take the right exit for Carlin Springs (CS) road, left at the light and right into the parking area. From the east, 1.3 miles west of Glebe Road, take the right exit for CS Road, right at the light and right into the parking area. Parking is limited, so carpooling, bicycling or walking to the meeting point is encouraged. A few parking spaces are on the west side of Carlin Spring Road just across the street from the other parking lot. Bring lunch or a snack. Questions, call Shirley Gay, 703-920-1913. for more information.



**Which seeds are these?**



**PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:**

November marks the beginning of the new fiscal year for VNPS. At October’s chapter annual meeting, a slate and budget were voted on and passed. We said sad goodbyes to Rob Aldrich and Lisa Palmer, who left our board, and welcomed Bob Yacovissi as the chapter’s new Vice-President. And, after our chapter business meeting, attendees learned from Dr. Edd Barrows exactly how many important pollinator species in our area keep our native plants blooming year after year. As we head into winter, our yearly cycle begins with programs on the second Thursday of each month (except December), the shutting down of our propagation beds and a turning to indoor occupations until the blooming of skunk cabbage heralds the beginning of another season of wild blooms. Here’s to a mild winter and an early spring! See you at our programs.

**Marianne Mooney**

**GREAT FALLS AND TURKEY RUN ON THE VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT REGISTRY**

In a brief ceremony at 8 a.m. on September 20 at the George Washington Memorial Parkway headquarters, Virginia Native Plant Society site registry plaques were given to the National Park Service. **Sally Anderson**, VNPS president, presented the park staff of Great Falls and Turkey Run Park each with their own plaques. Great Falls and Turkey Run are part of the Potomac Gorge and both have significant plant communities within their boundaries and are worthy of recognition by VNPS. The presentation was timely considering the possible damage to plant communities in Turkey Run Park by a proposed bike trail. On the other hand, the potential closing off of some cliff areas to climbing in Great Falls to protect rare plants is something to applaud.

Since many park rangers, not to mention the general public, are not biologists, recognition that these parks are botanically noteworthy and valued by VNPS members is very important. Our site registry program is operated in conjunction with the Virginia Department of Natural Heritage and the Nature Conservancy and all sites are subject to group review before being awarded a plaque. While the designation affords no legal protection to the sites, it is one of the only ways that the flora of an area is formally recognized. The primary requirement for eligibility is that the site has regional or state significance because of its native plants. While many of our chapter members have long appreciated the botanical wonders of these two parks, we are very happy to have Great Falls and Turkey Run part of the state-wide registry program. Thanks go to site-registry chair **Rod Simmons** for making this happen and many thanks to Sally for coming out from Winchester for the 8 a.m. dedication. And particular thanks to **Cris Fleming** for attending the dedication as well as for all the field work she’s done in both parks over the years.

**WHICH SEEDS ARE THESE ? from front page** (Note: to see the photographs in color visit [www.vnps.org](http://www.vnps.org))

From the top: 1) *Heliopsis helianthoides* (Sweet ox-eye sunflower), 2) *Eupatorium fistulosum* (Hollow stemmed joe-pye-weed), 3) *Aster nova-angliae* (New England Aster); 4) acorn of *Quercus alba* (white oak)  
Bottom left to right: 5) *Vernonia novaboracensis* (New York ironweed); 6) *Rudbeckia hirta* (black-eyed susan); 7) *Eupatorium coelestinum* (mistflower); 8) *Tovara virginiana* (Virginia knotweed, jumpseed).

**WANT TO JOIN THE CHAPTER LISTSERV?** Send an e-mail to [STONE.SYLVIA@NMNH.SLEDU](mailto:STONE.SYLVIA@NMNH.SLEDU) and in the message section write subscribe to vnps-pot, your e-mail address, and your full name. Or visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/vnps-pot/join>

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(All numbers should include the 703 area code, unless otherwise noted.) <i>Potowmack News</i> is published 6 times per year, in Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, and Nov. The deadline for submissions is the 15th day of the month prior to publication. Call Mary Ann Lawler for more information or e-mail her at <a href="mailto:malawler@aol.com">malawler@aol.com</a> .		

**"If I knew I was going to die tomorrow, I would plant a tree today."  
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

**PLANTING TREES: SOME TIPS FROM THE VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**

Your tree will come in one of four forms: bare-rooted (deciduous plants only), balled and burlapped (B&B), container-grown, or containerized. Plant bare-rooted trees in the late fall, winter, or early spring when they are dormant. Do not buy or plant a bare-rooted tree which shows more than 2 or 3 inches of new growth. Container plants or balled-and-burlapped plants, however, may be planted at any time the ground is not frozen, except very hot weather.

If possible, plant your tree as soon as you get it home. Otherwise, it may dry out and be injured. If you can't plant immediately, place it in a shady or sheltered spot. Cover the roots of bare-rooted plants with moist soil, sand, or peat moss. Keep the soil of balled-and-burlapped or container plants moist until planting.

For more information on tree care, see:  
--VA Cooperative Extension:  
<http://www.ext.vt.edu/pubs/envirohort/426-702/426-702.html> or  
--Fairfax County Government website:  
<http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/dpwes/navbar/faqs/urbanforestry.htm>



*arborea* and *A. Canadensis* thus: *A. canadensis*, "a shrub with erect stems, spreading by means of...suckers, 6' to 20' tall, occurring in bogs and swamps from Maine to S.C. along the coast," while *A. arborea* is "a multistemmed large shrub or small tree with a rounded crown of many small branches...15' to 25' in height."

**Range:** See map (on page 4) Common to all native regions of Virginia. Hardy to zone 4.

**CLEARING THE AIR WITH VIRGINIA'S TREES**  
**Virginia Urban Forest Council's Conference**  
**November 10 (deadline Nov. 1)**  
**Conference Location**  
Algonkian Meeting Center at  
Algonkian Regional Park  
47001 Fairway Drive, Sterling, VA 20165  
*To Register:* <http://www.treesvirginia.org/>

**FINDING ARBORISTS**

Your County Extension Office will have a list of certified arborists in your area. Here are a couple of tips from VNPS members: "**Growing Earth Tree Care** has always been very preservation-minded when looking at our trees, while also keeping safety in mind. <http://www.growingearth.com/>." and "**The Care of Trees** is a good company who cares about saving trees and can give you the correct information."

**BOOKS ON NATIVE TREES**

**Native Trees, Shrubs, and Vines: A Guide to Using, Growing, and Propagating North American Woody Plants** by William Cullina, New England Wildflower Society.

**Landscaping with Native Trees** by Guy Sternberg and Jim Wilson

**NATIVE TREE PROFILE**

***Amelanchier arborea* (F. Michaux)**

**Family:** Rosaceae

**Type:** Woody plant. In its southern range, a small tree or large shrub; in its western and northern range may grow to 60 or 70 feet. It is a member of a rather messy genus: *Amelanchier canadensis* (picture) and *A. arborea* are, according to Michael Dirr's **Manual of Woody Landscape Plants**, sold interchangeably in the trade. *Amelanchier laevis* and *A. x grandiflora*, a hybrid, are just two of its cousins. Dirr distinguishes between *A.*

**Common names:** *Amelanchier arborea* is variably known as downy serviceberry, shadblow, Juneberry, Shadbush, Sarvis-tree and Saskatoon. *Amelanchier* is from the French *amelanche*. Several stories circulate about the origins of *A. arborea*'s common names: shadbush or shadblow is said to refer to the bloom time of the tree coinciding with the spawning of shad along the North Atlantic coast; serviceberry, or sarvissberry, to its bloom time corresponding to the spring burial in early American communities of those who died in the winter when the ground was frozen or too hard to dig; the name Saskatoon comes from the Cree name for the berries (the city by the same name in Saskatchewan was named after the berry, which frequently was sold on the original town's streets).



**History** According to Peattie, John Clayton made note of amelanchier in his 1736 *Flora Virginica* and perhaps was responsible for its being grown by Archibald Campbell, third Duke of Argyll, at Hounslow. The Duke's... "famous collection of exotic plants was ultimately removed to become the nucleus of Kew Gardens." George Washington, too, reportedly was fond of it and planted it on the grounds of Mount Vernon.

**Description**  
**Leaves:** Simple, alternate, 1.5-3 inches long; obovate to ovate with small, sharply pointed teeth. Young leaves are pubescent, but become more glabrous with maturity.  
**Bark:** "Shallowly fissured on old trunks, with broad ridges covered with fine scales." (Peattie) Grey or grayish brown, sometimes described as silvery.

**Flowers:** Showy, long, white, with five thin petals; appearing while leaves are still folded. Blooms in early spring; bloom often lasts only a short time but is quite spectacular.

**Fruit:** June-August. Small, round, red, purple, or blackish. Birds love them, but there is sharp disagreement from the experts on the taste. Dirr claims that "serviceberry pie...ranks in the first order of desserts," but other descriptions range from "dry and tasteless" to "delectable...much like a blueberry only sweeter."

**Fall color:** One of the best reasons to cultivate and cherish this outstanding native. Varies from yellow to apricot-orange to bronze-red to dusty red.

**Local Occurrences:** Fern Valley, National Arboretum; Virginia Arboretum (Native Plant Trail), area woodlands, Mount Vernon.

**Suggested Uses:** Natural settings, near ponds or streams, building corners, small groves. Looks stunning against dark backgrounds such as *Tsuga canadensis* (Canadian hemlock). Serviceberry is perhaps an attractive native alternative to the ubiquitous (and invasive) Bradford pear.

Last thoughts on this beautiful but underused and often overlooked native tree are memorably expressed by Peattie: "In early spring, 'when the shad run,' according to tradition, Shadblow bursts into flower upon the naked wood, before the leaves appear or when the foliage is still just budding out and covered with silvery down. The contrast, then, of the long, delicate white petals with the bright red of the scales that hang from the flower stalks is vivid, and no daintier flowers than these in their season, star the forest aisles."

### References

Donald Culross Peattie, *A Natural History of Trees of Eastern and Central North America*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1964.

Michael A. Dirr, *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants*. Fifth ed. Champaign, Ill: Stipes Publishing LLC, rev. 1998

[www.dcr.state.va.us/dnh/natvtree.htm](http://www.dcr.state.va.us/dnh/natvtree.htm).

Chart and berry photo, [www.hort.uconn.edu](http://www.hort.uconn.edu), [www.hort.net](http://www.hort.net)

William Needham, *Hiker's Notebook: Serviceberry*, [www.mwrop.org/W\\_Needham/Serviceberry](http://www.mwrop.org/W_Needham/Serviceberry)



(Ed. Note: The preceding article originally appeared in the July August 2005 edition of Wild News, the newsletter of the Prince William Chapter of VNPS. It is reprinted here with permission.)

## **GREAT FALLS DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN – A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE By Cris Fleming**

Two recent proposed changes in parks managed by the George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP) have major implications for two superb natural areas well-known to VNPS Potowmack Chapter members. In the last newsletter, members were notified about the proposed bike trail through Turkey Run Park and urged to write in opposition to this proposed plan. In June, a Draft General Management Plan/ Environmental Impact Statement was released by Great Falls Park. An open house giving information and seeking public comment on the plan was held on Saturday, September 19.

The draft plan proposes two alternatives for the future management of the park. Several elements are common to both alternatives including “Provide additional protection to natural and cultural resources by reducing conflicts with visitors on trails”, “Develop an Integrated Resource Management Plan to protect sensitive cultural and natural resources” and “Close public access to the Potomac River from the shoreline adjacent to the northern tip of the Sand Box climbing area. No one would be allowed to enter or exit Sand Box using walk down trails”.

Alternative A would be continuation of current conditions except for those elements common to both plans. Alternative B, the preferred alternative, proposes developing a Trail Management Plan with the goal of eliminating many of the social trails in the park and exploring the potential for closing some of the horse trails that impact sensitive areas. This alternative also proposes a Climbing Management Plan that would “explore the option of reducing climbing sites in areas where there is potential for damage to sensitive natural and cultural resources”. My 1993 and 1994 surveys for rare and uncommon plant species at Great Falls as well as Gary Fleming’s ongoing work on the plant communities of the Virginia side of the Potomac Gorge were extensively quoted in the plan and were used as the basis for identifying sensitive natural resource areas.

On September 15, an article in The Washington Post had the headline “Rock Climbers Chafe at Park Service Restraints – Proposal Designed to Protect Plants”. The article reports that “the National Park Service announced a plan that could restrict climbing in the park to preserve the landscape and restore such rare plant species as the Nantucket shadbush and flattened spikerush”. It goes on to say that some of the cliffs would be closed and that “the view (of climbers) is that practically speaking, the restrictions would ban climbing”.

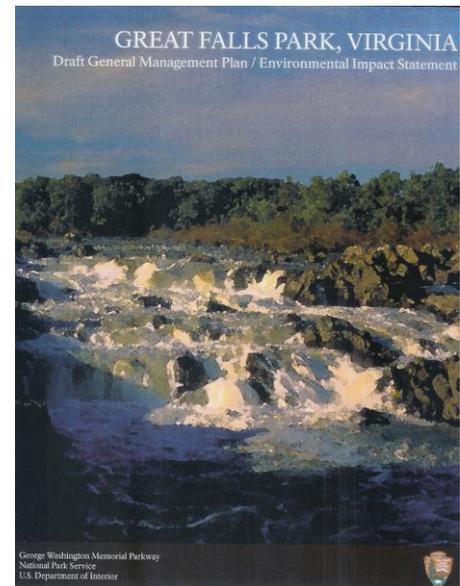
I assumed that the September 19 open house would be an informative meeting similar to the ones held about the proposed bike trail, but when I arrived there were lots of angry rock climbers and only Stephanie Flack of The Nature Conservancy and Audrey Calhoun, the GWMP Superintendent, to speak up for the plants. The whole format of the meeting had changed as the climbers took over and belligerently questioned Audrey about the closing of the climbing areas. They were threatening to sue the NPS for closing traditional recreational activities at the park and were demanding “how do you know that climbers are damaging the rare plants?” They did calm down when I impressed upon them the scientific work that both Gary and I have done at Great Falls and described the types of plant communities that need to be protected.

After the meeting, two climbers seemed especially interested in learning about the rare communities so I agreed to take them out to the bedrock terrace habitats on September 29. I also invited GWMP staff to come along and was very pleased that not only the Natural Resource Manager Brent Steury, but also the Deputy Director Jon James, as well as Great Falls Park Site Manager Walter McDowney and Park Ranger Brent O’Neill came out. So with all of us out there exploring the actual sites, a good communication began between the climbers and the park staff. And it was discovered that the three climbing areas and one trail being closed were areas not often used by climbers.

These two climbers will relay this information to the climbing community and hopefully this will discourage a lawsuit against the park service. And the park staff have already sent a newsletter to all who attended the September 19 meeting giving some corrections to the draft plan, including a better description of the specific areas being closed and a proposal to prepare a Climbing Management Plan that would “build partnerships with climbers, climbing groups, and commercial organizations in managing climbing” and “maximize input from the public and the climbing communities throughout the planning process”.

Our chapter will be preparing comments supporting Alternative B with the additional recommendation that a management plan be developed to deal with non-native invasive species at the park. VNPS members who want information on the draft plan can use the following web address: <http://www.nps.gov/grfa> and click on “Management Documents” or to receive a mailed copy, contact the GWMP office at 703-289-2500. All VNPS members are urged to comment on the plan. The deadline for comments is December 15. (Comment by e-mail to: [GWMP\\_Superintendent@nps.gov](mailto:GWMP_Superintendent@nps.gov) and by mail to:

Audrey F. Calhoun, Supt., Geo. Washington Memorial Parkway, c/o Turkey Run Park, McLean, VA 22101.



We sadly note the passing of long-time VNPS member **Dallas Peck**, who died in August from complications after open heart surgery. Dallas was Director of the U.S. Geological Survey from 1981 to 1993, and worked as an emeritus scientist in geologic research until his death. His wonderful gardens with native plants were on our Spring garden tours a few years ago.

### **FROM THE NATIVE PLANT CONSERVATION CAMPAIGN**

The U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill (HR 3824) to weaken the **Endangered Species Act**. The U.S. Senate is delaying taking up the HR 3824, the Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery Act of 2005 (aka Plant and Wildlife Extinction Bill), for the moment. But calls and faxes are needed to Senators to encourage them to support the Endangered Species Act and oppose anything like HR 3824.  
HOUSE:

E-mail your House representative and thank them if they opposed HR 3824. If they supported the Extinction bill, let them know that their constituents are displeased.

SENATE:

E-mail your Senators and tell them to support the Endangered Species Act. Some talking points on problems with HR 3824 may be useful:

- \* I am calling to ask you to support the Endangered Species Act and urge you to oppose Representative Pombo's Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery Act (H.R. 3824) because it would weaken protections for endangered species and habitat.

- \* Representative Richard Pombo's bill aggressively strips the Endangered Species Act of its strongest protections. Representative Pombo and his bill are controversial and out of step with the American public's support of the Endangered Species Act.

- \* For over thirty years, the Endangered Species Act has been a safety net for wildlife, fish and plants on the brink of extinction. It has been successful in preventing the extinction of the American Bald Eagle, the gray wolf, the pacific salmon, (or other local species) as well as many other species.

- \* The Endangered Species Act stands for fundamental principles that we all believe in and cannot allow to be weakened or removed. In fact, 86% of Americans support the Endangered Species Act.

- \* Greedy developers and the politicians they give money to are attempting to weaken America's safety net for endangered species. We have a responsibility to prevent the extinction of fish, plants and wildlife because once they are gone we cannot bring them back.

- \* Please support the Endangered Species Act and oppose any bill that would weaken protections for endangered species and habitat.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION FOR HOUSE AND SENATE REPRESENTATIVES:**

You can look up your Representative at: [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov) (<http://www.house.gov/>) Senators at: [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov) (<http://www.senate.gov/>)

### **GOOD BUGS GONE BAD**

The National Wildlife Federation website has an interesting article on insects introduced into this country to control pests, and how these insects now wreak havoc of their own. See [Good Bugs Gone Bad](http://www.nwf.org/nationalwildlife/article.cfm?issueID=76&articleID=1096) by Doug Stewart at: <http://www.nwf.org/nationalwildlife/article.cfm?issueID=76&articleID=1096>

### **BIOCONTROL OF INVASIVE PLANTS**

Anyone interested in a fairly recent status report on biological control agents on invasive plants might try this link: [www.invasive.org/eastern/biocontrol](http://www.invasive.org/eastern/biocontrol). It will take you to a USDA Forest Service Technology report with chapters on purple loosestrife and 28 other eastern US invasive plants for which biological control has been attempted or is being explored.

### **NORTH TRACT OPEN HOUSE OCTOBER 29**

*The North Tract is a 30-acre property between the 14th St. Bridge and Crystal City, which is being developed into an Arlington County Park and Recreation site. There will be four soccer fields and a major aquatic center. It is close to Roaches Run north of the airport. We really need people who are interested in natural resource conservation and enhancement to make their views known at the 10/29 open house at the Courthouse Plaza building. Thanks for anything you can do. The announcement follows. Thanks! M.A. Lawler*

“You are invited to the North Tract Design Advisory Committee's Open House on Saturday, October 29, 2005. Some exciting developments have occurred in the last year regarding the North Tract project. We have added new property and have the opportunity to make the park even more of a world-class destination. The open house is intended to explore the design and layout of the North Tract recreation facilities. It looks to be a very informative, productive and fun day. The Open House will start at 9:00am and end at 4:00pm. It will take place in the Courthouse Plaza Building (2100 Clarendon Boulevard). We will utilize the lobby, three conference rooms, and the County Board Room. The day will start with four Focus Group Discussions and after 12:00pm there will be interactive topic stations, and two identical presentations and discussions at 12:30pm and 2:30pm. There will also be information displayed all day and drawings for prizes. Please attend the portions of the day you are interested in.” **Note: Please go to [www.arlington.us/prcr](http://www.arlington.us/prcr) to see the north tract agenda.**

Erik Beach, Planning and Design Unit  
2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 414  
Arlington, VA 22201

(703) 228-3318, (703) 228-3328 [fax] ebeach@arlingtonva.us

## **NEW! INVASIVE PLANT RESOURCE GUIDE**

Developed by the Center for Invasive Plant Management, the online "Invasive Plant Resource Guide" is a reference for materials (fact sheets, handbooks, booklets, etc.) that support invasive plant management and education. The materials cover a wide array of topics ranging from weed management strategies to natural resources to "working with people" skills. For each item, a description is provided as well as a link to the source. Most items are available for download or in hard copy at no cost.

Find the Resource Guide at [http://www.weedcenter.org/resource\\_guide/rg\\_cover.html](http://www.weedcenter.org/resource_guide/rg_cover.html).

## **ARLINGTON'S RiP PROJECT**

**Sat. Nov 12 - Second Saturdays at Bluemont Park** 9am - Noon. Neighbors and RiP volunteers will continue to meet at Bluemont Junction Park on second Saturdays. Come help out for an hour or two. Park near bike trail at the bottom of Illinois St. Enter Illinois St. from Wilson Blvd. Meet at "the rocks" next to the bike trail. Contact John Huennkens at 524-3853, or [jhuenn@gwu.edu](mailto:jhuenn@gwu.edu).

**Sat. Dec. 10 - Second Saturdays at Bluemont Park** 9am - Noon. pm (See above for details)

**Note: Some tools provided. If you have your own gloves, clippers, loppers or dull flat screwdrivers, please bring them along to removal events. Long pants and long sleeves recommended. For information about any of these events, please contact Jan Ferrigan, Invasive Species Program Coordinator at (703) 228 7636 or [jferriga@vt.edu](mailto:jferriga@vt.edu) or Kasey Spriggs at (703) 228 6401**

## **LOCAL EVENTS AND LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES:**

**Wed. Nov. 2 Midweek Meander at Great Falls, VA (Carriage Road)** 10:30am-12:30pm. Stephanie Mason. Audubon Naturalist Society, \$21 non-members. For Information call: 301-652-9188 x16

**Sun., Nov. 6, Potomac Overlook Regional Park Weekend Foray** 2pm. Explore the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority's nature preserve in Arlington on a new discovery walk. This free program is for all ages. For more information, call 703-528-5406. . *To reach NVRPA's Potomac Overlook Regional Park, take I-66 to the Lee Highway-Spout Run exit; turn left on Lee Highway, right on Military Rd., continue on Military and turn left when it divides; turn right on Marcey Rd. and park at the end of the cul-de-sac in the Potomac Overlook Regional Park lot.*

**Wed. Nov. 16 BARCROFT MAGNOLIA BOG: A Virtual Tour** 7:00-9:00 p.m. Adults. Barcroft Magnolia Bog is one of only eleven wetland communities of this kind in the world. Through the use of slides and maps, this indoor presentation will provide participants with a virtual tour of the site. Free. Reservations required. To make reservations call 703-228-4747 or register on-line <https://registration.co.arlington.va.us> and reference program # 614470A. *Meet at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Rd., Arlington, VA 22204; 703-228-6535.*

**Sat. Nov. 26 Walk with a Naturalist—Hidden Pond Nature Center.** 703-451-9588 Free.

**ONLY TWO MORE OPPORTUNITIES THIS YEAR TO HELP AT TURKEY RUN**

**Nov 12, 1-4 pm and December 10, 1-4pm**

If you haven't been able to make it out to Turkey Run to help remove invasives, you have two more chances this year. Let's show the National Park Service our support for the native plant communities in the park by helping out. We'll be working on Linden viburnum and wisteria. We'll meet at Park Police Headquarters on the east side of the George Washington Memorial Parkway, north of the CIA exit.

Mary Travaglini, our Nature Conservancy partner, will have pruners and saws. Bring gloves and water. Any questions, call Mary at 301 897 8570.

**JOINT STATEMENT BY THE HEADS OF THE BIODIVERSITY-RELATED CONVENTIONS, UNITED NATIONS**

We call upon the leaders to recognize that to make the Millenium Development Goals a reality in a highly populated planet, biological diversity needs to be used sustainably and its benefits more equitably shared. Biodiversity is the variety of life on earth: genes, species, ecosystems. The services we use from ecosystems, such as clean water, food, fuel and fiber, medicines, and climate control, cannot be provided without biodiversity. Failure to conserve and use biological diversity sustainably will perpetuate inequitable and unsustainable growth, deeper poverty, new and more rampant illnesses, continued loss of species, and a world with ever-more degraded environments which are less healthy for people. For full text see <http://www.biodiv.org/doc/notifications/2005/ntf-2005-097-sus-en.pdf>

**GROWING NATIVE: COLLECT SEEDS/ACORNS FOR THE POTOMAC CONSERVANCY**

It's easy for you to do your part for clean rivers and streams. Collect acorns, walnuts, and other native hardwood tree seeds. Donate them to state nurseries. Help create streamside forests for healthy waters. See <http://www.potomac.org/growingnative/index.html> for details.



**Potowmack Chapter  
Virginia Native Plant Society  
P.O. Box 5311  
Arlington, VA 22205**

**Chapter Events Calendar**

- Nov. 10 Board meeting 6:45  
Seed Collection  
Program 7:30  
Green Spring
- Nov. 12 Seed Collection  
Field Trip  
W&OD Trail
- Dec. 8 Board meeting,  
7:30 p.m.

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