

POTOWMACK NEWS

Volume 22, No 2

Potowmack Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society

Mar/Apr 2004

THE DIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA'S FLORA: THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 7:30 PM

At the March 11 Potowmack Chapter meeting at Green Spring Gardens Park, Marion Lobstein will speak on the Diversity of Virginia's Flora. Virginia has 3,700 species of vascular plants (native and naturalized species) which, for its landmass, is more species than any other state in the Union. Marion will talk about reasons for this diversity (soils, climate, proximity to glaciation) and will show examples of it. She will also discuss the need for a Flora of Virginia and will be glad to answer questions about it.

Marion Blois Lobstein is an Associate Professor of biology at the Manassas Campus of NVCC. For the last twenty-one years she has conducted tours and taught classes and workshops for the Smithsonian Resident Associates Program and the University of Virginia's Blandy Experimental Farm. Marion is on the Board of Directors of the Foundation of the Flora of Virginia Project, a Fellow of the Virginia Academy of Science, and on the Board of Directors of the Foundation of the State Arboretum. She was one of original board members of the Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society, now VNPS.

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

VEGETATION ECOLOGY OF THE POTOMAC GORGE: THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 7:30 PM

The Potomac River gorge is rich with diverse plant communities. Gary Fleming, a vegetation ecologist with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, has studied the ecology of the gorge west of the Washington metropolitan area in depth. Gary will present the ecological dynamics that have shaped the plant communities and floristics of that area, Illustrated with remarkable photographs. The presentation is at Green Spring Gardens Park.

Gary Fleming has more than 25 years of experience in botanical and ecological inventory of our region. He has worked for the DCR-Division of Natural Heritage since 1992, where he has developed a statewide vegetation classification. He is a member of the Virginia Botanical Associates.

Directions to Green Spring Gardens Park: (see above)

ROD SIMMONS WALK AT DIFFICULT RUN: SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 10 AM

Rod Simmons, a leading regional ecologist, will lead a walk on Saturday, April 17 from 10am to 2pm along a portion of one of Fairfax County's major watersheds, Difficult Run, which flows into the Potomac below Great Falls. Wear sturdy walking shoes. The trip will be cancelled only in case of heavy rain. Registration is required. Contact Shirley Gay at [shirleywg@comcast.net] or 703-920-1913.

Directions: Take I-495 (Beltway) to Exit 13 in Virginia (Georgetown Pike). Head towards Great Falls (northwest), passing by Scott's Run Nature Preserve. After passing the Madeira School, on the right, you will cross over a bridge. Begin looking left for an unmarked parking lot next to the road. The lot is about 1.3 miles from the Beltway exit.

STAN SHETLER WALK AT TURKEY RUN: SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 2 PM

Stan Shetler, Botanist Emeritus of the Smithsonian Institution, will lead chapter members on a field trip at Turkey Run Park on Sunday, April 25 from 2 pm - 4:30 pm. Turkey Run Park lies in the piedmont province with steep hills, which rise 200 feet above the shore of the Potomac River. Large colonies of Virginia bluebells blanket portions of the floodplains while squirrel corn and dutchman's breeches cover some hillsides. Other species found there include trout lily, spring beauty, bloodroot, and cut-leaved toothwort. We will meet in parking lot C, which has a picnic ground and restrooms nearby. Wear sturdy walking shoes. We will cancel only in case of heavy rain. Registration required. Contact Shirley Gay at [shirleywg@comcast.net] or 703-920-1913.

Turkey Run Park is located off the section of the George Washington Memorial Parkway between the Beltway and Rt. 123. Exits are well marked coming from either direction.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:

Several Arlington Chapter members rallied last month to protest the tree cutting methods being used by Dominion Virginia Power along the W&OD trail. After years of selectively pruning trees under their transmission lines in a fairly judicious way, DVP engaged in a destructive clear cutting campaign, taking down understory trees, large trees & shrubs on a wide swath of Regional and County parkland. It was very distressing to many Arlington residents whose closest experience with nature is the W&OD Trail. Many people spoke out at meetings, wrote letters and made phone calls. DVP has tentatively indicated that they will be modifying their cutting and engaging in a more selective trimming strategy: we hope they will follow through. The pen is not always mightier than the chain saw but many voices coming together can make a difference. Many thanks to you all.

Marianne Mooney

TESTIMONY ON TREE CUTTING BEFORE THE ARLINGTON COUNTY BOARD *(printed below is the testimony of VNPS member Steve Young, who appeared before the Arlington County Board on Feb. 7.)*

Good morning. My name is Steve Young, and I am a citizen of Glencarlyn. Some of the reasons I choose to live in Arlington are our beautiful trees and parks and our fascinating wildlife. I appreciate the leadership Arlington has shown for the environment and issues like invasive plants. The Board has much cause for pride regarding environmental matters.

Recently, I was disappointed by the environmental destruction caused by Dominion Virginia Power's clearing along the Washington and Old Dominion Railroad trail. I respect the need to keep the transmission lines clear from trees. We need safe, reliable electric power. However, citizens failed to receive adequate notice of the planned activities and got no opportunity to engage in a collaborative way to find solutions that would secure the lines and protect the environment.

Dominion will be back every three years to clear. Over 36 acres of land is involved. This land is very environmentally valuable, traversing the Four Mile Run watershed, providing habitat for birds and other wildlife. At present land values, it would cost well over \$36 million to acquire a comparable amount of open space in Arlington.

This corridor is simultaneously one of the greatest outdoor assets of Arlington and one of our most threatened places. The water quality of Four Mile Run is poor. Invasives are taking over the trail. A particular concern is Mile-A-Minute Weed. It's already coming along the trail into Arlington from the west. Dominion's clearing will hasten its spread, and this is a new weed we don't want, very costly to control.

I am asking the Board to be active in engaging with the company, staff, and citizens to seek better environmental stewardship of the W&OD. Working with partners like Virginia Native Plant Society and Fairfax Audubon Society, the County and company must strive to restore and maintain the environmental amenities of the trail. Dominion should follow Integrated Vegetation Management best practices recommended by its industry, and work with other stakeholders to control invasives and provide enhanced wildlife habitat and vegetative buffers for water quality. This may take more resources up front, but it is a great investment for the long run.

Today, the right of way looks like acres of clearcut, demolition zone. We can do better, and we need your leadership to help.



Erythronium americanum
trout lily
Thomas G. Barnes @ USDA-NRCS
PLANTS

BOARD OFFICERS		
President	Marianne Mooney	534-8179
Vice President	Rob Aldrich	526-0535
Secretary	Lee Ann Kinzer	768-4048
Treasurer	Vivian "Dusty" Dukes	938-7912
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Botany	Cris Fleming	301-657-9289
Conservation	Lisa Palmer	526-0535
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Newsletter	Mary Ann Lawler	684-8622
Programs/Education	Shirley Gay	920-1913
Propagation/Plant Sales	Laura Beaty	534-8746
	Beth Smith	644-1760
Publications	Vacant	
Publicity	Roberta Day	560-5528
Site Registry	Rod Simmons	256-7671
Garden Tours	Billie Trump	960-1476

(All numbers should include the 703 area code, unless otherwise noted.) *Potowmack News* 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 malawler@aol.com.

“Spring...Again, the planet turns on its great hinge, and the shell of winter splits. Flowers blossom, dragonflies flick on their green and purple motors, and birds grow restless as bees.” From *Seasons of the Wild* – a journey through our National Wildlife Refuges with John and Karen Hollingsworth

VIRGINIA'S 2004 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION.

The General Assembly meets for eight weeks this year instead of six, as it will be passing its two-year budget. In addition to the budget, numerous bills have been introduced which affect Virginia's environment. We believe that Potowmack Chapter members should focus their efforts on two items: the natural heritage budget and the bills (HB 693 and SB 569) creating the Natural Resources and Historic Fund.

Virginia's budget is very tight. No increases are planned for the natural heritage program. We believe that identifying, protecting and preserving natural areas should be a very high priority. Once habitat is lost, it cannot be recreated or mitigated. We support a modest five percent increase for the natural heritage program.

We also support the establishment of the Natural and Historic Resources Funds as set forth in HB693 and SB 569. As presently drafted, these bills would provide dedicated funding of \$15 million a year to land and water programs, raised from a \$10 fee, assessed on various deeds for which the state recordation tax is collected and on the recordation of a certificate of satisfaction. Money in the Fund would be allocated to the Virginia Land Conservation Fund and the Virginia Water Quality Improvement Fund. The Virginia Land Conservation Fund provides matching grants to protect land for conservation purposes. It leverages federal, local and private investment to protect farm and forest preservation, open space and parks, natural areas and historic resources. The Fund has received zero dollars since 2000. If we want to "Save habitat; save habitat; save habitat" we need the funds to do so.

Please e-mail your representative today by going on line on <http://legis.state.va.us/> Find your member's name and click on his or her e-mail address. If your delegate or Senator is on the House Subcommittee on Natural Resources or the Senate Finance Committee, he or she has even more influence: House Subcommittee on Natural Resources: Ingram (C), Dillard, Morgan, Bryant, Cox, Council, Stump, Abbitt. Senate Finance Committee: John H. Chichester (C) Colgan; Lambert; Wampler; Stosch; Houck; Hawkins; Howell; Saslaw; Stolle; Quayle; Norment; Potts; Hanger; and Watkins

RAIN GARDENS

Seeing over fifty people pack the library at Green Spring to hear about rain gardens was heartening. They all seemed to understand the importance of reducing storm water runoff and turning rainfall into an asset. Carol Barth's presentation on Prince George's County program in Maryland was most informative. "P.G." County has been very progressive in promoting rain gardens as a way to help control runoff. Bio-retention methods mimic and preserve natural hydrologic functions by dispersing rain water through the landscape and letting nature do the work of cleansing and recycling. Ms. Barth demonstrated several ways to create a rain garden. Which works best for you depends on how rain naturally drains on your property.

- A swale is a low-lying stretch of land, which tends to collect water. You can create a swale area by digging a shallow depression or by creating a channel for water to reach a low-lying area.
- If your land slopes, you can create a flat area with a retaining wall, which will catch the rain and gradually let it weep through the retaining wall. This is called a "slope weep." You can also dig out a "scallop" in the side of a hill for your rain garden
- Directing the water from your roof downspout is another effective way to create a rain garden, as long as the area is 10 feet or more from buildings to avoid wet basements. You can also install a rain barrel below the downspout with an overflow spout connected to a hose, which will take the water to the rain garden.
- Directing the rain from your driveway into a rain garden is another way of retaining water.

By acting as mini-holding ponds, the plants and soils of these rain gardens reduce the flow of rain and melted snow from a property into the stormwater drains.

For the gardens themselves, layer sand or gravel, soil, and organic material (e.g. 25% compost, 50% sharp sand, and 25% topsoil) into the garden plot from 18 inches to 2 feet deep, if on-site infiltration is poor. The ponding of water can be from four to six inches, and should remain about 4 to 6 hours, but no more than 3 days. Then select plants. Generally, hardy native plant species (with deep root systems) are the best choice. A good list of plants for riparian areas can be found at <http://www.dcr.state.va.us/dnh/natvripa.htm>

14 native shrub and tree seedlings for \$16.95 -- Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District.

For more information or to get an order form, call NVSWCD at 703-324-1460, e-mail conservationdistrict@fairfaxcounty.gov, or download an order form at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/seedlingsale.htm.

COMPREHENSIVE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLANS IN FAIRFAX COUNTY

Fairfax County has initiated a project to develop comprehensive watershed management plans for each of the 30 watersheds in the county. The overall goal of watershed management planning is to protect and restore streams and their related natural resources. Community involvement is a vital component in developing and implementing a successful plan. The County is encouraging the formation of community watershed groups (i.e., "Friends of...") for each watershed to maximize community involvement in all phases of plan development. The protection of natural areas and their flora is importance to VNPS. To find out what is going on in your watershed, go to: <http://www.fairfaxcounty-watersheds.net/>. Click on "Find a Watershed" and then select the watershed near you.

ARLINGTON'S RiP PROJECT

Sat Mar 6 - Lacey Woods First Saturday Project. 9am to noon. Spend a Saturday morning in a park and help make this park invasive-free. A lot of progress has been made on invasives at Lacey Woods. Help remove the remaining invasive plants and get Lacey Woods to a maintenance level. Lacey Woods is located at the corner of George Mason Dr and Washington Blvd. Meet at the playground.

Sat. Mar 13 - Second Saturdays at Bluemont Park 9am to 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.

Sat Mar 20 - Walter Reed Volunteer Work Day. 9am to noon. Help the Columbia Heights Neighborhood embark on invasive plant control efforts in their neighborhood park. This is their first volunteer day and they are an enthusiastic group. Join us for an hour or two. Meet near the Walter Reed Community Center trailer at 2909 16th St S near the corner of 16th St S and Walter Reed Dr.

Sat. Apr. 10 Second Saturdays at Bluemont Park 9am to noon (See above for details)

Sat. Apr. 17 Randolph Elementary Plant Swap and Schoolyard Habitat Clean Up Help staff an exhibit about invasive plants at this community event. If interested, please send an email to jferriga@vt.edu.

Sun Apr 18th National Youth Service Day at Barcroft Park - 4200 S Four Mile Dr. Calling all youth (ages 10-25)! Please join us for this special event for youth service day. Young people will help remove invasive plants that are threatening the forest next to Four Mile Run. Youth participants are eligible to win prizes. Adult volunteers are also welcome. Meet in the park across the bridge from the parking lot. 1-3 pm.

OTHER RiP VOLUNTEER PROJECTS:

Mapping control areas - we are beginning to map invasive plants in some of our control areas. Small groups of three or less can adopt an area to be mapped and work with staff to map it. Mapping involves going out into the park with large scale topo and orthophoto (aerial view) maps and drawing polygons directly onto the maps. GPS readings are also taken to help with accuracy. The training for this project would be a couple of hours and we need a couple of weeks notice to prepare maps. Work can be done on weekends or weekdays. One map plus training will take approx 30 hours.

Restorations projects - work with staff to create and implement a plan to plant native plant species in an area where invasive plants have been successfully controlled. Bluemont Junction will be the first restoration. Approx 50 hours for one area; more areas can be added.

Creating Educational Displays - the following educational displays could be taken on as volunteer projects. Also, if anyone had additional ideas for an educational display, we would welcome his/her ideas and it would be possible to create a different display.

Japanese stiltgrass display - create several copies of a display board to accompany live potted stiltgrass to be displayed at public places (e.g. libraries, nature centers etc.) this summer. The display will tell people about the ecological impacts of stiltgrass, how to recognize it and how to get rid of it. Stiltgrass is one of our newer invasives and I think we might be able to keep it in check if we get a strong education campaign going. Approx. 20 hours

Invasives in the News Educational display - create a display that incorporates media clippings about invasive plants. I have a small collection of clippings started already. The purpose of this display would be to illustrate how widespread the problem is, the seriousness of the issue, and to create more awareness using a visually attractive display. Approx. 30 hours.

The "unnature" trail outdoor exhibit - work with county staff and AMERICORPS to create an outdoor exhibit next to a trail in an area that is heavily covered with some of our common invasive plants. This area is next to a large area where invasive plants have been successfully controlled and the trail exhibit could emphasize the difference between the two areas. The trail is near Long Branch Nature Center. If volunteers are interested, this project could also involve doing some simple plant surveys to compare plant diversity of control areas, relatively uninvaded areas and invaded areas. Training, survey protocol and some assistance with plant id would be available. Approx. 50 - 100 hours.

Note for invasives events: 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 or Kasey Spriggs at (703) 228 6401

LOCAL EVENTS AND LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES:

Mar 13 Invasive removal/Trash Collection Dyke Marsh. Alexandria, 10am to noon Call Brooke Andrews of the Northern Virginia Senior Environment Corps at 703 -549-1607 Ext. 141 for information. Registration: All volunteers need to register upon arrival. The registration table is located near the restrooms next to the benches and water fountain in Belle Haven Park (left of the parking lot).

Sat. Mar. 20 Native North American Shade Plants. 10:00 - 11:00 am National Arboretum. Administration Building Auditorium. Co-sponsored by the Potomac Valley Chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society. Noted author, lecturer, and horticulturist Fred Case presents a slide lecture featuring plants native to North American woodlands and swamps. A specialist in growing and studying native plants and a well-known expert on Trillium and other woodland species, Case presents familiar and rare plants that we may grow in shady spots in our gardens, featuring delightful combinations for color and texture effects as well as plants for dry or wet conditions. Fee: \$10 (FONA \$8) **Registration required. call 202-245-5898**

Sat. Mar 20 Green Home Fair. Noon to 5 p.m. The fair will feature exhibits and seminars to learn more about products and techniques for building and maintaining a green home and yard. The event will also include interactive children's activities, refreshments and door prizes. Washington-Lee High School, 1300 N. Quincy Street, Arlington. Free. Sponsored by Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment in partnership with Arlington County Department of Environmental Services and the Virginia Housing and Environment Network. More information: 703-228-6427 or office@arlingtonenvironment.org

Sat. Mar 27 Early Spring Wildflowers. 9am-3pm Audubon Naturalist Society \$38 non-members. Information: 301-652-9188 x16

Sat. Mar 27 Difficult Run Stream Valley Walk. Join the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust Saturday from 9am to noon for a guided hike with naturalist Judy Okay. Participants should wear comfortable hiking shoes and meet at the Difficult Run parking lot at 9am. The event is free although a \$10 donation is appreciated. Refreshments! RSVP by March 25th to Kelley Elliott at information@nvct.org or call 703-354-5093. *Directions: Take I-495 (Beltway) to Exit 13 in Virginia (Georgetown Pike). Head towards Great Falls (northwest), passing by Scott's Run Nature Preserve. After passing the Madeira School, on the right, you will cross over a bridge. Begin looking left for an unmarked parking lot next to the road. The lot is about 1.3 miles from the Beltway exit. If you reach Old Dominion Road and the turn-off to Great Falls Park, you have gone too far.*

Sat. Mar 27 Rainwater Harvesting in West and Dry Years 1-3PM City of Falls Church Recreation and Parks Winter Class. Participants learn specific techniques, rules, and tools required to collect rainwater and to control stormwater on their property. Collecting rainwater in a rain barrel and a cistern will also be discussed. **You must register for this class** at the Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls St., Falls Church Virginia, or by mail (activity number 250709-A). Call 703.248.5077 for information \$15 for City of Falls Church residents and \$25 for non-City residents

Sat. Mar 27 Lahr Symposium Landscapes in Balance March 27, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. National Arboretum Administration Building Auditorium. This year's symposium features landscapes that work to achieve a balance with nature, culture, and the realities of modern American life. **Donna House**, botanist and consultant, and **Daniel Chiplis**, Smithsonian horticulturist, share the background and philosophies that underlie the unprecedented landscape designed for the new National Museum of the American Indian. **Dr. Richard Bir** brings his wealth of knowledge from a 30-year career advising with North Carolina nurseries, once an industry of wild harvesting, now a leader in nursery propagation of native plants. **Chris Ludwig**, chief biologist for the Virginia Natural Heritage Program, discusses Virginia's varied plant conservation concerns and approaches to solutions. In concurrent sessions: Nurseryman **Dale Hendricks** explores the newly emerging world of sustainable business networks; **Katy Stein** shares her varied experiences with neighbors, the County, and the plants that transformed her typical suburban yard to a rich, diverse landscape; plant propagation specialist **Laura Beaty** gives a hands-on native plant propagation presentation; and **Steve McKindley-Ward** introduces innovative low-tech methods of streambank stabilization. Symposium registrants can shop early at the Native Plant Sale. **For a program brochure and registration form, call 202-245-5898.**

Saturday Mar 27 Native Plant Sale National Arboretum 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Administration Building East Terrace
The best native plant nurseries of the region offer a wide selection of nursery propagated native plants. A portion of the proceeds supports the arboretum's Native Plant Collection.

Apr 1 and 3 Introduction to Wildflower Identification Thurs 7:30-9:30pm and Saturday field trip. Audubon Naturalist Society \$46 for non-members. For Information call: 301-652-9188 x16

Apr. 2 Spring Wildflowers of the Potomac River Gorge (Carderock) 10am to 12:30pm Audubon Naturalist Society nonmembers \$20 For Information call: 301-652-9188 x16

Apr 7- May 26—Spring Wildflower Identification USDA Graduate School; Capital Gallery, D.C. Wed 6:30pm-8:30pm. Classes plus field trips: \$295 Instructor, Stan Shetler. Call 202-314-3320 or register on line at www.grad.usda.gov

April 8 and 15 Spring Wildflowers Workshop Fairfax High School. Field trip April 18. Instructor Marian Lobstein. Sponsored by the Fairfax Audubon Society. \$60 for non-members. Call 703-256-6895 for information/registration.

Apr 16 Spring Wildflowers of the Potomac River Gorge (Turkey Run) 10am to 12:30pm Audubon Naturalist Society nonmembers \$20 For Information call: 301-652-9188 x16

Apr 24 Ethnobotany of Wildflowers at Rust Sanctuary in Leesburg 9 am – 1 pm. Alonso Abugattas will lead a group through the sanctuary. Audubon Naturalist Society nonmembers \$22 For Information call: 301-652-9188 x16

Apr. 30 Spring Wildflowers of the Potomac River Gorge (Bear Island) 10am to 12:30pm Audubon Naturalist Society nonmembers \$20 For Information call: 301-652-9188 x16

Apr 23 AHS plant sale 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. and **April 24** from 9a.m. - 3 p.m. Numerous vendors with a wide range of annuals, perennials, trees and shrubs both native and non-native. River Farm 7931 East Boulevard Dr Alexandria

HELP! HELP! HELP!

Won't you please consider helping out in the native plant propagation beds at Green Spring this year? It's lots of fun and a great way to learn native plants. Come for as long as you can either

Wednesday or Saturday mornings. Call us if you have questions. **Laura Beaty 703 534-8746 or Beth Smith 703 644-1760**

SPECIAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ALONG THE POTOMAC


PLANT MEADOWS!

River Farm is a historic property along the Potomac River in Alexandria owned by the American Horticultural Society. We laud their efforts to convert a large area of mown lawn into natural meadows. They are looking for volunteers to help plant approximately 32,000 square feet with 40,000 plugs of mostly native grasses and flowering perennials. The scheduled plantings dates are the week of April 12th with a back up date for the week of April 26th. All the work will be done by hand so volunteers will be an important part of this project. For further information including details on times and dates please contact Peggy Bowers, Horticulturist, at River Farm, 7931 East Boulevard Dr., Alexandria, VA 703-768-5700 pbowers@ahs.org .

PLANT TREES!

Riverbend Park is over 400 acres of forest, meadows, ponds and streams bordering the Potomac River near Great Falls. Our friends at Earth Sangha are donating 1,000 oak seedlings to the park. They have set a date for a major oak planting event at the park on Saturday, April 24 from 10 am until they plant all 1,000 oak seedlings. The Riverbend Park manager is quite excited and will try to get the Boy Scouts out as well. We encourage our VNPS members to plant trees with them. For information call Lisa Bright (703) 764-4830 or lbright@earthsangha.org.
Riverbend Park may be reached by taking Beltway Exit 44 which is Georgetown Pike west to a right on Riverbend Road. From Riverbend Road turn right on Jeffery Road and follow for approximately 1 mile to the park entrance.

WANT TO JOIN THE CHAPTER LISTSERV? Send an e-mail to Mary Ann Lawler at malawler@aol.com 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> (Please remember that it's our policy to use the listserve to post events in the Potowmack Chapter area only. If you want to discuss topics join "Native Plants East;" go to Yahoo.com and find *Nativeplantseast*.)

	<p>Potowmack Chapter Virginia Native Plant Society P.O. Box 5311 Arlington, VA 22205</p>																		
<p><u>Chapter Events</u> <u>Calendar</u></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Mar</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">11</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Diversity of Virginia flora 7:30 Green Spring</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">April</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">8</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Potomac Gorge Ecology 7:30 Green Spring</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">April</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">17</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Difficult Run Walk Rod Simmons</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">April</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">TBD</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Garden Tours</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">April</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">25</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Turkey Run Walk Stan Shetler</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">May</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">15</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Plant Sale</td> </tr> </table>	Mar	11	Diversity of Virginia flora 7:30 Green Spring	April	8	Potomac Gorge Ecology 7:30 Green Spring	April	17	Difficult Run Walk Rod Simmons	April	TBD	Garden Tours	April	25	Turkey Run Walk Stan Shetler	May	15	Plant Sale	<p><i>Please verify your address information and your renewal date on the mailing label.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Printed on recycled paper</i></p>
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