

Watershed Stewards Academy
June 2024 Newsletter

Hello Watershed Stewards!

We have some exciting news to share with you about a new Facebook page for Watershed Stewards Academy. If you have not already done so, please click on the link below and 'like' or 'follow' the page. There is also a private group page for Maryland WSA stewards only where you can post your activities and collaborate with other Maryland stewards. To access this private group from the main Facebook page, click on 'More' and then 'Group' to request to join the group.

<https://www.facebook.com/people/UMD-Extension-Watershed-Stewards-Academy/61550700817860/>

Please remember to enter your projects and volunteer hours into the WSA database and reporting system. Click [here](#) to log in!

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Continuing Education

Stains and Stinks of Drinking Water

Wednesday, June 19, 2024, 12 – 12:40 pm

Well water can sometimes have unpleasant issues such as odors, colors or off tastes. We will describe common causes and treatment recommendations.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

What a Warming World Means for Plants, Pests and Pollinators

Tuesday, June 18, 2024, 7pm

How will a hotter planet reshape the insect world? In our June evening webinar, join entomologist and author Michael Raupp for a look at the future of insects, both pests and pollinators. He will reveal how climate change is shifting weather patterns around the globe, and what that means for insects and mites in the mid-Atlantic. Learn how rising temperatures impact insect abundance, distributions, seasonal behaviors and the web of interactions among plants, herbivores and their natural enemies.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).



Upcoming Events

Native Plant Webinar

Monday, June 3, 2024, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Environmental and conservation partners in Pennsylvania are implementing many methods to promote climate resiliency and protect the quality of streams and waterways. This Saving Special Places Week webinar will discuss several programs throughout the commonwealth which utilize native plant material collection and cultivation. You will hear from experts about Chesapeake Conservancy's overall stream restoration strategy, how native seed collection is a part of that, how it is being utilized by other partners and how you can implement similar strategies in your location of the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Water, Water Everywhere - Too much storm water can cause damage!

Monday, June 3rd or 10th, 2024, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

But is there enough fresh water available in our watersheds? What exactly is a watershed? What damages are caused by storm water in Howard County? What are some of the things that help prevent that damage? Will you become a community leader with the knowledge and skill required to enhance the health of our local streams, rivers, and lakes? Master Watershed Stewards work with their communities to provide storm water best management practices. Learn how you can become a Certified Howard County Master Watershed Steward. Join us for an information session webinar.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Blossoms & Bees: Exploring 150 Million Years of Plant-Pollinator Evolution

Wednesday, June 5, 2023, 7 pm

For the past 150 million years, flowering plants and the animals that pollinate them have survived and thrived through their mutually beneficial interactions. Today the world as we know it exists because of their mutualism, and the success of this strategy has resulted in a staggering amount of biodiversity worldwide. In this presentation we'll look back through the history of this relationship, and the evolution of bees, in order to appreciate anew the wonders of our world and the organisms that shape it.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

CWEA Stormwater Seminar – Emerging Contaminants

Thursday, June 6, 2024, 8am – 4 pm

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Chesapeake Bay Watershed Awareness Celebration

Saturday, June 8, 2024, 10 am – 2 pm

Location: 100 Lafayette Street, Havre de Grace

Join members of the Head of Chesapeake Watershed Alliance to learn about environmental stewardship and water quality of local streams. This free event is located at the Havre de Grace Maritime Museum near the entrance to the Havre de Grace Promenade off of Lafayette and Concord Streets.

For more information, click [here](#).

Healthy Forests Workday: Invasive Plant Removal at Bacon Ridge Natural Area

Saturday, June 8, 2024, 9 – 11am

Location: 1700 Hawkins Rd, Crownsville

Protect the Health of YOUR Local Forest: Join Scenic Rivers Land Trust at Bacon Ridge Natural Area in Crownsville to spend a morning removing harmful invasive plants from along the trails!

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Kayaking: Sunrise Paddles

Saturday, June 8, 2024, 5 – 7:30 am or

Wednesday, July 24, 2024, 5 – 7:30 am

Location: 100 Lafayette Street, Havre de Grace

Avoid the heat of the summer days by setting out on the Chesapeake Bay and Lower Susquehanna Flats by joining us for an early morning paddle. Note: All gear and basic paddle and safety instructions will be provided before launch. Class is weather permitting.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Expedition: CBEC Family Wetland Exploration Day

Saturday, June 8, 2024, 10 am - 12 pm

Location: Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center, Discovery Lane, Grasonville

Join ShoreRivers' Education Department team to explore the wonders of the wetlands at the Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center in Grasonville. This free expedition is designed for families and includes a 15-minute, stroller friendly hike to a riverside wetland where participants will learn about the functions of the wetland and discover the wildlife that depends on this unique habitat. Afterward, families are encouraged to stay and play at the beach adjacent to the wetlands.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Paddle Boarding: Introduction

Saturday, June 15, 2024, 10 am – 12 pm or

Wednesday, July 31, 2024, 6-8 pm

Location: 100 Lafayette Street, Havre de Grace

If you have ever looked at people having fun on a stand up paddle board and thought about giving it a try, this course is for you! We will cover the basics; how to get on your board, fall off and get back on again, as well as simple SUP strokes and other tips for your first outing. Note: All gear and basic paddle and safety instructions will be provided before launch. Class is weather permitting.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Regenerating Our Soil

Wednesday, June 19, 2024

Conventional methods for agriculture and landscaping have caused massive erosion and loss of organic matter while reducing biodiversity in the soil ecosystem. This has only been aggravated by the impacts of climate change. What is healthy soil and how can we get it back? Why is restoring soil health not only essential for

rebuilding terrestrial food webs but also an important strategy for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving climate resilience?

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Kayaking: Semi-Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) Mapping

Saturday, June 22, 2024, 10 am – 12 pm or

Wednesday, August 7, 2024, 6-8 pm

Location: 100 Lafayette Street, Havre de Grace

Learn about the rich submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) that can be found in the Bay. SAV gives a bountiful food source to wildlife and helps protect the Bay from contaminants and tidal action. Learn about basic identification of the plants and locations of the SAV's while learning how to survey and map out plant beds.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Expedition: Granary Creek Paddle with the Miles-Wye Riverkeeper

Thursday, June 27, 2024, 10 am – 12:30 pm

Location: 611 Wye Island Road, Queenstown

Join Miles-Wye Riverkeeper Ben Ford for a morning paddle on Granary Creek in the Wye River. Participants will launch from the Granary Creek Picnic Area on Wye Island and will paddle along a serene creek bordered by woodlands and marsh. Optional post-paddle picnicking is available at the launch site.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Kayaking: Historical Waterways

Wednesday, July 3, 2024, 6 – 8 pm

Location: The Havre de Grace Maritime Museum, Lafayette Street, Havre de Grace

Join the Environmental Center at the Havre de Grace Maritime Museum to find out about the historical uses of the Chesapeake Bay and the Susquehanna River as we explore historical sites via the water. As we explore the Bay, learn how the historical waterway has changed and evolved to current modern modes of transportation and recreation. This trip highlights the emphasis that our city puts on the water and sites that were used in historical times such as the Concord Point Lighthouse, Tidewater Marina, Lock House Museum, and the Decoy Museum.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Eco Tour – Annapolis

Saturdays, July 6th and 20th at Quiet Waters Park

or Saturday, July 27, 2024 at Nautilus Point

Eco Tours & Adventure Paddles Participate & learn about the local eco systems and history of the area in one of our Eco-Tours, led by our experienced, knowledgeable, and nature loving guides!

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Kayaking: Coastal Geology of the Bay

Wednesday, July 10, 2024, 6 - 8 pm

Location: The Havre de Grace Maritime Museum, Lafayette Street, Havre de Grace

Learn about the coastal sedimentation along the Chesapeake Bay as well as the geological processes that shape our landscape. Learn how geology impacts the regions diversity of plants, wildlife, and urban development. We'll discuss fossils, take sediment core samples, and learn the geologic periods that the Bay covers while enjoying the sights from the water.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

MWEE Teacher Training – From Classrooms to Creeks!

Thursday, July 11, 2024, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Location: 2001 Bryan Point Rd, Accokeek

Join the Alice Ferguson Foundation in a one-day training to learn how to implement a Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience (MWEE) in your school or classroom! Help your students become better environmental stewards and meet state curriculum standards. Training is free!

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Bridging the Watershed (BTW) Teacher Training

Thursday (virtual) and Friday (in-person), July 11 & 12, 2024, 9:30 am – 3:30 pm

Location: Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens in Washington, DC

Are you a teacher in the DMV (grades 6 to 12) interested in getting your students outside for a hands-on field study? Join our Bridging the Watershed program and get access to our award-winning watershed curriculum that supports our field trips in nearby parks. Students learn about stream health by testing water chemistry, finding macroinvertebrates, learning about sedimentation and more.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Expedition: Farm Tour with Wildlife Artist Jonathan Shaw

Wednesday, July 17, 2024, 9:30 – 11:30 am

Come visit the 467-acre, preserved Wye Farm near Wye Mills, and enjoy a guided walking tour of 33 acres of wildflowers, pollinators, and successional grasslands so important for breeding birds including quail.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Regenerating Home and Municipal Landscapes

Wednesday, July 17, 2024

How can we produce beautiful residential and municipal landscapes that will reduce carbon emissions, maintain & improve soil health, help manage stormwater, boost biodiversity and even save money? Find out how you can make your yard and/or your community's landscape part of the climate and biodiversity solution.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Expedition: Tuckahoe Lake Family Paddle

Saturday, July 20, 2024, 4 – 6 pm

Tuckahoe State Park, Crouse Mill Road, Queen Anne

Join ShoreRivers' Chesapeake Conservation and Climate Corps member, Autumn Conley, as she leads a paddle at Tuckahoe State Park. This expedition is an interactive, family-friendly, guided paddle/tour. Participants will explore Tuckahoe Creek, a stream bordered by rich marsh and woodland habitat, and learn more about Eastern Shore ecology and history.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Expedition: Wildly Native Tour with Edible Flowers

Wednesday, July 24, 2024, 10 am – 12:30 pm

Wildly Native - Flower Farm and Florist, Broad Neck Road, Chestertown

Come learn about wildflowers with ShoreRivers. You will learn from this amazing team how to use wildflowers in creative ways (including which are edible) and how to identify the weeds.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Expedition: Lotus Paddle with Sassafras Riverkeeper

Thursday, July 25, 2024, 1 – 3:30 pm

Location: Turners Creek Landing, Turners Creek Road, Kennedyville

Join Sassafras Riverkeeper Zack Kelleher to experience the annual blooming of the American lotus—a hallmark of summertime on the river. If you haven't experienced North America's largest wildflower up close, it's a special tradition each summer that attracts visitors from around the world.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Regenerative Agriculture & Other Fixes to the Food System

Wednesday, August 7, 2024

Industrial agriculture has brought us huge monocultures of corn and soybeans. Yearly tillage has robbed the soil of organic matter, and little habitat remains to support the natural enemies of crop pests. These impacts now require the heavy use of synthetic nitrogen fertilizer and pesticides to maintain yields, resulting in significant greenhouse gas emissions and massive air & water pollution. How can we change agriculture to maintain soil health and rebuild the biodiversity that can help control pests while reducing carbon emissions, controlling pollution and maybe even sequestering some carbon? Registration

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Expedition: Eating Invasives with the Chesapeake Culinary Center

Thursday, August 8, 2024, 10 am – 1 pm

Location: Chesapeake Culinary Center, Franklin Street, Denton

Join ShoreRivers for an afternoon at the Chesapeake Culinary Center, an innovative food security and culinary center in Denton. Participants will receive a tour of the center and learn how to cook with invasive species. While enjoying your meal of invasive blue catfish, participants will hear from owner Beth Brewster about how to use cooking as a way to combat invasive species.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Registration for Summer CBLP 2024's Level 1 session is now open!

The CBLP Level 1 credential focuses on the design, installation, and management of sustainable landscapes and green infrastructure, taught by regional experts through classroom learning and field-based practicums. We offer both hybrid and in-person learning options.

Hybrid Option – One online session comprised of two half-day interactive online classes via Zoom plus one full day, in person, field practicum. Online classes – July 30 & August 1

Field practicum options:

Columbia, MD | August 15

Washington, DC | August 22

Easton, MD | September 11

Lancaster, PA | September 26

In Person Option – two full days in person – one classroom and one in the field:

Columbia, MD | August 14-15

Easton, MD | September 10-11

Lancaster, PA | September 15-26

Registration is a 2-step process: apply online, await approval, then return to the website to pay and select dates.

Discounts are available for companies sending three or more employees to Level 1, and scholarship opportunities can be found on our website. CBLP course attendees may earn continuing education credits from numerous professional organizations- check out our website for the full list.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Expedition: Pizza and Permaculture with the Eastern Shore Permaculture Institute (Galena, Maryland)

Tuesday, August 20, 2024, 6 - 8 pm

Join ShoreRivers for an introduction to permaculture and a tasty cooking demo (with produce fresh picked from the garden by YOU) at The Eastern Shore Permaculture Institute. Tour this tightly packed eco-demonstration site and learn about our community garden, wildflower meadow, raspberry tornadoes, mushroom logs, bees, chickens, greenhouse, cobb pizza oven, Paw Paws, and much more. More than 50 edible species are on site and will serve as inspiration to take these principals back to wherever you call home.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Rewilding: Regenerating Communities and Ecosystems

Wednesday, August 28, 2024

The removal of large predators and herbivores in the US and Europe has reduced the complexity and stability of natural food webs. This has changed and impoverished ecosystems to the point of near-collapse. Reintroducing predators and/or large herbivores to “rewild” ecosystems has produced some exciting results. Rewilding is not about restoring past communities and ecosystems. Instead, it aims to establish new food webs that can become as stable and biodiverse as native ones. Registration

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Expedition: Learn How to Fly Fish (Galena, Maryland)

Wednesday, September 18, 2024, 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Whether you are an experienced fly fisher or a beginner, this expedition is for you! Join ShoreRivers and Chuck Jolly of Rosehill Farm for an afternoon of fly fishing and enjoying the beautiful scenery on a property right next to Mill Creek, a tributary of the Sassafras River.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Native Plant Palooza at Robinson Nature Center (Columbia, MD)

Sunday, September 29, 2024, 12 – 4 pm

Shop our annual, outdoor native plant sale! Select from a large variety of shrubs, wildflowers, ground covers, trees, and edible native plants. Native plants are more tolerant to local climate, pest species and soil nutrients and require less water, fertilizer and pesticides. They provide food and habitat for local species of butterflies, insects and birds.

For more information, click [here](#).

Night for Nature: A fundraiser in support of Nature-Based Education!

Friday, October 18, 2024, 6 – 9 pm

Location: Boordy Vineyards in Hydes, Maryland

Early bird tickets now available! Join us for our inaugural Night for Nature. Our fall fundraiser includes live music, bespoke foraged fare, and opportunities for giving in support of nature-based education. Night for Nature is a dressy casual event. Bring a friend and celebrate at this beautiful autumn soiree with fellow supporters from across the Baltimore region!

For more information or to register, click [here](#).



Funding and Material Support

Chesapeake Bay Trust’s Anne Arundel County Forestry and Forested Land Protection Grant Program

Deadline: August 1, 2024

The goal of this program is to implement cost-effective reforestation and greening projects and increase the number of acres of protected forested land in the County. Since 2015, over 20,000 trees have been planted and over 250 acres of forest have been protected through this program. Let’s continue this momentum and continue to increase and preserve the County’s tree canopy!

For more information or to apply, click [here](#).

New Grant Opportunity with the Chesapeake Bay Trust – Urban Trees Mini Grant Program

Deadline: Rolling

Communities that would like to implement small tree planting projects are encouraged to seek support and funding through this opportunity. Regions of the State in Which Tree Planting Projects Can Occur: Tree planting proposed must occur in urban areas with low median household income levels, high unemployment, and neighborhoods with housing projects or that were historically red-lined at any time. Local governments, non-

profit organizations, community and homeowner associations, faith-based organizations, and more are encouraged to apply.

For more information or to apply, click [here](#).

Chesapeake Bay Trust - Community Engagement Mini Grant

Deadline: Rolling

Designed to support activities that enhance communities, engage residents, and improve natural resources. They fund small-scale activities such as tree plantings, rain gardens, stream cleanups, and storm drain stenciling, among others.

For more information or to apply, click [here](#).

Chesapeake Bay Trust Grants and Opportunities

The Chesapeake Bay Trust's grant-making strategies are shaped by three core objectives; environmental education, demonstration-based restoration, and community engagement. We look to these objectives as basic touchstones for developing our programs, engaging new partners, and communicating about our work.

Click here for more information or to apply, click [here](#).



Other Items of Interest

We wanted to let you know that our newest [Chesapeake Quarterly](#) magazine is out on the street today! It focuses on PFAS and the science of environmental contaminants in the Chesapeake Bay. PFAS are found nearly everywhere, and this issue explores what these chemicals mean for the people and wildlife that call the Bay watershed home.

We hope you enjoy this issue.

Best,

The Maryland Sea Grant Communications Team

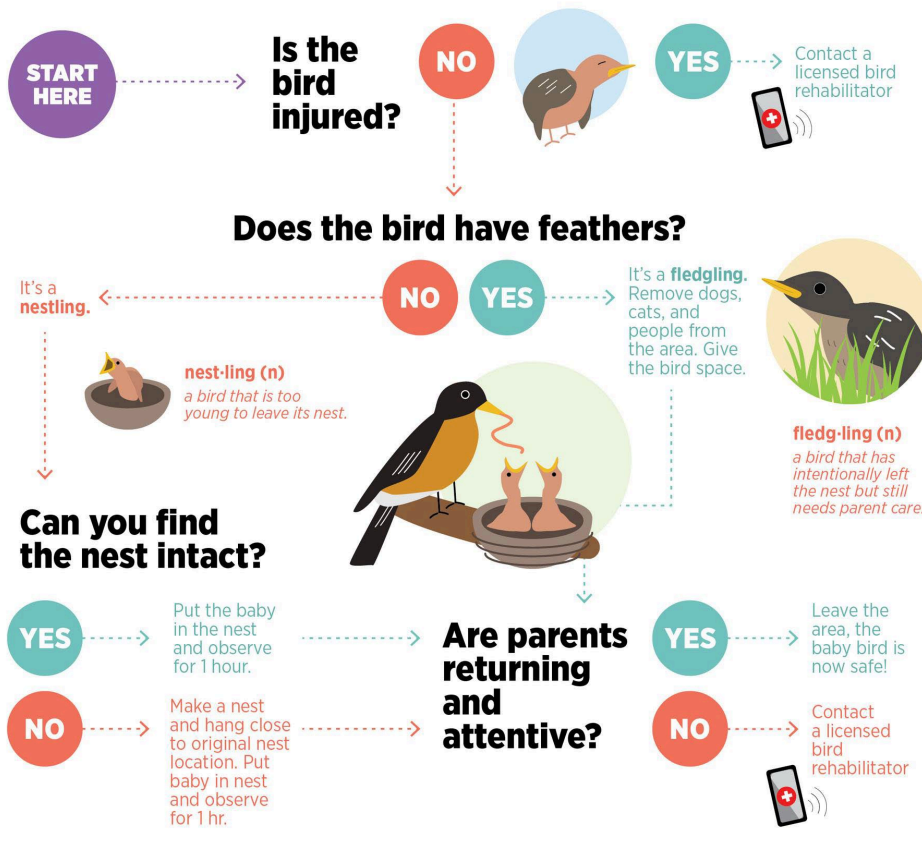
Branching Out – New Issue Available

A new issue of Branching Out is now available! Read about the renewal of spring, and the prospect of bringing an iconic species back to Appalachia. There's news about a tree planting grant program and about a record year for fighting invasives. Our "Native Trees of Maryland" looks at the tuliptree, and "Invasives in Your Woodlands" looks at the non-native sawtooth oak. And don't forget the events calendar and the Brain Tickler challenge.

The Spring 2024 issue is available here: https://go.umd.edu/Spring_2024

Download your PDF copy from our website: [Branching Out Vol. 32 no. 2](#)

I Found a Baby Bird! ...Now What?



Employment Opportunities

[Regional Watershed Specialist](#) | University of Maryland Extension

[Native Plants & Landscape Specialist](#) | University of Maryland Extension | Ellicott City

[Environmental Protection Specialist](#) | DC Department of Energy and Environment

[Communications Intern](#) | Potomac Conservancy

[Environmental Protection Specialist](#) | DC Dept of Energy and Environment

[Chesapeake Bay Program's Healthy Watersheds Goal Team Staffer](#) | Chesapeake Research Consortium (CRC)

[Camp/Nurse Health Supervisor](#) | Montgomery Parks – Seasonal

[Director of Black Hill Discovery Center](#) | Montgomery County Department of Parks | Boyds

[Manager](#) | Brookside Nature Center | Wheaton

[Environmental Specialist Trainee/Environmental Specialist](#) (Education and Outreach) | MD Environmental

[Environmental Analyst I](#) | Maryland State Highway Administration

[Climate Resilience Policy Intern](#) | The Nature Conservancy Maryland/DC

[Bacteria Monitoring Program Coordinator](#) | Little Falls Watershed Alliance | Chevy Chase

[Assistant Landscape Designer for Sustainable Landscape Design/Build Company](#) | Arterra

[Accountant](#) | Chesapeake Bay Trust | Annapolis

[Scientific, Technical Assessment and Reporting Team Staffer](#) | Chesapeake Research Consortium

[Assistant Director of Civic and Campus Engagement](#) | The Rachel Carson Council | Washington DC

[Landscape Crew- Installation/Maintenance Landscaper](#) | Lauren's Garden Service LLC Native Plant Nursery

[Chesapeake Bay Program's Healthy Watersheds Goal Team Staffer](#) | The Chesapeake Research Consortium

[Conservation Outreach Specialist](#) | Nature Forward

[Multimedia Associate](#) | Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

[Executive Director](#) | Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake

[Grants Administrator](#) | City of Annapolis

[Education Instructor with Animal Care Specialist position\(s\)](#) | Echoes Of Nature

[TWO Chesapeake Bay Program Staffer Positions](#) | Chesapeake Research Consortium

[Education Intern \(Fall 2024\)](#) | Environmental Law Institute | Washington DC

[Marine Science Summer Camp Counselor – Female Dorms](#) | Chincoteague Bay Field Station

[Office Manager](#) | Chesapeake Bay Trust | Annapolis

[Resource Development Associate](#) | Accokeek Foundation

[Educator](#) | Accokeek Foundation

[Livestock Resource Specialist – Eastern Shore of Maryland](#) | Southern Maryland RC&D Board, Inc.

[Livestock Resource Specialist – Southern Maryland](#) | Southern Maryland RC&D Board, Inc.

[Land Conservation Program Director](#) | Southern Maryland RC&D Board, Inc.

[Program Support Specialist – Anne Arundel County](#) | Southern Maryland RC&D Board, Inc.

[Part-Time Environmental Scientist, Chesapeake Bay](#) | EnviroProjects, LLC