

Join us as we learn from expert botanists and ecologists how the Western Maryland forests, bogs and shrub swamps are recovering from decades of logging and how they are likely to fare as the climate warms. Field trips to mountaintops, bogs and protected coves will acquaint us with the full range of Western Maryland's special flora.

At the end of the last Ice Age, the cold-adapted plants migrated back north, remaining only in "frost pockets" such as exist in the Appalachian Plateau. The frost pockets of Western Maryland support relict populations of sub-arctic flora, including tamarack, wild calla, Canadian burnet, red spruce, small cranberry and bog fern.

The geology and climate of Maryland's three western counties, Washington, Allegany and Garrett, support unique botanical resources. The Appalachian Plateau covers all of Garrett County and extreme western Allegany County. The Valley and Ridge province covers most of Allegany and Washington County while the Blue Ridge province covers the extreme eastern part of Washington County. The region contains shale barrens, limestone ridges, peatlands and mountain bogs.



Maryland Native Plant Society

2007 Annual Conference

Co-sponsored by
Department of Biology,
Frostburg State University

With support from
The Nature Conservancy

Climate Change: Global Effects, Local Impacts Western Maryland's Flora – At Risk?

September 29-30, 2007
226 Compton Hall
Frostburg State University
Frostburg, Maryland

Registration Fee (includes lunch)
\$50 members
\$65 nonmembers

Saturday Social Fee (includes dinner)
\$30 per person

www.mdflora.org

The Maryland Native Plant Society is a 501(c) 3 organization that uses education, research, and community service to increase awareness and appreciation of native plants and their habitats leading to their conservation and restoration. Our goals include preserving Maryland's natural heritage and increasing knowledge about native plants.

The Society sponsors monthly meetings, field trips, and an annual fall conference, and an informative website: www.mdflora.org.

Membership is open to all who are interested in Maryland's native plants and their habitats.

Saturday, September 29

8:30 am Registration opens

9:30 am Welcome

10:00 Rodney Bartgis
Unique Plant Communities of the Appalachian Plateau in Maryland and West Virginia

At the end of the last Ice Age, the cold-adapted plants migrated back north, remaining only in "frost pockets." The frost pockets of Western Maryland support relict populations of sub-arctic flora, including tamarack, wild calla, Canadian burnet, red spruce, small cranberry and bog fern.

10:45 Break

11:15 Deborah Landau
Red Spruce Restoration in Cranesville Swamp

Red spruce forests once covered nearly 500,000 acres of Western Maryland and West Virginia's mountain valleys. This evergreen canopy created cool microclimates and lush habitat for a diversity of plant and animal life. Heavy logging in the late 19th century left only 200 to 300 acres intact. Intact spruce forest provides habitat to numerous state and globally rare species, while maintaining cooler climate conditions essential to the health of associated ecological communities, such as open bog peatlands and conifer swamp forest. As global temperatures rise, restoration work becomes increasingly important, especially at Cranesville Swamp, one of the most significant montane bog peatlands in Maryland.

12:00 Closing Remarks

12:30 Lunch (provided)

Saturday, September 29 6 – 9 pm
Dinner & Social at Compton Hall
Additional \$30 fee

Our ever-popular Saturday Evening Social is a fun time to meet new friends and catch up with old ones. Barbara Hurd, author of *Stirring the Mud: On Swamps, Bogs and Human Imagination* will be our featured speaker. Buffet dinner is included in the cost.

Field Trips

We will visit many of the unique ecosystems in Western Maryland. Additional field trips may be added.

Saturday, September 29 1 - 5 pm

Saturday field trips are open to conference participants. Details provided at the conference.

Finzel Swamp Deborah Landau

Cranesville Swamp Cris Fleming

The Glades Kevin Dodge

Rock Lodge Jessie Harris

New Germany State Park Joe Metzger

Sunday, September 30

Sunday field trips are open to the public unless noted otherwise. Check the web site for directions.

North Cherry Creek Bog Deborah Landau
Time and Information TBA

Elk Ridge NatureWorks Liz McDowell & Ron Boyer
Time: 9:30 am

Discover conservation landscaping and wildlife habitat practices that enhance biodiversity. Native plants propagated from local seed and habitat boxes for bats and solitary bees will be available for purchase.

Rock Lodge Jessie Harris
Time: 9:00 am

Rock Lodge has cranberry bogs, rhododendron and skunk cabbage swamps, ancient rock streams, a lake and timber roads making some of the walking easier. Plants have been found that have not been found elsewhere in Maryland such as *Cornus canadensis* as well as rare birds and bears.

Conference Speakers

Rodney Bartgis is a renowned botanist who has extensively surveyed the flora and ecology of Western Maryland, West Virginia, and mountain regions of neighboring states. His work with Maryland DNR and in West Virginia over the years has yielded many new discoveries of rare species and significant natural areas. He is the author of numerous papers in scientific journals and technical reports, and is currently the State Director of the West Virginia Chapter of The Nature Conservancy.

Deborah Landau is the Conservation Ecologist for the MD/DC Chapter of The Nature Conservancy where she is responsible for restoration of the natural habitats of many of TNC's preserves in Maryland. In Western Maryland, Deborah initiated the planting of red spruce seedlings at Cranesville Swamp and the improvement of the natural wetlands at Finzel Swamp. Throughout the state, she also works on projects such as prescribed burns and monitoring of rare species and communities.

Barbara Hurd teaches at Frostburg State University and in the Stonecoast Program in Creative Writing. She is an editor of the literary annual *Nightsun*. Her essays and poems have appeared in numerous publications, including the 1999 and 2001 volumes of *The Best American Essays*, the *Yale Review*, the *Georgia Review*, *Audubon*, and *Sierra*. She lives in Frostburg, Maryland.

Field Trip Leaders

Field trips are led by experience botanists. **Cris Fleming** and **Joe Metzger** are on the MNPS Board of Directors and have led numerous field trips for the MNPS, Audubon Naturalist Society, Virginia Native Plant Society, and the Botanical Society of Washington. **Kevin Dodge** teaches at Garrett College and leads field excursions in Western Maryland. **Liz McDowell** and **Ron Boyer** own Elk Ridge NatureWorks and chair the MNPS Western Mountains Chapter. **Jessie Harris** has learned her plants by trying to show their characteristics in photographs.

Directions

From Baltimore (2 ½ hours)

Take I-70 west to I-68 at Hancock, MD. Proceed to exit 33 (2nd Frostburg exit). Bear right onto Braddock Road and proceed about one mile to the main entrance to campus.

From Washington, DC (2 ½ hours)

Take I-270 north towards Frederick. At Frederick Take I-70 west to I-68 at Hancock, MD. Proceed to exit 33 (2nd Frostburg Exit). Bear right onto Braddock Road and proceed for about one mile to main entrance of campus.

From West Virginia (1 hours)

Take I-68 east to exit 33. Turn left onto Braddock Road and proceed about one mile to the main entrance of campus.

Information about parking will be provided to conference registrants.

Accommodations

Camping is available at New Germany and Rocky Gap State Parks. 1-888-432-2267.

FROSTBURG

Charlie's Motel 1-888-230-9053
Day's Inn & Suites (301) 689-2050
Failinger's Hotel Gunter (301) 689-6511
Frostburg Inn (301) 689-3831
Hampton Inn (301) 689-1998

CUMBERLAND

Holiday Inn of Cumberland (301) 724-8800

GRANTSVILLE

Comfort Inn of Grantsville (301) 895-5993

LA VALE

Comfort Inn Suites (301) 729-6400
Continental Motor Inn (301) 729-2201
Cumberland Motel (301) 729-2880
Super 8 Motel (301) 729-6265

McHENRY

Stream & Dreams Retreat (301) 3-TROUT-1

MOUNT SAVAGE

The Castle (301) 264-4645

Fall Conference Contacts

Web Site: <http://www.mdflora.org>

Registration:

Beth Johnson 301-949-6338
bajohnsonjohnson@verizon.net

Other Questions:

Karyn Molines 410-286-2928
kmolines@chesapeake.net

Registration Fee (includes lunch)

\$50 members
\$65 nonmembers

Saturday Social Fee (includes dinner)

\$30 per person

- *Scholarships are available for students or people with limited income.*
- *Frostburg Staff and Students may register for the conference for a reduced fee of \$20 and the Social for a reduced fee of \$20.*
- *Members of other native plant societies may register at member's rates.*

Please make checks payable to:
Maryland Native Plant Society

Mail to MNPS Fall Conference
P. O. Box 4877
Silver Spring, MD 20914

To assist with catering estimates,
please register before September 15.

Photography Contest

The winners of our first annual photography contest will be on display during the conference and social. Deadline for submissions is August 15, 2007. Details about the contest are on our website, www.mdflora.org.

2007 Annual Conference

Make copies for additional registrations.
Join MNPS and pay the member's rates.

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____ County _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

e-mail _____

I am a member of MNPS or other NPS _____

I am a FSU student or staff (circle one please)

I am requesting vegetarian meals

Registration Fee	
Saturday Social	

Consider a tax-deductible donation:

Membership	
Conference Scholarship Fund	
Lou Aronica Conservation Fund	
Jean Worthley Lifetime Achievement Fund	
Additional Donation	
Total Enclosed	

Membership Dues: New Renewal

Membership is for 12 months.

\$15 Student/Limited Income

\$25 Individual

\$35 Double: 2nd member _____

\$50 Organization _____

\$250 Lifetime

Do not send monthly email announcements

Do not list me in membership directory.

Please include me on MNPS providers list as:

native plant propagator or grower

native plant supplier

native landscape or garden professional

Company Name _____