

<p>Northern Neck Chapter, Virginia Master Naturalists</p>	<p>NEWS & NOTES for Members JUNE 2022</p> <p><small>Virginia Master Naturalists</small> shared by Camille</p>
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Grapewood Farm Receives Sierra Club's Living Green Award!

Grapewood Farm, a certified organic farm owned by Fred and Cathy Sachs (Cathy is a member of NNMN!) was honored on Earth Day with this award because of the sustainable farm practices utilized. The farm produces organic grains and stone-ground flour.

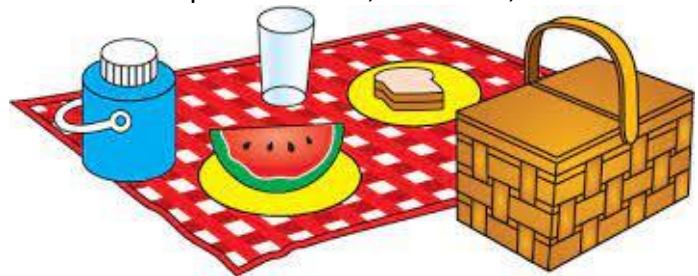
These are distributed to artisan bakeries, restaurants, commercial and home bakers, and farmers markets in the Mid-Atlantic region.

Sustainable practices used by the Sachs include no-till or reduced tillage, a 3-year field rotation, cover crops, and on-site composting. While 130 acres (of almost 500) are dedicated to farming, the remaining land has mixed species wood lots, fruit trees, wetland marshes, ponds, wildlife set asides, and wildflower meadows. The barn and office have a rooftop solar array, and rainwater runoff is accumulated for crop hydration and equipment washing. Congratulations to Cathy and Fred on this honor. **Thank you** for working so diligently to protect and enhance our environment and for being an exemplary model for others.

The Northern Neck News reported this story on May 10, 2022



Photo from Grapewood Farm Website
Grapewood Farm, Montross, VA



NNMN Annual Summer Picnic

Sunday, June 12, 2022

Grapewood Farm

The picnic was another successful and enjoyable social event organized by our Hospitality Chair, Anne Clewell. How exciting and appropriate for us to be at **THE FARM** recently honored with the Sierra Club's prestigious "Living Green" award! The graciousness of Fred and Cathy Sachs to allow us to meet on their property was so appreciated by all in attendance. Although we had quite a heavy thunderstorm throughout the morning and early afternoon, creating frantic calls and texts back and forth between Anne and Cathy (*Should we cancel? Postpone?*), they waited it out and by 4:00 the sun had appeared and the picnic was underway! With "the barn" (*Webster is writing a new definition of "barn" after hearing of the Sachs' building*) and a lovely huge willow and other trees, there was plenty of space for casual dining. The potluck, as usual, saw more than enough delicious and varied foods to satisfy us all. Thank you to the Sachs, Anne Clewell, and all the NNMNs and guests who provided food and beverages for this wonderful gathering.



If you participated in National Trails Day, be sure you record your volunteer hours in Better Impact and also notify Nancy Joel (joeln@wmlcps.org) so that she can report how many NNMNs took part and how many hours the chapter totaled on June 4 and the days just before and right after that Saturday. Thank you all for taking part in this inaugural "Chapter Challenge."



**PLEASE REMEMBER TO
LOG YOUR HOURS!**

www.MyImpactPage.com

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Virginia Master Naturalist Statewide Conference and Volunteer Training 2022

<http://www.virginiamasternaturalist.org/vmn-statewide-conference.html>



The Wyndham Virginia Beach Oceanfront will be our home base for the 2022 VMN Conference (Photo credit: Wyndham Virginia Beach Oceanfront.)

For the past two years, there was no VMN statewide conference or training as had been done previously. Finally, it is happening again! This is a wonderful opportunity for ALL VMNs to come together to learn from each other and many subject matter experts and receive CE hours in the process! You may attend for a day

or the entire weekend. Check online for full information.

Conference Schedule

Friday, September 9

- 4:00-7:00pm - Conference Registration
- 5:00-6:00pm - Welcome Reception
- 6:00-7:00pm - Dinner
- 7:00-8:00pm - Share Fair
- 8:00pm - Optional Evening Activities

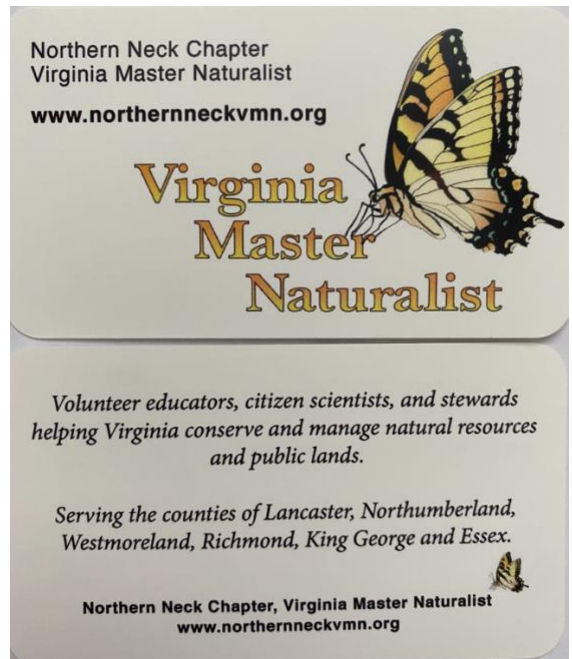
Saturday, September 10

- 7:30-9:00am - Conference Registration
- 7:30-8:30am - President's Breakfast
- 9:00am-12:15pm - Morning Sessions
- 12:15-1:15pm - Lunch
- 1:30-4:30pm - Afternoon Sessions
- 4:30-5:30pm - Break
- 5:30-6:00pm - Social
- 6:00-7:00pm - Dinner
- 7:00-8:30pm - Optional Evening Activities

Sunday, September 11

- 9:00am-12:15pm - Morning Sessions
- 12:15-1:15pm - Lunch

NEW RESOURCE for NNMNs!



Have you ever been in a park or store wearing your NNMN ballcap, and had someone ask you about our program? Our new business cards are perfect to carry with you, in pocket, purse, or backpack, to hand to inquiring

individuals whom you encounter! Those who want to know more may simply go to our website.

Thank you to Anne Clewell for designing and ordering these for the chapter. We would like for all members to have some, so get yours at meetings and other events, or you may email me (cgrabb9@gmail.com) to have them mailed to you. This is a simple way that we all can promote our chapter and our mission!



Photo credit: Alice Stieve



July 14, 2022
Chapter Board and
General Meetings

Times and location to
be shared by Better
Impact Email



Photo credit: Anne Clewell

Who doesn't love a gorgeous tree?

Remaining dates for 2022 Meetings
(Board, General, and Program):

September 14

November 1 – Board Election (Please note this
change from the second Tuesday, as November 8 is local
election day.)



Photo credit: Alice Stieve

Photos from the picnic at Grapewood Farm



Photo credit: Alice Stieve

*Looking at this photo, who would believe we were having
severe thunderstorms just two hours earlier?*



Photo credit: Anne Clewell

*We may have a new assessment for BTC trainees:
identifying different types of wheat!*



Photo credit: Anne Clewell

NNMN friends happy to be socializing together again in a lovely Northern Neck setting.



Photo credit: Anne Clewell



Photo credit: Anne Clewell



Photo credit: Anne Clewell



Photo credit: Anne Clewell



Photo credit: Alice Stieve



If you've never seen a combine up close, it is MAMMOTH!

Photo credit: Alice Stieve



Photo credit: Anne Clewell

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