

Northern Neck Master Naturalists

Spring 2016



Trillium sessile. Hilda Wilson's Native Garden

After a long hiatus the Spring weather has reawakened the NNMN Newsletter. The newsletter has come up for discussion at several general meetings in the recent past. Do we need a newsletter; do we want a newsletter; is a newsletter of value? As the editor, a job that is available for anyone who wants to take it on, I solicit your opinions on the subject. Please let me hear from you at nnmneemail@gmail.com, subject line newsletter.

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MEET THE CLASS OF 2016

The 2016 Northern Neck Master Naturalist Basic Training Class is underway. The class started with orientation on March 17, then a week off for Easter. Class started in earnest March 31. Classes will continue through graduation on June 16. Nancy Joel and Bill Blair are the class coordinators and have laid out a challenging schedule for the students. Chapter members are invited to attend classes either as a refresher or just to meet the new students. The class schedule is attached.

The seventeen members of the class are:

Mindy Ashton - Here are a few things about me and the reason I wanted to attend the NNMN course. I live in King George on Waterloo Farm. I am a Registered Nurse and spent the 20 years before my retirement 2 years ago at the Naval Health Clinic, Patuxent River, MD. I need to know everything that I can to be the best steward of this planet.



Stuart Ashton, Jr. - I'm a retired Naval Aviator, now Aviation Systems Consultant living in King George County on Waterloo Farm. Waterloo Farm located on the Potomac River has been in my family since 1653 and is still farmed. But development encroaches around and shoreline erosion advances from the water. These things have caused me to become more attentive to the natural history of this region. I want to learn as much as I can about the natural conditions as they were, are



now and attempt to identify potential natural conditions of the future good or bad.

Carla Bangs - We moved to the Northern Neck from Orange in June of 2015, but we came frequently before that after we bought our house at the end of 2012. We had 36 acres of land in Orange which we reforested and planted food to bring back wildlife. We were successful in bringing back bob white quail and red foxes.



I am a former chemist and COO, retired from Bureau of Engraving after Printing (after producing a lot of your money), I have been a Master Gardener since 2004 and love the outdoors and do lots of gardening. I love watching the eagles, osprey, and heron on the creek and hope to learn a lot more about birds and other critters in the Northern Neck.

Lynn Brownley - I am a former local elected official that has been an ad hoc naturalist for years. I worked in law, low power television, and in wood manufacturing at the former Potomac Supply Corp. I am a tree worshiper, know a fair amount about the woodlands, and want to save some older, mature forests (time is quickly



running out). I have been in several rural leadership programs and a watershed study in Germany. I truly look forward to involvement with NNMN and our sharing collective knowledge.

Arlene Crabbe-Kilduff - Born Northumberland county, Ophelia Va. Attended Rappahannock community college. Attended Old Dominion

University. Attended American Spirit Institute of Holistic Healing.

Worked as a nurse for over forty years.

Married to Les Kilduff, we live in Kilmarnock, we have children and grandchildren.

Interests: staying outside, native bees, weather, music, travel, and tennis. I am interested in outreach re local and minorities.



Elizabeth (Betsy) Dern - I moved to Wake in Middlesex County (near Deltaville) three years ago from Richmond, Va and have been retired since September, 2015. I've found that this is an amazing area, including Northern Neck, to



explore and enjoy nature. My husband, Robert, and I love to hike, camp, kayak and canoe. We love our state and our national parks.

I received my Master Gardener certification in 2002 from Hanover County and have been able to use this knowledge on our 6.5 acres, mostly planted in pine trees. I am trying to "go native" and introduce hardwoods and understory shrubs into my pine forest. I recently joined the NN Native Plant Society. My biggest thrill is to see turkeys, foxes, coyotes, various "peckers" and bluebirds on our property. We recently discovered eagles and ospreys nesting behind our home.

Leslie Fellows - My dad was an environmentalist before that word was even used, and I'm definitely his daughter.

Although I lost him when I was 12, because of him I grew up in the woods and on the water, and have always loved being outdoors



and taking in and exploring nature. He never passed up an injured animal, so myriad raccoons, opossums, rabbits, turtles, squirrels, etc., passed through my home as I was growing up. I've always had a curiosity about the natural environment and before cell phones and their apps, would usually have to limit some of my clothing when I would travel to new areas because the first things I would always pack were my guidebooks for trees, birds, and wildflowers - I never left town without them.

I've participated in Cornell's Project Feederwatch for 17 years, the Christmas Bird Count every year for the last 11 years, and the Great Backyard Bird Count for at least that long. I've monitored frog and toad calls on my lake for 8 years through the Pawtuxant Wildlife Research Institute.

Deborah Gillispie - My husband, Bob and I are Richmond natives, but I have been coming to the Northern Neck on weekends and summers since I was born. My grandfather owned acreage in Bertrand so I rowed, sailed, crabbed and skied on the Corrotoman and Rappahannock Rivers. In 1995, Bob and I bought a cottage in Reedville and last year retired to a real house on the same creek (Whay's Creek-Great Wicomico River). I was a Physical Education teacher in a former life and since have worked on a horse farm, organic vegetable farm and owned a small landscaping business. I love being outdoors and my purpose in taking this class is to learn scientific specifics about this coastal ecosystem where I live and how to improve my environment.



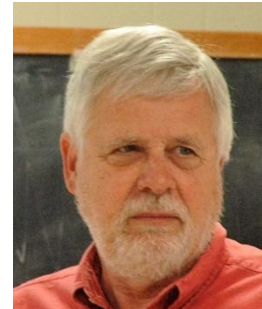
Patricia McMurray - My educational background is Environmental Science from University of Virginia and Toxicology from American University. I worked in a toxicology

lab for 12 years and recently retired from DEQ after 23 years there. At DEQ I worked in the Land Division, Office of Remediation Programs (Superfund and similar cleanups) as the Risk Assessment Program Manager.



I live on Lower Machodoc Creek in Westmoreland County and enjoy fishing, kayaking, sailing, running and biking. Other interests include travel, reading, and studying Spanish. I hope to spend part of my retirement doing volunteer work related to environmental protection. I believe that the Master Naturalist Class will give me the training to do that in addition to identifying many volunteer opportunities. Of the Master Naturalist topics, my primary interests are ornithology, botany, wetlands, and aquatic and coastal ecology.

Ernest Monschein - Ernie Monschein is a former trade association executive and lifelong educator. A native New Englander, Ernie is married and has been a resident of Lancaster for the past 14 years. He appreciates the native beauty and tranquility of the Virginia coast and is an avid hiker, kayaker, fisherman, bird watcher and amateur photographer. His other interests include international travel, visiting natural and historical sites and immersing himself in local cultures. Participating in the Master Naturalist course is in keeping with his love for learning and the natural world.



Anne Moss - My interest in studying nature comes from being a Pacific Northwesterner, my grandfather climbed and guided climbers up Mt. Rainier until his late seventies. Whole family loved to huckleberry just below the



mountain. I wasn't a good picker, spent my time looking for bear and cougar tracks, etc. Uncle was a forester on the Olympic peninsula, gave me keys to get to the back roads. Lived lots of places, including Somalia (no

paved roads, lots of wildlife) and Louisiana. Settled on the Northern Neck as a compromise between rain forests and swampland. Live on a six acres, half deep woods on a creek and a big field I keep bush hogged as a small refuge. My son is an avid naturalist, doesn't let me get too sentimental. Hope this course and activities will be useful in my daily life.

Lee Scripture, Jr. - Ever since I was a child I have been interested in nature. While enrolled in the Master Gardener course I heard of the Master Naturalists course. I see it as an opportunity to learn more about protecting our natural environment for my grandchildren to have and enjoy.



Katherine (Katie) Shepard - I grew up in Alleghany County, Virginia and graduated from James Madison University with a degree in Integrated Science and Technology, focusing on Natural Resource Management. I've worked



with Virginia State Parks for 5 years now as an interpreter and resource management assistant. Since moving to the Northern Neck in 2014, I have learned so much - about wetlands, coastal ecosystems,

tides, and birds! The diversity across Virginia is amazing. I have always had a soft spot for

amphibians, but am also interested in astronomy, hydrology, water quality, native plants, owls, geography and mapping, and environmental education - just to name a few things. I'm looking forward to getting to know the Northern Neck better through this program, as well as getting to know and work with some great naturalists!

Martha Tallent - I was born in southern California and spent summers during my youth in the Sierra Madres mountains surrounding the Los Angeles basin. I'm a life-long Girl Scout and enthusiastic outdoors person and camper. My father, an avid trout fisherman and outdoorsman, instilled in me a love of nature.



My husband and I bought our property in Reedville in 1990 and moved here full-time in 1997. I live on a 26-acre brack pond which opens periodically into the Chesapeake Bay (lucky me!) and supports abundant wildlife. I love the Northern Neck and am anxious to increase my knowledge about my surroundings.

Chad Thomas - As a full-time teacher and mentor at a small, independent, nonprofit, and educationally progressive school, I have taught Psychology, Physics, Evolution, Discrete Math, Computer Technology, and Improvisational Comedy, among other subjects. In previous lives, I have been a Senior Research Scientist at Honeywell, a consultant for the Navy, a team development consultant for corporate Artificial Intelligence labs across the country, and over the years have developed various accounting, sales, and tracking software systems for small business.



I am currently on hiatus from our school, and anticipate helping my family manage a tract of timberland in southern Arkansas, a portion of which has already been donated to the Nature Conservancy. I hope that the MN program will be a bridge to involvement in the Northern Neck, and also be a valuable base for applying best practices in land stewardship.

Timothy Ward - My wife and I moved to the Northern Neck full time two years ago from Washington, DC where I retired from the Department of Veterans Affairs as Director of Dentistry. I still work as an oral & maxillofacial surgeon at a hospital in Richmond two



days per month but have far more time to get involved in programs like the Master Naturalist where I hope to learn more about our natural environment and participate in volunteer opportunities. My interests include woodworking, sailing and photography. I have hiked in many of our national parks and continue to be amazed at the diverse beauty of our country. I am a volunteer grant writer for a local museum and enjoy spending time with my two adult children and grandchildren.

Jeffrey Wright - Since becoming 98% percent retired from “earning” a paycheck I try to find



ways and means to support solutions for rivers and bays and ocean and coast. The ways and means chosen are volunteer and charitable activities as well as taking action. I believe that we can find ways that improve the productivity of fishing and farming while measurably and decisively decreasing - and even reversing - the decline in the health and diversity of the natural

world. I have worked or traveled in over 50 countries and have seen the good, the bad and the very ugly on man’s impact on the natural world. Likewise, I have had the privilege of living in different parts of this great country. Virginia’s Northern Neck is where I have chosen to “payback” the favors granted to me through the years. Now vernal pools are more fun than office pools. The waters and lands of the Northern Neck teach me more each day about nature. I look to the Master Naturalist program to broaden my knowledge of the natural world. More importantly I want to learn about methodologies and tools I can employ to help nature and learn from nature.

I am a regular participant in wildlife census and citizen science projects primarily focused on birds. I am a volunteer with the Nature Conservancy of Virginia as a trail monitor at the Voorhees Preserve in Westmoreland County, and for trail, facilities, and habitat work on the Barrier Islands of Virginia managed by the Nature Conservancy’s Virginia Coast Reserve. I find a lot of humor in being a regular and accomplished bird spotter, but an irregular and unaccomplished bird identifier.

Field Trip to the Virginia Living Museum

by Charlene Talcott

Six people (two NNMN, two husbands, and two members of the new class) traveled to Newport



Robotic Blue-eyed Darner Dragon Fly. Photo Courtesy of VLM

News to see the Big Bugs exhibit at the Virginia Living Museum on March 29. Giant, robotic sunset moth, bombardier beetle, dragonfly, stag beetle, firefly and orb-web spider delighted all. A live display of insects showcased why insects were to be admired and not feared.

We had a chance to see the many displays of Virginia animals outside, in aquariums and a manufactured cave and underground system, and in three-story displays showcasing the mountains and coastal areas. We learned more about Virginia animals and their habitats, and left with a greater appreciation for them all.

2016 Virginia Master Naturalist Statewide Conference and Training

The 2016 Virginia Master Naturalist Statewide Volunteer Conference and Training will be held Friday, August 26, through Sunday, August 28, 2016 at the Skelton 4-H Educational Conference Center in Wirtz, Virginia.



Smith Mountain Lake at W.E. Skelton 4H Center

All Virginia Master Naturalist volunteers are invited to join us at the Skelton 4-H Educational Conference Center for our 7th Virginia Master Naturalist Statewide Volunteer Conference and Training. This year's conference will be hosted by the Blue Ridge Foothills and Lakes (BRFAL) chapter.

This event is an opportunity for VMN volunteers to share ideas and learn from each other, to participate in high-quality advanced training sessions, and to learn about a region of Virginia that may be different from their home

communities. It's a time and place to recognize and reward volunteers and chapters for all their efforts.

Early registration will open **June 20**. Lodging will be available at the conference center. For more information go to www.regonline.com/vmn2016conference where details will be posted as they become available.



Smith Central Activities Building, Skelton 4H Center

Considered by many to be one of America's leading 4-H Centers, the W. E. Skelton 4-H Educational Conference Center is located just minutes from Roanoke, Virginia. Located in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains and nestled neatly along the shores of Smith Mountain Lake, its spacious facilities and beautiful 120 acres offer the perfect get-away for youth and adult groups alike.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Adopt a Virginia Birding and Wildlife Trail Project



The Adopt-A-Trail project is a way for the Virginia Master Naturalists to partner with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries to update, maintain and improve the [Virginia Birding and Wildlife Trail \(VBWT\)](#). The VBWT is a statewide driving trail composed of 65 loops connecting the best sites in Virginia for watching birds and other wildlife. It was established in three phases between 1999 - 2004, with the goal of increasing awareness, appreciation and conservation of Virginia's wildlife and native habitats.

The NNMN Chapter has "adopted" the Northern Neck Loop of the Virginia Birding and Wildlife Trails. The Northern Neck Loop has 23 trail sites spread along both sides of the Northern Neck from Caledon to the Chesapeake Bay. The project requires four visits a year, one per season, to each of the sites that make up the Northern Neck Loop. The volunteer visiting the site will assess its condition and complete a checklist that will be sent to the chapter coordinator. The geographic separation of these sites provides an excellent opportunity to get volunteer hours close to home. A map showing site locations is attached to this newsletter and is at

<http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/vbwt/loop.asp?trail=1&loop=CNN>. Alison Sowa is the chapter coordinator and is looking for volunteers to fill open sites. Alison can be reached at alison.sowa@gmail.com or (571) 239-6513.

Mini-Grant Project to Increase Outreach Diversity

In January the chapter responded to a request for proposals for a Virginia Master Naturalist Chapter Focus Mini-Grant. The grants, from an anonymous donor, would provide up to \$1,000 to support chapter focus projects. Two of the goals state identified for these grants were engaging diverse volunteers and strengthening local partnerships. Since increasing diversity had been a topic of discussion at the chapter's January meeting, the board saw this mini-grant as a means to that end.

The title of our proposal was "Increasing Diversity Through Enhanced Outreach". The proposal outlined steps to be taken to increase the chapter's outreach to a more diverse audience—the first being to develop a plan of action. Along with that would be an upgrade of our outreach materials. We requested the full \$1,000 with \$200 for a stipend for a presentation by a specialist in diversity in environmental education and \$800 for presentation materials. (A copy of the proposal is attached to this newsletter.) We were successful and have been awarded a grant of \$850.

Nancy Joel has volunteered to head up this effort. If you would like to be included please contact her at joeln@wmlcps.org or (434) 390-3331.

Wetlands 101 Project

The Wetlands Project is looking for volunteers to work on expanding its new **Wetlands Adventure Trail** program. They have received funding to create the template/web platform and have completed the first four Northern Neck sites, the Natural Area Preserves. Now they would like to add Belle Isle SP, Westmoreland SP, GW National Monument,



[Hughlett Point North Beach Trail](#). (Photo© The Wetlands Project)

Rappahannock Wildlife Refuge and others. This would be a great project for MN volunteers (in consultation with the "state/fed officials"). This project falls under our "Wetlands 101"

Educational Programs (E5I) which was approved for volunteer hours by the MN Board. Basically they would need content and high quality photos for each locale from the volunteer. The Wetlands Project would then edit/upload the content. To see what has been done you can click in to it from this page on *The Wetlands Project* website:

<http://www.thewetlandsproject.org/wetlands-adventure-trail/>. Contact Kate Daniel katedaniel2@gmail.com for more information.

Outreach Booth



Jane Henley Setting up NNMN Outreach Booth at Kinsale Day

Throughout the Spring, Summer, and early Fall NNMN provides naturalist educational outreach at events throughout the Northern Neck and across the Rappahannock in Essex County. For the past two years our display has featured pollinators. This year's schedule is a work in progress. If you would like to participate, contact Jane Henley at <mailto:mlewisnut@aol.com>.

Watch nmnemail for specific event dates and locations.

THIS & THAT

State and Local Photo Contest and Show. State has announced that once again this year there

will be a photo contest at the Statewide Conference in August. These contests have been held in three previous years with NNMN members getting awards each year. Chapter entries were selected through local competitions. As an adjunct to this competition we have had a well received naturalist photo display at the Ice Cream Shop in Kinsale for Kinsale Day in September. An attempt at a local photo competition was canceled last year due to insufficient participation. We are hoping to do better this year.

Watch for information on NNMN participation.

Native Bees. Speaking of pollinators, attendees at this year's "Gardening in the Northern Neck Seminar" were treated to an informative and entertaining presentation on the importance of native pollinators given by Mr. Tim McCoy. Mr. McCoy is a Research Specialist in the Department of Entomology at Virginia Tech. His presentation addressed many native pollinators but focused on native bees such as the Orchard Mason Bee which we have included in our pollinator display in recent years. He highlighted the greater efficiency of native bees as pollinators. If you have an opportunity to hear Mr. McCoy do not pass it up. You will have that opportunity in August if you go to the Statewide Conference where he will be the keynote speaker.

At our Pollinator Project Outreach booth we have displayed native bee nesting boxes and distributed information on building them as a way to encourage native bees on your property. Although it is probably too late in the season for this year; you can buy native bees already in reed tubes to get them started in your yard.



Google “native bees for sale” and you will find several sources.

Volunteer Hours. It’s not too early to be thinking about making progress toward the required 40 hours of service and 8 hours of continuing education for certification or recertification. Also don’t wait until December to go over your notes and record a year’s worth of hours in a single night or weekend. It is much easier to keep track as you go. Timely recording is especially important now as state is requiring semiannual hour reports from chapters in June and December.

The State Conference provides an excellent opportunity to get all or most of your Continuing Education hours in one weekend.

2016 Class Course Material. The Basic Training Manual that was provided to the 2016 students on flash drives is available for download from DropBox. Here is the link to get to it:
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/wwemcfg8bum826c/AAAZGqHMCsDrzVbDfcAtOy8ta?dl=0>

PRESIDENT’S COMMENTS

Hello to all, and what a great feeling it is to be able to report good news about NNMN! John mentioned earlier that the season has given rebirth to this newsletter, but Spring has sprung much more than that. To wit:

- We have a great new infusion to our chapter from the outstanding members of the basic training class introduced earlier. Their eye-popping combined résumés bring us great expertise and life experiences. As I did two years ago when introduced to the 2014 class, I feel humbled to be among such accomplishment.
- The 23! Birding and Wildlife trails that we have adopted provide a fun (and relatively easy) way to pile up volunteer

hours, and no matter where you live there is a trail or two right nearby that calls to you.

- Last year’s underwhelming regional conferences are replaced this year by the more traditional statewide conference, seen by most as a change for the better. Furthermore, (and I quote here an anonymous, high ranking source) it is unlikely that the regional concept will return.

As it happens, your Board of Directors met with Master Naturalist state program director Michelle Prysby just prior to this writing. She reports that things at the state level are progressing smoothly and that we will be seeing updates to almost all of the printed materials from state that have become long in the tooth. She also asked for suggested sites where future state conferences could be held. The challenge is to find a spot where there is lodging and meeting space large enough to accommodate 250 people while also being close enough to wildlife areas to allow field work. You can send suggestions directly to Michelle.

The “feel” of 2016 couldn’t be more different than the mood of last year. Some apathy and lack of planning have been overwhelmingly replaced by enthusiasm and valuable, much-appreciated work by NNMN board members and general membership. This looks to be a great year. I look forward to seeing a large group of you at the upcoming, May 10 general meeting.

Don Hess,
President NNMN

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 10, 2016 “General Meeting and Program ” General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 10, at 1:00 pm, with a speaker at 2:00, Hull Springs Farm. The Executive Director of Clean

Virginia Waterways, Katie Register, will discuss "Marine Debris and Its Threat to Wildlife." More information will be posted prior to the event. (Continuing Education)

Link: [Hull Springs Farm](#)

May 5, 2016 12:00 noon, May Webinar: *Infant Wildlife Emergencies - How to Assess the Situation and Provide Best Practice Care*
Presenter: Kate Guenther, Wildlife Center of Virginia. Use this link to join the Webinar. [Join Here](#)

August 26 - 28, 2016 - "Virginia Master Naturalist Conference" The 2016 Virginia Master Naturalist Statewide Conference and Training is taking place August 26-28 at the W. E. Skelton 4-H Educational Conference Center along the shores of Smith Mountain Lake in Wirtz, Virginia.

See the below listed Master Naturalist web sites for more coming events:

Our Northern Neck site:

<http://www.northernneckmasternaturalists.org/Welcome.html>

State site:

<http://www.viriniamasternaturalist.org/>

Logging Hours site:

<https://viriniamn.volunteersystem.org/UniversalLogin.cfm>

Thanks to Charlene Talcott, Tiffany Brown, Allison Soward, Nancy Joel, Kate Daniel, Jane Henley and Don Hess for their work on this issue. Special thanks to the Class of 2016.

Please send items of interest, continuing education opportunities, news and pictures about your projects, and other newsletter items to jnarney@verizon.net.

Basic Training Class 2016 – Presenters / Locations / Field Trips / Leaders

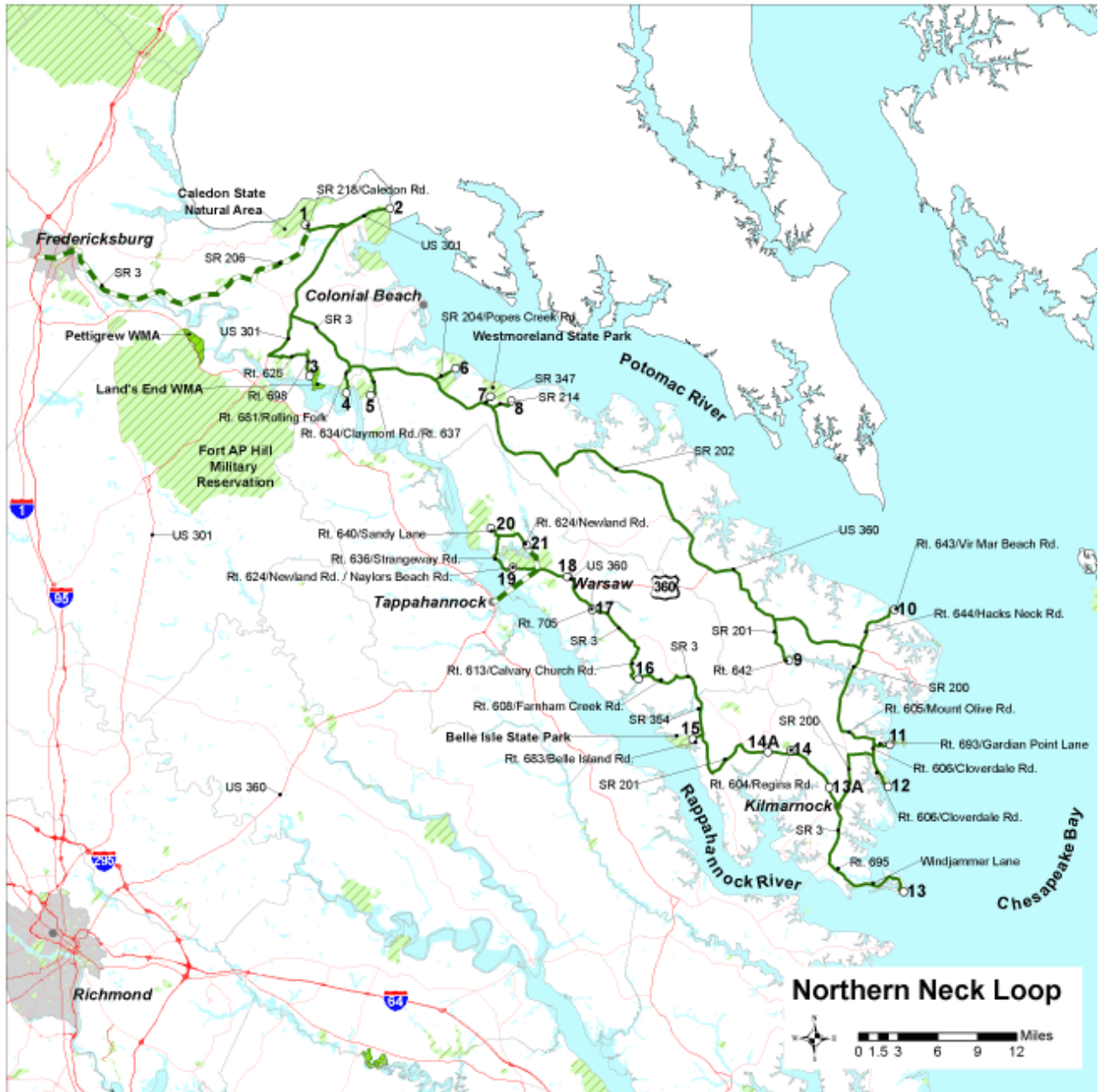
| <i>Date 2016</i> | <i>Presenter</i> | <i>Classroom Location</i> | <i>Field Trip Location and Leader</i> | <i>Topic</i> | <i>Great Naturalist Speaker</i> | <i>Great Naturalist Choice</i> |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Mar 17 N/A | Chapter Board, mentors, members | Northern Neck Electric Co-Op, Warsaw 1:00 – 3:00 PM | N/A | Orientation; Meet and Greet; Volunteer Management System | | |
| Mar 31 Class 1 | Chapter Advisors, Chapter Board, Member presenters | NNEC 9:00 – 1:00 PM | N/A | Intro & basic skills; Conduct & behavior; Dress for field; Keeping A Field Journal; Risk Management; American Naturalists | Nancy Joel | The First Naturalists |
| Apr 7 Class 2 | Pam Narney Gail Sigler | Hull Springs Farm 9:00 – 4:00 PM | Hull Springs Farm Living Shorelines Bobbie Burton | Urban and Developed Systems; Volunteer Opportunities | Bobbie Burton | Rachel Carson |
| Apr 14 Class 3 | Michelle Prisby | Belle Isle State Park 9:00 – 4:00 PM | BISP Cindy Baliles Nancy Joel | Ecological Concepts; Fungi | | |
| Apr 21 Class 4 | Tom Saunders | Lancaster Library 9:00 – 1:00 PM | N/A Bird walk 4/23 | Ornithology; Interpretation & Speaking Skills (Charlene Talcott) | Pam Narney | John James Audubon |
| Apr 23 SATURDAY Class 4B | | Belle Isle State Park 9:00 – 12:00 PM | BISP Frank Schaff NNAS Members | Bird walk | N/A | |
| Apr 28 Class 5 | Dr. Lance Gardner | NNEC 9:00 – 4:00 PM | RCC Birding and Wildlife Trail, Warsaw Lance Gardner Ted Munns | Botany; Nature of naming; Using Field Guides & Keying; Propagation | Ted Munns | Carl Linnaeus |

| Date 2016 | Presenter | Classroom Location | Field Trip Location and Leader | Topic | Great Naturalist Speaker | Great Naturalist Choice |
|--------------------|---|---|---|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| May 5 Class 6 | John McGruder | NNEC 9:00 – 4:00 PM | Chilton Woods Rich Steensma Bill Blair | Forest Ecology & Management; Dendrology | Alison Sowar | Aldo Leopold (DVD) |
| May 12 Class 7 | Bill Portlock | Rappahannock Westminster – Canterbury, Irvington 9:00 – 4:00 PM | Boat trip on Rappahannock River – Water Testing Protocol Bill Portlock Temple Moore Harry Wells | Wetlands Ecology & Management | Katherine Keith | Annie Dillard |
| May 19 Class 8 | Zach Bradford | Shiloh School 9:00 – 4:00 PM | Dameron Marsh & Hughlett Point Zach Bradford | Mammalogy; Herpetology | Nancy Joel | Charles Darwin |
| May 26 Class 9 | Richard Moncure | George Washington Birthplace 9:00 – 4:00 PM | GW Birthplace Tim Christianson | Aquatic Ecology & Management; Entomology | Bill Blair | John Muir |
| Jun 2 Class 10 | Dr Lynton Land | Westmoreland State Park 9:00 – 4:00 PM | Westmoreland SP Fossil Beach Cindy Baliles | VA Biogeography with focus on Coastal Plain; Geology, Soils, Fossils | Jane Henley | William Bartram |
| Jun 9 Class 11 | Karen Duhring | Virginia Institute of Marine Science @ Gloucester Point 9:00 – 4:00 PM | Campus on York River VIMS Staff | Ichthyology; Estuarine & Coastal Ecology & Management | | |
| Jun 16 Class 12 | Final Examination and Graduation | Belle Isle State Park 9:00 – 3:00 PM | N/A | Review Examination and Journals; Chapter administration | Class Members | |

Northern Neck Master Naturalist Training Class Spring 2016: Roster

| | | Preferred # | | Email |
|----------------------------|--|--------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| Ashton, Mindy | 15689 Owens Drive, King George, VA 22485 | 240-925-5381 | 540-663-2199 | ashtonsa@mac.com |
| Ashton, Jr., Stuart | 15689 Owens Drive, King George, VA 22485 | 540-663-2199 | 540-413-8402 | ashtonsa@mac.com |
| Bangs, Carla | 492 Swan Point Lane, Colonial Beach, VA 22443 | 804-224-5705 | | greenback6@msn.com |
| Brownley, Lynn | PO Box 22 Sandy Point, VA 22577 | 804-925-9433 | | lbrownley53@gmail.com |
| Crabbe-Kilduff, Arlene | PO Box 1753 Kilmarnock, VA 22482 | 804-580-0170 | 804-435-7518 | arlenecrabbe17@gmail.com |
| Dern, Elizabeth (Betsy) | 878 Mill Creek Drive, Wake, VA 23176 | 804-776-0408 | 804-269-3757 | betsy_h@live.com |
| Fellows, Leslie | 12681 W. River Road, Aylett, VA 23009 | 804-769-0285 | 804-246-1002 | leslie@bealenet.com |
| Gillispie, Deborah | 71 Whay's Creek Cove Lane, Reedville, VA 22539 | 804-220-2059 | 804-848-5592 | boburvol@aol.com |
| McMurray, Patricia | PO Box 342, Hague, VA 22469 | 804-986-4783 | 804-472-5872 | patunia46@aol.com |
| Monschein, Ernest | 10 Heron Lane, Lancaster, VA 22503 | 804-436-0192 | 301-873-0928 | monsche@va.metrocast.net |
| Moss, Anne | 244 Norris Dr., Weems, VA 27576 | 804-438-5280 | 804-761-1781 | annie3gr@yahoo.com |
| Scripture, Jr., Lee | 1709 Sandy Point Road, Heathsville, VA 22473 | 804-580-2609 | 804-366-3248 | queenhaybailer@yahoo.com (daughter's) |
| Shepard, Katherine (Katie) | 5381 Mary Ball Rd., Lancaster, VA 22503 | 540-969-9174 | 804-462-5030 | katherine.shepard@dcr.virginia.gov |
| Tallent, Martha | PO Box 512, Reedville, VA 22534 | 804-453-6832 | | tallent@nnwifi.com |
| Thomas, Chad | 332 Mulberry Creek Rd., Lancaster, VA | 571-239-6922 | | Chad.thomas.000@gmail.com |
| Ward, Timothy | 433 Whittaker Lane, Kilmarnock, VA 22482 | 703-889-2393 | | timothyowenward@gmail.com |
| Wright, Jeffrey | PO Box 564, Ophelia, VA 22530 | 804-453-4174 | 703-801-0239 | pec11908@mac.com |

Virginia Birding and Wildlife Trail Northern Neck Loop



- [Northern Neck](#)

- [CNN01: Caledon Natural Area](#)
- [CNN02: Wayside Park](#)
- [CNN03: Land's End Wildlife Management Area](#)

- [CNN04: Wilmont Landing, King George County](#)
- [CNN05: Westmoreland Berry Farm/Voorhees Nature Preserve](#)
- [CNN06: George Washington Birthplace National Monument, National Park Service](#)
- [CNN07: Westmoreland State Park](#)
- [CNN08: Stratford Hall Plantation](#)
- [CNN09: Bush Mill Stream Natural Area Preserve](#)
- [CNN10: Vir Mar Beach](#)
- [CNN11: Dameron Marsh Natural Area Preserve](#)
- [CNN12: Hughlett Point Natural Area Preserve](#)
- [CNN13A: Baylor Park Nature Trail](#)
- [CNN14: Hickory Hollow Nature Trail](#)
- [CNN14A: Chesapeake Trail](#)
- [CNN15: Belle Isle State Park](#)
- [CNN16: Route 608 at Farnham Creek Public Landing](#)
- [CNN17: Totuskey Creek at Route 3](#)
- [CNN18: Warsaw Campus of Rappahannock](#)
- [CNN19: Rappahannock River Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Tayloe Unit](#)
- [CNN20: Rappahannock River Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Wilna Unit](#)
- [CNN21: Heritage Park Resort](#)

**Northern Neck Chapter
Virginia Master Naturalist Chapter Focus Mini-Grant Proposal
Increasing Diversity Through Enhanced Outreach**

1. Chapter Name: Northern Neck Master Naturalists
2. Lead contact: Nancy Joel, joeln@wmlcps.org, (804) 472-4060
3. Committed members:
 - a. Nancy Joel, joel@wmlcps.org
 - b. Bill Blair, varanger@cox.net
 - c. Jane Henley, mlewisnut@aol.com
 - d. Bev McElroy, bbmcelroy77@aol.com
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 - h. Pam Narney, pnarney@verizon.net
 - i. Alison Sowar, alison.sowar@gmail.com
 - j. Charlene Talcott, ctalcott@nnwifi.com
 - k. Bonnie Wilson, bartikbk@me.com
4. Idea for focus project: Yes. Increasing diversity in membership and community education through enhanced outreach

5a. The Northern Neck Master Naturalist Chapter has 90 members; of these three are reported as minorities. Of the over 2,300 adult personal contacts cited in our 2015 annual report, only 234 were identified as minorities. The chapter realizes that waiting for minorities to come to us is not a viable means to increase our diversity. Active steps need to be taken if we are to succeed. The first step will be to develop a plan of action that will get the Master Naturalist message out to minority members of the community. This will include presentations in more locations and to targeted groups. We are in contact with Charnell Parker McMullen Bushman, the Education Director for the Chincoteague Bay Field Station, to hold a diversity recruiting workshop for our chapter. Ms. McMullen Bushman is a Member of the Diversity Committee for the North American Association for Environmental Education and is experienced in inclusion methods for diversity in environmental education. In the past much of our outreach and recruiting has been done at local events such as farmers' markets and community days. Often times more than one such event is going on at the same time. We currently have the material to cover only one event per day or per weekend as repositioning the display becomes problematic. Also our display materials appear to be homemade, because they are. They are old and shopworn and contain little to target specific segments of the community. We need to take a more active stance to reach wider audiences.

This spring the chapter is planning to adopt the Northern Neck Loop of the Virginia Birding and Wildlife Trail. We will be expanding our presentations to highlight the 23 sites on the loop. We plan to add displays and educational handouts showing these nature areas being used by minorities thus increasing minority interest in visiting them and interest in Master Naturalists as a group. We would use this grant to expand our display capability to be able to handle two activities at a time. We would also replace

parts of our display with professionally made vinyl type display boards and signs. These would add a focus on our work at the wildlife trails. Color brochures that are specific to the Northern Neck Master Naturalists would be created.

5b. Budget:

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Easy Up 10X10 Canopy with side walls and name banner | \$300 |
| Vinyl Display 20 square feet @\$25.00 per square foot | \$500 |
| Stipend for diversity in environmental education specialist | \$200 |
| Total | \$1,000 |

5c. The importance of diversity to an organization is well known. By expanding our outreach and targeting specific groups we can increase minority awareness of what we as Master Naturalists do and increase minority membership. Adding the wildlife trails to our outreach program will aid those areas by increasing community awareness of what the trails have to offer to the community.

6a. Official Name: Virginia Master Naturalists Northern Neck Chapter

6b. Treasurer: Lise Maring

6c. Mailing address: 1358 Newmans Neck Road, Heathsville, VA 22473