May 6 – WEDNESDAY – 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

COUNTY MAY COUNTS

Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, and St. Mary's Counties

Join us for our one of our dazzling nature gems in Calvert County! ACLT, located just minutes from Prince Frederick, has 22 miles of trails across a 3,000 acre preserve. Explore this spectacular property under the guidance of our naturalist and discover a bird migration with a naturalist.

Annual picnic at this fabulous 25 acre private, non-profit, social club. We have just minutes from Prince Frederick, has 22 miles of trails across a 3,000 acre preserve. Explore this spectacular property under the guidance of our naturalist and discover a bird migration with a naturalist.

American Chestnut Land Trust, Calvert County

675 Dares Beach Road

Continue 2.4 miles to Double Oak Road. Turn right onto Double Oak Road.

Dires Beach Road/MD 402 (opposite Safeway). Go straight thru round-a-bout. Continue 1.5 miles to a signed gate and a dirt road on the left. Turn left onto the dirt road. Continue 4 miles to gravel parking area. RSVP to Judy at jferris11@gmail.com or 301-760-3994.

June 7 – SUNDAY – 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

PORT TOBACCO RIVER PARK, CHARLES COUNTY

7685 Chapel Point Road, Port Tobacco, MD 20677

POTOMAC RIVER FESTIVAL

May 6 – WEDNESDAY – 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

The Southern Maryland Audubon Society (SMAS) is a chapter of the National Audubon Society. It is supported by our Adopt-a-Raptor program and currently includes four species: Osprey, Barn Owl, American Kestrel, and Northern Saw-whet Owl. Please see our website or newsletter for adoption details and assist our cause.

Southern Maryland Audubon Society

P.O. Box 181

Bayside, Md. 20616

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Led by Judy Ferris and Jan Degnette

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**FIELD TRIP**

La Plata Volunteer Fire Department, Charles County
911 Washington Ave, La Plata, MD 20646

**ERIE OWLS OF MARYLAND?**

MICE CALLAHAN, SMSR Raptor Conservation Chair, Educational

Come learn about Barn Owls in Southern Maryland. Barn Owls are endangered and in need of conservation in Southern Maryland, but Mike Callahan is leading the effort to re-establish a sustainable population. Mike will discuss the current status of these magnificent and interesting birds, and recent success fledging nestlings this year. Light refreshments and mingling starts at 7 p.m. Public is invited. Free event. Inquiries to Tom Seaton at tjsaccokeek@gmail.com or 710-316-3994.

**January 12 – SUNDAY – 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon**

Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum, Calvert County
3452 Ferry Pt, Indian Head, MD 20640

**WINTER WOLF WALK**

Leader: Tyler Bell

Open fields and wooded areas provide great land birding and the river frontage closed views of waterfront. Loons, mergansers, scaups and dabblers likely, often in great numbers. Great opportunity for birders to get their own hits! RSVP to Tyler at tjbell@calvertdaily.com or 240-765-1342.

**January 17 – FRIDAY – 7:00 p.m.**

**FIELD TRIP – GREAT FAMILY OWLING!**

Elms Environmental Center, St. Mary’s County
54950 St. James Road, Dameron, MD 20628

**OWL PROWL AT THE ELMS**

Leader(s): Bob Bobstoll and Maurea Rorschach

Come *call* out the owl(s) Out owl night, and therefore not easy to spot. A great Friday night family outing at The Elms. Dress appropriately for the weather, and avoid noisy clothing. This event is weather dependent. Rain high winds will result in cancellation. Directions: Take Rt 235 south, left onto St. James Church Road (opposite Mattapany Road). You will see the sign for The Elms Environmental Center. Meet at thehandles of the parking lot on the right 100 yards before the gate (Do not drive past the gate!) RSVP to Bob at bob@bobstoll.com or 410-610-5124

**February 15 – SATURDAY – 7:00 p.m.**

**FIELD TRIP**

Private Farm, Charles County
“EARL OWL PROWL”

Leader: Sherman Suter

Join us on this hike to look and listen for the rare, round resident owl of Southern Maryland, the Barn Owl. The farm is owned by the Wicomico Drum Point Club maintains through dense pine groves and along the shores of the tidal pond. Location is private. RSVP required by Thursday, January 23. Directions to the meeting point will be shared when you RSVP to Sherman Suter at shermansuter@gmail.com or 410-566-1073.

**February 23 – SUNDAY – 8:00 – 11 a.m.**

**FIELD TRIP**

Patuxent River Naval Air Station, St. Mary’s County

“WINTER WATERFOWL AT PATUXENT RIVER”

Leader: Kyle Rambo

We will have access to airports that provide tundras like habitat. This event will feature typical winter tundra birds such as Snow Buntings, Lapland Longspurs, Short-tailed Owls, Horned Larks, Savannah Sparrows, and possible Wilson’s Stint and Peregrine Falcon. Pre-registration is required and open to U.S. citizens only. Trip is limited to 10 people. Must bring a photo I.D. Meet at Gate X Visitor Parking Lot. RSVP to Kyle at rambo3911@yahoo.com or 703-757-0065.

**March 4 – WEDNESDAY – 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.**

**FIELD TRIP**

February 15 – SUNDAY – 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon

**FIELD TRIP**

Piscataway Park & Hard Bargain Farm, Prince George’s County
2301 Bryant Point Road, Accokeek, MD 20607

“WINTER WATERFOWL AND RESIDENT BIRDS”

Leader(s): Lynne Wheeler and Bill Townsend

This is a joint trip with the Audubon Naturalist Society. The varied habitat of water, wood, farms and fields provide for a great variety of birds. See the habitat foundations for directions. Bill Townsend, HBF Educator Associate will meet you at the entrance (mid Chevy). No fee. Limit to 20 participants. RSVP to Lynne Wheeler or au@audubon.org or 301-751-8007 (preter text).

**January 25 – SATURDAY – 8:00 – 11 a.m.**

**FIELD TRIP**

Drum Point, Calvert County

“WINTER BIRDS OF THE CHEAPEAKBAY”

Leader: Sherman Suter

This is the first time we have attempted a mid-winter trip to Drum Point, which sits outside the confines of the Patuxent River and the Cheapesapeake Bay. The views of open water east across the Bay and south across the river mouth provide a wide angle lens on the rafts of sandpipers and other waterfowl that call the Bay their winter home. On land, we will explore trails that the Drum Point Club maintains through dense pine groves and along the shores of the tidal pond. Location is private. RSVP required by Thursday, January 23. Directions to the meeting point will be shared when you RSVP to Sherman Suter at shermansuter@gmail.com or 410-566-1073.

**February 25 – SATURDAY – 8:00 – 11 a.m.**

**FIELD TRIP**

Kings Landing Park, Calvert County
3255 Kings Landing Rd., Huntington, MD 20639

“BIRDS OF THE HEBREW PARCHMENT & MAMMALS, AND MORE”

Gwen Brewer and George Jett

From macaws, woodcreepers, and storks to jaguars, giant anteaters, and giant river otters, the extensive wetlands and grasslands of the Pantanal and cerrado here host an amazing diversity of birds and mammals. We will learn about the fauna inhabiting this unique and remote region of Brazil. Light refreshments and mingling starts at 7 p.m. Public invited. Free event. Inquiries to Tom Seaton at tjsaccokeek@gmail.com or 710-316-3994.

**March 15 – SATURDAY – 10:00 a.m. – 12 noon**

**FIELD TRIP**

**AMERICAN BIRDS WELCOME – YOU CAN’T HELP IT!**

Port Tobacco River, Calvert County
7685 Chapel Point Road, Port Tobacco, MD 20677

“EAGLE NESTS AND SIGNS OF SPRING”

Leader: Lynne Wheeler

Join us for an update about our Port Tobacco River eagle nest and learn about the Great-Behowed Bald Eagle Partnership citizen-science monitoring program. Volunteers documenting the nesting success and productivity of Maryland’s Bald Eagle population to help us identify what conservation efforts are needed in the future. Attending an active monitoring program is vital to knowing when and where changes to breeding eagles are taking place. We will also walk the Trails and look for signs of spring! RSVP to Lynne Wheeler at 301-751-8007.

**April 1 – WEDNESDAY – 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.**

**FIELD TRIP**

La Plata Volunteer Fire Department, Charles County
911 Washington Ave, La Plata, MD 20646

“APRIL BIRD WALK”

KAREN BRACE, Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitation Come learn about the natural history of the Virginia ground-dwelling nocturnal mammal. Some of the main focuses will be how they live, what they eat, and how they help the environment. Light refreshments and mingling starts at 7 p.m. Public is invited. Free event. Inquiries to Tom Seaton at tjsaccokeek@gmail.com or 710-316-3994.

**April 11 – SATURDAY – 8:00 a.m. – 12 noon**

**FIELD TRIP**

Marbury, Charles County
2750 Swanco Point Road, Marbury, MD 20658

“SMALLWOOD STATE PARK – RED-HEADED WOODPECKERS AND MIGRANTS”

Leader: Lynne Wheeler

Smallwood State Park has become one of the best locations for Red-headed Woodpeckers in the state. We will also look for early migrants and Louisiana Waterthrush. This site is highly likely to be sunny. Meet at 8 a.m. at Pavilion 1 parking area, past the campground entrance. This is a joint trip with the Audubon Nature Institute. RSVP to Lynne Wheeler at uawilber@comcast.net or 703-751-8007 (preter text).

**April 18 – SATURDAY – 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon**

**FIELD TRIP**

Elms Environmental Education Center, St. Mary’s County
4950 St. James Road, Davidsonville, MD 20228

“BIRDSING 101”

Leader(s): Bob Bobstoll

Are you tired of wondering and saying “What bird is that?” Do you want to get better at knowing what birds you are seeing? Bring a favorite bird trip for your tour! The more you walk the better you become! The Elms Environmental Education Center offers great habitat for birds. Your leaders will be helpful identification persons such as bird bill and facial markings, plumage details, field marks, flight patterns, sound, behavior, habitat and seasonal expectation. Learn about app birds too. The address is 4950 St. James Road, Marbury, MD 20658. Take Rt 235 south, left onto St James Church Road (opposite Mattapany Road). You will see the sign for the Elms Environmental Education Center. We will meet in the dirt parking lot on the right 100 yards before the gate. Do not drive past the gate. RSVP to Bob at BobBobstoll@hotmail.com or 410-610-5124.

**April 19 – SUNDAY – 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.**

**FIELD TRIP – MAY CELEBRATION – BIRDY CITY MD**

La Plata, Charles County
La Plata Train Station Museum, 101 Kent Avenue, La Plata, MD 20646

“TOWN OF LA PLATA - PURPLE MARTINS, BIRD AND BIRD BOX!”

Leader: Southern Maryland Audubon Society, Port Tobacco River Conservation and Conservancy for Charles County

For the last few years our Town of La Plata official bird, the Purple Martin, has returned from its southern migratory journey by April 17. Come celebrate their return, meet our passionate Purple Martin “notable” and learn about this amazing bird. We will also celebrate the Town of La Plata becoming the first member of Bird City, MD. Come learn about information about National Arbor Day, “Our world without nature - no trees, no birds - where humans cannot divide.”

**May 3 – SUNDAY – 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

**FIELD TRIP**

Sotterley Plantation, St. Mary’s County
44300 Sotterley Plantation, Hollywood, MD 20636

“What’s Soaring at Sotterley”

KRISTINE TRIDER, Sotterley House Conservancy, Leader(s): David Moulton

Join us for an update about our Port Tobacco River eagle nest and learn about the Great-Behowed Bald Eagle Partnership citizen-science monitoring program. Volunteers documenting the nesting success and productivity of Maryland’s Bald Eagle population to help us identify what conservation efforts are needed in the future. Attending an active monitoring program is vital to knowing when and where changes to breeding eagles are taking place. We will also walk the Trails and look for signs of spring! RSVP to Dave at x196moulton@gmail.com or 410-885-2734.