

Middle Patuxent Environmental Area

2021

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROJECT

The Middle Patuxent Environmental Area Conservation Stewardship Project (MPEA CSP) addresses the issue of invasive exotic plant species in Howard County Recreation & Parks' Middle Patuxent Environmental Area. Invasive exotic plants reduce native floral diversity by competing for sunlight, resources, and space, and offer poorer quality or insufficient food and habitat for native wildlife; they may also increase soil erosion and reduce water quality, or present a nuisance to visitors. During the CSP events, volunteers help combat this problem through the removal of invasive plants and the restoration of native, ecologically appropriate species. Each event also includes an educational component concerning the target species or area of the day.

The MPEA, established in 1996, is 1,021 acres in size and contains a diversity of habitat types. There are upland and bottomland hardwood forest, fields, wetlands, ponds and riparian habitats. The primary components of the MPEA's mission are natural resources management, education, research and recreation.

Registration is required. Participants should bring face-covering masks, work gloves, drinking water, and wear long pants, sturdy closed-toe shoes, and any additional garb appropriate for the weather. Ticks, Poison Ivy, and stinging insects may be encountered. Tools provided. See registration link for directions and more event details. No experience necessary, one-time volunteers aged 18 years or older (or 13 to 17 years with a guardian present) are welcome. Training and relevant tools (except masks and work gloves) are provided.

Each project is held from 9-11:30am.

Information

Allen Dupre, Natural Resources Specialist, 410-313-4035
adupre@howardcountymd.gov

To register, visit
<https://tinyurl.com/y24rjlde>

For additional info, visit
www.howardcountymd.gov/mpea



Scan with
your phone

Garlic Mustard Pulling

Tuesday, March 23 / Trotter Parking Area
Hand-pull invasive Garlic Mustard plants.

Garlic Mustard Pulling & Spring Flower Watching

Tuesday, April 27 / South Wind Circle Trailhead
Hand-pull and bag invasive Garlic Mustard plants, then take an educational walk highlighting spring ephemeral flowers.

Mile-a-Minute Removal & Breeding Bird Atlas

Tuesday, May 25 / South Wind Circle Trailhead
Dig, cut and hand-pull invasive Mile-a-Minute vines and other invasive plants, then enjoy an introduction to the Breeding Bird Atlas community scientist survey.

Wavyleaf Basketgrass Removal I

Tuesday, June 8 / Trotter Parking Area
Hand-pull and bag highly invasive Wavyleaf Basketgrass.

Wavyleaf Basketgrass Removal II

Tuesday, June 22 / South Wind Circle Trailhead
Hand-pull and bag highly invasive Wavyleaf Basketgrass.

Tree and Shrub Planting

Tuesday, September 28 / South Wind Circle Trailhead
Plant native trees and shrubs to provide habitat for wildlife.

Japanese Barberry Removal

Saturday, October 16 / Trotter Parking Area
Dig and hand-pull invasive Japanese Barberry shrubs.

Autumn Olive Removal I

Tuesday, October 26 / Trotter Parking Area
Cut, saw and trim invasive Autumn Olive shrubs.

Autumn Olive Removal II

Tuesday, November 23 / South Wind Circle Trailhead
Cut, saw and trim invasive Autumn Olive shrubs.



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