



Catoctin News

Newsletter of the Catoctin Group
Serving Carroll, Frederick and Washington counties

Volume 2, Issue 3

Fall 2015

Catoctin (Blue) Trail Hike

Date: Saturday, September 26, 2015

Start time: 8:00 am

Carpool meeting location:

Yellow Springs Elementary School
8717 Yellow Springs Road
Frederick, MD 21702
GPS coordinates: 39.474415, -77.451933

We will meet at the first parking lot on your left after turning off of Yellow Springs Road to enter the school grounds.

Hike description: Join the Sierra Club on an 8.5 mile hike on one of the nicest sections of the Catoctin (Blue) Trail connecting the Frederick Municipal Watershed to Gambrill State Park. We will hike an out-and-back route that descends from the Watershed into Clifford Hollow where the trail meanders along a gentle stream crossing it several times. While in the hollow, we will stop for lunch and a chance to relax in this peaceful streamside setting. This hike is rated on the more difficult side of moderate due to the length and a total elevation gain of 1200 feet. We will meet in the Yellow Springs Elementary School parking lot at 8:00 am and will leave promptly at 8:10 am to carpool to the trail head where the Catoctin Trail crosses Hamburg Road in the Watershed. The address and GPS coordinates of Yellow Springs Elementary are above. The hike will start by 8:30 am and should take about 4.5 hours to complete. Come on out and enjoy a lovely day in one of the hidden gems of the Frederick Watershed.

To bring: Please remember to bring at least one liter of water and a bag lunch or snacks. Please check the forecast ahead of time and wear layered clothing appropriate for the temperature and any precipitation that is expected.

Check out the Sierra Club Maryland Chapter's Outings Calendar for more information or feel free to e-mail the hike leader with any questions:

<http://www.sierraclub.org/maryland/outings-calendar-maryland>

Hike Leader: Anthony Iacovelli

Anthony.iacovelli@yahoo.com

October and November hike details to be announced soon on the **Catoctin Group website**.

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

Maryland Sierra Club's Jamboree Weekend **Catoctin Mountain National Park**

Friday, Oct. 16 thru Sunday, Oct. 18, 2015

Sierra Club National President, Aaron Mair is the guest speaker at the **2015 Maryland Chapter Jamboree** to be held at Catoctin Mountain National Park. A biennial gathering, the Jamboree gives members, activists and their families a chance to meet and have a great time while learning about efforts to reduce global warming and protect and enjoy our natural surroundings.

Workshop and Training Topics Include:

- Industrial Agriculture vs. The Chesapeake Bay
- It Takes Everyone: two workshops on building member diversity and partnering with labor unions
- Basic First Aid for Sierra Club Outings Leaders

[Click here for details on these and other workshops.](#)

Registration fee includes all meals and lodging in dormitory cabins if you plan to attend the entire weekend. Options for discount rates, Saturday only, and Friday dinner and guest speaker only rates available. **[Click here for registration details.](#)**

Free Training on Invasive, Non-native Plants

Date: October 3, 2015, 2 pm to 4 pm

Description: Learn how to identify and remove invasive exotic plants at this free training. Training consists of an one-hour online course to take at home prior to attending the two-hour October 3 field training. Those completing the class will be put on a Weed Warrior email list to be notified of future weeding events at Carroll County public sites. Individuals may opt out of this notification. Students earn three service learning hours.

Who: Adults and students age middle school or older. Out-of-county attendees welcome. Students under age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

Location: Piney Run Nature Center, 30 Martz Road, Sykesville MD 21784

Leader: Carolyn Puckett

Registration is required: Email ccforestryboard@gmail.com. Additional information and registration forms will be sent to you by return email.

Cancellation Policy: Training will be moved indoors in case of heavy rain.

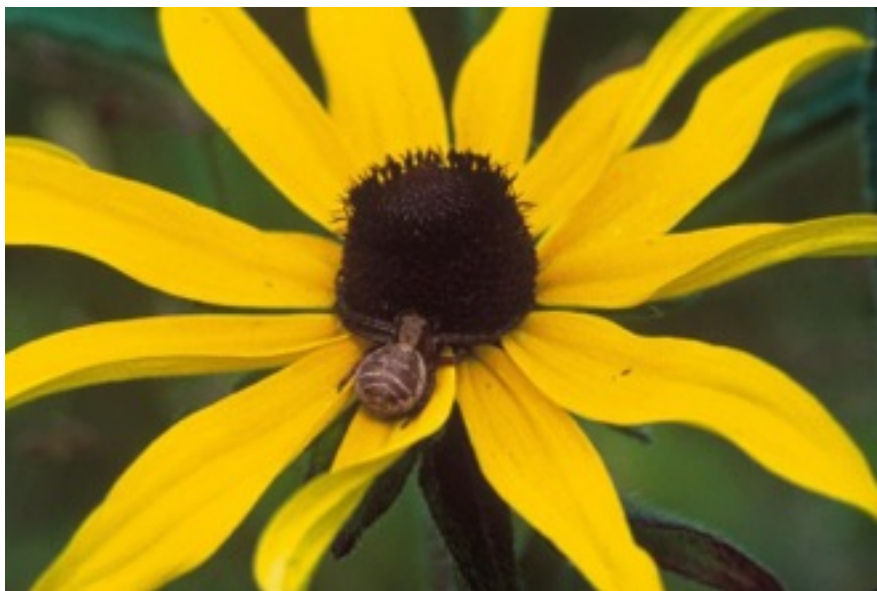
Contact for more information: Carolyn Puckett at ccforestryboard@gmail.com or 410 876-1995

***Help Plant Native Plants at Piney Run Nature Center
on October 10, 2015***

by Carolyn Puckett

Students can earn service learning hours while helping to restore native plants to **Piney Run Nature Center**, 30 Martz Road, Sykesville MD 21784. On Saturday, October 10, starting at 10:00 am, students and adults will gather to plant perennials native to this area of Maryland at a site where the Weed Warriors of Carroll County have cleared away invasive non-native weeds. Native plants are important because they support native wildlife.

We need people to dig and plant, people to carry water from the lake to the plants, and other various tasks. We did a similar planting at Bear Branch Nature Center in 2013, and with 100 volunteers it just took around 3 hours to complete the task. The Bear Branch site is thriving and beautiful.



Black-Eyed Susan, Irene Storkes, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

This native plant restoration is sponsored by the Maryland Sierra Club (Catoctin Group), the Carroll County Forest Conservancy District Board, and the Carroll Master Gardeners. These volunteer groups will be there to help and will furnish tools and refreshments. If you have gardening gloves, we suggest you bring them along.

To register to help, just email ccforestryboard@gmail.com. All volunteers will need to complete and turn in a Piney Run Nature Center Waiver Form, which we will send you by return email. On the service learning hour form, the activity is Weed Warriors and the sponsor is Carroll County Forestry Board, phone 410-876-1995.

Students under age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

Green Seed Farmers' Market: September 27

On Sunday, September 27, the **Sykesville Farmers' Market** (9 am - 2 pm) will be Going even Greener than it already is! In addition to offering its usual fare of locally produced fruits and vegetables, meat, eggs, dairy, homemade foods and crafts, the Market will feature two rows of eco-friendly vendors offering creatively repurposed and refurbished items to the public.

Some of the creative vendors at the Green Seed Farmers' Market will include:

Green Earth Goods—offering upcycled items made from cutting room scrap fabric

Jenny Made It!—offering upcycled furniture and household accessories

Button Down Times—offering vintage recycled footstools and benches

Missy's Misfits—offering repurposed clothing

Deborah Pierzchalski—offering primitive wood crafts, hand-painted signs on barn wood, upcycled mason jars

Troy's window screen art

Waste Not! Carroll—offering information about how to reduce, reuse and recycle items with an emphasis on the importance of zero waste to reduce our impact on climate change

The idea behind adding these special rows is to plant a “Green Seed” that will grow into a larger town-wide Green Fest in the Spring of 2016. The Sykesville Green Committee and the project team for the Green Seed Farmer's Market hope that this Green Seed event will generate excitement around all the possibilities of reducing, reusing and recycling with the ultimate goal of sending fewer items to the landfill.

The growing vision for a **Sykesville Green Fest** in the Spring of 2016 is to pattern it after the spectacular Boonsboro Green Fest which drew 5,000 people this year. In addition to over 200 eco-friendly vendors, the Boonsboro Green Fest included a swap shop where gently used sports equipment and clothing could be traded, a myriad of drive-thru collection stations where unwanted TV's, electronics, sneakers, bikes, flower pots, medicine bottles, plastic play equipment and much, much more could be dropped off to be repurposed/recycled, and a tent where speakers were scheduled to share tips about such topics as composting and planting trees. Of course music, fun, food and laughter would also be a part of a day designed to celebrate and help preserve our amazing earth! If you are interested in joining the Springfield Sykesville Green Fest planning team, email Steve Colella, CTA, Director of Economic Development, scolella@sykesville.net or resident Jill Poole, spoolsistr@aol.com.

MERCHANTS OF DOUBT

Free Screening

The Environmental Justice Group at Middletown United Methodist Church through an offer from Interfaith Power and Light (IPL) is showing the 90 minute film *Merchants of Doubt*. The screening is free and open to the public.

WHERE: Social Hall, Middletown United Methodist Church, 7108 Fern Circle, Middletown, MD 21768

WHEN: Thursday, October 15, 7:30 pm

SPONSORED BY: The Environmental Justice Group, Middletown United Methodist Church

RSVP: mikekoob@hotmail.com

The 90-minute documentary exposes a concerted strategy to create doubt about the facts of climate change through the use of pundits-for-hire who present themselves as scientific authorities. Based on the book by Naomi Oreskes and Erik M. Conway, the film interviews industry reps, global warming deniers, environmentalists, and climate scientists to create a riveting behind-the-scenes look at how the fossil fuel industry has been so successful in blocking government action on climate. Rated PG-13, it is IPL's summer movie pick!

Officers/Committee Chairs

Chairman & Energy

Dan Andrews

Treasurer

Anthony Iacovelli

Secretary & Outreach/Social Media

Amy Andrews

Conservation

Lew Sherman
Anthony Iacovelli

Invasive Plant Removal Stewardship

Carolyn Puckett

Outings

Harry George
Anthony Iacovelli

Membership

Patti Fredericks
Teresa Baker

Newsletter

Teresa Baker

For further information visit <http://www.sierraclub.org/maryland/catoclin-group>

The next Executive Committee/General Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 3, 2015 from 10:00 am to 12:15 pm at the Thurmont Regional Library, 76 East Moser Road, Thurmont, Maryland 21788 in Frederick County.

Executive Committee/General Meetings are usually held the first Saturday of every month. Location varies.

All are welcome, members and non-members alike.

Contact Dan Andrews at dooze@qis.net for exact date, times and location.