Friends of Huntley Meadows Park

Winter 2020



Website: www.friendsofhuntleymeadows.org Facebook: www.facebook.com/friendsofhuntleymeadowspark

Audubon Photo Exhibit Comes to Huntley Meadows Park!

The Audubon Society of Northern Virginia will display award-winning photographs from the National Audubon Society's 2019 photo contest at an exhibition at Huntley Meadows Park (HMP) this winter.

It's a perfect fit, as this year's grand prize-winning photograph was shot at HMP. Local amateur photographer Kathrin Swoboda took top honors for her photograph of a Red-winged Blackbird. The bird appeared to be blowing "smoke rings" as the rising sun backlit vapor that formed while the bird sang out on a cold day.

There will be 10 prize winning photographs on display at the Norma Hoffman Visitor's Center auditorium from Wednesday, March 4 through Wednesday, March 25, 2020. The exhibition will be open during regular visitor center hours (9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, closed Tuesdays, 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. weekends).

An opening reception co-sponsored by the Friends of Huntley Meadows Park and Audubon Society of Northern Virginia will be held on Sunday, March 8 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. We hope to see you there!

Huntley Meadows Park is located at 3701 Lockheed Boulevard, Alexandria, VA. For more information, call 703-768-2525 or visit <u>www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows</u>.

CHANGE IS ALL AROUND US

By: Cathy Ledec, Friends of Huntley Meadows Park Board President

Changing seasons. The change of seasons in winter is always beautiful to watch as it unfolds. I look forward to all the changing seasons that we are lucky to enjoy here. With all the unusually warm days we are having, a warming climate trend seems to be impacting us this winter. Despite this, have you noticed the beauty of nature in the winter? The rusty brown leaves that are hanging on to the oaks; yellow stalks of grasses bending in the breezes; the seed heads topped with an American Goldfinch enjoying a snack; brown, black and gold leaf litter blowing in the wind, or from a leaf pile, out pops a squirrel; so much to observe outdoors during the lovely days of winter. Most of our native plants are at rest, but with so many warm days this winter some are showing their early spring glory, including the Skunk Cabbage.

'Change' continued on page 4

Save the Date!

The Friends of Huntley Meadows Park (FOHMP) Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, June 20 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Huntley's Norma Hoffman Visitor Center (3701 Lockheed Blvd, Alexandria, VA 22306).

Anyone interested is encouraged to join us to learn what FOHMP has accomplished in FY19-20. Members are eligible to vote on the next year's Board members.

Protecting Huntley Meadows Park's Biodiversity

By: Karen Sheffield, Huntley Meadows Park Manager

I am so excited to share with you the wealth of biodiversity and natural resources at Huntley Meadows Park (HMP). The Park's rare and precious natural diversity is overwhelming: 13 state rare plants and animals, over 200 species of birds, and over 1500 acres of habitat that are home to hundreds of plants and animals. Active resource management makes this diversity possible. Huntley's goal is to have healthy, natural, sustainably-regenerating diverse ecosystems.

According to the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (VADCR) Natural Heritage staff, HMP harbors the largest known populations of the rare purple milkweed in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The same is true of a globally rare habitat found within the Park. This makes HMP home to the best known examples of two rare natural resources in the State. Wow, that's incredible and provides a wonderful and rare opportunity for visitors to experience these natural resources. The most stunning area to view purple

milkweed is from the wetland tower from mid-May to mid-June when it's usually in full bloom for just a few weeks. The meadow behind the tower bursts into a profusion of purplepink blossoms that is a beautiful sight to see!

When you think of organizations like the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) or Defenders of Wildlife that provide conservation efforts to protect the planet's rarest species, perhaps the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) endangered species like the tiger or Asian elephant come to mind. What is the IUCN? The IUCN is the global authority on the status of species and the measures needed to safeguard them.



Spotted turtles are an IUCN species found at HMP. Photo credit, Ed Eder.

We know that imperiled species also exist in the U.S. HMP is home to two IUCN endangered species. Yes, Huntley is home to two species that have the same level of global rareness as tigers and Asian elephants. Unlike the tiger, spotted turtles are IUCN endangered species and can sometimes be seen at HMP at the beginning and end of the boardwalk trail. It is an incredible responsibility to manage the landscape appropriately.

When you read WWF literature or visit other conservation sites or zoos and see wildlife listed as endangered, it is most likely an IUCN ranking.

Active natural resource management is complex and can include partnerships to help to achieve the Park's goal to have healthy, natural, sustainably-regenerating diverse ecosystems. Since the powerline easement along the southern edge of the Park functions as a meadow that supports rare species, Dominion Energy is an important HMP partner. Meadow maintenance includes periodic hand cutting and mechanical clearing of brushy vegetation and trees to replace natural disturbances, such as fire, that would prevent the meadow from reverting to forest. Sometimes the work by Dominion Energy may look random or destructive, but the work is thoughtfully planned and causes only temporary impacts, which in many cases are needed to maintain

'Biodiversity' continued on page 5



HMP staff periodically conducts controlled burns to help manage and maintain diversity in various Park meadows.

Internship Applications Now Being Accepted

Know a hard working and energetic college student? Huntley Meadows Park staff are now accepting applications for the Naturalist Intern, Natural Resource Management Intern, and Historic Interpretation Intern positions. All internships are supported financially by the Friends' Boards. To learn more about the details of each available internship please visit

https://volunteer.fairfaxcounty.gov/recruiter/index.php?class=OppSearchResults&orgid=71671&recruiter1 D=1380 and scroll down the page.

Newsletter Updates

Over the past year, the Board of Friends of Huntley Meadows Park (FOHMP) has been adapting new systems to make the mailing (and emailing) of the quarterly newsletter more efficient. However, as with any change, not all went as planned for every issue in 2019. As some of you have noticed, the arrival of the newsletter in your mailbox and the relevance of article contents inside the newsletter didn't seem to match up. We are sorry for any confusion and are confident that all the issues in our new process have been ironed out. Thanks so much for your continued support of FOHMP, and Huntley Meadows Park (HMP).

We enjoy putting out the newsletter every quarter, but the news within contains only some of the stories shared through media about HMP. Follow FOHMP on Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/ friendsofhuntleymeadowspark/) or look at our webpage (<u>http://friendsofhuntleymeadows.org/</u>) for other useful information. HMP can be followed through the Fairfax County Park Authority's Facebook (https:// www.facebook.com/fairfaxparks/) and Instagram (https://www.instagram.com/fairfaxparks/) pages as well as the Park's website (https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows) for program and site specific information.

Social media is a wonderful way to find out what is happening in the present, as announcements, events, and programs are often posted on social media closer to their relevant dates.

Recognizing Annie Stat

Friends of Huntley Meadows Park (FOHMP) Board member and Park Volunteer Annie Stat was recognized as an Outstanding Volunteer at the Elly Doyle Park Service Awards and as Huntley Meadows Park's Ken Howard Volunteer of the Year (check for her name on the plaque in the Visitor Center). Annie is a familiar face at the Park, often seen at the front desk or leading programs. She began giving her time to HMP in 2012 and has rapidly accumulated over 1500 hours of service! Annie's tremendous flexibility makes her a true Huntley shining star. When Annie sees a call for help from HMP staff, she frequently volunteers to fill the gap. Annie's incredible and varied experience with nature interpretation and customer service makes her an invaluable asset to the Park and to other new volunteers seeking tips on their programs. Her infectious personality and positive attitude uplift everyone when she calls or comes in!



Thank you and Congrats Annie!

Annie Stat



Shapes accentuated by the starkness of winter light, like the leftover seed pods of the Crimsoneyed Rosemallow. Photo credit, Nancy Vehrs.

Numerous research reports tell us that time spent in nature lifts our moods and improves our health in many ways. I head outside every day (and hope you do too) to soak in some of nature's gifts to us. Every time I'm outside my experience is different, whether it's a different cloud formation or the sound of the wind blowing through the trees; there is always something new or different. A few deep breaths and some quiet time rejuvenates me. Sometimes birds are hiding in the underbrush, and I need to "pish" at them to bring them out to greet me. I always give them a hearty hello! Sometimes the birds are in large flocks. The Northern Mockingbird, who has claimed the holly berries in my yard, tries to chase off the flock to protect his winter food supply. In the mornings when I go out, the birds seem to look right back at me as if they are saying, "Where are the sunflower seeds for breakfast"?

We are also experiencing significant changes this year with our elected leaders at the County and State levels. These changes provide an opportunity to bring new ideas to the governance of Fairfax County as well as to the Commonwealth of Virginia. At the Fairfax County level, the turnover in Supervisors and resulting appointments to the Planning Commission and other Boards and Commissions means that there is a fresh need to educate our new officials about the extraordinary and very special place that is Huntley Meadows Park (HMP). Please take the time to attend the upcoming open houses for our elected officials, and talk to them about HMP. Tell them about the importance of open spaces and natural areas like HMP since these protect us from the ad-

verse impacts of climate change. Refer to recent

articles in the last few newsletters here: <u>http://</u> fohmp.org/newsletter%20archives.html.

It is also important for us to advocate more broadly for the County and State policies that are needed to conserve our irreplaceable forests, wetlands, and other natural habitats for this generation and all that will follow. We need more voices out there advocating for our parks, open spaces and natural areas, especially for HMP. I hope to see you at the upcoming open houses and various events hosted by our elected officials!

I also look forward to seeing you on the trails!



Grasses covered in a layer of frost offer beauty in a stark landscape. Photo credit, Meagan Keefe

Do You Need a Receipt?

The 2019 tax season is here. If you paid membership dues or made a monetary donation to FOHMP in 2019, these contributions may be tax deductible.

If you would like a letter of receipt, please send your request to <u>treasurer.fohmp@gmail.com</u>, and we will be happy to provide one.

Cheryl Repetti Receives Outstanding Performance Award

The Fairfax County Outstanding Performance Awards (OPA) recognize Fairfax County employees who perform the duties and responsibilities of their positions in an outstanding manner and whose work is well above expectations. In December, Cheryl Repetti was awarded an OPA! Cheryl joined Huntley Meadows Park (HMP) in 2015 as the Site Coordinator and Historical Interpreter for Historic Huntley. Cheryl has developed an array of fun, educational programs while enthusiastically sharing her vast knowledge of local and natural history. For example, she designed and implemented the Cooking & Crafts camps - where children learn how to make historical recipes and old-fashioned crafts.

Cheryl has always demonstrated a commitment to high quality programs, customer service and teamwork by taking on duties outside her official role at HMP. Recently, to meet program demand, Cheryl began leading programs at HMP, Eleanor C Lawrence, and Cub Run Parks. Cheryl also serves as a



From left to right: Sharon Bulova - Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (2009-2019), Penelope Gross - Board of Supervisor Representative Mason District, Bryan Hill - County Executive, and OPA winner Cheryl Repetti.

Board member for the Friends of Historic Centreville and the Fairfax County History Commission. Needless to say, Cheryl is considered a real treasure in the Fairfax County Parks system, and especially HMP.



HMP harbors the largest known populations of the rare purple milkweed in the Commonwealth of Virginia according to VADCR Natural Heritage staff. Photo credit, Nancy Vehrs. 'Biodiversity' continued from page 2

the habitat that sustains these rare species. Dominion Energy works closely with the HMP Natural Resource Manager on the vegetation maintenance methods and schedules to best protect the rare species that exist in the easement.

Care by Dominion Energy is not unique to HMP. In the Commonwealth, 31 rare plants grow in powerline easements. While most of these plants also grow outside powerline easements, four of the 31 only exist in easements. Powerlines potentially can provide good habitat when carefully managed.

According to VADCR staff, HMP has some of the most outstanding examples of natural communities and rare species in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Safeguarding Huntley's biodiversity is a top priority. To date, the Commonwealth has lost 24 species that once occupied Virginia, and eight of those species are now extinct globally. Huntley actively manages the Park to maintain, restore and enhance suitable habitat conditions protect its biodiversity. Joseph H. Maroon, former Director of VADCR put it

best, "The most proactive approach to species conservation is assuring these organisms never become rare."

Support the Friends of Huntley Meadows Park 24th Annual Bird-a-thon

Anna Soroka, the 2019 Resource Management (RM) Intern, said of her summer working with Huntley Meadows Park (HMP) on several projects, "Each of these opportunities has shown me the diverse range of responsibilities of a natural resource manager". Soroka continued, "It has been an honor to add my water quality data to the history of the Park's wetland. I feel more prepared for the next stages of my life with my enhanced skills in field research, invasive species management, and land stewardship".



HMP bird enthusiasts hoping to add to their bird count.

Experiences like Anna's are why for more than 20 years, early on a May morning, Park staff and volunteers have walked the trails through HMP to count birds. This annual survey evolved as an event to remember and honor two exceptional men: Ken Howard and Ed Weigel. Both were volunteers who shared their love of nature with any Park visitor lucky enough to chat with them. Their work continues through the Park's RM Internship, made possible by funds raised through the HMP Bird-a-thon. This internship provides a young person with needed hands-on experience as they begin a career in

conservation. Over the years, many on the Board of Friends of Huntley Meadows Park (FOHMP) have had the privilege of interacting with the interns, and believe this opportunity has a positive impact on their future endeavors as the next generation of stewards of our parks and green spaces.

Those who participate in the bird count enjoy their involvement with this annual fundraiser. They have counted birds in all kinds of conditions, from cold and rainy, to downright hot, tallying anywhere from 90 to as many as 108 species in one day! But no matter what happens, the feeling is that it's always such a treat to be in the Park. Anticipation of meeting the new RM Intern and what valuable experiences that intern will receive provides trail conversation throughout the morning.

The FOHMP Board requests donations (see donation form below) to support the Bird-a-thon. Your generous donation will help us reach our goal of \$3,000 to fund the 2020 RM Intern.

Thank you for your continued support, The Board, Friends of Huntley Meadows Park

2020 BIRD-A-THON DONATION FORM

Please submit form by May 1, 2020

Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Donation Amount:		
- · ·	ayable to FOHMP, and mail this luntley Meadows Park - Bird-a- I Lockheed Blvd. Alexandria, V	-thon
		m of the Membership page of our web outton for "Make a tax deductible donation"

Merchandise

Newly designed Friends of Huntley Meadows Park (FOHMP) shirts are here! Long and short sleeve shirts are available in the Norma Hoffman Visitor Center gift shop.

All FOHMP logo merchandise (pins, cinch bags, t-shirts, hoodies, ball caps, beanies, and a collection of used books) can be found at the gift shop. Proceeds from gift shop sales are used by FOHMP to support Park activities.





Ball caps and winter hats.



patch, pin, and magnet.

2019 Photo Show Recap

By: Katie Baker, FOHMP Board Member and Photo Show Organizer

The Friends of Huntley Meadows Park annual photography contest drew more than 80 entries this year. The photographs showcase the diverse flora and fauna of the Park. From insects and amphibians to gastropods and herons, many Huntley favorites are featured. Each photographer's perspective draws you into daily life at the Park in unique and sometimes surprising ways.

A panel of three judges - Chris Dyer, Paul Lebras, and Laura Marshall - scored photos in seven categories (impact, technique, composition, lighting, subject/center of interest, originality, and story/mood) and awarded ribbons to eight photographs. An additional People's Choice award was voted on by attendees at the opening reception on December 8.

All of the photo contest entries are being exhibited in the Huntley Meadows Park Visitor's Center through February 27. Many of the photos are for sale, and all proceeds from the contest and show (entry fees as well as photo sales) are used to support the staff, events, and equipment at the Park.

Ist Place: Watcha Lookin' At by Beth Howell2nd Place: Is This My Good Side by Kim Sharp3rd Place: Running Away with Breakfast by Tyler Reber

Honorable Mention:

Heron Ballet by Dorle Hellmuth The Winter Sentinel by Cynthia Loden-Dowdle Exploring away from Mom by Mar Acevedo A Snails Life by Tyler Reber Mirror, Mirror on the Water by Kim Sharp

People's Choice Honorable Mention: Singing for their Supper by Jane Gamble



Whatcha Lookin' At by Beth Howell

Huntley Meadows Park Nature and History Programs

Find the full list of programs with detailed descriptions, locations, costs, and registration codes at https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows/classes-camps; or call **703-222-4664** to register.

FEBRUARY

I Saturday - Pastel Painting-Winter Trees (13-Adult) \$36,10am-12pm, Code: F69.D8D5 - Hot Cocoa Wetland Night Hike (6-Adult) \$9, 5:00-6:30pm, Code: 756.C4D5 9 Sunday - Super Moon Hike (6-Adult) \$8, 7:45-9:15pm, Code: F80.6B0E II Tuesday - The View from Huntley MEETS AT HISTORIC HUNTLEY (16-Adult) \$8, 11am-12pm, Code: B05.FDB5 14 Friday - Tea and Chocolates MEETS AT HIS-TORIC HUNTLEY (Adult) \$35, 1-3pm, Code: F59.754F 15 Saturday - Wilderness Survival Skills 101 (Adult) \$9, 2-4pm, Code: 17B.9087 16 Sunday - Birding for Beginners-Winter Birds (12-Adult) \$12, 8-11am, Code: 2F6.8B2B 22 Saturday - Family Woodcock Walk MEETS AT SOUTH KINGS HIGHWAY ENTRANCE (6-Adult) \$8, 4:30-6:00pm, Code: 3C9.A509 **24 Monday** - Secrets, Spies, Sputnik and Huntley MEETS AT HISTORIC HUNTLEY (Adult) \$9, 2:00-3:30pm, Code: F8B.4C25 29 Saturday - Evening Woodcock Walk MEETS AT SOUTH KINGS HIGHWAY ENTRANCE (Adult) \$8, 5:30-7:00pm, Code: 2C7.6DDE - Leap Day Wilderness Walk (4-Adult) \$8, 10:00-11:30am, Code: 260.147B MARCH 7 Saturday - Campfire Safety for Familys MEETS AT HISTORIC HUNTLEY (4-Adult) \$8, 1-2pm, Code: CE0.5EAE - Family Woodcock Walk MEETS AT SOUTH KINGS HIGHWAY ENTRANCE (6-Adult) \$8, 5:45-7:15pm, Code: 3C9.23C2 14 Saturday - Evening Woodcock Walk MEETS AT SOUTH KINGS HIGHWAY ENTRANCE (Adult) \$8, 6:45-8:15pm, Code: 2C7.7D15 - Festival of Owls (4-Adult) \$15, 12-2pm,

Code: 028.BIBA

19 Thursday - Spring Equinox Evening Stroll (Adults), \$8, 6:45-8:15pm, Code: AD0.9386
21 Saturday - Women of Huntley Tea (Adult) \$35, 2-4pm, Code: C12.5C7B - Family Woodcock Walk MEETS AT SOUTH KINGS HIGHWAY ENTRANCE (6-Adult) \$8, 6:45-8:15pm, Code: 3C9.8D4D

22 Sunday - Nature Photography at Dawn (Adult) \$15, 6:30-9:30am, Code: F17.6579

- Camping 101-Prep is the First Step (Adult) \$9, 2-4pm, Code: DC9.6A1A

28 Saturday - Evening Woodcock Walk MEETS AT SOUTH KINGS HIGHWAY ENTRANCE (Adult)

\$8, 7:00-8:30pm, Code: 2C7.9312

- Sketch Hike-Spring Ephemerals (12-Audlt) \$15, 10am-12pm, Code: DD3.F5BC

30 Monday - *Nature Drawing* (Adults) \$82, 4:00-5:30pm weekly for five weeks, Code: 205.474B

APRIL

3 Friday - Twilight Hilltop Tour MEETS AT HISTOR-IC HUNTLEY (Adult) \$8, 7-8pm, Code: D3E.886A **4 Saturday** - East Meets West Tea MEETS AT HIS-TORIC HUNTLEY (Adult) \$35, 2-4pm, Code: A53.5DE7

5 Sunday - Sketch Hike Amphibian Disco (12-Adult) \$15, 1-3pm, Code: A66.0BC8

II Saturday - Nature Photography for Beginners (16-Adult) \$15, 3-5pm, Code: 47D.283A

18 Saturday - Art & Architecture at Huntley MEETS AT HISTORIC HUNTLEY (5-Adult) FREE, 1-4pm, Code: 5E6.FDD0

- Sketch Hike Historic Huntley MEETS AT HISTORIC HUNTLEY (10-Adult) \$8, 2-3pm, Code: 971.BC06

- Twilight Boardwalk Stroll (6-Adult) \$9, 7:15-9:15pm, Code: 343.5CCF

19 Sunday - *Catch a Critter!* (4-Adult) \$9, 2:00-3:30pm, Code: F81.7765

- Birding for Beginners (12-Adult) \$12, 8-11am, Code: A4F.12A8

22 Wednesday - Earth Day 50th Anniversary Sunset Walk (4-Adult) \$8, 7:30-9:00pm, Code: 083.9D7D 24 Friday Arbor Day ID (Adult) \$9, 10am-12pm, Code: C5D.7116

25 Saturday - Boardwalk Astronomy (12-Adult) \$10, 7:30-9:30pm, Code:DC4.7B32

- Sketch Hike-Birds (12-Adult) \$15, 10am-12pm, Code: DB9.0B63

MAY

I Friday - Symphony of Frogs (Adult) \$8, 7:30-9:00pm, Code: IBD.D97E 2 Saturday - Pastel Painting-Wildflowers (16-Adult) \$36, 10am-12pm, Code: 5A3.D859 **3 Sunday** - Wetlands Awareness Day (All Ages) FREE, 12-4pm, Code: E29.D4F9 9 Saturday - Forest Bathing at Huntley Meadows (Adult) \$42, 10:00am-12:30pm, Code: EB1.8774 IIMonday - Mason Tea MEETS AT HISTORIC HUNTLEY (Adult) \$28, 1:30-3:00pm, Code: 87A.068F 15 Friday - Family Owl Outing (6-Adult) \$8, 7:30-9:00pm, Code: A78.314D **16 Saturday** - Nature Photography for Beginners (16-Adult) \$15, 10am-12pm, Code: 47D.EA63 **19** Tuesday - Secrets, Spies, Sputnik and Huntley MEETS AT HISTORIC HUNTLEY (Adult) \$9, 1:00-2:30pm, Code: F8B.4350 23 Saturday - Ice Cream at Historic Huntley MEETS AT HISTORIC HUNTLEY (2-Adult) \$8, 2-3pm, Code: 663.72A1

Wetland at Dusk Walk (Adult) \$9. 8-10pm, Code: F3C.14B6
24 Sunday - Birding for Beginners (12-Adult) \$12, 8-11am, Code: A4F.AA25
30 Saturday Nature Inspired Drawing (16-Adult) \$15, 10am-12pm, Code: F05.39EB - Symphony of Frogs-Families (6-Adult) \$8, 8:00-9:30pm, Code: 5D7.92B0

HUNTLEY SUMMER CAMPS

are offered for ages 4-15, June 1 through August 14, half day, full day, as well as before and after care for most July camps.

SCOUT MERIT BADGES

are offered for boy and girl scouts of all ages.

The Park website has more information about all program and camp offerings. https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntleymeadows/classes-camps

Free Events at Huntley this Spring

Every Monday Morning - Monday Morning Bird Walk (All Ages) FREE, 7:00am

The Friends of Huntley Meadows Park hosts a weekly bird walk on Monday mornings, which all are invited to join. The Monday Morning Bird Walk has been a weekly event at Huntley Meadows Park since 1985. It takes place every week, rain or shine (except during electrical storms, strong winds, or icy trails), at 7AM (**8AM October-March**), is free of charge, requires no reservation, and is open to birders of all interest and identification levels. Birders meet in the parking lot at 3701 Lockheed Blvd, Alexandria, VA. Questions should be directed to Park staff during normal business hours at (703) 768-2525.

Saturday, April 18 - Art & Architecture at Huntley (Adult) FREE, 1-4 pm, Code: 5E6.FDD0

Join us for a celebration of art and architecture at Historic Huntley as part of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Northern Virginia Architecture Week. The day's activities include artists at work "en plein air" and house tours of the site's neoclassical architecture and architectural mysteries. This free event is sponsored by Friends of Historic Huntley. Make the day even more special by pre-registering for the art class *Sketch Hike Historic Huntley* (Code: 971.BC06) to create your own Huntley-inspired artwork guided by a local artist.

Sunday, May 3 - Wetlands Awareness Day (All Ages) FREE, 12-4 pm, Code: E29.D4F9

Celebrate Huntley Meadows Park, Fairfax County Park Authority's premier wetland sanctuary, by discovering the beauty and importance of wetlands during this fun and free event. Bring friends and family to stroll the forested paths and immersive half-mile-long boardwalk trail while learning about the plants and animals that live in the Park. See live raptors, reptiles and amphibians up close, enjoy interactive displays, and take part in hands on activities. Collect a stamp at each Wetlands Awareness Day station to receive a prize. Event runs rain or shine.



Friends of Huntley Meadows Park 3701 Lockheed Blvd Alexandria, VA 22306

> 44 years of Huntley Meadows 1975-2019

PRSRT MKTG POSTAGE & FEES PAID FRIENDS OF HUNTLEY MEADOWS PARK PERMIT NO. 8199

Membership **EXPIRATION DATES** expiring soon are printed to the right of your last name.

Friends of Huntley Meadows Park Membership and Renewal Form Please support Huntley Meadows Park by joining our Friends group. Dues contribute toward funding new initiatives and programs, and your membership support will help us to be stronger advocates for the Park.		
Alternatively you	can use our PayPal feature on the Membership page p://www.friendsofhuntleymeadows.org/membership.html.	