

## What Does the FOHMP Do?

The Friends of Huntley Meadows Park supports a wide range of programs throughout the Park. Your donations and membership dues are critical to the success of our organization.

- We educate the public and the Fairfax County Park Authority on the impacts of proposed changes affecting the Park and the nearby community & watersheds. When appropriate, we advocate for changes to protect the Park and its resources.
- We support and fund 6 Environmental Education Interns for the summer of 2024. These interns will complete much needed programing projects and assist Staff during day camps that educate our next generation of naturalist and environmental stewards. Funding is by the FOHMP.
- We support and fund 3 Resource Management Division Interns for the summer of 2024. These interns will study with Park experts to learn best practices for wetland, forest, and meadow management. The Water Quality Intern is sponsored through a specific individual's donation; the Native Plants Intern is funded by the Virginia Native Plants Society Plant Society, and the Wildlife Intern is funded by the FOHMP and donations from the BirdATHon.
- We help fund field trips for underprivileged school groups throughout the County, including several that are adjacent to or near the Park. Kids are our very best ambassadors—we hear from many visitors that their kids visited on a school field trip and wanted to come back to show their families what a special place Huntley Meadows Park is.
- We produce the annual Photography Show, which celebrates local photographers and their work snapped at the Park. Entry fees and photos sold during this event goes to FOHMP.
- We support and help fund the ever-popular Wetlands Awareness Day each year, including making a donation to the Secret Gardens Birds and Bees, one of our biggest draws to Wetlands Awareness Day—the contribution is used to feed and care for beautiful birds of prey that can no longer live in the wild while educating the public about the importance of these beautiful creatures.
- We design and generate merchandise to sell in the Norma Hoffman Visitor Center, such as hats, shirts, mugs, and field bags.
- We buy tools, equipment, and supplies for trail restoration, planting, invasive removal, and field studies, that would otherwise not be available to the Park's resource management team.
- We produce a quarterly e-newsletter to keep our nearly 400 members up-to-date on what is happening at the Park. Newsletter expenses are no longer a budget item with our "GO GREEN" initiative to provide newsletters by email.
- The next fight to preserve our Park is always right around the corner. We keep a fund to ensure that we are ready for letter-writing campaigns and social media blitzes.