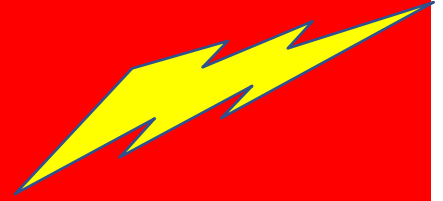


January 5, 2024

Friday Flash



Continuing Education

January Meeting

Topic:

*Beyond Planting Trees:
BiodiversiTREE's Guide to Building Resilient Forests*

Speaker

Jamie Pullen

Date

Tuesday
January 9, 2024

Time

7:00-9:00

Location

Zoom

Jamie Pullen earned her master's degree in 2014 from James Madison University, focusing on understory dynamics and invasive species. Since 2015, she has served as the head biological science technician for BiodiversiTREE at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, overseeing the daily operations of this large-scale restoration experiment. She is passionate about understanding how biodiversity influences forest health and resilience to environmental challenges. She is excited to share BiodiversiTREE's insights and explore with the AA Master Gardeners the power of biodiversity in shaping resilient forests.



Abandoned farm fields are being reborn as diverse forests in a transformative experiment called BiodiversiTREE. In 2013 researchers planted 20,000 trees, making it the largest study of tree diversity and its impact on the ecosystem in North America. Now 10 years into this centuries-long project, we will explore how diversity shapes the forest from soil to canopy, its resilience against threats like climate change, and its vital role for hidden ecosystems.

[BiodiversiTREE | Smithsonian Environmental Research Center](#)



Hi everyone!

Mt. Cuba Center is a beautiful botanic garden committed to the conservation of native plants and their habitats. This trip next year to Mt. Cuba will be organized by yours truly and the EAB! [Mt. Cuba Center](#) We will meet at the Dairy Farm/Extension Office (97 Dairy Lane, Gambrills) The whole trip will take about 8 hours; a one-way trip to Mt. Cuba is approximately 1hr and 30 minutes. Each ticket will be about \$50/person. This includes a Motor Coach Bus rental, a driver and a guided tour. **Please bring your own lunch!** If you are interested in joining us, please let us know which of these dates would be the most convenient for you by filling out this google form. [Google Survey for Mt. Cuba](#)



Thank you,
Maxine

For Your Information



These items were abandoned at the Holiday Party. Please contact [Cindy Wells](#) to have them reunited with you!

Unity Gardens is seeking interested and energetic new Board of Directors members. If you are interested, contact [Pat Mitchell](#)





Congratulations to the following **OFFICIAL MASTER GARDENERS** who have completed their **40** hours for certification:
Amanda Abrams Emily Guerrero Nance Loughrey Jodi Lynch

Volunteer Opportunities

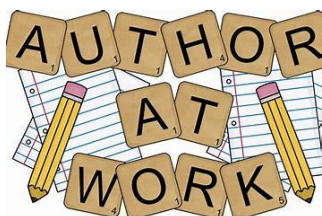
Winter Sowing/Seed Stratification demonstration at the **Bee Lab** this Saturday, January 6, 2024, from 10 AM – 2 PM. Janet Hostetler has volunteered to lead a workshop on using milk jugs and similar plastic items to start native seeds outside in the winter, i.e., winter sowing. Many native plants need to have a cold, wet spell called stratification before they will sprout. We have done that in refrigerators, but sometimes that doesn't work well; sometimes a person in a household just doesn't want seeds in their refrigerator.

I know others have experience with this technique of winter sowing so if you want to get in touch with Janet beforehand (in terms of collaboration) contact me, [Sam Droege](#), and I will pass that along to Janet.

Come and watch or bring any of the following to participate:

- Seeds to start (we will have some)
- Plastic milk jugs, and/or, take-out plastic containers, etc. We will have a few.
- Duct tape. We will have plenty there.
- Markers. We will have paint pens (the best) and labels for you if you have or bring any.
- Knife or box cutter. We will have plenty.
- Soil. We hope to have our big delivery by then.





WSA Steward, Denise Alston has been authoring amazing articles for WSA in conjunction with extensive conservation planting with her community in Heritage Harbor. Denise is now looking to compose another article on necessary preparation for gardens and would like to work cooperatively with a Master Gardener from the Heritage Harbor community. Education hours for interested Master Gardeners are available. Please contact [Denise](#) by February 1st if you are interested!

The **Linthicum Walks** project is searching for a new chair. Cynthia Vaughn has diligently worked this project to its current lovely state but has decided to step down as chairperson. She is willing to help a new volunteer(s) to get started. Please contact [Cynthia Vaughn](#) For more information about this historic homestead, go to: [Historic Linthicum Walks |Gambrills, MD \(visitannapolis.org\)](#)



2024 Seed Swap



We need your **seed catalogs** and gently- used **gardening books** to give out to the public. We also need **garden-related items** in very good condition to give out for door prizes. Please drop them off at the Extension office, marked "for Seed Swap." Remember to black out your name and address on your seed catalogues and magazines. Thanks in advance for your support! Reminder: the 2024 Seed Swap will be held at 10 AM on Saturday, February 3, 2024 at the Annapolis Busch Library at 1410 West Street, Annapolis, 21401. Overflow parking at Trinity Methodist Church at 1300 West Street.



Friday Funshine

How does Mother Nature tie her [shoes](#)?

With a [rainbow](#)!



EVENTS

Project/Activity	Date/Time	Location	Contact Information
Seed Stratification Demonstration	10 AM – 2 PM Saturday, 1/6/2024	Bee Lab	Sam Droege Lauren Toomey
Monthly Meeting <i>Beyond Planting Trees...</i>	7:00-9:00 Tuesday, 1/9/2024	Zoom	Maxine Yoon or Betsy Beck
EAB	9:00 AM- 10:00 AM 3 rd Wednesday monthly	Zoom	Maxine Yoon
Seed Swap	Saturday, 2/3, 10 AM	Busch Annapolis Library 1410 West Street	Sophie Sterling

For a readable copy go to: [And Justice for All](#)



Full Disclosure Statement

"University programs, activities, and facilities are available to all without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, religion, protected veteran status, genetic information, personal appearance, or any other legally protected class."