

VALLEY VIEWS

Potomac
Valley
Audubon
Society

Volume 33, Issue 2

October 2014

President's Perch

by Jane Vanderhook, PVAS President

Where did the summer go? It seems like only yesterday PVAS was focusing a large portion of its efforts on providing an enriching outdoor experience for kids through its Discovery Camp. Ellen Murphy and her dedicated staffers guided the camp through another successful year and already PVAS is in the classrooms bringing environmental education into the schools. PVAS plans to be in over 100 classrooms in Berkeley, Jefferson and Washington Counties this year thanks to our outstanding directors and staff. The quality of the programs they provide deserves praise and a heartfelt "Well done!"

The Board of Directors held its first meeting on September 4th. As part of the board orientation and in an effort to get to know one another, it was a combined social hour/dinner/business meeting. It was a lively event and it is exciting to see the enthusiasm, to hear the ideas and witness positive approach challenges. PVAS is fortunate to have board members with such a wide range of talents and diversity of backgrounds and interests. This should be a very good year.

With fall comes the fall migration and I love this time of year. How great is it to get outdoors and spot that migrant that is only here briefly! Check the PVAS Calendar for upcoming birding trips. My personal favorites are the hawks. We do have several hawk watching trips scheduled so maybe I'll see you in the field. October also brings with it the PVAS Birdseed Sale. The proceeds of the sale go towards sending deserving kids to nature camps. The quality of the seed is excellent; you'll be helping birds make it through the long winter and sending kids to camp. A double win! (Every year I run out of birdseed before I run out of winter. This year I'm determined to make it; I'm increasing my order.) You will find information about the Birdseed Sale and the order form in this newsletter so please look for it and place your order.

Director's Report

by Kristin Alexander, PVAS Executive Director

Every year in September, the Day of Caring reminds me of how valuable, dedicated, and empowering volunteers can be. I know I write about this every year, but in the words of PVAS President Jane Vanderhook, "There's no such thing as thanking volunteers enough." We wouldn't be able to accomplish nearly what we do without the incredible tenacity and hard work of volunteers.

At a recent Board meeting, one of the new board members asked, "Who are the other 10 staff that make all this happen???" My answer? Volunteers.

Between land management, youth programs, adult field trips, Master Naturalists, Natural History Workshops, conservation initiatives, and monthly programs we simply couldn't do any of it without volunteers. With very few exceptions, the instructors, leaders, and managers are volunteers.

So thank you (x 10,000) to any and all volunteers who make the PVAS world go around and who allow us, as an organization, to meet the needs and interests of the community and to inspire youth and adults to be the best caretakers of the natural world that they can be. I am continually inspired by you. And I thank you. (Yes, again.)



Birdseed Sale 2014

Birdseed Orders are Due October 15. Enclosed in this issue of Valley Views is your Birdseed Order Form. The form can also be found on our website at www.potomacaudubon.org. If you have questions, or need additional forms, please contact Diana Mullis at DianaMullis@aol.com or 304-754-3753.

*Potomac Valley Audubon Society is people dedicated to preserving,
restoring, and enjoying the natural world through education and action.*

Success at United Way's Day of Caring at Stauffer's Marsh and Yankauer!

Both Yankauer and Stauffer's Marsh Nature Preserves benefited from the September 9th United Way Day of Caring. Over 75 volunteers participated in giving these preserves needed attention!

At Yankauer some volunteers came just hoping to learn more about native plants and work with the BJEMGA (Master Gardeners). Volunteers cut back the overgrowth and cleared the path, allowing visitors to once again enjoy the bench and the beautiful Butterfly garden. Several people were able to take home native plant cuttings for their yards. Other volunteers trimmed and cleared trails, removed invasive species, cleaned and polished interpretive signs, repaired the parking lot fencing, and even straightened up the big entrance sign that had been leaning backwards.

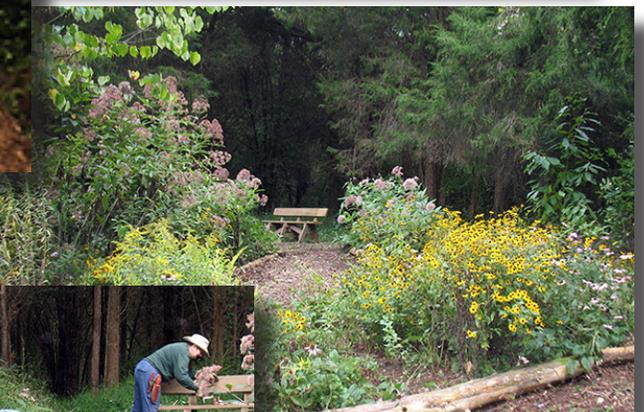
At Stauffers Marsh, volunteers moved and repositioned the parking lot fence, removed invasive species, cleared trails of overhanging Multiflora Rose, extended one trail, mulched two trails, and planted several native *Arborvitae* trees, which is especially significant because they are extinct in the wild in Berkeley County.

Volunteers at both locations enjoyed delightful lunches: at Yankauer, provided by the PVAS Events committee, and, at Stauffers, the Senior Group from Hedgesville Church.

Yankauer volunteers included groups from Charles River Laboratory, The BJEMGA - Master Gardeners, Students from Martinsburg HS JrROTC, PVAS members, Master Naturalists, along with neighbors and others. Special Thanks to Sandy Brown for leading the removal of the invasive *Ailanthus*. Also, special thanks also to John Fenwick of "Power Wash Pros" for power washing the Yankauer pavilion floor (before the crowds arrived).

Stauffer's Marsh volunteers included PVAS members, Master Naturalists, and some members of the Hedgesville Church. Special Thanks to the Senior Group of the Hedgesville Church for a wonderful lunch and to Steve Hartmann, Stauffer's volunteer caretaker, for organizing the volunteer projects.

Thanks to all the volunteers for their time and efforts!



Summer Improvements at Eidolon, Stauffer's Marsh, and Altona Marsh

Eidolon and Stauffer's Marsh

Eidolon and Stauffer's Marsh have been receiving attention from dedicated volunteers throughout the summer. Much of what was accomplished on Day of Caring at Stauffer's Marsh was possible because of all of the preparation over the summer. For example...

Stauffer's Marsh Preserve now boasts a parking lot outlined by telephone poles donated by Frontier Communications. Steve Hartmann and Gary Sylvester solicited the donated poles, and worked on outlining the parking lot. The new outline will keep cars out of the muddy areas and will allow grasses to come back, decreasing the runoff from the parking lot into the nearby stream and increasing percolation into the groundwater. Volunteer Steve Hartmann has also been working to create a trail just on the inside of the fence along Back Creek Valley Road. The trail has been leveled and drainage improved thanks to materials donated by Minghini Construction and Steve's manual labor.



At Eidolon, the trails and road were damaged by summer storms. Volunteers Lou Scavnicky, Mary Youngblood, Dawn Darling, Bartley Rutley, and Stan Oaks have been monitoring the preserve and doing work days as needed. Several trees had fallen across trails and the road, so chainsaws were critical to opening the trails again. Along with mid-late summer comes stilt grass, so Bartley mowed most of the trails with his mower in mid-August and he and Lou cleared and mowed the cabin "lawn" and overlook. We thank all of our Eidolon volunteers heartily for their hard work and diligence!

Altona Marsh

Altona Marsh is a rare and valuable marsh in Jefferson County and is partially protected through an easement with The Nature Conservancy. After discovering illegal hunting on the marsh property, PVAS contacted The Nature Conservancy and the appropriate property owners. The hunters were asked to remove the blind, which they did.

Since then, PVAS has been coordinating efforts with owners of the marsh and The Nature Conservancy to post the property along the tracks to prevent illegal hunting from occurring from the Railroad tracks in the future. Mike Powell of TNC came in August to help post the marsh appropriately along the easement portion and other boundaries.

It happened to be a beautiful, COOL August day, and the job went fast thanks to the many motivated volunteers. Kristin Alexander (PVAS) and Mike Powell (TNC) were joined by PVAS volunteers Joette Borzik, Wil Hershberger, and Gary and Diane Sylvester and helped drive t-posts into the soft earth and attach the signs to each. The job was done by noon and, as usual, TNC was impressed by PVAS's incredible volunteers. Many thanks to the property owners, donors, and laborers who made this project possible! We hope it helps to protect the marsh over the years.



Grassland Birds Committee Visits Otto Farm at Antietam

PVAS member Sandy Sagalkin has been volunteering at Antietam National Battlefield's Otto farm since April 2014. The Otto Farm is the site of a warm-season grassland restoration project at the park, and Sandy was interested in helping the park staff track the change in species using the site as a result of the Park's efforts. Sandy has identified 70 species of birds visiting the site, some of which are important grassland species.

Sandy encouraged PVAS's Grassland Birds Committee to invite property owners and managers to see the impressive conservation results at Antietam. The Committee has been focused primarily on establishing partnerships with private landowners in our region to convince them of the benefits to wildlife of a grassland stewardship program. The project at the Otto Farm has the potential to be a very useful example and "case study" for the project.

Jane Custer, the Chief of Resources at Antietam, enthusiastically agreed, so on August 20th, members of the Grassland Birds Committee, Phil Pannil (Land Manager at USFWS National Conservation Training Center), and Elizabeth Wheeler (Administrator, Jeff Co. Farmland Protection Board) joined Chris Tawney (Biological Science Technician leading the project at Antietam) for a tour of the site. Many of those invited had conflicts, so a future tour will be planned to make sure more have the opportunity to see the site.

Chris put the project in perspective with a recap of the battle that took place in and around the Otto farm. The mandate of the park is to maintain the look of the area as it was during the battles of 1862. These fields were plowed at the time of the battle so the conversion to warm-season grasses conveys the openness of a plowed field from the various vantage points along the tour drive. Fortunately, there were staff members at the park that were interested in conserving and improving the natural resources of the park. This project will go a long way in encouraging native wildlife to inhabit this section of the park.

At present there are roughly 50 acres in warm-season grasses with an additional 10 acres to be converted soon. A seed-drill planter has been purchased and will be used by two other nearby National Parks for the establishment of warm-season grass and wildflower plots. Chris indicated that there are plans to do a burn of the warm-season grass fields in March of 2015 and that interested persons should contact him to be informed of the actual date of the burn.

The site is a great example of a grassland habitat that has been restored with warm-season grasses. It allows sweeping views while being an excellent source of food and shelter for a variety of wildlife that depend on this quickly disappearing habitat type. We certainly congratulate Antietam on their excellent work in balancing the historical and ecological integrity of the site.

This section of Antietam is open to the public for hiking and can be accessed at the Burnside Bridge parking area, and then following the "Final Attack Trail." To learn more about the project and to see photos of the controlled burns and the changes in the site over time, Chris will be presenting at the PVAS monthly meeting in October at Hospice of the Panhandle.



October Program Will Focus on Antietam Grassland Restoration Project

Our monthly program for October will feature a presentation on a grassland restoration project at the Antietam National Battlefield in Sharpsburg, MD.

The program will be held at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 8 at the Hospice of the Panhandle facility in Kearneysville.

Admission will be free and everyone is welcome to attend.

The speaker will be Chris Tawney, a Biological Science Technician at the Battlefield.

Antietam's grassland restoration project is located on the Otto Farm, a tract of about 50 acres at the south end of the battlefield. It is being managed as a warm season grass wildlife habitat. The management practices employed include a prescribed fire program that involves burning 35 to 50 acres biennially to reduce invasive vegetation and provide a positive wildlife structure.

Tawney will review the goals for the project, issues encountered, and results so far.

He will also discuss the battlefield's riparian buffer areas, some of which are kept in, or will be converted to, warm season grasses. The goals of this effort are to maintain a versatile wildlife habitat while decreasing nutrient and sediment input into the Antietam Creek watershed as a result of the Battlefield's agricultural lease program.

The Hospice facility's address is 330 Hospice Lane, Kearneysville. The PVAS program will be held in the main meeting room of the facility's Main Office building.

There is plenty of parking at the facility.

For more information go to <http://www.potomacaudubon.org> or contact Krista Hawley at <mailto:adultprograms@potomacaudubon.org> or 703-303-1026.

American Conservation Film Festival Coming Soon!

The 12th annual American Conservation Film Festival (ACFF) opens Thursday, October 30th and runs through Sunday, November 2nd. The festival features 45 of the best full-length and short conservation films from around the world at venues throughout Shepherdstown. Speakers, discussions, meet-the-filmmaker sessions, and a variety of special events are all part of the festival experience.

In addition to films on topics ranging from the American wilderness to climate change to fish to bats, ACFF is offering four very different films related to birds: *From Billions to None*, *Emptying the Skies*, *A Penguin's Life in the City* (for kids), and *From the Field: American Black Duck*. There will also be a special Audience Choice Event on November 9 at the Shepherdstown Opera House where the festival audience's favorite film will be screened and acclaimed local storyteller Adam Booth will be telling an Appalachian tale. The full festival listing, schedule, and ticketing information can be found online at <http://www.conservationfilm.org>.



Where Is Wee Naturalists?

For several years, PVAS has helped preschoolers and a loving adult explore nature together through our Wee Naturalists program. Suzi Taylor has led this program from its beginning, but this year, her time is completely taken up with teaching our watershed program so she has reluctantly given up leadership of the program. Never fear! We are currently working on ways to continue the program next year and actually enlarge it with a Family Nature Stories at Yankauer. This new program will be held once a month on the weekend so that families can come explore the preserve together. More information will be available soon, so watch the PVAS website for details.

Potomac Valley Nature Writing Group

Potomac Valley Nature Writing Group is no longer active. If anyone is interested in resurrecting the Group and would like to get involved in selecting and reading books, leading book discussions, hosting meetings, posting reviews and author profiles on the blog, and organizing writing workshops or journaling outings, please contact Sandy Bloom at riverfrogsy@yahoo.com

Learn Outdoor Cooking From an Expert

PVAS will offer another of its popular outdoor cooking classes at Cacapon State Park on Saturday, October 18.

The class will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

It will be led by master naturalist (and skilled outdoor chef) Clark Dixon. It will provide instruction and practice in cooking outdoors without pots and pans or kitchen utensils.

The class is open to anyone who is interested but participation will be limited and pre-registration by October 4 will be required. There will also be a fee of \$10 to cover supplies and materials for instruction.

To register, go to the PVAS website or contact Kelly Wolf at <mailto:k2kellywolf@outlook.com> or 304-229-6229.

Each registrant may bring one guest, such as a child or spouse, free of charge.

These classes usually fill up quickly, so early registration is advised.

Unless there is a torrential downpour, the class will be held rain or shine. The rain date will be November 1.

Participants should plan to bring their own food to be cooked. A list of possible foods and suggestions for preparation will be provided to those who register, along with directions and full details.

Don't Forget Mid-October Cape May Trip

Here's a reminder that PVAS is sponsoring a hawk-watching trip to Cape May, NJ on Columbus Day weekend, October 10-14.

Anyone with an interest is welcome to participate and there will be no fee. However, participants will be expected to furnish their own transportation and arrange for their own accommodations.

Finding hotel and motel reservations in Cape May at this late date may prove difficult, so if you're just now deciding to go you may have to seek accommodations in other, nearby towns.

The trip will be led by Sandy Sagalkin, and it will focus on several hawk-watching sites in the Cape May area. It will offer good opportunities to see Peregrine Falcons, Merlins, American Kestrels, Sharp-shinned Hawks, Coopers Hawks, Bald Eagles, Northern Harriers and other raptors.

Those who participate will also be able to take advantage of a variety of free educational opportunities offered by the Cape May Bird Observatory and the New Jersey Audubon Society. Their offerings include such events as a Mini-Hawk ID workshop for beginners, a Hawk-banding demonstration, a Monarch tagging demonstration and bird walks that are open to the public.

Those who wish to participate should pre-register on the PVAS website. For more information, contact Sandy by phone at 240-291-6465 or by email at <mailto:monsansagalkin@myactv.net>.

Join the October 25 Bird Walk at Rolling Ridge

PVAS will sponsor a bird walk on the Rolling Ridge Foundation Lands on the Blue Ridge in Jefferson County on Saturday, October 25.

The walk will begin at 8:30 A.M. It is free and open to anyone with an interest, regardless of their birding skills. Children are welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult.

Pre-registration is strongly encouraged but not required. Easy registration is available on the PVAS website.

Participants should plan to meet the trip leader at the Rolling Ridge Study Retreat Community, located at the end of Mission Road. From Charles Town, West Virginia, follow Route 115 / Charles Town Road (Old Route 9) heading south, then turn right on Mission Road. Continue on Mission Road approximately 6.2 miles, driving past Shannondale Springs Wildlife Management Area. Turn left where Mission Road becomes a gravel road. After 1 mile on the gravel road, you will approach a 4-way intersection. Go straight and park your vehicle at the Rolling Ridge Study Retreat Community where the walk will begin.

The walk will last about 3 hours, and will cover rolling

terrain. Birds likely to be present will be resident species, migrants and raptors. This will also be a good opportunity to get a close look at the autumn leaf color of the hardwood forest.

Participants should wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the prevailing weather conditions, and bring along water, a snack and insect repellent. PVAS will provide binoculars for those who do not have their own.

The walk may be cancelled in the event of heavy or steady rain, as access requires travel on a gravel road. Those who register on the PVAS website will be notified by email by 9 P.M. the previous evening if cancellation is anticipated.

The Rolling Ridge Foundation Lands are one of the largest privately held wilderness preserves in the Eastern Panhandle. On its 1,400 acres of secluded, forested land are miles of hiking trails, the Appalachian Trail, the Shenandoah River, five mountain streams, ponds, waterfalls and scenic overlooks.

To reserve binoculars or for additional trip information, contact the trip leader, Joette Borzik at (240) 440-4221 or <mailto:pep4223@comcast.net>. For property access questions, contact Scot DeGraf at (301)275-2009.

South Mountain Hawk Watches Continue in October

Here's a reminder that PVAS and the Washington County (MD) Bird Club are teaming up this fall to co-sponsor regular weekly hawk watches at Maryland's Washington Monument State Park on South Mountain.

The watches are held every Wednesday morning. For October, that means five dates: the 1st, the 8th, the 15th, the 22nd, and the 29th.

All the watches are free and open to anyone with an interest. Children are welcome if accompanied by an adult. However, space at the best viewpoints is limited and pre-registration is strongly encouraged.

Easy registration is available on the PVAS website.

Participants should plan to meet Sandy Sagalkin, the watch leader, in the upper parking lot of the Park at 9:30 a.m. Each day's watch will go until 12 noon, although participants will welcome to stay longer if they wish.

Participants should wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the prevailing weather conditions and bring along drinking water and insect repellent. Binoculars will be available for anyone who needs them.

Hawk-watching is very weather sensitive because these birds do not fly in bad weather. If it is certain that weather will force cancellation of any particular watch, those who have pre-registered will be notified of that cancellation by email no later than 6:00 p.m. the evening before.

For more information, contact Sandy at <mailto:monsan-sagalkin@myactv.net> or 240-291-6465.



CFC/UW Reminder

The United Way and Combined Federal Campaigns have begun! Don't forget you can designate PVAS as the recipient of your donation through those agencies! (CFC#29061)

Registrations Due Sept. 26 for October 25-26 Leave No Trace Workshop

The Potomac Valley Audubon Society (PVAS) will sponsor a Natural History Workshop on "Leave No Trace Outdoor Ethics" October 25-26.

Space will be very limited and participants must pre-register.

Registration is available on the PVAS website. There will be a fee of \$30 for PVAS members and \$35 for nonmembers.

The Leave No Trace concept was initiated by the US Forest Service in the 1960s as a response to increasing recreational pressure on public lands. It is intended to promote hiking and camping practices that respect the natural environment and minimize human impacts.

The program has expanded over the years, and it is now led by a non-profit organization that works closely with federal and state government agencies.

The October 25-26 workshop is intended for people who want to become Leave No Trace trainers, and those who complete it successfully will be so certified.

The workshop will be led by two Leave No Trace Master Educators, Clark Dixon and Blaine Eckberg. It will be conducted at the Blackburn Trail Center, which is located on the Appalachian Trail in Jefferson County.

Participants will be fully grounded in Leave No Trace principles and ethics, and learn tools and techniques for educating others.

The workshop will include an overnight camping experience and some hiking. Participants should be in good physical condition and familiar with basic backpacking and camping skills. Each will be required to provide his or her own tent, camping gear, and food.

For more information see the PVAS website or contact Clark Dixon at 304-725-9634 or dixonconsultants@aol.com

PVAS's Natural History Workshops are intended for people who are interested in learning about particular natural history topics in considerable depth but cannot commit to pursue the much more comprehensive natural history education available through PVAS's Potomac Valley Master Naturalist Program, which can take a year or more to complete.



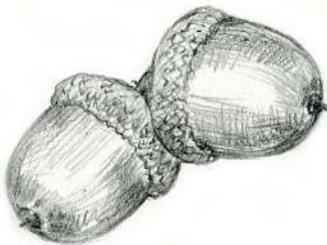
We Have A Need For Seeds!

Fall weather means many trees are producing seeds that are designed to germinate and produce new trees. PVAS's Watershed Program this year includes a way for students to plant these native tree seeds in their classrooms and cultivate them as they learn how buffer zones can help protect the water quality of local streams.

We need your help! Volunteers are needed to collect specific seeds in the local area so that we can provide students with a viable seed to plant. **We need to have the seeds by October 20.** Targeted species for fall collection include red oak, walnut, hickory, American dogwood, sassafras, box elder, sycamore, sweet gum, and yellow (tulip) poplar. We are looking for quality seeds that have a high chance of germinating, rather than quantity. To help you decide if a seed has a good chance of producing a sprout, here are some hints:

Red Oak:

The acorn is perfect when plump and the cap removes easily. After the acorn becomes brown or tan it is common to find weevils in acorns and they can destroy the ability of the seed to germinate. **You can determine if the acorns have weevils by placing them in water. Acorns that float usually contain weevil damage and should be discarded.** Please only save the acorns that sink. Keep acorns in the shade as you collect them, and put them in your refrigerator as soon as possible so they don't dry out, but don't freeze acorns.



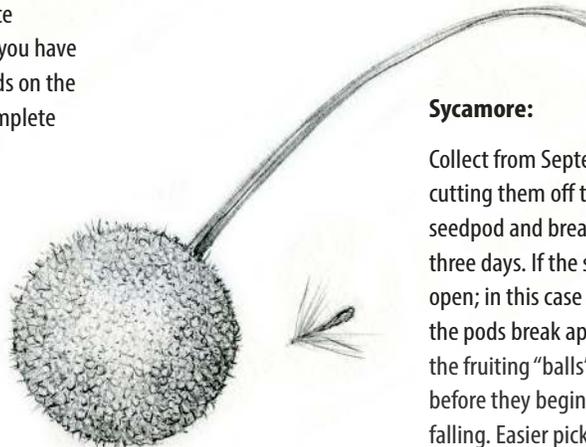
Flowering Dogwood:

After the outer covering is red and begins to soften and before the birds take the fruit. However, there is an intensive hulling process that must take place immediately after collecting the seeds, so unless you have the time to do this, we suggest you leave the seeds on the tree. If you do have time, we can give you the complete directions.



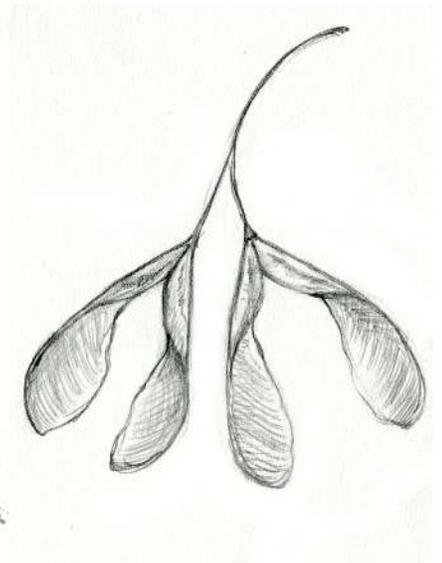
Box Elder:

Seeds ripen from August through October, but drop off the tree from fall through spring. When samaras turn from green to brown they are ripe and easily collected from the ground or tree. Seed do not need to be removed from the samara. Place them in a dry container.



Black Walnut:

Collect seeds in the fall after they fall to the ground. **Hull and wash the nuts** as soon as you collect them and discard all nuts that float to the top. Seeds are most easily removed from the outer fruit just after they fall to the ground by peeling away the outer layers to get at the hard seed that resembles a nut. Wearing gloves will keep your hands from being stained.



Sycamore:

Collect from September through November, by pulling or cutting them off the tree. Cut off the green stem on each seedpod and break it open to allow the seeds to dry for two or three days. If the seedpod is not ripe, it will be difficult to break open; in this case allow the pod to ripen in a cool area until the pods break apart with your hands. The best time to collect the fruiting "balls" or heads, usually directly off the tree, is just before they begin to break up and the hairy tufted seeds start falling. Easier picking is after the fruiting head turns brown but waiting to just after leaf fall.



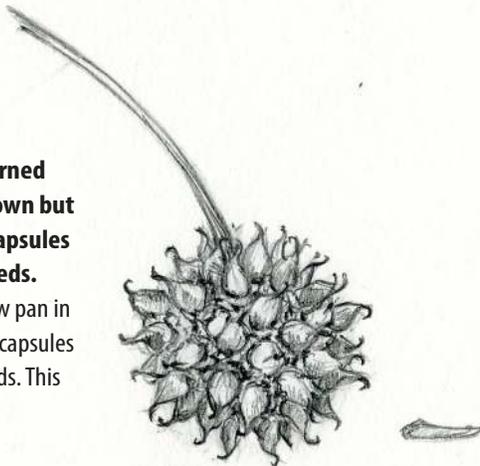
Tulip (Yellow) Poplar:

Harvest the fruit in the fall after they have turned a light tan and before the seeds separate for dispersal. (It may be too late in the year as these seeds often mature in early fall.)

Sweet Gum:

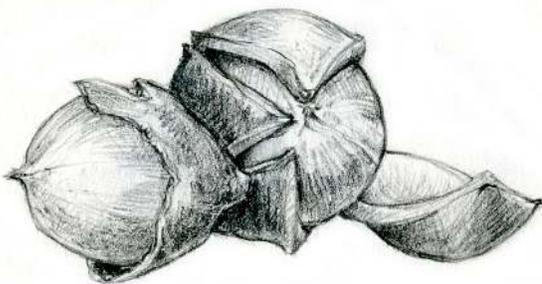
After the balls have turned from green to dark brown but before the beak-like capsules open to release the seeds.

Place the fruit in a shallow pan in a dry place to permit the capsules to open and drop the seeds. This usually takes 5-7 days.



Hickory:

Pick up seeds off the ground or from the tree before they fall. When the husk has split, the seed is ready. If you plan to plant the seed yourself, they must be stratified in your refrigerator until they are planted. Otherwise, keep them dry and pass them on to us.



Please be aware that collection on National Park Service property is prohibited, so Harpers Ferry, Antietam Battlefield, and the C&O Canal are totally off limits!

If you would like to help with the project, email Melanie Snyder at Admin@PotomacAudubon.org and she will get you further information and information about collection bags. You can deliver the seeds to her at the PVAS office in Shepherdstown, but be sure to email her to arrange a time for delivery.

JOIN PVAS TODAY!

ALL of your dues will stay here to support local PVAS efforts and help us grow! And here's what you'll get:

- Access to a wide variety of PVAS programs and events for adults and children, including field trips, special events, workshops and courses, and environmental projects.
- A subscription to Valley Views, the PVAS newsletter
- E-mail alerts about events and programs of special interest
- Satisfaction of supporting conservation efforts, youth and adult nature education, individual and family recreation, and a wide array of programs in your community.

To become a local member, send in the form below and enclose a check for \$20 (\$15 for seniors and students). Make the check out to "PVAS." This fee covers membership for everyone in your household for one year.

Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip code: _____

Phone (optional): _____

E-mail: _____

To save postage costs, PVAS regularly sends its newsletter by e-mail. You can be assured that we do not share email addresses with anyone. If you would prefer to receive the newsletter by U.S. mail check here: __.

Clip and mail this form to:

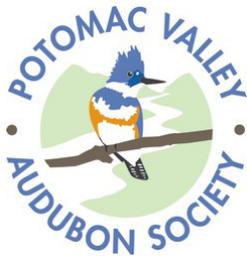
**Membership Chair, PVAS
PO Box 578
Shepherdstown, WV 25443**

Thank you for your support!



If you'd rather join the National Audubon Society:

Some people prefer National Audubon Society membership, which includes a subscription to the Society's Audubon magazine. To become a National member, go to the Society's website at www.audubon.org and click on "join." If you join National Audubon and reside in Berkeley, Jefferson or Morgan counties in West Virginia, or in Washington County Maryland, you will automatically become a member of PVAS and have access to our events, an e-mail copy of newsletter and e-mail alerts. However almost all of your dues payments will go to the National Audubon Society; only a small percentage will go to PVAS.



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A proud partner of the United Way of
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 bined Federal Campaign.
 CFC#29061



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The Potomac Valley Audubon Society meets at 7:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month, September through April. Programs are free and open to the public. For additional information about PVAS or its programs and activities, please contact any of the board members listed here or see <http://www.potomacaudubon.org>. PVAS serves the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia and neighboring Washington County, Maryland.

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PVAS BOARD

PVAS Board meet-
 ings take place the
 first Thursday of
 the month (Sep-
 tember through
 June). Meetings
 are open to all
 PVAS members.
 Please contact
 the President or
 Vice President if
 you would like to
 attend.