

# The Osprey

Newsletter of the Southern Maryland Audubon Society

## MARYLAND REPTILE AND AMPHIBIAN ATLAS (MARA) PROJECT - YEAR TWO

By George Jett

The Natural History Society of Maryland (NHSM) and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) are conducting a five-year atlas of the amphibians and reptiles of Maryland. We started in January 2010 and will finish the study in 2014. Even though year one was a great success, in many regards we still have much to do to meet our targets. We are starting our second year of the project and need your help. I will provide some the 2010 highlights a bit later in this article, but first some background is in order.

Amphibians and reptiles, collectively known as "herpetofauna" or "herps," have roamed the earth for over 300 million years. Herps to you and me are turtles, lizards, snakes, frogs, toads, and salamanders.

While today's collection of herps pales in comparison to the diversity and abundance of these creatures during their heyday, their persistence to the present day is a testament to their overall success. However, the increasing challenges that amphibians and reptiles face - in no small part resulting from human-induced causes such as habitat loss, introduced species, over-harvesting or collecting, and environmental pollution - raise concerns for their continued success and even survival. Worldwide declines in amphibian and reptile populations have been occurring at an accelerated rate over the past twenty years, threatening many species with extinction.

The current project will map the distribution of all amphibians and reptiles within the state, using mostly volunteer help to search for the roughly 93 species found in Maryland. Each county is divided up in quadrants, and each quad is divided into six blocks. As a SMAS member you likely live in one of these blocks, so herps around your house count. At the least you could email your county coordinator about any turtles, lizards, snakes, frogs, toads, and salamanders you see or hear on your property. If you are really interested, the way you can get involved is to contact the coordinator for the county in which you live.

The Southern Maryland Audubon Society (SMAS) membership covers four Maryland counties. All four counties covered by SMAS membership are taking part in the study. The county coordinators can be contacted at their emails:

Calvert: Andy Brown: brownaj@co.cal.md.us  
Charles: George Jett: gmjett@comcast.net  
Prince George's: George Middendorf: gmiddendorf@howard.edu  
St. Mary's: Kyle Rambo: kyle.rambo@navy.mil

continued .....➔



**Black-bellied Whistling-Duck**  
photo by George Jett

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Please join us!  
**TAILGATE BIRD COUNT  
FUNDRAISER**  
*April 30 - May 1, 2011*



<http://somdaudubon.org/>

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## 2010 Summary

During the first year of the MARA study, 74 of the state's possible 93 species were documented. The southern Maryland sector tallied 54 species. By county, St. Mary's leads the list with 52, followed by Calvert with 47, Charles with 43, and Prince George's with 34. Gray Treefrog is included in the 34, but it was found in northern P.G., which is outside the SMAS region. Duplicate counting in the four counties is the reason why the southern Maryland sector numbers total 54. Spring Peepers were found in all four counties, for example.

Statewide, the first season volunteers collected over 5000 data points. The southern Maryland sector of Calvert, Charles, southern Prince George's, and St. Mary's collected well over 1000 of those data points. As a sample of data collected across the state, Spring Peepers and Northern Green Frog were the most common species reported (147 quads), and Eastern Musk Turtle and Red-spotted Newt were the least reported (37 and 36 quads respectively). Of the five possible sea turtle species, the only ones found so far were a dead Loggerhead at Calvert Beach, and Loggerhead and Kemp's Ridley in St. Mary's. A state summary can be found at <http://www.marylandnature.org/mara/index.htm> - search for the **February Newsletter**.

Across the state, abundances of the five groups being searched for were as expected. Frogs and toads lead the list with 49 percent of the records, followed by snakes with 21 percent, turtles with 18 percent, salamanders with 10 percent, and lizards with only 2 percent. Frogs and toads are the only groups that can be found by both sight and sound, which aids in finding them. Besides, there are 21 species on the state list! The other four groups need to be seen. Lizards in part trailed the list because they are secretive, and statewide only six species are known to occur. I don't have the data to break down the southern Maryland sector, but my guess would be we fit very closely to the statewide percentages. For a distribution of herp species by county, take a look at Maryland's Reptiles and Amphibians by County in the MARA Handbook at the website listed below- it is in Appendix 15.

As for exotics found, these included Burmese Python at Calvert Beach and Boa Constrictor at Scientists Cliffs in Calvert. St. Mary's added Oriental Fire-bellied Toad at Challenger Estates, and a Russian Tortoise off of Willows Road in Lexington Park. These exotics were likely released by humans, and are not currently on the state list of herps. Prince George's and Charles counties produced



no exotics, but one Rainbow Snake was photographed in Charles. Rainbow Snake is very rare in Maryland, and so far only found in Charles County with perhaps less than ten confirmed records in 80 years.

Your help is greatly needed. If interested in the study, either as a volunteer or just curious, take a look at the handbook. The purpose of this document is to provide instructions and written standard operating procedures for data collection as part of the study. For more information and to keep up-to-date with the monthly newsletters, which are particularly interesting, check the following website: <http://www.marylandnature.org/mara/>

As one who loves nature, this has proven to be an exciting and educational study. Great fun for both adults and kids! Come join us.

George Jett, Charles County Coordinator - Waldorf, MD  
[gmjett@comcast.net](mailto:gmjett@comcast.net)      [www.georgejett.net](http://www.georgejett.net)

## SMAS MEMBERS:

I am writing to request the help of residents for the upcoming Potomac River Cleanup. The Cleanup will be held on April 9th from 9:00 am until noon at Marshall Hall Park (rain or shine). Marshall Hall Park is located at the western end of Marshall Hall Road (Rt. 227), 4 miles from Rt. 210. Once again this site is being sponsored by the Southern Maryland Audubon Society. Several other cleanups are being held on the same day at other sites along the Potomac River Watershed.

In previous years, many volunteers participated in the cleanup. They have included school students working on their community service requirements, scout troops, church groups, businesses, and residents of all ages who are concerned about the environment in which we live. Every year, after the volunteers have completed their site cleanup, there is such a great difference in the appearance, safety, and usefulness of the shoreline. The Southern Maryland Audubon Society hopes that concerned residents will again show up to help heal the Potomac.

Gloves, trash bags, drinks and snacks will be provided. So mark your calendar for April 9th and we hope to see you there. Just show up at the boat ramp and a representative from Audubon will be there to assist. If you want more information, please call 301-375-7340 or e-mail at [rlukinic@peoplepc.com](mailto:rlukinic@peoplepc.com)

Bob Lukinic, site coordinator  
5850 River Road  
Bryans Road, MD 20616  
301-375-7340

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## HOUSE TARGETS CONSERVATION/BIRD SPENDING

It's Congressional budget-slashing time, and it's also open season.

Last month, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 1, the Full Year Continuing Resolution (CR) for 2011. That bill proposed a whopping \$60 billion cut in the federal budget, mainly from domestic programs. Besides the reduction of programs as varied as NASA, Amtrak, state law enforcement, and education, the Republican-led formula for cutting the budget and keeping the government operating also included major cuts in essential bird-and-wildlife spending. Some of the more essential conservation programs - familiar programs to regular readers of this E-bulletin - facing proposed cuts included:

**State Wildlife Grants** - This effort leverages more than \$100 million per year in state, tribal, local, and private dollars- associated with State Wildlife Action Plans. Funded previously at \$90 million, this program is facing \$0. Yes, zero.

**North American Wetlands Conservation Fund**- This program (NAWCA) has leveraged over \$2 billion in matching funds, impacting 20 million acres through the work of more than 4,000 partners for migratory bird conservation, flood control, erosion control, and water quality. Funded in FY10 at \$47.6 million, it would have \$0.

**Land and Water Conservation Fund** – One of our favorites, LWCF uses offshore oil and gas revenue, “recycling” the funds back to federal, state, and local land-based conservation and acquisition. While it is authorized (since 1977) at \$900 million, it historically receives a lot less. In the last year it received more than usual, about \$450 million. The proposed CR would reduce that by over 86%, to \$59 million. This would be the lowest amount ever for LWCF.

**Refuge System Operations and Maintenance** – Funded in FY10 at \$503 million, the refuges face a cut of \$12 million, bringing essential services down to \$491 million. Simply to “stand still,” NWRs would need at least \$511 million. Important restoration, management, and visitor services would suffer.

Other drastic cuts would include the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund authorized under Section 6 of the Endangered Species Act, Farm Bill elements (such as the Wetland Reserve Program – WRP - and the Environmental Quality Assistance Program - EQUIP), the USDA National Resource Conservation Service, and enforcement aspects of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Virtually all the wildlife, land-preservation, environmental, hunting, and bird-conservation organizations have recently come out against this onslaught, often citing the package of essential conservation elements outlined above.

The Senate indicated that it would not take up the House bill, and President Obama stated that he would veto the

House approach as it stood. At the start of March, an alternative short-term Continuing Resolution - or even consecutive CRs – may be expected, thus kicking the can down the road, so to speak, but at least avoiding a complete catastrophe with government shutdown.

Although stopgap CRs with incremental cuts are expected, the core conservation programs will remain on the chopping block.

Taken in part from the most recent E-bulletin on the National Wildlife Refuge Association (NWRA) website: [www.refugenet.org/birding/birding5.html](http://www.refugenet.org/birding/birding5.html)

Paul J. Baicich / 410/992-9736 / paul.baicich@verizon.net

## OSPREY NEWSLETTER REPORT FROM THE BOARD

*February 23, 2011*

The following are highlights from the February 23, 2011 board meeting held at the Charlotte Hall Library.

**Hog Island Maine Scholarships:** The board is pleased to announce the 2011 scholarship recipients. Two scholarship winners will attend the August 15-20 Audubon Chapter Leadership Program: Lynne Wheeler and Chris Ordiway. One scholarship winner, Lara North of Lackey High School, will attend the July 14-19 “Sharing Nature: An Educator’s Week”.

**Chapter Recertification:** SMAS has been recertified by the National Audubon Society for more than meeting its chapter goals. This is an annual process required to receive the dues-sharing from National Audubon memberships within our Southern Maryland territory.

**Membership Registration:** SMAS agreed to register with the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin.

The board made motions to approve the following:

- To renew its membership with the Bird Conservation Alliance.
- To place orders for 48 newly designed SMAS T-Shirts
- To send an official letter of support that funding should remain for the William S. Schmidt Outdoor Education Center in Prince Georges County.

The remainder of the board meeting concentrated on firming up the speakers and locations for the upcoming 2011-2012 Monthly Programs. We are very excited at how things are shaping up.

The next board meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 30 at the Charlotte Hall Library at 7 p.m. All are welcome, so please migrate on over!



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## TAILGATE BIRD COUNT FUNDRAISER

Join us the weekend of April 30 - May 1, 2011

### What is this Tailgate Bird Count?

The Tailgate Bird Count is basically a "Big Sit" event used as a fundraiser.

### What is a "Big Sit"?

The Big Sit idea was founded by the New Haven Bird Club in Connecticut in 1994. Each year Bird Watcher's Digest hosts the event, which has become an international affair. More info about the official Big Sit can be found at the Bird Watcher's Digest website. The idea is to stay within a pre-determined circle and count all of the bird species you can identify over a 24 hour timeframe.

### How is this a fundraiser?

Team members seek pledges from friends, families, co-workers, etc. which you collect from them later. The pledges are based on the number of birds your team sees during the event. (25¢ per bird for example) There is a \$15 minimum team donation fee. That means that if the team does not collect at least \$15 in pledges then the team is responsible for a minimum \$15 donation. If the team collects more than \$15 in pledges then the \$15 fee is waived.

### Don't you already do a fundraising event?

We used to. The event almost universally consisted of each county's best birders. It was a great fundraiser but experience was a limiting factor that left most people out. So we thought we'd try something that anyone could join.

### Do I have to be a "great" birder to do the Tailgate Bird Count?

No! Just identify as many species as you can from within your count area. The more you know the better your list will be of course but anyone, of any experience level, can participate.

### What's the quick explanation of what I need to do?

- 1) Choose a location
- 2) Register your location
- 3) Round up some team members
- 4) Gather pledges
- 5) Birdwatch!

Well that seems easy enough! I'm ready for more details! Good! See the sidebar on the right of the web link below to download the Circle Captain's Start-Up Kit. Everything you need to know is in there:

<http://www.somdaudubon.org/tailgate.html>

#### PLACES TO BIRD

##### MYRTLE POINT

This county park borders the Patuxent River and Mill Creek. Lots of scrub/shrub habitat make it a great nesting area for Yellow-breasted Chats, Prairie Warblers, and White-eyed Vireos. Numerous trails lead to all points in the park. From Solomons take Rt. 4 across the Patuxent River and turn right onto Patuxent Blvd. Follow to the end where you will find the gates to the park.

## AUDUBON'S 2011-2012 TIDAL MARSH BIRD SURVEY

By David Curson

This spring Audubon Maryland-DC will send a small team of trained observers out into Maryland's tidal marshes to take on one of the last challenges in avian population monitoring – the birds of the salt marsh. Our salt and brackish marshes are beautiful, wild and somewhat forbidding landscapes of vast expanses of Spartina grass meadows, black needlerush and threesquare, punctuated by tidal pools and creeks. These "prairies between the tides" are home to some of our most enigmatic bird species, including several found nowhere else and thus rarely seen by most birders.

Most of the birds unique to salt marshes face threats that place them on one or more conservation listings. Seaside Sparrow and Clapper Rail, though abundant in suitable habitat, are on the American Bird Conservancy/Audubon WatchList. Saltmarsh Sparrow, much less common than the Seaside, is a WatchList species also listed as globally Vulnerable by Birdlife International, and Black Rail, now very rare in Maryland, is listed as Endangered in the state and considered by Birdlife as globally Near-threatened.

The preminent threat facing these birds is sea level rise. Sea levels in Maryland have risen 1 foot (30cms) in the past century, contributing to significant marsh loss at Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge. This rate is projected to accelerate, resulting in a 4 foot (1.3m) rise by 2100, enough to drown virtually all of Maryland's tidal marshes. It will be necessary to enact some bold and creative conservation solutions, such as allowing the marshes to move upslope with rising tides, if we are to keep salt marsh birds around over the long term. Yet a lack of knowledge of their population sizes and trends and their fine scale distribution, makes it difficult to plan appropriate conservation actions. Why are salt marsh birds so poorly known? The principal method for tracking bird populations in North America, the Breeding Bird Survey, is a roadside survey method which barely gets into the larger roadless marshes.

The 2011 survey aims to fill these knowledge gaps, not just in Maryland but for all the northeastern coastal states from Virginia to Maine. This regional project, funded by the US Fish and Wildlife Service through a national State Wildlife Grant, was organized by tidal marsh bird researchers in Maine, Connecticut and Delaware, who have partnered with state wildlife agencies and the National Audubon Society to implement surveys regionwide. Results from the survey will be used by state and federal wildlife agencies, Audubon and other conservation organizations to focus conservation actions on the most important sites, and as a baseline for future bird monitoring.

In Maryland, Audubon Maryland-DC will be conducting the survey under contract from Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Between April and early July in 2011 and 2012 observers will do point counts at more than 300 randomly located points in Dorchester, Wicomico, Somerset

and Worcester Counties, and also on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, using call playbacks to solicit calls from secretive marshbirds like rails and bitterns, and sharp eyes to count marsh-dwelling sparrows.

This project is an exciting opportunity to finally increase our knowledge of Maryland's salt marsh birds so that we can begin to prioritize the best sites for habitat conservation and measures that will help the marsh "adapt" to sea level rise, thus ensuring the long term survival of the unique salt marsh bird community.

For more information on the 2011 tidal marsh bird survey visit the Audubon Maryland-DC website at <http://mddc.audubon.org> or contact Audubon Maryland-DC's Director of Bird Conservation, David Curson, at 410 558 2473 or [dcurson@audubon.org](mailto:dcurson@audubon.org).

## WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

- Donald D. Beasley, Bryans Road
- Mary Bowling, Charlotte Hall
- Robert Coble, Dunkirk
- Sharon Condor, Prince Frederick
- Pam Cooksey, Prince Frederick
- Frederika Dale, Huntingtown
- Katrina Delph, Waldorf
- Rose M. Duff, Leonardtown
- Cynthia A. Gariepy, Accokeek
- Jennifer Gregor, Waldorf
- Cherie Heely, Leonardtown
- Donna Henabray, Lexington Park
- Ingrid Lamb, Chesapeake Beach
- Aryane M. Nazdin, La Plata
- Suzanne Palmer, Port Tobacco
- Harold Perdelwitz, Clinton
- Karen Randall, Hughesville
- Comstock Ruth, Indian Head
- C. T. Rybka, Port Tobacco
- Jo Scherzer, Clinton
- Marilyn Senn, Hollywood
- Anne Sledge, Lusby
- Megan Smith, Prince Frederick
- Karyn Taylor, White Plains
- Jeanne Troncelliti, Coltons Point
- Janice E. Waters, Waldorf
- Norma Webber, Charlotte Hall
- Charlene Wilcox, Leonardtown

### SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

By Millie Kriemelmeyer

Congratulations to the winners of the 2011 SMAS scholarships to the National Audubon Society week long camps at Hog Island, Maine.

Lara North, science teacher at Lackey High School in Charles County, will attend Sharing Nature with Children: Educators Workshop.

Lynne Wheeler and Chris Ordiway will attend Chapter Leadership Week. Lynne and Chris are members of SMAS Board of Directors.

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- Please enroll me as a member of the Audubon Family and the **Southern Maryland Audubon Society**. I will receive the chapter newsletter, *The Osprey*, and all my dues will support environmental efforts in Southern Maryland.
- Please enroll me as a member of the **National Audubon Society**. My membership will also include membership in the Southern Maryland Audubon Society. I will receive National's *Audubon Magazine*, the chapter newsletter, and support national and local environmental causes. A fraction of my dues will be returned to the local chapter.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

I DO do NOT wish to receive *The Osprey* electronically. My e-mail address is: \_\_\_\_\_  
(electronic delivery saves SMAS printing and mailing costs.)

**Chapter-Only Dues (new/renewal)**  
**Make check payable to Southern Maryland Audubon Society**

- Individual/Family     \_\_1yr \$20 \_\_2yr \$38 \_\_3yr \$56
- Senior/Student         \_\_1yr \$15 \_\_2yr \$28 \_\_3yr \$42
- Individual Lifetime Membership     \_\_\_\_\_ \$500  
  Senior (over 62)     \_\_\_\_\_ \$250

**National Dues, Make check payable to**  
**National Audubon Society -- Chapter code #C9ZL000Z**

- Introductory Offer - 1 year     \$20
- Senior/Student                         \$15

Mail to: Southern Maryland Audubon Society, Attn: Membership  
P.O. Box 181 Bryans Road, MD 20616



## MD State Board of Education Votes Unanimously for Effective Environmental Literacy Graduation Requirement Language!

We are thrilled to announce that on February 22, the Maryland State Board of Education voted unanimously to support and publish the revised environmental literacy graduation requirement language recommended by the MDNCLI Coalition and supported by thousands of individuals and organizations across the state!

This revised language aligns with the environmental literacy graduation requirement language passed by the state board in 2010 and provides flexibility and oversight for school systems as they develop effective environmental literacy programs. The language will be published soon for a mandatory 30-day public comment period before the state board conducts a final vote (board members have expressed their support for passage of this language). We will keep you posted of the next steps as efforts move forward.

Your support was absolutely key to this success! At the meeting, not only did MSDE staff and state board members directly acknowledge the nearly 400 comments received in support of revised language, but a number of dedicated individuals showed their support for environmental literacy in person. It is because of you that we not only have the first environmental literacy graduation requirement in the nation, but we will now have solid language in the regulations to support the development and implementation of effective environmental education programs to ensure all students have the knowledge and experiences to graduate environmentally literate.

Julie Dieguez  
Coordinator Maryland No Child Left Inside Coalition  
www.mdncli.org  
jdieguez@cbf.org

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### Slim Pickin's on a Blustery Day *by Jane Klemer*

Tufted Titmouse forages  
Amongst Potomac rushes,  
At low tide.

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## FOSTER PARENTS NEEDED



Southern Maryland Audubon Society sponsors the banding of nestling birds of prey, or raptors, with serially numbered aluminum bands in cooperation with the Bird Banding Laboratory of the U. S. Department of the Interior, as part of our bird research and conservation

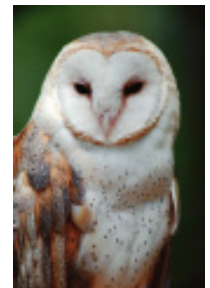
activities in Southern Maryland. Limited numbers of Osprey and Barn Owl nestlings become available each year for adoption. The gift of \$10 for an Osprey adoption, or of \$25 for a Barn Owl adoption, contributes to a special fund for the support of raptor research and raptor conservation projects. The foster parent receives:

- A certificate of adoption with the number of the U. S. Department of the Interior band, and the location and date of the banding.
- Information on the ecology and migration patterns of the species, photo of a fledgling, and any other information on whereabouts or fate of the bird that may be available.

### Interested?

Here's how to become a foster parent of an Osprey or a Barn Owl. Send \$10.00 for each Osprey, \$25 for each Barn Owl, or \$35 for each American Kestrel to:

**Melissa Boyle**  
**10144 Point Lookout Road**  
**Scotland, MD 20687**



### ADOPT A RAPTOR

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I wish to adopt (check one):

\_\_\_\_\_ (# of) Osprey, \$10.00 each

\_\_\_\_\_ (# of) Barn Owl, \$25.00 each

\_\_\_\_\_ (# of) American Kestrel, \$35.00 each

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to:**  
**Southern Maryland Audubon Society**



## APRIL EVENTS

APRIL 6 – WEDNESDAY – 7:30 p.m.

Faith United Methodist Church, Prince George's County  
15769 Livingston Road, Accokeek, MD 20607  
"Landscaping with Native Plants- Enhancing Biodiversity"  
ANN BODLING, Hard Bargain Farm Naturalist  
Ann has been involved in conservation and horticultural pursuits all of her adult life. Come and hear a discussion of why native plants matter, advantages of landscaping with natives, and how to get started planting natives in your backyard. The program will include a visual tour of mid-Atlantic native plants and native plant gardens.

April 23 – Saturday – 8 AM (2/3 day)  
Western Charles County – Field Trip  
"CHASE!"

Leader: George Jett (301-843-3524, gmjett@comcast.net). Starting from Pt. Tobacco, and cruising around the lower western side of Charles County. Will meet for carpooling in La Plata. Contact leader for details. Possibility of 100 species in April! Bring lunch, drinks. Bathrooms along the way. No fee. Limit 10, RSVP required.

May 4 – WEDNESDAY - 7:30 p.m.

La Plata Volunteer Fire Department, Charles County  
911 Washington Avenue, La Plata, MD 20646  
"Birds, Bats and Other Treats of Trinidad"  
GWEN BREWER and GEORGE JETT, Southern Maryland Audubon Society Members  
Explore the biodiversity of Trinidad through beautiful photographs and discussion from a 10-day visit to this tropical island. The speakers traveled with Bat Conservation International founder Dr. Merlin Tuttle and utilized the world famous Asa Wright Nature Center as their base. With the help of mammal expert and author Fiona Reid, ably assisted by local guide Jeffrey Gomes, many delights were seen and much was learned about the natural history of Trinidad. The list of birds, bats, and other animal and plant groups is astounding for such a small place. Come join us for a snapshot of what this lovely and safe island has to offer.

May 7 – Saturday – 8 AM - noon

Battle Creek Cypress Swamp, Calvert County – Field Trip  
Gray's Road off Sixes Road (Rt. 506), Pr. Frederick, MD  
"BARRED OWLS AND PROTHONOTARY WARBLERS"  
Leader: Andy Brown (410-535-5327, brownaj@co.cal.md.us)  
Target species include Prothonotary, Hooded and Kentucky Warblers, as well as other notable spring migrants. Particular emphasis will be on identification by song. From Prince Frederick, Rt. 2/4, 2 miles, right onto Sixes Rd. 2 miles, left onto Gray's Rd. Nature Center entrance on the right. Facilities, no fee. RSVP required.

May 14 – Saturday - All Day

COUNTY MAY COUNTS  
Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, St. Mary's Counties  
Help needed from all: backyard birders, beginners, team leaders. This data helps save our birds! County coordinators are as follows:  
Calvert: Sue Hamilton (410-586-1494, seal10n2002@yahoo.com);  
Charles: George Jett (301-843-3524, gmjett@comcast.net);  
Prince George's: Fred Fallon (301-249-1518, fwfallon@earthlink.net);  
St. Mary's: Bob Boxwell (401-394-1300), bobboxwell@hotmail.com.

May 21 – Saturday – 8 AM - noon

Smallwood State Park, Charles County – Field Trip  
Youths especially welcome!  
2750 Sweden Point Rd, Marbury, MD 20658  
"LATE MIGRANTS"  
Leaders: Jean Artes and Lynne Wheeler (301-743-3236, fidsruschic@aol.com)  
Visit one of our favorite parks. Especially good for forest interior birds but also Red-headed Woodpecker, late waterfowl, shorebirds, and late neotropical migrants. From Rt. 225 at Mason Springs, go south on Rt. 224 (Chicamuxen Rd) about 3 miles to park entrance on right. Facilities, \$3 per vehicle fee. RSVP required.

### 2011 SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS

*By Millie Kriemelmeyer*

Congratulations to the 2011 science fair winners and special thanks to the SMAS judges.

Calvert – Judge Sue Hamilton

Senior Award: Connor McCarthy, Patuxent HS  
Junior Award: Brett Crocheron, Plum Point MS

Charles – Judges Bob Lukinic and Lynne Wheeler

Senior Award: Monica Garza  
Junior Award: Liam Vienneau

St. Mary's – Judges Will Daniel and Bev Walker

Senior Award: Christian Burton  
Junior Award: Annie Imhof

High school and middle school winners were awarded a certificate of award, one-year membership in National Audubon Society and Southern Maryland Audubon Society, and \$50.

**EDITOR:** Tyler Bell  
23035 Forest Way, California, MD 20619  
**Telephone:** (301) 862-4623  
**E-mail:** jtylerbell@yahoo.com

The deadline for the Osprey is the fifth of each month. Please send all short articles, reports, unique sightings, conservation updates, calendar items, etc. to the above address.

**Southern Maryland Audubon Society**  
P.O. Box 181 Bryans Road, MD 20616