

NEWS RELEASE

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(RIDGELY, MD—September 3, 2015)

Adkins Arboretum Partners with Pickering Creek and Phillips Wharf to Offer Maryland Master Natural Training

This fall, Adkins Arboretum will offer Maryland Master Naturalist training in partnership with Pickering Creek Audubon Center and Phillips Wharf Environmental Center. The program, geared toward study of the coastal plain, provides training for volunteers to learn and share knowledge of the natural world in Maryland and engages citizens as stewards of Maryland's natural ecosystems and resources through science-based education and volunteer service in their communities.

Individuals accepted into Master Naturalist training receive 48 hours of instruction, including hands-on outdoors experience. All classes are taught by experts in the subject. The curriculum includes sessions on Maryland's natural history, flora and fauna, principles of ecology, human interaction with the landscape, and teaching and interpretation. Following training, participants serve in their communities as University of Maryland Extension volunteers.

Training sessions will be held the third Wednesday of the month from October to July. The program fee is \$250; application deadline is Fri., Sept. 18. For more information or to apply for the Master Naturalist program, contact Robyn Affron at 410-634-2847, ext. 25 or raffron@adkinsarboretum.org, or visit extension.umd.edu/masternaturalist.



Adkins Arboretum is a 400-acre native garden and preserve at the headwaters of the Tuckahoe Creek in Caroline County. Open year round, the Arboretum offers educational programs for all ages about nature and gardening. For more information about Arboretum programs, visit www.adkinsarboretum.org or call 410-634-2847, ext. 0.

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