

To The Point Summer/Fall 2005

Newsletter of the Friends of Myrtle Point Park, Inc.



Patuxent River Swim - 2005 at Myrtle Point Park with Senator Bernie Fowler

A Summer of Learning Through Others

By Danielle Morrow

On June 1st I had the great pleasure of working with members of the Friends of Myrtle Point Park at an informal wade-in with Senator Bernie Fowler. It is well known in southern Maryland that Senator Fowler takes part in annual wade-ins to bring awareness to the community about the Patuxent River's health. Working as a Sierra Club intern this summer I attended this event and was able to help. To take part in a field-trip of this nature as a volunteer was a wonderful learning experience and a great opportunity to meet many people who have been working to protect the Patuxent River and surrounding lands.

Upon arrival the students were welcomed with a talk by Senator Fowler and songs about the river with Tom Wisner. The respect the students showed and interest they had in learning about the Patuxent River's health and enthusiasm to enter the water was amazing. While we were only able to wade-in 37 inches the presence of grasses growing in the river was a great sight to see. The students as well as I enjoyed the experience with Senator Fowler, one of the great advocates for the protection of the Patuxent River.

Following the wade-in the students took part in various learning activities and what would be considered "scientific" manners of evaluating the river's health. Through actual water testing and seining activities the students were able to learn procedures that are carried out to analyze the state of a water system. At this point there was no difficulty getting the kids in the water to be involved, rather more of a problem getting them out. At the seining station the presence of such large numbers of silver-sides was quite remarkable to the students. Watching the excitement on their faces and their desire to help with such a project showed encouragement for the state of the river in future generation.

I feel very privileged to have the ability to work with such environmentally motivated individuals this summer. While talking with other classmates from school, most have failed to have the opportunity to meet as many people and take part in hands on events. Only through education about issues of importance and allowing them to become involved can we ensure that previous work will be carried through in future generations. This summer has already proven to be and shows great promise of continuing to be a wonderful learning experience for myself. Through gaining insight from members of the Maryland Chapter of the Sierra Club, Friends of Myrtle Point Park and the excitement and desire from the students from Hollywood Elementary School I feel that my education has been and will be greatly enhanced.

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The President's Point

It has been nearly six months since the February 26th public workshop on the future of Myrtle Point Park. At the time the efforts of the county's Parks and Recreation department was met with great enthusiasm. Since that time the commissioners have allocated funding (as they did to go forward with the initial plans and workshop, thanks guys) for the park beginning in 2010. The plan has also been presented to the P & R board and to Planning and Zoning. The next in line for this enjoyable road show are the County Commissioners. This may occur as early as their next meeting on August 23rd, but we should not be too upset if it is pushed off for more pressing business.

One of the most important tools we have in the efforts to preserve the Park, is patience and persistence. And anyone who has been involved in this effort has to have an abundance of those two qualities. The journey to see Myrtle Point become a nature park has had a long and winding road. But we have achieved enormous steps since we began this effort last century. Good things take time. Good things require continued effort. We can help keep things on course by continuing our efforts. Showing up at the various meetings where the plan is reviewed is vital. We asked for the nature park concept, the county finally agreed with us, now we need to support those who have worked with us and continue to do so.

I rarely single individuals out in any public forum, but I will do so now. Park and Recreation's staff has been a real asset in our efforts. They have been extremely cooperative in involving FOMPP in the entire process. From Phil Rollins at the top, down to the office staff in Leonardtown, I have received nothing except cooperation. We will miss our relationship with Billy Ball (now retired) in dealing with the on the ground issues at the park. But we fully expect another excellent staff to fill his shoes. It is nice to be in a win win situation. Cooperation has fallen out of the picture on way too many issues. Maybe we can be an example of what can happen when everybody listens to others concerns and works together to achieve a positive goal.

Myrtle Point Park's Potential as a Chesapeake Gateway

Kellie Gofus

In addition to being a Friend of Myrtle Point Park, it is also likely you are a patron of other special places in the region, such as: Battle Creek Cypress Swamp, Sotterley Plantation, Point Lookout State Park, or the Calvert Marine Museum. As diverse as these places are in what makes them individually special, they are also connected through a broad, organized network – one that Myrtle Point Park's abundant features make it eligible for membership in – the Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network. Using excerpts from their website (www.baygateways.net), I offer this overview to help us better appreciate the possible benefits from Myrtle Point Park's inclusion.

The Gateways Network - authorized by the Chesapeake Bay Initiative Act of 1998 - is coordinated by the National Park Service in partnership with the Chesapeake Bay Program. The Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network (CBGN) is a partnership system of over 140 maritime museums, parks, refuges, historic sites and water trails around the Chesapeake watershed. Gateways are the special places where visitors can experience the authentic Chesapeake - they tell the Chesapeake story. Linking the places people value to an understanding of the Chesapeake as a system is an integral part of the effort to conserve and restore the Bay's environment.

CBGN Goals:

The Gateways Network helps visitors find, enjoy, and learn about the special places and stories of the Chesapeake and its watershed. The Network and all participating Gateways do this for a reason – the Chesapeake's future depends on watershed residents and visitors feeling connected with and understanding the Bay and its resources

Three goals drive the Network – to help people:

- better understand the Chesapeake by enhancing interpretation and education about the Bay watershed's special places and stories.
- access these special places through information, maps, guides and improvements for a system of Gateways and linking land and water routes.
- appreciate the part they play in the Bay's survival, and how they can become involved in conserving and restoring the natural, cultural, historical and recreational resources of this national treasure.

CBGN Characteristics:

Gateway sites are primary destinations where people can access, experience, learn about, and contribute to specific Bay-related natural, cultural, historic or recreational resources. They might be parks, wildlife refuges, historic sites, museums or other places representing the diversity of the Bay. In addition to providing a Bay-related experience, sites offer opportunities for volunteers to help restore or conserve Bay resources, and emphasize stewardship of the resources at the site. Additionally, water trails, land trails and other connections link Gateways through a network of boating, hiking, walking, biking or driving routes that explore the Bay area below the fall line, as well as rivers of the Bay watershed. Trails and water trails emphasize low-impact use.

Network Benefits:

For the general public, the Network serves as a convenient, informative "Gateway" to the Chesapeake Bay. Our website and publications, including an annual map and guide, make it easy for travelers and regional residents alike to navigate a Chesapeake watershed that stretches into six states and encompasses so many diverse places, sites, and attractions.

For member Gateways, the Network provides an indispensable source of advice and expertise from the National Park Service on everything from creating exhibits to developing new hiking paths and paddling trails. In addition, the Gateways Network has awarded more than \$4.5 million in matching grants in support of efforts by member sites to improve and expand their offerings to the public.

Myrtle Point Park's Network Potential:

As many of you already appreciate, Myrtle Point Park has numerous attractive and interesting features, including tidal wetlands, mature woodlands, prehistoric archaeology, and several miles of trails and shoreline. The park offers abundant natural, cultural, historical and recreational resources – any/all of which make it a candidate for Gateway Network inclusion. Perhaps one of the most immediately tangible would be the park's ability to feature a water trail. The recent park Master Plan included a paddle-in/-out amenity, placed on the protected shore of Sam Abell's Cove. The Friends of Myrtle Point Park (FOMPP) sponsored a member to attend the CBGN 4-day conference this April, and all the information gathered confirmed the park's potential for such an affiliation. St. Mary's County Parks, Recreation and Community Services (RP&CS) Director, Mr. Phil Rollins, is also interested in this prospect. As new Gateways are added regularly, Myrtle Point Park could be nominated any time before the end of January, and be eligible to seek network grants for that year, upon approval.

These are exciting times, and Myrtle Point Park has never been better positioned for reaching its higher potential. In contrast, funding and “sweat equity” are not in abundance; FOMPP efforts, in partnership with and in support of RP&CS, could benefit from more volunteer assistance. Perhaps you have proposal or grant writing abilities, or connections to networks of expertise in trail maintenance or invasive species eradication, or an interest in contributing to community value. Your time and talents are invited and welcome. Imagine – tourists browse the CBGN website for water trails and nature hikes, and include Myrtle Point Park as one of their destinations along their journey – you could help make that happen!

Weed Warriors

Bob Boxwell

Myrtle Point Park is once again under assault. But this time it's not threatened by shortsighted politicians or greedy developers. No this time it is a seemingly innocuous Leafy green plants. Those of you who have visited the park may not be aware of this threat, but think about your last walk along Berry Lane. Pine trees have needles not broadleaves so why is that pine covered in green. The answer is a European plant introduced into this country as a decorative plant, English ivy. And this is just one of many alien plant called invasive species.

These plants bear this name because they are not native to North America and have no natural predators here. Kudzu, while not an issue at Myrtle Point, is a poster child for this problem. It grows quickly, covers entire trees, and literally strangles the plant by covering all the surfaces. English ivy is a bit slower, but it too can pull down trees 60 feet and taller.

The other non-native species that present a clear danger is multiflora rose. Other invasives include Japanese honeysuckle and wineberry. While these plants do provide some benefits to wildlife, they swamp out native plants that provide the benefits and more. Often time these plants were introduced into this country as ornamentals or to provide some agricultural benefit. Multiflora rose was intended as a living fence for livestock. It certainly stops cattle from moving, but it does the same for people to. And we can thank birds and other animals for spreading them. They eat the fruit and spread the seed through their feces. But we are to blame not the animals.

And we hold the key to solving this problem. People like the Frank and Christina Allen and Bill and Kaki Burruss have held many workdays to deal with these problems. But Bill has moved and the Allens are busy with their own farm, **so we need to take up the slack.**

Keep tuned to our web page and newsletter for our next step in dealing with this issue. We hope to try and begin a project in the fall to deal with the multiflora jungle in the front part of the park. It is going to be a long drawn out battle, but I know we can succeed. And have pulled a few weeds myself this summer, it actually is kind of fun and definitively satisfying. If you are interested in learning more, please contact me, either by e-mail at robertjohnboxwell@yahoo.com or phone 410-394-1300. I'll be happy to enroll you in the ranks of the "weed warriors".

On-line Watershed Discussion Board

An announcement from Amy C. Handen, Watershed Coordinator, National Park Service, Chesapeake Bay Program Office:

EPA's Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watershed launched a new on-line Watershed Discussion Board. This forum offers watershed practitioners a platform to exchange ideas, so that innovative solutions and ideas can be easily shared in (near) real-time cyberspace. EPA hopes to engage people from around the country in these interactive, on-line discussions. The Forum currently includes the following six categories:

- Community Involvement
- Smart Growth/Low Impact Development
- Source Water Protection
- Stormwater Best Management Practices
- Sustainable Financing
- Watershed Planning Tools



Please visit <http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/forum/forum.html> and join in! Share your expertise so that others can learn from your experiences. Anyone can view the discussion, but one must register to post messages and receive customized updates.

Myrtle Point Park Master Plan

Community Workshop – February 26th

Presentations of the Master Plan:

St. Mary's County Planning Commission – June 13th

St. Mary's County Board of County Commissioners – August 23rd

Third Annual Myrtle Point Park Cleanup - April 9th



**Earth Day on the Square in Leonardtown
April 17th**



Kellie Gofus Explains the Point about Myrtle Point Park

**Patuxent River Wade-In
June 1st**



Senator Bernie Fowler captivates his audience.

Fun Day in the Park – July 16th



St. Mary's County Health Department: Ms. Becky Tyer handed out Sun Survival information kits, brochures about ticks and Lyme disease and poison ivy.



Senator Roy Dyson and Nancy Rogers learn about Geo-Caching.



Robert Hicks explains Geo-Caching in the Park.

Anniversary Watershed Lessons?

Comment, by Fred Tutman, Patuxent Riverkeeper
www.paxriverkeeper.org

This summer marks the one year anniversary of my accepting the job of Patuxent Riverkeeper. People often ask me whether or not I think we can really make a difference combating water quality and environmental issues that have vexed Marylanders for generations? My response to this question is generally as optimistic as my outlook.

Some of the most persuasive and optimistic arguments (at least on the Patuxent River) have been voiced by veteran watershed observers, former Senator Bernie Fowler and Dr. Walter Boynton from the University of Maryland's lab in Solomon's. These wizened sources of watershed knowledge have pointed out that in the aftermath of the Patuxent Charettes and citizen law suits in the 1980's that we actually managed for a time to bring the Patuxent River back from the brink. Now these many years later we have begun sliding backwards again due to the cumulative effects of more population, more wastewater, more impervious surfaces and other foes of swimmable, fishable waters. Because of these human impacts, we seem to be worse off than before. Yet, both common sense and the best science suggest that if we did it once before-- we can do it again. The resilience of our watershed has already been proven. Plainly, what we need is the public and political will power (determination) to chart a course for favorable change and stick to it.

Who is fighting the battles?

It is not true that environmentalism is dead. Among those who care, the environmental movement to save our watersheds is still really energized. While working 110 linear miles of watershed in seven counties I see some particular trends that seem to stand out wherever I go. For one thing, it's the same people doing the fighting and overall there are not enough of us raising a ruckus about the deplorable state of our waterways. There are dedicated pockets of resistance and obstinate activism in every corner of our watershed who are bound and determined to save our streams, rivers and Bay. Interestingly, the faithful are overwhelmingly female. It's not my imagination—but the guys don't put in nearly the *manhours* as do women in our movement. I'm not sure why. Also, the most passionate advocates are often found among homeowners. Less so among apartment dwellers, urbanites and those who rent their homes. This is a badly skewed trend and creates unintended disparities. Also, in spite of statistics and history that document ethnic minorities are the hardest hit nationwide by environmental disparities, there are nonetheless far too few African-Americans, Hispanics or Asians to be found in the front lines of these environmental causes. I think this means we need to work much harder to cultivate the messages that might bring these potentially powerful allies to rally to our cause. Similarly, I have seen Quakers, Unitarians and Baptists who approach environmental stewardship with a strong spiritual context and yet not nearly enough coalition building aimed at bringing people of all faiths together to protect the natural beauty of our environmental resources. We all need to reach out to the people who have not been fully engaged and who ironically have the most at stake as we degrade our fragile environment.

Are the laws good enough?

Many of us have learned that while there is high minded legislation enacted in order to protect our natural environment, things are a far cry from ideal. In fact there is a lot of slippage and inconsistency in how the laws are applied and enforced. Much of this is purely a question of collective vigilance. A growing number of citizens have come to the conclusion that if environmental quality is to be protected, it will occur due to our own civic and activist efforts to get better performance from our laws and from our paid watchdogs. Just having Federal and State laws on the books, really has not altered the fact that our environment is sometimes under the watchful eyes of those motivated by personal aims such as financial gain, saving their own job, avoiding confrontation, protecting the status quo, or any number of other priorities that have no bearing at all on the real problems with our environment. We need to raise the level of public scrutiny, monitoring and engagement on environmental compliance and it's a challenge for all of us. Even the best "watchers" cannot do the job alone and our eyes, ears and activism can make much needed changes in the system. All of us collectively own the waterways and quality that comes with them. We also own the laws and have a vested interest in how they serve us, protect our health and safety while bringing other kinds of value to our lives. So it is unfortunate that too often we are treated as interlopers when we simply ask our regulators to enforce not only the laws, but also the spirit and intent being served by those laws.



My past 12 months as a Riverkeeper have only reinforced the above conclusions. Namely that we need to solicit broader involvement, empower citizen watchdogs, be unrelenting in demanding results from our legislative and regulatory community, and look for innovative partnerships among those previously ignored. Only then will we start making real progress in fixing what is broken in our watersheds.

Captain John Smith's Patuxent Exploration

Almost four hundred years ago, nearly to the day, Captain John Smith of the Virginia Company sailed up the Patuxent River during his second voyage to explore the Chesapeake Bay and its resources. Smith's detailed writings offer a vibrant, captivating picture of the Bay, its rivers, and native peoples four centuries ago.

Despite Spanish territory claims extending to the Bay region, England was motivated to establish defensible outposts around the Chesapeake and hold the region on behalf of their own enterprises. In addition to exportable mineral deposits and furs from natives, the Virginia Company had ambitions similar to those Thomas Jefferson assigned to Captains Lewis and Clark – a “Northwest Passage” to the Pacific, and access to China's riches. It was this specific objective that pushed John Smith into the northern and western waters of the Chesapeake basin when he cast off the dock at Jamestown in the summer of 1608.

Smith and his crew traveled the Bay and its rivers in a vessel that was a forty-foot long, rib-framed, shallow-draft rowboat with a square lugsail on its single mast and a cargo capacity of two to three tons. This configuration – called a “barge” or shallop in 1608 – facilitated Smith's ability to go ashore frequently to interact with natives, as well as to depart quickly in any weather, in case of inhospitable encounters. He noted those he met on the Patuxent as the “most civil” anywhere.

On his first voyage up the Bay from Jamestown, Smith crossed over from Hooper Island to Calvert Cliffs, missing the Patuxent on his way up to the Patapsco River. During his second expedition, he explored the Susquehanna mouth, and after departing from Kent Island, he entered the Patuxent River. Just upstream from its mouth, the Patuxent bends sharply around Point Patience – named so from the difficulty mariners had in rounding it during the age of sail. Here, due to the creased bottom of the river's deepest reach, and the narrow channel, the currents during both flood and ebb tides accelerate to 1.3 miles per hour. As the barge was difficult to row, if Smith encountered an unfavorable ebb or flood tide there, his best option was to await the next flood tide. Once underway again, he passed Myrtle Point and made note of Mill and Cuckold creeks to port, but with diminishing inland winds, he was more concerned with the difficulties of traveling upstream than with exploring these minor tributaries.

From 9-12 August 1608, Smith and his crew traveled about forty-five miles' worth of hot, hard rowing along the Patuxent, turning south before reaching Jug Bay (near the current Merkle Wildlife Sanctuary). During this four-day passage, he came ashore to six native villages. By protocol, he visited the werowance (chief) villages of the river's three chiefdoms in 1608: the Acquintanacsuck, Pawtuxunt, and Mattapanient. His last stop, on the afternoon of 12 August, was at a village south of Hollywood Shores; from there he departed the Patuxent and continued south on the Bay, exploring the Rappahannock before returning to Jamestown in early September.

Patuxent and Myrtle Point Historical Reflections

At the time of Smith's Patuxent exploration, the mature native woodlands were still intact and watershed siltation was negligible. It is most likely the Patuxent waters were transparent, an assumption supported by Smith's exclamation about the “infinite schools of diverse kinds of fish more than elsewhere.” Schools of rockfish, and ravenous bluefish would have been seen devouring silversides, mummichogs, and acres of menhaden. Widespread oyster reefs in the lower reaches, and over 12,000 acres of softshell clam beds also would have been visible in the clear Patuxent waters. Clouds of sediment could be observed on the river bottoms as groups of cow-nose rays foraged for benthic worms and clams.

Although there was not a native village at Myrtle Point in 1608 to draw Captain Smith ashore, the peninsula hosted numerous indigenous basecamps over several millennia. Many of these camps date back to the Late Archaic Period (3500 – 1000 B.C.), where prehistoric people gathered for fish-spawning runs and oyster harvesting. Archaeologists have identified several middens of discarded oyster shells from this period. As corn, bean, and squash farming increased during the Late Woodland Period (1200 – 1700 A.D.), shell midden sites doubled, representing an expanded native population. Archaeology surveys at Myrtle Point have also found fluted points, shell-tempered ceramics, and squash seeds in a shell pit from this period, indicating the peninsula was a continuous resource of subsistence for natives up to their contact with Europeans.

It was not long after Captain Smith sailed past Mill Creek that the first European took claim of land that included Myrtle Point.

In 1643, Nicholas Harvey acquired a patent to a 1000-acre tract he called St. Joseph's Manor. Over the next 300 years, Myrtle Point was titled to no less than twenty persons, the last being commercial ownership in 1957 by the Washington Timber and Turpentine Company.

Certainly much has changed at Myrtle Point over the many years of human usage, and currently, as St. Mary's County's premier nature park, a fresh chapter in Myrtle Point's history is beginning to unfold. Perhaps this new identity and value to people will foster its gradual return to something more resembling what it was when Captain Smith sailed by on a humid week in August, 1608.

Note: If you are intrigued to read further on Captain Smith's journeys on the Chesapeake, I offer two works consulted for this article. Volume III of [The Complete Works of Captain John Smith](#), by John Smith and Philip L. Barbour [UNC Press, 1986], contains the exhaustive details that include the Patuxent River leg of the exploration (with Barbour's rich historical and interpretive notes). Less in volume, but perhaps richer in context, is the book created by/for the Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network, and written by a team of historians, archaeologists, and environmental scientists. The book, [John Smith's Chesapeake Voyages: 1607-1609](#), is currently only on CD and exclusively for Gateways sites, but will soon be available as a paper edition for the public and will include 150 maps and illustrations. ~
K.G.

Fall is one of my favorite times of year. It's a time of change and after the heat and humidity of the summer, a welcome change. You can feel it in the air. You can smell it in the breeze. You can see it falling from the trees. And the air fills with the sounds and sights of a river of birds migrating southward.

Rivers and other bodies of water are always interesting places to watch migration. Birds and other animals often follow watercourses in their seasonal movements. Stopping on a peninsula to bed down for the evening is not uncommon. Given the right combination of wind and weather and fall birding can be wonderfully challenging. A dramatic increase in the number of birds is just part of the fun. The change in variety and diversity of species can also be dramatic.

Part of the identification problem in the fall is that many species no longer wear their breeding finery. Wear and tear has taken its toll, and many species have begun molting into their more subdued basic (non-breeding) plumage. Fall warblers are a great example of this challenge. And to add to the confusion, many birds don't sing during their fall journey. For people who rely heavily on song for identification, this is not very helpful.



Still it's great fun trying to pick out the black-throated blues and greens, hope for a Cape May or magnolia, watching the big pulse of black and whites and redstarts moving through. Lots of yellows to pick through, looking for orioles and tanagers and a smattering of vireos. With refueling high on the list for migrating birds, close looks may be possible. I've seen years when the catbirds and thrashers were as common as sparrows in the winter.

And speaking of which, watch and listen for our fall sparrows. The white-throated sparrow and northern junco mark the end of migration for many species. Before the sparrows, keep your eyes out for the yellow-rumped or myrtle warblers. When they begin to appear, you know you've seen the end of warbler migration until spring.

But just as this wave of migration completes, the next wave is already taking place. Hawk migration is not as noticeable a phenomenon on our coast as it is in the piedmont and mountains. Still the number of birds of prey begins to increase and we can hope to see the return of American kestrels. And in the final round of migration, the summer crew of terns and ospreys responsible for patrolling the Bay and rivers retires to the south as their waterfowl replacements begin to move in.



NATIONAL TRAILS DAY IN ST. MARY'S COUNTY

Friends of Myrtle Point members participated in leading two of the walks in the National Trails Day on June 4th. This was the first time Myrtle Point Park was included in the American Hiking Society's Annual Event. Bev and Warren Walker led an early morning excursion at Myrtle Point Park. Weather was mild and views of the Patuxent great! No notes were available so I am unable to elaborate but I was assured by participants it was both informative and a good time.

I hosted a walk at a neighboring county park, John Baggett in Laurel Grove, as it has proven to be an amazing micro-ecosystem. We took notes of our seasonal flowering findings or noted plants not seen on other trips as some of our participants were new to the region. **Noted:** pignut hickory, sweet bay magnolia in bloom on forest edge in the sun, wild azalea on woods edge blooming, VA creeper in bloom, Indian cucumber was still blooming, so was strawberry bush also called wahoo or Euonymus, pipsissewa flowering, sensitive...cinnamon...bracken...fern, showy orchis leaves were so pronounced now. We also heard a few late singing migratory species which lends us the thought they may be breeding in this ~ 10 acre oasis. Prairie warbler, towhee, red-eyed vireo, wood peewee, caught our attention over and over.

Far different from my last walk in May. It was interesting to note the sphagnum moss, sweet bay magnolia, and winterberry bog was still saturated yet the tree heavy swamp was dry and grass covered. We spotted one 12-year-old female box turtle and a female black widow so we took excellent photos. Note this park hosts a sweet bay magnolia bog, upland mature pine forest, and an upland hardwood forest. Walking is fairly level.



This is a wonderful teaching arena and seldom visited. There are plants here waiting to be discovered as no formal study has been completed and I have only been in a bit since February '05. Call if you want company!

Mary Piotrowski 301-472-4091

Calendar of Events



A Public Forum on Alternative Energy and Conservation: Thursday, September 29, 2005
**at the Northern Senior Center, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Sponsored by The Sierra Club
Southern Maryland Group.** Hear how leaders in Southern Maryland are using alternative
and innovative sources of energy. Join a discussion on how we can all work toward
reducing our energy consumption and our dependence on conventional sources of energy by

utilizing alternative technology for energy production for vehicles, home heating and more. For
additional information contact: Dudley Lindsley, 301-373-2551; E-mail: dlindsley@erols.com

Wild Auction 2005: For the benefit of the Battle Creek Nature Education Society, Saturday, October 29,
2005, 7:00-9:00 p.m., Location: Battle Creek Cypress Swamp. This auction is for Adults Only.

Earth Day on the Square in Leonardtown: The date for Earth Day on the Square in
Leonardtown has been set for Sunday, April 23, 2006 from 12:30 until 4:30. For information
contact: Dudley Lindsley,
301-373-2551; E-mail: dlindsley@erols.com



Friends of Myrtle Point Monthly Meetings: The regular monthly meetings of the Friends of Myrtle
Point, Inc. are held on the third Monday of the month, 7:00 p.m., at the Leonardtown Branch of the St.
Mary's County Memorial Library. The meetings are open to the public.

Membership Notes:

**Help us preserve, maintain and enhance what is special about Myrtle Point Park. Join the Friends
of Myrtle Point Park, Inc. for 2005**

**Give a Friends of Myrtle Point Park, Inc. membership for any occasion. [See form on last page.] An
appropriate acknowledgement will be sent to the person. Send the contribution and information to:
Friends of Myrtle Point Park, Inc. P.O. Box 1433, California, Maryland 20619 – Suzanne
Henderson, Membership Chairperson**

