

WV Master Naturalist Conference 2026  
 Program at a Glance (PAAG) as of 4/29/26

**Friday, July 24**

|             |  |   |  |  |  |   |
|-------------|--|---|--|--|--|---|
| 6:30        | <b>Early Morning Yoga - Jamie Chambers, RYT-200</b>  |   |  |  |  |   |
| 8:00        | <i>Meet 7:30]</i>  | <i>Meet 8:00</i>  |  | <i>Meet 8:00</i>   |  |   |
| 8:30        | <i>Travel 7:45</i>   | <i>Travel 8:15</i>  |  | <i>8:15 to ACCA</i>  | <i>Class &amp; Field</i>   | <i>Class &amp; Field</i>  |
| 9:00 – noon | <b>Birding the Cheat Canyon in Midsummer</b><br><i>Bob Dean</i>  | <b>Geology at Coopers Rock</b><br><i>WV Geo Survey</i>                    |  | <b>Avian Conservation up Close</b><br><i>Katie Fallon<br/>Jesse Fallon</i>                 | <b>An Overview of Camp Dawson Conservation &amp; Native Grasses</b><br><i>Rick Chaney,<br/>Ryan Snyder</i> | <b>Small Mammal Species (SGCN)</b><br><i>Mack Frantz</i>  |
| 12:00       | <i>Lunch</i>   | <i>Lunch</i>  | <i>Lunch</i>   | <i>Lunch</i>   | <i>Lunch</i>   | <i>Lunch</i>  |
| 12:30       | <i>travel 12:30 WV Geo Survey</i>  | <i>meet 12:30, travel 12:40 Old Hemlock</i>                               | <i>meet 12:30, Carpool 12:45 to Cheat River</i>                                      | <i>meet 12:30, Carpool 12:45to Cheat Canyon</i>  | <i>Class &amp; Field at Cam Dawson</i>   | <i>Class</i>  |
| 1:00 – 4:00 | <b>Geology and Paleontology of West Virginia</b><br><i>Elizabeth Rhenberg<br/>Kenny Ashton</i>               | <b>Pollinator Diversity, and Conservation</b><br><i>Grace Savoy-Burke</i> | <b>Cheat River Snorkeling &amp; Fish ID</b><br><i>Madison Ball,<br/>Lisa Maraffa</i> | <b>Tree Identification &amp; Key Characteristics in Cheat Canyon</b><br><i>Zach Fowler</i> | <b>Natural Resources Conservation</b><br><i>Alex Lawson,<br/>Kyle Aldinger,<br/>Tom Wilsoncroft</i>        | <b>Bird Conservation in West Virginia</b><br><i>Richard Bailey,<br/>Katie Garst,<br/>Casey Rucker</i> |
| 4:00 – 6:00 |  |   |  |  |  |   |
| 6:00        | <b>Barbecue</b>  |   |  |  |  |   |
| 7:00        |  |   |  |  |  |   |
| 7:15        | <b>Keynote – There is No Place Like Home? The Eastern Asian-Eastern North American Floristic Disjunction</b> |   |  |  |  |   |
|             | <i>Zach Fowler</i>   |   |  |  |  |   |
| 8:30        | <b>Moth night</b>  |   |  |  |  |   |
|             | <i>Tucker Cooley</i>   |   |  |  |  |   |

Saturday, July 25

|                 |   |   |  |   |  |  |  |   |
|-----------------|---|---|--|---|--|--|--|---|
| 6:30            | <b>Early Morning Yoga - Jamie Chambers, RYT-200</b>   |   |  |   |  |  | Meet 6:45  |   |
|                 | all day<br>"Peatland<br>-Woodland"  | all day<br>"Woodland -<br>Peatland"   | all day  | all day   |  |  | Meet 6:55<br>travel 7:10<br>Old Hemlock  |   |
| 7:30            |   |   |  |   |  |  | 7:30-10:30AM   |   |
| 8:15            | Meet 8:10   | Meet 8:10   | Meet 8:10  |   | Meet 8:30  | Meet 8:20  | <b>From Canopy<br/>to Cut: Old<br/>Hemlock's<br/>Wild Diversity</b><br><i>LeJay Grafious<br/>&amp; Cheyenne<br/>Carter</i> |   |
| 8:30            | Carpool 8:25<br>Cranesville   | Carpool 8:25<br>Cathedral SP  | Travel 8:25<br>WVU Forest  | Dbl Class<br>room & Field   | Carpool 8:45<br>Nearby sites   | Travel 8:35<br>Old Hemlock   |  | Class   |
| 9:00 –<br>12:00 | <b>Peatland at<br/>Cranesville<br/>Swamp</b><br><i>EllaRose<br/>Warnick</i>   | <b>Forest stand<br/>dynamics</b><br><i>Dave McGill</i>                      | <b>Compass &amp;<br/>Orienteering</b><br><i>Sheldon Owen<br/>Ben Spong</i> | <b>Zoophagous<br/>Insects:<br/>Predators to<br/>Parasitoids</b><br><i>David Davis</i> | <b>Tour of Acid<br/>Mine</b><br>Drainage<br>Treatment<br><i>Brad Moore</i> | <b>Dendrology<br/>Walk in the<br/>Woods</b><br><i>Mike Plevich</i>                                       |  | <b>Intro to WV<br/>Moths</b><br><i>Tucker<br/>Cooley</i>                          |
| 12:00           | Lunch   | Lunch   | Lunch  | Lunch   | Lunch  | Lunch  | Lunch  | Lunch   |
| 12:30           | travel<br>Cathedral SP  | travel<br>Cranesville   |  | Meet 12:30<br>Travel 12:45<br>Up-Top  | Meet 12:30<br>Carpool 12:45<br>Rowlesburg                                  | Class Room<br>then Orchard   | Class Room   | Class Room  |
| 1:00 –<br>4:00  | <b>Cathedral</b><br><i>John Burkhart</i>  | <b>Peatland at<br/>Cranesville<br/>Swamp</b><br><i>EllaRose<br/>Warnick</i> | Continue<br>Orienteering   | <b>Bug Walk at<br/>Up-Top</b><br><i>David Davis<br/>Tucker Cooley<br/>John Bocan</i>  | <b>Geology near<br/>Rowlesburg</b><br><i>Clo Simard</i>                    | <b>American<br/>Chestnut</b><br><i>Mark Double<br/>(To Waddell<br/>Orchard)</i><br>24 members<br>1 guide | <b>eBird and<br/>iNaturalist</b><br><i>Rodney<br/>Bartgis</i>  | <b>Trout: Who<br/>they are,<br/>What they<br/>eat . . .</b><br><i>Mike Vernon</i> |
| 4 - 6           |   |   |  |   |  |  |  |   |
| 6 - 7           | Banquet   |   |  |   |  |  |  |   |
| 7:00-<br>7:30   | Business mtg & honors   |   |  |   |  |  |  |   |
| 8:00 -<br>9:00  | Keynote – <b>Hornyheads, Madtoms, and Darters: Narratives on Central Appalachian Fishes.</b><br><i>Stuart A. Welsh, US Geological Survey, West Virginia Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit; West Virginia University</i> |   |  |   |  |  |  |   |

Sunday July 26

|                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |
|----------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|
| 6:30           | Early Morning Yoga - Jamie Chambers, RYT-200  |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |
| 7:00           |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |
| 7:30           |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |
| 8:15           | Meet 8:10                                     | Meet 8:20   | Meet 8:10   | Meet 8:15   |   |   | Meet 8:25   | Meet 8:25  |   |
| 8:30           | travel 8:20<br>Cathedral SP                   | Travel 8:35<br>Old Hemlock                                  | travel 8:20<br>Coopers Rock                           | travel 8:30<br>Big Sandy  | Dbl Class<br>Room   | Classroom   | Travel 8:40<br>WVBG   | Travel 8:40<br>Jenkinsburg<br>(Blue Hole)  | Class & Field   |
| 9:00 -<br>noon | <b>Mushrooms<br/>of WV</b><br>Max<br>Dubansky | <b>Dendrology<br/>Walk in the<br/>Woods</b><br>Mike Plevich | <b>Geology of<br/>Cooper's<br/>Rock</b><br>Clo Simard | <b>A Trip to<br/>Wonder Falls<br/>on Big Sandy<br/>Creek</b><br>Braden<br>Meyer | <b>Medicinal<br/>Plants I have<br/>Known and<br/>Loved</b><br>Rebecca<br>Linger | <b>West Virginia<br/>Seed Saving<br/>Initiative</b><br>Christine<br>Zawaski | 9:30 - 12:30<br><b>Tour of the<br/>WV Botanic<br/>Garden</b><br>Abigail Waugh<br>Leah Swift | 9:30 – 12:30<br>A Field Trip to<br>WVLT's<br>Jenkinsburg<br>Area<br>Doug Wood<br>Dianne<br>Anestis | 9:00 – 12:30<br><b>Hydrology of<br/>WV</b><br>Bernie Howe<br>travel to<br>Alpine Lake |
| 12:30          |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |

Green – Carpool, travel to locations and lunch

Class & Field means a portion of the timeslot is in class (Usually 1 to 1.5 hours) and the rest in the field.