

WV Master Naturalist Conference 2026
Program at a Glance (PAAG) as of 7/11/26

Friday, July 24

6:30	Early Morning Yoga - Jamie Chambers, RYT-200					
	<i>Meet 7:30 Travel 7:40</i>					
8:00	Birding the Cheat Canyon in Midsummer <i>Bob Dean Class 8AM to 11AM</i>	<i>Meet 8:00 Travel 8:10</i>		<i>Meet 8:00 8:10 to ACCA</i>		
8:30					<i>Class & Field</i>	<i>Class & Field</i>
9:00 – noon		Geology at Coopers Rock <i>Jim Britton Randy Toth</i>		Avian Conservation up Close <i>Katie Fallon Jesse Fallon</i>	An Overview of Camp Dawson Conservation & Native Grasses <i>Rick Chaney, Ryan Snyder</i>	Small Mammal Species (SGCN) <i>Mack Frantz</i>
11:00	<i>Free time</i>					
12:00	<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Lunch</i>
12:30	<i>Meet 12:10 travel 12:20 WV Geo Survey</i>	<i>meet 12:30, travel 12:40 Old Hemlock</i>	<i>meet 12:30, Carpool 12:40 to Cheat River</i>	<i>meet 12:30, Carpool 12:40 Beech Run Trail</i>	<i>Class & Field at Camp Dawson</i>	<i>Class</i>
1:00 – 4:00	Geology and Paleontology of West Virginia <i>Elizabeth Rhenberg Kenny Ashton</i>	Pollinator Diversity, and Conservation <i>Grace Savoy-Burke</i>	Cheat River Snorkeling & Fish ID <i>Madison Ball, Lisa Maraffa</i>	Tree Identification & Key Characteristics in Cheat Canyon <i>Zach Fowler</i>	Natural Resources Conservation <i>Alex Lawson, Kyle Aldinger, Tom Wilsoncroft</i>	Bird Conservation in West Virginia <i>Richard Bailey, Katie Garst, Casey Rucker</i>
4:00 – 6:00						
6:00	Barbecue					
7:00						
7:15	Keynote – There is No Place Like Home? The Eastern Asian-Eastern North American Floristic Disjunction					
	<i>Zach Fowler</i>					
8:30	Moth night <i>Tucker Cooley</i>					

--	--

Saturday, July 25

6:30	Early Morning Yoga - Jamie Chambers, RYT-200						Meet 6:45	
	all day "Peatland -Woodland"	all day "Woodland - Peatland"	all day	all day			Meet 6:55 travel 7:10 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	From Canopy	
8:30	Carpool 8:20 Cranesville	Carpool 8:20 Cathedral SP	Travel 8:20 WVU Forest	Class room & Field	Carpool 8:40 Nearby sites	Travel 8:05 Old Hemlock	to Cut: Old Hemlock's	Class
9:00 – 12:00	Peatland at Cranesville Swamp <i>EllaRose Warnick</i>	Forest stand dynamics <i>Dave McGill</i>	Compass & Orienteering <i>Sheldon Owen Ben Spong</i>	Zoophagous Insects: Predators to Parasitoids <i>David Davis</i>	Tour of Acid Mine Drainage Treatment <i>Brad Moore Greg Phillips</i>	Dendrology Walk in the Woods <i>Mike Plevich</i>	Wild Diversity <i>LeJay Grafious & Cheyenne Carter</i>	Intro to WV Moths <i>Tucker Cooley John Field</i>
12:00	Travel	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12:30	Cathedral SP lunch	travel Cranesville		Meet 12:10 Travel 12:15 Up-Top		Class Room then Orchard	Meet 12:30 Carpool 12:40 Rowlesburg	Class Room then the pond
1:00 – 4:00	Flora of Cathedral <i>John Burkhart</i>	Peatland at Cranesville Swamp <i>EllaRose Warnick</i>	Continue Orienteering	Bug Walk at Up-Top <i>David Davis Tucker Cooley John Bocan</i>		Class at 12:45 American Chestnut <i>Mark Double (Waddell Orchard)</i>	Geology near Rowlesburg <i>Clo Simard</i>	Trout: Who they are, What they eat . . . <i>Mike Vernon</i>
4 - 6								
6 - 7	Banquet							
7:00- 7:30	Business mtg & honors							
8:00 - 9:00	Keynote – Hornyheads, Madtoms, and Darters: Narratives on Central Appalachian Fishes. Stuart A. Welsh, <i>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	<i>Meet 8:10</i>	<i>Meet 8:20</i>	<i>Meet 8:10</i>	<i>Meet 8:15</i>			<i>Meet 8:25</i>	<i>Meet 8:25</i>	
8:30	<i>travel 8:20 Cathedral SP</i>	<i>Travel 8:30 Old Hemlock</i>	<i>travel 8:20 Coopers Rock</i>	<i>travel 8:25 Big Sandy</i>	<i>Class Room</i>	<i>Classroom</i>	<i>Travel 8:35 WVBG</i>	<i>Travel 8:35 Jenkinsburg (Blue Hole)</i>	<i>Class & Field</i>
9:00 - noon	Mushrooms of WV <i>Max Dubansky</i>	Dendrology Walk in the Woods <i>Mike Plevich</i>	Geology of Cooper's Rock <i>Clo Simard</i>	A Trip to Wonder Falls on Big Sandy Creek <i>David Hough</i>	Medicinal Plants I have Known and Loved <i>Rebecca Linger</i>	West Virginia Seed Saving Initiative <i>Christine Zawaski</i>	9:30 - 12:30 Tour of the WV Botanic Garden <i>Abigail Waugh Leah Swift</i>	9:30 – 12:30 A Field Trip to WVLT's Jenkinsburg Area <i>Doug Wood Dianne Anestis</i>	9:00 – 12:30 Hydrology of WV <i>Bernie Howe travel to Alpine Lake</i>
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.