

New Wildlands!

For the 1st time in 11 years, Maryland is proposing new Wildlands for especially deserving state-owned areas. This assures the conservation of special places, and ensures that the public and outdoor education students have an authentic outdoor experience among important plant and animal communities, valuable aquatic resources, or outstanding aesthetic assets. With approval of the 23 new areas by the state legislature, only 10% of all public lands will be celebrated with a Wildland designation.

Mattawoman Expansion & Chapman Forest Wildlands

Two nominations will protect the stellar natural values that led thousands to propel the Campaign to Save Chapman Forest to success when Governor Glendening and the Conservation Fund saved the land from development in 1998. A Wildlands designation holds great meaning to those who have since learned of the outstanding historical and natural assets of this special gem.



A renowned biologist's prescience

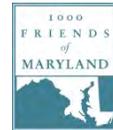
These words, written to the Campaign to Save Chapman Forest in support of saving this land, acquire renewed meaning with the Wildland's nominations:

"Chapman Forest has great importance for its biodiversity content, magnified many times over in its humanitarian value due to its proximity to the large urban and suburban populations of the D.C. area. To save a remnant of America's natural heritage of this nature would be a gift to future generations unmatched by any other that could be provided in the same place, on the same land."

E.O. Wilson, Pulitzer prize-winning author & recipient of the Crafoord prize, biology's equivalent to the Nobel Prize.

Directions

From the Beltway, take Indian Head Highway (Rte. 210) south. After about 15 miles, veer to the right on Chapman's Landing Road. After 1.6 miles, park on the right at the entrance gate.



conservecharles.org
friendsofmd.org
maryland.sierraclub.org
mattawomanwatershed.org

md.audubon.org
mdbass.com
mdflora.org
porttobaccoriver.org

Map

Research: R.H. Simmons, Maryland Native Plant Soc.
Cartography: David Linthicum

Photography

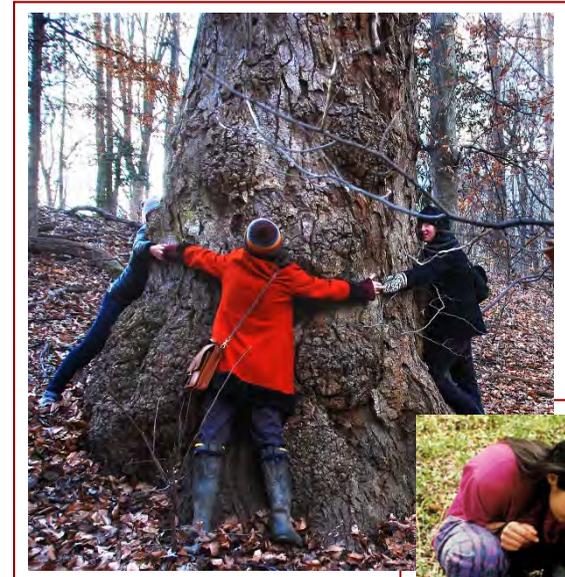
James Long
George Wilmot

Wilson letter

Courtesy of Bonnie Bick



The Wildland nominations for Mattawoman Creek & Chapman Forest



*We need the tonic
of wildness.*
Henry David Thoreau



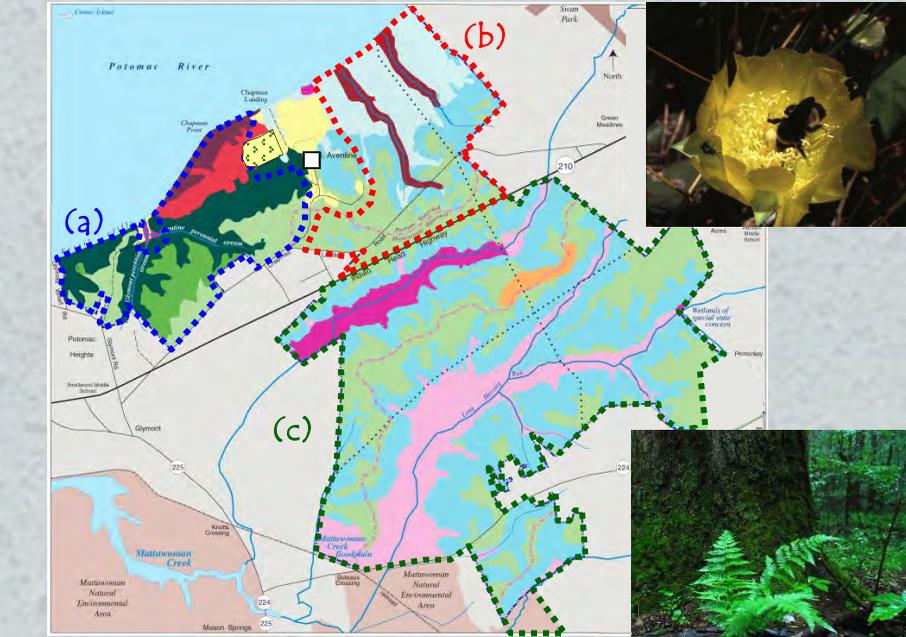
Maryland Wildlands- conserving the state's cherished jewels

(a) Chapman Forest NW sector:

Extremely varied habitats that include *globally rare* Shell-marl Ravine Forest, *globally rare* River-Bluff Oak Forest, forest with old-growth aspects, deep ravines, the region's largest Water-willow Shrub-marsh.

More:

- Audubon Important Bird Area
- Eagle's nest
- Waterfowl
- State-champion big trees
- Dozens of state-rare upland plants (e.g., largest Glade Fern bed statewide.)
- State-rare wetland plants
- Rich wildflower displays



(c) Mattawoman Expansion: Deeply forested Mattawoman drainage with highly varied topography harboring a pristine stream of rare quality. Extensive forest interior amplifies a state Natural Environment Area and filters water for Mattawoman Creek.

More:

- Audubon Important Bird Area
- River herring spawning stream; American Eel
- Vernal pools, wetlands, floodplains, and streams.
- Big trees
- Rich wildflower displays
- State-rare plants (one smells like VapoRub!)



Mt. Aventine & its surrounding area will lie outside Wildlands. The spectacular Potomac River view will be further guarded by Wildlands, as will the quietude for those seeking nature and history.

(b) Chapman Forest NE sector: Sandy, dry soils supporting a forest-type rare for the area, more akin to the *eastern shore*. Gently rolling land and plant communities vividly contrast the deeply incised land and rich forest west of Mt. Aventine.

More:

- Audubon Important Bird Area
- Prickly Pear cactus
- Eagle's nest
- Pristine fern seeps
- State-rare grasses
- Big trees
- Laurel heaths
- Wetlands
- Tiger beetles



	Mature terrace gravel forest
	Diverse types of terraced forest
	Recovering terrace gravel forest
	Steep forested slopes (>12%)*
	Shell-marl ravine forest
	Coastal oak-pine forest
	Potomac floodplain forest
	Floodplain
	Wet meadow (in floodplain)
	Fern seep
	Water-willow shrub swamp
	Fields
	Reforested field
	Sandy soils (stippled)
	Utility easement (dotted)
	Watershed divide

*Source: Md. DNR, Resource Planning GIS
Research and field surveys: Roderick Simmons, Maryland Native Plant Soc.
Cartography: Dave Linticum