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In this issue, you will find topics like why aquatic macroinvertebrates need riparian buffers and how thermogenic plants get a headstart on spring's warmth. This month's Tree Talk features another favorite oak species, Northern Red Oak. Read on for more articles and events across the watershed.

Top Stories



Macroinvertebrate Menagerie

Both personal experiences and scientific research can attest to the importance of macroinvertebrates. Many have a vested stake in their wellbeing, from fish to anglers to researchers to tree planters.



What's Poppin? Phenological Fun!

By heating itself and the area around it, Skunk Cabbage takes advantage of late-winter pollination. This stinky plant attracts insects that are just starting to emerge after a long winter of dormancy.

[Read the Full Story](#)

[Learn More](#)

Tree Talk: Northern Red Oak



This month's Tree Talk is on Northern Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*). This valuable tree for wildlife and timber alike is common on mesic soils throughout eastern North America. Tune in to learn about its identification, mast cycle, and more. Another day, another oak!

[Watch Now](#)

Trivia



February Trivia Reveal (pictured on the left)

Old trees which are now surrounded by younger forest, but clearly grew up in the open (as evidenced by large, spreading, heavily-branched crowns) are called "wolf trees". They provide us a timeline of the land: wolf trees typically once grew among agricultural fields which were abandoned at some point in the past, a time that we can surmise based on the age of surrounding younger trees. Wolf trees are often important seed sources for the young woods regenerating around them, and also provide valuable habitat features of older forests, like hollows and dead wood.

[Congrats to Forest for the Bay member J. Brenneman for the correct answer!]

NEW March Trivia (pictured on the right)

Springtime is nearing and soon the drab dormant twigs of our trees will be bursting forth to begin this season's new growth. The buds of this hardwood tree were noticeably swelling back in early February. To Forest Trivia this month: name the species of tree this twig comes from. (Hint: this tree's trunk is shown in the background)

Submit your answers using the button below. Correct answers will be entered to win a Forests for the Bay baseball cap.

[Submit Your Answer](#)

Think you have a forest trivia question sure to stump your fellow Forests for the Bay members? Email it to us at forestsforthebay@gmail.com and we will include it as a future trivia question!

News Around the Watershed

General/ Watershed Wide

[50 Stories: Women in Their Woods](#)
[Cicadas are coming: What to expect in the Bay region](#)
[Women in Forestry](#)
[USDA Invests \\$285 Million to Improve National Forest and Grassland Infrastructure](#)
[Six Black-led organizations changing the face of outdoor recreation](#)
[Trying to keep its head above water](#)
[Skunk Cabbage Secrets](#)
[Planting trees helps fight climate change-but we need billions more seedlings](#)
[Conservation Corner: Getting ready for another summer with the spotted lanternfly](#)
[National forest monitoring capacity increases worldwide, research shows](#)
[Appalachian forests focus of new preservation program](#)
[Land use tied to 'intersex' smallmouth bass in Bay rivers](#)
[Court Orders U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to Determine Whether Northern Long-eared Bat Warrants Listing as Endangered Species](#)
[A new way to make wood transparent, stronger and lighter than glass](#)

Maryland

[On land preserved in Rachel Carson's name, spring isn't so silent](#)
[High-speed train could go through 'irreplaceable' land in Maryland](#)
[Baltimore church converts neglected urban forest into "peace park"](#)
[Beaver Believers](#)
[Branching Out- Maryland's Forest Stewardship Educator](#)

New York

[Maya Lin's 'ghost forest' will rise in Madison Square Park this spring](#)

Pennsylvania

[Take a Gander at This!](#)
[Pennsylvania parks are ready to shine](#)
[It's official: We've just seen the largest movement of evening grosbeaks into Pennsylvania in 20 years](#)
[1,271 Acres Added to Rothrock State Forest](#)
[Many hands make light tree-planting](#)
[10M tree plantings in Pa. will help Chesapeake Bay](#)

Virginia

[Chesapeake rooftop orchard provides relief for families in need](#)
[Field Notes- The land, the people, the communities, and the stories of Virginia's forests](#)

Get Involved

Webinars

[The Wild Turkey in Maryland: History, Biology, and Management](#)

When: Thursday, March 11, 2021, 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

[Mushrooms 101: Getting to Know Your Fungi Neighbors](#)

When: Thursday, March 11, 2021, 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

[Vernal Pools: The Natural History of a Fleeting Seasonal Wetland](#)

When: Wednesday, March 17, 2021, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

[Making Riparian Buffers Work For You](#)

When: Friday, March 19, 2021, 9:00 am to 10:00 am

[Invasive Plant Workshop](#)

When: Friday, March 19, 2021, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

[Spring Ephemerals with Ian Caton](#)

When: Monday, March 22, 2021, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

[Hydrology, Geology, and Biology of Springs](#)

When: Tuesday, March 23, 2021, 2:00 pm

[American Chestnut Restoration: The Life, Death and Rebirth of the American Chestnut in the Eastern Forest](#)

When: Tuesday, March 23, 2021, 6:00 pm

[Deer Impact Assessment and Mitigation Summit](#)

When: Thursday, March 25, 2021, 12:00 pm

[Transform Your Lawn into a Wildlife Friendly Space](#)

When: Tuesday, April 6, 2021, 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm

[They're Baaaack - The Return of the 17 Year Cicada](#)

When: Wednesday, April 7, 2021, 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

[Equity in the Outdoors Discussion: Identity, Inclusion, and Assumptions](#)

When: Wednesday, April 14, 2021, 7:00 pm

Maryland

[Tracks, signs, and stories of Maryland insects](#)

When: Wednesday, March 17, 2021, 12:00 pm

[Twilight Trek](#)

When: Saturday, March 13, 2021, 6:00 pm

Where: Elk Neck State Park, 4395 Turkey Point Road, North East, MD 21901

[Self-Guided History Hike of Bacon Ridge Natural Area](#)

When: Friday, March 19, 2021, – 7:00 pm, Sunday, March 21, 2021 8:00 am

Where: Bacon Ridge Natural Area, 1801 Hawkins Rd, Annapolis, MD 21401

Virginia

[Hopewell Street Tree Planting #1](#)

When: Saturday, March 20, 2021, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Where: Nazareth Lutheran Church Parking Lot, 1711 Grant Street, Hopewell, VA 23860

[Legacy Planning: A Spring Webinar Series for Woodland Owners](#)

When: April 7, 8, 14, & 15, 2021, 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm