

Student Service Learning Opportunities

The Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary consists of 1,700 acres of tidal freshwater wetlands, forests, meadows, and fields along the Patuxent River. The wetlands contain large diverse stands of aquatic plants, which are home to many bird, fish, reptile, and mammal species.

The Sanctuary has three primary goals: 1) Provide Environmental Education Opportunities, 2) Conduct Ecological Research, 3) Conserve and Protect the Jug Bay Ecosystem

Student volunteers can help us reach these goals and learn more about science and the local environment at the same time. Visit jugbay.org/volunteer or scan the QR code for upcoming events!



RESEARCH

What: Stream Monitoring – a.k.a. Aquatic Insect Sampling

When: once during each season

How: Under the guidance of a staff naturalist we meet, gather sampling equipment and wading boots, then visit one of three streams to catch the aquatic insects and other invertebrates that comprise the study. After collection, invertebrates are sorted, identified and counted.

○ Earn 6 hours of service.

Why: This information is compiled to determine stream health, the Biotic Index of Integrity.

STEWARDSHIP

What: Invasive Plant Mapping and Removal

When: weekend work days are scheduled year-round, but trained volunteers can create removal teams and work independently as well

How: Under the guidance of a staff naturalist we meet, gather tools, then proceed to the work area where infestations are mapped using GPS and removed by hand-pulling and/or cutting. Plants are bagged and disposed of at the end of the work day.

○ Earn 2-4 hours of service for each day of participation.

Why: The spread of non-native invasive plants threatens orchids and other wildflowers, and reduces food options for turtles, birds and other wildlife.



STEWARDSHIP

What: Garden Club

When: weekdays, April - November

How: Under the guidance of staff or volunteers we meet, gather tools, then proceed to the work area. Weeds are pulled and plants are watered. Enjoy butterflies, toads, and take home a free plant!

- Earn 2-3 hours of service for each day of participation.

Why: By tending native plant gardens, we provide additional food and shelter for wildlife. We also use the gardens for educational purposes.



BEHIND-the-SCENES

What: Animal Care

When: year-round, make your own schedule

How: After receiving training, students feed and clean the dwellings for our resident fish and box turtles.

- Earn 1-2 hours of service for each day of participation.

Why: Our small staff needs assistance taking care of our captive animals.



Cinco, one of our resident box turtles.

Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary is located at 1361 Wrighton Road, Bristol, MD 20711
Visit www.jugbay.org for programs, directions, and more information.
Call (410) 741-9330 or e-mail volunteers@jugbay.org to reach the Volunteer Coordinator.