Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park



Department of Parks | Park Planning & Stewardship Division The Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission | 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Abstract

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Abstract	This Operation & Use Plan provides background materials, describes the planning process and outlines a plan for the development of Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park. It contains materials on natural and cultural resources, needs assessments, implementation strategies and cost estimates.

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The Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910

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Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park Vicinity Map

Introduction & Executive Summary

The Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park (SBCP) is one of the County's newest and most unique Conservation Parks. The Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) created the Park through a combination of purchase and dedication. Dedicated acreage was part of the site plan approvals for the Estates of Greenbrier and the Greenbrier Preserve developments. Acquisition was accomplished as part of Montgomery County's Legacy Open Space program that was created to protect the County's most significant open space resources. *The Legacy Open Space Functional Master Plan*, approved by the County Planning Board and County Council in 2001, recommended conservation of this property. From the inception of the LOS Program, the Serpentine Barrens has represented the highest priority for acquisition due to the sensitive and rare nature of the resource.

In acquiring Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park, M-NCPPC seeks to achieve the following conservation objectives:

- Maintain the park in its present state as a natural area
- Preserve the park's underlying serpentine geology, which combined with resulting soils supports many unique plant species
- Preserve over 20 identified rare, threatened, endangered, and watchlist plant species within the park, which contains some of the highest biodiversity in Montgomery County outside the Potomac River corridor
- Conserve the large block of high quality contiguous forest that covers most of the site, and is one of the most diverse in the County
- Protect the Greenbrier Branch and its tributaries within the park, including wetlands and sensitive hydrologic features in the park
- Accommodate passive public uses in the park limited to natural surface trails to provide for hiking

The Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park is a 341 acre complex located in southwestern Montgomery County, Maryland, within the Potomac Subregion planning area. The Serpentine Barrens is the only remaining significant undeveloped area of serpentinite-derived soils remaining in the County. The property has been known by numerous names including Travilah Barrens, Piney Barrens, Big Pine and Serpentine Barrens.

The park is located south of Travilah Road and west of Piney Meetinghouse Road, between the communities of Big Pine and Palantine Oaks. The park consists of three units:

• North Unit: 258 acres, fee simple acquisition, west of Piney Meetinghouse Rd

- South Unit: 65 acres, dedication, adjacent to Glen Road
- East Unit: 18 acres, dedication, east side of Piney Meetinghouse Road

All sections contain a variety of exceptional natural resources, though the North Serpentine Barrens unit is most significant due to its size, resource composition and limited encroachments by adjacent residential development. The North Serpentine Barrens borders the Rockville Crushed Stone Quarry; the South Serpentine Area is located on the southern edge of the serpentinite outcrop adjacent to Glen Road; the East Unit is on the east side of Piney Meetinghouse Road.

The Serpentine Barrens area is underlain by serpentine bedrock. Found only in a few places around the globe, Serpentine communities are exceptionally rare. In North America, serpentine soils occur in a discontinuous band along the eastern border of the Appalachian Mountains from Newfoundland and Quebec, Canada through New England to Alabama. Nearly 90% of the acreage in eastern North America is within Pennsylvania and Maryland.

Serpentine soils are very low in essential nutrients and high in metals toxic to most plants and animals. These and other factors are responsible for driving "hotspots" of uncommon endemic plant communities, warranting high priority retention for biodiversity conservation. Past development of this natural community has diminished Montgomery County and Maryland's natural heritage. The Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park is the only remaining undeveloped largely intact area of serpentinite-derived soils remaining in Montgomery County.

There are no existing improved structures or known foundation remains associated with the North unit. Aerial photography dating to and subsequent to 1938 indicates a historically undeveloped site. A large overhead high tension power line owned by PEPCO traverses the North Unit in a SE to NW direction. The South Unit contained one single family home and associated outbuildings, cleared areas, an abandoned farm pond and the remnants of an unimproved road network. The house was razed in 2005 as part of the conditions of approval for the Estates of Greenbrier development.

Three park development alternatives were developed and discussed extensively by the Serpentine Barrens Management Plan staff. The selected alternative focuses on creating an educational experience for visitors, concentrating interpretive efforts in South Unit, while maintaining a conservation emphasis in North Unit. This alternative proposes no development in the North unit save for natural surface trails and one parking area, and an interpretive pavilion with associated infrastructure in the South unit. An interpretative goal is to encourage visitors of South Unit to apply newly acquired knowledge in the more pristine North Unit. No access is currently envisioned for the East Unit.

Visitation to the park is expected to peak during Spring and Fall based on supporting park trends. As this park is generally isolated within a rapidly expanding suburban area, visitation is expected to increase by a margin of 10 percent a year, with initial visitation of 30,000 visits per year. Visitation trends and resulting resource impacts will need to be monitored.

Operation & Use Plan Purpose & Policy Framework

The Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park Operation & Use Plan has been developed to implement the stewardship goals for conserved land that are set forth in both the *Legacy Open Space Functional Master Plan (2001)*, and the *2005 Land Preservation*, *Park, and Recreation Plan (LPPRP, formerly known as the PROS Master Plan)*. Park Operation & Use Plans, formerly called Management Plans, are internal M-NCPPC stafflevel documents that provide guidance to Montgomery Parks' operating divisions on the management and maintenance of natural and cultural resources, trails, public access, and constructed facilities. Goals of the operation & use plan include:

- Identify and map the park's existing natural, cultural, and recreational resources, as well as operational issues.
- Provide a plan for how best to manage the park's natural and cultural resources that specifies both initial and on-going management tasks.
- □ Facilitate compliance with Montgomery County's Environmental Guidelines during the planning, development and operation of the park.
- Provide a plan for public access to the park that allows for passive recreational uses in a manner that leaves the park's most significant resources undisturbed.
- Provide a plan for the park's operation that specifies both start-up improvements as well as on-going maintenance projects.
- Provide operating budget cost estimates, in 2008 dollars, for implementing the plan's recommendations.
- Present plan recommendations in a Geographic Information System (GIS) mapped format for field use.

CONSERVATION PARK CLASSIFICATION

The park classification system outlined in the 2005 Land Preservation, Park, and Recreation Plan establishes the parameters for development and use in conservation parks such as SBCP. The LPPRP defines conservation parks as:

"... generally large areas that preserve specific natural, archaeological, or historical features; are typically located in upland areas; and are acquired specifically for environmental preservation purposes. Conservation area parks may include outstanding examples of natural communities, self-sustaining populations of rare, threatened, or endangered plant and animal species, or unique archaeological and historical resources. Given the sensitive nature of the resources in conservation parks, development is very limited and generally restricted to passive recreation areas and opportunities such as trails, fishing and picnic areas, and nature study."

OPERATION & USE PLANNING PROCESS

The Operation & Use Plan for Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park has been developed following the same process used for previous management plans. A team of staff representing all appropriate Park and Planning Divisions was created to work collaboratively on the Operation & Use Plan. The team conducted significant fieldwork on the site and coordinated with additional staff during the process.

The Parks Director and appropriate Division Chiefs approve Park Operation & Use Plans. In accordance with the trail planning and implementation process set forth in the Countywide Park Trails Plan, the trails and public access component of the Operation & Use Plan is subject to review and approval by the Planning Board. The Trails and Public Access Plan for the Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park was approved unanimously by the Montgomery County Planning Board in November 2005.



Serpentine Rock Outcrop, Serpentine Barrens

PUBLIC INPUT ON SERPENTINE BARRENS OPERATION & USE PLAN

Over the summer and fall of 2005, staff held a series of meetings with the public to present and gather input on the Park's management plan, including the proposed trail and public access element. Staff presented a concept version of the management plan with proposed trail alignments at a general public meeting held in September 2005 at the Adventure Conservation Park. Workstations were set up at this meeting to gather public input on the plan recommendation. A number of citizens representing the equestrian community expressed considerable opposition to the proposed trail plan excluding horses from the bulk of proposed trails.

Staff met individually with representatives from the citizen groups most concerned about the park's uses to discuss and obtain further input on the management plan proposals including the trail plan.

Potential interest in the adjacent Quarry (Aggregate Industries) providing donations and support also exist. Aggregate Industries stated interest in providing signage/placards linking the Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park with geology and economics associated with their aggregate extraction, in addition to donating gravel materials mined from the quarry for proposed parking areas. Donation of large representative serpentine rocks as an exhibit feature has also been proposed.



FringeTree (Chionanthus virginicus) in flower at Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park

Serpentine Case Study

Soldier's Delight Environmental Area in Baltimore County is the largest remaining serpentine area in the eastern United States and is a very applicable planning case for the Serpentine Barrens in Montgomery County- especially regarding management issues. Soldiers Delight is nearly 2,000 acres, half of which is underlain by serpentine bedrock. Historically, the area was predominantly a grassland and oak savannah community. In the last eighty years, the area has been invaded by Virginia pine along with red cedar and greenbrier. Natural Heritage ecologists theorize that this succession has occurred because of the absence of disturbance from fire and grazing. In the early 1990's the park began a restoration program of mechanically removing pines and burning defined areas to recreate conditions for the growth of grasses. Results of the burns to date have been very promising.

Baltimore Gas and Electric maintains a powerline through Soldier's Delight similar to the PEPCO line through the Serpentine Barrens. BG&E has worked with the park to put up signage and mow the powerline easement to promote the growth of a serpentine grassland community.

Public use of Soldier's Delight is limited to hiking only. Prior to state acquisition of the land, there were equestrian trails, but these were closed in an effort to protect the sensitive ecosystem of the park. Use by equestrians, bicyclist and orienteerers has been restricted since 1990 due to concerns over the impacts to the fragile environment. The park receives in excess of 70,000 visitors per year.



Park Resources & Current Conditions

GEOLOGY

The Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park is located within the Piedmont physiographic province of Maryland in an area underlain by metamorphosed ultramafic bedrock (see map attachment). There are two main types of surface bedrock geology in Montgomery County: serpentinite and diabase. The largest of these are the 1700-acre Diabase Sill in Boyds and the 2000-acre Serpentinite outcrop in Potomac. The Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park is located on top of this outcrop. Serpentinite rocks are ferromagnesium silicates high in magnesium and iron and low in aluminum, calcium, and silica.

Land surface over serpentinite is typically stony, unfertile and sparsely vegetated. Soils are often poorly developed and rocky, but highly variable depending upon climate, time of exposure, and slope. Past and recent experience with land disturbance on serpentinite has shown extensive blasting, grading, and filling is needed for, what in other places, would be normal site preparation for development.

The name "serpentine" is attributed to the soil's resemblance to a mottled greenishbrown snake dwelling on similar soils in northern Italy. The greenish soil color comes from fragments of the underlying bedrock containing magnesium silicate. The soil can be very dark in color, depending on its iron, chromite, and magnesium content.

Serpentine is believed to have been thrust up from the earth's core during plate shifting activity some 450 million years ago. Found only in a few places around the globe, serpentine soils are very low in essential nutrients and high in nickel and chromium metals that are toxic to most plants and animals. In North America, serpentine soils occur in a discontinuous band along the eastern border of the Appalachian Mountains from Newfoundland and Quebec, Canada through New England to Alabama. Nearly 90% of the acreage in eastern North America is within Pennsylvania and Maryland.

HISTORY OF USE OF SERPENTINE LANDS

Tens of thousands of acres of grassland dotted with Blackjack and Post Oaks once stretched across northern Maryland and nearby Pennsylvania. Prior to European settlement, large areas of Baltimore and Harford Counties and adjacent counties in Pennsylvania were covered by this prairie-like grassland. English settlers seeing this virtually treeless expanse referred to it as "The Barrens" due to the lack of wood. For thousands of years, Native Americans used fire management to keep the grasslands relatively free of woody vegetation for purposes of hunting. European settlement generally eliminated large-scale frequent fires, allowing grassland areas to transition to woodlands. Most barrens in Maryland and SE Pennsylvania have "naturally" afforested in the last 50-75 years. Montgomery County's Serpentine Barrens appears to have remained forested since at least 1920 based on review of aerial photography and dendrology ring counts, indicating a varied ecological condition from the classic "Barrens."

Serpentine communities are considered one of the State's rarest natural resources, and one of the rarest and most unusual sets of natural communities in the eastern North

American temperate forest region. Only about 2500 acres remain in Maryland, or five percent of the pre European settlement amount of 50,000 acres. The most notable Serpentine Barrens areas in Maryland include Pilot, Cherry Hill, and Soldiers Delight. Soldiers Delight is the largest remaining serpentine area in the eastern United States (700-800 ha).

Serpentinite rock is valued as a decorative building stone, for road material, and, in two Maryland localities, a historic source of chromium ore. Chromite is a significant accessory mineral in the serpentine. An excerpt from a 1929 Maryland Geological Survey report for Baltimore County discusses the historical chrome deposits:

The commercial source of the element chromium is exclusively in the mineral chromite, which when pure, is an iron chromate of the formula FeO.Cr2O3. It is a heavy, opaque, iron- to brown-black mineral, with a pitchy luster, uneven fracture and hardness nearly that of steel. Geologically it is almost entirely restricted in occurrence to the dark ultrabasic rocks and their serpentinous derivatives. In Maryland chromite is found only in serpentine – a rock which is readily recognized by the barren country it produces. These "barrens," as they are locally called, are stretches of uncultivated country which support only a sparse growth of grass, scrub oak, and pine. It is believed that this condition is due to the chemical composition of serpentine (a hydrous magnesium silicate), which prevents a vigorous growth of vegetation, thus allowing the soil to be rapidly eroded, leaving the dull, fractured, greenish-yellow serpentine rock exposed at the surface.

Serpentine outcrops are often associated with mining of chromite, talc, green marble and asbestos. The Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park is located immediately adjacent to the Rockville Crushed Stone Quarry where this bedrock is mined (See aerial image).

A 2004 aerial view of the Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park looking southeast. Note Rockville Crushed Stone Quarry in foreground.





Bedrock Geology Map of the Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park Vicinity

SOILS

The Montgomery County Soil Survey shows that the Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park consist of either Chrome/Conowingo soils, Chrome silt loam or Travilah silt loam. All three of these types are exclusively associated with serpentinite bedrock with all of the unusual characteristics that help to create unique plant associations. The survey describes these soils as having severe restrictions to the placement and use of septic fields and dwellings with basements due to high water table and shallow depth to bedrock. Many locations on the Serpentine Barrens exhibit exposed bedrock on the surface.

Soils are deeper on the South Serpentine Barrens, especially closer to Glen Road, than in the more northern parts of the serpentinite outcrop. The 1958 Montgomery County Soil Survey indicates an area of Aldino silt loam lay between Greenbrier Branch and Piney Meetinghouse Road. The soils occur on 3 to 8 percent slopes and are moderately well drained. A siltpan or fragipan in the subsoil restricts water infiltration and keeps the soil wet for extended periods following rain events.

The presence of alluvial soils over parts of the South Serpentine Barrens and the neighboring properties indicates that the Potomac River at one time may have flowed over this area (Pleistocene epoch).

TOPOGRAPHY

The terrain of the North Unit of the park generally slopes gently toward the Greenbriar Branch in the middle of the park. North of the PEPCO powerline and west of Greenbriar Branch, the terrain slopes less than 3%. The steepest areas in the North Unit occur on the hillslope between the Greenbrier Branch and Piney Meetinghouse Road, but these slopes are greater than 15% in only a narrow area. The high point on the North Unit occurs near where the PEPCO line intersects Piney Meetinghouse Road with an elevation of 435 feet above sea level. The low elevation occurs where the Greenbrier Branch flows offsite at an elevation of 295 feet above sea level.

The South Unit terrain is generally steeper than the North Unit with slopes greater than 8% throughout much of the area. This topography gives rise to several streams in contrast to the drier conditions in the North Unit. The highest elevation in the South Unit is 325 above sea level; the lowest elevation where the Greenbrier Branch intersects River Road is 245 feet above sea level.

VEGETATION

Because of soil driven stresses, Serpentine Barrens are rare ecosystems that provide habitat for a number of rare, endemic plant species. Toxic to plants, as much as onethird of the bedrock may be made of magnesium. High levels of magnesium in the soil block a plant's ability to take in soil nutrients, especially calcium. Because they are shallow and low in organic material and clay, serpentine soils have limited water holding and nutrient capacity. Serpentine soils often have pockets of additional heavy metals toxic to plants, including chromium, cobalt, and nickel. Also, these soils are normally acidic near the surface, but less so in deeper layers. As wind and water erode the soil, non-acidic layers are exposed, creating varied habitat for plants.

Most serpentine plants have developed special adaptations in form or internal chemistry. Some plants are extra-efficient at absorbing the crucial nutrient calcium, which offsets the negative effects of magnesium. Some herbaceous species on serpentine soils avoid the heat by being very hairy or having specialized leaf types. For example, the Serpentine Chickweed, which occurs only on serpentine soil, produces a thick covering of hair on its leaves and stems. This dense layer of hair serves to reflect excessive sunlight which could cause leaves to overheat. In addition, it serves as a humidity trap, preventing the leaves and stems from wilting during hot summer droughts. Another example is little bluestem grass that prevents excessive water loss on hot, sunny days by rolling its long, narrow leaves inward. In addition, extensive root systems allow many plants to tap more moisture from the dry, shallow soils.

Plant communities found on this type of formation, including both the north and south serpentine area, have traditionally been called "barrens" due in part to the lack of nutrients in the soil or the presence of minerals at levels toxic to plant growth, and because once cleared, these areas tend not to support agriculture or allow for normal forest regeneration. Serpentinite soils have the effect of stunting growth in plants, creating a somewhat miniaturized condition where forests occur.

Montgomery County's Serpentine Barrens appears to have remained forested since at least 1920 based on review of aerial photography and study of dendrology ring counts, indicating a varied ecological condition from the classic Barrens. A large majority of the Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park acreage is covered by maturing, second growth forest with good structure, well developed shrub levels, and relatively few non-native invasive species. The oak (Quercus) genus is significant on the Serpentine Barrens with abundant representation and dominance in both the overstory and the understory. Common oak species include white, red, black, post, blackjack, chestnut, swamp white, scarlet, southern red, shingle, and willow oak. The total forested acreage is approximately 339 acres. The park's forested acreage represents one of the largest remaining contiguous forest tracts in the Potomac subregion.

The Serpentine Barrens is unique in the presence of Yellow Pine (Pinus echinata), Post Oak (Quercus stellata) and Blackjack Oak (Quercus marilandica). These three trees are signature species for the SBCP and are very uncommon in the remainder of Montgomery County. The Yellow or Shortleaf Pine is capable of sprouting new growth after fire.

A 45 year old stunted oak tree stump (note annual growth rings and pen for scale)



The Environmental Resources Inventory for the Potomac Subregion (M-NCPPC, 1999) identified three forest stands on these sites as being significant based on their size and

potential for supporting forest interior wildlife. Further analysis through the Potomac master plan process identified these forests as being among several in Potomac with a high priority for forest preservation. They were "recommended for acquisition because of the following characteristics: the presence of unique vegetation communities or state RTE species or high potential for RTE habitat, the fact that almost the entirety of the applicable properties are covered by the stand, the high potential for forest interior habitat, and the large sizes of the stands."

Over twenty species of rare, threatened, endangered, and watchlist (RTEW) plants occur in the Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park (vegetation studies conducted by Natural Resources Management staff, Maryland DNR, the Maryland Native Plant Society, and independent consultants). On serpentine outcrops best developed in Maryland are several groups of species which are either endemic or well restricted to these areas. These species include: *Agalinis purpurea, Arabis lyrata, Arenaria stricta, Asclepias verticulata, Bouteloua curtipendula, Carex bicknellii, Carex oblongifolium, Cerastium arvense, Deschampsia caespitosa, Fimbristylis laxa, Panicum annulum, Phlox subulata, Polugala verticillata, Quercus marilandica, Scutellaria parvula var ambigua, Sphenopholis obtusata, Sporobolus heterolepis, and Talinum teretifolium. Purple milkweed, found on the South Unit, is reported as either endemic or well restricted to serpentine barrens.*

Following the park's acquisition, Park Planning and Natural Resources Management staff completed several "walkthrough" inspections of the park, and species lists for woody and herbaceous plants were compiled. Information on dominant and co-dominant species, size class, uncommon species and special habitats, and general health of the stands was recorded. Individual forest stand descriptions are provided in the plan appendix and include approximate stand acreage, species noted, retention priority, and comments on the stand's overall structure and condition. A complete listing of the park's observed vegetation species is available.

The forest can been described under four broad Forest Stand designations:

Stand 1: Dominated by mixed oaks, but with a high number of other deciduous trees including hickories, white ash, American beech, and elm, as well as scattered conifers such as Virginia pine, and eastern red cedar (200+/- acres).

Stand 2: Heavily influenced by Blackjack and Post oaks, canopy and herbaceous layers more typical of serpentinite influenced soils (50+/-acres).

Stand 3: Dominated by oak and hickory species with a strong Chestnut Oak influence (20+/- acres).

Stand 4: Bottomland, wetland or floodplain forest, typically including swamp white oak, willow oak, greenbriers and hydrophytic vegetation (27+/- acres).

While these broad categories help to give an overall picture of the site in general terms, it should be emphasized that there are a large number of special habitats and species uncommon to Montgomery County scattered throughout the park. These uncommon plants and special communities do not necessarily fit within the forest stand boundaries.

Additionally, even though general forest stand boundaries can be discerned, there is much species overlap within the defined stands. Mixed oak species are common across the entire property.

Commission studies by independent consultants have found seven State of Maryland RTE (rare, threatened or endangered) species and eleven watchlist species on the South Serpentine area. These species are classified based on their locations and abundance in Maryland, NOT in the entire United States (see Appendix B for complete Plant List).

Common Name	Latin Name	State Rank / Status
Running Juneberry	Amelanchier spicata	S-1
Juneberry	Amelanchier stolonifera	S-2
Virginia Snakeroot	Aristolochia serpentaria	S-3
Purple Milkweed	Asclepias purpurascens	SU
Whorled Milkweed	Asclepias verticillata	S-3
Cornel-leaved Aster	Aster infirmus	S-3
Low Bindweed	Calystegia spithamaea	S-2
Samll-flowered Bittercress	Cardamine parviflora	S-3
Flattened Sedge	Carex complanata	S-3
Pubescent Sedge	Carex hirtifolia	S-3
American Chestnut	Castanea dentata	S-2/3
Whorled Coreopsis	Coreopsis verticillata	S-3
Leatherwood	Dirca palustris	S-2 Threatened
Engelmann's Spikerush	Eleocharis engelmannii	S-3
Tall Boneset	Eupatorium altissimum	S-3
Shining Bedstraw	Galium concinnum	S-3
Striped Gentian	Gentiana villosa	S-1 Endangered
Quillwort	Isoetes engelmannii	S-3
Potato Dandelion	Krigia dandelion	S-1 Endangered
Violet Bushclover	Lespedeza violacea	S-3
Narrow Melic Grass	Melica mutica	S-1 Threatened
Large-seeded forget-me-knot	Myosotis macrosperma	S-2/3
Spring Forget-me-not	Myosotis verna	S-3
Yellow Passionflower	Passiflora lutea	S-3

Rare, Threatened, Endangered or Uncommon Plant Species on the Serpentine Barrens

Common Name	Latin Name	State Rank / Status		
Carolina Leaf-flower	Phyllanthus caroliniensis	S-3		
Shingle Oak	Quercus imbricaria	S-3		
Bashful Bulrush	Scirpus verecundus	S-2/3		
Leonard's Skullcap	Scutellaria leonardii	S-2 Threatened		
Small Skullcap	Scutellaria parvula	S-H Extirpated		
Balsam Ragwort	Senecio pauperculus	S-3		
Smalls Ragwort	Senecio smalli	S-3		
Featherbells	Stenanthium gramineum	S-1 Threatened		

EXPLANATION OF RANK AND STATUS CODES

The global and state ranking system is used by all 50 states Natural Heritage Programs and numerous Conservation Data Centers in other countries in this hemisphere. Because they are assigned based upon standard criteria, the ranks can be used to assess the range-wide status of a species as well the status within portions of the species' range. The primary criterion used to define these ranks are the number of known distinct occurrences with consideration given to the total number of individuals at each locality. Additional factors considered include the current level of protection, the types and degree of threats, ecological vulnerability, and population trends. Global and state ranks are used in combination to set inventory, protection, and management priorities for species both at the state as well as regional level.

GLOBAL RANK

- G1. Highly globally rare. Critically imperiled globally because of extreme rarity (typically 5 or fewer estimated occurrences or very few remaining individuals or acres) or because of some factor(s) making it especially vulnerable to extinction.
- G2. Globally rare. Imperiled globally because of rarity (typically 6 to 20 estimated occurrences or few remaining individuals or acres) or because of some factor(s) making it very vulnerable to extinction throughout its range.
- G3. Either very rare and local throughout its range or distributed locally (even abundantly at some of its locations) in a restricted range (e.g., a single western state, a physiographic region in the East) or because of other factors making it vulnerable to extinction throughout its rang; typically with 21 to 100 estimated occurrences.
- G4. Apparently secure globally, although it may be quite rare in parts of its range, especially at the periphery.
- G5. Demonstrably secure globally, although it may be quite rare in parts of its range, especially at the periphery.

STATE RANK

- S1. Highly State rare. Critically imperiled in Maryland because of extreme rarity (typically 5 or fewer estimated occurrences or very few remaining individuals or acres in the State) or because of some factor(s) making it especially vulnerable to extirpation. Species with this rank are actively tracked by the Natural Heritage Program.
- S2. State rare. Imperiled in Maryland because of rarity (typically 6 to 20 estimated occurrences or few remaining individuals or acres in the State) or because of some factor(s) making it vulnerable to becoming extirpated. Species with this rank are actively tracked by the Natural Heritage Program.
- S3 Rare to uncommon with the number of occurrences typically in the range of 21 to 100 in Maryland. It may have fewer occurrences but with a large number of individuals in some populations, and it may be susceptible to large-scale disturbances. Species with this rank are not actively tracked by the Natural Heritage Program
- S3.1A species that is actively tracked by the Natural Heritage Program because of the global significance of Maryland occurances. For instance, a G3 S3 species is globally rare to uncommon, and although it may not be currently threatened with extirpation in Maryland, it s occurrences in Maryland may be critical to the long term security of the species. Therefore, its status in the State is being monitored.
- S4 Apparently secure in Maryland with typically more than 100 occurrences in the State or may have fewer occurrences if they contain large numbers of individuals. It is apparently secure under present conditions, although it may be restricted to only a portion of the State.
- S5 Demonstrably secure in Maryland under present conditions.

Habitat Information for Rare, Threatened, Endangered or Uncommon Plant Species on the Serpentine Barrens

Latin Name	Common name	Status	Habitat	Source
Aristolochia serpentaria	Virginia snakewort	Watchlist	Forested areas and clearings, mesic to xeric. Most abundant on limestone substrates in core of range	Natureserve.org, wildflower2.org
Asclepias purpurascens	Purple milkweed	Watchlist	"Apparently not restrictive," prairies, forest openings and edges, thickets, wet or dry areas.	Natureserve.org, Britton and Brown, wildflower2.org
Aster infirmus	Cornel-leaf aster	Watchlist	Dry usually rocky soil	Britton and Brown
Cardamine parviflora	Small-flowered bittercress	Watchlist	Occurs in dry soils. Other Cardamine species adapted to fine to coarse soils	plants.usda.gov, Britton and Brown
Carex hirtifolia	Pubescent sedge	Endangered		
Castanea dentata	American chestnut	Watchlist		
Coreopsis verticillata	Whorled coreopsis	Watchlist	Other Coreopsis sp. adapted to medium, fine grain soils	plants.usda.gov, wildflower2.org
Dirca palustris	Leatherwood	Threatened	Rich or moist woods	Newcomb's wildflower guide wildflower2.org
Eleocharis engelmannii	Engelmann's spikerush	Watchlist	Marshes, ponds, lakes, ditches	
Eupatorium altissimum	Tall thoroughwort	Watchlist	Dry, open places. Open woods and prairies	Britton and Brown,
-	_			Newcomb's wildflower guide
Gentiana villosa	Striped gentian	Endangered	Found in shady places. Fire tolerance based	Britton and Brown,
			on other Gentiana species	plants.usda.gov
Isoetes engelmannii	Quillwort	Watchlist		
Krigia dandelion	Potato dandelion	Endangered	Moist soil	Britton and Brown
Lespedeza violacea	Violet bushclover	Watchlist	Found on dry hills and banks. Other Lespedeza sp. adapted to coarse to fine grain soils.	plants.usda.gov, wildflower2.org
Melica mutica	Narrow melic grass	Threatened	Other Melica sp. adapted to coarse to fine soils	Britton and Brown, plants.usda.gov
Myosotis verna	Spring forget-me-knot	Watchlist	Dry woods and banks, other Myosotis sp. occur on fine to medium soils	Newcomb's and plants.usda.gov
Quercus imbricaria	Shingle oak	Watchlist	Coarse to medium grain soils	plants.usda.gov
Scirpus verecundus	Bashful bulrush	Watchlist	Primary habitat is dry, rocky hardwood forests. Collected in MD in moist forests, meadows and along streams. May require forest gaps for persistence.	Natureserve.org
Scutellaria parvula	Small skullcap	Endangered	Occurs on sandy soils, usually in limestone areas	Newcomb's wildflower guide Britton and Brown, wildflower2.org
Senecio pauperculus	Balsam ragwort	Watchlist	Occurs on dry, rocky soils. Other Senecio sp. occur on fine to coarse soils	Britton and Brown, plants.usda.gov
Stenathium gramineum	Featerhbells	Threatened	Open woods	Newcomb's wildflower guide
Veronicastrum virginicum	Culver's root	Under review for inclusion	Occurs in a variety of habitats, prairie, meadows, forest edge, stream banks.	Natureserve.org, Britton and Brown

In other parts of the United States, an ecological management program has been initiated to halt the spread of conifers and to restore some of the largest historical serpentine grasslands now occupied by pine woodlands. Pines and cedars are cut and transported off site for disposal. Native oaks are maintained, as they were historically a part of this natural community. When conditions are right, these areas are then burned, using state-of-the-art fire management techniques. A similar program is not appropriate at the Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park as the existing forested mosaic appears to represent a stable community, generally unchanged for at least 100 years.

WILDLIFE

The large contiguous forest that comprises the great majority of the acreage at Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park provides critical habitat for forest interior dwelling species, particularly birds. These species require large unbroken tracts of forest to successfully breed. Large contiguous forest habitat is becoming increasingly scarce in Montgomery County as development continually fragments woodlands into smaller isolated tracts.

Limited wildlife inventories of the Serpentine Barrens have been conducted since the park was acquired. Natural Resources Management staff completed a thorough "walkthrough" inspection of the park, and a species list was compiled. Most of the species have been detected through sightings, tracks, and calls. A complete listing of the park's observed wildlife is provided in Appendix C. Additional species will likely be recorded for this park as future surveys are conducted.

Birds are an excellent indicator species for evaluating habitat quality and making inferences about habitat suitability for other animal species. Over 60 species of birds were detected in the park. The list includes a significant number of forest interior dwelling species such as Louisiana waterthrush, scarlet tanager, ovenbird, pileated woodpecker, and barred owl, indicating a high quality forest.

In addition to birds, the park is home to a wide diversity of terrestrial wildlife species including at least 14 species of mammals, 6 reptiles, and 11 amphibians. Mammals include common species such as red fox, white-tailed deer and gray squirrel, as well as less common species such as eastern coyote. Many signs of a high deer population were observed in the park including reduced forest understory density and regeneration and negative impacts to the health of several RTEW species. Reptiles include most of the common species of the County as well as the less common eastern hognose snake and five lined skink. Wetlands and vernal pools provide breeding habitat for spotted salamanders, marbled salamanders, wood frogs, spring peepers and other amphibians. The State rare buckmoth also occurs on the property. In addition, the Maryland DNR conducted field surveys of the Eastern sedge barrens planthopper (Limotettix minuendus) in September 2006 on the Serpentine Barrens.

HYDROLOGY AND AQUATIC LIFE

Hydrologically, the Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park is located within the Greenbrier Branch watershed. The Greenbrier Branch is a tributary of Watts Branch. The Greenbrier Branch watershed is designated Use I-P by the Maryland Department of the Environment. Use I-P waters are suitable for use as a public water supply. *The Countywide Stream Protection Strategy* (CSPS, Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection, 1998) identifies the Greenbrier Branch as having good habitat but fair stream conditions overall. The 2003 Update to the CSPS rated the upper portion of the Greenbrier Branch fair and the lower portion good. The North and South Unit comprise approximately one mile of intermittent or perennial stream.

The headwaters of the Greenbrier Branch have been cut off by the excavation of the Rockville Crushed Stone Quarry. Excess water that accumulates in the quarry is pumped through a regulated discharge into Sandy Branch to the northwest of the Park.

Wetlands in the Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park are generally associated with the stream network. A notable exception is a high quality vernal pool/upland depressional swamp just south of the PEPCO alignment towards the west end of the North Unit. Trail alignments have been sited so as to avoid this sensitive breeding area for amphibians and a unique resource within the Park. In the North Unit, marbled salamander larvae have been identified in streams in addition to the upland depression swamp. In the South Unit, there are riparian wetlands with large populations of skunk cabbage and an abandoned farm pond with emergent vegetation.

A wetlands functional analysis was conducted for the Potomac subregion by M-NCPPC staff according to a protocol developed collaboratively with the Maryland Department of the Environment in 1997. The study identified the wetlands associated with the Greenbrier Branch as having high functional value. Value was determined using multiple criteria including groundwater discharge, wildlife habitat, sediment retention, nutrient removal, and flood flow attenuation. An Army Corps of Engineers Jurisdiction Wetlands Study delineated many wetlands throughout the stream buffers on the site.

The presence of alluvial soils over parts of the South Serpentine Barrens indicates that possibly the Potomac River at one time may have flowed over this area. Cobbles of an ancestral Potomac River or mainstem tributary are apparent on the property.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

The property has historically remained undeveloped. No cultural or archeological resources are known for the property.

TRAILS AND PUBLIC ACCESS

There are roughly 4 miles of existing unimproved "peoples choice" natural surface trails within SBCP and the PEPCO clearing. The trails and PEPCO clearing have received infrequent use primarily by equestrians from neighboring properties. There are no existing parking areas that provide public access to the trail network. The existing trails have been surveyed by a Global Positioning System (GPS) and are depicted in the attached management plan map.

Resource Management Plan

Primary resource management issues include:

- Control of non-native invasive species: *Microstegium* or Vietnamese stilt grass is abundant in the park and has spread into a number of patches in the forest. Japanese barberry and Japanese honeysuckle also threaten the native plants in the park.
- All-terrain vehicle and equestrian usage: The park has been a site for all-terrain vehicle (ATV) and equestrian activity in the past, and continues to be so even under M-NCPPC ownership. ATVs access the park via the PEPCO lines and gas line easements. ATV usage is not allowed in the Conservation Park. Horses are only permitted on existing equestrian easements and are prohibited in the Park interior.
- Dumping of trash and landscaping debris: Dumping of trash and woody debris has occurred on the property over many years prior to the park's acquisition. Several old minor trash dumps were observed scattered throughout the park particularly in wooded areas near utilities. Overall debris is significantly less common in the North Unit as compared with the South Unit.
- Control of people's choice trails: There are roughly 4 miles of existing peoples choice natural surface trails within SBCP. The trails have received infrequent use primarily by previous property owners from neighboring properties. Some of these trails are highly eroded, impact rare plant species, or of concern due to proximity to the adjacent quarry. Problem areas will be rerouted, closed, and revegetated as necessary.

The following is a listing of recommended actions to ensure proper stewardship of the natural and cultural resources found in SBCP. Operating budget cost estimates, in 2008 dollars, for implementing recommended actions are included for all affected Montgomery Parks operating divisions.

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

- Ensure there is no further fragmentation of the existing forest within SBCP by restricting all improvements to the edges of the park or within areas previously impacted.
- Conduct further inventories of the park's vegetation. Set up long-term vegetation monitoring plots in the Park to assess population trends in RTEW plants and the composition of the forest. Identify priority RTEW plant habitats and protect them with deer proof fencing. For targeted RTEW species, delineate areas to be managed and develop a species-specific management

protocol. Baseline RTES plot samples were conducted in the Spring and Summer of 2005.

- Monitor forest stands to assess impacts from non-native invasive plants, gypsy moths, white tailed deer, and trail users. At minimum, an annual walk-through assessment should be conducted by PPSD staff. Work with the Maryland Department of Agriculture to monitor local gypsy moth populations and implement management efforts as needed. If spraying is required, utilize Gypchek to protect non-target *Lepidoptera* species. Conduct future surveys for the State Rare Buck Moth, identified on-site circa 1990 by MDDNR staff.
- Identify concentrations of non-native invasive plants and implement management procedure as follows and develop a species-specific management protocol. *Microstegium* occurs along the people's choice trails in the park and has spread into a number of patches in the forest. Japanese barberry and Japanese honeysuckle also threaten the native plants on the site.
- Recruit and train volunteer "weed warrior" groups. Develop work program for "weed warriors" and park staff. Annually monitor and evaluate work program efforts.
- Implement a deer exclusion study by constructing a suitable deer exclusion area, so as to study impacts of deer on forest regeneration. Also, identify priority RTEW plant habitats and protect with deer-proof fencing.
- Inspect proposed trail routes and parking areas prior to construction with Park Planning and Stewardship Division (PPSD) to avoid critical vegetation resources and minimize clearing of trees and understory vegetation.
- Inspect trails twice annually, once in late spring and once in late summer, in coordination with Park Manager, to assess impacts of trail use on vegetation.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

- Maintain a closed forest canopy to protect the habitat of forest interior birds by minimizing trail widths and restricting all improvements to the edges of the park.
- Conduct additional wildlife inventories of the park including breeding birds, small mammals, amphibians, and reptiles.
- Install, maintain and monitor a variety of wildlife nest boxes for bluebirds, kestrels, owls, flying squirrels and other cavity nesting species.
- Conduct managed deer hunts or police sharp-shooting as necessary. Evidence of deer overbrowsing on the site has been noted by staff wildlife biologist. A program to manage white-tailed deer populations in the park was initiated in the Fall of 2003 in accordance with the County's deer management plan and will be continued into the foreseeable future. The goal of the program is to maintain

deer numbers at a level compatible with the habitat in order to protect this unique ecosystem. The plan includes the use of hunters to manage deer populations within the park. Managed hunts are held on certain advertised dates and are open only to hunters specially permitted by Montgomery Parks to participate. The park is closed to all other uses on days when the managed hunts occur. Deer populations are monitored, and annual program evaluations and harvest goals are set accordingly.

 Provide adequate signage related to the occurrence of ticks on the property and information related to how to avoid contact and minimize potential for lyme disease exposure. Additional measures for tick management may become necessary, as the SBCP seems to be a "hotbed" for tick activity, based on M-NCPPC field research.

WATER AND FISHERIES MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

- Monitor existing vernal pool, wetland seeps and investigate methods to improve this important habitat
- Conduct stream restoration projects, most notably in association with proposed stream crossing projects and area of homestead site and in-line pond on South Unit.
- Inspect proposed trail routes and parking areas prior to construction to avoid critical water resources.
- Inspect trails twice annually, once in late spring and once in late summer, to assess impacts of trail use on water resources. As part of annual trail maintenance re-route any trails outside of wetland buffers unless they are placed on a boardwalk.

OTHER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

- Expand a relationship with PEPCO involving management of PEPCO's powerline through the Serpentine Barrens. An analogous example: Baltimore Gas and Electric maintains a powerline through Soldier's Delight similar to the PEPCO line through the Serpentine Barrens. BG&E has worked with the park to put up signage and mow the powerline easement to promote the growth of a ecologically diverse and healthy serpentine grassland community. Also, monitor potential dumping of woody debris and other material along PEPCO property to ensure that a pattern of past dumping/storage of materials does not continue. Bulk debris piles along M-NCPPC Park property in addition to being unsightly and counter to a "park-like experience," can provide a pathway for invasive species into the Conservation Park.
- Visitation will need to be monitored. If resource impacts are identified, adjustments will be required in numbers of visitors and or trail alignments.

- Implement interpretive opportunities with Montgomery County Board of Education (see Trails and Public Access Plan).
- Develop research programs for students interested in nature or geology study, to be coordinated through Senior Park Naturalist assigned to the Serpentine Barrens.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION COST ESTIMATES (IN 2008 DOLLARS)

Table 1. Operating Budget Impact (OBI) for Park Planning and StewardshipDivision, Natural Resources Stewardship and Resource Analysis sections						
	Set-up Costs:	Annual Costs:				
	 Vegetation inventory Wildlife inventory Non-native invasive species inventory & control plan Management of non- native invasive plants Management of RTEW species Deer management RTE Enclosures Inspect proposed trail routes and parking areas for critical resources Study interpretive opportunities Develop natural resources management plan 	 Vegetation inventory Wildlife inventory Non-native invasive species control Management of non- native invasive plants Management of RTEW species Deer management RTE Enclosure monitoring Annual trail inspections (2X year) Study interpretive opportunities Develop natural resources management plan 				
Personnel Services	\$11.000	\$3.233				
Supplies and Materials	\$1,300	\$450				
Other Services & Charges	\$5,000	\$2,225				
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0				
Chargeback	\$0	\$0				
Total expenditure	\$17,300	\$5,908				
Workyears	0.50	0.19				

Table 2. OBI for Northern Region					
	Set-up Costs:	Annual Costs:			
	 Coordinate resource management with PPS Non-Native Invasive control 	 Coordinate resource management with PPS Non-Native Invasive control 			
Personnel Services	\$3068	\$9204			
Supplies and Materials	\$2550	\$500			
Other Services & Charges	\$0	\$0			
Capital Outlay	\$6500	\$0			
Chargeback	\$0	\$0			
Total expenditure	\$12,118	\$9704			
Workyears	0.06	0.19			

 Table 3. Capital Budget for Resource Management Plan: Approved FY07-FY12

 CIP

Project Description	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	Unscheduled Expenditures
Stream bank Prote	ection, PDF	# 818571					
Stream Restoration in Greenbrier Branch							\$300,000

Trails and Public Access Plan

The trails and public access component of this management plan establishes the location of the park's trails and parking facilities, and determines the types and uses of the trails. The trail system proposed for SBCP consists entirely of natural surface trails that provide access for hikers. The trails and public access plan was developed in accordance with the natural surface trail planning process set forth in the recently amended the *Countywide Park Trails Plan*, and was approved by the Planning Board in November of 2005. The proposed trails, use designations, and associated trailhead parking areas that were approved by the Planning Board are represented in the Natural Surface Trail Map in the attached management plan map.

The Management Plan calls for the construction of natural surface trails open to hikers only. To protect the rare and sensitive ecosystem of the Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park, the Legacy Open Space Advisory Group strongly favored limiting public access into the interior of the park to hiking only. The State of Maryland Department of Natural Resources established this policy for management of Soldiers Delight, Maryland's most expansive remaining natural serpentine area. Prior to State acquisition of the land, there were equestrian trails, but these were closed to equestrians, cyclists, and orienteers in 1990 in an effort to protect the sensitive ecosystem of the park.

Trails at Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park will be field located to avoid sensitive areas including hydrologic features and concentrations of rare, threatened, endangered and uncommon plant species. Trails will allow for interpretation of the unique assemblage of natural resources.

The trails and public access plan meets the following objectives:

- □ The plan balances environmental and passive recreational uses, and establishes a network of natural surface trails to provide safe and enjoyable access for a wide variety of trail users while maintaining the significant resources of the park.
- □ The plan addresses a County policy to provide passive recreational opportunities in conservation parks for people with disabilities.
- □ The proposed trail system leaves undisturbed large areas of the park's interior forest.
- □ The plan establishes a shared use natural surface trail connection through SBCP.
- □ The plan provides for connectivity to a countywide network of private and public equestrian trails (See Equestrian Trail Corridors map).
- □ The plan recommends establishment of an ADA accessible natural surface trail in the South Unit.

- □ The plan provides for convenient and safe gravel parking areas for trailhead parking.
- The plan provides four trail loops within the park.
- □ The plan provides educational opportunities to be hosted in a proposed future pavilion in the South Unit.

NORTH SERPENTINE UNIT (258 ACRES)

The approved trail concept is to have a 2-3 mile loop interior trail (Blackjack Oak Trail) and a 1-mile self-guided interpretive trail loop (Post Oak Trail). The interior trail will require two crossings of the existing PEPCO lines and the interpretive trail will require one additional crossing. An agreement with PEPCO will need to be negotiated prior to establishing these trails. The short loop goes through the areas of the park near Piney Meetinghouse Road with a small parking area in the southeast corner of the park to facilitate both trails.

The parking lot site was chosen because it provides adequate line of sight on Piney Meetinghouse Road and because that is the most narrow extension of the park and should have the least impact on the forest. A development footprint for this proposed parking area is expected to involve 5000 square feet and accommodate up to 10 automobiles. Clearing of approximately 5000 square feet of forest is expected.

The short or Post Oak Trail traverses hilly terrain providing views of a scenic chestnut oak stand with a predominantly ericaceous (blueberry, huckleberry and other members of the heath family) understory and post oak dominated glades that are representative of prototypical serpentine stunted oak forest. The short trail displays scenic landscapes and unique features of the area while leaving the majority of the forest undisturbed. The most expansive view of the Serpentine Barrens is provided where the Post Oak Trail intersects the PEPCO lines. A forested vista stretches to the west in excess of a mile. This trail also includes the highest elevation of the Serpentine Barrens at approximately 435 feet above mean sea level and involves an approximately 65 foot elevation change over a distance of 1000 feet.

The long or Blackjack Oak Trail crosses approximately ³/₄ the length of the park on the north side, staying a safe distance from the Quarry and avoiding areas of dense RTE plant concentrations. The trail involves two crossings of the Greenbrier Branch. The small drainage area and low flow of Greenbriar branch in the North Unit will necessitate only one minor bridge crossing. One additional power line crossing is involved. The trail is an extension of the Post Oak Trail and has its terminus at the same parking area. The long trail provides access to a large portion of the park while maintaining large, undisturbed areas within the Serpentine Barrens. It is illustrative of the variety of habitats in the park, traversing Chestnut Oak Forest, Greenbrier thickets, Post Oak Glades, and mature Oak/Hickory Forest. The Blackjack Oak Trail avoids the most environmentally sensitive areas including salamander breeding habitat, high quality seeps, a vernal pool, and a State significant concentration of *Dirca palustris* (Leatherwood) and several other State rare listed plant species.



Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park Trail Plan Map

In addition, a 10-foot wide recorded equestrian trail easement along the southeast side of the North Serpentine Unit is platted along the property line, crossing nine recorded and built single-family lots. The existing trail for this easement does not honor the easement area, but in fact encroaches inside park boundaries. The management plan proposes allowing the equestrian trail to be maintained on park property, with minor improvements and rerouting. Maintaining the existing trail as this would be a useful concession for equestrian access/connectivity but would not permit interior encroachment into the forest.

Further, this Operation & Use Plan proposes to extend this horse trail 800 feet to the proposed parking lot along Piney Meetinghouse Road. It is believed this proposal benefits the equestrian community and prevents potential conflicts with adjacent residents without adversely affecting the Serpentine Barrens environment. Locating the horse trail on parkland allows for adequate maintenance by park staff. The trail currently turns off of parkland onto private land before it reaches Piney Meetinghouse Road. Signage indicating equestrian accessible and restricted trail sections will be necessary.

Several areas of existing trail are recommended for closure, including a 3500' stretch of trail that parallels the adjacent quarry at what is considered an unsafe distance. This trail is also in the direct path of a significant population of State listed Skullcap. Other proposed trail closures are for the purpose of expanding interior connectivity and buffering for sensitive resources. Where appropriate, existing trails are being incorporated into the design of the proposed new trail network.

Providing a trail connection between the South Serpentine and North Serpentine units for hikers is not recommended. An existing equestrian trail easement narrowly traverses forested residential backyards and crosses existing Palatine Drive (a tertiary subdivision road) to link the North and South Units. The area is aesthetically inappropriate for purposes of park usership and would be minimally used. It does not appear to be necessary or worthwhile to try to provide a trail connection between the two areas, other than honoring existing equestrian easements.

SOUTH SERPENTINE UNIT (65 ACRES)

The South Serpentine provides a condensed version of the larger serpentine site (i.e. quicker access to riparian habitat, RTEs, representative forest, rock outcrops) and is better suited for a shorter interpretive trail and for elementary-aged school group interpretation. The overall quality of the South Serpentine Barrens is lesser when compared with the North Unit. Areas of clearing and prior usage are common. Invasive and exotic plant species are considerably more entrenched in the South Unit. These factors allows for a greater intensity for proposed usage without concern for significantly degrading a pristine area.

A single trail, the Serpentine Trail, is proposed for the South Unit and involves either a ½- or 1-mile loop. Approximately 50 percent of the proposed trail involves the use of existing unimproved pathway. This trail is intended for interpretation and represents a good example of a serpentinite-influenced forest. Post and blackjack oaks are common as is the pervasive feeling of a generally stunted forest. The trail involves two crossings

of an existing gas line easement. The trail parallels an intermittent stream for approximately 1000 feet and affords good views of exposed bedrock. This trail also incorporates an existing in-line farm pond that has transitioned into a cattail-rich wetland area good for birding and similar nature observation.

Grades associated with the Serpentine Trail are gentle to slightly moderate allowing for Americans with Disabilities (ADA) compliance. The proposed trail will involve two crossing of Greenbrier Branch, necessitating bridge structures. A bridge crossing will be needed downstream of the farm pond or along the existing pond berm. On natural surface trails, six-foot wide fiberglass bridges are usually installed, but hiker-only bridges can be designed smaller with a more rustic appearance. These smaller bridges should be considered in the final planning for this hiking-only trail loop.

Two extensions of an existing equestrian easement are proposed for the South Unit. One traverses an existing impaired area along a roadbed west of the homestead area, extending north through impacted forest and old field to link up with Greenbriar Road. The other proposed extension is along Glen Road, allowing linkage from Greenbriar Road to a recently recorded easement on the Estates of Greenbrier. This connection will involve minor clearing and a ford of the Greenbriar Branch. The trail should be within the Park boundary following the alignment of Glen Road and be buffered by adequate treeline between the road and the trail for the protection and safety of equestrian users and possibly pedestrians using the path. Providing this trail would ensure equestrians access to two existing trail routes: a bridle easement directly across Glen Road from the proposed South Unit park entrance, and the Great Elm bridle easement across Glen Road from the new Greenbrier Subdivision that provides access to Watts Branch Stream Valley Park.

The existing cleared area adjacent to Glen Road on the South Serpentine represents the proposed parking area for the South Unit. The existing house and barn on the site have been removed and remediation of the site is pending.

This Operation & Use Plan recommends that an open-air pavilion be established on the South Unit for multiple interpretive uses. The facility is envisioned to provide a staging area for M-NCPPC Park Naturalists as they conduct guided walks of the park and to be sized adequately to host school groups making educational field trips. Significant educational signage will be provided along the one-mile loop trail to build upon the educational information in the pavilion.

The pavilion will need to be secured when not in active use by a park naturalist or approved school group. Toilet facilities also need to be provided to allow school groups to use such a facility. Permanent chemical toilets are recommended for this site as a more attractive and stable alternative to portable toilets. The parking lot will need to be adequately sized to accommodate up to 20 vehicles and at least two buses with turnaround space. The scale of clearing and development required to build such a pavilion and parking lot was considered for the North unit, but deemed inappropriate because it would encroach on a high quality post oak forest community.

Should the pavilion fail to materialize, use of existing M-NCPPC Resources are recommended. Adventure Conservation Park is within a 3-minute drive from the Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park. Adventure has a recently refurbished nature

center that has bathrooms and is ADA accessible and provides a logical base for a naturalist staff. Because the Serpentine Barrens is not within the County's sewer envelope, conventional bathroom facilities at the Serpentine Barrens is not foreseeable. The Adventure facility can accommodate 60 people. An educational / public relations synergy between this facility, Serpentine Barren and the entire Legacy Open Space Program and M-NCPPC protection of sensitive resources is possible. In addition to the Serpentine Barrens, the adjacent Watts Branch Stream Valley Park, and LOS-acquired Cahoon Property allow for actual examples of M-NCPPC work in environmental protection and Park acquisition.

Cost estimates for constructing and maintaining such a pavilion, parking lot, toilet facility and interpretive signage along the trail are not included in this Plan. Detailed plans and costs will be developed as negotiations proceed with a potential donor interested in funding this exciting educational resource.



Conceptual Layout for South Serpentine Unit

EAST SERPENTINE UNIT (18 ACRES)

The east unit is entirely on the east side of Piney Meetinghouse Road. This acreage was dedicated to M-NCPPC as part of the approval of Site Plan 8-04020 (Potomac

Preserve). The majority of this section is within environmental buffer, including 100-year floodplain. Entirely forested, no formal development is proposed. Access from Piney Meetinghouse Road to Tanager Lane via an existing natural surface trail provides access for surrounding developments to the east to reach the North Unit. Bollards at the end of Tanager Lane are recommended to help limit the potential for dumping or illegal access. This area is not recommended for formalized use but strictly as a Conservation area. The East Unit will require monitoring for potential encroachments and future use.

INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS

The Montgomery County Parks Interpretive Programming unit proposes a use plan that will combine formal public programs, special school programs, community programs, and self-guided programs in a multi-pronged approach to interpretation of this unique resource.

M-NCPPC anticipates that programming at the site will build over time. Because this is a new resource and still relatively unknown to the public, it will take time for interest to build and interpretive programming to realize maximum potential on the site.

M-NCPPC Interpretive Programming Unit proposes planning for about 24 publicorganized and school group programs annually in the beginning. This will include a variety of hikes and special interpretive programs advertised to the public, plus anticipated school group programs. The bulk of the programming will take place in the spring, less in the fall and summer, and very few programs in the winter. This is based on historical patterns of attendance at interpretive programs.

The SBCP Interpretive Program proposes contacting local community groups and organizations to offer programs targeted at the communities surrounding the Serpentine Barrens. These programs will be designed to convey the uniqueness and value of the Barrens, as well as special stewardship concerns. The proposed educational pavilion on the South Unit is envisioned to be the cornerstone of coordinating educational efforts with the public schools for school-aged groups.

The Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park will also be part of a larger interpretive initiative that will involve a self-guided tour of high-value natural areas in the Montgomery County Park system. This tour will require program participants to visit several special natural areas and find answers to specific questions. The answers can only be obtained by going to each park. Once all the questions have been answered, completed brochures can be returned to one of our nature facilities to be checked by a naturalist. Successful completion of the tour will earn the program participant a patch or badge. In this way, we hope to encourage additional use of the park in a way that also achieves the objectives of the No Child Left Inside Initiative.

Formal programming of the Serpentine Barrens site cannot begin in earnest until the trail system is in place, for several reasons: A trail system minimizes trampling damage to sensitive resources by confining visitors to the established trails. Furthermore, the designated trail alignment will avoid the most valuable or sensitive areas of the Serpentine Barrens. Another consideration is safety, especially given the large numbers

of ticks that inhabit this area. A developed trail system is necessary to allow hikers to traverse the site while minimizing contact with shrubs and brush that could expose hikers to ticks.

TRAILS INFRASTRUCTURE IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Trails

Note: Trail use designations are subject to change due to seasonal conditions or future consideration according to the judgment of the park manager in consultation with other M-NCPPC staff.

- Construct shared use natural surface trails, open to hiking use only, in the North and South units in the general locations shown on the Natural Surface Trail Map.
- Construct and maintain an ADA accessible trail in the South Serpentine Unit.
- □ Inspect proposed trail routes prior to construction with Park Planning and Stewardship staff to avoid critical resources.
- □ Install 5-inch concrete filled steel bollards at the following 3 trail entrances to prevent motorized vehicles from entering trails:
 - Parking Area at Piney Meetinghouse Road just south of PEPCO lines
 - Glen Road Entrance to South Unit Parking Area
 - Terminus of Piney Glen Court
- □ Close any observed trails created by ATV's and unapproved equestrian uses and other undesirable trails that are not part of this plan.
- Construct and maintain all trails in a manner consistent with M-NCPPC trail construction guidelines.
- Pursue construction of a permanent Pavilion for Educational Interpretation to be located in the South Unit within proximity of the farm pond and parking area.
- Provide toilet facilities in the South Unit for accommodation of school groups and general visitors. Permanent chemical vault toilets are recommended.
- □ Identify potential future trail connections and assess needs based on future patterns of circulation and user-ship of the Serpentine Barrens

Parking

- Construct two gravel parking areas. North Unit parking will accommodate 10 to 12 vehicles and allow room to park and turn around. South Unit Parking will accommodate 20 spaces and allow for bus turnaround, in addition to supporting toilet and pavillion facilities. A sediment and erosion control permit will be required if construction disturbance is greater than 5,000 square feet. Gravel for parking areas may potentially be donated by Rockville Crushed Stone as an education "tie-in" to the Quarry's operations.
- Install standard metal gates (sizes to be determined) for closing the entrances to both proposed gravel parking areas.
- Inspect proposed parking areas prior to construction with Park Planning and Stewardship staff to avoid critical resources.

Signage

- Install standard wood M-NCPPC "brown and white" park entrance signs at the proposed two new gravel parking areas to identify public access to SBCP. The signs should acknowledge the County's Legacy Open Space Program for its role in acquiring the park.
- □ Construct wood information kiosks at the trailhead parking areas for North and South Units. The kiosks will provide space to post the park's rules and regulations, and other metal regulatory signs best suited for this type of park.
- Develop a comprehensive trail signage plan for SBCP. The plan will identify the type and location of all directional, mile marker, and user designation signs, as well as trail blazes.
- Develop Interpretive Signage specific to the Serpentine Barrens.

TRAIL & PUBLIC ACCESS PLAN IMPLEMENTATION COST ESTIMATES (IN 2008 DOLLARS)

Table 4. Operating Budget Impact (OBI) for Park Planning and Stewardship Division, Natural Surface Trails Implementation section

	Start-up Costs:	Annual Costs:
	 Construct new Trails Close and/or re-route sections of Trail Install 3 hiker trail stream crossings Install wood kiosks Install trail signage Install fence along trails across PepCo Property 	None
Personnel Services	\$27,000	\$0
Supplies and Materials	\$0	\$0
Other Services & Charges	\$0	\$0
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0
Chargeback	\$0	\$0
Total expenditure	\$27,000	\$0
Workyears	0.52	0.00

Table 5. OBI for Northern Region

	Start-up Costs:1. Close undesirable trails	Annual Costs:1. Trail maintenance2. Spray weeds in parking areas3. Repair and re-paint park signage		
Personnel Services	\$384	\$3,355		
Supplies and Materials	\$0	\$100		
Other Services & Charges	\$0	\$0		
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0		
Chargeback	\$0	\$0		
Total expenditure	\$384	\$3,455		
Workyears	0.01	0.07		

Table 6. OBI for Central Maintenance Division					
	Start-up Costs:	Annual Costs:			
	 Install bollards at trail entrances Construct and Install park entrance signs 	Maintenance of gravel parking lots			
Personnel Services	\$588	\$980			
Supplies and Materials	\$900	\$300			
Other Services & Charges	\$0	\$0			
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0			
Chargeback	\$0	\$0			
Total expenditure	\$1,488	\$1,280			
Workyears	0.01	0.02			

Table 7. Capital Budget for Trails and Public Access Plan: Approved FY07-FY12 CIP

Project Description	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	Unscheduled Expenditures
Trails – Natural Surface, PDF	#858710	1100					
North Unit Improvements							
Construct one trail stream crossing							\$20,000
Construct one gravel parking area							\$20,000
Construct wood kiosk and trail signage (supplies and materials only)							\$5,000
South Unit Improvements							
Construct two trail stream crossings							\$40,000
Construct one gravel parking area							\$50,000
Construct wood kiosk and trail signage (supplies and materials only)							\$5,000



Park Operations Plan

The following is a list of recommended actions to address operational issues identified following the purchase of SBCP for securing the property as part of the M-NCPPC park system. These include both initial or "start-up" projects and annual maintenance tasks. Project implementation will be handled by Northern Region Shady Grove staff in coordination with staff from Central Maintenance Division, surveyors from the Park Development Division, and the Park Police Division's Patrol Section.

Tables 8 - 12 summarize capital and operating budget estimates for the Park Operations Plan. In addition, Table 13 summarizes management tasks and frequencies for the Northern Region.

Northern Region

- Install "No Hunting" and property border signs.
- Locate and remove deer hunting tree stands scattered throughout the property.
- Remove trash and debris. Dumping of trash and woody debris has occurred on the property over many years prior to the park's acquisition. Several old minor trash dumps were observed scattered throughout the park particularly in wooded areas near utility easements. Overall debris is significantly less common in the North Unit as compared with the South Unit. Home construction and other types of debris have been noted on the edges of the park, especially along the gas line easement. A periodic effort will be made to remove debris.
- Mow grass homestead area at the South Unit entry.

Central Maintenance

• Construct and install gate at entrance to parking area on South Unit.

Park Development

• Install park green and white posts. Park green and white posts have been set up on the parts of the boundary for the North Unit, but remain to be installed on the rest of the North Unit and the South and East Units.

Park Police

- Increase Park Police presence in SBCP. Patrol access points and trails to
 prevent illegal uses, with particular emphasis on ending ATV use and dumping
 in the park. The Park Police Division's Patrol Section has been responsible for
 patrolling SBCP since its purchase. Public use of the Serpentine Barrens is
 expected to increase significantly once proposed trail alignments are
 constructed. The park has been a site for all-terrain vehicle (ATV) activity in the
 past, and continues to be so even under M-NCPPC ownership. ATVs access
 the park primarily via the PEPCO Utility easements.
- Conduct "special" checks of the park during hunting seasons to prevent illegal hunting.

ACQUISITION OF FUTURE PARKLAND

Several sites adjacent to the Park should be evaluated for potential future acquisitions to bolster the Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park, including potential long-term incorporation of the +/- 300 acre Rockville Quarry into public ownership. Upon completion of operation, the Rockville Quarry represents a unique opportunity for a water supply reservoir and water-based or other form(s) of recreation. The quarry shares a 3300-foot boundary with the Serpentine Barrens. Four other properties along Piney Meetinghouse road near the PEPCOpower line may provide expanded use/protection for the SPCP, including two properties owned by Dumont Oaks Corp. Aggregate Industries, Inc., the parent company of the Rockville Quarry, also owns 24.4 acres of forested land on the northwest corner of the Serpentine Barrens that could make a logical extension to the existing park. A property adjacent to that one is used for a nursery operation (owned by Milton Johnson) and has access to Travilah Road. Acquisition of those two parcels could improve access to the park in the long term.

PARK OPERATIONS PLAN IMPLEMENTATION COST ESTIMATES

Table 8. Operating Budget impact (OBI) for Northern Region (in 2008 Dollars)						
	St a 1.	irt-up Costs: Install "No Hunting" signs	An 1.	Annual Costs: 1. Trash Pickup		
	2.	Remove and dispose deer hunting tree stands	2.	Mow South Unit entry area		
	3.	Remove existing dump sites				
Personnel Services		\$5,347		\$4602		
Supplies and Materials		\$0		\$0		
Other Services & Charges		\$0		\$0		
Capital Outlay		\$0		\$0		
Charge back		\$0		\$0		
Total expenditure		\$5,347		\$4602		
Work years		0.11		0.09		

Table 8. Operating Budget Impact (OBI) for Northern Region (In 2008 Dollars)

Table 9. OBI For Central Maintenance Division

	Start-Up Costs: Construct & install gate at South Unit	Annual Costs:
Personnel Services	\$2,352	\$0
Supplies and Materials	\$0	\$0
Other Services & Charges	\$0	\$0
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0
Charge back	\$0	\$0
Total expenditure	\$2,352	\$0
Work years	0.04	0.00

Table 10. OBI for Park Development Division, Engineering Section Surveyors				
	Start-up Costs:Annual Costs:Survey park boundary and install "green-and-whites" (Partially complete)None			
Personnel Services	\$20,000	\$0		
Supplies and Materials	\$0	\$0		
Other Services & Charges	\$0	\$0		
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0		
Charge back	\$0	\$0		
Total expenditure	\$20,000	\$0		
Work years	0.69	0		

Table 11. OBI for Park Police Division, Patrol Section				
	Start-up Costs: Park patrols	Annual Costs: Park patrols		
Personnel Services	\$960	\$960		
Supplies and Materials	\$290	\$290		
Other Services & Charges	\$0	\$0		
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0		
Charge back	\$0	\$0		
Total expenditure	\$1,250	\$1,250		
Work years	0.02	0.02		

Table 12. Capital Budget for Park Operations Plan: Approved FY07-FY12 CIP							
Project Description	Previous Expenditures (FY03-04)	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12
Legacy Open Space, PD)F# 018710*						
Install "No Hunting" and other signs (supplies and materials only) Initial Park Cleanup			\$1000				
(Tipping Fees Only)			\$5040				
Construct metal gate at South Unit entrance (supplies and materials only)			\$800				
Survey park boundary and install "green-and-whites" (supplies and materials only)			\$2000				

* The Legacy Open Space PDF has up to \$50,000 per year available for park operations start-up costs at parks purchased through the Legacy Open Space program.

				# of People	# Hours Per		
	Maintenance Task To Be Completed	FREQUENCY OF TASK	Materials Needed	To Do Task	Person To Do Task	Total # of Man Hours	Notes
	Park Management & Coordination with other Park Divisions	8 X year	None	2	4	32	
Serpen	Non-Native Invasive Control	10 x year	Herbicide	4	8	320	Region staff working under supervision of PPSD, Natural Resources Stewardship, NNI manager.
tine Barrens Co	Trail maintenance	12 X year	None	2	4	96	 Trail surfaces and adjacent areas will be visually inspected for hazards, excessive wear and tear, vandalism, washouts, etc., and be repaired as appropriate. Trails that are not part of approved trail plan will be closed as will ATV created trails.
onservation Pan							3) Trees adjacent to trails will be inspected for dead trees and hazardous limbs, and tree crew will be contacted for removal of dead trees or hazardous limbs. Where appropriate dead trees will be pruned in a manner that allows one-third of the trunk to remain standing to create bird habitat.
rk Operatio	Spray for weeds in parking areas	2 X year- Summer only	Herbicide	1	2	4	A pre/post emergent herbicide will be used to treat weeds within the gravel parking area as well as around entrance gates. This is a preventative measure to keep vegetation from taking over.
n & Use Plan	Repair and repaint wooden park signs	1 X year - Winter only	Paint	2	20	40	 All signs will be legible, secure and maintained as originally designed. Damaged or missing signs will be repaired or replaced. Wood signs will be repainted. Vegetation will be removed from signs or posts. Sign posts will be secured and straightened. Dirt will be removed from signs.
	Trash pickup and mowing	32 X year	None	2	3	192	 Minor trash pickup at both North & South Units Weed-eat parking lot edges at both North & South Units Mow open area at South Unit.

Table 13. Annual Management and Maintenance Task Summary for Northern Region

44

Summary of Operating and Capital Budget Estimates

Tables 14-18 summarize operating budget estimates across all three plans (Resource Management, Trails & Public Access and Park Operations) for each affected Park Division.

Table 14. Summary of Operating Budget Impacts (OBI) for Park Planning and Stewardship Division (in 2008 Dollars) (tables 1 & 4)

	Start-up Costs:	Annual Costs:
Personnel Services	\$38,000	\$3,233
Supplies and Materials	\$1,300	\$450
Other Services & Charges	\$5,000	\$2,225
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0
Charge back	\$0	\$0
Total expenditure	\$44,300	\$5,908
Work years	1.02	0.19

Table 15. Summary of OBI for Northern Region Division (in 2008 Dollars) (tables 2,5, & 8)

	Start-up Costs:	Annual Costs:
Personnel Services	\$8,799	\$17,161
Supplies and Materials	\$2,550	\$600
Other Services & Charges	\$0	\$0
Capital Outlay	\$6,500	\$0
Charge back	\$0	\$0
Total expenditure	\$17,849	\$17,761
Work years	0.18	0.35

Table 16. Summary of OBI for Central Maintenance Division (in 2008 Dollars) (tables 6 & 9)

	Start-up Costs:	Annual Costs:
Personnel Services	\$2,940	\$980
Supplies and Materials	\$900	\$300
Other Services & Charges	\$0	\$0
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0
Charge back	\$0	\$0
Total expenditure	\$3,840	\$1,280
Work years	0.05	0.02

Table 17. Summary of OBI for Park Development Division (in 2008 Dollars) (table 10)				
	Start-up Costs:	Annual Costs:		
Personnel Services	\$20,000	\$0		
Supplies and Materials	\$0	\$0		
Other Services & Charges	\$0	\$0		
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0		
Charge back	\$0	\$0		
Total expenditure	\$20,000	\$0		
Work years	0.69	0		

Table 18. Summary of OBI for Park Police Division (in 2008 Dollars) (table 11)				
	Start-up Costs:	Annual Costs:		
Personnel Services	\$960	\$960		
Supplies and Materials	\$290	\$290		
Other Services & Charges	\$0	\$0		
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0		
Charge back	\$0	\$0		
Total expenditure	\$1,250	\$1,250		
Work years	0.02	0.02		

The following tables (#19 and #20) total all estimate Operating Budget Impacts (OBI) and Capital Budgets estimates for this Operation & Use Plan.

Table 19. Summary of Operating Budget Impacts (OBI) Across Montgomery ParksOperating Divisions (in 2008 Dollars) (tables 14 - 18)			
	Start-up Costs:	Annual Costs:	
Personnel Services	\$70,699	\$22,334	
Supplies and Materials	\$5,040	\$1,640	
Other Services & Charges	\$5,000	\$2,225	
Capital Outlay	\$6,500	\$0	
Charge back	\$0	\$0	
Total expenditure	\$87,239	\$26,199	
Work years	1.96	0.58	

	·	-							
Project Description	Previous expenditures (FY03-04)	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	Unscheduled Expenditures	Totals
Stream Protection, PDF # 818571								\$300,000	\$300,000
Trails – Natural Surface, PDF # 858710								\$140,000	\$140,000
Legacy Open Space, PDF# 018710			\$8,840						\$8,840
Totals			\$8 840					\$440.000	\$448 840

Table 20. Summary of Capital Budget: Approved FY05-FY10 CIP (tables 3, 7 & 12)



Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park Operation & Use Plan

Appendices

Appendix A: List of Maps Appendix B: Plant Species List Appendix C: Fauna List



Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park Operation & Use Plan

APPENDICES

Appendix A: List of Maps

Мар	Page #
Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park Vicinity Map	2
Bedrock Geology Map of the Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park Vicinity	11
Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park Trail Plan Map	30
Conceptual Layout for South Serpentine Unit	33

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Appendix	B :	Plant	Species	List
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Woody	
Pine Family	
Pinus rigida	Pitch Pine
Pinus echinata	Yellow Pine
Pinus virginiana	Virginia Pine
Cypress family	
uniperus virginiana	Eastern Red Cedar
Lila Famila	
Swilax alauca	Glaucous Greenbrier
Smilax rotundifolia	Round-leaf Greenbrier
Willow Family	D1. 1 37'11
Saux nıgra	Black Willow
Saux humuns	I area to the 1 A
ropulus granaiaentata Populus deltoides	Eastern cottonwood
copulus aettoraes	Eastern cottonwood
Walnut Family	
Juglans nigra	Black Walnut
Carya glabra	Pignut Hickory
Carya tomentosa	Mockernut Hickory
Birch Family	
Corvlus americana	American Hazelnut
Carpinus caroliniana	American Hornbeam
Alnus serrulata	Smooth Alder
Beech Family	Amarican Daach
rugus yrunnijonn Castanaa dantata	American Chostout
Susianea aentata	White Oak
Quertus mon Quercus hicolor	Swamp White Oak
Quercus caccinnea	Scarlet Oak
Quercus falcata	Spanish Oak
Quercus junun Quercus imbricaria	Shinole Oak
<u>Suercus marilandica</u>	Blackjack Oak
Ouercus palustris	Pin Oak
Ouercus prinus	Chestnut Oak
Quercus rubra	Red Oak
~ Quercus stellata	Post Oak
~ Quercus velutina	Black Oak
~ Ulmus americana	American Elm
Ulmus rubra	Slippery Elm
Mulberry Family	
Morus alba	Red Mulberry
Crowfoot Family	
Clematis virginiana	Virgin's Bower

Moonseed Family	
Menispermum canadense	Moonseed
Magnolia Family	
Liriodendron tulipifera	Tulip Poplar
Custard-apple Family	
Asimina triloba	Pawpaw
Laurel Family	
Lindera benzoin	Spicebush
Sassafras albidum	Sassafras
Witch-hazel Family	
Hamemelis virginiana	Witch - hazel
Plane-tree Family	0
Platanus occidentalis	Sycamore
Rose Family	De la Land
Amelanchier arborea	Downy Juneberry
Amelanchier laevis	Smooth Juneberry
Aronia arbutifolia	Alles Law There
Crataegus straminea	Alleghany Thorn
Malus coronaria	Wild Crabapple
Physocarpus opulifolius	Ninebark
Crataegus crus-galli	Cockspur Thorn
Crataegus macrosperma	Large-seeded Thorn
Rubus occidentalis	Black Raspberry
Rubus species	Blackberry
Rosa carouna	Vasture Kose
Prunus americana	Ria de Charme
Prunus serotina	Black Cherry
Leaune Family	
Cercis canadensis	Redbud
Cereis tunuacrisis	Reublid
Cashew Family	
Rhus copallinum	Shining Sumac
Rhus alabra	Smooth Sumac
Rhus hirta	Staghorn Sumac
Toxicodendron radicans	Poison Ivy
	,
Holly Family	
Ilex verticillata	Winterberry
Ilex opaca	America Holly
· · ·	,
Staff-tree Family	
Euonymus americanus	Strawberry Bush
Bladdernut Family	
Staphylea trifoliata	Bladdernut

Maple Family	Pad Mapla
	Red Maple
Buckthorn Family	
Ceanothus americanus	New Jersev Tea
	, ,
Vine Family	
Parthenocissus quinquefolius	Virginia Creeper
Vitis aestivalis	Wild Grape
Vitis labrusca	Fox Grape
Vitisvulpina	Winter Grape
St. John's-wort Family	
Ascyrum hypericoides	St. Andrew's Cross
Hypericum spathulatum	Shrubby St. John's-wort
Metzereum Family	
Dirca palustris	Leatherwood
Sour Gum Family	DI 1 0
Nyssa sylvatica	Black Gum
C'	
Ginseng Family	Angelies Trees
Aruuu spiriosu	Angelica Tree
Dogwood Family	
Cornus amomum	Silky Dogwood
Cornus florida	Flowering Dogwood
Cornus racemosa	Grav-stemmed
	Dogwood
Heath Family	
Rhododendron nudiflorum	Pinxter Azalea
Lyonia ligustrina	Maleberry
Leucothoe racemosa	Fetterbush
Gaylussacia baccata	Black Huckleberry
Vaccinium angustifolium	Blueberry
Vaccinium atrococcum	Black Highbush
T	Blueberry
Vaccinium stamineum	Deerberry
vaccinium vacillans	Blueberry
T1	
Ebony Family	Dareimmon
Diospyros virginiana	rersiminon
Oline Family	
Fraxinus americana	White Ash
Chionanthus virainicus	Fringe-tree
	80
Madder Family	

Mitchella repens

Partridgeberry

How way shi a Family	
Samhucus canadensis	Elderberry
Vihurnum prunifolium	Black Haw
Viburnum recognitum	Arrow-wood
Ferms and Ferm Allies	
Ouillwort Family	
Isoetes species	Quillwort
1	
Clubmoss Family	
Lycopodium digitatum	Fan Clubmoss
Adder's-tongue Family	
Botrychium dissectum	Cutleaf Grape Fern
Botrychium virginianum	Rattlesnake Fern
Roval Fern Familv	
Osmunda claytonia	Interrupted Fern
~	*
Cliff Fern Family	
Onoclea sensibilis	Sensitive Fern
Athyrium filix-femina	Southern Lady Fern
Marsh Fern Family	
Thelvhteris hexagonoptera	Broad Beech Fern
Thelypteris palustris	Marsh Fern
Thelypteris noveboracensis	New York Fern
Wood Fern Family	
Dryopteris marginalis	Marginal Wood Fern
Polystichum acrostichoides	Christmas Fern
Bracken Family	
Dennstaedtia punctilobula	Hay-scented Fern
Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken Fern
Spleenwort Family	
Asplenium platyneuron	Ebony Spleenwort
Maiden-hair Family	
Adiantum pedatum	Maiden hair Fern
Polypody Family	

Cattail Family	
Typha latifolia	Broadleaf cattail
Water-plantain Family	
Alisma subcordatum	Water plantain
Sagittaria latifolia	Broad leaved Arrowhead
Grass Family	
Andropogon gerardii	Big Bluestem
Andropogon scoparius	Little Bluestem
Andropogon virginicus	Broom-sedge
Aristida oligantha	Prairie Three-awn
Brachyelytrum erectum	Bearded Short-husk
Cinna arundinacea	Wood-reed
Danthonia spicata	Poverty Grass
Eragrostis spectabilis	Purple Lovegrass
Elymus villosus	Wild Rye
Festuca octoflora	Six-weeks Fescue
Festuca rubra	Red Fescue
Glyceria striata	Fowl Meadow Grass
Melica mutica	Narrow Melic Grass
Panicum acuminatum	Hairy Panic Grass
Panicum boscii	Bosc's Panic Grass
Panicum dichotomum	Bushy Panic Grass
Panicum depauperatum	Starved Panic Grass
Panicum sphaerocarpon	Round-fruited Panic
	Grass
Phragmites australis	Common Reed
Sphenopholis nitida	Shining Wedgegrass
Sorghastrum nutans	Indian Grass
Triodia flava	Purple-top
Sedge Family	
Carex abscondita	Thicket Sedge
Carex amphibola	Narrow-leaf Sedge
Carex cephalophora	Oval-headed Sedge
Carex crinita	Fringed Sedge
Carex festucacea	Fescue Sedge
Carex frankii	Frank's Sedge
Carex glaucodea	Gray-green Sedge
Carex hirsutella	Hirsute Sedge
Carex hirtifolia	Pubescent Sedge
Carex intumescens	Bladder Sedge
Carex lupulina	Hop Sedge
Carex lurida	Yellow-green Sedge
Carex pennsylvanica	Pennsylvania Sedge
Carex rosea	Rose Sedge
Carex squarrosa	Squarrose Sedge
Carex volpinoidea	Foxtail Sedge
Carex willdenowii	Willdenow's Sedge
Cyperus ovales	Oval-headed Cyperus
Cyperus strigosus	Straw-colored Cyperus
Eleocharis engelmannii	Engelmann's Spikerush
~	

_, , , ,	
Eleocharis tenuis	Slender Spikerush
Scirpus atrovirens	Dark Green Bulrush
Scirpus cyperinus	Woolgrass
Scirpus verecundus	Bashful Bulrush
Arum Family	
Arisaema triphyllum	Jack in the Pulpit
Symplocarpus foetidus	Skunk Cabbage
Sedge Family	
Juncus effusus	Soft Rush
Juncus marginatus	Grass-leaved Rush
Juncus secundus	One-sided Rush
Juncus tenuis	Path Rush
Luzula bulbosa	Bulbous Woodrush
Lily Family	
Allium canadense	Wild Onion
Erythronium americanum	Trout Lily
Lilium species	Wild Lily
Polygonatum biflorum	Solomon's Seal
Smilacina racemosa	Solomon's Plume
Smilax herbacea	Carrion Flower
Stenathium gramineum	Featherbells
Uvularia perfoliata	Perfoliate Bellwort
Uvularia sessilifolia	Sessile Bellwort
<u> </u>	
Yam Family	
Dioscorea quaternata	Wild Yam
Dioscorea villosa	Wild Yam
Amarylis Family	
Hypoxis hirsuta	Yellow Stargrass
V L	
Iris Family	
Sisyrinchium angustifolium	Blue eyed Grass
U	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Orchid Family	
Goodyera pubescens	Downy Rattlesnake
v 1	Plantain
Liparis lilifolia	Large Twayblade
Platanthera lacera	Ragged-fringed Orchid
Spiranthes gracilis	Slender Ladies' Tresses
Spiranthes cernua	Nodding Ladies' Tresses
Tipularia discolor	Cranefly Orchid
	,
Herbaceous Plants - Dicots	
Lizard's-tail Family	
Saururus cernuus	Lizard's tail
Nettle Family	
Pilea pumila	Clearweed

Sandalmood Family	
Comandra archellata	Bastard Toodflay
Somman a muocliulu	Dastaru TUaunax
Birthwort Family	
Asarum canadense	Wild Ginger
Aristolochia serbentaria	Virginia snakeroot
11.000000000000000000000000000000000000	
Buckwheat Family	
Polygonum pennsylvanica	Pennsylvania Smartweed
Polygonum species	Bindweed
Polygonum tenue	Slender Knotweed
Pokeweed Family	
Phytolaca americana	Pokeweed
Purslane Family	
Claytonia virginica	Spring Beauty
Dirah Egonila	
Conastium among	Field Chickweed
Silone antimulaina	Sleepy Catchfly
Silene caroliniana	Wild Pink
Silene stellata	Starry Champion
Sucht Stemme	Starry Champion
Crowfoot Family	
Anemone virginiana	Thimbleweed
Anemonella thalictroides	Rue Anemone
Aquilegia canadensis	Columbine
Cimicifuga racemosa	Black Cohosh
Ranunculus abortivus	Kidney-leaved Crowfoot
Ranunculus hispidus	Hispid Buttercup
Ranunculus recurvatus	Hooked Crowfoot
Thalictrum revolutum	Wax-leaved Meadowrue
Barberry Family	
Podophyllum peltatum	apple
May	
Deter Fruit.	
Foppy Fumily Sanauinania canadansis	Bloodroot
Sungumuru (unuurnsis	DIOOUTOOL
Fumitory Family	
Corvdalis flavula	Yellow Corvdalis
<i></i>	
Mustard Family	
Cardamine parviflora	Small-flowered cress
Dentaria heterophylla	Slender Toothwort
Dentaria laciniata	Cut-leaved Toothwort
Saxifrage Family	
Penthorum sedoides	Ditch Stonecrop

Saxifrage viriniensis	Early Saxifrage		
Rose Family			
Agrimonia parviflora	Many-flowerd		
	Agrimony		
Agrimonia pubescens	Hairy Agrimonv		
Agrimonia rostellata	Woodland Agrimony		
Aruncus dioicus	Goat's-beard		
Fraaaria virainiana	Wild Strawberry		
Geum canadense	White Avens		
Porteranthus trifoliatus	Bowman's Root		
Potentilla canadensis	Dwarf cinquefoil		
	1		
Legume Family			
Amphicarpa bracteata	Hog Peanut		
Baptisia tinctoria	Wild Indigo		
Desmodium canescens	Hoary Tick-trefoil		
Desmodium nudiflorum	Naked-flowered Tick-		
	trefoil		
Desmodium paniculatum	Panicled Tick-trefoil		
Lespedeza procumbens	Trailing Bush-clover		
Lespedeza repens	Creeping Bush-clover		
Lespedeza violacea	Violet Bush-clover		
Lespedeza virginica	Slender Bush-clover		
Strophostyles umbellata	Pink Wild Bean		
Flax Family			
Linum virginianum	Yellow Flax		
Wood-sorrel Family			
Oxalis stricata Upright	sorrel		
Wood			
Oxalis violacea Violet	sorrel		
Wood			
Geranium Family	<u> </u>		
Geranium carolinianum	Carolina Cranesbill		
Geranium maculatum	Wild Geranium		
3.6'11			
Mulkwort Family	D 1 1711		
Polygala sangumea	Purple Milkwort		
Spurge Family			
Acalypha species	Three-seeded Mercurv		
Euphorbia corollata	Flowering Spurge		
<u> </u>	010		
Water-starwort Family			
Callitriche deflexa Austin's	starwort		
Water			
St. John's-wort Family			
Hypericum gentianoides	Pine weed		
Hypericum mutilum	Dwarf St. John's wort		

Hypericum punctatum	Dotted St. John's wort
Kockrose Family	
Lechea minor	Thyme leaved Pinweed
St. John's-wort Family	
Viola fimbriatula	Ovate-leaved Violet
Viola hirsutula	Southern Wood Violet
Viola palmata	Wood Violet
Viola primulifolia	Primrose-leaved Violet
Viola sagittata	Arrow-leaved Violet
Drain Elmon Franila	
Passion Flower Family	Vallan Dession Floren
Passifiora iutea	Tellow Passion Flower
Loosestrife Family	
Cuphea petiolata	Clammy Cuphea
Evening-Primrose Family	Casalla are
Luawigia alterniflora	Seedbox Watan Dawi
Luawigia paiustris	vvater-Pursiane
Oenothera tetragona	Sundrops
Oenothera perennis	Sundrops
Water-Milfoil Family	0 11
Proserpinaca palustris	Seedbox
Carrot Family	
Angelica venenosa	Hairy Angelica
Cicuta maculata	Water Hemlock
Osmorhiza claytoni	Sweet Cicely
Sanicula canadensis	Black Snakeroot
Thaspium barbinode	Hairy-jointed Meadow
	Parsnip
Wintergreen Family	
Chimaphila maculata	Spotted Wintergreen
Monotropa uniflora	Indian Pipe
L J	
Primrose Family	
Lysimachia quadrifolia	Whorled Loosestrife
Lysimachia ciliata	Fringed Loosestrife
Samolus parviflorus	Brookweed
Gentian Family	
Sabatia angularis	Rose-Pink
Gentiana villosa	Striped Gentian
Dogbane Family	T 1' TT
Аросупит саппавіпит	Indian Hemp
Milkweed Family	
Asclepias incarnata	Swamp Milkweed
Asclepias purpurascens	Purple Milkweed
	1

Asclepias syriaca	Common Milkweed
Asclepias viridiflora	Green Milkweed
Morning-Glory Family	
Calystegia sepium	Hedge Bindweed
Ipomoea pandurata	Wild Potato-vine
Borage Family	
Myosotis verna	Spring Forget me not
Vervain Family	
Verbena urticifolia	White Vervain
Mint Family	
Collinsonia canadensis	Stoneroot
Cunila origanoides	Dittany
Hedeoma pulegioides	Pennyroyal
Lycopus virginicus	Water-horehound
Pycnanthemum tenuifolium	Narrow-leaved Mt. Mint
Salvia lyrata	Lyre-leaved Sage
Scutellaria elliptica	Hairy Skullcap
Scutellaria integrifolia	Hyssop Skullcap
Scutellaria lateriflora	Mad-dog Skullcap
Scutellaria parvula	Small Skullcap
Satureja vulgaris	Wild Basil
Teucrium canadense	Germander
Trichostema dichotomum	Blue Curls
Nightshade Family	
Solanum carolinense	Horse-nettle
Physalis heterophylla	Clammy Ground Cherry
Figwort Family	
Agalinis tenuifolia	Slender Agalinis
Aureolaria virginica	Downy False Foxglove
Chelone glabra	Turtlehead
Gratiola neglecta	Clammy Hedge-hyssop
Linaria canadensis	Blue Toadflax
Mimulus ringens	Square-stemmed
	Monkey Flower
Penstemon hirsutus	Hairy Beard-tongue
Veronica officinalis	Speedwell
Veronica peregrina	Purslane Speedwell
Veronicastrum virginicum	Culver's Root
Broomrape Family	
Conopholis americana	Squawroot
Lopseed Family	
Phryma leptostachya	Lopseed
Bedstraw Family	
Diadia tama	Rough Buttonweed

Galium aparine	Cleavers
Galium circaezans	Wild Licorice
Calinum bilosum	Hairy Bedstraw
Calinum stacies	Bedstrow
United and the second s	Philoto
Houstonia purpurea	Large Houstonia
Bluebell Family	T 7 T 1' 1
Triodanis perfoliata	Venus Looking glass
Lobelia Family	
Lobelia cardinalis	Cardinal Flower
Lobelia inflata	Indian Tobacco
Lobelia spicata	Pale-spike Lobelia
Composite Family	
Ambrosia artemisifolia	Ragweed
Antennaria neglecta	Field Pussy toes
Antennaria plantaginifolia	Plantain - leaved Pussy
	toes
Aster divaricatus	White Wood Aster
Aster ericoides	Dense-flowered Heath
	Aster
Aster infirmus	Cornel-leaved Aster
Aster laevis	Smooth Aster
Aster lateriflorus	Calico Aster
Aster pilosus	White Heath Aster
Aster schreberi	Schreber's Aster
Aster undulatus	Wavy leaved Aster
Cirsium discolor	Field Thistle
Coreopsis verticillata	Whorled Coreopsis
Erectites hieracifolia	Fireweed
Erigeron strigosus	Prairie Fleabane
Eupatorium altissimum	Tall Thoroughwort
Eupatorium aromaticum	Smaller White
	Snakeroot
Fupatorium coelestinum	Mistflower
Eupatorium fistulosum	Hollow Joe-Pve
E hystopifolium yar	Torrey's Thoroughwort
L. Hyssopijouum vur. laciniatum	Toney's Thoroughwort
Fundarium perfoliatum	Boneset
E votundifolium par	Hory Thoroughwort
D. TOTATIMIJOTANI VAT.	many moroughwort
Fubatomina mugocama	White Spakeroot
Eupmorium rugosum	Unland Ronasot
Constantium sessuifouum	
Gruppunum oorusijonum	Dumla Cuduca d
Gnaphauum purpureum	Purple Cudweed
Hellanthus awaricatus	woodland Sunflower
Hieracium venosum	Kattlesnake-weed
Krigia virginica	Dwart Dandelion
Krigia dandelion	Potato Dandelion
Prenanthes serpentaria	Lion's-foot
Rudbeckia hirta	Black-eyed Susan

Senecio pauperculus	Balsam Ragwort
Seriocarpus asteroides	Toothed White-topped
	Aster
Seriocarpus linifolius	Narrow-leaved White-
•	topped Aster
Solidago bicolor	Silver-rod
Solidago caesia	Blue-stemmed
	Goldenrod
Solidago nemoralis	Gray Goldenrod
Solidago juncea	Early Goldenrod
Solidago altissima	Tall Goldenrod
Solidago canadensis	Canada Goldenrod
Solidago rugosa	Rough-stemmed
	Goldenrod
Solidago graminifolia	Grass-leaved Goldenrod
Vernonia noveboracensis	New York Ironweed

Appendix C: Fauna List

Mammals

Marmota monax	Wood Chuck
Odocoileus virginianus	White-tailed Deer
Procyon lotor	Raccoon
Sciurus carolinensis	Gray Squirrel
Sylvilagus floridanus	Eastern Cottontail
Tamias striatus	Eastern Chipmunk
Vulpes vulpes	Red Fox
Birds	
Buteo jamaicensis	Red-tailed Hawk
Cardinalis cardinalis	Northern Cardinal
Carduelis tristis	American Goldfinch
Cathartes aura	Turkey Vulture
Contopus virens	Eastern Wood Pewee
Corvus brachyrhynchos	American Crow
Cyanocitta cristata	Blue Jay
Dendroica discolor	Prairie Warbler
Dryocopus pileatus	Pileated Woodpecker
Epidonax virescens	Acadian Flycatcher
Geothlypis trichas	Common Yellowthroat
Helmitheros vermivorus	Worm-eating Warbler
Hylocichla mustelina	Wood Thrush
	Red-bellied
Melanerpes carolinus	Woodpecker
Myiarchus crinitus	Great Crested Flycatcher
Papilo erythrophthalmus	Rufous-sided Towhee
Parus carolinensis	Carolina Chickadee
Parus bicolor	Tufted Titmouse
Picoides pubescens	Downy Woodpecker
Piranga olivacea	Scarlet Tanager
Seiurus aurocapillus	Ovenbird
Siala sialis	Bluebird
	White-breasted
Sitta carolinensis	Nuthatch
Strix varia	Barred Owl
Thryothorus ludovicianus	Carolina Wren
Turdus migratorius	American Robin
Vireo olivaceus	Red-eyed Vireo
Vireo griseus	White-eyed Vireo
Zenaida macroura	Mourning Dove

Hyla versicolor	Grey Treefrog
Plethodon glutinosus	Slimy Salamander
Rana clamitans	Green Frog
Rana sylvatica	Wood Frog
	E .

Butterflies and

Skippers

Ancyloxypha numitor	Least Skipper
Atalopedes campestris	Sachem
Atrytonopsis hianna	Dusted Skipper
Calycopis cecrops	Red-banded Hairstreak
Celastrina ladon	Spring Azure
Colias eurytheme	Orange Sulphur
Colias philodice	Clouded Sulphur
Cercyonis pegala	Wood Nymph
Epargyreus clarus	Silver-spotted Skipper
Erynnis horatius	Horace's Duskywing
Erynnis juvenalis	Juvenal's Duskywing
Euptoieta claudia	Variegated Fritillary
Eurytides marcellus	Zebra Swallowtail
Everes comyntas	Eastern Tailed Blue
Junonia coenia	Buckeye
Limenitus arthemis	
astyanax	Red-spotted Purple
Megisto cymela	Little Wood Satyr
Nastra lherminier	Swarthy Skipper
Nymphalis antiopa	Mourning Cloak
	Eastern Tiger
Papilio glaucus	Swallowtail
Papilio troilus	Spicebush Swallowtail
Polites peckius	Peck's Skipper
Phyciodes tharos	Pearl Crescent
Polygonia interrogationis	Question Mark
Polygonia comma	Eastern Comma
Poanes zabulon	Zabulon Skipper
Speyeria cybele	Great Spangled Fritillary
Strymon melinus	Grey Hairstreak
Satyrium calanus	Banded Hairstreak
Vanessa virginiensis	American Lady
Vanessa atalanta	Red Admiral

Reptiles

Terrapene carolina

Box Turtle

Amphibians

Ambystoma opacum	Marbled Salamander
Bufo americanus	American Toad
Hyla crucifer	Spring Peeper

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