Carole F. Bergmann serves as Forest Ecologist/Field Botanist for the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) in Montgomery County, MD. She founded the citizen volunteer based WEED WARRIOR Program in 1999—480 citizens now work to remove non-native invasives from this 32,500 acre park system. Carole is president of the Maryland Native Plant Society and a Board Member of MAEPPC and the Maryland Invasive Species Council. Carole holds a Masters degree in Environmental Biology from Hood College in Frederick, Maryland.

Mary Travaglini is the Patuxent River Birding Habitat Restoration Manager for The Nature Conservancy for which she is responsible for control of invasive exotic plants and restoration of rare groundwater invertebrate habitats in one of the most biodiverse land holdings of the National Park Service. Ms. Travaglini holds degrees in Natural Resources from Cornell University and Landscape Architecture from the University of Michigan. She draws from experiences working in conservation and landscape architecture on public and private lands throughout the country.

Jil Ferrigan is Coordinator for Arlington Virginia's Invasive Plant Control Program under the Virginia Cooperative Extension and Arlington County Parks, Recreation and Community Resources. Jan coordinates volunteer and staff invasive plant control work in Arlington county parks and develops and produces educational materials related to invasive plants for use in Arlington. The WEED WARRIOR Plant Control website, a site devoted to invasive plant control news in the Washington DC area was co-created by Jan. President of the Mid-Atlantic Exotic Pest Plant Council and has a B.S. in Wildlife Biology from Frostburg State University in Maryland and a B.A. from Queen’s University in Kingston, Ontario.

Marc Imlay, PhD, Conservation Biologist, Anacostia Watershed Society. In addition to being a Board Member for the Mid-Atlantic Exotic Pest Plant Council, Marc is Vice President for the Maryland Native Plant Society, and Chair for the Biodiversity and Habitat Stewardship Committee for the Maryland Chapter of the Sierra Club. Marc is working with these organizations to recruit and train volunteers to assist in invasive plant removal projects on parks and preserves in Maryland and elsewhere.

Ron Dean is Supervisory Biologist for the National Park Service’s National Capital Region Exotic Plant Management Team for which he supervises biological technicians and volunteers on the control of identified invasive plants affecting the region’s parks. Ron researches and selects appropriate control methods and conducts outreach and training. He has an M.S. in Marine Biology from University of North Carolina, Wilmington where he researched the ecological physiology of Halophila johnsonii, the only marine plant currently listed as “Threatened”.

Participants are eligible for 3 CEUs from NJDEP


I. Identifying Invasive Plants. Some invasive plants are easily recognized even by novices while others look very much like desirable native species and require closer inspection. Live specimens of a selection of common invasive plants will be displayed along with some look-alike native species that may be confused with them. Instruction will cover some basic plant features like recognizing leaf types (simple and compound) and arrangements (opposite, alternate and whorled), and tips for confidently recognizing the invasive species.

II. Controlling Herbaceous Plants. Individual herbaceous weeds can be relatively easy to manage. However, when they have established and spread over acres of ground, that may not be so. Control techniques specific to herbaceous plants and grasses will be discussed and demonstrated. Guidance will be provided for selecting the control methods appropriate for various situations.

III. Controlling Woody Plants. Woody plants pose a special challenge because of their physical size and their vertical, horizontal and subterranean growth. But there are ways to slay these green monsters while protecting desirable native species. Control techniques specific to woody plants will be discussed and demonstrated for a sample of shrubs, trees and vines available on site. Guidance on selecting the most appropriate method under various situations will be provided.

IV. Staying Safe When Managing Invasive Plants. A number of safety issues face the invasive plant manager—from sharp instruments to chemicals to environmental hazards like bees and poison ivy. You will learn how to recognize potential hazards, take precautions to protect yourself and the environment, and respond to accidents.

Please note due to the hands-on nature of this conference, please wear walking shoes and bring sunscreen. You may wish to bring along a change of clothes and some insect repellent as well. The optional dinner is on site, and the dress code is entirely casual.
Invasive exotic species are an ever increasing threat to the world's biological diversity. This is a problem we all face since our quality of life depends on the health of our natural resources. In this sixth Mid-Atlantic conference, attendees will not only obtain useful background information on the issues surrounding this biological problem but will also:

- Get an overview of the extent of the invasive plant problem in the mid-Atlantic region
- Hear about local, state, federal and other programs being employed to address invasive plants
- Learn about effective methods for removing invasive plants from natural areas
- Meet other professionals and volunteers who are concerned about and involved in invasive plant management
- Take part in the Invasive Plant “Demolition Derby,” during which field demonstrations will feature invasive plant ID, control and personal safety

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

Nursery and Landscape Professionals
Natural Resource Specialists
Managers of Parks, Preserves and Conservation Districts
Invasive Plant Management and Restoration Specialists
Extension Agents and Environmental Educators
Public and Botanic Garden Managers and Supervisors
Researchers, Students and Gardeners
Garden and Outdoor Writers
Golf Course and Recreational Land Managers
Home Gardeners/Garden Club Members

Participants are eligible for 3 CEU’s from NJDEP in the categories of 3A Ornamental &

Wednesday August 9, 2006
The Frelinghuysen Arboretum
53 East Hanover Avenue
Morristown, New Jersey
www.arboretumfriends.org

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The Friends of
The Frelinghuysen Arboretum
& The Morris County Park Commission