

Botanical Society of Washington

FIELD TRIPS: Our 2007 field season opens with the Society's two annual spring field trips to Bear Island, in the Potomac Gorge on the Maryland side of the river. As usual, Dan Nicolson (Smithsonian) has offered to lead participants along a route including roadsides, towpath edges, and the rocky, riparian, and alluvial habitats of Bear Island, at times on portions of the rugged Billy Goat Trail. We will seek and note species in flower (woody and herbaceous), and compare our lists with those from previous years. For the year 2000 list, see: <http://www.botsoc.org/bearislandlist.pdf>.

For either trip, meet promptly at 9:30 am in the parking lots across from the Old Angler's Inn, 10801 MacArthur Blvd., between the Beltway and Great Falls, Maryland. Do not park in the private lot at the Inn itself! (This area is also easily reached by taking the Clara Barton Parkway upstream from Washington to its end, then turning left onto MacArthur Blvd. and continuing to the Old Anglers' Inn.) Bring lunch and water; and wear mud-tolerant shoes also suitable for rocky terrain. We expect to return to the parking area about 2:00 pm either day.

First trip – **Saturday, March 31st**, 9:30 am, Bear Island, Montgomery Co., Md., *details above*.

Second trip – **Saturday, April 7th**, 9:30 am, Bear Island, *details above*.

Additional 2007 field trips – The BSW expects to offer 3-5 additional local field trips this season, including a short-distance, easy-going, everybody-welcome fall trip appropriate for old-timers, little kids, and others who don't (or can't) join the longer walks and more rugged terrain characteristic of most of our botanical destinations.

For our customary annual weekend excursion to a more distant area within our region, we are considering southeastern Virginia, but dates, destinations, and other details have not yet been worked out.

– *Larry Morse, BSW Field Trip Chair, 2007*
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