

**April Field Trip  
Virginia Blue Bells at Stone Bridge**

**Saturday, April 19, 2008 – 6:00 AM  
Vienna Metro Parking Lot - North**

This one is for all you early risers!

On Saturday, April 19, we will shoot the Virginia Bluebells at Stone Bridge which is located in the Manassas Battlefield. We will meet at the North Side Parking Lot at Vienna metro at 6:00 am or you can meet us at the site at 6:30 am or later. Sunrise is best for lighting and before the wind starts so best pictures should be had at 6:30 to 7:30.

During April, the delicate blue flowers carpet the area near the bridge and along Bull Run. Opportunities will be plentiful for interesting and challenging landscape images as well as macro photography. You may wish to bring reflectors or flash for the close-up work. Tripods are recommended for maximizing depth of field. The flowers are close to the ground and the area tends to be muddy in places so wear appropriate clothing for getting up close and personal with Mother Nature.

The bridge itself is an interesting photo subject. The Stone Bridge is where the opening shots of First Manassas were fired in 1861 and the original bridge was destroyed by the Confederates in 1862. The current bridge was rebuilt as a replica of the original in 1884.

Following our shooting expedition, we will meet for breakfast at The Cracker Barrel Restaurant on Sudley Road (route 234), just south of the Visitor Center. After that, anyone interested may remain to photograph the Battlefield.

The cost is \$3 per person to visit the Manassas Battlefield. Tripods are permitted. We can collect the \$3 from everyone at Stone Bridge and take it to the Visitors Center following the shoot.

If you are interested in going and have not signed up on the signup sheet at a VPS meeting, please contact Martin Fish ([fishmp@aol.com](mailto:fishmp@aol.com)) or cell 703-969-8907) or Terry Goplerud ([terrygoplerud@yahoo.com](mailto:terrygoplerud@yahoo.com)).

**Directions to Stone Bridge:**

Take Interstate 66 west to exit 52-Centreville Route 29 South. Make a right on 29 South. Go about 2 miles and begin to look for the entrance on your right. It will say Manassas National Battlefield Park. If you cross the bridge, you have gone too far. You will see a parking lot and the Stone Bridge will be over a small hill at south end of the parking lot. The bluebells and bridge are a very short walk from the parking lot. It's only a 20 minute drive from the Vienna Metro.

We look forward to seeing you at sunrise on April 19<sup>th</sup>.