

**“Nature Photography Along the Patuxent River”**

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**Saturday, November 18 (8:15 a.m.):** The Vienna Photographic Society’s November photo field trip is for nature lovers. We will visit the 2,000 acre at Jug Bay Natural Area. Jug Bay is one of the most important freshwater tidal estuaries in the Chesapeake Bay region. Enjoy approximately 8 miles of trails, a few along a boardwalk through wetlands and tributaries along the Patuxent River, the remainder meander through riparian forest. According to their website : *“The park is also a site on the Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network, a partnership of parks, refuges, museums, historical communities and trails where visitors can experience and learn about the Chesapeake Bay. Jug Bay has been designated an “Important Birding Area” by the National Audubon Society.”* Jug Bay Natural Area

[www.pgparcs.com/places/parks/jugbay.html](http://www.pgparcs.com/places/parks/jugbay.html)

[www.dnr.state.md.us/baylinks/10.html](http://www.dnr.state.md.us/baylinks/10.html)

If this is not enough, our next stop will be to Merkle Wildlife Sanctuary a 1,670 acre park with approximately 8 miles of trails. Most of these trails meander through riparian forest. The Mounds Trail leads the adventurer to Lookout Creek, a well worth trek. At both Parks, keep an eye out for Herons, Hawks, Goose, Sandpipers, Owls, and if you listen you can hear a woodpecker off in the distance as well as other birds. Along the way there are also opportunities for old barn photos.

Merkle Wildlife Sanctuary

[www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/southern/merkle.html](http://www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/southern/merkle.html)

[www.dnr.state.md.us/baylinks/11.html](http://www.dnr.state.md.us/baylinks/11.html)

[www.pgaudubon.org/Merkle.html](http://www.pgaudubon.org/Merkle.html)

Looking forward to seeing you in November.

Mary Jane & Dennis, Field Trip, Co-Chairs