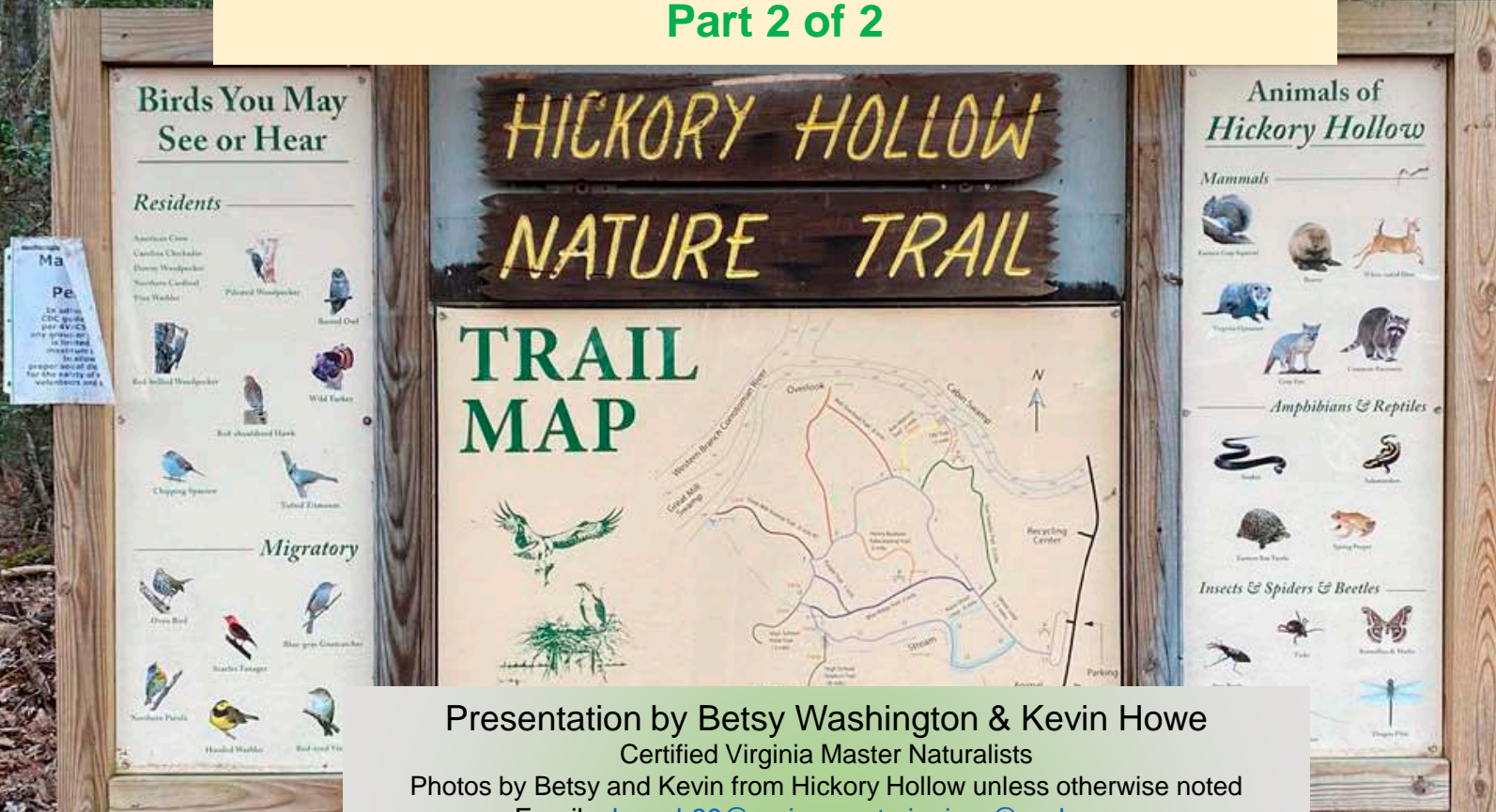


# NN Master Naturalists Hickory Hollow Natural Area Preserve A WINTER VIEW Part 2 of 2



Presentation by Betsy Washington & Kevin Howe  
Certified Virginia Master Naturalists

Photos by Betsy and Kevin from Hickory Hollow unless otherwise noted  
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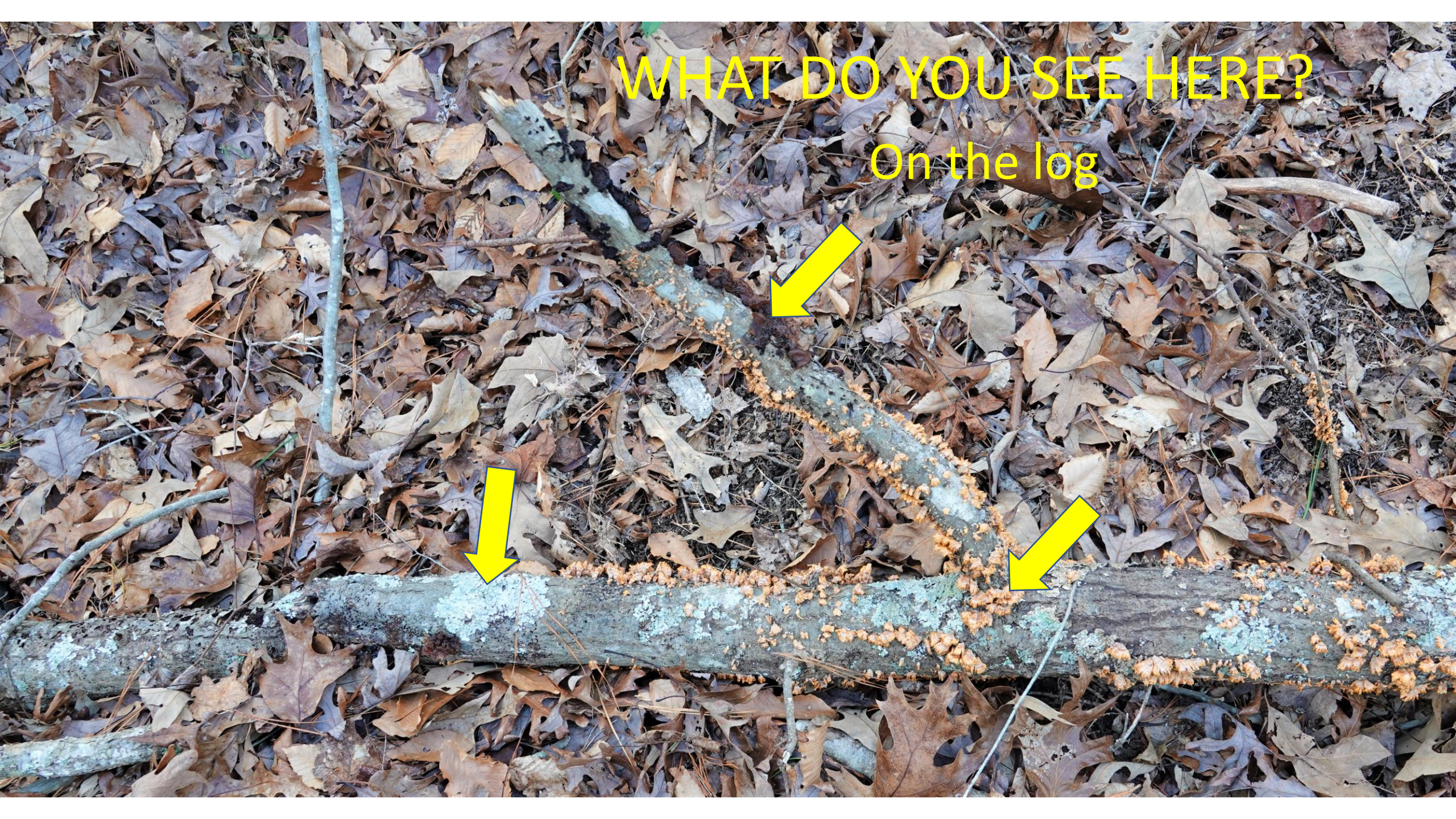
PLEASE NOTE: THIS PRESENTATION WAS PUT TOGETHER TO BE GIVEN LIVE SO SOME SLIDES MAY LACK CERTAIN INFORMATION THAT WAS GIVEN IN THE LIVE PRESENTATION.  
A video of the live presentation will soon be posted.

WHAT DO YOU SEE HERE?



WHAT DO YOU SEE HERE?

On the log





### Amber Jelly Roll (fungus)

- Squishy, just like jelly, common on dead wood
- Various species in amber, yellow, white, brown



### Crowded Parchment (fungus)

- Widely common on dead wood
- Color & form distinctive



### Rough Speckled Shield Lichen

- Many different green “shield” lichens
- Flat and leafy rather than shrubby, stringy or crusty
- On dead or live trees

**THREE COMMON DECOMPOSERS OF WOOD**  
– that we can see ... many more we cannot see

# JELLY FUNGUS – all are squishy like jelly



Pure white & rather translucent

**White Jelly Fungus**



Quite striking – all Jelly Fungi need water  
So mostly seen after rain events

**Orange Jelly Spot**



Witches Butter can be orange to bright yellow and can dry out but later rehydrate after a rain event

**Witches Butter**



**Yellow Egg-Shaped Slime Mold**

# SLIME MOLDS



**Red Raspberry Slime Mold**

Look like jelly fungi but , in fact, very different organisms in different Kingdoms – Kingdom Fungi vs. Kingdom Protista. As a group, slime molds are rather complex to describe but differ from fungi in: 1) chitin cell walls in Fungi and cellulose cell walls in Slime Molds; 2) Fungi get food by “dissolving” food material while Slime Molds consume microorganisms occurring on any dead plant material; and 3) Slime molds can exist as a single cell that can move/swim and merge together to form a multinucleated cell, quite different than growth in fungi.

**Red Raspberry Slime Mold**



# BRACKET or SHELF FUNGUS – Resinous Polypore Fungus



**Resinous Polypore  
Fungus**

*Ischnoderma resinosum*



This is an older specimen – when younger, it has a white margin and is white on the bottom that will turn brown when rubbed. Several other shelf fungi look similar and are common such as “Artist’s Conk”, *Ganoderma applanatum* – its white undersurface is used by artists to draw on as once touched, the bottom surface becomes discolored showing the mark or drawing.

## BRACKET or SHELF FUNGUS – Gilled Polypore Fungus



*Lenzites betulina*, another shelf or bracket fungus but with gills, not pores, as the common name tells you. Resembles the common Turkey Tail and False Turkey Tail shelf fungus but this has gills, not smooth and no pores.

# WINTER FUNGUS – all seen in winter at Hickory Hollow



Underside of most fungi are very important for ID - such as the “teeth” of the Milk White shown below





More WINTER Fungi from Hickory Hollow



Gilled Polypore



No common name – Wood Rot Mushroom  
*Ganoderma sessile*



Turkey Tail Fungus



Oyster  
Mushroom



Stump Puffball

# TURKEY TAIL vs. FALSE TURKEY TAIL



## Turkey Tail

- Pores on bottom
- Thin & Flexible even when dry
- No rings of color on bottom



## False Turkey Tail

- Has smooth bottom
- No pores, no gills
- Thicker & not flexible
- May have colored rings on bottom but lighter color



**EVEN MORE WINTER FUNGUS to look for, though a few of these will disappear with freezing temperatures**



**Cramp Balls**



**King Alfred's Cakes**



**White Toothed Polypore**



**Golden Spindles**



**Common Tarcrust**



**Cauliflower Fungus**

# LICHENS

## Common Growth Types

### FOLIOSE



Common Greenshield Lichen

### FRUITICOSE



Bushy Beard Lichen

### CRUSTOSE



Whitewash Lichen

# POWDERED RUFFLED LICHEN



**Note the  
cilia on the  
right photo**

**Who Knew?  
Those hair-  
like cilia are  
carbonized  
fungal  
hyphae, not  
“hair”.**

**Look for it  
on your  
next visit to  
Hickory  
Hollow.**



# LICHENS - British Soldiers, the genus *Cladonia* sp.



Upper photo taken at Kohls Island, near Ophelia but I wanted to show the growth habit of two *Cladonia* species on undisturbed sandy beaches – British Soldiers are found at Hichory Hollow – see photo below..



Reindeer  
Moss  
(a lichen)

# MULTIPLE LICHENS – All QUITE COMMON - OBSERVE



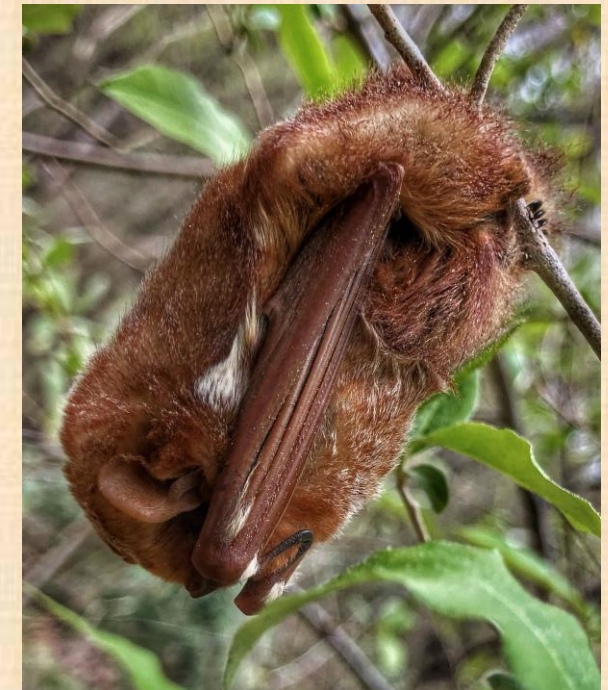
1. Bushy Beard Lichen

2. Powered Ruffled Lichen

3. Brown-eyed Rim Lichen

4. Black “spots” are a fungus – “Cramp Balls” which I did not notice when taking photo

# WINTER MAMMALS – Look carefully for sign, scat hiding or resting





# CAMERA TRAPPING ON THE NORTHERN NECK – Master Naturalist Citizen Science – a great way to survey mammals



Coyotes (2)



Photos from Hickory Hollow NAP, Bush Mill Stream NAP, a site, "Bayview", near Dameron Marsh NAP

41°F 11/01/2017 07:41AM CC

# WINTER BIRDS

VA DCR lists 115 bird species; winter will have well less than 50. Can't always see the birds but lots of evidence – sound, sign, nests, eggs, etc.

Not Hickory Hollow, but Virginia



Crows calling is often a sign that owls or hawks are around – let them get your attention

Fox Sparrow in December at HH



Nest found on ground at HH in winter



Literally stumbled on turkey eggs. Photo from Chilton Woods



Lots of woodpecker sign



Piliated Woodpecker sign – looking for lunch

# WINTER AMPHIBIANS - Salamanders

Lungless Salamander -  
Plethodontids



Eastern Red-backed Salamander

Vernal pools capable for use by amphibians not yet seen at Hickory Hollow. But the two salamanders shown are at Hickory Hollow and do not need vernal pools. Frog & Toad eggs shown so you know what they look like – those photos from Laurel Grove, Farnum.



Eastern Red-backed Salamander  
HH 1/8/21



The Eastern Red-backed at left was found under this log – look close for dark S-shape



Four-toed Salamander  
(Northumberland County,  
MN Roger & Bette Gruben)



Toad Eggs



Spotted  
Salamander Eggs

WINTER AMPHIBIANS – Frogs & Toads



Spring Peeper



American Toad



Eastern Narrow-mouthed Toad



Eastern Spadefoot

Possible at  
Hickory Hollow.  
Photos not from  
there.

© Jason Gibson

# WINTER REPTILES — Possible at HH but winter time's for Hibernation or BRUNATION



Woodland Box Turtle



Common Five-lined Skink

Photo – from MN Debbie Tupper's yard  
Unearthed under her raised garden  
beds on 1/2/2021!



Eastern Copperhead



Northern Watersnake

Turtle photo from  
Hicky Hollow, others  
are not

# INSECTS & INVERTEBRATES IN WINTER

You do not see many invertebrates in the winter.

- All cold blooded (poikilothermic)
- Must rely on the environmental temperatures
- The general air & ground temperature threshold is 50 degrees
- Sunshine with dark coloration can rise & shine many cold-blooded animals

## STRATEGIES FOR WINTER SURVIVAL

- Migrate – Monarch butterflies
- Survive in:
  - the larval or nymph stage – Skipper Butterflies
  - the pupae stage – Swallowtail Butterflies
  - the egg stage – Hairstreaks & Crane Flies
  - the adult stage – Mourning Cloak Butterflies

# INSECTS –What Might Be First



**Crane Fly – Adult & Aquatic Larvae**



**Whirligig Beetles  
Predacious Diving Beetles**



**Oil (Blister) Beetle  
Red Net-winged Beetle**



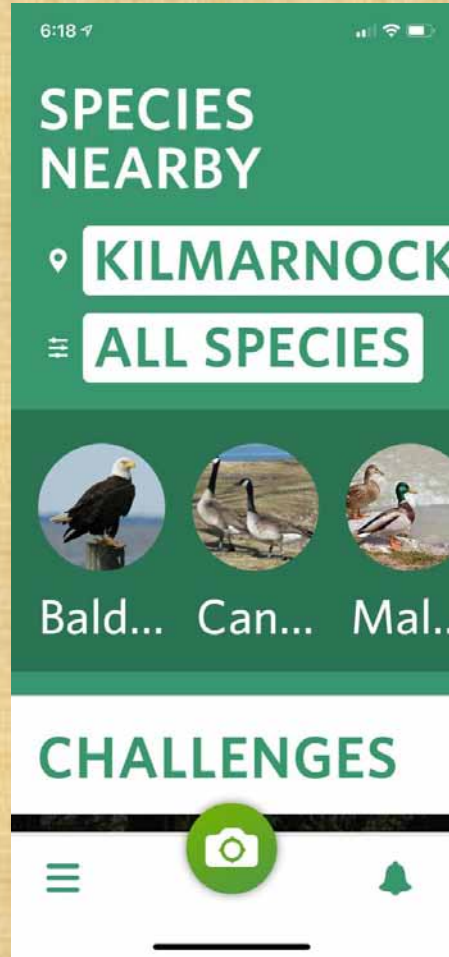
# Seek APP for Smart Phone & iPads

by iNaturalist, National Geographic and California Academy of Sciences

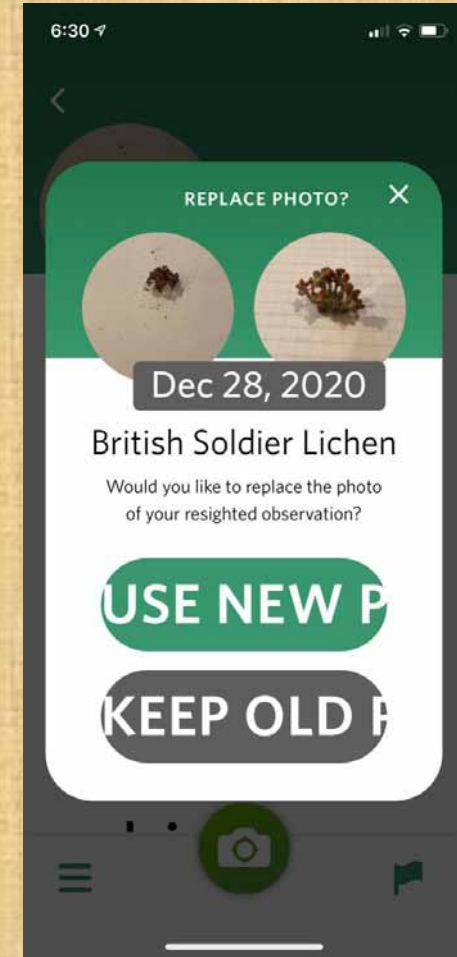
This is **free** and while not perfect, it is an awesome help. Get it if you don't have it



1



2



3



Coming Soon: Marsh Marigolds, Spring Beauty, Pennywort, Round-lobed Hepatica, and more!



Marsh Marigolds



Spring Beauties



Pennywort



Round-lobed Hepatica



Marsh Violet



Red Maple

## **A Few Helpful Resources for Hickory Hollow Natural Area Preserve**

Information, Maps, Plant and Bird Lists can be found on the Northern Neck Audubon Society website under place/Hickory Hollow.

**Wildflowers & Grasses of Virginia's Coastal Plain.** by Helen Hamilton and Gustavus Hall.

**Ferns and Mosses of Virginia's Coastal Plain.** by Helen Hamilton.

**Outstanding Mosses and Liverworts of Pennsylvania & Nearby States.** by Susan Munch.

**Common Native Trees of Virginia Tree Identification Guide.** Virginia Dept. of Forestry.

**Bringing Nature Home How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants.** Douglas Tallamy. Timber Press, Portland, OR.

**Mosses, Liverworts and Hornworts: A Field Guide to Common Bryophytes of the Northeast.** Ralph Pope, 2016. Comstock Publishing Associates.

**Mushrooms of the Southeast.** Todd Elliot & Steven Stephenson, 2018. Timber Press.

**Lichens of the North Woods.** Joe Walewski, 2007. Kollath-Stensaas Publishing.

**Mammal Tracks & Sign: A Guide to North American Species.** Mark Elbroch. 2019. Stackpole Books.

**Nature's Temples: The Complex World of Old-Growth Forest.** Joan Maloof, 2016. Timber Press.

**Winter World: the ingenuity of animal survival.** Bernd Heinrich, 2003. ECCO.

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**Certified Virginia Master Naturalists**

**Thanks to:**

**the late Henry Bashore, local Forester, who was among the first to recognize its significance**

**And**

**The late Anne Messick,**

**Tom Teeples**

**&**

**all others associated with NN Audubon when Hickory Hollow was purchased and protected**

**We Thank YOU, as will all future generations.**

**Photo Credits:** Red-backed salamander & eggs - [www.amphibianfact.com](http://www.amphibianfact.com)

Eastern Narrow Mouth Toad - Paul Sattler

Common Five-lined Skink – Debbie Tupper (VMN)

Four-toed Salamander – Roger & Bette Gruben (VMN)

**Background Photo is the flower of the Skunk Cabbage on 1-8-2021**