

***Woods in Your Backyard Seminar, Frederick, MD (May 2009)***



The *Woods in Your Backyard* seminar was designed to give property owners the knowledge and resources they need to manage their small parcels (1-10 acres) of land in a sustainable way and to achieve environmental goals and objectives for their properties. The seminar included *Woods in Your Backyard* manual promotes land stewardship for the personal enjoyment of the owners and improved environmental quality for society. During the month of May, fifty landowners participated in this seminar held in Frederick, MD.

During the course of the seminar (which included two classroom sessions and an optional field day), University of Maryland extension agents and professional foresters from Potomac Conservancy and the Maryland DNR Forest Service presented landowners with information on the following topics: creating and implementing forest stewardship plans; inventorying properties; mapping land using online resources; tree ID; designing and maintaining trails; forest stand improvement; and control of noxious and invasive weeds.

The optional field day, held at Waterford Park, gave participants an opportunity to check out the Friends of Waterford Park's many successful natural resource projects, including invasive plant control, tree planting, warm season grasses/meadow establishment, and butterfly gardens. Participating landowners also took this opportunity to ask the session leaders more in-depth questions.