

Project: Scout out and map seasonal/vernal pool locations in Little Bennett Park

Summary

This project would systematically scout out and identify seasonal (sometimes called vernal) pools in Little Bennett. GPS coordinates would be recorded and photos taken of all pool sites found. A map would be created from this occurrence data. Coordination with Parks Dept officials would help determine areas of the Park to be searched. This project has a seasonal restriction and field work must be conducted in the March/April time period.

Background

Vernal pools (also called seasonal pools or ponds) are temporary pools of water. Usually devoid of fish, they thus allow the reproduction and safe development of amphibians such as frogs, toads and salamanders which are sensitive barometers of the overall health of a Piedmont ecosystem. Most pools are dry for at least part of the year and fill with winter rains or snow melt. Some pools may remain at least partially filled with water over the course of a year or more, but all vernal pools dry up periodically. Little Bennett with its many creeks and acres of wetlands is believed to contain many seasonal pools but not all sites have been identified.

Project Sponsor

Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission

For Further Information

Email [Mr. Sousa](mailto:Mr.Sousa) with the Friends of Little Bennett Park

Or visit www.friendsoflittlebennett.org



Seasonal pool



Redback Salamander