

Calvert Stewards 2023 Annual Report

Volunteer Coordinators: Jessy Oberright

Number of Volunteers: 108 active volunteers; 397 volunteers in our database.

The Calvert Stewards volunteer program provides an opportunity for public service in education, research, and stewardship which support the overall missions of the Calvert County Division of Natural Resources and the Calvert Nature Society. This benefits the participants, the parks and the community as Calvert Stewards use and develop their skills to form an environmentally aware community and become the environmental stewards of Calvert County.

We also encourage youth and families to volunteer for projects to create a pipeline of engaged citizens that will continue their involvement in the parks into adulthood.

Volunteer Program Summary

We had 108 volunteers record 5,940 hours in 2023 slightly fewer hours than in 2022 (6,607 hours). Hours are still being added for 2023, so this number may increase.

Wildlife Rescue volunteers logged the most hours (1,146) and drove 36,270 miles! That's equivalent to driving from Prince Frederick to Los Angeles and back more than six times. In 2023, we began tracking internship hours through Galaxy Digital, which was our second most number of hours; the three interns tracked 945 hours. Our tracking of group service project continues to be a challenge. The dollar value of our volunteers was \$202,792. The hourly value of volunteers was calculated at \$34.14

<https://independentsector.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Value-of-Volunteer-Time-by-State-2001-2022.pdf>

Presidential Volunteer Awards

The Presidential Volunteer Service Award is an honor bestowed upon individuals who have made significant contributions to volunteer service in their communities and beyond. The award was established by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation in 2003 to recognize the valuable contributions of volunteers and encourage more people to engage in meaningful service activities. It aims to recognize, inspire, promote civic engagement, amplify impact, incentivize continued service, and build a culture of service and philanthropy. It serves as a meaningful way to honor and celebrate the invaluable contributions of volunteers who work tirelessly to improve communities and make the world a better place.

Our volunteers are eligible for several awards:

Hours Required to Earn Awards in Each Age Group				
Age Group	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Lifetime Achievement Award
Kids (5–10 years old)	26–49 hours	50–74 hours	75+ hours	4,000+ hours
Teens (11–15)	50–74 hours	75–99 hours	100+ hours	4,000+ hours
Young Adults (16–25)	100–174 hours	175–249 hours	250+ hours	4,000+ hours
Adults (26+)	100–249 hours	250–499 hours	500+ hours	4,000+ hours

Women of the World

Mary Hollinger received the 2022 Outstanding Achievement Award for Service and Sydney Weller received the 2022 Woman of Tomorrow Outstanding Achievement Award. Maggie Silverman was nominated for 2023 Award.

Volunteer Hours Summary

	2022	2023				
Total Hours	6,607	5,940				
Group Service	30	0				
Workshops & Trainings	81	123				
Appreciation Events	38	208				
Projects	6458	5609				
RESEARCH	2022	2023		EDUCATION	2022	2023
Bird Nest Box (general)	18	24		Programs	7	25
Barn Owl Nest Box	365	103		Camp	345	21
Bluebird Trail	939	809		Kayak	0	0
Saw-Whet Owl Project	0	0		CHESPAX	141	186
Kestrel Nest Box Project	3	0		Outreach	52	18
Prothonotary Warbler	38	45				
Wood Duck Boxes	30	12		PARKS	2022	2023
Winter Raptors	85	80		Animal Care	193	21
MAPS	96	63		Trail & Park Maintenance	809	489
Monarch Watch	37	23		Garden Care	5	
Dragonflies	401	619		Tree Planting	180	
Bird Counts	229	33		Beekeeping	78	63
Bats	0	0		Wildlife Rescue	855	1154
Plant Surveys	71	88				
iNaturalist Projects	336	437		ADMINISTRATION	2022	2023
Other Research Projects	11			CNS Board	2	29
				Other Projects	686	218
				Internship	658	945

2023 Volunteer Hall of Fame

Over 500 hours

Mary Hollinger*

Over 250 hours

Jason Avery*

Riley Brown*

Alexander Caniglia*

Amber Ewing*

Tonyia Johnson*

Over 100 hours

Karen Anderson*

Janet Barnes*

Angela Mitchell*

Maggie Silverman*

Craig Simmons*

Joanne Simmons*

Kathy Wood*

Over 50 hours

Sue Alexander & her

CBOCS Volunteers

Oliver Diamond*

Eaton Ekarintaragun

Jaycee Hollinger*

Karen Moreland

Penny Moran

Damien Nordon*

Brian Richards

Lori Sampson

Rick Smith

Over 25 hours

Joyce Baki

Melissa Barrett

Fred Bumgarner

Gordon Burton

Mary Burton

Mike Carpenter

Alan Christian

Ed Conner

Kyle Emert

Jack Felsher

Donna Haarz

Catherine Hogan

Jeremy King

Michelle Lacombe

Liz Orlandi

Michael Shisler

Kathleen Smith

* Volunteers to be recognized at the Volunteer Appreciation Picnic with the 2023 Presidential Volunteer Service Awards.

Mary Hollinger, Jason Avery and Andrew Miller will have an engraved brick placed at Battle Creek Nature Center to recognize reaching their 1000-hour milestone.

Future Endeavors

- Schedule Quarterly Wannabee's orientations to recruit new volunteers.
- Survey the volunteers who have not participated in any opportunities to determine how we can involve them.
- Create a calendar of appreciation events, both for individual programs and Calvert Stewards as a whole. Establish a yearly budget for these events.
- Research volunteer appreciation and recognition awards and grants.
- Nominate at least one volunteer for the Women of the World Award.
- Nominate eligible volunteers for Presidential Volunteer Service Awards
- Work with the Department Volunteer & Grants Coordinator to use Calvert Stewards as a model for the Department volunteer program.



Barn Owl Volunteers repairing a nest box, Jason Avery leading a dragonfly field trip | Summer Counselors in Training and Interns training | Maggie Silverman assisting with Osprey banding



Community Day of Service volunteers at Kings Landing | Chris Sperling leading a Heritage Kayak Trip



📍 The Kappa Alpha Kappa Sorority, Omega Pi Omega chapter planting trees on Arbor Day | Boy Scout Troop 429 and Cub Scout Pack 789 showing off the gaga ball pit they built



Mary Hollinger with a skunk rescued from a window well | iNaturalistin' | tagging monarchs

Supporting Calvert County's nature parks and natural spaces



CALVERT STEWARDS

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

A partnership between Calvert Nature Society and Calvert County Natural Resources Division

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CALVERT STEWARDS VOLUNTEER PROGRAM
c/o Natural Resources Division
2880 Grays Road
Prince Frederick, MD 20678
(410) 535-5327

Volunteer Portal: <https://calvertstewards.galaxydigital.com/>

Calvert Nature Society: www.calvertparks.org

Calvert County Natural Resources Division:
www.calvertcountymd.gov/NaturalResources

