

PART I – Volunteer Project Proposal

Submit this form to the Volunteer Service Project Chair for review by the committee.

Submit to: **Bruce Hill** (euplotes@msn.com)

Or mail to:

**Historic Rivers Chapter Virginia Master Naturalist
PO BOX 6424
Williamsburg, VA 23187**

NOTE: The form below is a table. Just tab from cell to cell or click on the box to type your information.

Date of Submission:	JAN 29, 2010	
Project/Event Name:	Nature-Friendly Yardscaping Program	
Project Chair (HRCVMN):	Name:	Kathi Mestayer
	Email:	kwren@widomaker.com
	Phone:	757-229-6575
Person submitting: if other than above	Name:	
	Email:	
	Phone:	
Partner Organization:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State	We will ask/beg Stephen Living to work with us on this, and accept whatever help he can provide. Best case would be reviewing our publicity/materials and being a "judge" of the yardscapes.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Local	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Contact Person/Information: if appropriate	Name:	
	Email:	
	Phone:	
	Address:	
Timeframe: Be as specific as possible with date(s) or start and	<input type="checkbox"/>	One-time event, specify date
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Brief duration, specify start and ending time

ending times.	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="548 193 607 222"></td> <td data-bbox="607 193 1541 222"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="548 222 607 275"></td> <td data-bbox="607 222 1541 275"> Seasonal Late winter and Spring 2010 </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="548 275 607 327"></td> <td data-bbox="607 275 1541 327"> Continuous </td> </tr> </table>				Seasonal Late winter and Spring 2010		Continuous																										
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Location(s) Where will the project take place?	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="548 417 607 470"></td> <td data-bbox="607 417 1541 470"> One location </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="548 470 607 522"></td> <td data-bbox="607 470 1541 522"> Several places </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="548 522 607 575"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> </td> <td data-bbox="607 522 1541 575"> A variety of places </td> </tr> </table> <p>Please identify /explain: The work will take place at a variety of places; meetings, online discussion, etc.</p>		One location		Several places	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A variety of places																										
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Description: What does the project entail? What will participants actually do?	We're going to figure out how to have a Nature-Friendly Yardscaping "contest" (may revise that wording later) in which we will invite people to submit their yard for evaluation in terms of its habitat value. We will most-likely use the DGIF's habitat elements to publicize the contest and let people know exactly what we will be looking for.																																

<p>If this is a speaking engagement, what is the topic?</p>	<p>Then, we will visit the yardscapes that have been submitted and evaluate them using the habitat criteria, and award one or more designations.....perhaps “best wooded area,” “best RPA buffer,” “most improved,” “greatest biodiversity,” etc. This will give us material to submit to the newspapers, with photos. Depending on the timing, we could use the photos at our Farmers’ Market exhibit, further talking up the habitat theme.</p> <p>Part of the activity of this project is the conception and design, so it’s not exactly carved in stone yet, but that was the case with both the Farmers’ Market and the Master Gardener Habitat Landscaping class the first time around.</p> <p>I have already posted a query on the VNPS-Potomac chapter listserv about others’ experiences with this type of thing.</p>						
<p>Experience or Training Needed:</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="535 961 609 1014">X</td> <td data-bbox="609 961 1539 1014">No prior experience needed (other than MN training!)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="535 1014 609 1073"></td> <td data-bbox="609 1014 1539 1073">Prior experience needed or preferred. Please explain below.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="535 1073 609 1131"></td> <td data-bbox="609 1073 1539 1131">Training will be provided. Please give details below</td> </tr> </table>	X	No prior experience needed (other than MN training!)		Prior experience needed or preferred. Please explain below.		Training will be provided. Please give details below
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<p>Are minors involved?</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="535 1360 609 1419"></td> <td data-bbox="609 1360 1539 1419">Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="535 1419 609 1478">X</td> <td data-bbox="609 1419 1539 1478">No</td> </tr> </table> <p>If so, all volunteers must be trained in working with youth and the Above Suspicion policy.</p>		Yes	X	No		
	Yes						
X	No						
<p>Estimated Prep Time: e.g., hours of prep for speaking engagement</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="535 1665 716 1751">Hmmm, maybe 25?</td> <td data-bbox="716 1665 1539 1751">Hours</td> </tr> </table>	Hmmm, maybe 25?	Hours				
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<p>Resources</p>	<p>Not much. I would do the photography unless another MN (Felice?) volunteers. In terms of awards, we would base that on our planning</p>						

<p>provided: e.g., resources are provided for the volunteers by the partner agency</p>	<p>discussions. It could be as simple as a nice framed photo of the yard or a gift cert from Wild Birds Unlimited (we'd have to see about that), or a DGIF "Backyard Habitat" certificate (we could do the data entry for the homeowner).</p>														
<p>Resources needed: Volunteers or the chapter must provide with cost, if appropriate.</p>	<p>If we decide on framed photos, photo developing and some simple framing.</p>														
<p>Safety</p> <p><u>In an emergency, always call 911!</u></p>	<p>Will you need the first aid kit?</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="548 661 1541 772"> <tr> <td data-bbox="548 661 609 716"></td> <td data-bbox="609 661 1541 716">Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="548 716 609 772">X</td> <td data-bbox="609 716 1541 772">No</td> </tr> </table> <p>If yes, please contact Susan Powell (smapowell@cox.net or 564-4542) to check-out the first aid kit.</p> <p>What hazards might the volunteers encounter?</p> <p>How will the risks associated with these hazards be minimized?</p>		Yes	X	No										
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X	No														
<p>Project Evaluation: How will the project be evaluated both during implementation and after completion?</p>	<p>Will you do any of the following? Select all that apply.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="548 1270 1541 1690"> <tr> <td data-bbox="548 1270 609 1325"></td> <td data-bbox="609 1270 1541 1325">Collect data and measure change</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="548 1325 609 1409">X</td> <td data-bbox="609 1325 1541 1409">Use an evaluation (e.g., survey, satisfaction measure) The habitat value of the yardscapes would be evaluated according to DGIF Habitat criteria.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="548 1409 609 1463"></td> <td data-bbox="609 1409 1541 1463">Ask for feedback from participants</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="548 1463 609 1518">X</td> <td data-bbox="609 1463 1541 1518">Ask for feedback from partner agencies</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="548 1518 609 1575">X</td> <td data-bbox="609 1518 1541 1575">Observe and provide feedback to the VMN chapter</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="548 1575 609 1629"></td> <td data-bbox="609 1575 1541 1629">This project does not require evaluation</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="548 1629 609 1690"></td> <td data-bbox="609 1629 1541 1690">Other - please give details below</td> </tr> </table>		Collect data and measure change	X	Use an evaluation (e.g., survey, satisfaction measure) The habitat value of the yardscapes would be evaluated according to DGIF Habitat criteria.		Ask for feedback from participants	X	Ask for feedback from partner agencies	X	Observe and provide feedback to the VMN chapter		This project does not require evaluation		Other - please give details below
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<p>How will the VMN</p>	<p>Will you do any of the following? Select all that apply.</p>														

program be recognized?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Collect information or photo for a newspaper article
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Identify possible awards or other recognition given
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other – please give details below

