

Maryland Biodiversity Project Highlights

August 2018



Introduction

Thanks for making August 2018 another successful month for Maryland Biodiversity Project (MBP). It was a big month for outreach. Our Facebook community reached over 10,000 page likes and our daily Maryland natural history posts reached over 130,000 people on Facebook alone. As always, hats off to our amazing [contributors](#) and [editors](#)!

Highlights

- Reached 10,000 Facebook page likes - a huge milestone in our relentless efforts to reach a larger community about biodiversity and needing everyone's help protecting it!
- We completed preparations for our big Horn Point Laboratory BioBlitz and created their MBP subsite to catalog their biodiversity:
<https://www.marylandbiodiversity.com/sites/hornpoint/>
- We continued highlighting Watch List plant species as part of the "S3 Initiative", a collaboration between MBP, the Maryland DNR Natural Heritage Program, and the Maryland Plant Atlas Working Group. The effort highlights species ranked as S3 (Watch List) with the goal of finding new populations of these species in need of more attention.
- Collaborated with Rick Borchelt to support ongoing efforts to compile data for field forecasts as part of Lep Log (<https://leplog.wordpress.com/>) and related efforts.
- Ben Coulter continued planarian data mining from the Butch Norden thesis paper ("Distribution Ecology of Freshwater Planarians of Maryland"). He also updated some ant taxonomy and created new content for some ant pages (e.g., species accounts).
- Coordinated with professional entomologists about use of mosquito data sets from Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Harford Co. Of course Josh Emm also added a ton of great new content for this family as well.
- Coordinated with Maryland DNR about a new invasive species recorded in Maryland, the [Asian Longhorned Tick \(*Haemaphysalis longicornis*\)](#).
- Ingested "Observations on the Variable Oak Leaf Caterpillar, *Heterocampa manteo* (Doubleday) (Lepidoptera: Notodontidae) in Maryland." by Charlie Staines (1999). Processed by Nancy Magnusson.
- Ingested "Cereal Leaf Beetle (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae) as a Pest of Ornamental Grasses" by Charlie Staines (1997). Processed by Nancy Magnusson.
- Ingested "A Host Plant for Adult *Spintherophyta globosa* (Olivier) (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae)" by Charlie Staines (1991). Processed by Nancy Magnusson.

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- Ingested "The Seth Forest Water Scavenger Beetle, a New Species of *Hydrochus* (Coleoptera: Hydrophiloidea: Hydrochidae) from the Chesapeake-Delmarva Region" by Steiner, Staines, McCann, and Hellman (2003). Processed by Nancy Magnusson.
 - Connected experts to discuss a rare robber fly specimen and a paper on the species.
 - We processed 3,718 records and 3,365 photos, of which 2,095 photos were taken during the one-month window.
 - "New Stuff" for each month - new state, county, quad, and month records by observer. You can now click any contributor's name to filter by that observer:
<https://www.marylandbiodiversity.com/services/checkForNew.php?year=2018&month=8>.
 - We wrote daily Maryland natural history posts on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/MarylandBiodiversity>) and regular posts on Twitter (<https://twitter.com/MDBiodiversity>) and Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/mbiodiversity/>). Our Facebook posts reached over **130,000** people.

Stats (since last highlights report)

- Species/taxa featured: **17,903** (+30)
- Species with photos: **10,114** (+196)
(actually correcting a count typo from last month)
- Total Records: **418,636** (+3,992)
- Total Photos: **120,654** (+3,661)
- Contributors: **1,002**
- Facebook Page Likes: **10,183** (+261)
- Twitter Followers: **418** (+15)
- Instagram Followers: **622** (+50)
- Photos in the MBP Flickr queue: **2,917**

Donations

Donations are greatly appreciated and help keep up project growth and momentum. Click "Donate" in the top-right corner of any MBP page.

Suggested Citation

Hubick, William J., and James D. Brighton. 2012-present. Maryland Biodiversity Project. Website. Available at: <https://www.marylandbiodiversity.com/>.

Photo Credit

This month's cover photo shows a White-faced Storm-Petrel in Maryland waters (8/22/2008). Photo by [Mark Hoffman](#).

