

NAWM Annual State/Tribal/Federal Coordination Meeting Field Trip

Friday, August 19, 2022: Morgan Wetland In Lieu Fee Site and Cool Spring Nature Preserve

The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) and The Potomac Valley Audubon Society have graciously offered to be our guides at two wetland sites near the NCTC. These sites will provide good opportunities to discuss restoration strategies as well as get out to enjoy summertime in West Virginia.

First, we will head over to the **Morgan Wetland In Lieu Fee Site** by Lake Louise where we will learn about the past history of the site, current challenges, and identify several native plant species. Participants will have a chance to walk over to Lake Louise and to inspect soil profile samples with an NRCS soils expert who can share information about types of soil present and how they were formed.

Next, we will head over to **Cool Spring Nature Preserve**, owned and managed by Potomac Valley Audubon Society. The Preserve consists of 63 acres of forest, meadow, and marsh in southern Jefferson County. Bullskin Run, a major stream with significant historical value, borders one side of the preserve. Cool Spring is designated as a “birding hotspot.” In Spring 2020, the entire preserve was placed under a conservation easement with the West Virginia Land Trust. Be sure to download iNaturalist on your smart phone for this visit!



A maximum of 24 people will be allowed to attend, so if you are interested you should sign up soon. All attendees will be required to sign a liability waiver. Ticks and bees are a risk at these sites please be prepared and bring plenty of sun protection and water.

We will depart from the NCTC at 8:00am and return by 2pm at the latest. Boxed lunches will be ordered in advance for field trip participants in preparation for Friday’s field trip.

ITINERARY:

8:00am: Depart from the NCTC

8:30am: Arrive at Morgan Wetland In Lieu Fee Site

8:30am – 10:00am: Tour the Morgan Wetland In Lieu Fee Site

10:00am: Depart Morgan Wetland In Lieu Fee Site

10:15am: Arrive Cool Spring Nature Preserve

10:15 – 12:00pm: Tour the Cool Spring Preserve

12:00pm – 1:00pm: Eat boxed lunches in the Cool Spring Preserve Nature Center

1:00pm: Depart Cool Spring Preserve

1:30pm: Arrive at the NCTC